

# Epic blizzard pummels Sierra Nevada

Life-threatening storm will ‘arrive with a vengeance,’ says a meteorologist.

By RONG-GONG LIN II, SALVADOR HERNANDEZ AND HAYLEY SMITH

A treacherous, life-threatening blizzard was bearing down on California’s mightiest mountain range Thursday, already bringing 100- to 110-mph gusts at the highest elevations, with conditions expected to deteriorate dramatically by Friday night.

“It’ll arrive with a vengeance,” said meteorologist Amanda Young of the National Weather Service’s Reno office, which issued a rare blizzard warning for the region, which is typically issued only once a year or every other year.

Up to 12 feet of snow could fall on the highest peaks of the Sierra Nevada from Thursday through Sunday, the National Weather Service office in Sacramento said. Other areas with an elevation above 5,000 feet could get 5 to 10 feet of snow.

Yosemite National Park said it was closing through at least noon Sunday because of the storm. “Visitors currently in the park should leave as soon as possible, and no later than noon” on Friday, the park said. Several feet of snow is expected.

The storm is particularly strong and cold, as it’s moving in from the Pacific Northwest, and “it’s a really deep area of low pressure. It has a lot of cold air ingested into it. And the track and the

[See Storm, A7]



EVAN VUCCI Associated Press

## DUELING BORDER VISITS

President Biden, above, greets U.S. Border Patrol and city officials during a tour of the U.S.-Mexico border in Brownsville, Texas, on Thursday. Meanwhile, GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump, below, is joined by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, second from left, in Eagle Pass. **NATION, A4**



ERIC GAY Associated Press

# Lawmaker again targets legacy, donor admissions

Banning state financial aid to colleges with such policies could hurt USC, Stanford.

By TERESA WATANABE

As scrutiny over fairness in college admissions intensifies, a California lawmaker this week renewed efforts to ban state financial aid to private campuses — including USC and Stanford University — that give admissions preferences to children of alumni and donors.

Those preferences, known as legacy admissions, have come under growing attack after the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling in June striking down race-based affirmative action in cases involving Harvard University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Critics say legacy admissions disproportionately favor affluent applicants — most of whom are white — and should be eliminated, just as race was banned in deciding who gets access to the nation’s most selective colleges and universities.

“We want to make sure that every student applying into the most elite schools in our state have an opportuni-

ty, that it’s fair, that it’s equitable,” Assemblyman Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) said Wednesday as he unveiled his bill at a Sacramento news conference with equity advocates and two Stanford students.

USC, Stanford and Santa Clara University are the largest providers of legacy and donor preferences in California, according to annual data they submitted to the state for the last four years.

The University of California and California State University systems do not give preferential treatment to children of alumni and donors, and some private institutions, such as Occidental and Pomona colleges, have dropped the practice in recent years.

Assembly Bill 1780 would prohibit colleges and universities from participating in the Cal Grant program if they provide preferential treatment in admissions to an applicant related to a donor or alum. The Cal Grant program provides financial aid covering full tuition and fees to qualified financially needy students at UC and CSU and some support for students at private institutions. Some living expenses are also provided on

[See Admissions, A12]



GENARO MOLINA Los Angeles Times

**CUDAHY** Councilmember Elizabeth Alcantar, shown when she was mayor in 2020, was elected to the council in 2018 after several city scandals.

## POWER Y GLORY: LATINO POLITICS IN LOS ANGELES

# New unity as leaders try to shed history of corruption

GUSTAVO ARELLANO

The crowd lining Pacific Boulevard in Huntington Park roared as pee-wee football players and cheerleaders strolled by. Middle and high school marching bands blasted Christmas classics, prompting people to yell out the names of the schools.



The cheers continued for the Huntington Park City Council, seated atop classic convertibles. Following them a few minutes later was a trolley filled with smiling council members from nearby cities.

Not too long ago, the politicians at the Huntington Park Holiday Parade would have been greeted with boos and rotten tomatoes.

For a generation, southeast Los Angeles County has been synonymous with political malfeasance. Scandal after scandal in Huntington Park, South Gate, Bell, Bell Gardens, Maywood, Commerce, Cudahy, Vernon and Lynwood made local — and sometimes national — headlines. In Bell, a 2010 Times investigation exposed massive corruption, and six city officials eventually went to prison or served home confinement.

All the political drama not only be-

[See Arellano, A6]

# SCHIFF, GARVEY LEAD IN SENATE SURVEY

Voters favor a contest between Democrat and former Dodger in November, poll finds.

By BENJAMIN ORESKES

Rep. Adam B. Schiff’s campaign strategy of spending millions to highlight Republican Senate candidate Steve Garvey’s conservative record appears to have paid off, making Garvey a strong favorite to emerge from Tuesday’s primary as Schiff’s general election opponent.

That’s the finding of the latest UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies poll co-sponsored by The Times. The survey finds Schiff, the veteran Democratic congressman from Burbank, and Garvey, the former Dodgers star first baseman, in effect tied for the lead in the primary just days before the election.

Schiff’s strategy appears to be boxing out his chief rival, Rep. Katie Porter of Irvine, a fellow Democrat, who trails in third.

In the general election, Schiff would be an overwhelming favorite to beat Garvey in heavily Democratic California. The poll finds Schiff starting with a significant lead in a two-way matchup, 53% to 38%, with 9% undecided. By contrast, a general election between Schiff and Porter would start out tied, with 4 in 10 voters undecided, the poll found.

In the primary, Garvey is favored by 27% of likely voters, Schiff 25% and Porter 19%. Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Oakland) garners 8%, while 12% of likely voters pick a different candidate and 9% are undecided.

Political consultants following the returns of mailed ballots expect that Tuesday’s primary will be a low-turnout affair, with an electorate that is significantly older, whiter and more Republican than the state’s voter population as a whole.

“The composition of the turnout works to the advantage of Schiff and Garvey and to the detriment of

[See Senate, A9]

## Israel shoots at crowd in Gaza

Over 100 reportedly die while swarming aid convoy for food. Israeli troops cite fears amid stampede. **WORLD, A3**

## Barger faces a tougher race

Her supervisorial district is now bluer, and her rival is trying to tie the Republican to Trump. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Lakers always in it with James

They’re never out of a game thanks to their 39-year-old superstar, Dylan Hernández writes. **SPORTS, B10**

## Weather

Some p.m. rain. L.A. Basin: 61/54. **B6**

For the latest news, go to [latimes.com](https://latimes.com).



Every story. Every section. Every feature. Subscribers get unlimited app access. Download now.

