

ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times

TRUMP’S BIG NIGHT

The GOP presidential candidate arrives at the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee on Thursday. He formally accepted his party’s nomination and gave his first major speech since the assassination attempt last week. Scan this code to read our coverage at latimes.com and in our eNewspaper, where subscribers get an exclusive “LATEXtra.”



Election far from these voters’ minds

MILWAUKEE — Lisa Collins sat in the shade of a green ash tree Wednesday in the Milwaukee neighborhood of Lindsay Heights handing out free hot dogs and hamburgers as part of a “joyful rebellion” against the nearby Republican National Convention.

Though she plans on voting for President Biden in the upcoming election, it is not without trepidation.

“That made me so mad at that debate, I said I’m not voting, I’m just not,” she said of Biden’s awful performance. “But you know I am.”

Hers is a kind of ambivalence common in this part of town, where the dreams of Black Americans have flourished, withered and risen again, in a city and state that will play a critical role in deciding which candidate wins the Oval Office.

Much of the world is obsessing over big questions: Would a second term for Donald Trump be a step toward authoritarianism? Is Biden mentally competent? Should Biden step aside, and if he did, could Kamala Harris successfully carry a

In a Milwaukee neighborhood, presidential race is met mostly with a collective shrug

BY ANITA CHABRIA AND MARK Z. BARABAK



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

DESHAY MAJORS, shown with daughter Neveah, said he has not yet decided whom he will vote for in the presidential election.

campaign? Should it be left to an open field of Democratic contenders?

But in Lindsay Heights, like many places, a lot of folks have yet to think about the election. Those who have are often uninterested in those soul-searching questions that dominate headlines.

At this event arranged by the Milwaukee Childcare Collective, most people didn’t know they were gathered in response to the convention. They came for the face painting and food, and their concerns are more mundane: teaching kids to read, paying the bills, finding a napkin to clean Popsicle juice off chubby toddler legs.

Deshay Majors, sitting with his son and young daughter, she of the sticky knees, said he has not yet decided whom he will vote for.

“It all depends what they are talking about,” he said of how he will make his decision, though he isn’t sure which issues will sway him, or what he wants to hear.

It’s a reminder that it ain’t over until it’s over, but time is running [See Milwaukee, A8]

Biden is out with COVID. Will he return?

He’s closer to bowing to pressure to leave the race, some say, as he isolates and Trump basks in the spotlight.

BY KEVIN RECTOR

A beleaguered President Biden was resting at his Delaware beach home Thursday, fighting COVID-19 and reportedly considering with newfound seriousness a rising tide of dissent from within the Democratic Party over his ability to carry on in the presidential race.

His rival, Donald Trump, meanwhile, was preparing for a triumphant return to center stage on the final night of the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, following Saturday’s failed attempt on his life and days of speeches from GOP primary rivals, in which they all lined up behind the former president.

The two images stood in stark contrast, reflecting vastly different vibes within their respective parties.

Republicans have appeared buoyant and gleeful at their Wisconsin confab this week, cheering wildly each time Trump appeared, his ear still bandaged with a bullet injury. Democrats have seemed increasingly panicked, bruised by infighting and wary of what might come next — whether that is Biden rallying again or finally relinquishing power.

A slow drip of leaks from Democrats in Congress suggested Biden was edging closer to giving up his reelection campaign so the party’s presidential nomination could be handed off to Vice President Kamala Harris or some other, to-be-determined candidate. The same leaks seemed designed to bear out that conclusion — despite Biden insisting for weeks, time and again, that he isn’t going anywhere.

For a brief moment after [See Biden, A8]

Survival of fittest as Ozempic alters weight-loss scene

Gyms, diet programs, nutrition providers and others rush to reposition as obesity drugs gain popularity.

BY ANDREA CHANG

Before he began taking Mounjaro last summer, Nick Lovell was the weight-loss economy’s ideal customer.

He signed up for Weight-Watchers and bought “Dr. Atkins’ Diet Revolution” to try the low-carb regimen. He joined his first gym in middle school and has belonged to half a dozen others since. He paid for personal trainers and boutique fitness classes and underwent bariatric surgery in 2008. And yet, his 5-foot-9-inch frame stubbornly held on to its 258

pounds.

All told, Lovell, a photographer from Norwalk, Conn., spent tens of thousands of dollars over the decades on “things that ultimately failed.”

Weekly injections of Mounjaro, a prescription diabetes medication that spurs weight loss, changed everything. Down 80 pounds in 13 months, Lovell has canceled his diet program memberships and no longer belongs to a gym, preferring to exercise on his own at home. He goes out to eat less often. His cravings for ultra-processed foods such as cereal and Velveeta have subsided, and now he buys more fruits and vegetables and high-protein options such as chicken thighs, eggs and cottage cheese instead.

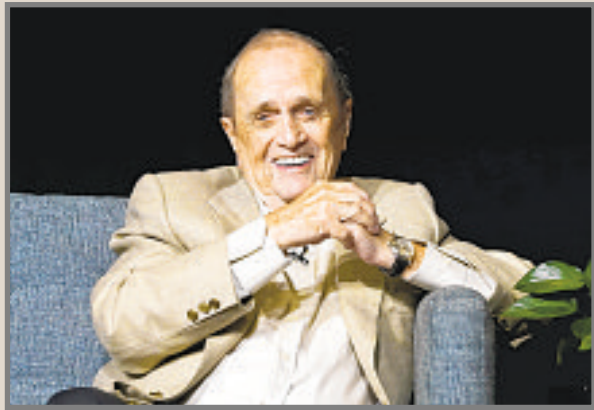
Lovell’s experience with the medication is one of [See Ozempic, A11]

Dirty beaches a summer bummer

Heal the Bay issues its annual report card, delivering the poorest water quality grades to 10 sites. CALIFORNIA, B1

Fox Business host Dobbs dies

Longtime conservative commentator, 78, was an outspoken ally of former President Trump. BUSINESS, A10



VINCE BUCCI Invision/Associated Press

‘SIMPLY VERY FUNNY’

Comic Bob Newhart, who parlayed his everyman demeanor and trademark stammering into sitcom gold, died in L.A. at 94. CALIFORNIA, B1

Weather
Sunny and warm.
L.A. Basin: 91/67. **B6**

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UC regents: Yes to protests, no to encampments

University leaders say demonstrations that follow campus rules are welcomed as free speech.

BY TERESA WATANABE

Many University of California regents and campus leaders are signaling they will no longer tolerate encampments and intend to consistently enforce rules pertaining to protests as they brace for the possible escalation of turmoil over the Israel-Hamas war when students return to class in the fall.

“I am confident that encampments won’t be tolerated,” Regent Rich Leib said in a recent interview before stepping down as board

chair. “I’m confident the regents feel we need to enforce the rules.”

Protests inflamed campuses after Hamas militants attacked Israel in October and Israel responded with a massive ongoing military retaliation in Gaza. Encampments became the physical symbol of pro-Palestinian protests at numerous colleges nationwide, including all 10 UC campuses beginning in April.

But, lacking a systemwide directive on how to handle them, campuses responded differently. Some chancellors shut down encampments with police intervention after a few days. Others allowed them to stay up for weeks before students voluntarily dismantled them.

At some campuses, protesters fortified the spaces [See Regents, A5]



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