tle afternoon sun, high 55. **Tonight,** cloudy, mild, low 52. **Tomorrow,**

cloudy, windy, rain expected, high 63. Weather map is on Page B8.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025

Prices in Canada may be higher

The Blood Moon Rises

The total lunar eclipse as seen over Chicago on Friday. Sunlight spilling over the edge of the Earth resulted in redder wavelengths.

Demands Set For Columbia To Get Funds

By KATHERINE ROSMAN and TROY CLOSSON

The Trump administration is demanding that Columbia University make dramatic changes in student discipline and admissions before it would discuss restoring \$400 million in government grants and contracts that were canceled last week.

It said the ultimatum was necessary because of what it described as Columbia's failure to protect Jewish students from harassment.

The government called for the university to formalize its definition of antisemitism, to ban the wearing of masks "intended to conceal identity or intimidate" and to place the school's Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies Department under "academic receivership."

"We expect your immediate compliance," officials from the General Services Administration, Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services said in a letter sent Thursday.

The Trump administration's move last week to cut Columbia's grants and contracts represented an extraordinary escalation of the government's actions against the university.

The government has also taken action against individual students. On Friday, the Department of Homeland Security announced that a Columbia student whose

Continued on Page A17

GRIEVANCES The president attacked his enemies in a speech at the Justice Department. PAGE A14

Mexico's President Calmly Tames Trump's Wrath

By NATALIE KITROEFF

MEXICO CITY — With a trade war brewing, President Trump gave the Mexican president a sign of grudging respect: "You're tough," he told her in a phone call last month, according to four people with knowledge of the ex-

By their most recent conversation, the two leaders were trading compliments and carving out a reprieve from some tariffs in real time, the people familiar with the call said.

When Claudia Sheinbaum became president on Oct. 1, the first woman to govern Mexico, there were doubts about how she would handle the relationship with the United States, especially if Mr. Trump won the election.

Using Diplomacy and Data to Avoid the Ire Faced by Canada

A proud leftist and a scientist by training, Ms. Sheinbaum had little foreign policy experience in her previous post as mayor of Mexico City. Unlike her predecessor, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, who got along with Mr. Trump and shared his bombastic style, Ms. Sheinbaum was seen more as a reserved technocrat than a political

But she has surprised many in her country not only by fending off a barrage of threats from Mr. Trump, but also by forging, somewhat improbably, a relationship of budding public respect with her American counterpart.

"Nobody expected her to be this good, or this lucky," said Carlos Bravo Regidor, a Mexican political analyst. "Whatever it is, it's work-On the campaign trail, Mr.

Trump made Mexico a clear target of his attacks. Once elected, he vowed to impose tariffs on America's southern neighbor until fentanyl stopped flowing into the United States. Yet lately he has been lavishing

praise on Ms. Sheinbaum, even as he excoriates more seasoned world leaders. He's called her "a wonderful woman" with whom he has a "very good" relationship.

Her calm demeanor and the results she's delivered on migration

Continued on Page A8



President Claudia Sheinbaum of Mexico has fended off a barrage of threats from President Trump.

The New Yorker Reëxamines Style Guide, and Those Dots Stay

By CALLIE HOLTERMANN

This week, the top copy editor of The New Yorker announced that the magazine had completed a "reëxamination" of its house style.

A few things were changing. But its dedication to the dieresis those two little dots that float above certain vowels, beloved by New Yorker editors and almost nobody else — was not.

"For every person who hates

the dieresis and feels like it's precious and pretentious and ridiculous, there's another person who finds it charming," Andrew Boynton, the head of the copy department at the magazine, said in a phone interview on Wednesday.

The magazine, which doesn't look a day over 100, is famous for its attachment to heterodox spelling and punctuation rules. So Mr. Boynton's decision to announce changes to the style guide in The

For 100th Year, Fixes to Fit This Millennium

New Yorker's daily newsletter on Monday was noteworthy. The revolution arrived in two squat paragraphs containing two diereses, three em dashes and four pairs of parentheses.

The magazine will abandon

"Web site," "in-box," and "Internet" in favor of the more familiar "website," "inbox" and "internet." "Cellphone" will be one word, rather than two.

"Welcome to 1995, you may be thinking," Mr. Boynton wrote in the announcement, providing an example of another new rule: Thoughts will be italicized in an effort to differentiate them from

Continued on Page A16

Putin Insisting That Ukraine Forfeit Kursk

Trump Calls Talks With Russia 'Productive'

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI and MARIA VARENIKOVA

BERLIN - President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia on Friday insisted that Ukraine order some of its forces to surrender to Russia, a striking demand made hours after President Trump said the United States had "very good and productive" discussions with Mr. Putin about a potential cease-fire.

Mr. Putin's televised comments came shortly after Mr. Trump, on social media, said he had urged the Russian leader to spare the lives of Ukrainian soldiers struggling to hold on to a patch of land in the Kursk region of Russia.

"I have strongly requested to President Putin that their lives be spared," Mr. Trump wrote.

Both presidents claimed on Friday that Ukrainian forces were surrounded in Kursk, the area where Kyiv's troops stunned Russia with a cross-border incursion last summer. Independent analysts have challenged those claims, and Ukraine's military on Friday again rejected them.

Still, Russian forces have of late had the upper hand in the fighting in Kursk. And Mr. Putin said that for Mr. Trump's call "to be effectively implemented," the leaders of Ukraine needed to order their "military units to lay down their arms and surrender." Neither man has raised the idea of Russian troops on Ukrainian land surrendering.

President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine gave no indication on Friday that his country's soldiers would withdraw from Kursk, let alone surrender, but acknowledged that the situation in the region was "very difficult."

He also questioned whether Russia was acting in good faith, accusing Mr. Putin of "doing everything possible to ensure that diplomacy fails." Ukraine, Mr. Zelensky reiterated, has already agreed to a 30-day, unconditional cease-fire to stop the war that Russia's leader began by ordering the full-scale invasion three years

"Putin cannot get out of this war, because then he will be left with nothing," Mr. Zelensky wrote on social media. "That is why he is now doing everything possible to sabotage diplomacy, setting extremely difficult and unacceptable conditions from the very beginning, even before the cease-

Battles have been raging in Kursk as Moscow's forces push to Continued on Page A6

SENATORS DECIDE NOT TO SHUTTER **U.S. GOVERNMENT**

PASS STOPGAP FUNDING

Schumer's Sudden Shift to Back Bill Angers Many Democrats

> By CATIE EDMONDSON and CARL HULSE

WASHINGTON — The Senate on Friday narrowly averted a government shutdown, passing a G.O.P.-written stopgap spending measure after Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the minority leader, and a small group of Democrats joined Republicans in allowing it to advance.

The final vote to pass the spending measure, which would fund the government through Sept. 30, was 54 to 46, nearly along party lines. But the key vote came earlier, when after days of Democratic agonizing, Mr. Schumer and nine other members of his caucus supplied the votes needed to allow it to move ahead, effectively thwarting a filibuster by their own party in a bid to prevent a shutdown.

The action came just hours before a midnight deadline to avoid a lapse in funding.

The spending debate inflamed intraparty tensions among Democrats that have simmered for weeks about how to mount the most effective resistance to President Trump at a time when he is taking full advantage of his governing trifecta — control of the White House, Senate and House to trample on congressional power, cutting federal funding and firing government workers with little regard for the guardrails that normally constrain the executive branch.

Mr. Schumer's abrupt decision to reverse himself and allow the spending legislation to advance stunned many of his colleagues and angered many Democratic lawmakers and progressive activists who were spoiling for a shutdown fight to show their determination to counter Mr. Trump. Many in the minority leader's party vociferously opposed the temporary spending measure, arguing that it was a capitulation to the president that would supercharge his efforts, and those of his billionaire ally Elon Musk, to defund and dismantle broad swaths of the government.

As recently as Wednesday, Mr. Schumer was arguing strongly against the bill and proposing a monthlong alternative to allow Congress to reach an agreement on individual spending measures

Continued on Page A13

Meat Made It Out of the Lab. Getting It on a Plate Is Harder.

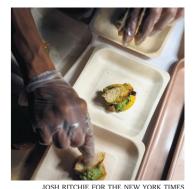
By ANDREW JACOBS and EMILY ANTHES

Curious to try a lab-grown chicken sandwich? Don't look to satiate your craving in Mississippi, which earlier this week moved to ban so-called cultivated or cell-derived meat.

The proposed ban, unanimously passed by the state's House of Representatives, carries a \$500 fine and up to three months in jail for anyone growing or selling such products within the state.

The bill, which Gov. Tate Reeves of Mississippi, a Republican, is expected to sign, is the latest in a series of legal maneuvers by states seeking to constrain the nascent cell-cultured meat industry — despite the fact that such products are currently unavailable to consumers in the United States.

In contrast with alternativemeat products like Impossible burgers, which are made entirely



Cultivated chicken in Florida, which banned lab-grown meat.

from plants, lab-grown meat starts as cells taken from an animal. By nourishing them with a cocktail of nutrients, scientists can coax these cells to develop into animal muscle, connective tissue or fat — the basic compo-

nents of meat. Continued on Page A16



NATIONAL A11-19

Trump History on Musk's List

A Seattle park chronicling gold seekers, including the president's grandfather, is on the chopping block. PAGE A12

Pandemic Aftereffects

Many local health officials say that the politicization of Covid has left them with fewer tools and new obstacles. PAGE A11 **INTERNATIONAL A4-10**

Hamas Offers to Free Soldier

Hamas said it agreed to release Edan Alexander and turn over the bodies of four other hostages. Israel suggested a deal wasn't close.

Duterte Appears in The Hague

The ex-leader of the Philippines was charged with crimes against humanity for thousands of killings. PAGE A10

OBITUARIES B10-12

Folksy Force in the Senate

Alan K. Simpson, a Republican from Wyoming, balanced conservative and moderate views. He was 93. PAGE B12



SPORTS B6-9

A Star Who's Still Stoked

Bryce Harper of the Phillies is entering his 14th M.L.B. season. But he still sees much left to accomplish. PAGE B6

Sewing a Scandal in Skiing Five Norwegian ski jumpers and three

officials were suspended for allegedly altering ski suits for an edge. PAGE B8

BUSINESS B1-5

Cuts Catch Farms Off Guard

The Agriculture Department has abruptly ended two Biden-era programs that paid farmers to supply produce to food banks, school districts and lowincome families.

Contractors See Opportunity

By cutting federal employees, the Trump administration may increase its reliance on large companies that take in billions of dollars through government contracts.

OPINION A20-21

Megan K. Stack

PAGE A20



Bringing a Persian Epic to Life

The detailed shadow puppetry in the

show "Song of the North" is part of one man's mission to share Iran's rich culture with the world.

