

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, partly sunny, windy, chillier, high 45. **Tonight**, mostly clear, breezy, colder, low 33. **Tomorrow**, partly sunny, windy, possible flurry, high 43. Weather map, Page B10.

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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



A man who said he feared his wife was trapped in the inferno cried for help outside the burning towers in Hong Kong on Wednesday.

A HORRIFIC BLAZE STUNS HONG KONG

Several Dozen Are Dead;
Police Arrest 3 Men

This article is by **Keith Bradsher, Joy Dong, Tina Zhou and Thomas Fuller**.

BEIJING — An inferno ravaged a high-rise apartment complex in Hong Kong on Wednesday, killing at least 44 people, leaving nearly 280 others missing and prompting the police to arrest three construction officials on a charge of suspected manslaughter, accusing them of “gross negligence.”

The police also opened an investigation into the building materials on the exterior walls of the towers because they were suspected of not meeting fire-safety standards, potentially leading to the rapid spread of the blaze, the authorities said at a news conference early Thursday. But the exact cause of the fire was not immediately known.

By early Thursday morning, more than 15 hours after a pall of black smoke rose from the towers in the Tai Po district, firefighters were gradually bringing the blaze under control, officials said. But it was still burning.

A number of residents of the 32-story towers, which hold about 2,000 apartments, were believed to be trapped, raising fears that the death toll may rise. In addition to the 40 people killed at the site of the fire, four more died at the hospital, officials said.

Chou Wing Yin, an official at the Hong Kong Fire Services Department, said at a news conference on Thursday that of 100 injured residents treated at the scene, 45 were hospitalized in critical condition. At least 279 others were missing, officials told reporters at a briefing.

Police and fire services officials said they had received numerous calls for help from residents trapped inside the buildings. Herman Yiu Kwan-ho, a former district councillor in Tai Po, said earlier that he was in touch with some residents, some of whom live in one of the buildings that caught fire.

“More than 10 residents said their family members are still at their homes,” he said by phone.

The eight apartment towers, called Wang Fuk Court, are in the New Territories, a stretch of land opposite Hong Kong Island that

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Signs of Fatigue in Trump’s Trademark Stamina

By **KATIE ROGERS and DYLAN FREEDMAN**

WASHINGTON — The day before Halloween, President Trump landed at Joint Base Andrews after spending nearly a week in Japan and South Korea. He was then whisked to the White House, where he passed out candy to trick-or-treaters. Allies crowded over the president’s stamina: “This man has been nonstop for DAYS!” one wrote online.

A week later, Mr. Trump appeared to doze off during an event in the Oval Office.

With headline-grabbing posts on social media, combative interactions with reporters and speeches full of partisan red meat, Mr. Trump can project round-the-

At 79, Starting the Day
Later and Holding
Fewer Events

clock energy, virility and physical stamina. Now at the end of his eighth decade, Mr. Trump and the people around him still talk about him as if he is the Energizer Bunny of presidential politics.

The reality is more complicated: Mr. Trump, 79, is the oldest person to be elected to the presidency, and he is aging. To preempt any criticism about his age, he often compares himself to President Joseph R. Biden Jr., who at 82 was the oldest person to hold the office, and whose aides

took measures to shield his growing frailty from the public, including by tightly managing his appearances.

Mr. Trump has hung a photo of an autopen in a space where Mr. Biden’s portrait would otherwise be, and disparages his predecessor’s physicality often.

“He sleeps all the time — during the day, during the night, on the beach,” Mr. Trump said about Mr. Biden last week, adding: “I’m not a sleeper.”

Mr. Trump remains almost omnipresent in American life. He appears before the news media and takes questions far more often than Mr. Biden did. Foreign leaders, chief executives, donors and others have regular access to Mr. Trump and see him in action.

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY NICK HAGEN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Big Heads representing the singers Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin, and the baseball star Miguel Cabrera. Around 90 fully costumed Big Heads were expected to be in this year’s parade.

A City’s Holiday Parade Gets Its Swagger Back

By **MITCH SMITH**

DETROIT — Sean Moran spent his childhood Thanksgivings along Detroit’s Woodward Avenue, watching the floats and balloons and bands march past. But it was something else in those parades, something distinctly Detroit, that captured his imagination.

“The thing that really stuck out to me were these old papier-mâché heads that were kind of scary to me as a young kid,” said

Detroit Swells Up With
Thanksgiving Pride

Mr. Moran, who is now 54. Those caricatures eventually won him over.

The Big Heads, as they are known, are a Thanksgiving staple in Detroit. They include papier-mâché parrots and lions and tigers and — because, why not? — a monkey with a cigar in its mouth.

Then there are the human ones: large-noggined likenesses of Henry Ford and Aretha Franklin and Bob Seger and Barry Sanders and other Michigan dignitaries, past and present, living and dead.

Detroit’s Thanksgiving parade is not Macy’s, nor does it try to be. It is also not the most famous event on Detroit’s holiday calendar, a title that belongs to the Lions football game, a Turkey Day mainstay since 1934. But the parade, which predates the football

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ATTACKER SHOOTS TWO GUARDSMEN ON PATROL IN D.C.

Officials Say a Suspect Is in Custody —
Trump to Send 500 More Troops

This article is by **Campbell Robertson, Anton Troianovski, Karoun Demirjian and Thomas Fuller**.

WASHINGTON — Two members of the West Virginia National Guard patrolling the streets near the White House were shot and gravely wounded on Wednesday in what the city’s mayor called a targeted shooting.

The brazen attack in broad daylight, on troops whose presence has been a point of national contention, immediately raised fears of politically motivated violence. But the motive remained unclear late Wednesday night. The gunman was not publicly identified, but three people familiar with the investigation said he was a man from Afghanistan.

Jeffery Carroll, the executive assistant chief of the Metropolitan Police Department, said that the gunman appeared to have acted alone, and was in custody.

The shooting came amid a long political and legal fight over the deployment of federal agents, including immigration police, and National Guard troops in American cities. Protesters have opposed the deployments, sometimes violently, and while President Trump has asserted that the National Guard is needed to fight crime, many residents and local officials have seen their presence as unnecessary and a provocation.

Mr. Trump, who was in Florida at the time of the shooting, ordered a deployment of 500 additional troops to Washington in response to the attack, according to Pete Hegseth, the defense secretary. On social media the president called the gunman an “animal” who will pay a “very steep price.”

Over 2,000 National Guard members are in Washington from West Virginia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio, South Carolina and Georgia, part of a deployment that the president first ordered in August.

Small groups of armed National Guard have been highly visible around the city, patrolling subway stops, tourist areas and nightlife

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ERIC LEE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES
A U.S. Secret Service officer near the site of the shooting.

Georgia Election Case Dropped; Last Criminal Charge for Trump

By **RICHARD FAUSSET and DANNY HAKIM**

ATLANTA — A judge in Georgia dismissed the last pending criminal prosecution against President Trump on Wednesday, effectively ending efforts to hold him criminally responsible for attempts to overturn the 2020 election.

The president has now seen three criminal cases against him dissolve since he was re-elected last year. Charges were also dropped against Mr. Trump’s remaining co-defendants in the Georgia racketeering case, including Rudolph W. Giuliani, his former personal lawyer, and Mark Meadows, the former White House chief of staff.

The Georgia case had been seen

as one of the most serious legal threats to Mr. Trump, because state criminal convictions are not subject to presidential pardons.

A motion to end the prosecution was filed Wednesday morning by Pete Skandalakis, the executive director of the state’s nonpartisan prosecutor council. In his 22-page filing, Mr. Skandalakis, a career prosecutor who ran for office early in his career as a Democrat but later as a Republican, shredded the case originally brought by Fani T. Willis, the Fulton County district attorney, taking it apart charge by charge. He asserted that “it is not illegal to question or challenge election results.”

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In GPS Age, Aspiring Cabbies Study London, Lane by Lane

By **ISABELLA KWAI**

LONDON — Besart Bilalli scanned the road through the windshield on a sunny Friday, thinking hard about his next turn. We were crawling down a busy London road in the upscale Knightsbridge neighborhood as drivers and cyclists shot past, their phones hoisted up on dashboards or handlebars.

Mr. Bilalli’s phone lay idle next to him, the GPS switched off. In this city, navigating the streets without technological help is essential to becoming a cabdriver. And for Mr. Bilalli, a key to his family’s future.

He was taking us from the Nusr-Et Steakhouse to the La Famiglia Italian restaurant on Langton Street and avoiding the main roads, relying only on his memory



SAM BUSH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

To drive a black cab, you must know thousands of streets.

of the neighborhood.

In the back seat, I discreetly typed the destination into my phone and saw we were two miles away. Mr. Bilalli peered at signs, murmuring street names under his breath. Fifteen minutes later,

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Michelin Honors Cheesesteaks

The gastronomic guide singled out three restaurants, setting off a loud debate in Philadelphia.

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Vaccine Skeptic Is Promoted

Dr. Ralph Lee Abraham, the No. 2 at the C.D.C., talked up discredited treatments during the pandemic.

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INTERNATIONAL A4-10

More Tax Increases for Britain

In announcing the measures, the top economic official in the Labour government cited slower-growth forecasts and the need to hold down debt.

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Pope Is Set to Visit the Mideast

Leo XIV will meet political and religious leaders in Turkey and Lebanon in a test of his geopolitical mettle.

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SPORTS B6-10

A Peaceable Divide

On a swath of land in Michigan, Lions and Packers fans live side-by-side. They’re called Yoopers.

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BUSINESS B1-5

The Thanksgiving Cost Wars

How much were the turkey and trimmings? This year, there is outsize importance in the number as Americans worry about affordability.

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Bessent Tries Consumer Pitch

As prices begin to pinch, the Treasury secretary has offered a variety of creative justifications for President Trump’s import duties.

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Can Disney Reclaim Its Magic?

The executive in charge of animation is trying to make the heart of the media empire beat more consistently. “Zootopia 2” will be a test.

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THURSDAY STYLES D1-8

To Carve or Not to Carve

Our writer provides a brief history of an American ritual and the neuroses it inspires in modern men.

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Solange Knowles, Librarian

The singer, now a scholar in residence at U.S.C., is expanding a library featuring rare books by writers of color.

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ARTS C1-8

Forgive Them, Father

Josh O’Connor leads a star-studded cast in a Benoit Blanc mystery about religious cults of personality.

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The Key to ‘Stranger Things’

The nostalgic hit, nearing the end of its run, captured the “If you liked that, you’ll like this” spirit of Netflix.

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OPINION A20-21

James Carville

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