

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, partly cloudy, humid, high 84.
Tonight, mostly cloudy, showers and
a thunderstorm, low 71. **Tomorrow**,
variably cloudy, a thunderstorm,
high 84. Weather map, Page D8.

VOL. CLXXIII No. 60,223

© 2024 The New York Times Company

MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

BIDEN BOWS OUT

LATE REVERSAL UPENDS RACE FOR WHITE HOUSE AS PRESIDENT ENDORSES HARRIS TO LEAD TICKET



KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Biden began changing his mind Saturday, officials said, and he made a final decision Sunday. Below, a portion of his letter.

It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your President. And while it has been my intention to seek reelection, I believe it is in the best interest of my party and the country for me to stand down and to focus solely on fulfilling my duties as President for the remainder of my term.

I will speak to the Nation later this week in more detail about my decision.

For now, let me express my deepest gratitude to all those who have worked so hard to see me reelected. I want to thank Vice President Kamala Harris for being an extraordinary partner in all this work. And let me express my heartfelt appreciation to the American people for the faith and trust you have placed in me.

Facing Pressure, He Writes, ‘It’s Time to Come Together and Beat Trump’

By **PETER BAKER**

President Biden on Sunday abruptly abandoned his campaign for a second term under intense pressure from fellow Democrats and threw his support to Vice President Kamala Harris to lead their party in a dramatic last-minute bid to stop former President Donald J. Trump from returning to the White House.

“It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your President,” Mr. Biden said in a letter posted on social media. “And while it has been my intention to seek re-election, I believe it is in the best interest of my party and the country for me to stand down and to focus solely on fulfilling my duties as President for the remainder of my term.”

Mr. Biden then posted a subsequent online message endorsing Ms. Harris. “My very first decision as the party nominee in 2020 was to pick Kamala Harris as my Vice President,” he wrote. “And it’s been the best decision I’ve made. Today I want to offer my full support and endorsement for Kamala to be the nominee of our party this year. Democrats — it’s time to come together and beat Trump. Let’s do this.”

The president’s decision upended the race and set the stage for a raucous and unpredictable campaign unlike any in modern times, leaving Ms. Harris just 107 days to consolidate support from Democrats, establish herself as a credible national leader and prosecute the case against Mr. Trump. Recent polls have shown her competitive with and even slightly ahead of Mr. Trump.

Although Democratic convention delegates must ratify the choice of Ms. Harris to take over as standard-bearer next month, Mr. Biden’s endorsement meant the nomination was hers to lose and she appeared in a powerful position to claim it. While Mr. Biden, 81, remained president and still planned to finish out his term in January, the transition of the campaign to Ms. Harris, 59, amounted to a momentous generational change of leadership of the Democratic Party.

The president said he would “speak to the nation later this week in more detail about my decision,” although it was not clear when he would do that as he re-

Continued on Page A14

Vice President Suddenly Enters Spotlight After Years in Shadows

By **MICHAEL D. SHEAR**

WASHINGTON — Vice President Kamala Harris, who has struggled for nearly four years in President Biden’s shadow, was thrust on Sunday into the center of a remarkable political drama that could culminate with her becoming the first woman of color at the top of a major-party presidential ticket.

Mr. Biden’s decision to abandon his re-election bid and endorse Ms. Harris to succeed him puts her in a powerful, but not certain, position to become the new face of the Democratic Party, charged with preventing former President Donald J. Trump from returning to the Oval Office for another four years.

“Today I want to offer my full support and endorsement for Kamala to be the nominee of our party this year. Democrats — it’s time to come together and beat Trump,” Mr. Biden wrote in a social media post after he an-



ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Vice President Kamala Harris vowed to win the nomination.

nounced his decision to step aside. “Let’s do this.”

Ms. Harris and her team are likely to move swiftly to try to seize that mantle even as uncertainty swirled about whether other Democrats would seek to

Continued on Page A15

Donors, With Renewed Vigor, Flock to Support a Harris Bid

By **THEODORE SCHLEIFER** and **KENNETH P. VOGEL**

Democratic donors are immediately mobilizing around Kamala Harris as their party’s next presidential nominee, offering Democratic elites something they have not felt in weeks.

Optimism. Advisers and major givers said on Sunday that they were being inundated with enthusiasm and word of planned donations to support Ms. Harris if she became the official Democratic candidate — even as questions remained about how to best support her. Shortly before 5 p.m. Eastern time on Sunday afternoon, the Biden cam-

paign filed paperwork formally renaming its campaign committee “Harris for President.”

In the immediate aftermath of President Biden’s decision to exit the race, Ms. Harris was enjoying some broad, swift consolidation among major givers. Multiple Biden donors and their advisers said that they were hearing from previously despondent donors who were ready to give to support a Harris-led ticket. One Silicon Valley bundler raised over \$1 million in a 30-minute period, the person shared.

Continued on Page A16

Rank-and-File Democrats Greet News With Hope and Hesitation

This article is by **Patricia Mazzei, Mitch Smith and Heather Knight**.

MIAMI — For Democratic voters who have spent much of the summer brooding about President Biden’s fitness for office, his decision on Sunday not to seek reelection came as a relief. Now, they figured, their political party might stand a chance in November — though many still expressed deep doubts.

“I’m overjoyed, absolutely

overjoyed,” said Mark Oliver Rylance, 67, a Democrat from Columbus, Ohio, said about Mr. Biden’s announcement. Just last weekend, Mr. Rylance participated in a demonstration outside of the Ohio Democratic Party convention calling for Mr. Biden to step aside.

“If Biden had stayed in, we would have lost absolutely everything,” he added, echoing the feelings of many Democrats. “We would have lost the House, would have lost the Senate, and it could

Divided Over Whether Move Was Too Late

very well have been a landslide.”

The delicate subjects of whether Mr. Biden, 81, was fit for another term and how long he might stay in the race after his disastrous debate performance last month had found their way into conversations at dinner parties,

neighborhood parks and church gatherings. The end of Mr. Biden’s candidacy on Sunday shifted some Democrats’ emotions from profound anxiety to hopeful determination, even if what comes next for their party remains unclear.

There was also plenty of resignation to the idea that no Democrat might be able to pull off a victory against former President Donald J. Trump.

Mr. Biden’s endorsement of

Continued on Page A16

INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Jack Ma’s Unlikely Benefactor

Papers show that Xiao Jianhua, a corrupt investor, backed China’s most successful entrepreneur. PAGE A6

Rage Over Inequality

Protests set off by a quota system for government jobs revealed broader resentment in Bangladesh. PAGE A9



NATIONAL A11-17

Relief for Campus Protesters

Charges have been dropped for many of the 3,100 people who were arrested in pro-Palestinian encampments at universities this year. PAGE A11

Medicaid Experiment Falters

Georgia got a waiver to add work rules to its Medicaid expansion, an approach Republicans favor, but the results have been disappointing. PAGE A17

Reversal by Secret Service

The agency revealed that it had turned down requests from the Trump team over the past two years, but not for the Pennsylvania rally. PAGE A13

BUSINESS B1-4

‘No Tax on Tips’ Catches On

The sudden popularity of the proposal is another reminder of the improvisational nature of economic policymaking under Donald J. Trump. PAGE B1

Disappearing Data for A.I.

New research has found a drop in content made available to the collections used to power the technology. PAGE B1

OBITUARIES B5-6

A Folk Music Mainstay

Happy Traum, a noted guitarist and banjo player who sometimes collaborated with Bob Dylan, was 86. PAGE B6

SPORTS D1-8

The Rise of Flag Football

With the sport coming to the Olympics in 2028, the N.F.L. is getting behind it, particularly for women. PAGE D1

Capping a U.S. Sweep

Xander Schauffele’s British Open win put Americans on top in all four of this year’s pro golf majors. PAGE D3



ARTS C1-6

His Second Chance Is Here

Alex Izenberg was almost a teenage rock star, but then problems arose. Now he has a new album out. PAGE C1

Storehouse of Black Genealogy

Charleston’s International African American Museum helps people fill in the blanks of family histories. PAGE C1

OPINION A18-19

Frank Bruni

PAGE A19

