The New York Times

THE WEATHER

Today, mostly cloudy, less humid, high 73. **Tonight,** cloudy, showers early, rain and drizzle late, low 63. **Tomorrow,** mostly cloudy, showers,

\$4.00

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Prices in Canada may be higher

ADAMS CHARGED WITH BRIBERY AND FRAUD

The Charges

Federal prosecutors in Manhattan on Thursday unveiled a five-count indictment against Mayor Eric L. Adams of New York, charging him with bribery conspiracy, fraud and soliciting illegal foreign campaign donations. The charges, unsealed on Thursday morning after a search of the mayor's official residence, followed an investigation that started in 2021.

Conspiracy to commit wire fraud, solicit foreign contributions and accept bribes

Related to accusations that Adams illegally accepted travel and gifts through the Turkish government, arranged the funneling of illegal foreign contributions to his campaign from Turkish businessmen and improperly influenced the approval of the Turkish Consulate in New York City.

1 COUNT Wire fraud

Related to accusations that Adams fraudulently accepted public matching funds for his campaign by improperly certifying contributions that were made via "straw donors," concealing their true sources.

2 COUNTS

Solicitation of a contribution by a foreign national

Related to accusations that Adams solicited and received improper campaign contributions through foreign citizens.

1 COUNT

Bribery

Related to accusations that Adams solicited free and heavily discounted foreign travel in exchange for helping to obtain approval by Fire Department officials of the new Turkish Consulate.



"I will continue to do the job that I was elected to do," a defiant Mayor Eric Adams said Thursday.

Allegations of Illegal Gifts — Mayor Vows Not to Resign

This article is by Dana Rubinstein, William K. Rashbaum, Michael Rothfeld and Michael Wilson.

Mayor Eric Adams of New York City, a former police captain who ran on a law-and-order platform but whose tenure has been consumed by accusations of corruption, spent years accepting free airline tickets, lavish overseas accommodations and illegal campaign donations from Turkey, federal prosecutors said on Thurs-

In return for the gifts and donations, Mr. Adams used his influence as Brooklyn borough president and later as mayor to assist Turkish officials with issues they were facing in the city, prosecutors said - most notably in obtaining safety clearances from the Fire Department for a new highrise Turkish consulate building.

Thursday's dramatic events began with the startling sight of federal agents marching into Gracie Mansion, the official residence of New York mayors since World War II. And shortly before noon, prosecutors unveiled the first federal indictment in the city's modern history of a sitting mayor.

Mr. Adams was charged with five counts, including bribery, fraud and soliciting illegal foreign campaign donations. He was ordered to appear in Federal District Court in Manhattan on Friday for an arraignment before a magistrate judge.

"This was a multiyear scheme to buy favor with a single New York City politician on the rise: Eric Adams," Damian Williams, the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, said at a news conference.

Mr. Adams, at his own chaotic news conference outside Gracie Mansion, vowed to stay in office and fight the charges. The city's second Black mayor, he was flanked by Black allies and religious leaders who wound up in a shouting match with protesters as Mr. Adams spoke.

"My day-to-day will not change," the mayor said. "I will Continued on Page A18

Swaggering Man About Town Is Also Hard Man to Pin Down

By DODAI STEWART and JOHN LELAND

He swept in as the mayor of "swagger." He was an enthusiastic participant in New York's nightlife, swanning around clubs into the wee hours, and then holding early-morning meetings in City Hall.

He was a self-proclaimed vegan who dabbled in fish, and he hardly slept. When he did, no one knew quite where. He had an apartment in Brooklyn, an official residence at Gracie Mansion on the Upper East Side and a girlfriend in Fort

From the moment Eric Adams

took office on New Year's Eve 2021, he promised to be a mayor such as New Yorkers had never seen.

"I'm like broccoli. You're going to hate me now, but you're going to love me later," he once said.

Mr. Adams has been both a constant public presence and an unknowable figure - quick with an incomprehensible quote, increasingly irritated with reporters, riding a wave of bravado and bluster in a city faced with multiple crises.

He upended some of the city's Continued on Page A20

The Conspiracy-Minded Pounce.

By CHRISTOPHER FLAVELLE

At first glance, what happened in Tennessee's legislature this spring seemed a bit odd.

Republican lawmakers introduced a bill to ban solar geoengineering - putting aerosols into the atmosphere to block some of the radiation from the sun. As climate change drives up temperatures on Earth, there is growing interest in geoengineering as a way to cool the planet. But it's still largely theoretical, with no evidence that anyone in Tennessee is planning to try it.

The main witness to testify in support of the ban was a physician without any apparent qualifications in atmospheric science, who falsely claimed geoengineering was happening nationwide. Dem-



A geoengineering test raised hackles in Alameda, Calif.

BUYING TIME

Push to Ban Geoengineering

ocrats derided the bill as ridiculous and tried to amend it with mentions of Yetis, Bigfoot and Sasquatch to prove their point.

Yet the ban sailed through the legislature, Gov. Bill Lee, a Republican, signed it, making Tennessee the first state to outlaw geoengi-

Behind the scenes, the bill was the result of lobbying by activists known in Republican circles from their efforts fighting vaccine man-"We used the connections and

the rapport that we had built over the last couple of years in medical freedom," Danielle Goodrich of East Tennessee Freedom, which calls itself a "group of Patriots, Momma Bears, Conservative Christians," explained on a pod-For years, the debate over geo-

engineering has mostly been limited to academics and environmentalists. They agree that climate change is an existential threat but differ about whether humans should look at trying to blunt it by manipulating natural processes. Some, including the prominent

geophysicist David Keith, say geoengineering could save lives and outdoor experiments are necessary to understand the benefits and risks. Others, including the nonprofit Friends of the Earth,

Continued on Page A24

Tweaking Nature to Fix Climate? | Coppola's Hollywood Re-entry Could Be Rocky | Israel Is Defiant

By BROOKS BARNES

LOS ANGELES — Lionsgate executives say they have done all they can. They've booked 1,700 theaters, deployed guerrilla marketers to college campuses and pushed to flip negative reviews to their advantage. They have tied the film's themes to the presidential race in TV ads.

And now it is up to moviegoers. Will people plunk down dollars and turn Francis Ford Coppola's majestically bonkers "Megalopolis" into an against-all-odds success when it arrives on Friday?

Or will the \$120 million epic — in keeping with months of negative

Box Office Analysts Are **Predicting Disaster**

prerelease headlines — go down as a hall-of-fame flop?

Most box office analysts are predicting disaster. "Megalopolis" could arrive to as little as \$5 million in weekend ticket sales in North America, according to surveys that track audience interest. Ticket sales are split roughly 50-50 with theater owners.

But there are glimmers of hope. The film received a 10-minute standing ovation when it premiered at the Cannes Film Festi-

val in May. On Monday, Lionsgate, which is distributing and marketing "Megalopolis" for a fee, staged a preview at IMAX theaters across the country, selling out locations in New York, California, Massachusetts, Utah and Florida. The stunt was an effort to position what is essentially a big-budget art film as a broad-audience block-

'We want everyone to come," Mr. Coppola, 85, said during a Q. and A. that was part of the IMAX event, clasping his hands together in simulated prayer.

Mr. Coppola is on Hollywood's version of Mount Rushmore. He has six Oscars, winning his first

Continued on Page A21



EPIC AMBITION "Megalopolis" stars Adam Driver and Nathalie Emmanuel. Review on Page C1.

As Envoys Seek Cease-Fire Plan

This article is by Liam Stack, Patrick Kingsley, Farnaz Fassihi and Michael Levenson.

TEL AVIV — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday that the Israeli military would keep striking Hezbollah militants in Lebanon with "all our might," even as the United States, its European allies and several Arab states worked furiously to negotiate a three-week cease-fire. Mr. Netanyahu's comments

came as he arrived in New York ahead of a planned speech to the United Nations General Assembly, where world leaders have been issuing urgent calls for cease-fires in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon, warning of the risk of a wider Middle East war.

Despite those warnings, Israel said on Thursday that it had killed another high-ranking Hezbollah commander in a bombing in Beirut and had struck Hezbollah targets elsewhere in Lebanon after the militant group, which is backed by Iran, fired 45 rockets into northern Israel. None of them caused damage or injuries.

The Israeli military said it had also bombed a school compound being used as a shelter in Gaza, which it said housed a Hamas command-and-control center. It was the latest in a series of Israeli strikes on former schools. Palestinian Civil Defense officials said 15 people, including women and Continued on Page A6

INTERNATIONAL A4-12

National Guard Reform Passes

Mexico's Senate approved a constitutional amendment that would put the country's civilian National Guard under the military's control. PAGE A12

Fatal End to Blasphemy Claims

In Pakistan, the deaths of two men in police custody on charges of insulting Islam have reverberated. PAGE A4

OBITUARIES B11

Molder of Tennis Champions

Robert Lansdorp taught players like Maria Sharapova and Pete Sampras to perfect their ground strokes. He was 85. NATIONAL A13-21, 24

recently, are evacuating.

Student Arrests Are Surging

As school threats multiply, some officials have cracked down with arrests for children as young as 10.

In Florida, Fleeing From Helene More people across the Big Bend area, which has endured other hurricanes

PAGE A21



BUSINESS B1-6

Behind OpenAI's Vision

The company's chief executive is talking to U.S. officials and chipmakers around the world to expand the power needed to build A.I. PAGE B1

'Today' Show Host to Leave

Hoda Kotb's exit, planned for early next year, is a seismic shift for NBC and opens up one of morning TV's most coveted anchor chairs.

Southwest Plots an Overhaul

Fending off an activist investor, the airline announced plans for service enhancements and share buybacks, sending its stock soaring.

WEEKEND ARTS C1-10

Whimsy That Does Compute

A film about a robotic assistant and a gosling offers dazzling visuals and frank ideas about the circle of life.

Moving Dance to the Edge

An exhibition at the Whitney honoring the choreographer Alvin Ailey features paintings, sculptures and music. PAGE C1



SPORTS B7-10

What Baseball Is Losing

The Oakland A's eventual move to Vegas highlights a cultural shift in the American sports experience.

College Football's Two-Way Star Travis Hunter has been outstanding,

making big plays on both sides of the ball for the Colorado Buffaloes. PAGE B8

OPINION A22-23

Pamela Paul

PAGE A23

