

ELECTION 2024

Foreign policy flair a key test for Harris

Given limited portfolio as VP, aides say she'd bring a lawyer's zeal to crises

BY MICHAEL BIRNBAUM AND MISSY RYAN

In a White House where President Biden has grounded his reputation on 50 years of dealings in global affairs, Vice President Harris has had little chance to forge her own foreign policy, even as she has traveled the globe on his behalf.

But if she claims the Democratic presidential nomination and then the White House, Harris, a longtime prosecutor, would apply her decades spent battling in courtrooms to confronting the world's most pressing crises and standing firm against U.S. adversaries should they seek to test her, say people who have worked with her. Observers said the leaders of Russia and China would be most likely to try.

Aides say the core of her foreign policy would not likely swerve from Biden's robust support for Ukraine, which remains at war with Russia, and his hard line on China as it seeks to displace the United States as the world's leading superpower. On Gaza — the most divisive global issue among Democrats — Harris has carved out a distinct rhetorical lane, voicing sharp criticism of Palestinian suffering even while continuing to back strong military aid to Israel.

Georgia: Harris holds a raucous rally to woo voters in the state. **A7**

Project 2025: The right-wing venture will end its policy work. **A7**

Venezuela protests of Maduro turn fatal

Following contested vote, leader blames opposition after at least 16 are killed

BY SAMANTHA SCHMIDT AND ANA VANESSA HERRERO

CARACAS, VENEZUELA — As Venezuelans poured into the streets for a second day of protests Tuesday, President Nicolás Maduro accused opposition leader María Corina Machado and presidential candidate Edmundo González of “criminal violence” and a close ally called for their arrests.

Protesters are demanding Maduro publish voting data in an election they say he stole, and the authoritarian socialist has responded with force.

At least 16 people have been killed in clashes across the country since the vote Sunday, according to the rights group Foro Penal and a survey of hospitals.

At least one soldier has been killed, the defense ministry said.

Jorge Rodríguez, president of the Maduro-controlled national assembly and brother of Maduro's vice president, blamed the opposition for the violence.

SEE VENEZUELA ON A13

PARIS OLYMPICS

After a challenging journey, U.S. women stick the landing



From left, Jordan Chiles, Hezly Rivera, Simone Biles, Sunisa Lee and Jade Carey of the heavily favored U.S. women's gymnastics team exult together after winning the gold medal Tuesday in Paris. “This team has definitely been through a lot,” Lee said.

Biles leads the way as squad rebounds from previous Olympic disappointment



Candace Buckner

COLUMN

PARIS — It took less than 10 minutes to construct the medal podium following the women's gymnastics team final. The Paris Olympics crew went to work on the floor — first, stretching out a thin layer along the apparatus, then carrying the slate-colored podiums made of wood and plastic. Five people worked together to bring in the top platform intended for the world's best. When the structure was completed, workers wiped down the stage, so that golden feet wouldn't dare touch dust.

What it took to assemble Team USA's medal perch Tuesday night needed little effort and minimal time. Not at all

reflective of the journeys for the women who would soon step on top of that platform — after extreme hardships — and shine.

When the Americans outclassed all comers, scoring 171.296 points and soaring in front of a star-studded and sellout crowd that redecorated a Parisian arena in stars and stripes, Simone Biles was the first to receive a gold medal. Earlier in the day, she had spent some time with her therapist. She does this now, checking in on her mental state and freely sharing it with the world. Ever since a vault in Tokyo ruined her last quest for gold. The story of Biles's stepping away because of the “twisties” has been well documented over the past three years, but Jade Carey, the next gymnast to have gold draped around her neck, also has

experienced that frightening feeling.

There have been times when Carey has known exactly how to stick those difficult tumbling passes, yet her body wouldn't cooperate. She has endured injuries that felt too difficult to manage. Her month leading into 2023 U.S. championships was “pretty challenging.” Then after a trying year, still giving her all to a sport that takes so much out of its most devoted followers, Carey admitted to having thoughts of quitting.

SEE BUCKNER ON A11

Mascots: This year, bloblike “Phryges” can be seen at the Games. But what are they? **C1**

A run to history: Jerry Brewer on a thrilling bronze for the U.S. women's rugby team. **D1**

Russian artists decry Putin's cultural crackdown

Musicians, actors and writers have faced choice between exile and showing wartime allegiance

BY FRANCESCA EBEL AND MARY ILYUSHINA

MOSCOW — Not even the famed Bolshoi Theater has been spared President Vladimir Putin's war-time push for Russian culture to prioritize patriotism over artistic freedom.

Several Bolshoi stars have fled the country. The theater no longer tours in Europe and America. And its longtime director resigned last year and was replaced with a staunch Putin loyalist, after publicly admitting that its repertoire was censored to remove works by directors or choreographers who criticized the Ukraine invasion.

The Bolshoi is hardly the only iconic Russian institution under pressure. The longtime directors of Moscow's Tretyakov and Pushkin fine art museums were also replaced.

Musicians, actors and writers who oppose the war are being hounded into exile or driven underground — while artists remaining in Russia are compelled by the government to echo a new nationalist zeal in their work. Those who actively voice support

SEE RUSSIA ON A10



A performance of the opera “The Tale of Tsar Saltan” at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow in March. The theater is one of a number of cultural institutions under political pressure from Russia's government.

Israel targets official in Beirut

CLAIMS KILLING OF A HEZBOLLAH LEADER

Retaliation for deadly attack in Golan Heights

This article is by Kareem Fahim, Sarah Dadouch, Michael Birnbaum, Mohamad El Chamaa and Steve Hendrix

BEIRUT — Israel carried out an airstrike in a densely packed neighborhood on the outskirts of the Lebanese capital Tuesday, in an attack that it said killed a senior Hezbollah commander responsible for the deaths of 12 children over the weekend in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The strike, which threatened to escalate hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah at a combustible moment, occurred around 7:45 p.m. local time in the suburb of Haret Hreik. Lebanon's Health Ministry said the strike killed a woman and two children. Televised footage showed several ambulances leaving the scene of the strike, residential streets choked with smoke and debris, and a multistory building partially destroyed with several floors collapsed.

In a statement, the Israeli military said the strike had killed Fuad Shukur, whom it called Hezbollah's most “senior military commander.” Shukur, the statement said, was Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah's brother-in-law. SEE ISRAEL ON A12

Hamas rule: Government clings to power in Gaza despite the war. **A12**

D.C. protests: Activists of varied stripes find a common angst. **B1**

Acting head of Secret Service is ‘ashamed’

Tells angry senators he can't grasp lack of roof security for Trump rally

BY DEVLIN BARRETT AND MARIA SACCHETTI

The acting head of the Secret Service said Tuesday that he was “ashamed” that his agency failed to secure the rooftop where a gunman fired on former president Donald Trump, sparring at times with angry Republican lawmakers who demanded that he fire people immediately.

“I cannot defend why that roof was not better secured,” Ronald Rowe Jr. told a joint Senate committee examining the July 13 assassination attempt.

Firing at the GOP presidential candidate during a campaign rally in Butler, Pa., the gunman killed one person in the crowd and critically injured two others. One of the bullets grazed Trump's ear.

The joint Senate hearing offered fresh details about the first attack in decades on a U.S. leader under Secret Service protection, which has sparked multiple investigations and forced a reckoning

SEE HEARING ON A8

IN THE NEWS

Protecting children online The Senate passed bills designed to expand privacy and safety on tech platforms, raising pressure on the House. **A19**

Ginsburg's leaked records A former health worker is on trial in the 2019 release of the Supreme Court justice's medical chart. **B1**

THE NATION More than 900 Native American children died at Indian boarding schools, a report said. **A3** The suicide rate for U.S. children ages 8 to 12 has steadily climbed, new data showed. **A5**

THE WORLD Some athletes at the Paris Olympics have feedback for the food hall: more meat. **A9** A German citizen was pardoned in Belarus as Russia moved seven political prisoners. **A14**

THE ECONOMY A GOP campaign has eroded the ecosystem dedicated to addressing the spread of misinformation online. **A17** When private-equity firms buy hospitals, they sell off assets, researchers found in a study that challenges industry claims. **A18**

THE REGION The Justice Department sued the railroad company Norfolk Southern, accusing it of illegally delaying Amtrak trains. **B1** Montgomery County's school district did not punish an electric bus company for its lapses, a watchdog found. **B1**

STYLE The Loudoun County school district filed an FCC complaint accusing WJLA of “dishonest and distorted” reporting. **C1**

FOOD One of the chefs in charge of feeding the Olympic Village at the Paris Games is a former pro basketball player. **E1**

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