

Biden hits milestone: 200 judges confirmed

Two women of color get Senate approval amid a historic shift in diversity

BY TOBI RAJI

The Senate on Wednesday confirmed two women of color as President Biden's 200th and 201st judicial nominees, a significant milestone for Democratic and White House efforts to diversify and remake a federal court system that grew increasingly conservative under President Donald Trump.

Magistrate Judge Angela Martinez, a Latina who previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney, was approved to become a federal judge in the District of Arizona in a 66-28 vote, with 45 Democrats, three independents and 18 Republicans supporting her nomination.

Dena M. Coggins, who is Black and Asian American, was confirmed as a federal judge in the Eastern District of California, 50-44, with yes votes from 46 Democrats, two independents and two Republicans.

Together they bring additional ethnic and gender diversity to a cohort of judges nominated by Biden that even before Wednesday included more women, people of color and LGBTQ individuals than those nominated by any other president in U.S. history.

"Judges matter. These men and women have the power to uphold basic rights or to roll

SEE JUDGES ON A20



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP

Iowa climbs from the ruins to survey the destruction

Entire neighborhoods in southwestern Iowa were flattened Tuesday after at least 20 tornadoes swept through, killing multiple people. Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds (R) said officials were "not prepared to address" the number of deaths with search-and-rescue efforts ongoing. At top and right, scenes from Greenfield, Iowa, which took a direct hit. **Story, A3**



ZACH BOYDEN-HOLMES/DES MOINES REGISTER/USA TODAY NETWORK/REUTERS

Israel's isolation grows in Europe

MORE SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN STATE

Envoys to Spain, Ireland and Norway withdrawn

BY WILLIAM BOOTH

LONDON — The Spanish, Irish and Norwegian governments announced Wednesday that they would recognize a Palestinian state, saying there would be no peace in the Middle East without it. Israel denounced the move as giving aid to its enemy, Hamas.

The coordinated announcements are purely symbolic — but not without some power.

The leaders of the three countries said they hoped their recognition would press Israel, the Palestinians and the international community toward a two-state solution to the conflict.

"In the midst of a war, with tens of thousands killed and injured, we must keep alive the only alternative that offers a political solution for Israelis and Palestinians alike: two states, living side by side, in peace and security," Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store said.

In response, Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz ordered the immediate recall of the Israeli

SEE PALESTINIANS ON A11

Hostages: Video shows Oct. 7 capture of five female soldiers. **A11**

ELECTION 2024

Job market could suffer with Trump's migrant plans

BY RACHEL SIEGEL

As Donald Trump touts increasingly aggressive plans to crack down on illegal immigration, economists are wary that his proposals would deal a massive blow to the U.S. job market, which has stayed strong thanks in part to foreign-born workers.

Trump has made strict immigration restrictions — including mass deportations, detention camps and an expanded border wall — core to his promise of a stronger U.S. economy, arguing that immigrant workers reduce wages for everyone and take jobs from native-born Americans. Those proposals lack specificity and detail, so it's difficult to know exactly how he would carry out his plans.

But many economists and business leaders warn that Trump's plans could trigger higher unemployment and slower growth — while also devastating the country's immigrant workforce. Key industries like construction, food service and agriculture would see the most upheaval. The proposals could also exacerbate inflation, the top economic issue for many voters.

In the backdrop is a booming job market that immigration helped rebound from the lows of the pandemic stronger than anyone expected. Recent estimates

SEE JOBS ON A2

Chaotic two days: Backpedaling, baseless attacks from Trump. **A7**

Oman to expel 28 former Guantánamo detainees

BY ABIGAIL HAUSLOHNER

For several years, Oman had promised them a new life. The quiet Persian Gulf monarchy had given 28 Yemenis — transferred there from the U.S. military prison at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba — housing, health care and jobs, and even helped them find wives and start families. It was a stunning turn of fortune after years of abusive interrogations

and detention without charge.

But now, the nation that human rights attorneys had hailed as the "gold standard" in the rehabilitation of Muslim men swept up in America's "war on terror" is casting them aside, the men and advocates said. In January, Omani officials began calling the men into meetings where they explained that, come July, they would be stripped of their benefits and legal residency and

would have to return to Yemen.

"It was a huge shock for all of us," said one of the men, Husam, who spoke on the condition that his real name not be used because he said the government had threatened the men against speaking to the media. For years, Oman had been "so supportive, so helpful. They told us: 'You are here to stay. This is your home.'" said Husam, a middle-aged father of three young children. But

now, said Husam, "they said, 'Your time is finished and you have to leave.'"

Oman's move comes as another transfer of Guantánamo detainees hangs in the balance. Last fall, the Biden administration had planned to send 11 more Yemenis to Oman, a plan first reported by NBC News on Monday. But the administration, at the urging of members of Congress, paused the

SEE OMAN ON A12

Among teens, fentanyl use sees a lethal rise

Providers worry about access to treatment as youth overdose deaths have spiked since 2020

BY JENNA PORTNOY AND DAN KEATING

Fentanyl, a pervasive killer in America's illicit drug supply, is increasingly landing in the hands of teens across the region and nation, worrying providers who say treatment options for youths are limited.

Across the country, fentanyl has largely fueled a more than doubling of overdose deaths among children ages 12 to 17 since the start of the pandemic, according to a Washington Post analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data released this month.

Fatal overdoses in D.C., Maryland and Virginia are in keeping with the national increase in opioid fatalities, which until recently primarily claimed the lives of adults. In 2022, 45 teens succumbed to opioids locally, a number roughly equal to the previous three years combined, data show. And incomplete data for 2023

SEE FENTANYL ON A20



MATT MCCLAIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

Liseth, at home in Maryland, is in treatment for opioid use. Treatment has been tough on the teen: There were relapses, a 911 call and a stay at the Psychiatric Institute of Washington.

Aid groups in Gaza see their humanitarian gains eroding

BY KAREEM FAHIM, LOUISA LOVELUCK, LOVEDAY MORRIS AND MOHAMAD EL CHAMAA

More food had finally started to reach famine-racked northern Gaza earlier this month, pushing down prices in the Jabalya refugee camp, where doctors like Yehia Abed were trying to save a legion of malnourished patients. Then came "another attack," he said.

Israeli military operations this month against Hamas in Gaza — from the last, desperate refuge for Palestinians in the southern city of Rafah to the devastated refugee camps of the north — have displaced nearly a million people, according to the United Nations, and further sealed off the territory to outside aid. Aid groups say it has deepened the enclave's humanitarian crisis and reversed their recent gains in staving off starvation and disease.

Now, aid workers said, they are resorting again to triage.

"Instead of looking at antenatal care for pregnant ladies, instead of looking at malnutrition, now we are looking at how to stop the bleeding," Abed said in a phone interview, as an explosion rang out in the background. "That's continuous," he said. "Day and night."

Gaza's latest trial started in early May, when Israel issued evacuation orders in parts of Rafah, signaling the start of a long-threatened invasion it said was aimed at

SEE GAZA ON A10

Floating pier: Aid delivery plan hits logistical snags in Gaza. **A10**

IN THE NEWS

Britain to vote Prime Minister Rishi Sunak set July elections, with polls showing that his Conservatives are at risk of being ousted. **A12**

Clemency campaign Former Baltimore prosecutor Marilyn Mosby is seeking a presidential pardon, but some say she is leaving out key facts about her case. **B1**

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Michael Cohen was at the heart of Trump's trial. The question is: Will jurors believe him? **A4**
In elections in North Idaho, "traditional" Republicans gained on far-right GOP leaders. **A6**

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Crowds mourned at the Iranian president's funeral as others privately celebrated. **A9**
Russia put a "counter-space weapon" in orbit that could attack satellites, the U.S. said. **A13**

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A dairy worker in Michigan is the second recently diagnosed human case of a highly virulent bird flu. **A15**

THE REGION

Activists are gathering signatures in support of a D.C. ballot initiative that would roll out ranked-choice voting. **B1**
Marc Yamada, a 35-year veteran of the county police force, was nominated to be the new chief in Montgomery County. **B1**

SPORTS

D.C.-area residents clearly prefer that the Commanders' next stadium be built in the District, a poll found. **D1**

LOCAL LIVING

Tomatoes might be the quintessential summer produce. Learn how to get a bumper crop of homegrown tomatoes.

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