

STICKING AROUND WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN

Yes, the nights don't give much relief from the heat and humidity these days. Blame global warming.

By Ken Mahan and Ivy Scott

GLOBE STAFF

An ice-cold shower. Opening all the windows. Even getting out of bed to lie on the hardwood floor. For the past month, since that first 90-degree day in June, Carina Sandoval has tried everything she could think of to keep cool each night on the third floor of her Somerville apartment.

Nothing worked.

"Sometimes before I went to bed, I would go to the freezer and just stand with as much of my body in the freezer as I possibly could," she said. "But regardless, I was going to be sweating, and basically just toughing it out."

Sandoval, 23, is among many residents feeling the stifling heat firsthand — not just when the sun is up, but well into the night. Gone are the days, it seems, when folks could seek relief from a sweltering summer afternoon by depending on cooler temperatures to take over after sundown, or by simply opening the windows overnight to allow a refreshing breeze to flow through.

"We are seeing an increase of temperatures across the United States and the Northeast, with

WARM NIGHTS, Page A10



3° Increase in average nighttime low temperature in summer in Boston since 1936

1.2° Increase in average summertime high temperature in Boston

Despite vow, GOP keeps up rhetoric

Personal attacks on Biden continue after talk of toning things down

By Jim Puzzanghera and Lissandra Villa de Petrzelka

GLOBE STAFF

MILWAUKEE — When it comes to talking about President Biden, a new tone of civility hasn't caught on at the Republican National Convention.

That was the promise from Republican officials and delegates as they gathered here in the shocking aftermath of Saturday night's assassination attempt on former president Donald Trump. The tone would be unifying, not antagonizing.

But on stage and off, Republicans repeatedly have undermined their stated efforts to tone down the political rhetoric that both parties agree has reached unprecedented levels of vitriol.

Many Republicans went out of their way to criticize Biden on a personal level as he navigates pressure from his own party about his mental acuity and ability to do his job, often making heavy-handed remarks about him.

On Tuesday night, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis called the Biden administration a "Week-end at Bernie's" presidency," referencing the 1989 film in which a dead man is propped up as alive. A pro-Trump music video by rappers Forgiato Blow and Amber Rose that played at the convention in-

RHETORIC, Page A7

Biden has COVID

The president canceled a meeting with members of a Latino civil rights group in Nevada. **A6.**

Shooting hearing

The Secret Service director was called to appear before a House panel. **A2.**

Still an enigma

Few details are known about gunman Thomas Crooks. **A6.**



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/ASSOCIATED PRESS

It was Senator JD Vance's night at the convention, and he focused on his working-class roots in his speech. **A7.**

'There's no one policy that is going to solve gun violence; we have to take a multipronged approach.'

RUTH ZAKARIN, executive director of the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence

Democrats reach a deal on toughening Mass. gun laws

By Anjali Huynh and Matt Stout

GLOBE STAFF

Massachusetts Democratic leaders said Wednesday that they have struck a deal to overhaul the state's already strict firearms laws, an agreement that was months in the making but came just days after the attempted assassination of former president Donald Trump at a campaign rally in Pennsylvania.

The wide-ranging bill would for the first time regulate so-called ghost guns by requiring components of all firearms, such as frames and receivers, to have serial numbers. It would specifically prohibit people from carrying firearms in polling places and schools.

And it would expand the state's "red flag" laws to allow school administrators and health care providers to petition a court for an order to take someone's firearms if their behavior poses a risk to themselves or others, according to a summary released by House leaders.

The bill is just one piece of long-stalled legislation that appears to be on the move on Beacon Hill as the Legislature's deadline to wrap up formal sessions looms on July 31. Leaders on Wednesday said they have also reached an agreement "in principle" on the state's overdue \$58 billion state budget proposal. Lawmakers did not immediately release details on the spending plan, which is supposed to cover the fiscal year that began on July 1, though they said they intend to file the deal "in the coming days."

GUNS, Page A4

The Read trial is over — for now — but the obsessives are just getting started

By Beth Teitell

GLOBE STAFF

DEDHAM — The TV cameras have moved on. The man wearing the blond Judge Beverly Cannone wig is gone. The street is no longer lined with people bedecked in pink holding "Free Karen Read" signs.

It's a weekday afternoon outside the Norfolk Superior Court, and where Read's supporters once reigned, with their righteous outrage and their beach chairs, there is instead a farmer's market. A band plays Sonny Rollins. A child climbs into a fire truck brought just for that reason. A woman carries an armful of sunflowers.

But the pastoral scene is deceiving. The July 1 end of the trial wasn't the end at all. It was a mistrial, a cliffhanger, an invitation for yet more obsession over a real-life situation that's as sad as it gets, but

for many has turned into a binge-worthy true-crime drama. And they get to be part of the story!

Those in the trial's grip are still out protesting, still fighting on X and Facebook, still buying Read merch (the "Jackson Yannetti 2024" baseball caps, named for the defense attorneys, make a nice keepsake).

Indeed, just 6 miles away from the Dedham courthouse where they got so chummy, the old "Karen Read was framed" gang reconvened last Wednesday. Once strangers, they have become people who hug hello and ask after each other's family members.

They have gathered in Canton, protesting in front of the offices of Norfolk District Attorney Michael Morrissey — one of their many nemeses.

READ, Page A10



PAT GREENHOUSE/GLOBE STAFF

Since the mistrial, the big crowds have disappeared, but Karen Read's supporters were still out for her in Dedham on Sunday.

Police defend use of Snapchat

Fake accounts bring questions of racial profiling

By Sean Cotter

GLOBE STAFF

In the arsenal of police work, the latest investigative tool for the Boston department is the use of fake accounts on Snapchat to capture posts of users committing crimes or bragging about doing so while flashing illegal guns.

But the Police Department's refusal in one criminal case to turn over information about the names of its Snapchat accounts and the cartoon profile images associated with them, known as "bitmojis," prompted a judge to dismiss gun charges. Moreover, critics are questioning whether the department is using the Snapchat accounts to inappropriately target Black people.

Now, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court is reviewing the judge's decision to dismiss the charges in a case that will weigh the Police Department's argument that the release of the information would expose sensitive investigative techniques against civil liberty groups' concerns about racial profiling and discriminatory tactics.

"No one is saying that police

SNAPCHAT, Page A4

Several of Steward Health Care's hospitals in Massachusetts have lost a third or more of their patients this year as the company languishes in bankruptcy. **D1.**

Boston officials unveiled a plan for getting rid of rats infesting city streets, sewers, and subways. **B1.**

With its electrical grid in tatters, Ukraine is facing a heat wave as temperatures reach as high as 104. **A3.**

The Red Sox have exceeded expectations. Can they keep it up in the second half?

Columnists Chad Finn and Christopher L. Gasper give their takes. **C1.**



Close out sale

Thursday: Less humid at last. High 84-89. Low 66-71.

Friday: Beautiful. High 81-86. Low 66-71.

High tide: 9:32 a.m., 9:39 p.m. Sunrise: 5:24 Sunset: 8:17

Weather and Comics, D5-6. Obituaries, C8.

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