



## **KHSSL SR 2023 FINALS: NEWS PROGRAM PACKET**

### **WASHINGTON, DC:**

A YEAR AGO, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT UNLEASHED A TASK FORCE TO TARGET ALLIES OF RUSSIA'S PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN AND THEIR RICHES, FROM LUXURY YACHTS TO OPULENT HOMES.

LESS THAN A WEEK AFTER RUSSIAN TANKS SWEEP ACROSS THE UKRAINIAN BORDER, ATTORNEY GENERAL MERRICK GARLAND STOOD AT THE PODIUM AT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO ANNOUNCE THE CREATION OF TASK FORCE KLEPTOCAPTURE. ITS MISSION, HE SAID, WAS TO HOLD ACCOUNTABLE RUSSIAN OLIGARCHS TRYING TO EVADE SANCTIONS THE U.S. AND ITS ALLIES HAD IMPOSED IN RESPONSE TO THE KREMLIN'S INVASION.

AND OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE TASK FORCE HAS KEPT BUSY. IT'S BROUGHT CHARGES AGAINST AT LEAST 35 INDIVIDUALS AND CORPORATE ENTITIES, A LIST THAT INCLUDES OLEG DERIPASKA, A RUSSIAN BILLIONAIRE WHO'S BEEN ACCUSED OF SANCTIONS VIOLATIONS. IT'S ALSO BROUGHT CHARGES AGAINST SUSPECTED RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS AND INDIVIDUALS WORKING WITH THEM TO ALLEGEDLY OBTAIN ADVANCED AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY THAT COULD BE USED BY THE RUSSIAN MILITARY.



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PART OF THAT ENFORCEMENT WORK HAS INVOLVED SEIZING SOME OF THE BIG-TICKET ITEMS THAT KREMLIN-ALIGNED OLIGARCHS HAVE REAPED FROM THEIR ALLEGEDLY ILL-GOTTEN GAINS. LAST MAY, FOR EXAMPLE, THE FBI ASSISTED AUTHORITIES IN FIJI TO SEIZE A 348-FOOT LUXURY YACHT THAT THE U.S. SAYS BELONGS TO SANCTIONED OLIGARCH SULEIMAN KERIMOV. THE \$300 MILLION VESSEL NOW SITS AT A DOCK IN SAN DIEGO. AND JUST LAST WEEK, THE DEPARTMENT FILED A FORFEITURE COMPLAINT FOR SIX PROPERTIES WORTH AN ESTIMATED \$75 MILLION IN NEW YORK AND FLORIDA BELONGING TO ANOTHER OLIGARCH. IN ALL, THE TASK FORCE HAS SEIZED, FORFEITED OR OTHERWISE RESTRAINED MORE THAN HALF A BILLION DOLLARS IN RUSSIAN OLIGARCH ASSETS OVER THE PAST YEAR.



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### **YOUR TELEVISION:**

APPLE TV+ TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT ITS COMEDY SENSATION “TED LASSO” WILL RETURN FOR ITS HIGHLY ANTICIPATED THIRD SEASON MARCH 15.

AFTER WINNING THE EMMY AWARD FOR BEST COMEDY SERIES FOR ITS SECOND SEASON, “TED LASSO” OFFICIALLY JOINED THE RANKS OF THE MOST CELEBRATED COMEDIES IN HISTORY, BECOMING ONLY ONE OF SEVEN OTHER COMEDIES TO WIN BACK-TO-BACK EMMY AWARD WINS FOR OUTSTANDING COMEDY SERIES FOR ITS FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE SEASONS.

“TED LASSO” STARS JASON SUDEIKIS AS TED LASSO, AN AMERICAN FOOTBALL COACH HIRED TO MANAGE A BRITISH SOCCER TEAM – DESPITE HAVING NO EXPERIENCE. BUT WHAT HE LACKS IN KNOWLEDGE, HE MAKES UP FOR WITH OPTIMISM, UNDERDOG DETERMINATION ... AND BISCUITS. THE AWARD-WINNING APPLE ORIGINAL COMEDY ALSO STARS HANNAH WADDINGHAM, BRENDAN HUNT, JEREMY SWIFT, JUNO TEMPLE, BRETT GOLDSTEIN, PHIL DUNSTER, NICK MOHAMMED AND SARAH NILES.



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### **CLEVELAND:**

A SUGAR REPLACEMENT CALLED ERYTHRITOL, A CRYSTALLINE PRODUCT THAT MIMICS SUGAR IN APPEARANCE AND TEXTURE AND THAT IS USED TO ADD BULK OR SWEETEN STEVIA, MONKFRUIT AND KETO REDUCED-SUGAR PRODUCTS – HAS BEEN LINKED TO BLOOD CLOTTING, STROKE, HEART ATTACK AND DEATH. PEOPLE WITH EXISTING RISK FACTORS FOR HEART DISEASE, SUCH AS DIABETES, WERE TWICE AS LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE A HEART ATTACK OR STROKE IF THEY HAD THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF ERYTHRITOL IN THEIR BLOOD, ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, PUBLISHED MONDAY IN THE JOURNAL “NATURE MEDICINE.”

ADDITIONAL LAB AND ANIMAL RESEARCH PRESENTED IN THE PAPER REVEALED THAT ERYTHRITOL APPEARED TO BE CAUSING BLOOD PLATELETS TO CLOT MORE READILY. CLOTS CAN BREAK OFF AND TRAVEL TO THE HEART, TRIGGERING A HEART ATTACK, OR TO THE BRAIN, TRIGGERING A STROKE.



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### **FRANKFORT:**

THEY'RE ALL OVER THE PLACE.

CONVENIENCE STORES, RESTAURANTS, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGES – SO-CALLED GRAY MACHINES OR SKILL GAMES HAVE WEDGED THEIR WAY INTO SMALL BUSINESSES ACROSS THE STATE WITHOUT ASKING FOR PERMISSION FIRST. ALTHOUGH SLOTS ARE ILLEGAL IN THE COMMONWEALTH, THE MAKERS OF THESE “GRAY SLOT MACHINES” EXPLOIT A LOOPHOLE: THEY SAY THEY ARE “GAMES OF SKILL” THAT REQUIRE THE PLAYER TO DO MORE THAN PUSH A BUTTON.

LAST YEAR, BOTH CHAMBERS OF THE KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE PASSED A BILL TO BAN THEM, BUT A LATE-GAME SENATE AMENDMENT MADE THE LEGISLATION UNWORKABLE, ACCORDING TO HOUSE LEADERSHIP AT THE TIME. NOW IT SEEMS THE KENTUCKY GOP, WHICH LARGELY CONTROLS THE FLOW OF LEGISLATION IN FRANKFORT, DOESN'T QUITE KNOW HOW TO HANDLE THEM.

STRONG BACKERS OF THE HORSE INDUSTRY, LIKE REP. KILLIAN TIMONEY, R-LEXINGTON, AND SENATE MAJORITY LEADER DAMON THAYER – BOTH REPRESENT KEENELAND RACE TRACK – WANT THE GAMES BANNED. BUT MANY NORTHERN KENTUCKY REPUBLICANS, ALONG WITH A NUMBER OF RURAL REPUBLICANS, HAVE SUGGESTED THAT BANNING THE PRACTICE OUTRIGHT WOULD MEAN UNFAIRLY PICKING WINNERS AND LOSERS IN A



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BATTLE WHERE THE HORSE INDUSTRY HAS CONTINUALLY COME OUT ON TOP.

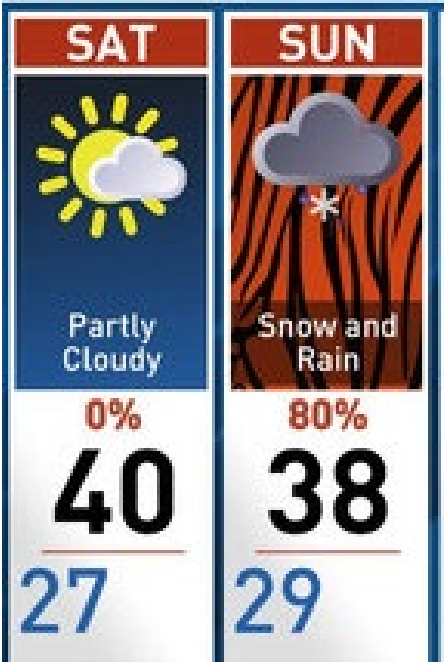
TIMONEY'S NEW BILL HAS NOT YET BEEN RELEASED, BUT ONE MAJOR DIFFERENCE IS THIS: WHILE THE LAST BILL SPELLED OUT ALL THE LEGAL FORMS OF GAMING AND STATED THAT ANYTHING OUTSIDE OF THOSE PARAMETERS WOULD BE ILLEGAL, THIS BILL DOESN'T.

INSTEAD OF ATTEMPTING TO DESCRIBE EVERYTHING THAT'S LEGAL, THE NEW BILL IS GOING TO SIMPLY SINGLE OUT GRAY MACHINES AS ILLEGAL.



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## WEATHER FORECAST





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### **INDIAN WELLS, CALIFORNIA:**

NOVAK DJOKOVIC'S BID FOR A WAIVER TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES HAS FAILED. THE TOP TENNIS PLAYER IN THE WORLD WITHDREW FROM THE BNP PARIBAS OPEN AT INDIAN WELLS ON SUNDAY NIGHT, JUST DAYS BEFORE IT WAS SET TO BEGIN IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND HOURS BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT DRAW WAS RELEASED. THERE WAS NO REASON GIVEN FOR DJOKOVIC'S WITHDRAWAL.

ACCORDING TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, HOWEVER, DJOKOVIC LOST HIS BID TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES AS SOMEONE WHO IS UNVACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19. THE NEWS CAME JUST DAYS AFTER THE US OPEN AND THE USTA THREW THEIR SUPPORT BEHIND DJOKOVIC'S ATTEMPT AT RECEIVING SPECIAL PERMISSION TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES – SOMETHING HE IS CURRENTLY NOT ALLOWED TO DO, AS HE IS UNVACCINATED FOR COVID-19.

DJOKOVIC'S SAGA AGAINST RECEIVING THE COVID-19 VACCINE DATES BACK TO LAST JANUARY, WHEN HE WAS DEPORTED FROM AUSTRALIA JUST BEFORE THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN. DJOKOVIC MISSED THE US OPEN





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LAST YEAR AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER EVENTS – INCLUDING INDIAN WELLS – IN THE LAST 15-PLUS MONTHS.

AUSTRALIA HAS SINCE LOOSENEED ITS COVID-19 VACCINE RESTRICTIONS ON INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS, WHICH ALLOWED DJOKOVIC TO BOTH COMPETE IN AND WIN THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN EARLIER THIS YEAR. THE UNITED STATES, HOWEVER, STILL DOES NOT PERMIT INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS TO ENTER THE COUNTRY WITHOUT BEING VACCINATED.

DJOKOVIC SAID LAST MONTH THAT HE APPLIED FOR A SPECIAL WAIVER TO ENTER IN ORDER TO COMPETE AT INDIAN WELLS AND THE MIAMI OPEN LATER THIS MONTH. THE UNITED STATES IS OFFICIALLY ENDING ITS COVID-19 EMERGENCY DECLARATION IN MAY, SOMETHING THAT WOULD ALLOW DJOKOVIC AND OTHER UNVACCINATED TRAVELERS TO ENTER THE COUNTRY. IF THAT HAPPENS, DJOKOVIC WOULD BE ALLOWED TO PLAY AT THE US OPEN THIS FALL.



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### **HOLLYWOOD:**

WOMEN DOMINATED IN GENDER-NEUTRAL ACTING CATEGORIES IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THEIR INSTITUTION AT THE INDEPENDENT SPIRIT AWARDS, CLAIMING FOUR STATUETTES AT SATURDAY’S CEREMONY.

“EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE”’S MICHELLE YEOH NABBED BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE, WITH HER CO-STAR STEPHANIE HSU LANDING THE NEW AWARD OF BEST BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMANCE. “ABBOTT ELEMENTARY”’S QUINTA BRUNSON LANDED BEST LEAD PERFORMANCE IN A NEW SCRIPTED SERIES, WITH “THE BEAR”’S AYO EDEBIRI LANDING SUPPORTING PERFORMANCE IN A NEW SCRIPTED SERIES.

THE SOLE WINNER ON THE SIDE OF THE MEN IN ACTING CATEGORIES WAS EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE’S KE HUY QUAN – AN OSCAR FRONTRUNNER, WHO HERE WON BEST SUPPORTING PERFORMANCE.

FILM INDEPENDENT FIRST ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO MAKE ITS 2023 ACTING CATEGORIES GENDER NEUTRAL, ACROSS FILM AND TELEVISION, IN AUGUST OF LAST YEAR. THE CEREMONY IS THE LATEST TO GO THAT ROUTE, FOLLOWING SHOWS LIKE THE GOTHAM AWARDS AND THE BRIT AWARDS.



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### **WASHINGTON, DC:**

CNN ANCHOR AND CHIEF NATIONAL AFFAIRS ANALYST KASIE HUNT BROUGHT HER DAUGHTER INTO THE WORLD AT BREAKNECK SPEED WITH A SUDDEN BIRTH ON THE BATHROOM FLOOR OF HER HOME WEDNESDAY MORNING. IN AN INSTAGRAM POST, HUNT SAID SHE AND HER HUSBAND, NEWSMAN MATTHEW MARIO RIVERA, WERE “THRILLED TO INTRODUCE OUR DAUGHTER, GREY HUNT RIVERA – THOUGH REALLY, SHE INTRODUCED HERSELF.”

RIVERA DELIVERED HIS DAUGHTER ON THE BATHROOM FLOOR AFTER 13 MINUTES OF LABOR, 24 HOURS BEFORE SHE WAS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE VIA C SECTION. GREY WAS BORN AT A HEALTHY 8 POUNDS AND 4 OUNCES. HUNT THANKED THE 911 OPERATOR WHO GUIDED RIVERA THROUGH THE DELIVERY PROCESS PROFUSELY IN THE POST, CALLING HER “A HERO.”



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### **BERLIN:**

GERMAN CHANCELLOR OLAF SCHOLZ ANNOUNCED ON WEDNESDAY THAT GERMANY WOULD SEND FOURTEEN LEOPARD 2 TANKS TO UKRAINE. HE WILL ALSO ALLOW EUROPEAN COUNTRIES THAT BOUGHT THE TANKS TO SEND THEM TO KYIV.

SPEAKING TO THE BUNDESTAG, SCHOLZ STATED HE HAD INITIALLY RESISTED SENDING THE TANKS AS HE DID NOT WANT THE WAR IN UKRAINE TO ESCALATE—WHICH RUSSIA CLAIMED WOULD BE A CONSEQUENCE OF SENDING TANKS. FOR THAT REASON, HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO ALLOW OTHER COUNTRIES TO SUPPLY THE LEOPARD 2 TANKS OR GO IT ALONE WITHOUT COVER FROM THE UNITED STATES. PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN’S DECISION TO SEND THIRTY-ONE M1 ABRAMS TANKS TO UKRAINE ROBBED SCHOLZ OF ANY MORE EXCUSES. THE FOURTEEN LEOPARD 2 TANKS HEAD TO UKRAINE “VERY SOON” ACCORDING TO REPORTS.



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### COMMERCIAL PROMPT:

## GIRL TALK – DEBATE DOCUMENTARY – now on PBS

About the documentary:

Set in the cutthroat, boy-dominated world of high school debate where tomorrow's leaders are groomed, *GIRL TALK* tells the timely story of five girls on a diverse, top-ranked Massachusetts high school debate team as they strive to become the best debaters in the United States on their own terms.

NATIONAL BROADCAST PREMIERE | MARCH 6, 2023

- GIRL TALK will be featured as a part of the Local, USA series on WORLD Channel on March 6th at 8 p.m. ET and March 7th at 9 a.m. ET.
- The documentary will also be available for 90 days on the [WORLD website](#).
- Starting March 17th, GIRL TALK will be streaming on [Amazon Prime PBS Documentaries channel](#).

The Newton South Debate Team is one of the largest in the country, with a diverse roster of debaters; nearly half are girls and many are first generation Americans.

Unlike most of their elite competitors, Newton South is only allotted a part-time volunteer parent coach, and the team must rely on one another to master the art of debate.

Shot over five years, GIRL TALK offers a front row seat to leadership in the making, as each year varsity members step up to become captains and bear the responsibility of training and inspiring the novices.



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The girl debaters must also learn to navigate the implicit and explicit gender biases rife in the world of debate. Stats reveal that a greater percentage of boys make it to the finals, and more boys win.

As we watch our five girls remain steadfast in their determination to overcome the odds, they remind us that equal rights and freedom of expression are worth fighting for, both within debate and beyond.

The film showcases the way that the students involved become good and informed citizens as they discuss both sides of many polarizing social and political issues, including climate change, subjects that might not otherwise interest high school students.

[Barbara Shulgasser](#) [Common Sense Media](#)

“Competing on my high school debate team opened up a whole world of possibilities for me as a teenage girl. I learned to fall in love with my own mind, to trust my voice, and to believe that when I spoke I deserved to be heard. Thirty years later, watching the brilliant young debaters in GIRL TALK put themselves on the line in the same way, I was intensely moved both by how much has changed and how much hasn’t. This is a galvanizing, often joyous film about growing up and learning to claim your ground.”

*– Heidi Schreck, Tony-Nominated Playwright for ‘What the Constitution Means to Me,’ Actor & Writer*

**Independent Film Festival of Boston** [2022](#)

<b>Winner</b> Audience Award	Documentary Feature <u><a href="#">Lucia Small</a></u> <u><a href="#">Small Angst Films</a></u>
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Directed by documentarian Lucia Small – her last film just before dying of pancreatic cancer