



ALIA PHILLIPS and her husband at their Camarillo home. The Mountain fire came on the third anniversary of their engagement.

# Something precious in all they’ve lost

‘A needle in a haystack would be easier to find,’ firefighters said of Alia Phillips’ ring

BY NOAH GOLDBERG

Alia Phillips thought she might never see her wedding ring again. But even on her engagement anniversary, that was low on her list of concerns as she drove her Prius through orange smoke and falling, flaming branches. Wednesday morning had been a chaotic flurry of conflicting orders as the Mountain fire tore through residential neighborhoods in Camarillo, burning homes, fields and trees in its wake.

Phillips had left work that morning to check on her 18-year-old dog, Little Miss, and turn on her sprinklers when she first heard of the fire. It had started fairly far away. To reach her three-story home on East Highland Drive in Camarillo Heights, the fire would have to jump over the 118 Freeway, cross fields, then go up and over a mountain. But in the time it took her to check on her house, everything changed. The sky had turned completely orange. It had gotten hot and [See Camarillo, A9]



THE WIND-DRIVEN Mountain fire engulfs a home and burns the surrounding landscape on Wednesday in Camarillo.

## LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

# A worrier’s guide to Trump anxiety and reality

DOYLE McMANUS

President-elect Donald Trump made hundreds of promises during his campaign, including dozens he vowed to implement on “Day One” of his administration. At the top of the list: closing the U.S. border with Mexico,



mass deportations, increased oil and gas production, and retribution against his political opponents. Many of his proposals would hit California hard, and Gov. Gavin Newsom has already promised to wage war in the courts against the new administration. There’s plenty on Trump’s wish list to worry about. But as I wrote when he was elected to his first term, you can’t hit all your

panic buttons at the same time. Here’s an attempt to sort the biggest concerns from lesser ones. Which Trump priorities are worth losing sleep over — and which will be hard for him to carry out? **His top priorities** **Mass deportation** “Closing the border” has been Trump’s shorthand for a draconian crackdown on illegal immigration. He has

repeatedly promised to launch “the biggest domestic deportation campaign in American history.” A drive to expel every undocumented immigrant would deprive California of more than 7% of its workforce, potentially cripple agriculture and construction, divide families and disrupt communities. It would also face a practical problem: The federal government doesn’t have enough immigration agents

to round up 11 million people. This is one promise Trump clearly intends to keep. But there may be a debate in the new administration over how fast and how sweeping the deportation drive should be. “It’s not going to be a mass sweep of neighborhoods. It’s not going to be building concentration camps,” Tom Homan, a former acting director of [See McManus, A5]

# LIBERAL BALLOT ISSUES APPEAR DOOMED

Measures on prisons, wages are poised for defeat. Is California moving to the right?

BY MACKENZIE MAYS

There was no surprise on election night when a solid majority of California voters selected Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris over former President Trump. But the outcomes of a list of ballot measures told a more complicated story of a state known for its liberal bent.

Voters overwhelmingly supported a measure to undo a decade of progressive criminal justice reform, and preliminary poll results showed they were poised to reject measures that would increase the minimum wage and ban forced prison labor.

Proposition 6 — which would ban “involuntary servitude” as punishment for a crime — lacked majority support in deep-blue California on Wednesday even as supporters promoted it as a way to end what they call modern-day slavery. A similar measure was on track to pass in Nevada.

California voters also rejected a measure that would have made it easier for cities to impose rent control and pass local bond measures for affordable housing.

Some progressive voters in the state, where Democrats control the governor’s office and Legislature, were dumbfounded by the early results, while Republicans seized on the moment as proof that California is becoming more conservative.

“It’s a new day in California,” Assembly Republican leader James Gallagher of Yuba City said in a social media post about the election results. “The shift is beginning.”

But longtime California election watchers were more tempered about what the outcomes of the ballot measures say about the state’s political leanings.

Mark Baldassare, survey director for the Public Policy Institute of California, a nonpartisan think tank that conducts polling, said con- [See Measures, A9]



ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times

**HE’S ALL ARMS AND LEGS** Quarterback Justin Herbert runs for a touchdown in the Chargers’ 27-17 win over the Titans. He also threw for another score. **SPORTS, D1**

### Security boosted for soccer game

After violent assaults in Amsterdam, Paris will deploy 4,000 police officers when Israeli team visits. **WORLD, A3**

**Weather** Mostly sunny. L.A. Basin: 70/54. **B6**

### New LAPD chief facing scrutiny

As sheriff years ago, he allowed some in jail to be targeted for deportation. **CALIFORNIA, B1**



## COLUMN ONE

# At 30, tennis player gets back in pro game

Karue Sell resurrects his career by finding success via YouTube and key partnerships.

BY CONNOR SHEETS

When Karue Sell really rips a serve, it sounds like a tactical shotgun, the ball kicking up shoulder high. His backhand is like a precision laser carving up the baseline. To the casual observer, he’s the mustachioed version of Roger Federer. Yet he lives in a world far different from the one the “Maestro” glided through on the way to 20 Grand Slam singles titles. So far this year, Sell’s tour- [See Tennis, A8]



**KARUE SELL** hits a forehand while training on the courts at Redondo Union High. The former UCLA standout is making his second run at a pro career.



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