



A BEACHFRONT HOME on Broad Beach Road in Malibu has an empty lot next door, with an excavator parked on it. This wealthy enclave, where houses hover just above the water, needs all the sand it can get.

As state’s beaches shrink, a fight over what sand is left

Sea-level rise and coastal development have made one of Earth’s most common commodities a precious resource

By JACK FLEMMING

California is a place of magnificent tectonic forces that lift mountains only for them to be constantly eroded by glaciers, wind and rain, ground down to one of the most basic commodities on Earth: sand.

Sand covers our deserts, creates our foothills and fills our arroyos. It blankets the shores and piles into towering dunes. It’s everywhere.

So why are Californians fighting one another for it?

The sand wars are being waged up and down the coast on levels both micro and macro, as beachgoers, neighbors and cities quarrel over their share of a seemingly infinite resource. As beaches shrink, lines are now literally being drawn in the sand.

[See Sand, A10]



WORKERS REPLENISH sand on the beach south of the San Clemente Pier. In November, voters in the city will cast ballots on a “sand tax” measure.

Suspect faces gun charges in apparent bid to target Trump

Ryan Wesley Routh waited for 12 hours near golf course in West Palm Beach, Fla., authorities say.

By JENNY JARVIE, NOAH BIERMAN AND RICHARD WINTON

The man who went to former President Trump’s golf course allegedly intent on killing him staked him out from a row of trees on the edge of the course for more than 11½ hours, biding his time undetected until an agent saw his rifle poking out of the greenery, prosecutors said Monday.

As Ryan Wesley Routh was charged in federal court Monday, an affidavit written by Secret Service Special Agent Mark A. Thomas said Routh’s cellphone was in the vicinity of the tree line near the Trump International Golf Club in West Palm Beach, Fla., at 1:59 a.m. Sunday — nearly 12 hours before a Secret Service agent spot-

A MAGA backer turned critic

Man held in apparent assassination bid is consumed with war aid to Ukraine. **NATION, A5**

ted a rifle at 1:31 p.m.

By the time the agent fired a service weapon in the direction of the rifle, Trump was less than 500 yards away.

A witness then saw a man, later identified as Routh, flee the area, enter a Nissan sport utility vehicle and speed away.

Routh, 58, appeared prepared for the hours-long wait for Trump: He had a plastic bag containing food, according to the affidavit filed by prosecutors, along with a digital camera, two bags including a backpack, and a loaded SKS semiautomatic rifle, a style first developed in the Soviet Union in the 1940s, with a scope.

The serial number on the rifle was obliterated and unreadable to the naked eye, [See Trump, A5]

Murdochs battle over media empire

Patriarch wants to amend family trust to ensure only his eldest son will have control of Fox, News Corp.

By SAMANTHA MASUNAGA

The fight for the future of Rupert Murdoch’s media empire began Monday in a Nevada courtroom.

The 93-year-old media titan is petitioning to change his irrevocable family trust to ensure his eldest son, Lachlan, will have sole control over his media companies News Corp. and Fox Corp. after the elder Mur-

doch’s death.

News Corp. owns influential publications such as the Wall Street Journal, the New York Post, Investor’s Business Daily and Dow Jones. Fox Corp. is the parent company of Fox News and the Fox broadcast network.

But three of Murdoch’s other children are not happy about the proposed change and have allied against Rupert and Lachlan Murdoch, according to documents obtained by the New York Times and reporting by the Journal. In the current version of the trust, Lachlan and fellow Murdoch heirs James, Elisabeth and Prudence were set to jointly inherit control of the busi-

[See Murdochs, A7]

Weather yo-yo: From record heat to early snow

Lower temperatures and precipitation offer welcome relief, but fire season is far from over

By SUMMER LIN AND HANNAH FRY



CLIMBER Kevin Fentress of Brooklyn, N.Y., ascends the seaside cliff at Point Dume on Thursday, a day with overcast skies after a week of record heat.

After a prolonged stretch of record-breaking heat that scorched Southern California and sparked wildfires, much of the state will experience below-average temperatures, drizzle and even early-season snow this week.

The National Weather Service issued its earliest snow advisory in the last 20 years over the weekend for portions of the Sierra Nevada. In Southern California, where three fires have scorched more than 115,000 acres and burned out of control for days, the rapid cooldown and higher humidity levels have already provided some relief for firefighters trying to get a handle on the blazes.

The largest of the three, the Bridge fire in the Angeles National Forest, was 11% contained as of Monday morning, while the Line fire in San Bernardino County was 42% contained. The Airport fire, which ignited in Orange County last week and burned into Riverside County, was 31% contained.

“This is a pretty nice temperature change and a relief after that heat wave,” said Bryan Lewis, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Oxnard.

The trough of low pressure, which has already dropped temperatures 5 to 10 degrees below normal in Southern California, could bring periods of light rain as early as late Tuesday night through Thursday. Parts of Los Angeles County could see less than a tenth of an inch. The foothills could see up to a quarter of an inch.

Temperatures are expected to linger in the mid-to upper 60s along the coast and the low to mid-70s in the inland areas. Downtown Los Angeles, which hit 111 degrees earlier this month, is experiencing a 40-degree drop in temperatures, Lewis said.

In the Sierra Nevada, roughly 3 inches of fresh powder could fall in elevations above 8,000 feet from Fresno County to Yosemite

[See Weather, A7]

Kids’ dental care still lacking

Less than half of children on Medi-Cal get annual dentist visits despite a pledge to do better. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Emmy voters go for the laughs

How “Hacks” beat “The Bear” for comedy series and more awards coverage. **ENTERTAINMENT, E1**

Walmart aims to be the next Zara

The retail giant is bringing its fall styles to shopping centers and festivals nationwide. **BUSINESS, A6**

Weather

Clearing and cool. L.A. Basin: 76/59. **B6**

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