

Trump survives shots at rally

Gunman, who fired multiple times, is dead. One spectator killed, two others injured.

Candidate says he was hit ‘with a bullet that pierced the upper part’ of his ear

By Michael Gold,
Simon J. Levien,
and Julian E. Barnes
NEW YORK TIMES

Former president Donald Trump was rushed to a hospital Saturday after a possible assassination attempt at his campaign rally in Butler, Pa., a shooting that left one rally attendee and the suspected gunman dead and two other spectators critically injured, the Secret Service said in a statement.

Trump was escorted off the stage bleeding from around his ear, and he later said in a post on Truth Social, his social media platform, that he had been “shot with a bullet that pierced the upper part of my right ear.”

President Biden gave a brief televised statement after the attack, condemning the violence as “sick.” The White House later said the president had spoken to Trump.

The suspected shooter has not been identified, but authorities recovered an AR-15-type semiautomatic rifle at the scene from a deceased man they believe was the shooter, according to two law enforcement officials.

In his social media post, Trump thanked law enforcement officers for their quick response to the shooting and offered condolences to the family of the spectator who had been killed. In the post he wrote, “I knew immediately that something was wrong in that I heard a whizzing sound, shots, and immediately felt the bullet ripping through the skin. Much bleeding took place, so I realized then what was happening.”

The Secret Service and other law enforcement agencies have not yet publicly confirmed that Trump was shot in the ear, saying only that shots were fired and that the former president was “safe.”

Biden expressed gratitude that Trump had been swiftly evacuated and said “there’s no place in America for this kind of violence.”

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EVAN VUCCI/ASSOCIATED PRESS



ANNA MONEYSMAKER/GETTY IMAGES

Former president Trump was surrounded by Secret Service agents as they quickly fled the stage following gunshots at the GOP candidate’s rally in Butler, Pa. Above, a Secret Service member sheltered members of the crowd near the stage.

‘There was a loud popping noise. . . . Where was Trump?’

By James Pindell
GLOBE STAFF

BUTLER, Pa. — About 25 minutes before former president Donald Trump took the stage at a county fair-

REPORTER’S NOTEBOOK

ground an hour

north of Pittsburgh, my eyes kept darting to two places. First, there was an elderly woman to whom I had just given water; heat-strokes were occurring frequently, and medical professionals were doing their best to manage them. Second, over her shoulder I noticed movement on the roof of what appeared to be a barn behind the stage.

Two US Secret Service agents were urgently using large military-green

binoculars to scan an area away from the crowd. They weren’t looking in any other direction. Then, each agent pointed what appeared to be sniper rifles in that same direction. It was also the direction of the entrance road, which most of the thousands of rally attendees had taken.

Assuming it was also the road that Trump’s motorcade would take, I didn’t think much of it. I figured their urgency was just part of tracking the motorcade per protocol.

The security precautions were similar all other Trump rallies I have attended since he received Secret Service protection in 2016. There was a line of magnetometers that swiftly checked people. It felt like entering

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A plea by Biden

“We cannot be like this,” President Biden said in a statement calling on Americans to unite. **A12.**

Terror in real time

The chaos unfolded on televisions and computer screens. **A12.**

From the coolest of refreshments to the hottest night-clubs, we humbly offer the **Best of the Best**, a curated list of what makes the Boston area so special, in the Globe Magazine.

Dr. Ruth Westheimer has died. The therapist irreverently improved folks’ sex lives. **A20.**

Barbora Krejčíková won the women’s Wimbledon title in a three-set triumph over Jasmine Paolini. **C1.**

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The weather

Sunday: Clear, breezy.
High 84-89, low 71-76.

Monday: Hot, stormy.
High 87-92, low 74-79.

Complete report, **A22.**
Obituaries, **A20.**

What’s in it for Steward bidders?

High costs, risks likely to hamper buyers of hospitals

By Robert Weisman
GLOBE STAFF

It’s the biggest question hanging over a hush-hush sales process that could reshape the region’s overburdened health care market: What exactly would bidders for Steward Health Care hospitals be buying?

The hospitals don’t own their real estate and pay mil-

lions in rent each year to landlords that show no signs of going away. The doctors’ practices that refer patients to the hospitals may soon be sold off separately. And many of the facilities are in dire need of repair.

What’s left is a stream of potential patients, a local brand name, however diminished, and the prospect of a bargain. “It’s a risky business propo-

sition,” said Marc Bard, a national health care consultant based in Holderness, N.H. “You’re buying a book of business, a license to deliver care in a highly competitive Eastern Massachusetts market. But this is not your typical transaction.”

That may explain why, with bids due Monday, appetite for buying the hospitals appears to be tepid. Steward, which filed

for bankruptcy May 6, is selling off its 31 hospitals, including eight in Massachusetts, to pay its lenders and scores of other creditors.

But few would-be acquirers have gone public with their interest. Many rival hospital systems — which might otherwise welcome an expansion opportunity — are struggling with their own financial strains and are daunted by the complexity of a Steward deal. An auction is

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