



KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Paying respects as the remains were transferred of one of the Army soldiers killed in last week's crash above the Potomac.



VIA GARY O'HARA



UNITED STATES ARMY, VIA REUTERS



UNITED STATES ARMY, VIA REUTERS

The Black Hawk crew: Staff Sgt. Ryan O'Hara; Capt. Rebecca M. Lobach; and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Andrew Loyd Eaves.

## Resolute Mechanic, Promising Pilot and Caring Mentor

This article is by Juliet Macur, Christina Morales, Dave Philipps, Jack Healy and Mark Walker.

Not long after Staff Sgt. Ryan O'Hara was killed in a fiery crash above the Potomac River last week, his parents said they received an offer from American Airlines to fly them over the accident site.

But their pain was too raw to accept, said Gary O'Hara, the staff sergeant's father. Besides, he and his wife, Mary, wanted to remember that route along the river, with the Lincoln Memorial and Washington

Monument glowing in the dark, as their son had described it.

Again and again, Sergeant O'Hara, a Black Hawk helicopter crew chief, had told them that he loved flying around Washington, his father recalled: "Dad, you can see everything because we're flying so low. You can see every detail. It's just spectacular."

It was on a night like that, in moonless sky over a sparkling city on Jan. 29, that Sergeant O'Hara and the helicopter's two pilots were killed, now forever linked by the nation's worst aviation crash in nearly 25 years.

For reasons still being investigated, the

helicopter collided with a passenger plane carrying 64 people. Everyone died, including Sergeant O'Hara, 28, of Lilburn, Ga., a new father and, according to his parents, a mechanical genius; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Andrew Loyd Eaves, 39, from Great Mills, Md., who had flown that route along the Potomac "probably hundreds" of times, a friend said; and Capt. Rebecca M. Lobach, 28, of Durham, N.C., who had hoped to become a doctor.

President Trump has questioned how it was possible that the crew did not see the

Continued on Page A13

Continued on Page A13

## House Pressures Navy for Data On Brain Risks

By DAVE PHILIPPS

The Navy's elite TOPGUN pilot school quietly undertook an effort called Project Odin's Eye in the fall of 2024 to try to detect and treat brain injuries in fighter crew members, and leaders kept it so confidential that not even the broader Navy knew about it.

Now, the powerful House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is demanding to learn about the project, and what the Navy knows about the risk that high-performance jets pose to the brains of the crew members who fly in them.

"It is imperative to ensure the warfighter has full and accurate information about health risks and the tools, both mental and physical, to safeguard their health," the chairman of the committee, Representative James Comer of Kentucky, said in a letter sent on Thursday to the acting secretary of the Navy.

The letter cited a report by The New York Times published in December that detailed how a num-

Continued on Page A21

## YouTube Tutors New Generation of Gun Owners

By THOMAS GIBBONS-NEFF

SALT LAKE CITY — Joseph Osse loaded his black sedan with a few guns, a steel target and a recording stand for his phone before driving into the desert west of Salt Lake City on a cold day in mid-November.

Mr. Osse, 32, began filming himself target shooting around a year ago for short videos he posted on YouTube. He has made over 300, with offbeat titles like "Plinking Steel," "Art of the Mag Dump" and "First Person Rifle Cam," that draw several hundred to several thousand views each.

Firearms content on YouTube has long been relatively niche, an algorithmic recommendation that can appear after viewers watch a Call of Duty video-game stream or search for information about the slick guns used by John Wick, the popular movie hit man.

Mr. Osse, who posts under the name Graizen Brann, learned how to shoot by watching the YouTube channels he is now trying to emulate. In the past, firearms education was often bestowed by older family members, and picked up in youth groups or by joining the military.

"I enjoyed what I was doing," he said. "And maybe if there was any-



LINDSAY D'ADDATO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Joseph Osse has made over 300 videos of his target shooting in the Utah desert that might draw several thousand views each.

one else on the planet that felt pretty much the same way I did about firearms that they would go ahead and subscribe and just see what happens."

A new generation of American gun owners who are younger, more racially diverse and drawn to tactical training and self-defense are regularly watching firearms channels. The content has

garnered more than 29 billion views on YouTube, according to unpublished data from researchers at the Institute for Strategic Dialogue and the Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research Lab. It has made for a growing subculture commonly referred to as guntube, with creators known as guntubers.

Continued on Page A14

Continued on Page A7

Continued on Page A9

## N.C.A.A. Bars Trans Athletes Across Women's Competitions

By JULIET MACUR

Transgender women will be barred from competing in N.C.A.A. women's college sports, the sports organization announced on Thursday, a day after President Trump effectively forced the decision by reversing federal policy.

That decision, effective immediately, followed Mr. Trump's signing of an executive order asking his agencies to withdraw federal funding from educational institutions if they defied him and let transgender girls and women compete.

"We strongly believe that clear, consistent and uniform eligibility standards would best serve today's student-athletes instead of a patchwork of conflicting state

laws and court decisions," Charlie Baker, the president of the N.C.A.A., said in a statement. "To that end, President Trump's order provides a clear, national standard."

The N.C.A.A.'s previous policy on transgender athletes left the decision up to each sport's national governing body. The rules varied by sport, especially as to how much testosterone could remain in a transgender woman's blood following hormone therapy. USA Volleyball, for instance, allowed an athlete to compete as a woman even with testosterone levels typical of many men. U.S. Rowing's limit for college athletes was just one-fourth of volleyball's.

Continued on Page A17

INTERNATIONAL A4-11

### Kyiv Appeals to Trump Allies

A visiting Ukrainian delegation hopes to persuade conservative U.S. Christians that the war with Russia is partly about religious freedom.

PAGE A11

NATIONAL A12-21

### Micromanaging the Classroom

A new superintendent is trying to improve Houston's public schools through strictly structured teaching. Many educators and parents hate it.

SPORTS B7-10

### It's Not Just Philadelphia

Anonymity, mob mentality, testosterone and alcohol all contribute to trouble on the joyous occasion of a team winning the big game.

WEEKEND ARTS C1-12

### Seeing Through the Fog

An exhibition of the great Romantic painter Caspar David Friedrich is a blueprint for how to think, and how to feel, in a changing environment.

OPINION A22-23

### Julia Angwin

PAGE A22



0 354613 9

Photography by Marc J. Franklin

**"A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME PERFORMANCE THAT YOU'D BE CRAZY TO MISS."**

NAVEEN KUMAR, The Washington Post

**GYPSY**

NEW BLOCK OF TICKETS NOW ON SALE  
ON BROADWAY @ MAJESTIC THEATRE

