

"All the News  
That's Fit to Print"

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NICOLE TUNG FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Navigating Syria's Endless Mounds of Rubble

A year after Bashar al-Assad fell, Syrians are returning to a country where a third of the housing stock is destroyed and there is no clear plan for rebuilding. Page A12.

## Struggling to Recover, Met Opera Is Planning Layoffs and Pay Cuts

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

Over the past five years, the Metropolitan Opera has drained money from its endowment, entered a still-tentative \$200 million deal with Saudi Arabia and cut back its performance schedule as it struggled to bring stability to an institution hammered by the coronavirus pandemic.

But in the latest sign of the persistent financial challenges facing the largest performing arts organization in the country, the Met announced on Tuesday that it would lay off workers, cut the salaries of its top-paid executives and postpone a new production from its coming season.

Peter Gelb, the Met's general

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TODD HEISLER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Volunteers packing donated boxes of groceries in Minneapolis.

## Sneaking Groceries to People Hiding From ICE in Minnesota

By ORLANDO MAYORQUÍN

MINNEAPOLIS — Sergio Amezcua arrived at the house carrying two boxes filled with groceries, but the man inside was afraid to come to the door. A blue sedan parked outside seemed suspicious.

"Don't come out," Mr. Amezcua, speaking in Spanish, told the man by phone. "Let me check the car first."

The car was empty, and Mr. Amezcua saw no signs of federal

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INTERNATIONAL A4-14

### New Clue in Spain Rail Crash

A previously unreported train undercarriage found near the site of the accident could help investigators.

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### Political Prisoner Is Back Home

A Venezuelan columnist jailed by the Maduro regime is trying to make up for the 371 days away from family.

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**Justices Tackle a Gun Law**

A Supreme Court majority appeared skeptical on a Hawaii law restricting the carrying of concealed weapons onto private property.

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**Bridge Suicides Decline**

The Golden Gate once averaged 30 a year. With nets now in place, there were none in the second half of 2025.

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**BUSINESS B1-5**

**Netflix Revamps Warner Bid**

Netflix offered to pay all cash for the \$83 billion deal to acquire major parts of Warner Bros. Discovery.

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**OPINION A22-23**

**David French**

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SPORTS B6-9

### A New Identity in a New Era

Indiana, historically a basketball school, made a swift and stunning ascent to the top of college football.

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### Three Aggies Who Endured

Patrick Kypson, a wild card at the Australian Open, is the latest late-blooming ex-Texas A&M player.

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ARTS C1-6

### Riding the Freedom Plane

In a journey organized by the National Archives, a Boeing 737 will carry documents that trace the founding of the United States to eight cities.

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OBITUARIES B10-11

### A Maker of a Lighter Ride

Joe Montgomery's company, Cannondale, was among the first in the U.S. to mass-produce bicycle frames out of aluminum. He was 86.

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FOOD D1-8

### Discounting Calories

The measurement for the energy content of food is losing its clout in an age of GLP-1 medications and a more intense focus on nutrients.

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### THE WEATHER

Today, morning sunshine, afternoon clouds, not as cold, high 37. Tonight, becoming clear, dry, low 34. Tomorrow, sun and clouds, breezy, high 43. Weather map appears on Page B12.

### WHITE HOUSE MEMO

## AFTER ONE YEAR, LONE CERTAINTY IS UNCERTAINTY

Trump's Strategies Keep People on Edge. That May Be the Point.

By SHAWN McCREESH

WASHINGTON — One year and a seemingly infinite number of news cycles ago, Donald J. Trump returned to Washington.

The city was drunk with expectation and dread that first weekend leading into his inauguration. Trump supporters palled around town in pedicabs blaring "Y.M.C.A." Plutocrats partied on yachts in the Potomac. Tech billionaires sat cheek to jowl in the Capitol Rotunda, licking their lips. Democrats looked in a daze.

The president who had been left for political dead was regenerated, bigger and bolder than ever, back inside the building that a mob of his supporters attacked four years earlier. The world tried to wrap its head around the thought — the reality — of a second Trump presidency. What would it be like this time?

The official photograph of Mr. Trump printed inside the programs that day was a startling image that thrilled some and terrified others. Bathed in eerie light from below, high-powered strobes reflected in his eyes, he glared out from the portrait and into the future he was about to conjure for us all.

Ordinarily, by the one-year point in a presidency, it is possible to connect certain dots so that a coherent picture begins to come into focus, showing us where a president is taking the country.

In this case, there is conspicuously — Mr. Trump seems to be everywhere, in everything — but there is little consistency or predictability.

This has been the great truth of Trump II so far, and anyone who has spent time in Washington this past year has experienced it in some way big or small. European leaders. Republican allies. Military commanders. Media executives. Financiers. Oilmen. Journalists trying to make sense of the daily machinations.

None of these people have any idea what tomorrow holds. It doesn't seem knowable.

At a business forum in Qatar last month, Donald Trump Jr. said that "what's good about my father, and what's unique about my father, is you don't know what he's going to do."

The son called the father "the most unpredictable person, probably in the history of politics." He wouldn't get any argument there from anyone in Washington.

The president's supporters sent him back to this place to disrupt. They see his ability to keep everyone guessing as one of his supreme strengths, a strategy unto itself.

But one year since his return

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## The Subway Vigilante We're Still Talking About

By DAVID SEGAL

Bernie Goetz is still here.

The white man who shot four Black teenagers on a downtown subway in December 1984 is right where we left him, in the same Manhattan apartment where he lived the day he boarded a No. 2 train carrying an unlicensed handgun. All four teenagers survived, although one was paralyzed and brain-damaged. Goetz's subsequent trial, on charges including attempted second-degree murder, convulsed New York City.

For years, details of the case

New Books Show How Goetz Case From '80s Resonates Today

were endlessly debated. Was this self-defense or reckless aggression? In the city's graffiti-covered and crime-ravaged mid-1980s, Goetz was both admired as a righteous vigilante and reviled as a trigger-happy racist.

Now 78, Goetz still runs an electronics repair business out of his

home. He also rehabilitates injured squirrels, a passion that has caused more than a little friction with his landlord and neighbors. While the man has remained rooted in place, his story has mostly faded from memory.

That is about to change.

In the span of a week, two books about the Goetz case will be published, both of which link the case to contemporary debates about race, guns, vigilantism and media bias. Oddly enough, both books will be published by imprints at Penguin Random House — and

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