

CBS TELEVISION NETWORK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS BROADCASTS
DECEMBER 2023

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FACE THE NATION

12/03/23

Guests: Chris Livesay, CBS News foreign correspondent (1); Representative Mike Turner (R-OH), chair, House Intelligence Committee (2); John Kirby, coordinator for strategic communications, White House National Security Council (3); Chris Christie, former governor (R-NJ), 2024 Republican presidential candidate (4); Governor Spencer Cox (R-UT), co-chair, National Governors Association (5); Governor Jared Polis (D-CO), co-chair, National Governors Association (5); Dr. Scott Gottlieb, former FDA commissioner, Pfizer board member (6); Mark Strassmann, CBS News senior national correspondent (7)

1) a report from Jerusalem, “with the cease-fire in shambles” and Israel Defense Forces resume Gaza advance

2) Topics include: reports that warnings going back a year, about a potential Hamas attack, were ignored by Israel / Yahya Sinwar, Hamas commander and architect of the October 7th attack / concern that Israel is not doing enough to protect civilians in Gaza; stipulation from the Republican-controlled House that Israel and Ukraine aid includes provisions regarding the U.S. border; bipartisan bill reauthorizing Section 702, allowing warrantless surveillance powers; impeachment inquiry into President Biden

3) Topics include: breakdown of hostage negotiations in Doha, Qatar / continuing humanitarian assistance to Gaza / high civilian casualties in Gaza / U.S. message to Israel, urging them to be as careful and precise as possible / assessment of civilian casualties / U.S. support of Israel / criticism of the White House, asking for a “red line” for holding Israel accountable; wrongfully detained Americans in Venezuela

4) Topics include: qualifying for the December 6th debate / his commitment to stay in the race through the convention / voter support for Mr. Trump, despite the ninety-one counts of indictment against him; trips to Israel and Ukraine; abortion; threat posed to the country by former President Trump

5) Topics include: their ‘Disagree Better’ initiative / free speech initiative on college campuses / calls to investigate Students For Justice in Palestine; spike in migration / task force of governors on immigration and border security

6) Topics include: “typical winter pathogen season” ahead / mycoplasma pneumonia outbreak in China

7) a report on the recent departures of several well-known public servants, with careers ranging from the highly distinguished, the controversial, and to the disastrous: the deaths of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor and American diplomat Henry Kissinger, and the expulsion of George Santos from Congress

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FACE THE NATION (continued)

12/10/23

Guests: Charlie D'Agata, CBS News senior foreign correspondent (1); Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) (2); Anthony Salvanto, executive director, CBS News elections and surveys unit (3); Adam Yamaguchi, CBS News correspondent (4); Senator James Lankford (R-OK) (5); Shalanda Young, director, United States Office of Management and Budget (6); Robert Costa, CBS News chief election and campaign correspondent (7); Ed O'Keefe, CBS News senior White House and political correspondent (7); Janti Soeripto, president and CEO, Save the Children (8)

1) a report from Tel Aviv, on the heavy bombardment overnight in Gaza and the discussions over postwar governing plans

2) Topics include: growing criticism from the Biden administration to Prime Minister Netanyahu's 'disastrous military approach' / his opposition to more aid for Israel / possible intent of the Netanyahu government in Gaza / support for aid to Ukraine, but opposition to a 'blank check' for Israel 'to kill women and children in Palestine' / possible impact of the war on the presidential election; antisemitism and free speech on college campuses

3) a discussion of CBS News poll results on some of what Americans see as the biggest problems facing the country: inflation and President Biden's handling of the Israel-Hamas war

4) a report from Lukeville, on the Arizona border crossing which closed Monday after staff members said they could not handle the increased number of migrants arriving at the port of entry

5) Topics include: negotiating a Senate deal to shore up the U.S. southern border / tying the border package to aid for Israel, Taiwan and Ukraine / stopping the flow across the border / requests for asylum / bill H.R.2, which passed the House with no support from Democrats / capacity issues and 'special interest aliens' / not ignoring American national security

6) Topics include: Ukrainian national security is American national security / bill H.R.2, which passed the House with no support from Democrats / aid for Ukraine; CBS News poll results indicating low approval ratings for the President's handling of inflation

7) Topics include: analysis of an excerpt from Mr. Costa's interview with Representative and former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy / current Speaker Mike Johnson; need for the White House to get involved in closing the border deal; Mr. O'Keefe's reporting from Michigan, with the largest concentration of Arab American voters; Mr. Trump's New York civil fraud case

8) Topics include: Gaza humanitarian crisis / impact on residents, particularly children / their statement criticizing Israel for 'using starvation as a method of warfare' / getting aid to Gaza

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FACE THE NATION (continued)

12/17/23

Guests: Anthony Salvanto, executive director, CBS News elections and surveys unit (1); Chris Christie, former governor (R-NJ), 2024 Republican presidential candidate (2); Representative Tony Gonzales (R-TX) (3); Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) (4); Ramy Inocencio, CBS News foreign correspondent (5); Marwan Al-Ghoul, CBS News producer (6); Austan Goolsbee, president and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, former White House economic adviser, Obama administration (8); Oksana Markarova, Ukraine's ambassador to the United States (9)
Guest Interviewer: Lesley Stahl, correspondent, 60 MINUTES (7)

- 1) analysis of the results of a CBS News poll of Republican voters in Iowa and New Hampshire, indicating that while former President Trump still leads in Iowa, former U.N. ambassador Nikki Haley is making gains in New Hampshire
- 2) Topics include: his path to victory in New Hampshire / reaction to a piece in "The National Review" calling on him to end his campaign / recent remarks from Mr. Trump that 'immigrants are poisoning the blood of our country' / fellow Republican candidate Nikki Haley and her reluctance to criticize Mr. Trump / his defense of Nikki Haley at the last debate, after fellow candidate Vivek Ramaswamy treated her with 'disrespect'
- 3) Topics include: 'real-world impact' in his district if there is no 2023 border deal / proposals from the White House / call for the President or Vice President to join the negotiations; recent remarks from Mr. Trump that 'immigrants are poisoning the blood of our country'
- 4) Topics include: ongoing talks to change elements of border policy / criticism to those proposals from some Democrats / tying the border package to aid for Israel, Taiwan and Ukraine; difficulty of working with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, 'who has done everything he can to undermine a positive vision for peace for Israel / requirements in American law when sending assistance to another country
- 5) a report from Tel Aviv, on Israel's agreement to allow U.N. trucks to drive directly into Gaza at Kerem Shalom Crossing as its bombardment of Gaza continues
- 6) a report from Gaza on the current conditions and devastation in the Gaza Strip
- 7) a preview of her interview with Yarden Roman-Gat, who was taken hostage during the Hamas attacks on October 7th and held for nearly two months, for tonight's 60 MINUTES
- 8) Topics include: predictions on the economy in 2024 / possible cuts in interest rates / cautious positive assessment for 2023 in inflation and unemployment / increase in homelessness and credit delinquencies / geopolitical risks to the economy
- 9) Topics include: urgent need for funding / importance of American support and aid / Ukraine President Zelenskyy's messaging during his recent trip to the U.S. / Ukraine's military progress on the battlefield

12/24/23

Guests: David Martin, CBS News national security correspondent (1); Jan Crawford, CBS News chief legal correspondent (1); Robert Costa, CBS News chief election and campaign correspondent (1) (2); Catherine Herridge, CBS News senior investigative correspondent (1); Jeff Pegues, CBS News chief national affairs and justice correspondent (1); Major Garrett, CBS News chief Washington correspondent (2); Nikole Killion, CBS News congressional correspondent (2); Ed O'Keefe, CBS News senior White House and political correspondent (2); Mark Strassmann, CBS News senior national correspondent (3)

- 1) Annual year-end correspondent roundtable topics include: the most important stories of 2023: Supreme Court's central role in politics in the coming year, special counsel's case, Donald Trump's legal cases, uptick in law enforcement dealing with domestic terrorism, U.S. national security at home and abroad, Israel-Hamas war, Hunter Biden's legal issues and Pentagon's focus on China; predictions for the year ahead
- 2) Annual year-end political roundtable topics include: key issues to watch / political stories in Congress, the White House and on the campaign they are following; predictions for 2024; good and positive stories from 2023
- 3) a report recapping the good news and bright spots that happened in 2023

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FACE THE NATION (continued)

12/31/23

Guests: Camilo Montoya-Galvez, CBS News immigration and politics reporter (1); Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) (2); Brandon Johnson, mayor (D-Chicago, IL) (3); Mike Johnston, mayor (D-Denver, CO) (3); David Becker, CBS News election law contributor, founder, The Center for Election Innovation & Research (4); Ian Lee, CBS News correspondent (5); Jo Ling Kent, CBS News senior business and technology reporter (6); Ben Tracy, CBS News senior national and environmental correspondent (7)

1) Topics include: factors driving the historic number of migrants at the southern border / conditions that propel people to the U.S. / secretary of state and homeland security secretary's recent trip to Mexico / Texas law, set to go into effect in March, allowing law enforcement to stop migrants and arrest them / negotiations between lawmakers and the White House on legislation

2) Topics include: negotiations for immigration laws and Ukraine / requesting the Biden administration to use Title 42 authority to halt the inflow / deportations / tying Ukraine and Israel aid to legislation addressing the situation at the southern border; support for Mr. Trump and his legitimate immunity claim regarding January 6th

3) Topics include: this morning's early arrival of a plane carrying migrants from Texas, at the direction of Texas Governor Abbott / communication with the White House on what is needed from the federal government / work authorization for all migrants / the "chaos that continues to come from the state of Texas" / health services provided to the migrants after arriving in their cities

4) Topics include: Maine secretary of state's decision that Mr. Trump is ineligible to appear on the presidential primary ballot / need for the Supreme Court to resolve questions surrounding the 14th Amendment's insurrectionist clause / Electoral Count Reform Act

5) a report from Sderot, Israel, on the latest in the war between Israel and Hamas, with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu announcing the war will continue for "many more months", which means more suffering on the ground in Gaza

6) a preview of the technology and business news that will dominate 2024, including the difficult challenge legislating Artificial Intelligence continues to be for Congress

7) a preview of what to expect in 2024, with climate change and its impact on what is experienced in the weather, including what American can do to protect themselves and climate issues in the 2024 election

60 MINUTES

12/03/23

"Chaos on Campus" – a report on student rallies regarding the Israel-Hamas war. As antisemitic and Islamophobic sentiments and incidents escalate, college students and professors discuss campus protests and express their ideas about how to move forward. Includes interviews with Eden Yadegar, head of Students Supporting Israel at Columbia University; Maryam Alwan, one of the leaders of Students for Justice in Palestine at Columbia University; Minouche Shafik, Columbia University's new president; Shai Davidai, an assistant professor of management at the Columbia Business School who grew up in Israel; Mohsen Mahdawi, co-president of Columbia's Palestinian Students Union; Ezzedine Fishere, a senior lecturer in the Middle Eastern Studies program at Dartmouth University and former Egyptian diplomat; Bernard Avishai, a visiting professor at Dartmouth University and American-Israeli journalist who lives in Jerusalem half the year; and Yasmine Abouali, Sami Lofman, Jackson Yassin, and Faisal Azizi, Dartmouth students who took the "Politics of Israel and Palestine". (C: Bill Whitaker – P: Marc Lieberman, Graham Messick)

"Quantum Computing" – a report on quantum computing from Google's quantum lab in Santa Barbara, California. This new kind of computer boasts advanced capabilities with the potential to solve mysteries in medicine, engineering, and physics. Includes interviews with Dario Gil, head of research at IBM; Michio Kaku, a physicist at the City University of New York; Charina Chou, chief operating officer of Google's lab; Hartmut Neven, scientist and founder of Google's lab; and Dr. Serpil Erzurum, Chief Research Officer at Cleveland Clinic. (C: Scott Pelley – P: Denise Schrier Cetta, Katie Brennan)

"Greta Gerwig" – a profile of filmmaker Greta Gerwig. She discusses her hit movie "Barbie," her start as an indie film director, and upcoming projects. Includes an interview with Noah Baumbach, filmmaker and Gerwig's husband. (C: Sharyn Alfonsi – P: Nathalie Sommer)

The Last Minute – Weeks after 60 MINUTES reported on a family rescued at an Israeli kibbutz, that family's neighbor was tearfully reunited with her daughters, who had been taken hostage during Hamas' invasion. ("Rescue at the Kibbutz", OAD: 10/15/23) (C: Bill Whitaker)

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60 MINUTES (continued)

- 12/10/23 60 MINUTES (7:47 – 8:47p)
“The Resistance” – a report from Kherson, Ukraine’s capital city, regarding the Russia-Ukraine war. The southern province and capital city was attacked by Russia in March 2022, sparking a rebellion from citizens who resisted the occupation. Includes interviews with Olla Hrynchenko and Kostiantyn Kozak, Ukrainian civilians who enlisted in the army after the Russian invasion; Vitalli, a wedding planner and Russian resistor; and Borys Silenkov, a retiree and Russian resistor. (See also: “Kherson Under Fire”, OAD: 02/26/23) (C: Scott Pelley – P: Nicole Young)
“Red and Green” – a profile of Governor Mark Gordon (R-WY). He discusses his pursuit of a carbon-negative state, conservative detractors, and potential energy projects. Includes interviews with Bill Miller, president of the Power Company of Wyoming; Dr. Holly Krutka, who runs the School of Energy Resources at the University of Wyoming; and Cully Cavness, co-founder of Crusoe Energy Systems. (C: Bill Whitaker – P: Rome Hartman)
“Novak Djokovic” – a profile of tennis player Novak Djokovic from his hometown of Belgrade, Serbia. He discusses his twenty-four major tennis singles titles, the mental strength required to play the game, and his vaccination controversy at the Australian Open. (See also: “Novak Djokovic”, OAD: 03/25/12; Rebroadcast: 06/24/12) (C: Jon Wertheim – P: Dragan Mihailovich)
The Last Minute – Acts of faith in uncertain times, as Christians observing the second Sunday of the Advent season and Jews celebrating Hanukkah are lighting candles around the world tonight. (C: Jon Wertheim)
- 12/17/23 60 MINUTES (7:30 - 9:00p)
 (“SPECIAL 90 MINUTE EDITION OF 60 MINUTES”)
“The Hostage Story” – an interview with freed Israeli hostage Yarden Roman-Gat. In her first interview after being abducted on October 7th at a kibbutz near the Gaza border and spending 54 days in Hamas captivity, she discusses the October 7th attacks. Includes interviews with Alon Gat, Yarden’s husband who was also abducted; Meirav, Romi Gonen’s mother; and Gili Roman, Yarden’s brother. (See also: “Rescue at the Kibbutz”, OAD: 10/15/23) (C: Lesley Stahl – P: Shachar Bar-On)
“The Looting of Cambodia” – a report on controversial art dealer Douglas Latchford. Since the French colonization of Cambodia nearly a century ago, looting of the country’s art and cultural artifacts became commonplace. Amidst political turmoil from the 70s through 90s, Latchford ran a global business stealing much of Cambodia’s art and selling it to private collectors and top museums. In the last ten years, the Cambodian government has made significant efforts to regain their cultural treasures. Includes interviews with Brad Gordon, an American lawyer who works for the Cambodian government; Phoeurng Sackona, Cambodia’s minister of culture; J.P. Labbat, former special agent on the cultural property, art, and antiques unit with Homeland Security; Hab Touch, secretary of state in Cambodia’s Ministry of Culture; Lida, former looter; Andrea Bayer, deputy director for Collections and Administration at The Met; and Muikong Taing and Thyda Long, members of Brad Gordon’s investigative team. (C: Anderson Cooper – P: Michael H. Gavshon, Nadim Roberts) DOUBLE LENGTH SEGMENT
The Last Minute – In tonight’s expanded edition of 60 MINUTES, Bill Whitaker reports from Morocco, where an annual festival celebrates Gnawa, the musical legacy of enslaved Africans. (C: Cecilia Vega)
“Gnawa” – a report on Gnawa music from Essaouira, Morocco. Described as Moroccan blues and traced back as the origin of the genre, the music was played in secret for centuries at ceremonies by enslaved Africans brought to the country during the Middle Ages. With a recent surge in popularity, many music fans are traveling to Essaouira, the town on Morocco’s Atlantic coast from where the music originates. Includes interviews with Bob Wisdom, actor and fan of Gnawa; Sulaiman Hakim, percussionist; Jaleel Shaw, saxophonist; and Mokhtar Gania, Gnawa musician. (C: Bill Whitaker – P: Heather Abbott) DOUBLE LENGTH SEGMENT

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60 MINUTES (continued)

12/24/23

PREEMPTED for 60 MINUTES PRESENTS: “Animal Magnetism”

60 MINUTES PRESENTS: “Animal Magnetism”

“The Sperm Whales of Dominica” – a report on sperm whales off the coast of Dominica. Conservationists’ efforts to protect the whales continue as scientists fear sound and trash pollution make the animals increasingly vulnerable. Includes interviews with Enric Sala, director of National Geographic’s Pristine Seas project; Francine Baron, a Dominican politician, attorney, and the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs from 2014 to 2019; Captain Curt Benoit, who has been in the whale tourism business for more than two decades; and Shane Gero, a National Geographic explorer who started The Dominica Sperm Whale Project. (C: Cecilia Vega – P: Michael Rey) The 12/24/23 rebroadcast includes an update. (OAD: 05/14/23; Rebroadcast: 08/27/23 – both on 60 MINUTES)

“Monkey Island” – a report on Cayo Santiago, the island off the coast of Puerto Rico known as Monkey Island. Home to nearly 2,000 monkeys, researchers on the island aim to determine the impact of climate-related trauma by studying the rhesus macaques whose DNA nearly matches humans. Includes interviews with Noah Snyder-Mackler, a biologist at Arizona State University; James Higham, biologist at New York University; Daniel Phillips and Josue Negron, who have worked as research assistants on Cayo for many years; and Angelina Ruiz-Lambides, who was scientific director of Cayo during Hurricane Maria. (C: Lesley Stahl – P: Ayesha Siddiqi) (OAD: 11/05/23 on 60 MINUTES)

“Hanging On” – a report from Costa Rica on sloths. Scientists aim to gather new scientific data about the elusive animal through an unprecedented population study. Includes interviews with Lucy Cooke, a British zoologist who studies sloths; Leslie Howle, founder of the Toucan Rescue Ranch; and Becky Cliffe, British zoologist and founder of The Sloth Conservation Foundation. (C: Sharyn Alfonsi – P: Guy Campanile) (OAD: 09/24/23 on 60 MINUTES)

12/31/23

PREEMPTED

48 HOURS

12/02/23

48 HOURS: “Death At The Door: Who Shot Heidi Firkus?” – a report on the death of Heidi Firkus, who was shot and killed while on the phone with 911, at 6:30 a.m. on April 25th, 2010, after her husband, Nick Firkus, said an intruder was breaking into their home in Saint Paul, MN. Nick told investigators he and Heidi attempted to leave the home and his gun discharged when he struggled with the intruder, who burst through the front door. Heidi was struck in the back as she attempted to flee towards the kitchen and died instantly; Nick was shot in the leg. Police found Nick’s demeanor and story odd, as the evidence at the scene did not match Nick’s account: by the front door where the alleged struggle occurred there was a vase, some receipts, a beer bottle and none of that was knocked over and there were no signs of forced entry. Nick claimed he and Heidi were scheduled to move the day after Heidi was shot, due to foreclosure and eviction, but investigators saw no evidence at the home which indicated an impending move. Nick soon began a friendship with Rachel Sanchez, the sister of one of Heidi’s friends, and they began dating in the spring of 2011. After Nick and Rachel married, they soon were the parents of three children. Nick Firkus went free for more than a decade until investigator Nichole Sipes took over the case and determined Heidi was unaware of the couple’s financial difficulties at the time of her death. As part of the new investigation, she reached out to Rachel Firkus, who had divorced Nick after she discovered he lied about their finances during their marriage. Rachel later gave the investigator a recording she made of an incriminating conversation she had with Nick. On May 19th, 2021, Nick was arrested and charged with second degree murder; a grand jury ultimately indicted him on first and second degree murder charges. After remaining free on bail, Nick’s trial began on January 27th, 2023; prosecutors were not allowed to call Rachel to testify or use her taped conversation with Nick. Closing arguments were presented on February 10th, 2023; the jury received the case the same day. Five hours later, Nick was found guilty on two counts of murder, premeditated and intentional. On April 13th, 2023, Nick was sentenced to life without parole and refused to admit guilt. **On-screen text graphic:** Nick Firkus is appealing his conviction. Interviewed: Marcus and Katina Sarazin, mentored Heidi at Calvary Church; Nichole Sipes, sergeant, Saint Paul Police Department; Branden O’Connor, housesitting next door to the Firkus residence, heard a voice the morning of Heidi’s death; Jim Gray, sergeant, Saint Paul Police Department; Emily and Andrew Erickson, Nick’s friends; Joe Friedberg, Nick’s criminal defense attorney; Robert Richman, Nick’s attorney; Rachel Firkus, Nick’s second wife, since divorced; Rachel Kraker, prosecutor; Elizabeth Lamin, prosecutor; and Natalie Michael, juror. (C: Jamie Yuccas – P: Asena Basak, Paul La Rosa)

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48 HOURS (continued)

12/09/23

48 HOURS: “Andreen McDonald: A Millionaire Vanishes” – a report on Andreen McDonald, a 29-year-old millionaire and resident of San Antonio, TX, who was reported missing on March 1st, 2019, by her mother Maureen Smith. Andreen grew up in Portland, Jamaica and in 2019, met Andre McDonald, also a native of Jamaica and at the time, a captain in the U.S. Air Force. They decided she would move to America and married that July; they soon had a daughter, Alayna. Andreen started Starlight Homes, an assisted living business out of their home, and transformed it into a multi-million dollar business in just seven years; Andreen was a major and cyber warfare analyst for the U.S. Air Force. When police arrived at their home in an upscale gated community, they discovered blood and hair on the wall and a random burn pile in the landscaped backyard. Andre told investigators the last time he had seen his wife was the night before. The day after Andreen was reported missing, investigators discovered newly purchased items inside one of the McDonalds’ cars that were not there during their initial search, including a shovel and ax and, in a trash can, a claw hammer and some clothing that appeared to be Andre’s with blood on the pocket of the jeans. The DNA on the claw hammer was later identified as Andreen’s. Investigators learned they had a troubled and tumultuous marriage and although they had suspicions about Andre, without a body, none of the evidence collected proved that a murder had occurred. Law enforcement, along with volunteers, family and friends, searched for Andreen over the course of the ensuing months before the search ended in July 2019, when a local farmer discovered a human skull and other skeletal remains in his field. Andre, who had already been arrested for tampering with evidence in 2019, and was released from jail on bond, was arrested again and charged with Andreen’s murder; he pleaded not guilty to the charge. Days before his trial was set to begin in January 2023, Andre began to talk and told his mother and Andreen’s family that her death was an accident. During the trial, Andre’s attorneys claimed self-defense and that he was in fear during their final argument. The jury was deadlocked after 11 hours of deliberation, unable to decide between murder, manslaughter or not guilty by self-defense. The judge invoked an Allen Charge and the jury found Andre McDonald guilty of manslaughter. The business Andreen created is now closed; her mother and sister are raising Alayna, now 12-years-old. **On-screen text graphic:** Andre McDonald was sentenced to 20 years in prison. He is appealing his conviction. Interviewed: Frank Stubbs, lead investigator; Mandy Hall, Andreen childhood friend; Sheriff Javier Salazar, Bexar County Sheriff’s Office; Maureen Smith, Andreen’s mother; Jackie Horne, Andreen’s mother-in-law; Andrew Russell, Andreen’s friend; Clifton Klabunde, local farmer who discovered Andreen’s remains in his field; Cindy Johnson, Andreen’s sister; Lauren Scott, assistant district attorney, Bexar County; Steven Speir, assistant district attorney, Bexar County; Zoe Russell, Andre’s defense attorney; John Hunter, Andre’s defense attorney; John Convery, Andre’s defense attorney; Brandon Medellin, juror; and Rudy Ruiz, juror. (Please note, Bexar County Assistant District Attorney Ryan Groomer appeared on camera during interviews, but no footage was shown of him speaking.) (C: Peter Van Sant – P: Marie Hegwood, Lauren A. White)

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48 HOURS (continued)

12/16/23

48 HOURS: “The Journals of Maria Muñoz” (10:26 – 11:25p) – a report on the death of 31-year-old Maria Muñoz. In the early morning of September 22nd, 2020, police responded to a call at a home in Laredo, TX. Upstairs, Joel Pellot, a nurse anesthetist and Maria’s husband, was performing CPR. Paramedics and police took over, but less than three hours later, Maria was declared dead inside of the home that Joel had moved out of five months prior to live with his girlfriend. Joel told the 911 operator and police his wife may have taken pills; at the scene, he showed police a bottle of clonazepam, a drug often used to treat anxiety, but it was prescribed to Joel, not Maria. Investigators also discovered a syringe wrapper on the floor, a needle catheter on the stairs, syringes and I.V. equipment in a medical bag inside the home. Joel’s behavior was suspicious to police: he was sweating, appeared to be under the influence of drugs and resisted answering questions, citing privacy concerns. The medical examiner ruled Maria died of a combination of drugs in her system but could not determine how they got there. Additionally, there was no clonazepam pill residue in Maria’s stomach and she had a pinprick mark on her right elbow crease. An anesthesiologist and Joel’s former boss learned of the autopsy results and urged the lead detective on the case to order a detailed toxicology screening. Nearly four months after Maria’s death, police received the toxicology report: there was “zero clonazepam” found in her body, but the presence of seven other drugs - morphine, Demerol, Versed, propofol, ketamine, lidocaine and Narcan - most of which are typically used during surgery; propofol can only be administered with an I.V. Joel was arrested and charged with her murder. Maria, a mother to two young sons and former nurse, met Joel in Puerto Rico; they moved to Texas a few years after they were married. In 2018, around the same time Maria gave birth to the couple’s second son, Joel began an affair with a surgical nurse he met at work, Janet Arredondo. Maria was treated for depression and anxiety. She chronicled her recovery in journals, discovered in her home by investigators. The journals assisted the medical examiner, who ruled out suicide and were valuable to prosecutors because they painted a powerful picture of the marriage, but also of a woman who had accepted the end of the relationship and was hopeful for her and her children’s future. Police questioned Janet twice, the second time after she accepted an immunity deal; she finally admitted Joel brought drugs to her home, including propofol. She also stated that Joel admitted to injecting Maria the night she died, but only to calm her down and that he disposed of some of the medical equipment used that night before first responders arrived. Joel, who was out on bail, was arrested again and charged with tampering with evidence; he made bail and wore an ankle monitor. The trial began two-and-a-half years after Maria’s death: Joel’s defense admitted he injected Maria, but claimed it was accident; prosecutors argued the motive was money. After eight days of testimony, the jury found Joel guilty of murder and evidence tampering; he was sentenced to life in prison. **On-screen text graphic:** Maria and Joel’s children are living with his mother. Interviewed: Gregorio De La Cruz, police officer, Laredo Police Department, first officer on the scene; Luis Mata, sergeant, lead detective on the case, Laredo Police Department; Isidro Alaniz, district attorney; Marisela Jacaman, chief assistant district attorney; Cristal Calderon, assistant district attorney; Yazmin Martinez, Maria’s friend; Tina Dores, certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), worked with Joel at Doctors Hospital in Laredo, TX; Angela Montoya, Maria’s friend, Luis Yala’s wife; Dr. John Huntsinger, anesthesiologist, Joel’s former boss, urged Sgt. Mata to order a detailed toxicology screening to determine which drugs killed Maria; Luis Ayala, Joel’s coworker and friend, Angela Montoya’s husband; Karina Rios, assistant district attorney; and Ana Karen Garza Gutierrez, then-chief assistant district attorney. (C: Erin Moriarty – P: Marcelena Spencer)

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48 HOURS (continued)

12/23/23

48 HOURS: “What Ever Happened to Mary Day?” - a report on the search to find a young girl who was last seen in 1981. In 2002, Sherrie Calgaro filed a police report about her sister Mary Day, who went missing in 1981 at the age of thirteen. Sherrie had been adopted by a foster family, while Mary and their middle sister Kathy, returned to their mother Charlotte and her new husband, William Houle. Mary was last seen at the Houle home in Seaside, California. William accused Mary of poisoning his dog, which led to a physical altercation. Charlotte and William claimed that Mary ran away, but they never filed a police report -- allegedly so they could continue claiming the Social Security checks Mary was receiving because of her deceased father. In March 2003, authorities canvassed the former Houles home with cadaver dogs, all of which focused on one spot in the backyard. After digging, police found the decaying sneaker of a young girl, but no body. A month later, Detective Joe Bertaina interviewed Charlotte and William after locating them in Kansas. William recalled the altercation with Mary and admitted to striking her. He claimed he could not have killed her, but admitted to feeling “possessed” at the time and that the “demon” inside him could have. Detective Bertaina and Police Chief Steve Cercone took this as a confession, but the district attorney was not ready to bring charges. In November of that year, a routine traffic stop in Phoenix, Arizona, turned up a woman claiming to be Mary Day. Authorities performed a DNA test on “Phoenix Mary” and confirmed she was Charlotte Houle’s daughter. The police closed the case and Sherrie invited Mary to move in with her, but she soon began to question if this woman was her sister. Sherrie noticed Mary often went by the name “Monica Devereaux” and had a peculiar accent. Mary also sent an email to Detective Bertaina saying she had been lying about who she was. Despite this, the case remained closed. However, in 2008 Chief Cercone was informed that an unrelated investigation at Fort Ord had resulted in cadaver dogs focusing on a second home the Houles had lived in. Once again, police were unable to find a body. Chief Cercone hired private investigator Mark Clark to look into the case. Clark’s theory was that the Houles murdered Mary in 1981 and that “Phoenix Mary” was a previously unknown daughter of Charlotte’s that they enticed to impersonate Mary with the promise of money. In 2017, acting Police Chief Judy Veloz had further testing conducted that showed “Phoenix Mary’s” DNA matched Charlotte as well as the birth father. She further concluded that gaps in Mary’s memory were due to a traumatic life and alcoholism. Her report closed the investigation. **On-screen text graphic:** Mary Day died nine days after Judy Veloz interviewed her. There was no funeral. Interviewed: Detective Joe Bertaina, police officer; Steve Cercone, former police chief; Sherrie Calgaro, Mary’s sister; Kathy Pires, Mary’s sister; Mark Clark, private investigator; Judy Veloz, acting police chief; Shaun Moore, CEO, Trueface. (C: Maureen Maher – P: Chuck Stevenson) (OAD: 05/02/20; Rebroadcast: 01/09/21)

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48 HOURS (continued)

12/30/23

48 HOURS: “The Search for Christie Wilson” (9:00 - 10:00p) - an update on the case of Christie Wilson, a 27-year-old from Sacramento, CA, who disappeared in October 2005. She was last seen at the Thunder Valley Casino in the company of Mario Garcia, a 53-year-old married father of two. A lengthy investigation revealed that Mario had a prior criminal record including charges of rape and assault with a deadly weapon and spousal abuse. That information, as well as DNA evidence linking him to Christie, resulted in his arrest. His trial lasted two months and the jury deliberated for just three days. Despite the absence of a murder weapon and physical evidence to prove that Christie Wilson was dead, Mario Garcia was sentenced in January 2007 to a term of 25 years to life. Based on a serious prior conviction and other charges, his sentence was raised to 59 years. The search for Christie’s remains continued as he filed appeals from prison. In 2017, after Mario saw a television interview with Christie’s mother Debbie Boyd, he reached out and attempted to use the location of Christie’s remains as a bargaining chip. Instead, investigators re-interviewed Mario’s family regarding the days before his arrest and learned about extensive landscaping he did on his property at the time. In August 2020, ground penetrating radar revealed pockets around the property. Excavating these pockets turned up human remains, which were confirmed to be Christie Wilson. Debbie and Christie’s father Dennis had Christie’s remains cremated. In October 2020, to mark the anniversary of her death, Debbie visited the pier in Capitola where the family placed a plaque many years ago. **On-screen text graphic:** Mario Garcia died of pneumonia on December 24, 2020. He died without ever admitting guilt. Interviewed: Tiffney Devries, Christie’s friend; Debbie Boyd, Christie’s mother; Danny Burlando, Christie’s boyfriend; Don Murchison, Placer County district attorney’s office investigator; Mario Garcia, Christie’s killer (interviewed 2006); George Malim, Investigations Commander (interviewed 2005); Stacie Wilson, Christie’s sister (interviewed 2005); Wendy Ward, Mario’s ex-girlfriend (interviewed 2006); Jean Garcia, Mario’s then-wife (interviewed 2006); Tom Davis, Wendy’s friend, brother of Mario’s girlfriend (interviewed 2006); Jon Cave, retired Oakland, CA police investigator (interviewed 2006); Garen Horst, Placer County deputy district attorney (interviewed 2005); Robert Royer, emergency room doctor, witness (interviewed 2006); Pat Boyd, Debbie’s husband and Christie’s stepfather; Nuno Tavares, Placer County district attorney’s office investigator; Morgan Gire, Placer County District Attorney; Cindy Arrington, archaeologist. (See also: 48 HOURS MYSTERY: “The Highest Stakes”, OAD: 03/04/06; and 48 HOURS MYSTERY: “The Biggest Gamble”, OAD: 02/17/07 – a follow-up report, rebroadcast: 12/22/07 – included an update.) (C: Erin Moriarty – P: Paul LaRosa, Dena Goldstein) (OAD: 01/30/21)

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48 HOURS (continued)

12/30/23

48 HOURS: “Lori Vallow Daybell: Guilty” (10:00 – 11:00p) - an update on the case against Lori Vallow Daybell, who was found guilty on Friday, May 12th, 2023, by a Boise, ID jury for murdering her two children, JJ Vallow and Tylee Ryan, and conspiring in the murder of her husband’s ex-wife, Tammy Daybell. Lori’s husband, Chad Daybell, a former gravedigger-turned-doomsday novelist and podcaster, will be tried later. Chad and Lori were charged in May 2021 with murdering her children, 7-year-old JJ Vallow and 16-year-old Tylee Ryan, who disappeared in September 2019, shortly after the family moved to Idaho, from Arizona. Tylee was last seen in Yellowstone National Park with her family on September 8th, 2019; JJ vanished on September 23rd, 2019. In June 2020, their bodies were found in shallow graves on Chad Daybell’s property, just outside of Rexburg, ID. The Daybells pleaded not guilty to the murder charges. During the trial, prosecutors argued that Lori’s true motive was money; the defense claimed she did not commit the murders and suggested that Chad manipulated Lori. After 60 witnesses and four weeks of testimony, the prosecution rested its case; the defense declined to call any witnesses. The jury deliberated for seven hours over the course of two days; Lori appeared emotionless as the guilty verdicts were read. She will be sentenced at a later date. Original on-screen text graphic: Chad Daybell may stand trial as early as June 2024. He has pled not guilty. Lori Vallow Daybell may also face trial in Arizona in connection with the death of her former husband, Charles Vallow. **On-screen text graphic for the 12/30/23 rebroadcast:** Lori Vallow Daybell was extradited to Arizona where she faces two murder conspiracy charges. She pleaded not guilty. Chad Daybell’s trial for the murders of JJ Vallow, Tylee Ryan and Tammy Daybell is scheduled to begin in April 2024. Interviewed: Morgan Loew, investigative reporter, CBS News consultant. Interview excerpts from prior broadcasts: April Raymond, Lori’s former friend; Summer Shiflet, Lori’s sister; Vaisia Itaaehau, Tylee’s best friend; and Garth Daybell, Chad and Tammy Daybell’s son. Also includes audio excerpts / testimony from the proceedings – featured: Lindsey Blake, prosecutor; Jim Archibald, Lori’s defense attorney; Melanie Gibb, Lori’s friend; Zulema Pastenes, Lori’s friend, who later married Alex Cox, Lori’s brother; Rachel Smith, prosecutor; Doug Hart, FBI agent; Nathan Duncan, detective; Nicole Heideman, FBI specialist; Alice Gilbert, Chad’s neighbor; Ray Hermosillo, detective; Garth Warren, forensic pathologist; Summer Shiflet, Lori’s sister; Spencer Rammell, prosecutor; Audrey Barattiero, Lori’s former friend; Tawnya Rawlings, prosecutor; Colby Ryan, Lori’s son; and Rob Wood, prosecutor. (See also: 48 HOURS: “The Missing Children of Lori Vallow Daybell”, OAD: 05/16/20; 48 HOURS: “The Final Days of JJ and Tylee”, OAD: 10/03/20, 1st Rebroadcast: 05/29/21 – a follow-up to “The Missing Children of Lori Vallow Daybell”; and 48 HOURS: “The Secrets of Chad Daybell’s Backyard”, OAD: 09/01/21; 1st Rebroadcast: 07/23/22) (C: Jonathan Vigliotti – P: Liza Finley, Stephanie Slifer) (OAD: 05/13/23)
