# The Boston Blobe

Serving our community since 1872

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

# Healey seeks to cut gambling addiction aid

Critics blast proposal amid surge in sports betting in Massachusetts

> **By Chris Serres** GLOBE STAFF

A year after Massachusetts legalized online sports betting, unleashing a torrent of gambling advertisements and wagering on everything from the Super Bowl to college basketball, Governor Maura Healey is proposing cuts to the state's main fund for combating gambling addiction.

The proposal, tucked deep inside her \$56 billion budget plan, would reduce by half the percentage of casino gambling revenues earmarked for a public health fund that, since 2018, has supported programs to reduce the harm associated with gambling and to research its effects. If enacted, money directed to the fund could be cut by more than \$6 mil-

The cuts would come as researchers are still scrambling to understand the public health ef-

fects of a new era of legalized sports betting in Massachusetts. In the past year, online sports betting operators like DraftKings and FanDuel have unleashed an avalanche of advertising and celebrity endorsements. Increasingly, teenagers are circumventing regulatory safeguards and gaining access to the new digital betting platforms, stoking concerns that the gambling industry may be sowing the seeds of a future addiction crisis.

Since the onset of mobile sports betting here, gamblers **GAMBLING, Page A6** 

Casino gambling revenues directed to the public health fund could be cut by more than

\$6 million

At the same time, Healey's proposed budget calls for more than doubling state spending on advertising the lottery to

\$10 million from \$4.5 million

Massachusetts spent nearly

\$12 million

on problem gambling services in the last fiscal vear

### 'The mountains aren't going anywhere. You can always do a different hike.'

MICHAEL WEJCHERT, speaking about the need to know when a climb is not the right choice



Globe reporter Mark Arsenault (right) and Michael Wejchert walked down from the summit of Mount Washington.

## Lessons from above the tree line

On a winter climb of Mount Washington, danger and beauty abound



Michael Wejchert, a member of the Mountain Rescue Service, demonstrated how he uses a bothy bag as an emergency shelter. By Mark Arsenault GLOBE STAFF

AMMONOOSUC RAVINE TRAIL, N.H. — From the first steps, the way up Mount Washington was hard-packed snow and ice, beneath just enough fresh powder to show the pawprints of a small animal, a fox, perhaps, that had trotted along the trail sometime earlier.

The White Mountains don't call everyone in the winter, but for those who hear it, the call is hard to resist. Snow, ice, and wind reshape familiar places into alien landscapes, breathtakingly beautiful, delicate, and ephemeral, and yet, at times, ferocious. The exposed area above the tree line on Mount Washington and many of its neighbors is calling more winter climbers than ever, longtime hikers say, which means there are more people to get into trouble.

More than an hour into the hike, the tall spruce parted, and we had gained enough altitude to gaze across the Ammonoosuc Ravine, a massive gouge on the western side of the mountain. Michael Wejchert, guiding our little expedition, pointed to

**MOUNT WASHINGTON, Page A10** 

# Top court agrees on Trump's eligibility

No part of ruling addresses whether former president committed insurrection

> **By Adam Liptak** NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Monday that states may not bar former president Donald Trump from running for another term, rejecting a challenge from Colorado to his eligibility that threatened to upend the presidential race by taking him off ballots around the nation.

Although the justices provided different reasons, the decision's bottom line was unanimous. All the opinions focused on legal issues, and none took a position on whether Trump had engaged in insurrection, as Colorado courts had found.

All the justices agreed that individual states may not bar candidates for the presidency under a constitutional provision, Section 3 of the 14th Amendment, that prohibits insurrectionists from holding office. Four justices would have left it at that, with the court's three liberal members expressing dismay at what they said was the stunning sweep of the majority's approach.

But the five-justice majority, in an unsigned opinion answering questions not directly before the court, ruled that Congress must act to give Section 3 force.

"The Constitution makes Congress, rather than the states, responsible for enforcing Section 3 **SUPREME COURT. Page A7** 

### The call for 'uncommitted' grows louder

Minn. Democrats angry with Biden on Gaza want primary to send a message

> By Jim Puzzanghera GLOBE STAFF

MINNEAPOLIS — Friday prayers had just ended at the mosque in Karmel Mall, a sprawling gathering place for the city's large Somali community, when Jaylani Hussein addressed the roughly 1,000 men as many rose to their stocking feet to leave.

First in Somali, then in English, he urged them to vote in the state's presidential primary Tuesday. But his pitch wasn't for a specific candidate. In a sense, at least for now as war rages in Gaza, it was against one.

"We have protested, we have marched, we have done everything possible, and President Biden has still not listened to our community, has not called for a cease-fire," said Hussein, executive director of the state's chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, brandishing a large sample ballot the size of a restaurant menu.

"We need every single one of you to vote uncommitted," he continued, punctuating his message with the Arabic word "Inshallah," meaning "if

MINNESOTA, Page A7



#### Gray by gray

Tuesday: Drizzly and rainy. High: 44-49. Low: 41-46. Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. High: 53-58. Low: 38-43. Sunrise: 6:12 Sunset: 5:39 Comics and Weather, **D5-6.** 

Obituaries, C9. VOL. 305, NO. 65

Suggested retail price

\$3.50

Allen Weisselberg, former president Donald Trump's longtime financial gatekeeper, pleaded guilty to felony perjury charges in a Manhattan courtroom. A2.

French legislators voted to explicitly enshrine access to abortion in the constitution, making their country the first in the world to do so. A3.

Jack D. Teixeira, the Massachusetts Air National Guardsman accused of leaking classified information, pleaded guilty to all charges he faced after striking a deal that calls for a sentence of at least 11 years in

prison. B1.

**JetBlue Airways and Spirit Air**lines announced that they would not seek to overturn a court ruling that blocked their planned \$3.8 billion merger. D1.

# Lewiston survivors have their say

Panel hears harsh words for those who failed to take shooter's weapons

By John Hilliard GLOBE STAFF

LEWISTON, Maine — Survivors of the mass shooting at a bar and bowling alley expressed anger Monday over authorities' failure to prevent the rampage despite multiple warnings about the assailant's declining mental health, delusions, erratic behavior. and access to guns.

"I'm a survivor of the situation," Jason K. Barnett, who escaped the shooting at Schemengees Bar & Grille in Lewiston, told a state commission investigating the massacre. "I'm a victim of the peo-

ple who dropped the ball." In searing detail, Barnett and more than a dozen others spoke of the horror that unfolded Oct. 25 when Army Reservist Robert Card committed what would become the state's worst mass shoot-

ing; he killed 18 people and wounded 13 others. Steven R. Richards-Kretlow described how the night had begun as a fun gathering at the bar to catch up with friends and play cornhole. When it was his turn to play, he felt like something in the kitchen had "exploded," he said. Getting up from his table, Richards-Kretlow saw a horrific sight: a gunman, later identified

**LEWISTON, Page A5** 



Shooting survivor Danielle Grondin (right) embraced fellow survivor Tammy Asselin before the hearing Monday.