

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

VOL. CLXXV No. 60,767

© 2026 The New York Times Company

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026

THE WEATHER
 Today, cloudy, some rain and snow, high 40. Tonight, partly to mostly cloudy, low 32. Tomorrow, plenty of clouds, colder, some flurries, high 37. Weather map appears on Page B12.

Prices in Canada may be higher \$4.00

Agent's Path From Iraq War To Minneapolis

ICE Makes Transition to Military Mind-Set

By KATIE J.M. BAKER

Jonathan Ross stood before a small group of his fellow students at Anderson University in Indiana and cautioned that the war in Iraq was not the one they were seeing on television.

It was April 2006, Ross, then 23, was recently back from a National Guard deployment to Iraq, speaking at a "Support the Troops" event hosted by the College Republicans. Mr. Ross showed the students photos of charred Humvees and walls pockmarked with bullet holes.

"We just got armor from the dump," he said, describing how they outfitted their vehicles. "They didn't supply us with the trucks you see on the news at all."

Twenty years later, Mr. Ross, now an agent with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, is once again on the front lines of a polarizing mission: the Trump administration's aggressive immigration crackdown in Minnesota.

On Jan. 7, during an enforcement surge in south Minneapolis, Mr. Ross fired three shots into a moving S.U.V., killing Renee Good, a 37-year-old mother of three. Her partner, Becca, who recorded the standoff on her phone, later said the couple had "stopped to support our neighbors" after federal agents were spotted in their neighborhood.

President Trump and other federal officials have said that Mr. Ross acted in self-defense when he killed Ms. Good, and have accused her of driving at him or even running him over. Minnesota officials have called the administration's accounts "propaganda" and "garbage." (A New York Times analysis of videos of the shooting contradicts the claim that Mr. Ross was run over, and suggests Ms. Good was steering away from him at the time he opened fire.)

Chris Madel, a Republican candidate for governor of Minnesota,

Continued on Page A13

Powell's Armor: A Groundswell Built With Care

By COLBY SMITH

Jerome H. Powell had a list. It included the names of members of Congress whom the Federal Reserve chair expected to have his back after finally taking on President Trump following the unthinkable — a criminal investigation by the Justice Department.

Mr. Powell's belief that he would find a groundswell of support was not an idle thought. It was the product of years of deliberate relationship-building on Capitol Hill since Mr. Trump first elevated Mr. Powell to lead the central bank in his first term.

Mr. Powell was in touch with numerous lawmakers after the central bank received grand jury subpoenas on Jan. 9, including Senators Susan M. Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska. He also spoke with one of the Fed chair's harshest Republican critics, Senator Kevin Cramer of North Dakota, who sits on the powerful Senate Banking Committee.

Mr. Cramer said in an interview that he had spoken to Mr. Powell on Sunday before the Fed chair confronted the Trump administration in an extraordinary video message. They discussed the stakes of the criminal investigation and the potential connection to the president's pressure campaign to force the central bank to

Continued on Page A15

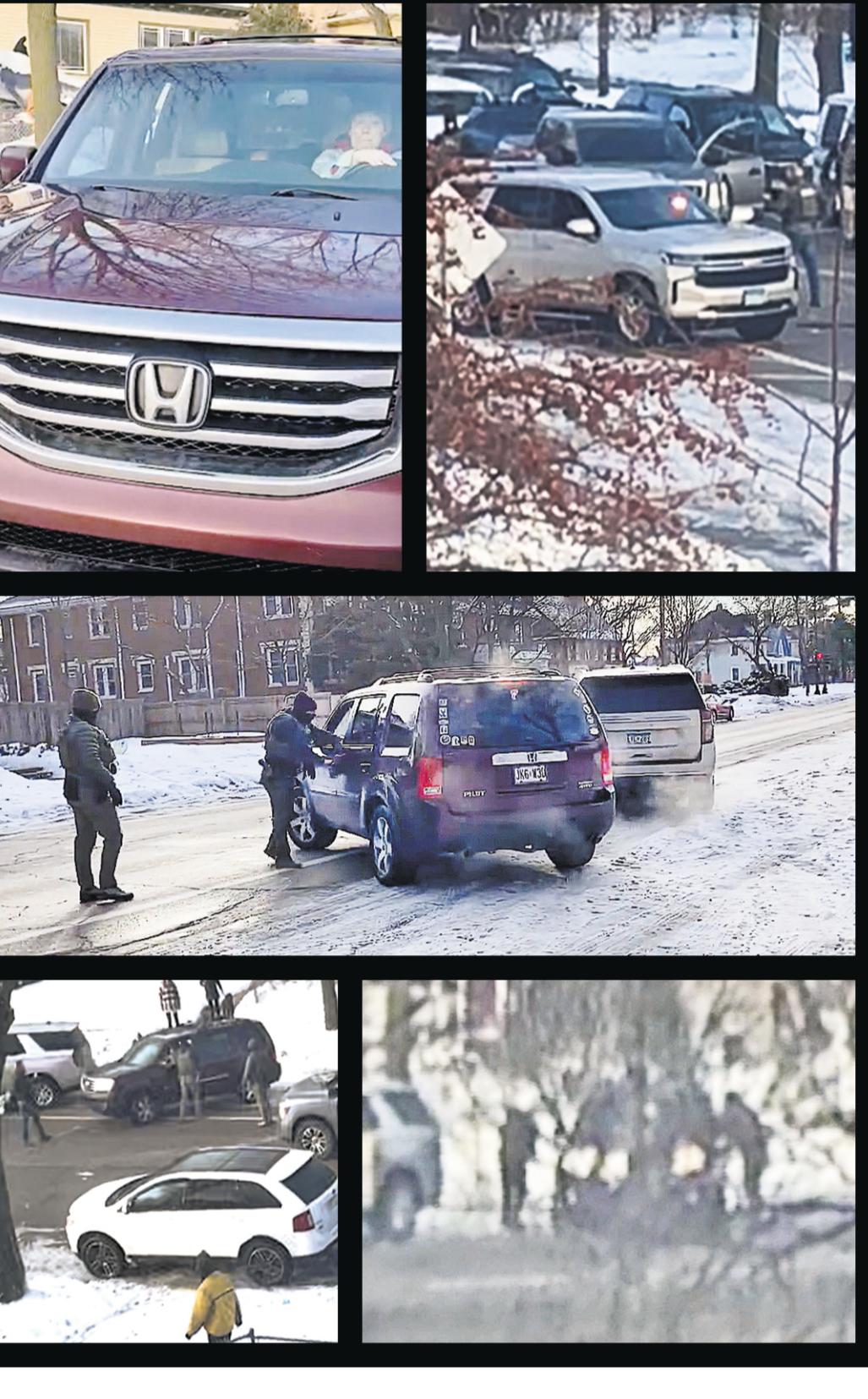
INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Canada's Right-to-Die Debate

Claire Brosseau says mental illness has made her life unbearable. She wants a medically assisted death. PAGE A8

Choosing Oil Over Democracy

President Trump backs the remnants of the Maduro regime. Below, a Nobel Prize replica. News Analysis. PAGE A6



Multiple Views of a Fateful Moment

Newly available videos and existing footage synchronized and analyzed by The New York Times provide a frame-by-frame look at how an ICE officer ended up shooting and killing a motorist in Minneapolis. Page A12.

In Pile of Pardons, Second Reprieve for Fraudster

By KENNETH P. VOGEL
and SUSANNE CRAIG

WASHINGTON — In 2021, a convicted fraudster named Adriana Camberos was freed from prison when President Trump commuted her sentence.

Rather than taking advantage of that second chance, prosecutors said, Ms. Camberos returned to crime. She and her brother were convicted in 2024 in an unrelated fraud.

This week, Mr. Trump pardoned

President Quietly Issues Clemency Grants

millions to a Trump-backed super PAC, a former governor of Puerto Rico and a former F.B.I. agent — all of whom had pleaded guilty in a political corruption case.

The pardons, most of which have not been previously reported, were supported by people with close ties to Mr. Trump's orbit, including lawyers who had worked for him.

They continue a trend in which Mr. Trump has used the unfettered presidential clemency

Continued on Page A15

Continued on Page A15

Continued on Page A15

Continued on Page A15



Striking Nurses Cite Job Safety as Priority

Nurses continued a walkout Friday in New York, seeking better staffing, pay and security. Page A17.

BUSINESS B1-5

Can A.I. Generate New Ideas?

Systems like OpenAI's GPT-5 are accelerating research in math and biology. But there is a debate over whether they can do that work on their own. PAGE B1

Gourmet, the Newsletter

A celebrated food magazine is back, with new leadership and zero approval from its original owner. PAGE B1



ARTS C1-6

Holly Hunter, Still Ascending

In "Star Trek: Starfleet Academy," the actress plays a space captain who is more than 400 years old. PAGE C1

Money Where His Mouth Is

The Kid Mero, a podcast star from the Bronx, is the new morning host on New York's premier hip-hop station. PAGE C1



OBITUARIES B10-11

He Transformed Lawyering

Leonard D. Jacoby, who opened Jacoby & Meyers in 1972, revolutionized the legal industry. He was 83. PAGE B10



NATIONAL A11-17, 20

Harvard Slips as China Soars

Harvard still dominates, but as Beijing pours billions into research universities, grant cuts by President Trump could accelerate a trend in which U.S. schools are falling behind global peers. PAGE A11

N.Y. Bill Against Antisemitism

Amid rising fear among some New York Jews, the new City Council speaker, Julie Menin, proposed setting up 100-foot buffer zones at houses of worship and schools during protests. PAGE A16

OPINION A18-19

David Brooks



SPORTS B6-9

Quarterback Told: 'Let It Rip'

For Seattle to make a Super Bowl run, the mercurial Sam Darnold must conquer his demons. The Seahawks aren't about to rein him in now. PAGE B6

PAGE B6