

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## CPS students push for cease-fire

Chicago high school students march Tuesday to La Salle Street in front of City Hall calling for the City Council to back a resolution calling for a cease-fire in Gaza. After a contentious delay last week, aldermen are scheduled to vote on the proposal Wednesday. Students held walkouts at about a dozen high schools across the city. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

## Disguised Israelis kill 3 in hospital

Forces dress up as women and medics in West Bank raid

By Aref Tufaha, Melanie Lidman and Wafaa Shurafa  
Associated Press

JENIN, West Bank — Israeli forces disguised as civilian women and medics stormed a hospital Tuesday in the occupied West Bank, killing three Palestinian fighters in a dramatic raid that underscored how deadly violence has spilled into the terri-

tory from the war in Gaza.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, meanwhile, ruled out a military withdrawal from Gaza or the release of thousands of jailed combatants — Hamas' main demands for any cease-fire — casting doubt on the latest efforts to end a war that has destabilized the broader Middle East.

The Palestinian Health Ministry said Israeli forces opened fire inside the Ibn Sina Hospital in the West Bank town of Jenin. A hospital spokesperson said there was no exchange of fire, indicating it was a targeted killing.

Israel's military said the fighters were using the hospital as a hideout, without providing evidence. It alleged that one of those targeted had transferred weapons and ammunition to others for a planned attack, purportedly inspired by Hamas' Oct. 7 assault on southern Israel that triggered the war in Gaza.

Security camera footage from the hospital shows about a dozen undercover forces, most of them armed, wearing Muslim headscarves, hospital scrubs or white doctor's coats. One carried a rifle in one arm and a folded wheelchair in the other.

Netanyahu, speaking at an event elsewhere in the West Bank, denied reports of a possible cease-fire deal to end the war in Gaza and repeated his vow to keep fighting until "absolute victory" over Hamas.

"We will not end this war without achieving all of our goals," said Netanyahu, who is under mounting pressure from families of the hostages and the wider public to reach a deal. "We will not withdraw the Israeli military from the Gaza Strip and we will not release thousands of terror-

**Turn to Hospital, Page 2**

## 5 years sought for aide to Madigan

Prosecutors wanting prison; Mapes asks for community service

By Jason Meisner and Ray Long  
Chicago Tribune

Prosecutors are asking for up to about five years in prison for Tim Mapes, the former chief of staff to House Speaker Michael Madigan, arguing in a court filing late Monday that Mapes lied to a federal grand jury in a cynical attempt to protect his boss instead of serving the citizens of Illinois.

"Mapes' lies were calculated to thwart the government's sprawling investigation of a series of unlawful schemes calculated to corrupt the government of this state at the highest levels," Assistant U.S. Attorneys Diane MacArthur and Julia Schwartz wrote in their 28-page filing, which seeks a sentence between 51 and 63 months in prison.

The prosecutors argued when a seasoned public servant like Mapes "makes the calculated and deliberate decision to lie in the grand jury, the criminal justice system, and our entire democracy, is threatened."

Mapes' attorneys, meanwhile, asked in a filing of their own for a sentence of probation and community service, arguing he never stood to personally benefit from any of his alleged misstatements and that while he accepts the jury's verdict he "disagrees with it and continues to maintain his innocence."

"Tim Mapes is a good man," defense attorneys Andrew Porter and Katie Hill wrote in their 47-page filing. "... He has spent decades working very hard (and expecting it of others) trying to make the State of Illinois better, fairer, and more compassionate to its citizens."

**Turn to Mapes, Page 10**

### INSIDE



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### On Valentine's Day, love at first bite

Love is in the air at Chicago restaurants and bars that are offering romantic specials like heart-shaped pizza and indulgent dinners for two. **Food & Health**

### House panel spars over Mayorkas

House Republicans press toward impeaching Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas over what they call his refusal to enforce immigration laws. **Nation & World**

### Basketball player is an uber presence

The Caitlin Clark phenomenon — coming to Northwestern on Wednesday night — is much bigger than a basketball game. **Paul Sullivan in Chicago Sports**

## UC charter school sued for conduct by teachers

Recording shows special education student being mocked

By Stacy St. Clair  
Chicago Tribune

A University of Chicago charter school is being sued after a video emerged showing a teacher mocking a special education student for crying and a classroom aide was convicted of misdemeanor battery for her role in the episode.

The incident, which was recorded on another student's cell-phone, took place at the UC Charter School's Woodlawn campus in December 2022. The Tribune reviewed the minute-long video, which offered a troubling glimpse inside the publicly funded high school overseen by the prestigious university.

"The question, to me, is how seriously are they taking their responsibility to children?" the student's attorney, Jordan Marsh, told the Tribune. "This is a kid who already has been identified as having challenges, and they're his biggest tormentors. They're supposed to protect him and they're tormenting him."

The version of the video reviewed by the Tribune begins in

**Turn to Charter, Page 4**



During Tuesday's meeting of the State Board of Elections in the Loop, Adam Merrill argues to keep former President Donald Trump's name on the ballot. **EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

## Board vote unanimous to keep Trump on state ballot

Bipartisan panel rejects challenge, with appeal likely

By Rick Pearson and Olivia Stevens  
Chicago Tribune

In a unanimous, bipartisan vote, the Illinois State Board of Elections on Tuesday rejected a challenge to former President Donald Trump's place on the state's March 19

GOP primary ballot, saying it lacked the authority to decide whether he was disqualified from holding the presidency under the U.S. Constitution's "insurrection clause."

Guided by past Illinois Supreme Court rulings that prevent it from deciding complex constitutional issues, the board in an 8-0 vote rejected an objection that Trump "knowingly" filed a false statement of candidacy saying he was qualified to hold

the office of the presidency.

The decision by the board, made up of four Democrats and four Republicans, is expected to be appealed in Cook County Circuit Court by the group of five voters who filed the objection to Trump's name appearing on the ballot over his role in the deadly Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol.

The objectors cited provisions of Section 3 of the 14th

**Turn to Trump, Page 6**

