



[Home](#) > [TV](#) > [News](#)

May 13, 2026 7:56pm PT

Margaret Cho Turned Down 'Heated Rivalry' Role Because She Feared She'd 'Get Detained' By ICE at Canadian Border: 'It's All Because of Trump'

By Jack Dunn ▾





Getty / HBO Max

VARIETY

Get Variety's Breaking News Alerts

Be the first to learn the top news from the world of entertainment.

Your Email Address

By providing your information, you agree to our [Terms of Service](#) and our [Privacy Policy](#). We use vendors that may also process your information to help provide our services.

SIGN UP

ADVERTISEMENT



Related Stories

'Heated Rivalry' Duo and 'KPop Demon Hunters' Singers Attend First Met Gala With Bold Fashion -- See Hudson Williams, LILIE, Connor Storris and Audrey Nuna

Shark Week Meets 'KPop Demon Hunters': Rei Arai and Ken Jeong Set 'KPop Shark Heroes' Special at Discovery Channel

She continued, "I was struggling over it, and I talked to all these people about it, and I was super upset about it, and I said no. And it was 'Heated Rivalry.'"

Popular on Variety

00:00

10:57



Cho said that she has watched "Heated Rivalry" since and has even "hosted some rewatch parties." She also made sure to reiterate the reason why she stepped away from the show: "It's all

because of Trump.”

“Heated Rivalry” quickly became one of the most talked-about shows in streaming after it hit HBO Max and Canadian streamer Crave in November 2025. Based on the book series by Rachel Reid, the steamy queer drama follows up-and-coming hockey stars Shane Hollander and Ilya Rozanov, played by Hudson Williams and Connor Storrie, who maintain a facade as arch rivals in the rink while engaging in a secret off-ice romance.

“Heated Rivalry” was renewed for a second season in December 2025.

Read More About: Heated Rivalry

[Jump To Comments](#)

Want to read more articles like this one?

Subscribe Today

More from Variety

‘Swapped’ Hits 38.7 Million Views in Seven Days, Netflix’s Best-Ever Single-Week Viewership for an Animated Movie

Netflix Scripted Series Head Jinny Howe Set as Keynote Speaker at Banff World Media Festival

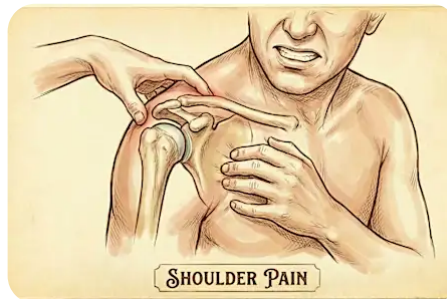
Claire Danes to Star in Netflix Series ‘Lovesick’ From ‘The Affair’ Creator Sarah Treem Based on Israeli Format

Brad Bird's 'Ray Gunn,' Pixar's 'Gatto,' Ricky Gervais' 'Alley Cats' and a 'Rick & Morty' Spinoff Headline Annecy's Packed Special Events Program

'The Secret Agent' Sweeps 13th Premios Platino While Netflix's Ambitious Argentine Series 'The Eternaut' Dominates TV Prizes

'My Life With the Walter Boys' Scores Early Season 4 Renewal at Netflix

Sponsored Stories



Scarlett Johansson and Colin Jost's Mansion in \$Arizona\$ Is Absolutely Incredible

Twist Digital | Sponsored

Why Your Rotator Cuff Won't Heal (What Most Doctors Miss)

Health Insights Magazine | Sponsored



Edema Is Not From Salty Food. Meet The Real Enemy Of Swollen Legs

RejuvaCare | Sponsored



Arizona Launches New Policy For "Senior Drivers" on Thursday

Auto Savings | Sponsored

AI Generated the "Average" Woman in Each State — the Results Are Hilarious

Twist Digital | Sponsored



Forbes Reveals The Best Microdosing GLP Medications of 2026

Forbes | Sponsored

0 Comments

Comments are moderated. They may be edited for clarity and reprinting in whole or in part in Variety publications.

Leave a Reply

Leave your comment here

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

Name *

Email *

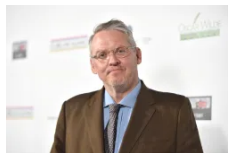
Website

Post Comment

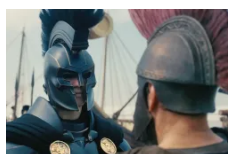
Most Popular



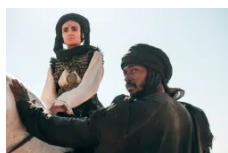
'Big Bang Theory' Spinoff 'Stuart Little' Drops Apocalyptic First Teaser, Sets Official Release Date



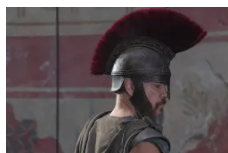
Adam McKay Says 'No Group Is Worse' for America Than 'White Liberals': 'They're Getting a Lot From This Broken System...'



Christopher Nolan Defends 'The Odyssey' Armor and Casting Travis Scott After Online Backlash: 'What Is the Best Speculation?'



Saudi Arabia's Shattered Hollywood Dreams: Will the Warner Bros. and Paramount Merger and a Shift in Strategy Help the Kingdom Rebound?



'The Odyssey': Why Elon Musk and His Troll Army's Attacks Aren't Just Silly but Wildly Inaccurate

'Lincoln Lawyer' to End With Season 5 at Netflix, Series Adds Six Recurring Guest Stars

Tony Dokoupil Suddenly Stops CBS Evening Newscast as Cameraman Suffers Medical Emergency

'The Boys' Star on [SPOILER]'s Tragic Death, Why He Can't Watch His Final Episode and Dancing With Homelander Between Takes: 'We Had to Keep It Light...'

Peter Jackson Says Stephen Colbert Pitched His 'Lord of the Rings' Movie Before CBS Canceled 'The Late Show' and They've Already Spent One Year...

Elon Musk Attacks 'The Odyssey' Again and Claims Christopher Nolan Cast Lupita Nyong'o as Helen of Troy Because 'He Wants the Awards...

ADVERTISEMENT

Must Read

Film

'Dune 3' Wows CinemaCon With 7-Minute Opening Scene Featuring Brutal Battle as Timothée Chalamet Dominates the Galaxy

TV

Christopher Meloni Says Goodbye to Stabler After 'Law & Order: Organized Crime' Cancellation: 'It Was a Great Ride'

Film

'Avengers: Doomsday' Trailer: Thor Battles Doctor Doom, Chris Evans Picks Up the Hammer, X-Men Back in Action in Thrilling CinemaCon...

Music

D4vd Arrested for Murder of Celeste Rivas

TV

'The Pitt' Season 2 Didn't Have a Defining Disaster — and Proved It Doesn't Need One

Sign Up for Variety Newsletters

Enter Your Email Address

Sign Up

By providing your information, you agree to our Terms of Use and our Privacy Policy. We use vendors that may also process your information to help provide our services. // This site is protected by reCAPTCHA Enterprise and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply.



The Leader in
Entertainment
News Since
1905

SUBSCRIBE



ADVERTISEMENT

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Loading survey...



Variety Confidential

iHeart

Variety Confidential

The Icon







The Icon

Aug 22, 2025 • 38 mins

Gone Too Soon

Aug 15, 2025 • 42 mins

A Variety and iHeartRadio Podcast

More From Our Brands

Rolling Stone

Pete Townshend Sells Name, Image, and Music Rights in New Deal: Reports

Robb Report

Lürssen's Newly Delivered 384-Foot Megayacht Has 2 Helipads

Sportico

Sporticast: A Secret World Cup Ticket Market

Variety
Legal
Magazine
More
Connect



Variety is a part of Penske Media Corporation. © 2026 Variety Media, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Variety and the Flying V logos are trademarks of Variety Media, LLC. Powered by WordPress.com VIP



Variety is a part of Penske Media Corporation. © 2026 Variety Media, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Variety and the Flying V logos are trademarks of Variety Media, LLC.

OUR SITES

▼