



DAVID SWANSON AFP/Getty Images

POST FIRE GROWS

Firefighters responded to the Post fire in the Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area in Lebec, Calif., on Sunday. It grew to 12,265 acres by late Sunday morning as high winds, low humidity and terrain hampered firefighting efforts. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

‘Panic buttons to nowhere’ on L.A. buses

Drivers fear safety efforts in Dash fleet not enough protection from violent riders.

By Salvador Hernandez

Panic buttons in some Los Angeles shuttle buses connect to no one, plexiglass shields around drivers were not intended to stop physical attacks, and union officials representing drivers say other safety measures touted to protect drivers are just not cutting it.

“There has to be more,” said Lourdes Garcia, secretary-treasurer and principal officer of Teamsters Local 572, the union representing the city’s Dash shuttle drivers. “It’s the time to just be honest about what’s going on.”

A series of attacks has raised concerns about the safety of bus drivers, prompting the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to declare an emergency over the attacks.

During a June 5 L.A. City Council Transportation Committee meeting, L.A. Department of Transportation officials touted panic buttons on Dash buses, plexiglass surrounding drivers, training, video cameras and radios as measures to keep drivers safe.

But drivers and union officials say many of the safety features fall flat. The panic buttons that drivers can press, for example, don’t connect to a dispatch center or any emergency service. Instead, the button plays a recording directing passengers or others to call 911.

“You might as well just be honking your horn,” Garcia said. “You have to rely on someone, a Good Samaritan, to hear it or, if you’re on the freeway, someone may not hear it.”

[See Buses, A5]

On TV and Tik Tok, Khanna touts Biden — and himself

Silicon Valley Democrat has sought to build a reputation as a crossover artist in the party. He has his own ambitions too.

By Noah Bierman and Benjamin Oreskes
REPORTING FROM DEARBORN, MICH.



JONATHAN ERNST For The Times

THE OFFICE OF four-term Rep. Ro Khanna (D-Fremont) estimated that he went on television 142 times in 2023, nearly three times a week.

Rep. Ro Khanna, one of President Biden’s most visible supporters, came to Michigan recently to accept a “courage in public service” award from an Arab American group that opposes American support for Israel in Gaza — and detests Biden.

The tension of the California congressman’s dual roles — as a presidential surrogate and one of many Democrats building his own base for a post-Biden era — was evident before dinner was served. James P. Allen, chairman of the Arab American Civil Rights League, was blunt as he introduced Khanna to local Democratic power brokers over cocktails.

“We are going to work night and day to defeat Biden,” Allen said.

Democrats need a dose of “Trump chemotherapy,” Allen added, likening Trump to a toxin that would purge Biden, the cancer, from the Democratic Party.

Khanna pushed back awkwardly. [See Khanna, A10]

Shades of Watergate in Trump vs. U.S.

The Supreme Court is again asked to decide whether a president is above the law.

By David G. Savage

WASHINGTON — Fifty years ago this month, the U.S. Supreme Court was considering a landmark case that would have profound implications for America’s democracy.

The question before justices in the Watergate tapes

dispute was whether the president was above the law, shielded from prosecutors and a judge who were investigating a crime.

The court’s answer was clear, unflinching and unanimous.

The Constitution has no “absolute, unqualified presidential privilege of immunity,” the court said in July 1974 in United States vs. Nixon. The president’s claim of executive privilege for his White House tapes, justices said, “cannot prevail over the fundamental demands of ... the

[See High court, A6]

Israel to pause daytime fighting

Military says it will allow backlogged aid to move through Rafah, but plan falls far short of cease-fire. **WORLD, A3**

Dodgers pitcher, shortstop hurt

Yoshinobu Yamamoto has a strained rotator cuff, and Mookie Betts nurses a broken bone in his left hand. **SPORTS, D1**

Weather

Some sun.
L.A. Basin: 77/61. **B6**

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ERIC THAYER For The Times

RAISING CASH, CRITICISM

Activists rally near downtown’s Peacock Theater during President Biden’s Saturday fundraiser, where he netted record \$30 million. **CALIFORNIA, B1**



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