

“All the News  
That’s Fit to Print”

# The New York Times

THE WEATHER

Today, partly sunny, warm, a late-afternoon or evening thunderstorm, high 88. **Tonight**, mostly clear, low 68. **Tomorrow**, sunny, less humid, high 84. Weather map Page A24.

VOL. CLXXIV . . . . No. 60,569

© 2025 The New York Times Company

THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2025

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

## Combs Avoids Life in Prison In Split Verdict

### Guilty of Less Severe Prostitution Charges

By BEN SISARIO and JULIA JACOBS

Sean Combs, the hip-hop mogul who crafted a business empire around his personal brand, was convicted on Wednesday of transporting prostitutes to participate in his drug-fueled sex marathons, but acquitted of racketeering conspiracy and sex trafficking, the most serious charges against him.

Though Mr. Combs, 55, still faces a potential sentence of as much as 20 years in prison, he and his lawyers were jubilant after the acquittals on the more severe charges in an indictment that accused the famed producer of coercing women into unwanted sex with male prostitutes, aided by a team of pliant employees.

Mr. Combs had faced a possible life sentence. Under the transportation charges, set by the federal Mann Act, each of the two convictions carries a maximum term of 10 years, and the judge could set lesser sentences to run concurrently.

After the verdict was read in Federal District Court in Lower Manhattan, Mr. Combs put his hands together and mouthed “thank you, thank you” at the jury of eight men and four women. Later, he dropped to his knees, apparently in prayer, and started a round of applause. His supporters and family began clapping and whistling for his legal team, who embraced one another at the conclusion of the eight-week trial.

“Mr. Combs has been given his life by this jury,” Marc Agnifilo, Mr. Combs’s lead lawyer, said in court following the verdict.

The mood slumped hours later when Judge Arun Subramanian ordered Mr. Combs, who has been

*Continued on Page A19*



EMILIO MORENATTI/ASSOCIATED PRESS



PETR DAVID JOSEK/ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Heat Takes a Toll in Europe

In recent days, the impact of a heat wave was visible on a beach in Barcelona, Spain; in Paris near the Eiffel Tower; and at a zoo in Prague. Companies are reporting a decline in business, and labor unions are calling for enhanced protections for workers. Page B3.



LUDOVIC MARIN/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

## JOHNSON STRAINS FOR A FINAL VOTE ON TRUMP’S BILL

### RESISTANCE IN HOUSE

#### G.O.P. Rift Over Senate’s Changes to Domestic Policy Measure

This article is by **Michael Gold, Robert Jimison and Megan Mineiro**.

WASHINGTON — President Trump’s marquee domestic policy bill was stalled in the House on Wednesday, with the chamber frozen in place as Speaker Mike Johnson labored to overcome resistance in his own ranks and push the measure to a final vote.

After a day of private cajoling by Mr. Johnson at the Capitol and Mr. Trump at the White House, party leaders expressed optimism that they might soon be able to move ahead. But by early evening, they had yet to lock down the votes to do so, particularly among a bloc of fiscally conservative Republicans who were dismayed by the bill’s cost and demanding changes that could derail it altogether.

“I can’t tell you I’m a yes; I can’t tell you I’m a no,” said Representative Ralph Norman, Republican of South Carolina, who huddled with about a dozen other holdouts in an office just off the House floor.

Facing tight margins in the House, Mr. Johnson can afford only a small handful of defections on the legislation, which would slash taxes by a total of \$4.5 trillion, increase funding for defense and border security and cut nearly \$1 trillion from Medicaid, with more reductions to food assistance for the poor and other safety net programs.

It was the latest make-or-break moment for the speaker, who has seen other major legislative priorities imperiled by resistance in his own ranks and repeatedly teetering on the brink of defeat — only to pull out narrow victories with the help of considerable pressure from Mr. Trump.

With a procedural vote held open for much of the afternoon, Mr. Trump spent part of the day meeting with holdouts at the White House. Russell T. Vought, his budget director, who is close with the fiscal conservatives who were standing in the way of the bill, arrived on Capitol Hill late in the day to meet with them.

“I’m hopeful we can proceed tonight and get this done,” Mr. Johnson said on Wednesday afternoon.

But in this push, unlike his prior down-to-the-wire efforts, when a flurry of negotiations and changes helped Mr. Johnson sway holdouts, the House has little room to maneuver: Any changes to the bill would send it back to the Senate

*Continued on Page A12*

## Paramount Agrees to Pay Trump \$16 Million in Settlement of Suit

This article is by **Benjamin Mullin, Michael M. Grynbaum, Lauren Hirsch and David Enrich**.

Paramount said that it has agreed to pay President Trump \$16 million to settle his lawsuit over the editing of an interview on the CBS News program “60 Minutes,” an extraordinary concession to a sitting president by a major media organization.

Paramount said late Tuesday that its payment included Mr. Trump’s legal fees and costs and that the money, minus the legal fees, would be paid to Mr. Trump’s future presidential library.

As part of the settlement, Paramount said, it agreed to release written transcripts of future “60 Minutes” interviews with presidential candidates. The company said the settlement did not include an apology.

The deal is the clearest sign yet that Mr. Trump’s ability to intimidate major American institutions extends to the media industry.

Many lawyers had dismissed Mr. Trump’s lawsuit as baseless and believed that CBS would have

**Deal Over ‘60 Minutes’ Interview May Clear Way for Sale**

ultimately prevailed in court, in part because the network did not report anything factually inaccurate, and the First Amendment gives publishers wide leeway to determine how to present information.

But Shari Redstone, the chair and controlling shareholder of Paramount, told her board that she favored exploring a settlement with Mr. Trump. Some executives at the company viewed the president’s lawsuit as a potential hurdle to completing a multi-billion-dollar sale of the company to the Hollywood studio Skydance, which requires the Trump

*Continued on Page A14*

**TOUGH TIMES** Paramount’s concession is a humbling move for a journalistic powerhouse. PAGE B1

## Looking for a Summer Job? It’s Brutal Out There.

By KAILYN RHONE

Ugenie Labranche, 16, who has been searching for a summer job since January, thought her luck had finally turned when she spotted a “hiring now” sign outside a Dunkin’ in Jenkintown, Pa. But when she called last month, she was told the store wasn’t hiring.

It has happened a few times. A sign in the window, hopeful calls, only to be told the position is no longer available. Ms. Labranche, who will be a high school junior in the fall, has applied to more than a dozen jobs but still hasn’t landed one. Most of the time, she doesn’t hear back at all.

“It is frustrating because there are a lot of kids my age that want to work and they just can’t,” she said.

Teenagers across the country are entering one of the toughest summer job markets in recent years, as traditional jobs at restaurants, amusement parks, pools and stores either pause new hiring or choose adults for those roles.

In May, the unemployment rate for teenagers rose to 13.4 percent, from 13 percent in April and 12.4 percent a year earlier, according

**A Teen’s Rite of Passage Grows Frustratingly Out of Reach**

senior vice president of the out-placement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas. In May 2015, the unemployment rate for teenagers was 17.8 percent, but it began to decline before the pandemic.

This year, the firm estimates there will be about one million new summer jobs for 16- to 19-year-olds. It could be the lowest number since 2010, Mr. Challenger said, adding that compa-

*Continued on Page A17*

ny Bureau of Labor Statistics. A tighter labor market suggests that teen unemployment could reach its highest level in over a decade, said Andy Challenger,

Michelle Gustafson for The New York Times

Ugenie Labranche, 16, applied to over a dozen jobs with no luck.

## Education in Limbo as Trump Freezes \$7 Billion

By SARAH MERVOSH and MICHAEL C. BENDER

The Trump administration has declined to release nearly \$7 billion in federal funding that helps pay for after-school and summer programs, support for students learning English, teacher training and other services.

The money was expected to be

**After-School Programs Among Those at Risk**

released by Tuesday. But in an email on Monday, the Education Department notified state education agencies that the money would not be available.

The administration offered little explanation, saying only that the funds were under review. It gave no timeline for when, or if, the money would be released, saying instead that it was “committed to ensuring taxpayer resources are spent in accordance with the president’s priorities.” The frozen funds are unrelated to the millions

*Continued on Page A16*

## U.S. and Vietnam Strike Trade Deal, Trump Says

This article is by **Ana Swanson, Damien Cave, Alexandra Stevenson, Alan Rappeport and Tung Ngo**.

WASHINGTON — President Trump said on Wednesday that the United States had reached a trade deal with Vietnam, one that would roll back some of the punishing tariffs he had issued on Vietnamese products in return for

**20 Percent Tariffs and a Swipe at China**

that nation’s agreeing to open its market to American goods.

The preliminary deal will also indirectly affect China, an important trading partner of Vietnam.

“It will be a Great Deal of Cooperation between our two Countries,” Mr. Trump wrote in a post on Truth Social announcing the deal.

According to Mr. Trump, the deal imposes a 20 percent tariff on all imports from Vietnam and a 40 percent tariff on any “transshipping.”

*Continued on Page A9*



INTERNATIONAL A4-9

**Dalai Lama Chooses Tradition**

The aging spiritual leader of Tibet is looking to prevent Beijing from taking advantage of a power vacuum. PAGE A4

**Concern Deepens in Ukraine**

The pause in sending U.S. weapons will directly affect Kyiv’s ability to fend off escalating Russian attacks. PAGE A5

NATIONAL A10-19

**Keeping Falsehoods Alive**

Many of President Trump’s executive actions reflect inaccurate claims that have long been a feature of his public appearances. PAGE A11

**Long Road to a Guilty Plea**

It took years of legal wrangling to reach a plea deal for the man who murdered four students in Idaho in 2022. PAGE A18

THURSDAY STYLES D1-6

**An Electric Ladyland**

Pride Month ended strong with a low-budget music festival that has attracted big stars and emerging talent. PAGE D6



ARTS C1-6

**Continuing a Legacy**

A quilting conference in North Carolina brought together African American artists from across the South. PAGE C1

**Jokes With an Impact**

Four Asian American comedians discuss routines they watched that made them sit up and take notice. PAGE C5

BUSINESS B1-8

**Alaska Town Awaits Lifeline**

A waning community in the southern part of the state hopes backing from President Trump and a new developer will advance a \$44 billion project to revive exports of natural gas. PAGE B1

**Tesla Sales Fall Worldwide**

The company led by Elon Musk has recently been focused on and devoting resources to autonomous driving rather than developing new models to attract car buyers. PAGE B1

OPINION A22-23

**Michelle Goldberg** PAGE A23



SPORTS B9-12

**Priceless Star’s Salary: \$78,066**

Caitlin Clark’s value to the W.N.B.A. is astronomical, but she is unlikely to be paid anywhere near that, even with endorsement deals. PAGE B9

