

## At last, Mass. lawmakers agree on a budget deal

Community colleges, MBTA would get boost

By Matt Stout and Samantha J. Gross  
GLOBE STAFF

Every resident could attend a Massachusetts community college tuition-free under a \$58 billion budget deal state lawmakers unveiled Thursday, capping months of closed-door talks over a spending plan designed to cover the fiscal year that began weeks ago.

The proposal agreed to by House and Senate leaders would also pump an additional hundreds of millions of dollars into the MBTA, allow the state's regional transit authorities to offer fare-free bus service, and for the first time allow the state lottery to sell its products online for bettors over age 21.

The sweeping compromise includes top priorities of both House and Senate leaders, who've relied on a stopgap spending bill to keep state government funded since the fiscal year began July 1 while they haggled over differences in private negotiations.

Among the most dramatic policy differences to survive was a plan championed by Senate President Karen E. Spilka for the state to cover tuition and fee costs for students at community

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## Broken blade unsettles wind proponents

Turbine safety in question, and perception is an issue

The blade of a wind turbine off Nantucket was damaged about 65 feet from its root over the weekend. Much of what remained of the blade fell into the water Thursday.

By Sabrina Shankman and Nick Stoico  
GLOBE STAFF  
and Natalie La Roche Pietri  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

It should be a time for celebration for the clean energy industry. After decades of false starts and legal wrangling, the first industrial-scale wind farm in the United States began spinning off the coast of Nantucket in January, a major step in the transition away from relying on fossil fuels not just here, but nationwide.

But in an unsettling setback, the wind farm, as well as beaches on Nantucket, had to be shut down after a section of a 350-foot-long blade was damaged over the weekend, with fiberglass chunks washing ashore. Then on Thursday morning, a significant part of what remained of the damaged turbine blade detached and fell into the ocean.

Now there are questions that are both immediate — is it safe for swimmers and ocean-dependent business-

TURBINE, Page A5



NANTUCKET CURRENT

It's still not clear what happened, and GE Vernova is leading an investigation.

## In a departure, Trump calls for unity, healing in America

### Biden shifting?

Several people close to him said he has begun to accept that he may not be able to win and may have to drop out. **A6.**

### Shooter's mind

Thomas Crooks had photos on his phone of Trump and Biden and looked up the dates of the conventions. **A2.**

### World watching

Leaders are weighting the possibility that Trump will return. **A6.**

Describes assassination attempt, says God was on his side

By Steve Peoples, Jonathan J. Cooper, and Jill Colvin

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILWAUKEE — Former president Donald Trump, somber and bandaged, accepted the GOP presidential nomination on Thursday at the Republican National Convention in a speech where he described how he felt during an assassination attempt that could have ended his life.

"I'm not supposed to be here

tonight," Trump told the packed convention hall as thousands of people listened in silence. "There was blood pouring everywhere, yet, in a certain way I felt very safe because I had God on my side."

The 78-year-old former president, known best for his bombast and aggressive rhetoric, offered a softer and deeply personal message that drew directly from his brush with death. He asked for a moment of silence for Corey Comperatore, the retired fire chief who

was slain at the rally.

"The discord and division in our society must be healed. We just heal it quickly. As Americans, we are bound together by a single fate and a shared destiny. We rise together. Or we fall apart," Trump said, wearing a large white bandage on his right ear, as he has all week, to cover a wound he sustained in the Saturday shooting. "I am running to be president for all of America, not half of America,

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EVAN VUCCI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I'm not supposed to be here tonight," the former president said as he talked extensively about the assassination attempt.

## With all up in the air, no party for Democrats

Discontent over Biden a stark contrast to GOP exuberance

By Jim Puzzanghera, Emma Platoff, and Tal Kopan

GLOBE STAFF

MILWAUKEE — In this city where the classic sitcom "Happy Days" was set, it's been exactly that all week for exultant Republicans unified behind their presidential nominee, Donald Trump, after he survived an assassin's bullet.

And as Trump prepared to deliver his acceptance speech Thursday night to culminate a lovefest of a convention, the contrast couldn't be starker with Democrats in the midst of a Shakespearean drama over the fate of their presumptive nominee, President Biden.

"We're solidly behind Donald Trump. Our entire party," Representative Byron Donalds, a Florida Republican, said as he played cornhole with his wife in the festive plaza outside the convention arena Thursday morning. "Now the Democrats, they're in complete disarray."

Republicans have displayed an almost giddy sense

of confidence about their prospects this fall, with some asserting that the "hand of God" spared Trump's life on Saturday night so he could return to the White House. With Trump ahead in polling averages in the key battleground states, Republicans have been talking about a landslide victory.

"I stand before you this evening with a message of confidence, strength, and hope," Trump said at the start of his speech. "Four months from now we will have an incredible victory and we will begin the four greatest years of our country."

Meanwhile Democrats aren't even sure who will face him.

They're wrestling with whether Biden, 81, the oldest president ever, should drop his reelection bid in the aftermath of his disastrous debate performance in June. Pressure has increased for a change since the assassination attempt, which pumped rocket fuel into a Republican Party already charged up about Trump.

Biden, who has been defiant about staying in the

DEMOCRATS, Page A7

'If you'd told me a month ago that the two conventions and the two parties are going to contrast this way, I wouldn't have believed you.'

SENATOR KEVIN CRAMER  
North Dakota Republican

## Finding hard-won liquor license fake, restaurant keeps big plans on hold

By Shirley Leung  
GLOBE COLUMNIST

It's the call no restaurant owner ever wants to get from the state agency regulating alcohol.

But it happened to Garry Desrouleaux in May when he picked up the phone to hear: "Hey, there might be something wrong with your license."

That would be his Boston liquor license, the one he had spent months securing. It was supposed to be a routine transfer from one restaurant that had closed to another one that was opening inside the same hotel, Studio Allston.

He thought he had completed the process to open Craft Food Halls, an innovative self-serve beer-and-wine

concept, which is already up and running in five other places in Massachusetts. But six weeks after opening at Studio Allston, Desrouleaux had to shut down. The liquor license was a fake, the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission told him.

"I chose to close," he explained, "because if a police officer tells me there's a problem with my driver's license, I'm not going to drive."

The fake license was provided by Lesley Hawkins, a top Boston lawyer hired by the restaurant and Studio Allston to transfer the real license. Her law firm, Prince Lobel, has since fired her, contending she falsified the license without her client's knowl-

LICENSE, Page A10



Bob Newhart, who found fame almost overnight with his comedy albums and later starred

in two of television's most-celebrated sitcoms, died at 94. He remained busy in TV and films into his 80s. **C9.**

Senators Ed Markey and Bernie Sanders said they'll ask a Senate panel to subpoena Steward Health Care founder and chief executive Ralph de la Torre to testify about his role. **B5.**

Massachusetts has its first confirmed case of measles in over four years and officials urged people to make sure they've been vaccinated. **B1.**



### Shining star

Friday: Perfect. High 78-83. Low 66-71. Saturday: Warmer, still dry. High 85-90. Low 69-74.

Weather and Comics, G7. Obituaries, C9.

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