

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, sunshine and a few clouds, cool, high 57. **Tonight**, partly cloudy, cool, low 44. **Tomorrow**, more clouds than sunshine, cool, breezy, high 56. Weather map appears on Page D8.

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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



Aaron Lehman, a fifth-generation farmer in a rural part of Polk County, Iowa, has doubted whether his son can continue the tradition.

Arrests Made In Jewel Heist At the Louvre

By AURELIEN BREEDEN

PARIS — The police have made arrests in the brazen jewelry heist at the Louvre Museum in Paris, the French authorities said on Sunday, without specifying how many people had been taken into custody.

The robbery, which stunned France, was carried out by four people on Oct. 19. Laure Beccuau, the Paris prosecutor, said in a statement that the arrests were made on Saturday evening and that one man was taken into custody at the Charles de Gaulle Airport as he was trying to leave the country.

It was not immediately clear whether the police had recovered any of the stolen jewelry, which is worth more than \$100 million and includes gem-studded royal tiaras, necklaces and earrings dating to the 19th century.

The arrests were a major breakthrough for French investigators, who are racing to find the thieves before the jewelry is dismantled and the rare stones and metals can be sold or melted down, as many experts fear they will be.

The robbery in broad daylight at the Louvre has put an uncomfortable spotlight on security lapses at the famous museum.

Laurence des Cars, the head of the Louvre, acknowledged during a tense Senate hearing last week that much of the museum's security system was badly outdated and that the only exterior camera near where the thieves broke in was facing away from them.

That cost the authorities precious minutes in their response time to the heist, which lasted less than 10 minutes.

The thieves, posing as workers, had used a truck-mounted device to reach the second floor before breaking through a window with power tools and clambering into the Louvre's gilded Apollo Gallery. There, they cut through reinforced glass display cases and grabbed eight precious crown jewels, before speeding away on motor scooters.

The arrests were first reported by French news media citing anonymous sources, apparently catching the authorities by surprise.

"I deeply regret the hasty disclosure of this information," Ms. Beccuau said in her statement. She said that the leaked information would hinder "the 100 or so in-

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In Trump-Friendly Iowa, His Policies Have Hurt

By POOJA SALHOTRA

DES MOINES — When President Trump announced a \$20 billion bailout for Argentina this month, Larry Ory, 86, a farmer in Earlham, Iowa, could hardly believe it, especially after boatloads of Argentine soybeans began shipping to China, a once-critical customer for Mr. Ory's family.

For Iowans, losing China's soybean market in the president's trade war was only one of many economic shocks that have hit the state since the start of Mr. Trump's second term. The cost of tractors and fertilizers have shot up with his tariffs. Labor has grown scarcer in agribusinesses. Major manufacturers have laid off workers. Even the ubiquitous wind turbines that provide income for

Moves on Immigration, Trade and Energy Squeeze Farms

some Iowa farmers are in the president's sights.

"Right now, we're fighting different economic wars all at once," said Summer Ory, 37, the wife of Mr. Ory's grandson, Dan. The couple works in the family's farm business. "You can sustain it one at a time, but right now it's death by a thousand paper cuts."

Ms. Ory said she votes in every election, but she, like Mr. Ory, declined to say who she cast her ballot for last November.

In a possible lifeline for Iowa

farmers like the Orys, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent hinted at a deal on soybeans in the initial framework of an agreement that U.S. and Chinese trade negotiators reached on Sunday, but gave no specifics.

"I believe, when the announcement of the deal with China is made public, that our soybean farmers will feel very good about what's going on, both for this season and the coming seasons, for several years," he said on ABC's "This Week."

Since siding with Barack Obama twice, Iowa has become a stronghold for Mr. Trump. Yet perhaps no state has struggled more with his economic policies. During the first quarter of 2025, Iowa's gross domestic product dropped

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Chinese and U.S. Officials Closing In on a Trade Deal

NEWS ANALYSIS A Tug of War Catches Asia in the Middle

By DAVID PIERSON

HONG KONG — President Trump touched down in Malaysia on Sunday, beginning an Asian tour that will bring him face to face with China's top leader, Xi Jinping, as well as a region that has been increasingly reshaped by the competition between Beijing and Washington.

In this new kind of superpower rivalry, he and Mr. Xi are offering contrasting visions for how the world should be ordered, with consequences for chip factories in South Korea, factory floors in Vietnam, the contested waters of the South China Sea and the status of the self-governed island of Taiwan.

Unlike the Cold War, the battlegrounds for power and influence are centered not only on troops and warships, but also on supply chains, ports and data centers. Governments across Asia are increasingly being pressured to pick sides. Countries caught in the middle, like Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia, must weigh how to benefit from the competition without being held hostage to it.

"Countries in the region don't want to be seen as just pawns that the U.S. and P.R.C. can pass over as the two cut deals above their heads," said Ja Ian Chong, a professor of political science at the National University of Singapore, using the abbreviation for the People's Republic of China.

"They want agency and would much rather have Washington and Beijing woo them so that they can play both powers off one another," he added.

That might have been easier in the past, when the United States was more engaged with Asia. When an American president visited, it would often be a way to reassure the United States' friends in the region that Washington had their backs when it came to an increasingly assertive China.

But today America's commitments to its allies and partners remain an open question, strained by resentment over tariffs and uncertainty over the future of U.S. troop deployments.

Beijing has sought to take advantage of that uncertainty by offering trade deals and investments to its neighbors, while staking a wider claim to the

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**By KEITH BRADSHER
and ZUNAIRA SAIIED**

BEIJING — Chinese and American trade negotiators said on Sunday that they had agreed to a framework of a deal on tariffs and other issues ahead of an expected meeting of the countries' top leaders this week.

"We are moving forward to the final details of the type of agreement that the leaders can review and decide if they want to conclude together," Jamieson Greer, the United States trade representative, said to reporters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's capital.

He also said the two sides had also discussed another extension in a series of truces on tariffs they have engaged in this year.

China's top trade negotiator, Li Chenggang, described the talks between the United States and



Jamieson Greer, the U.S. trade representative, said truces on tariffs could again be extended.

China as "candid and in-depth discussions" on the trade deal, adding that the two sides had reached a "preliminary consensus."

The negotiators were in Kuala Lumpur for a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, where President Trump began a nearly weeklong trip to Asia. He is expected to meet on Thursday with Xi Jinping, China's top leader, at a separate economic meeting in South Korea.

The variety of issues discussed in Kuala Lumpur included bilateral trade, export controls, reciprocal tariff extensions, fentanyl-related tariffs and cooperation on combating fentanyl trafficking,

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DEFINING ISSUE Concern is rising in Asia about how the U.S. will decide the origin of goods. **PAGE B1**

N.B.A. Entourages Get Access, And an Unfair Gambling Edge

By TANIA GANGULI

A few years ago, LeBron James, as he does from time to time, lauded the accomplishments of a friend's child on social media. That friend was Damon Jones, whose daughter had made the second-team all-district team for her high school basketball play.

"Yeeeahhhhhhh niece!!! Congratulations!! First Team coming next!!!" Mr. James wrote.

It was one of many signs of the superstar's friendship with Mr. Jones, to whom he has been close ever since they played together on the Cleveland Cavaliers from 2005 to 2008. Mr. Jones, a backup guard who started 10 games over those three seasons, has traveled the world with Mr. James and gotten jobs because of his connection to Mr. James, including as his personal shooting coach. According to federal prosecutors, that wasn't the only way Mr. Jones may have benefited from his relationship

with basketball's biggest star.

On Thursday, federal officials announced that Mr. Jones had been indicted on a charge of having a role in a sports gambling ring, and separately on a charge of having a role in rigged poker games that involved Mafia members. The indictment said Mr. Jones used his friendship with an unnamed player (who matched the description of Mr. James), and his proximity to the N.B.A., to sell insider information to gamblers who then placed bets based on that information.

Mr. Jones has not been accused of wrongdoing.

Being friends with a professional athlete, especially as part of their entourage, has long been a kind of social currency. Beyond dates and V.I.P. access, it can open up networking opportunities with the rich and famous, and some-

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VIDEO ANONYMOUSLY POSTED ON TELEGRAM
AT A SCHOOL In video taken by fighters, a Druse man was shot in Sweida Province this summer.



SWEIDA NATIONAL HOSPITAL CCTV
IN A HOSPITAL Surveillance cameras captured the killing of a young volunteer by government soldiers.



VIA TELEGRAM
ON A BALCONY Three men from one family were forced to jump to their deaths as fighters recorded.

In Syria, Filmed Atrocities Signal an Ugly Shift

This article is by Christina Goldbaum, Arijeta Lajka, Reham Mourshed and Sanjana Varghese.

When rebels deposed the dictator Bashar al-Assad last year, many Syrians greeted their new rulers with a mix of worry and cautious optimism.

The new government, led by a former jihadist fighter named Ahmed al-Shara, made sweeping promises to protect Syria's many religious minorities and finally bring peace after more than a decade of civil war.

Mr. al-Shara distanced himself from his jihadist roots, including

Minorities Lose Faith in End to Brutality Tied to the Government

his past ties to Al Qaeda, and pledged to rein in the extremist fighters in his coalition who consider Syria's religious minorities — Christians, Druse, Alawites and others — to be heretics.

His assurances helped him win over the United States, Europe and the Gulf nations, which backed his government with sanctions relief and financial support.



NATIONAL A12-17
Ocean Heat Wave Harmed Reef
Two historically important coral specials are now functionally extinct off Florida, researchers reported. **PAGE A12**

Food Banks Brace for Demand
The looming cutoff of funding for nutrition assistance is poised to stretch the system beyond its capacity. **PAGE A15**

INTERNATIONAL A4-11
Funeral Workers in Mexico
They arrive as the killings end, retrieving bodies, comforting families and bearing the emotional toll of a worsening struggle in Sinaloa State. **PAGE A4**

A Critical Test for Milei
A midterm election is a key gauge of whether Argentina's leader still has support for his cost-cutting. **PAGE A7**

BUSINESS B1-5
India's Most Valuable Export
The country plans to send its vast work force to nations with labor shortages, like Germany and Japan. **PAGE B1**



ARTS C1-6
The Flexible Choreographer
Mandy Moore feels at home creating moves for a Taylor Swift music video or for the Metropolitan Opera. **PAGE C1**

Capturing the Part
Jesse Plemons's performance as a kidnapper in "Bugonia" has put him in the awards season mix. **PAGE C2**

SPORTS D1-7
The Dodgers' Quiet Force
Toiling in the shadows of three M.V.P.s in the lineup, the unassuming catcher Will Smith has expertly guided pitchers and provided consistent value at the plate season after season. **PAGE D1**

Mahomes Refines Approach
After watching film of himself in the offseason, the Chiefs quarterback realized that he had been overanalyzing too many plays. After making the change, he is an M.V.P. candidate again. **PAGE D2**

OPINION A20-21
David French **PAGE A20**



OBITUARIES A19, 22
Beloved Television Mother
June Lockhart exuded maternal wisdom as a farm wife on "Lassie" and, later, as an interplanetary castaway on "Lost in Space." She was 100. **PAGE A19**

