

"All the News  
That's Fit to Print"

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025

**THE WEATHER**  
 Today, a mix of clouds and sun, high 46. Tonight, rain moving in, becoming heavy late, windy, low 45. Tomorrow, windy, morning rain, high 55. Weather map is on Page B12.

Prices in Canada may be higher \$4.00

## Hochul to Sign Bill That Gives A Right to Die

### 3 Sign-Offs Needed for the Terminally Ill

By GRACE ASHFORD

ALBANY, N.Y. — Gov. Kathy Hochul announced on Wednesday that she would sign a bill that will allow terminally ill New Yorkers to end their lives, speaking in unusually personal terms as she settled an emotional, decade-long battle between religious leaders and right-to-die advocates.

The law will apply to adults who have incurable, irreversible illnesses and six months or less to live. Each patient will need the sign-off of three doctors.

Twelve states, the District of Columbia and several countries in Europe have passed similar laws over the objections of some disability-rights advocates and religious organizations, most notably the Catholic Church, which characterizes the bill as legalizing assisted suicide.

Ms. Hochul, who is Catholic, said it was one of the most difficult decisions she had faced as governor. She wrote in an essay published Wednesday in the Albany Times Union that she had listened to people suffering through the agony of a slow death, and that their painful experiences mirrored her own observations of a beloved family member.

"I watched my own mom die from A.L.S.," she wrote, referring to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. "I watched that vicious disease steal away the strong woman who raised me as it took her ability to walk, to eat, to speak and, ultimately, to live. I am all too familiar with the pain of seeing someone you love suffer and feeling powerless to stop it."

The governor, a Democrat, said that she had struggled with the Catholic teaching on the measure. "There's a lot of religious conflict in me, the way I was raised," she said on Wednesday. "But I realized it's not about me, it's about 20 million New Yorkers."

She also found faith-related reasons to support the bill. "I do not believe that in every instance condemning someone to excruciating pain and suffering preserves the dignity and sanctity of life," she wrote in the essay.

She added, "I was taught that God is merciful and compassionate, and so must we be."

In a statement on Wednesday, the New York State Catholic Conference called the bill, the Medical Aid in Dying Act, "egregious" and said it signaled the state's "abandonment of its most vulnerable citizens." The church opposes as-

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TIERNEY L. CROSS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

### A Somber Homecoming

At Dover Air Force Base on Wednesday, President Trump greeted the flight returning two Army soldiers killed last week in Syria.

### Sydney Attack Is a Reminder Of ISIS' Power

This article is by Adam Goldman, Eric Schmitt and Lizzie Dearden.

In Australia, a father and son gunned down 15 people celebrating a Jewish holiday at the beach. In England, a Syrian-born British citizen rammed a car into people and attacked others with a knife outside a synagogue on Yom Kippur. On Tuesday, the Polish authorities arrested a law student suspected of plotting to attack a Christmas market.

All of them were accused of supporting the Islamic State, a terrorist group whose deadly ideology continues to inspire adherents to commit atrocities years after its core organization was badly degraded.

The recurring bloodshed shows the group has adapted to a post-caliphate era. It is weakened compared with a decade ago, when it held large swaths of territory in Iraq and Syria, and instead now wields propaganda as its most potent tool to inspire deadly attacks.

"A resurgence would be too strong of a word," said Colin P.

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### U.S. to Disband Premier Weather Research Hub

This article is by Lisa Friedman, Brad Plumer and Jack Healy.

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration said it will be dismantling the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Colorado, one of the world's leading Earth science research institutions.

The center, founded in 1960, is responsible for many of the biggest scientific advances in humanity's understanding of weather and climate. Its research aircraft and sophisticated computer models of the Earth's atmosphere and oceans are used in forecasting weather events and disasters around the country, and its

### Budget Office Cites the Lab's Climate Work as 'Alarmism'

scientists study a range of topics, including air pollution, ocean currents and global warming.

But in a social media post announcing the move Tuesday, Russell Vought, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, called the center "one of the largest sources of climate alarmism in the country" and said that the federal government would be "breaking up" the institution.

Mr. Vought wrote a "compre-

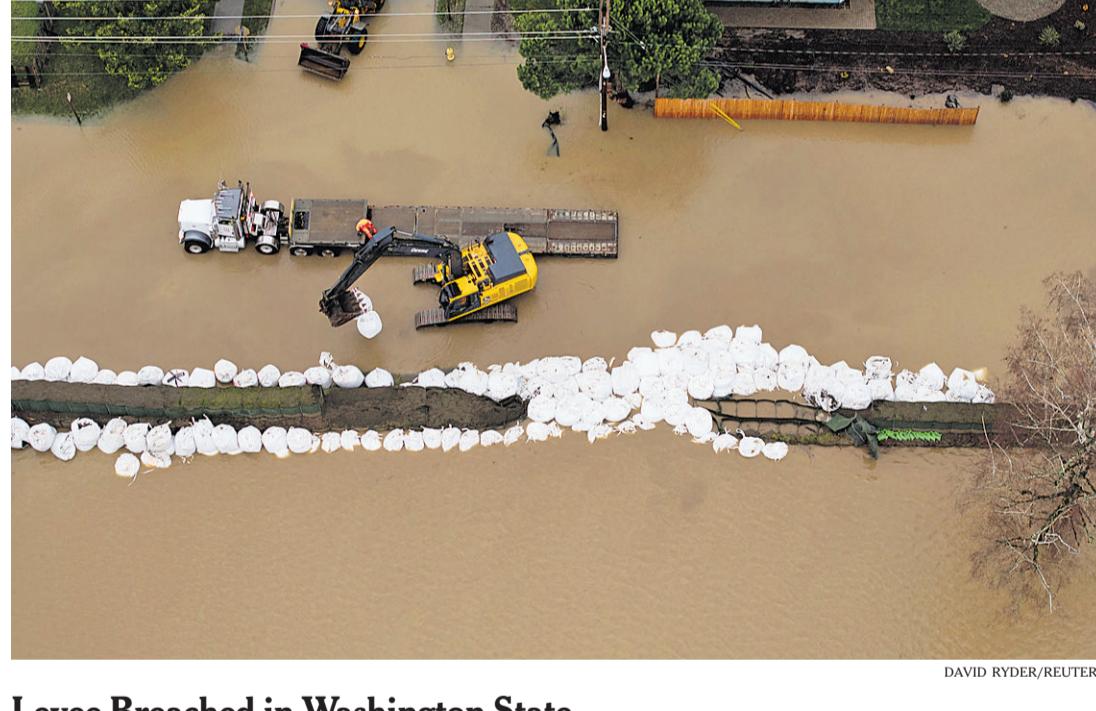
hensive review is underway" and "any vital activities such as weather research will be moved to another entity or location."

USA Today first reported on the White House plans.

Scientists, meteorologists and lawmakers said the move was an attack on critical scientific research and would harm the United States.

The National Center for Atmospheric Research was originally founded to provide scientists studying Earth's atmosphere with cutting-edge resources, such as supercomputers, that individual universities could not afford on their own. It is now widely consid-

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DAVID RYDER/REUTERS

### Levee Breached in Washington State

Work crews placed sandbags to fight floodwaters of the White River in the city of Pacific on Tuesday.

NORMAN PODHORETZ, 1930-2025

## Neoconservative Literary Lion Who Severed His Liberal Roots

By JOSEPH BERGER

Norman Podhoretz, the long-time editor of *Commentary* magazine and a lion of neoconservatism, whose intellectual odyssey took him from an ardent embrace of the left to a flinty condemnation

SAM HODGSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES  
Norman Podhoretz in 2017.

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BUSINESS B1-5

### The Oscars Will Be Streamed

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences ended a run on ABC in favor of a deal with YouTube for exclusive rights starting in 2029. PAGE B1

### Trump Dangles Cash Payments

With unpopular tariffs and high prices souring voters on the economy, the White House teases tariff rebates and big tax refunds next year. PAGE B1

### A 'No-Win Scenario'

The replacement for Jerome H. Powell as Fed chair faces a credibility problem if observers think President Trump wields too much influence. PAGE B1

NATIONAL A13-19

### Search for Gunman Continues

Authorities said they have DNA evidence from the scene of the deadly attack at Brown University. PAGE A16

### ICE Thwarted in Minnesota

Migrant activists forced federal agents to abandon an effort to detain two men at a construction site. PAGE A13



INTERNATIONAL A4-12

### Push to Gird Ukraine's Military

The latest peace plan is meant to deter future Russian aggression. But Moscow isn't part of the talks and has shown little willingness to negotiate. PAGE A12

### France Passes Welfare Budget

The country's third prime minister in less than a year succeeded where his two predecessors failed. PAGE A5

SPORTS B6-9

### More Games Means More Pain

A rash of season-ending injuries hasn't stopped the NFL from considering adding a week to the schedule. PAGE B6

ARTS C1-6

### Stars Name Those Tunes

"Track Star," an online show that asks guests to identify snippets of song tracks, began as a civilians-on-the-street series, but is now a stop on the celebrity promo trail. PAGE C1

### Four Minutes of Magical Music

Our writer sings the praises of "Le Jardin Féerique," Ravel's depiction of an enchanted garden that gives listeners an invitation to reflect on childhood, and the passing of time. PAGE C1

OPINION A20-21

Nicholas Kristof

gun seven years earlier. Rob, a director for three decades who had made iconic films like "When Harry Met Sally" and "The Princess Bride," saw, if not a hit, at the very least an opportunity to bond.

And so, he started preproduction on "Being Charlie," beginning an experience that would put Rob and Nick's own complicated relationship on display.

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THURSDAY STYLES

### Far More Than a Punchline

Kristin Cabot was caught on camera with her boss at a Coldplay concert. She was soon the butt of jokes and drowning in the vitriol of strangers. PAGE D6



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