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SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024

Gaza war opponents still wary on Harris

Nomination is secured, but some hold back until they hear specifics on Mideast

By Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — When the Democratic National Convention delegates from Michigan got on a Zoom call last week to formally endorse Vice President Kamala Harris, Abbas Alawieh couldn't share in the

excitement. And that's a potential problem for Harris in the pivotal battleground state and elsewhere.

He's one of two delegates from Michigan — and of about 35 nationwide — who were uncommitted to President Biden after hundreds of thousands of voters across the coun-

try used their Democratic primary ballots to protest his strong support of Israel's war in Gaza. With Biden

►Harris "honored to be the presumptive... nominee." A2.

stepping aside, Alawieh said he hopes Harris will take a different stance based on her past comments expressing deeper concern about the war's toll on Palestinian civilians.

While Harris secured the nomination Friday with a majority of the nearly 4,700 delegates in an ongoing virtual vote, Alawieh isn't sold on her yet. He wants to hear specifics from Harris. And when Alawieh spoke up on the call for voters like himself who are demanding a change in Gaza policy, he said, an unnamed person told him to "shut up, asshole."

HARRIS, Page A7

Garber to stay on as Harvard president

Former provost credited with being a calming force during difficult semester

By Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

Last January, when Harvard faced a series of epic crises, including the resignation of its first Black president after a brief tenure, the university tapped its cerebral provost, a health care economist by training, to be its interim leader.

On Friday, Harvard announced that Alan Garber, who proved a stabilizing force amid a historically tumultuous spring semester, would stay on as president for another three years.

The decision came as no surprise to many faculty, who credit him with ending Harvard's three-week student protest encampment without a police raid. Keeping Garber on also buys the university time, during which its leaders hope the scrutiny in Washington on elite higher education institutions will fade, and the furor on campuses over the war in the Middle East will cool.

"This was very predictable," said Khalil Gibran Muhammad, a professor of race and African American history who is leaving Harvard for Princeton after the fall semester. "In the earliest days after



Garber took the interim post in January.

GARBER, Page A10

AT MASS. AND CASS, PROBLEMS PERSIST



Despite city's efforts, the vices these blocks are known for won't go away

By Danny McDonald
GLOBE STAFF

Minutes before she had a needle containing fentanyl plunge into her neck, Hilary Holden screamed her frustration at a passing police car.

With blues flashing, the police car was near the intersection known as Mass. and Cass, and Holden, 42, was under the impression officers were coming to herd her and other drug users away from this sidewalk on Gerard Street. Holden expressed the well-worn complaint of these streets: She is tired of being corralled by private security or police and moved from one street to another.

"Where are we supposed to



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW J. LEE/GLOBE STAFF

Top, people sat along the curb on Island and Reading streets, around the corner from the Mass. and Cass intersection. Above, Hilary Holden, who acknowledged using drugs in the area, said there needs to be a place for people to go.

go?" Holden yelled at the cruiser. "You guys need to put us some place."

Shortly after that, she turned her attention to hard drugs.

The intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard has been ground zero in the city's homelessness and opioid crises for years. The city has repeatedly attempted to clean up the area, but the vices these blocks are known for always return. And though the crowds have significantly diminished from a few years ago, when hundreds of people set up camps of tents and tarps up and down Southamptn Street, its side streets, and into the Newmarket industrial park, the area remains an open-air illicit drug

MASS. AND CASS, Page A10

City priorities die in chaotic end to session

Tax classification proposal among items not passed

By Emma Platoff and Niki Griswold
GLOBE STAFF

Two weeks ago, it seemed to have no chance; four days ago, it got a new life. But now, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu's plan to reshuffle the city tax burden is all but dead again, after the state Legislature adjourned its formal sessions for the year Thursday without passing it.

Here lies the mayor's tax classification proposal, one of many casualties of the late-night scramble on Beacon Hill, where state lawmakers gaveled out this week without approving major bills on economic development, clean energy, and hospital oversight.

Other key priorities for Boston and Wu, including one to add hundreds of new liquor licenses for the city and another that would reenvision the city's development and planning agency, were left on the drafting-room floor this week in the final, dysfunctional hours of the session. All told, the biggest city in Massachusetts won very little of what it

BOSTON, Page A10

How the West and Russia got to yes

The complex deal that brought prisoners home

By Mark Mazzetti, Anton Troianovski, Michael D. Shear, and Peter Baker
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — A turning point came June 25, when a group of CIA officers sat across from their Russian counterparts during a secret meeting in a Middle Eastern capital.

The Americans floated a proposal: an exchange of two dozen prisoners sitting in jails in Russia, the United States, and scattered across Europe, a far bigger and more complex deal than either side had previously contemplated but one that would give both Moscow and Western nations more reasons to say yes.

Quiet negotiations between the United States and Russia over a possible prisoner swap had dragged on for more than a year. They were punctuated by only occasional glimpses of hope for the families of the American prisoners — including

PRISONER SWAP, Page A6



Evan Gershkovich hugged his mother, Ella Milman, as President Biden looked on when the freed prisoners arrived at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland Thursday night.

MANUEL BALCE CENETA/ASSOCIATED PRESS



Weekend drip

Saturday: Thunderstorms. High: 86-91. Low: 73-78.

Sunday: Showers, storm. High: 82-87. Low: 70-75.

Sunrise: 5:39 Sunset: 8:01 Comics and Weather, **D4-5.**

Obituaries, **C9.**

VOL. 306, NO. 34

* Suggested retail price \$4.00



Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin III revoked a plea agreement reached this week with the accused mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and two alleged accomplices. **A6.**

The Justice Department sued TikTok, accusing the company of violating children's online privacy law and running afoul of a settlement it had with another federal agency. **A2.**

State legislative leaders said they are ready to call lawmakers back to pass a multibillion-dollar economic development bill that collapsed on the final day of formal sessions. **B1.**

The US men's soccer team lost to Morocco, 4-0, ending the team's Olympic dream. **C1.**

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