# The Philadelphia Story

A model for the future of local news?







My journey: From ink ...

... to ivy, and insight.







JOURNALISM INNOVATION DEMOCRACY



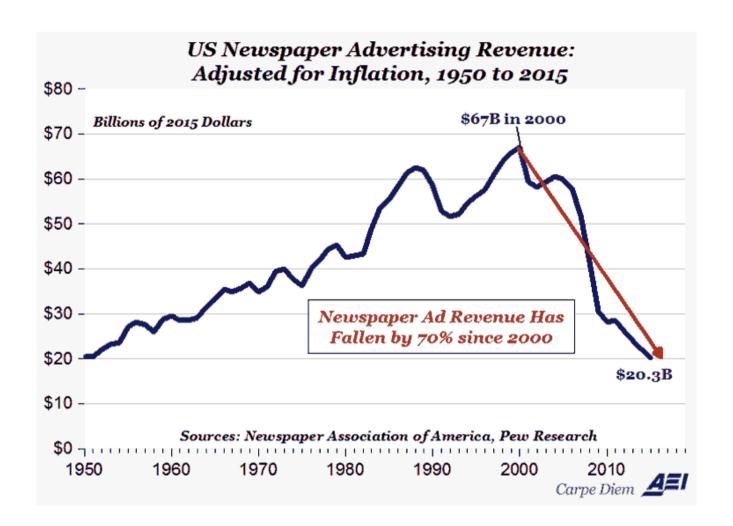
#### The state of the States: Local news in peril





## Print dollars, digital dimes

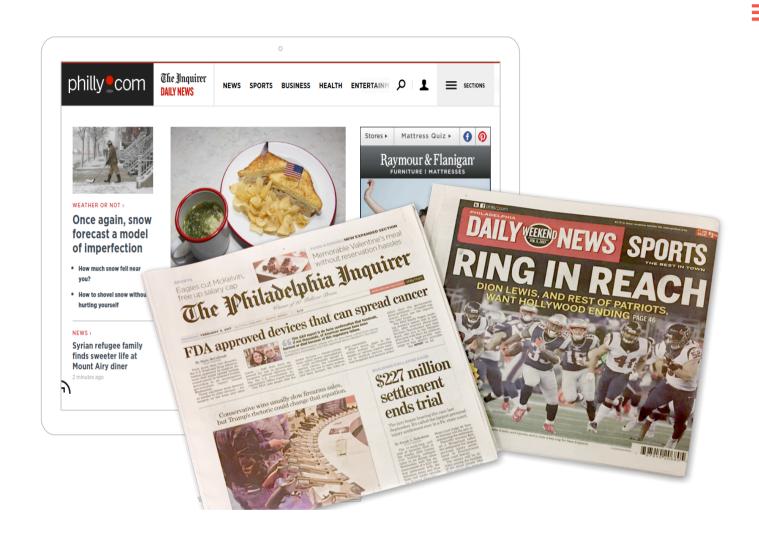






# **U.S. Newspapers Under Siege**





# But does it matter? Should we care about local news?



### The gate to civic engagement



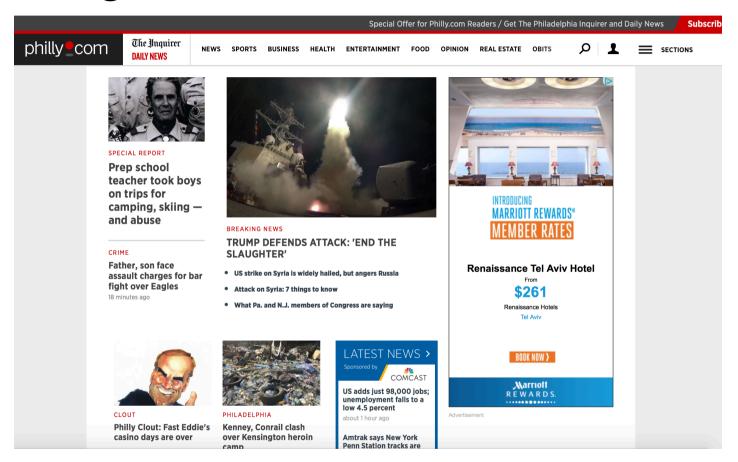
Λοχαλ νεωσπαπερ ρεαδερσηιπ ηασ α στρονγ ανδ διρεχτ χορρελατιον το:

- Φεελινγ ατταχηεδ το χομμυνιτψ
- > ζοτινγ ιν λοχαλ ελεχτιονσ
- > Παρτιχιπατιον ιν χομμυνιτψ

Source: Pew Research Center, 2018 ουπο



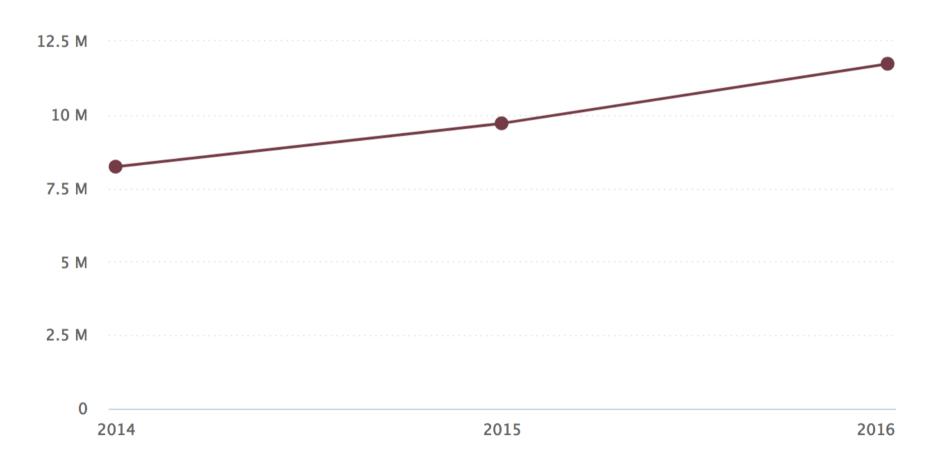
# In 24 of the top 25 U.S. markets, the highest-trafficked local site is ...



... the local daily newspaper!

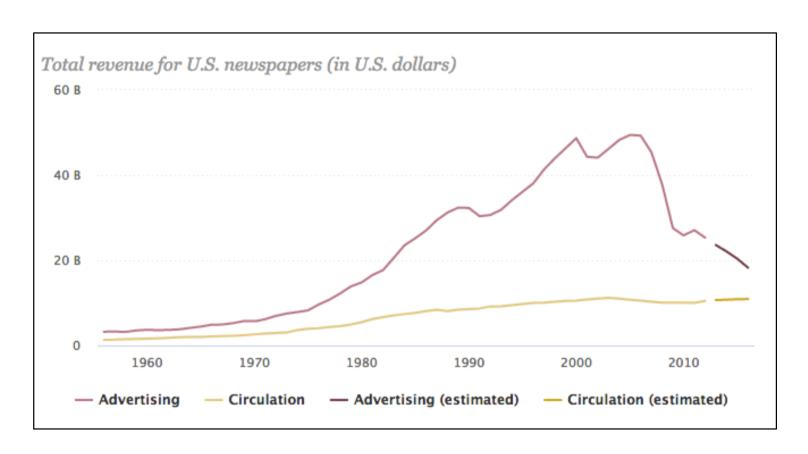




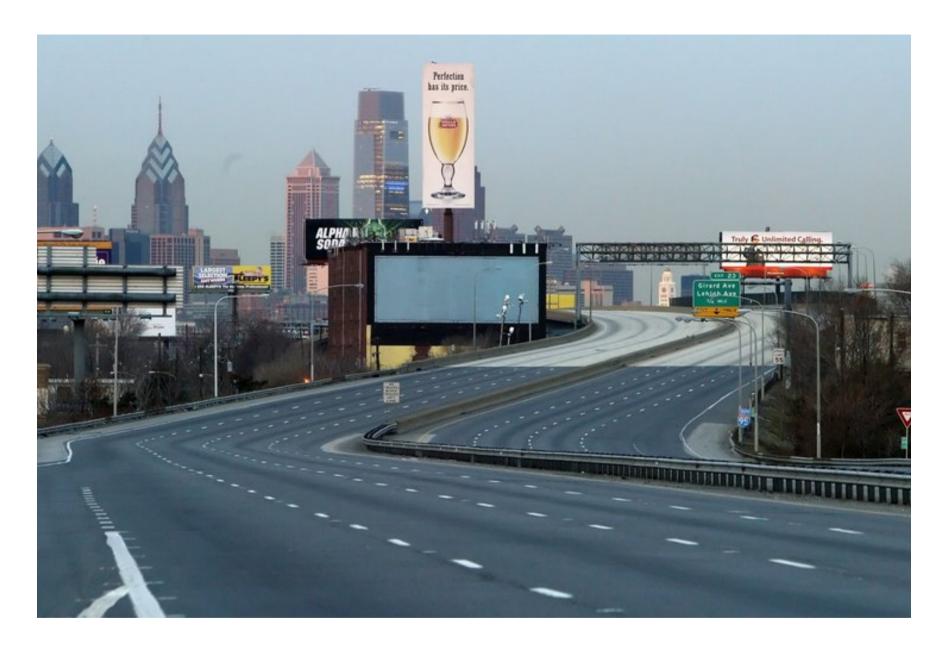




# As advertising plummets, circulation revenue slowly grows







The road forward in Philly

### A new model for local news







JOURNALISM INNOVATION DEMOCRACY

### A unique ownership structure

# Lenfest Institute for Journalism

Charitable nonprofit, owns 99% of PMN. Separate Board of Managers. Broad mission.

#### Philadelphia Media Network

Private "B" corporation. Owns 1% of stock, but all voting stock. Separate Board of Directors.

# Philadelphia Inquirer

Philadelphia Daily News

Philly.com





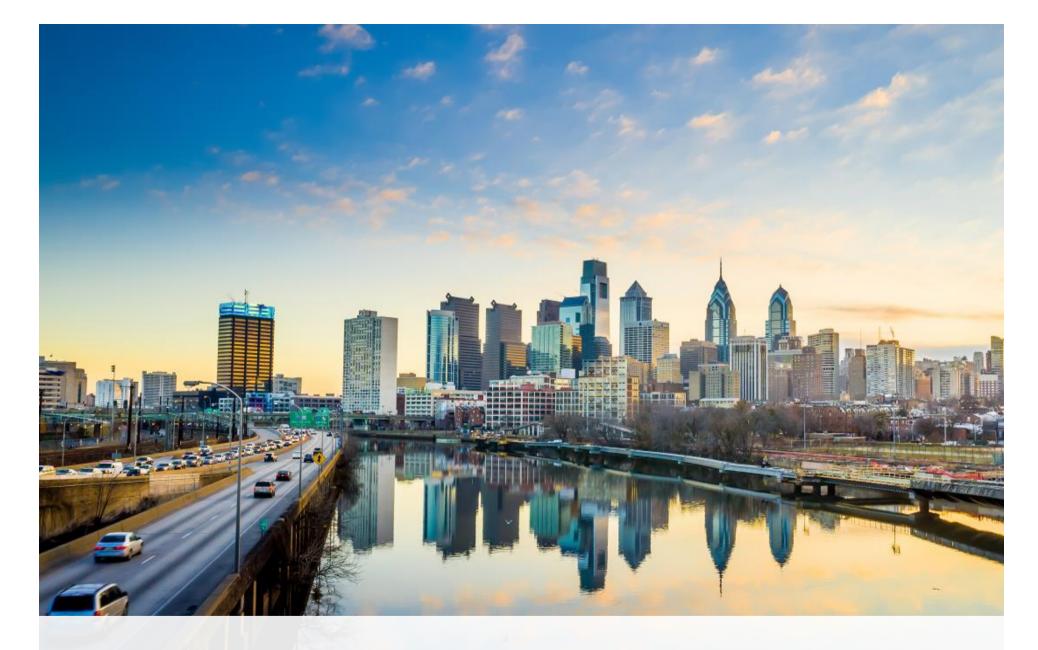
#### A DEDICATED FOCUS ON METRO NEWS MARKETS





#### A LIVE LAB OF OWNED NEWS PROPERTIES



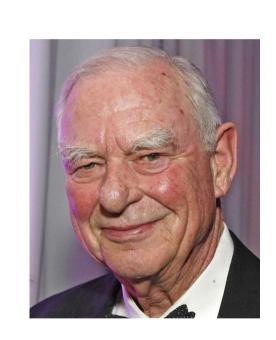


#### **INNOVATION THAT ADDRESSES A NATIONAL NEED**

THE LENFEST INSTITUTE

### **What Gerry Lenfest did:**

- Προτεχτεδ ΠΜΝ φρομ ηισ οων μορταλιτψ ανδ συλτυρε χαπιταλ
- Γαπε ΠΜΝ α φινανχιαλρυνωαψ, ωιτη μινιμαλ προφιτιμπερατιπε
- Ωιτη \$20 μιλλιον, χρεατεδ α ρεσεαρχη-ανδ-δεπελοπμεντ αρμ φορ ΠΜΝ ανδ φορ τηε φυτυρε οφ λοχαλ νεωσ





#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.























# LEADERSHIP





#### THE MISSION

- Το αδωανχε πυβλιχ-σερωιχε φουρναλισμ ον α λοχαλ λεωελ ιν τηε διγιταλ αγε, υσινγ τηε προπερτιεσ οφ τηε Πηιλαδελπηια Μεδια Νετωορκ ασ α πριμαρψ λαβορατορψ
- Το υσε Πηιλαδελπηια ασ α δεμονστρατιον προφεχτ φορ οτηερ μετροπολιταν αρεασ







#### THE GOALS

- > Συπεριορ τεχηνολογιχαλ αχυμεν
- Βεστ-οφ-βρεεδ αχαδεμιχ ρεσουρχεσ
- > Βυσινεσσ σασσψ
- > Φυλλ εχοσψστεμ αππροαχη
- > Χομμιτμεντ το γρεατ φουρναλισμ







#### THE STRATEGY

- > Εμπηασισ ον μοβιλε
- > Φοχυσ ον Συνδαψ πριντ
- > Παρτνερσηιπο αχροσο εχοσψοτεμ
- > Ραισινγ μονεψ, γιωινγ γραντσ
- > Συπεριορ τεχηνολογιχαλ αχυμεν
- > Προμοτιον οφ νεω τεχη τοολσ
- Νεω αππροαχηεσ το ενγαγεμεντ





#### Donors: Making journalism a public trust

- Gerry Lenfest: \$20
  million initial donation
  plus \$40 million
  potential match
- 50+ individual donors
- Gifts range from \$20 to \$15 million
- Individuals, foundations and corporations







## 'Venture Philanthropy'

"We encourage bold risk-taking on projects with the potential for major payoffs, recognizing some attempts at transformation will deliver important new insights... even if they miss the mark...will provide an array of support services to help advance promising ideas in the business of local journalism."



### Three Pillars of Local News Sustainability





	LENFEST INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS, TECH SOLUTIONS	GROWING AUDIENCES	BIG-J JOURNALISM
	PMN	Conversion to digital subscriptions		
	PHILLY ECOSYSTEM			
THE LENFES' INSTITU				

	LENFEST INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS, TECH SOLUTIONS	GROWING AUDIENCES	BIG-J JOURNALISM
	PMN	Conversion to digital subscriptions	Audience-focused beats, constant digital publication and curated print	
	PHILLY ECOSYSTEM			
THE LENFES' INSTITU	LOCAL PAPERS ACROSS U.S.			

	LENFEST INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS, TECH SOLUTIONS	GROWING AUDIENCES	BIG-J JOURNALISM
	PMN	Conversion to digital subscriptions	Audience-focused beats, constant digital publication and curated print	Quadrupled size of investigative team
	PHILLY ECOSYSTEM			
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THE LENFES' INSTITU	LOCAL PAPERS ACROSS U.S.	ARC Publishing System		

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THE LENFES' INSTITU	LOCAL PAPERS ACROSS U.S.	ARC Publishing System	Knight-Lenfest Table Stakes Project	

	LENFEST INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS, TECH SOLUTIONS	GROWING AUDIENCES	BIG-J JOURNALISM
	PMN	Conversion to digital subscriptions	Audience-focused beats, constant digital publication and curated print	Quadrupled size of investigative team
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THE LENFES' INSTITU	LOCAL PAPERS ACROSS U.S.	ARC Publishing System	Knight-Lenfest Table Stakes Project	"Solutions Set": Applying Solutions Journalism to journalism

#### https://www.lenfestinstitute.org/solutionset/















# A collaboration of 17 news organizations and two universities, focused on solutions journalism























### The results so far...



#### Strategic building blocks

Substantial consumer revenue from digital subscriptions, membership, crowd-funding, and/or events.

Digital ad revenue from native ads, programmatic, sponsorships, etc.

A diverse set of highly engaged community members

Iterative product development that results in great user experience

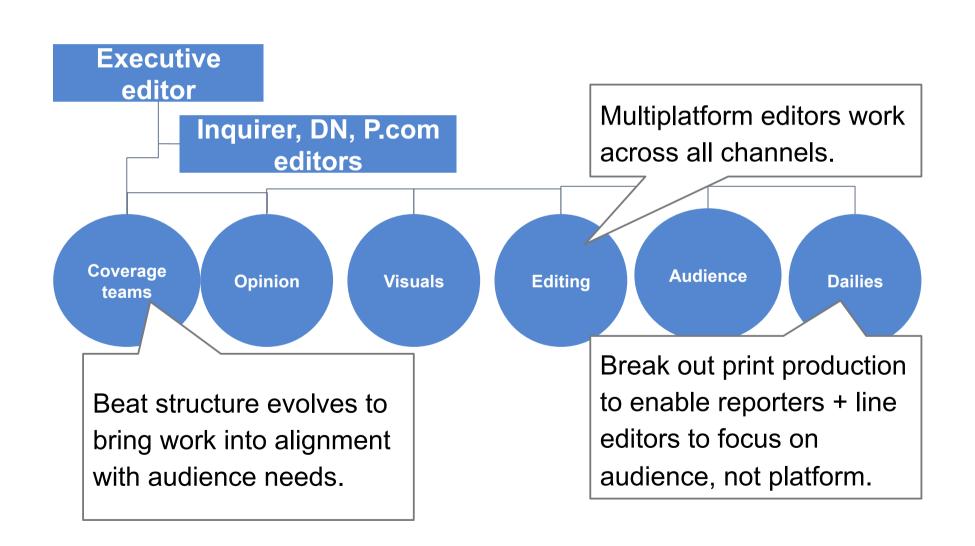
Iterative marketing processes that speak to customer needs

Focus on Metrics

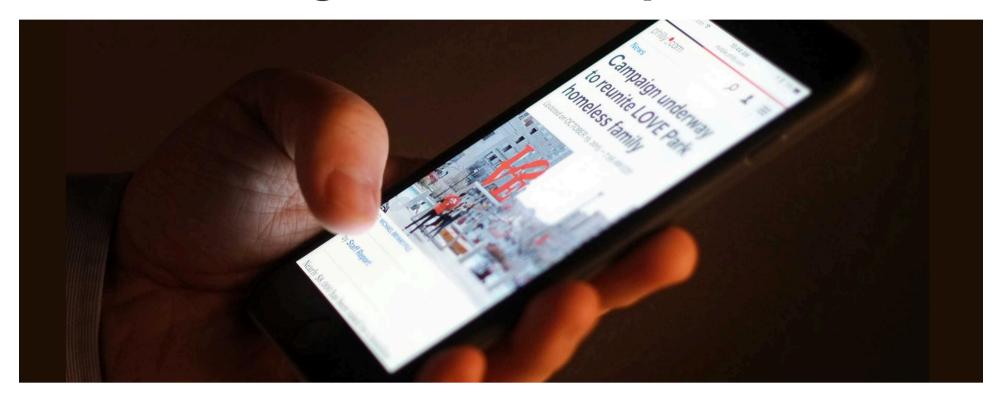
Digital Newsroom and
Content Organization
Highly effective at user engagement and repeat use



#### New structure for PMN newsroom



## Redesign of mobile products



Just right on every device

An optimized experience from the smallest smartphone to the widest widescreen.



# Recruitment of great, diverse talent







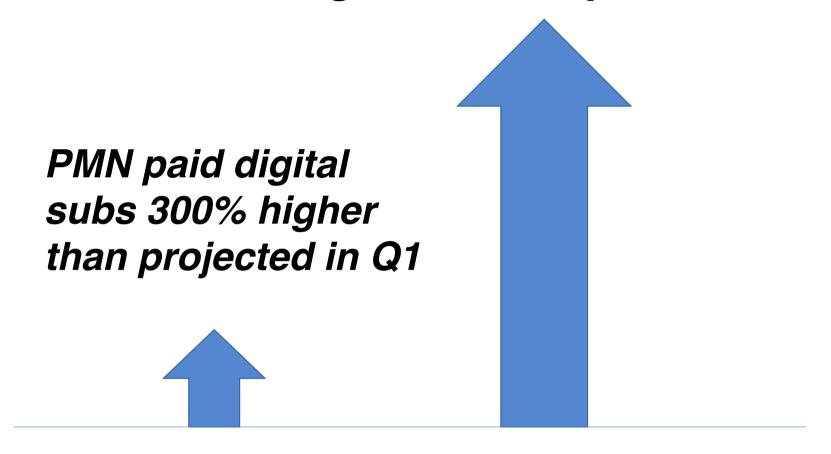






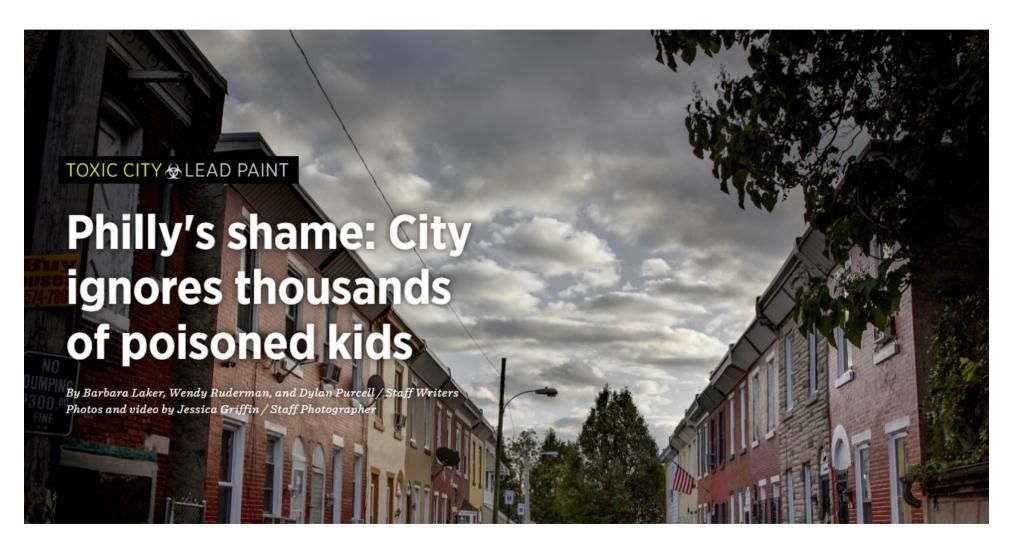


#### Great start to digital subscription sales





# High-impact journalism





VS SPORTS BUSINESS OPINION POLITICS ENTERTAINMENT LIFE FOOD HEALTH REAL ESTATE OBITS JOBS

**Viewpoints** 

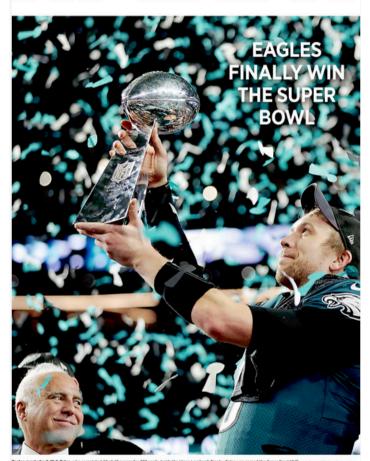
# Broke in Philly? Nearly half of us are; a new series will offer solutions | Opinion

**Updated:** APRIL 19, 2018 — 5:15 AM EDT





# AT LAST!



**LENFEST INSTITUTE** 

THE TRICK PLAY | E2

JEFF McLANE

It was a touchdown pass to ... Nick Foles?

THE CRAZY ENDING E4 Nothing could have prepared us for this.

THE MVP | E6 Nick Foles goes from backup QB to hero. MARCUS HAYES

THE REACTION | E22-23 Relief, euphoria for nervous Birds fans. **EAGLES FAITHFUL**