

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025

THE WEATHER
 Today, cold, sunshine, clouds, high 33. Tonight, mostly cloudy, cold, a flurry or two, low 27. Tomorrow, clouds, limited sun, not as cold, high 40. Weather map is on Page B12.

Prices in Canada may be higher \$4.00

JUSTICES ALLOW NEW TEXAS MAPS THAT FAVOR G.O.P.

SET FOR 2026 ELECTION

Ruling Hands a Victory
to a Norm-Shattering
Redistricting Push

By ABBIE VANSICKLE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court cleared the way on Thursday for Texas lawmakers to use newly redrawn congressional maps favoring Republicans in the 2026 midterm elections.

The decision overturns, at least for now, a lower-court ruling that the new maps were likely an unconstitutional racial gerrymander. That decision had blocked lawmakers from using the maps in the midterms.

The Supreme Court's order comes days before a Dec. 8 deadline for candidates to file to run for office in Texas. It marks a victory for Texas Republicans and for President Trump, who has pushed Republican-led states to revise their congressional maps to try to secure G.O.P. victories in the midterms.

The ruling also adds to the growing list of successes for the Trump administration before the justices, particularly on their emergency docket of cases heard without oral arguments, where the court's orders are intended to be merely interim. Critics refer to it as the "shadow docket" and note the temporary decisions can have broad consequences.

In a five-paragraph order, the majority wrote that Texas was "likely to succeed on the merits of its claim" that a lower court had wrongly blocked the new maps. The trial court, the majority wrote, had "improperly inserted itself into an active primary campaign, causing much confusion and upsetting the delicate federal-state balance in elections."

The court's order did not include a vote count, which is typical for rulings on such emergency applications. Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. wrote a concurrence, adding that he joined the majority's decision to allow the Texas maps. Two other conservatives, Justices Clarence Thomas and Neil M. Gorsuch, joined him.

In a 17-page dissent, Justice Elena Kagan, joined by the court's two other liberals, argued that the majority had wrongly overturned a careful, 160-page lower court

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BRANDON BELL/GETTY IMAGES

Under the redrawn maps, five more seats lean Republican.



TIERNEY L. CROSS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Before Attack, Dire Warnings About Afghan

This article is by Edward Wong, Kurt Streeter, Saifullah Padshah, Fahim Abed, Thomas Gibbons-Neff and Jack Healy.

The emailed plea was urgent and direct: "Rahmanullah needs help."

The warning came nearly two years before Rahmanullah Lakanwal would be named as a suspect in the gunning down of two National Guard troops near the White House on the eve of Thanksgiving. It was enshrined in writing by a volunteer helping to give Mr. Lakanwal a fresh start in America who had become convinced he was unraveling.

He had tried to make a go of life in the coastal city of Bellingham, Wash., after he and his family were evacuated from Afghanistan by the U.S. military in August 2021. In Afghanistan, he had fought in a C.I.A.-trained paramilitary unit. In the United States, he did temporary jobs, took his five sons to a local mosque and hosted visitors for tea in a house decorated in traditional Afghan style, with floor pillows and red rugs.

But by early 2023, he started to show signs of depression and erratic behavior, according to accounts from a volunteer in northwest Washington who worked with his family.

In the months after, he sequestered himself inside his darkened bedroom, refused to answer his phone, and even failed to bathe or dress his sons when his wife left to take short breaks from him. He dropped out of the English classes he was supposed to take, did not seek work and stopped paying rent. His family received an eviction notice.

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Amid Trump's Deportations, Standoff on a Roof

By EDUARDO MEDINA

KENNER, La. — After Hurricane Ida damaged Althea Vallotton's house in suburban New Orleans last year, puddles formed on her floors whenever it rained. But she saved up money and lived in a mobile home on her front lawn for months, until she finally obtained a loan to pay for a stronger, metallic covering.

The cost? About \$49,000.

On Wednesday, several workers — hired by a "legitimate contractor," she said — arrived around 7 a.m. and got to work on the roof. She, in turn, drove to her job at a nearby school, relieved that her home repair odyssey was ending. It was a one-day job, after all.

Then her phone buzzed. Friends and relatives were asking

if she had seen the videos online of federal immigration agents re-pairing the roof.

Impact of Raids Is Felt Beyond Immigrant Communities

come the latest target of a federal immigration crackdown that had arrived in New Orleans that morning.

Episodes like this one are now playing out all over the country, revealing the ways that the Trump administration's deportation agenda is reverberating far beyond the immigrants whose lives are being upended.

According to videos taken by neighbors, the agents, including several from the Border Patrol, had shown up and tried to detain the men, but they refused to get down from the roof. An hours-long standoff ensued. At one point, video shows, agents climbed onto the garage roof, and one of the workers appeared to point a rodlike item at them. A man is heard telling the worker in Spanish,

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ADAM GRAY/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Laborers refused to leave a roof in Louisiana on Wednesday until Border Patrol agents left the site.

President May Get His Peace Prize. From FIFA.

By TARIQ PANJA
and LUKE BROADWATER

Not long after President Trump missed out on the Nobel Peace Prize that he openly campaigned for, his friend Gianni Infantino got to work.

Mr. Infantino, president of FIFA, soccer's global governing body, who had publicly lobbied for Mr. Trump to receive the peace prize, simply had his organization establish its own. The announce-

Soccer Group's Leader Cozies Up to Trump

ment of the "FIFA Peace Prize — Football Unites the World" was so hastily arranged that it surprised several of the body's most senior officials, including board members and vice presidents, according to four soccer executives briefed on the events.

On Friday, FIFA was scheduled to announce the award winner along with the draw determining how countries will be grouped for the 2026 men's World Cup. While the results of the draw will be unpredictable, there is little doubt about who will receive the peace prize.

Why FIFA established a peace prize owes less to sports and more to Mr. Infantino's efforts to ingratiate himself with Mr. Trump.

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Women Voice G.O.P.'s Discontent About Speaker

By ANNIE KARNI

WASHINGTON — Representative Elise Stefanik of New York called Speaker Mike Johnson a habitual liar.

Representative Nancy Mace of South Carolina has told people she is so frustrated with Mr. Johnson and sick of the way he has run the House — particularly how women are treated there — that she is planning to huddle with Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene

Sign of Republican Rift Ahead of Midterms

of Georgia next week to discuss following her lead and retiring early from Congress.

Representative Anna Paulina Luna of Florida has gone around Mr. Johnson in a bid to force a vote he has declined to schedule on a bill to ban members of Congress

from stock trading.

Less than a year out from midterm elections in which Republicans' vanishingly small majority is at stake, Mr. Johnson's grasp on his gavel appears weaker than ever, as members from all corners of his conference openly complain about his leadership. Some predict that he may not last as the speaker for the rest of this term.

Republican women, in particular, are feeling the heat.

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INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Settlement Surge in West Bank
Israel authorized 22 sites in May, and Palestinian families are now being forced from their homes.

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Beacon in Europe for Migrants

Spain has become a welcoming alternative to U.S. crackdowns, but that embrace still excludes some.

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NATIONAL A11-A12

No Re-indictment of James

After a judge dismissed the first attempt to indict Letitia James, the attorney general of New York, a new grand jury effort is said to have failed.

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A Tale of Text Messages

One Young Republican speaks about his journey to the racist, antisemitic group that blew up his career.

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OBITUARIES A20-21

Shaper of Memphis Soul

Steve Cropper played a pivotal role in the rise of Stax Records, a storied force in R&B. He was 84.

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SPORTS B8-B11

Dakota Dominance

The Great Plains' northern reaches boast some powerhouse football programs. All four Missouri Valley schools from North and South Dakota made this year's 24-team playoff field.

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WEEKEND ARTS C1-C2

Where 'Bel-Air' Took Him

Morgan Stevenson Cooper looks back on the path of the "Fresh Prince" reboot from viral video to Peacock hit.

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At the Edges of Longing

Where does the grief of a painter go? In the case of Jennifer Packer, onto the canvas, in spectral realms.

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OPINION A22-23

Ilhan Omar

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BUSINESS B1-B2

Time of Discounts, and Debt

Consumers are focusing on value and financing purchases to complete their shopping lists. And the search for savings isn't just seasonal.

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Barack Obama

Former President Barack Obama has died at age 59.

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