

The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023

Harvard oversight board silent on Gay's fate

Embattled leader faces calls to resign while hundreds of faculty offer support

By Hilary Burns
and Mike Damiano
GLOBE STAFF

CAMBRIDGE — After meeting for hours Monday, the members of the Harvard Corporation ad-

►Students react to turmoil. B1.

jourled without giving any public indication about their answer to a question that has exposed schisms in the Harvard community and

drawn impassioned responses from both sides: Do you back university president Claudine Gay?

It was the seventh day of silence from the key board members since Gay, as well as the presidents of the University of Pennsylvania and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, offered legalistic and equivocal answers at a congressional hearing to questions about whether calls for the genocide of Jews would violate their schools' rules, prompting

Comments at a congressional hearing which offered legalistic answers about a response to calls for the genocide of Jews spurred an intense backlash.

an intense backlash from alumni, donors, and politicians.

The UPenn president, Liz Magill, resigned on Saturday after facing a donor revolt and criticism from Pennsylvania's Democratic governor.

The MIT president, Sally Kornbluth, received a vote of confidence last Thursday from the executive committee of the school's governing board, which said Kornbluth had the committee's "full and unre-served support."

Late Monday, after an all-day meeting, the Harvard Corporation, **HARVARD, Page A6**

Justices asked for election case ruling

High court may fast-track special counsel request on immunity challenge

By Adam Liptak and Alan Feuer
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Jack Smith, the special counsel prosecuting former president Donald Trump on charges of plotting to overturn the 2020 election, asked the Supreme Court on Monday to rule on Trump's argument that he is immune from prosecution. The justices quickly agreed to fast-track the first phase of the case.

Smith's request was unusual in two ways: He asked the justices to rule before an appeals court acted, and he urged them to move with exceptional speed.

"This case presents a fundamental question at the heart of our democracy: whether a former president is absolutely immune from federal prosecution for crimes committed while in office or is constitutionally protected from federal prosecution when he has been impeached but not convicted before the criminal proceedings begin," Smith wrote.

On Monday evening, just hours after Smith filed papers in the Supreme Court, the justices granted his initial request: to put their consideration of whether to hear the case on a fast track. The court ordered Trump's lawyers to file their response to the petition seeking review on an abbreviated schedule, by Dec. 20.

Smith's filings represented a vigorous plea to keep the trial on track by cutting off an avenue by **TRUMP, Page A5**

After shunning his name, Biden attacking Trump

In campaign strategy shift, president is aggressively criticizing his predecessor

By Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — For more than 2½ years, it was rare for President Biden to publicly utter the name of the person he replaced. Donald Trump usually was "the former president," "my predecessor," or simply "the other guy."

But in the past month, Biden has "Trump" on the brain and the tip of his tongue. Over the course of three events during a fund-raising swing in the Boston area last week, Biden fired that name into the crowd a total of 34 times as he blasted Trump for his record in office, his attempt to overturn the 2020 election, and his plans if he returns to the White House.

"It's not hyperbole to suggest you're the reason why Donald Trump is not only a former president but a defeated former president," he told supporters at the Shubert Theater before a concert by James Taylor. "Which makes him, yes, a loser"

With amped up rhetoric and an almost singular focus, Biden and his campaign have been going after Trump far more aggressively the past several **BIDEN, Page A5**



PHOTOS BY DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Hakim Cunningham walked outside his home in Boston (at center behind him), which he inherited from his mother.

Homeownership is no cure-all

The city's racial wealth gap is rooted in biased real estate practices, de facto segregation

By Milton J. Valencia and Vince Dixon
GLOBE STAFF

After emigrating from Haiti in the late 1970s, Thomas Duplessy set out to build a comfortable life in Boston. He soon began checking off his list of goals: He worked at a Mattapan butcher shop six days a week for just over six years until he saved enough to buy the business. Then, he and his wife, Marie Annette Duplessy, purchased a home in Dorchester, a six-bedroom where they could raise their family. And with the help of a home equity line of credit, he was able to send his nine children to college.

His children, he believed, would be set for the future. They'd go into the world with the foundation for upward mobility: a college education and an inheritance of both the home and business.

But he worries that inheritance could slip away.

HOMEOWNERSHIP, Page A10



Thomas Duplessy dusted off a photograph of himself and his wife. The Duplessys bought their home in 1986 for roughly \$200,000.

The Air Force has disciplined 15 personnel in connection with the massive classified documents leak allegedly by Massachusetts Air National Guard member Jack Teixeira earlier this year. **B1.**

State Street Corp., the Boston-based financial services giant, will slash about 1,500 jobs. The layoffs represent about a 3.6 percent cut in its global workforce. **D1.**

Hamas leader Yehiya Sinwar, the mastermind behind the Oct. 7 attacks, is considered a calculating firebrand. **A3.**

Forget the speculation on who'll be quarterback for the Pats. Here's the real watch: Will Taylor Swift show up at Gillette Stadium Sunday to watch her boyfriend, Travis Kelce, of the Chiefs? **C1.**

State downsizes \$550m Shattuck expansion

Healey administration, BMC in talks to redefine hospital development

By Chris Serres
GLOBE STAFF

It has been touted as one of the state's most ambitious public health experiments in generations. A sprawling campus that would serve as a healing sanctuary for thousands of Greater Boston residents struggling with debilitating mental illnesses and drug addictions.

But now, members of the Healey administration who had publicly blessed the \$550 million expansion of the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital site at Franklin Park say it's too big and too pricey for taxpayers, and they have begun discussions with the lead developer, Boston Medical Center (BMC), over modifications to its redevelopment, first proposed three years ago.

"The proposal that's on the table now is far too large and costly for us to be able to support," said Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, undersecretary for health at the state's Executive Office of Health and Human Services. "So we are in the process of going back and forth ... to come up with something that answers the purpose of the public health imperative."

In an interview late last week, administrators at Boston Medi- **SHATTUCK, Page A4**



ARAM BOGHOSIAN FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

The plan for the Shattuck Hospital site would have it serve those struggling with mental illnesses and drug addictions.



Brighter prospects

Tuesday: Mostly sunny.

High 42-47, low 33-38.

Wednesday: Partly sunny.

High 42-47, low 23-28.

Sunrise: 7:04. Sunset: 4:12.

Obituaries, **C9.**

Comics and Weather, **D5-6.**

VOL. 304, NO. 165

*

Suggested retail price
\$3.50

