

Love Stories, Legacy Records and Live Tour Drama

07.02.26 07.02.26

Welcome back to a star-spangled edition of the Spotlight! On Saturday, the United States is turning 250 years old. Based on the U.S. Men's National Team's performance in the FIFA World Cup so far, you might say that even at a ripe old age, she's alive and kicking. Seems like they're the only "Yankees" around here that are winning these days. Here's hoping that they can keep it going against an imposing potential upcoming slate of opponents. Up next is Belgium, who defeated the US in the 2014 World Cup. We can fulfill our patriotic duties from now until that matchup by swearing off of Belgian chocolate, waffles, fries, mussels and perhaps most difficult of all: brussels sprouts. If the US team, fueled by our culinary boycott, can advance, they may be matched up against Spain, France and eventually Argentina-against each of whom the US would be heavy underdogs (and for whom we would need to make some more painful dietary choices). But then again, the American colonists were supposedly underdogs against the Brits in the Revolutionary War, and we all know how that turned out. If we can stand up to King George, surely the likes of Lamine Yamal, Kylian Mbappé and Lionel Messi should be light work. Regardless of how many more games the US can win, it does seem as if the World Cup has been a success for the US, the rest of North America and their various host cities. TV ratings and sponsorships are through the roof, and the tournament has been extremely entertaining, marked by nail-biters and star-powered performances. In any event, whether you're celebrating the Fourth of July, watching the World Cup, or attending a fairy tale wedding in the heart of Manhattan - all eyes will be on America this weekend. Stay safe, hydrate and wear sunscreen.

- A castle is reportedly being built inside Madison Square Garden to house Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's not-so-secret 1,000 guest wedding celebration this weekend, but with all due respect to the happy couple, the proper king of that castle is Jalen Brunson.
- The Michael Jackson biopic, "Michael" is now the highest grossing biopic in history, overtaking Christopher Nolan's "Oppenheimer." Though it's fair to wonder whether that would still be the case if Robert Oppenheimer were a better dancer.
- Rapper Lil Wayne was forced to apologize to fans after the opening night of his "20 Years of Carter Classics" tour was conspicuously missing a small but important element...(:checks notes:)... Lil Wayne.

Endorsement Deals, Sponsorships & Investments

[World Cup Money: The Winners and Losers So Far](#)

July 2, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

[Firebird Launches \\$750M Catalog Buying Fund Backed by Ares and Raine Group](#)

June 30, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

[The New Playbook: Inside Pat Connaughton's \\$600 Million Real Estate Business](#)

June 30, 2026 via Boardroom

[Glen Powell And Rob Mac Among Investors In Premier Lacrosse League's \\$100M Funding Round](#)

June 30, 2026 via Deadline

[Under Armour Ends Partnership with WNBA](#)

June 29, 2026 via SGB Online

[Frank McCourt's Equestrian League Sells First Franchise for \\$50M](#)

June 29, 2026 via Sportico

Sports

[Amid Balogun's Breakout, SCOTUS Upholds Birthright Citizenship](#)

June 30, 2026 via Sportico

[LeBron James Leaves Behind More Than Just the Lakers With Los Angeles Exit](#)

June 30, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

[Beasley Charged With Defrauding NBA, Sports Betting Companies](#)

June 29, 2026 via Sportico

[Knicks Hand Mamdani-Backed Candidate Cease and Desist Letter for Using Team's Logo in Campaign](#)

June 27, 2026 via Fox News

[Brunson's China Brand-Builder Paves a Silk Road for NBA Stars](#)

June 26, 2026 via Sportico

[Why Erling Haaland Has Become the World Cup's Most Entertaining Star](#)

June 26, 2026 via EuroNews

Music Biz

[Lil Wayne Apologizes After Failing to Appear at His Own Concert: 'I'm So Sorry'](#)

July 2, 2026 via Rolling Stone

[Get Rich Or Die Tryin' \(In 'GTA'\): How Rappers Like Tee Grizzley Have Made Millions Streaming, Hosting](#)

July 2, 2026 via Boardroom

[Taylor Swift's Super Top-Secret Wedding Is Getting Kinda Ridiculous](#)

July 1, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

[Artists First Launches Music Division Led by Carmen Murray](#)

July 1, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

[Stevie Nicks and Tim McGraw to Perform at Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's Wedding](#)

June 29, 2026 via The Independent

Film & TV

[Josh Gad to Join Margot Robbie and Bradley Cooper's 'Ocean's' Prequel](#)

July 2, 2026 via Variety

[Tom Hanks Sony Baseball Movie 'The Comebacker' Sets Late Summer 2027 Release](#)

July 2, 2026 via Deadline

[Michael Jackson Movie Overtakes 'Oppenheimer' as Biggest Biopic Ever... With \\$1 Billion in Sight](#)

July 1, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

[Golden Age: What A LeBron James-Stephen Curry Pairing Could Mean For The NBA's TV Ratings](#)

June 30, 2026 via Deadline

Posted in [Sports & Entertainment Spotlight](#)

Authored by

[Joshua A. Bloomgarden](#)

[Principal|New York](#)

[212.965.4529 \[email protected\]](#)