

Protests Grow
On Campuses
Across the U.S.

Clashing Over Speech
and War in Gaza

This article is by J. David Goodman, David Montgomery, Jonathan Wolfe and Jenna Russell.

A wave of pro-Palestinian protests spread and intensified on Wednesday as students gathered on campuses around the country, in some cases facing off with the police, in a widening showdown over campus speech and the war in Gaza.

University administrators from Texas to California moved to clear protesters and prevent encampments from taking hold on their own campuses as they have at Columbia University, deploying police in tense new confrontations that already have led to dozens of arrests.

At the same time, new protests continued to erupt in places like Pittsburgh and San Antonio. Students expressed solidarity with their fellow students at Columbia, and with a pro-Palestinian movement that appeared to be galvanized by the confrontations on other campuses and the looming end of the academic year.

Protesters on several campuses said their demands included divestment by their universities from companies connected to the Israeli military campaign in Gaza, disclosure of those and other investments and a recognition of the continuing right to protest without punishment.

The demonstrations spread overseas as well, with students on campuses in Cairo, Paris and Sydney, Australia, gathering to voice support for Palestinians and opposition to the war.

As new protests were emerging, House Speaker Mike Johnson visited the Columbia campus in New York, where university offi-

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Scientists Eye
Fasting’s Effect
On Longevity

By DANA G. SMITH

If you put a lab mouse on a diet, cutting the animal’s caloric intake by 30 to 40 percent, it will live, on average, about 30 percent longer. The caloric restriction, as the intervention is technically called, can’t be so extreme that the animal is malnourished, but it should be aggressive enough to trigger some key biological changes.

Scientists first discovered this phenomenon in the 1930s, and over the past 90 years it has been replicated in species ranging from worms to monkeys. The subsequent studies also found that many of the calorie-restricted animals were less likely to develop cancer and other chronic diseases related to aging.

But despite all the research on animals, there remain a lot of unknowns. Experts are still debating how it works, and whether it’s the number of calories consumed or the window of time in which they are eaten (also known as intermittent fasting) that matters more.

And it’s still frustratingly uncertain whether eating less can help people live longer as well. Aging experts are notorious for experimenting on themselves with different diet regimens, but actual longevity studies are scant and difficult to pull off because they take, well, a long time.

Scientists don’t exactly know why eating less would cause an animal or person to live longer, but many hypotheses have an evolutionary bent. In the wild, animals experience periods of feast and famine, as did our human ancestors.

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Clockwise from top: Posing for a wedding photographer in Kharkiv, Ukraine; a Russian strike took out a heat and power plant in Kharkiv; the city’s School No. 134 was occupied in 2022 by Russian special forces before the Ukrainian military pushed them back.

Arizona Indicts
Allies of Trump
Over 2020 Vote

By DANNY HAKIM
and MAGGIE HABERMAN

Rudolph W. Giuliani, Mark Meadows, and a number of others who advised Donald J. Trump during the 2020 election were indicted in Arizona on Wednesday, along with all of the fake electors who acted on Mr. Trump’s behalf there to try to keep him in power despite his loss in the state.

Boris Epshteyn, one of Mr. Trump’s top legal strategists, was also among those indicted, a complication for Mr. Trump’s defense in the criminal trial that began this week in Manhattan over hush money payments made to a porn star, Stormy Daniels.

The indictment includes conspiracy, fraud and forgery charges, related to alleged attempts by those charged to overturn the 2020 election results. Arizona is the fourth swing state to bring an elections case involving the activities of the Trump campaign in 2020, but only the second after Georgia to go beyond the fake electors whom the campaign deployed in swing states lost by Mr. Trump. The former president was also named an unindicted co-conspirator in the Arizona case.

“I understand for some of you today didn’t come fast enough, and I know I’ll be criticized by others for conducting this investigation at all,” Kris Mayes, Arizona’s Democratic attorney general, said in a recorded statement. “But as I have stated before and will say here again today, I will not allow American democracy to be undermined. It’s too important.”

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Battered but ‘Unbreakable,’ Kharkiv Carries On

By MARC SANTORA

KHARKIV, Ukraine — The espresso machine was warming up and Liliia Korneva was counting cash at the coffee shop in Kharkiv where she works when a powerful Russian bomb detonated nearby, sending up a deafening explosion and knocking her to the floor.

“I can’t describe in words how it felt, it was terrifying,” said Ms. Korneva, 20. She was not hurt, though the courtyard where the bomb fell was destroyed and a man riding a bicycle nearby was killed, according to city officials.

Just a day later, the cafe was open again. Kharkiv, Ukraine’s

Russia’s Daily Attacks
Deepen City’s Fears
and Its Resolve

second largest city, is open for business, too, despite a sustained bombing campaign that is among the most devastating of the entire war and growing fears that Russia might launch a renewed offensive aimed at taking the city.

Russian attacks have destroyed all three major power stations, but residents continue to live and work with only a few, often unpredictable, hours of electricity each

day. More than 100 schools have been damaged or destroyed but classes go on, deep underground in subway stations. Dozens of fire and paramedic stations have been blown up, putting emergency workers in daily jeopardy but failing to deter them from their jobs.

“When a rocket hits, within three to four hours, all the glass is cleaned up, all the central roads are cleared,” said Andrii Dronov, the 39-year-old deputy chief of the Kharkiv Fire Department. “By

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MISSILES After the secret delivery of long-range U.S. weapons, Ukraine hit new targets. PAGE A7

Concern Increases as Evolving Bird Flu Infects More Mammals



SEBASTIAN CASTANEDA/REUTERS

A worker tested an otter for bird flu on a beach in Peru in 2023. Doctors fear the virus is edging closer to spreading among people.

By APOORVA MANDAVILLI
and EMILY ANTHERS

In her three decades of working with elephant seals, Dr. Marcela Uhart had never seen anything like the scene on the beaches of Argentina’s Valdés Peninsula last October.

It was peak breeding season; the beach should have been teeming with harems of fertile females and enormous males battling one another for dominance. Instead, it was “just carcass upon carcass upon carcass,” recalled Dr. Uhart, who directs the Latin American wildlife health program at the University of California, Davis.

H5N1, one of the many viruses that cause bird flu, had already killed at least 24,000 South American sea lions along the continent’s coasts in less than a year. Now it had come for elephant seals.

Pups of all ages, from newborns to the fully weaned, lay dead or dying at the high-tide line. Sick pups lay listless, foam oozing from their mouths and noses.

Dr. Uhart called it “an image from hell.”

In the weeks that followed, she and a colleague — protected head to toe with gloves, gowns and masks, and periodically dousing themselves with bleach — carefully documented the devastation. Team members stood atop the nearby cliffs, assessing the toll with drones.

What they found was staggering: The virus had killed an estimated 17,400 seal pups, more than 95 percent of the colony’s young animals.

The catastrophe was the latest in a bird flu epidemic that has whipped around the world since

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Inside Plan to Pass TikTok Bill

A tiny group of lawmakers huddled in private while bulletproofing a bill that could ban the popular app. PAGE A19

Words of War at Seder

At the Passover feast, some families argued over the Gaza crisis. “That’s the Jewish way,” said one host. PAGE A12



INTERNATIONAL A4-11

When, Not if, for Rafah Attack

Israel says invading the Gaza city is vital to defeating Hamas. Analysts say an assault is all but inevitable. PAGE A11

Setback for Myanmar Rebels

The junta forces recaptured Myawaddy, an important trading center on the border with Thailand. PAGE A4

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‘Colossus’ of Poetry Criticism

Helen Vendler, who was a powerful figure in the industry and had enormous influence on artistic reputations and publishers’ decisions, was 90.

BUSINESS B1-6

An Ex-Boeing Manager Speaks

Merle Meyers, an employee for 30 years, said workers mishandled parts to meet deadlines. PAGE B1

Suing to Halt Noncompete Ban

Business groups contend that the F.T.C. does not have the authority to issue such a prohibition. PAGE B1

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The Host With the Boast

Detroit, the site of this year’s N.F.L. draft, is taking pride in the chance to display its downtown revitalization. The event begins Thursday night. PAGE B8

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Picture-Shy Publicist

Cait Bailey is often by the side of some very famous people. She’d prefer that you point the camera at them. PAGE D7

Tableware to Cherish

Collectors have stocked up on Buon Ricordo plates, introduced 60 years ago at restaurants in Italy. PAGE D2



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The Biennale’s Catechism

In Venice, our writer says, the complexity of artists gets upstaged by their designation as group members. PAGE C1

Moping With ‘Uncle Vanya’

Steve Carell plays the 50-year-old loser in yet another Broadway revival of the play by Anton Chekhov. PAGE C1

OPINION A20-21

John McWhorter

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