

“All the News
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The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, sunshine, a few clouds, low humidity, high 79. **Tonight**, partly to mostly cloudy, low 65. **Tomorrow**, showers, a thunderstorm in spots, high 76. Weather map, Page A24.

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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



Outside Annunciation Catholic Church in Minneapolis on Wednesday. The attacker died of a self-inflicted gunshot, the police said.

CHURCH SHOOTING KILLS 2 STUDENTS

17 People Hurt at School’s
Mass in Minneapolis

This article is by **Jeff Ernst, Michael Levenson** and **Thomas Fuller**.

MINNEAPOLIS — Two Catholic school students, 8 and 10 years old, were killed in the pews of a Minneapolis church on Wednesday by a heavily armed assailant who fired through the windows.

Seventeen others — 14 of them children — were injured in the shooting, which came as the school at the Annunciation Catholic Church celebrated its first Mass of the new school year.

The attacker died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, the Minneapolis police chief, Brian O’Hara, said at a news conference, adding that the authorities were still searching for a motive.

Chief O’Hara identified the attacker as Robin Westman, 23, who is believed to be a former student at the school, according to a law enforcement official with knowledge of the investigation. The suspect’s mother is a retired employee of the school, the official said.

Chief O’Hara said investigators were reviewing a notebook that the shooter appeared to have posted on YouTube. That content was taken down at the request of law enforcement officials, the chief said. The suspect’s social media accounts contain videos of diary entries that describe the killing of children and a drawing of the Annunciation Church’s sanctuary. The videos also show weapons, bullets and what appear to be explosive devices scrawled with violent language.

Kash Patel, the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said on social media that the shooting was being investigated as an act of domestic terrorism and a hate crime targeting Catholics.

It was the second year in a row that the return-to-school period was marred by the scourge of deadly shootings. Last September, two students and two teachers were killed in Winder, Ga., when a 14-year-old freshman opened fire with an AR-15 during second period.

Wednesday’s shooting in Minneapolis took place at about 8:30 a.m. Central time during the Mass, an annual tradition for the school, which runs from pre-kindergarten through the eighth

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False Arrest Shows Pitfalls of Facial Recognition

By **MARIA CRAMER**
and **KASHMIR HILL**

In February, a woman told the police that a deliveryman had exposed himself to her in a Manhattan building. He was about 5 feet 6 inches tall.

Two months later, evidence shows, the police arrested the wrong man. He was 6-foot-2.

That man, Trevis Williams, was driving from Connecticut to Brooklyn on the day of the crime, and location data from his phone put him about 12 miles away at the time. But a facial recognition program plucked his image from an array of mug shots, and the woman identified him as the flasher.

**In New York Case, Man
Didn’t Match Victim’s
Bodily Description**

Like Mr. Williams, the culprit was Black, had a thick beard and mustache, and wore his hair in braids. Physically, the two men had little else in common. Mr. Williams was not only taller, he also weighed 230 pounds. The victim said the deliveryman appeared to weigh about 160 pounds. But Mr. Williams still spent more than two days in jail in April.

“In the blink of an eye, your

whole life could change,” Mr. Williams said.

The algorithms that run facial recognition technology can out-strip fallible human eyewitnesses, and law enforcement agencies say the results are not decisive on their own. But the case against Mr. Williams, which was dismissed last month, illustrates the perils of a powerful investigative tool that can lead detectives far astray.

Researchers at the National Institute of Standards and Technology have found in repeated testing that facial recognition technology identifies the correct person a vast majority of the time. But that research typically involved im-

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In Congo’s east, victims of sexual attacks have dwindling options in seeking medical care and justice.

Rampant Sexual Violence, With Little Recourse

By **STEPHANIE NOLEN**

GOMA, Democratic Republic of Congo — On a hot day last November, Deborah M., a 22-year-old woman living in a camp for displaced people in the Democratic Republic of Congo, decided she had to take a risk. There was no food for her or her three children in the camp, where donated rations were chronically insufficient, so she set out in the early morning on a four-hour walk back to the small farm plot they had fled when Rwandan-backed

**Shifting Authorities in
War-Torn Congo**

rebels occupied their village earlier in the year.

She thought that there might be vegetables to harvest. But she also knew she might encounter rebels, or Congolese soldiers, or members of a local militia — and what could happen if she did.

Deborah’s gamble went badly. There was no food left in her garden, and she was confronted there

by three armed men, who dragged her at gunpoint into an abandoned house, beat her and raped her.

In pain and distraught, she made it back to the camp late at night. The next morning, tears streaming down her face, she tied her 9-month-old daughter on her back with a frayed piece of cloth and walked to a clinic that treated victims of sexual violence, where she told me her story.

At the clinic, run by Médecins Sans Frontières, the international medical and humanitarian organization, staff members moved her

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F.D.A. Limits Who Can Get Covid Vaccine

Most People Under 65
Won’t Have Access

By **CHRISTINA JEWETT**
and **JACEY FORTIN**

The Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday approved updated Covid vaccines for the fall season and limited who can get the shots, the federal government’s most restrictive policy since the vaccines became available.

The agency authorized the vaccines for people who are 65 and older, who are known to be more vulnerable to severe illness from Covid. Younger people would only be eligible if they have at least one underlying medical condition that puts them at risk for severe disease. Healthy children under 18 could still receive the shots if a medical provider is consulted.

People seeking the shots will soon face another hurdle. An influential advisory committee to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention must vote to recommend them. But that panel’s makeup shifted when Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. unseated existing members, reduced the panel’s size and added some Covid vaccine opponents.

This would mark the first fall-winter season that Covid shots are not widely recommended to most people and children, pitting federal health officials in the Trump administration against several national medical groups that oppose the restrictions.

In a social media post, Mr. Kennedy said the approvals would both keep vaccines available to people who want them and demand that companies conduct placebo-controlled trials. One new, required study would examine “post-Covid-19 vaccination syndrome” in patients, a condition noted in at least one small preliminary medical report but still a matter of pitched debate.

“The American people demanded science, safety and common sense,” Mr. Kennedy’s post on X said. “This framework delivers all three.”

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More on the White House

STRONG-ARMING President Trump tries to pressure nations to embrace his fossil-fuel agenda over wind and solar. PAGE A7

EMERGENCY ORDERS In his second term, the president has used this power much more frequently than his predecessors. PAGE A11

NEWS ANALYSIS

Trump Takes Power Quest To New Level

Attack on Fed Official
Likely to Test Justices

By **CHARLIE SAVAGE**

President Trump’s bid to fire a member of the Federal Reserve board is a new escalation of his efforts to amass more power over American government and society: Congress generations ago structured the agency, crucial to the health of the economy, to be independent of White House control.

In purporting to fire the board member, Lisa D. Cook, Mr. Trump is setting up another test of how far the Republican-appointed supermajority on the Supreme Court will let him go in eroding the checks and balances Congress has long imposed on executive power.

His attempt to fire Ms. Cook presents a new twist. It raises the question of whether he alone can decide if there is cause to fire an official at an independent agency whose leaders are protected by law from arbitrary removal — or whether courts will be willing and able to intervene if judges believe his justification is a pretext.

But the move to oust Ms. Cook, whom the Senate confirmed for a term that ends in 2038, also fits into a now familiar arc, joining the various ways Mr. Trump has systematically accumulated greater authority.

Mr. Trump has stretched the bounds of some legal authorities, like prolifically declaring emergencies to unlock more expansive power, sending troops into the streets of American cities, unilaterally raising import taxes and blocking spending Congress had directed. In this case, he is pushing at the limits of a statute that says Fed board members serve 14-year terms unless removed “for cause” by a president.

Mr. Trump has also openly weaponized government power in ways that post-Watergate norms had forbidden, including directing the Justice Department to investigate perceived foes. In this case, a loyalist he installed atop the Federal Housing Finance Agency has scrutinized mortgage documents associated with various people Mr. Trump does not like, apparently finding a discrepancy in two loan applications Ms. Cook submitted in 2021.

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Money Being Poured Into A.I. Is Propping Up Real Economy

By **LYDIA DePILLIS**

It’s no secret by now that optimism around the windfall that artificial intelligence may generate is pumping up the stock market.

But in recent months, it has also become clear that A.I. spending is lifting the real economy, too.

It’s not because of how companies are using the technology, at least not yet. Rather, the sheer amount of investment — in data centers, semiconductor factories and power supply — needed to build the computing power that A.I. demands is creating enough business activity to brighten readings on the entire domestic economy.

Companies will spend \$375 billion globally in 2025 on A.I. infrastructure, the investment bank UBS estimates. That is projected to rise to \$500 billion next year. Investment in software and computer equipment, not counting the data center buildings, accounted



Inside Meta’s Eagle Mountain Data Center in Utah.

for a quarter of all economic growth this past quarter, data from the Commerce Department shows.

(Even that probably doesn’t reflect the whole picture. Government data collectors have long had trouble capturing the economic value of semiconductors

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Cuts Put Rural Lifeline at Risk
Threatened by political retribution, Republicans defunded public broadcasting in Alaska and elsewhere. PAGE A10

In a Lab, a Hunt for a Killer
Legionnaires’ disease has killed six people and sickened more than 100 in New York City this summer. PAGE A16

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Austria’s Hills Are Still Alive
Salzburg celebrates the 60th anniversary of “The Sound of Music,” but many locals never saw the movie. PAGE A4

Iran Admits U.N. Inspectors
The team is expected to be allowed to examine the nuclear facilities that the United States bombed in June. PAGE A9

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Backed Einstein and Big Bang
Rainer Weiss, 92, shared a Nobel Prize for work on gravitational waves, which helped confirm the theories of relativity and how the universe began. PAGE A20

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The Google Pixel 10 Pro can help streamline certain tasks. But that efficiency may not be worth the data you give up, our reviewer writes. PAGE B1

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President Trump backs Roger Clemens, but his chances may rest with a committee that will vote in December. PAGE B8



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A camp in Maine offers s’mores, hiking, crafts, rafting and more. But the written page is the main attraction. PAGE C1

An Exit From ‘The Lion King’
After more than 9,000 performances in the show, Tshidi Manye prepares to hang up her shaman costume. PAGE C1

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Thanks to a generation that grew up with Harry Potter, “romantasy” has won over the fiction book market. PAGE D5

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Actors joined children and their parents at a singalong showing of the hit film “KPop Demon Hunters.” PAGE D1

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