

GUILTY VERDICT IN ‘RUST’ MOVIE DEATH

Armorer Hannah Gutierrez is convicted of involuntary manslaughter.

By MEG JAMES

A New Mexico jury has found “Rust” movie armorer Hannah Gutierrez guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the 2021 accidental shooting death of the cinematographer on the troubled Alec Baldwin western.

Wednesday’s verdict in Santa Fe came after about two hours of deliberation by the 12-person jury.

Earlier in the day, jurors were asked to review evidence presented during Gutierrez’s 10-day trial to determine whether she had acted recklessly, or with “willful disregard” for the safety of others, while overseeing guns and ammunition on the set of the movie nearly two and a half years ago.

The 26-year-old Arizona woman faces up to 18 months in prison for her role in the death of photography director Halyna Hutchins.

The jury was dismissed after the jury forewoman read the verdict and other jurors confirmed their votes.

The special prosecutor asked that Gutierrez be taken into custody immediately.

New Mexico First Judicial District Court Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer agreed, and a court deputy escorted Gutierrez out a side door of the courtroom.

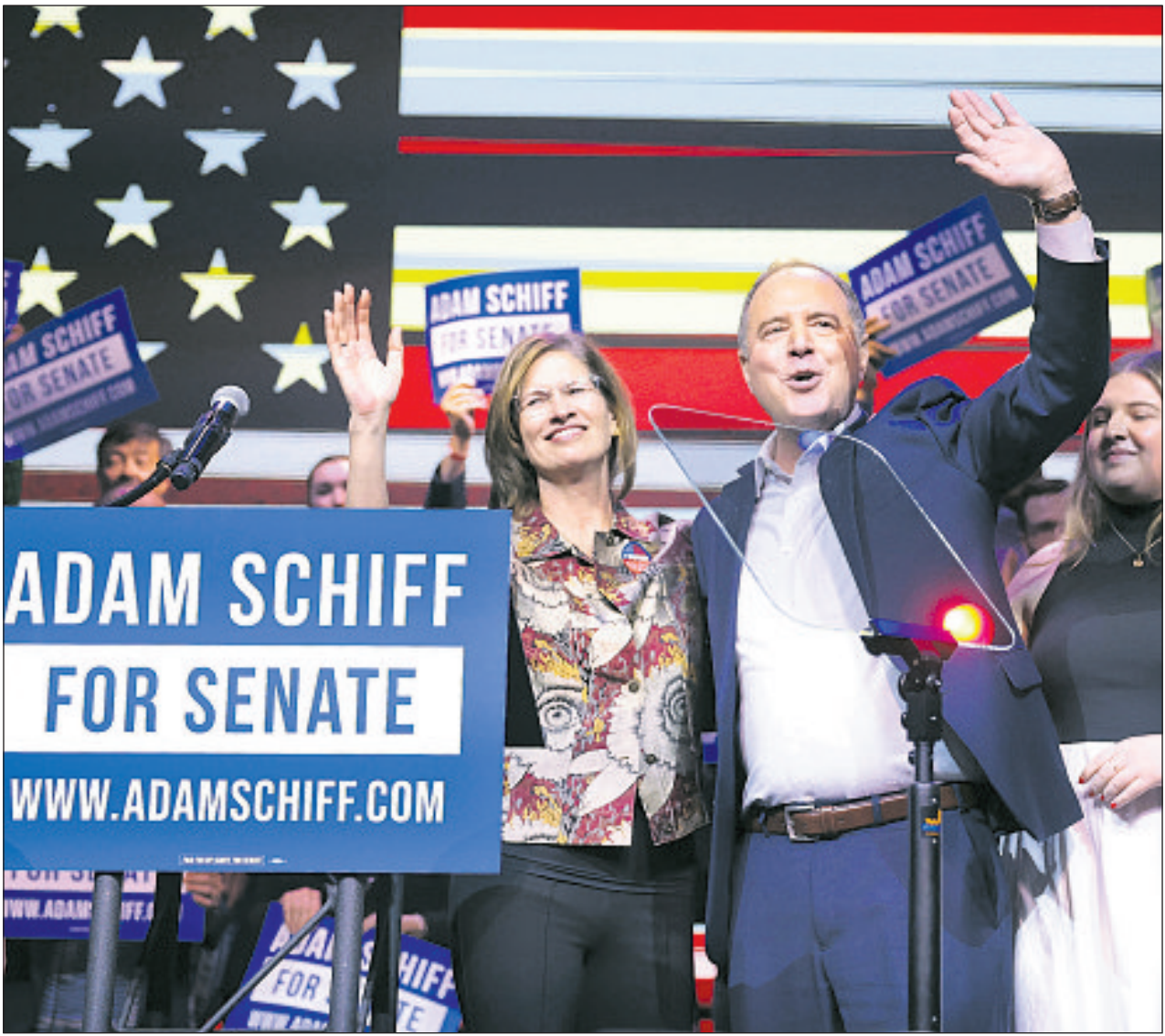
Family members became emotional. Gutierrez remained solemn, even as she placed her wrists behind her back.

She had been charged with involuntary manslaughter and evidence tampering. The jury found her not guilty of evidence tampering.

The verdict was read shortly after special prosecutors and attorneys for Gutierrez finished presenting their cases.

“Hannah Gutierrez loaded live ammunition into a firearm,” special prosecutor Kari T. Morrissey told the jury, alleging that Gutierrez had failed to discover six live bullets on the movie set. “The astonishing lack of diligence with regard to gun safety is, without question, a significant cause of the death of Halyna Hutchins.”

[See ‘Rust,’ A9]



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times

ADAM B. SCHIFF and his wife, Eve, wave to supporters at his primary night party in L.A. The Democratic congressman and Republican Steve Garvey will face off in November in California’s U.S. Senate race.

Gascón, Hochman take early leads in L.A. County D.A. race

By JAMES QUEALLY AND SONJA SHARP

Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. George Gascón and former federal prosecutor Nathan Hochman jumped out to early leads in a crowded field of candidates vying to be the county’s top prosecutor.

As of 4:30 a.m. Wednesday, Gascón led the pack with 21.4% of the vote, followed by Hochman with 17.7%. Deputy Dist. Atty. Jonathan Hatami, a longtime thorn in Gascón’s side who is popular with victims’ rights advocates, was the only other candidate to break into the double digits, earning 13.4% of the early returns.

Although polls show Gascón has grown deeply unpopular with a significant portion of L.A. County residents, polls and local political observers long suggested that his strong progressive base would carry him out of a crowded primary field replete with challengers who spent more time attacking him than they did defining their own candidacies.

Four years after taking office on a popular criminal justice reform platform in the wake of George Floyd’s murder in 2020, Gascón found himself facing a differ-

[See Gascón, A7]



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times

PROPOSITION 1 EARLY RESULTS

Voters are narrowly favoring the state bond measure championed by Gov. Gavin Newsom to address mental health and homelessness. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Incumbents lead for council

Current L.A. officeholders are ahead in the six contests they’re part of, but some could face a runoff. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

L.A. school board races

Two candidates who were hit late in their campaigns by controversies look headed to runoffs. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

ANALYSIS

How Trump boosted enemy Schiff

Ex-president’s insults aren’t hurting Senate candidate, but attacks from the left might.

By BENJAMIN ORESKES, SEEMA MEHTA AND LAURA J. NELSON

For all of California’s ills and hardships, nothing animated the state’s left-leaning electorate in this year’s Senate race more than the specter of former President Trump returning to the White House.

The omnipresence of Trump’s legal travails and his dominance in the Republican presidential primary ensure his shadow over the 2024 election will remain through November, and only increase Rep. Adam B. Schiff’s already heady chances of becoming California’s newest U.S. senator.

As the lead prosecutor in the first impeachment trial of Trump in the House of

[See Schiff, A6]

Land of flaming liberals? Hardly

MARK Z. BARABAK

Adam Schiff got the November opponent he wanted.

Steve Garvey was set up to be knocked down.

And by year’s end, California will very likely have a new U.S. senator in the mold of its last one, Dianne Feinstein, whose former seat Democrat Schiff is vying to fill.

The voters spoke Tuesday in the state’s marquee election, and what they said was: We’ll stick with what we know.

By choosing Schiff, a Burbank congressman who was the most moderate of the major Democratic

[See Barabak, A6]



UC applications rise for fall 2024, with gains in diversity

The increase to 250,000 is driven in part by a rebound in transfer students.

By TERESA WATANABE

The University of California drew a quarter-million applications for fall 2024, an increase over last year powered by a significant rebound in community college transfer applicants and more in-state residents of increasingly diverse backgrounds, according to pre-

liminary data released Wednesday.

The number of California first-year applications increased to 134,053, a 1.4% rise over last year’s preliminary data, with gains at eight of nine UC undergraduate campuses. UCLA, UC San Diego and UC Irvine drew the most first-year applications from Californians, while UC Berkeley’s numbers dropped slightly over last year.

Applications from out-of-state residents fell, possibly a reflection of state goals focused on keeping more seats for Californians. Texas sent

the most applications, but a state-by-state breakdown showed no pattern of higher interest from students in red states that have adopted strict antiabortion laws after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down its Roe vs. Wade ruling in 2022. International students increased slightly.

But the most eye-catching development — one hailed by campus admission leaders — was the robust growth in transfer applications, which had fallen significantly during the last two years as community college

[See University, A7]

The State of the Union’s borders

Immigration is expected to be a major theme of President Biden’s address on Thursday. **NATION, A4**

IRS funding pays for itself

Infusion for agency produces a bounty from audits of wealthy tax cheats, Michael Hiltzik writes. **BUSINESS, A8**

Weather

An afternoon shower. L.A. Basin: 65/47. **B6**

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CHRIS CARLSON Associated Press

HALEY ENDS HISTORIC RUN

The Republican presidential hopeful says it’s now up to Donald Trump to “earn the votes of those in our party and beyond.” **PERSPECTIVES, A2**



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