



Mostly sunny 87/71 • Tomorrow: T-storm 92/68 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024 • \$3

2nd-largest U.S. faith group votes against IVF

Southern Baptists oppose the popular procedure in potential jolt to 2024 vote

BY MICHELLE BOORSTEIN

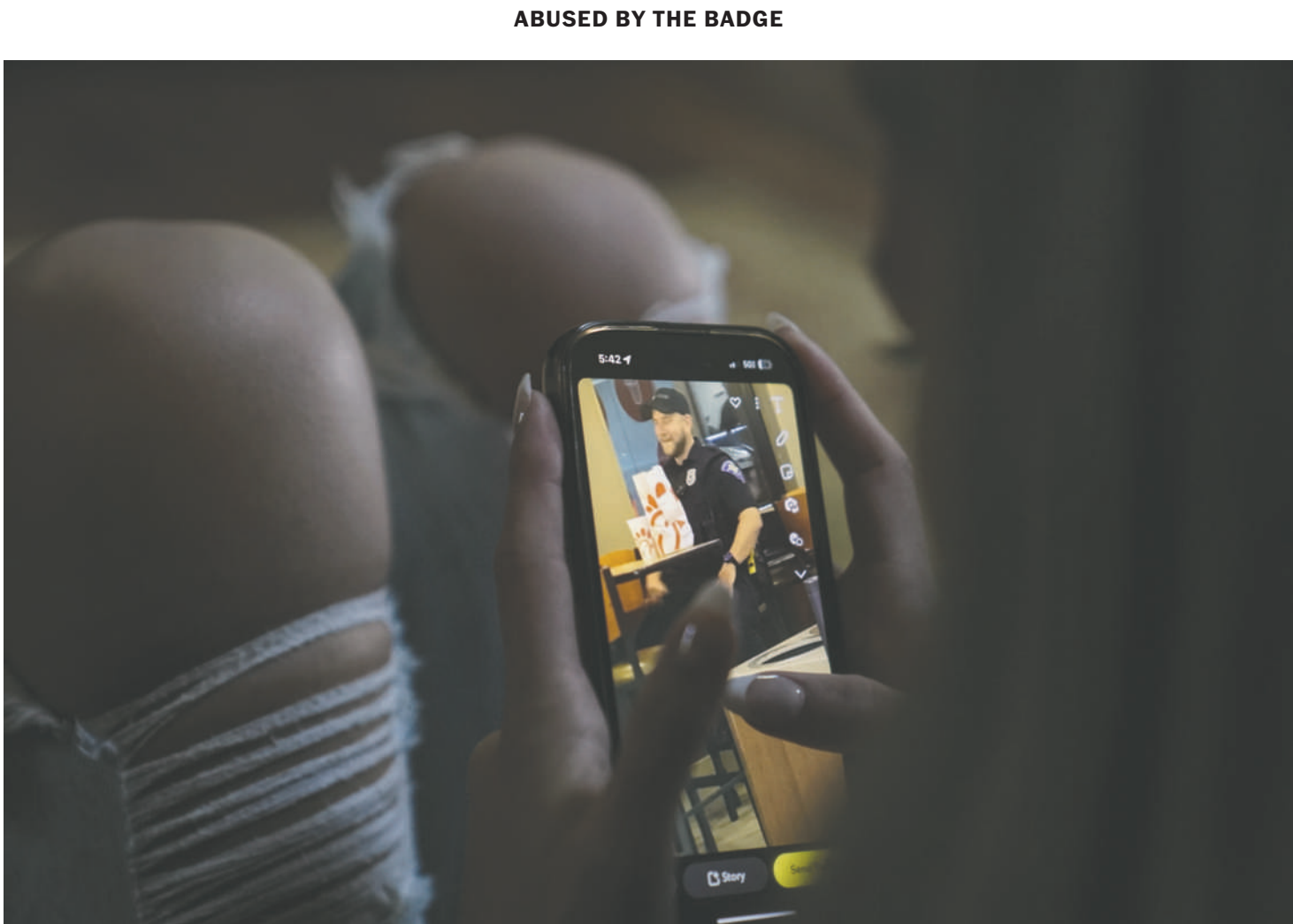
The Southern Baptist Convention on Wednesday approved a measure opposing in vitro fertilization as “dehumanizing” and asking “the government to restrain” the practice, a sign of the broadening effort by conservative evangelicals and the anti-abortion movement since the fall of *Roe v. Wade*.

The vote thrust the denomination into a national dispute over a medical procedure that is immensely popular among Americans and has already played a role in an intense election season. An Alabama court ruling earlier this year that a frozen embryo is a person afforded a full range of rights set off massive backlash, prompting widespread Democratic criticism, and driving Republicans, including presumptive presidential nominee Donald Trump, to speak in favor of protecting IVF.

Within a few weeks, the state’s Republican Gov. Kay Ivey signed a bill into law aimed at protecting IVF patients and providers from legal liability. Democrats have nonetheless cast the procedure as threatened, part of their broadside against Republicans as too extreme on reproductive issues. (Trump on Monday addressed a coalition of Southern Baptist groups in Indianapolis who oppose abortion in every case, pledging to walk “side by side” with them.)

The SBC vote came after several “messenger” — or attendees — testified emotionally about the impact of IVF in their own lives. They pushed for amendments to

SEE SOUTHERN BAPTISTS ON A2



CAROLYN VAN HOUTEN/THE WASHINGTON POST

The teen wanted to be a cop. Instead she was abused by one in his patrol car.

She’d been told her words would make a difference, so the teenager stood before the judge and leaned toward the microphone.

She tried not to look at the man who was pleading guilty to sexually abusing her.

“You were a police officer, and you were in uniform,” she said, reading from the victim impact statement she’d spent weeks writing. “You were on duty.”

She was 16 years old when South Bend police officer Timothy Barber showed up at the Chick-fil-A where she worked in the summer of 2021. Barber, who was 20 years older, knew the girl wanted to be a police officer. He offered to give her rides home in his patrol car.

Instead, what Barber did to her in that patrol car led to him being charged with

Now a judge must decide: How should the officer be punished?

BY JENN ABELSON, JESSICA CONTRERA AND JOHN D. HARDEN IN SOUTH BEND, IND.

Anne looks at a photo of South Bend, Ind., police officer Timothy Barber.

child seduction, official misconduct, public indecency and public nudity.

“My whole life I had been taught to trust police officers. I looked up to you. I listened to you. I obeyed you,” the girl said.

With the permission of the girl and her parents, The Washington Post is identifying her by her middle name, Anne.

Anne had to miss a day of high school to be at this September 2022 hearing, where a judge would decide what punishment the police officer deserved.

The investigator and prosecutor had assured Anne and her parents that Barber would be held accountable for his actions.

Anne understood what that could look like. A week earlier, when a local softball coach was convicted of molesting one of his

SEE POLICE ON A10

Trial sheds new light on Biden family’s dark moments

BY MATT VISER

WILMINGTON, DEL. — First lady Jill Biden, in a crisp blue suit and shawl, sat on a cushioned, wooden courtroom seat after returning from a quick trip to Paris with the president. She stared straight ahead as her eldest granddaughter, Naomi Biden, responded to withering questions about her father’s neglect, his drug use and even whether Naomi herself had used drugs.

The moment appeared to be brutal for the Biden family, whose members fought to hold back tears and sometimes lost that battle. Over a few raw days, Hunter Biden’s trial showcased just how dark the family’s dynamics had grown in recent years, providing new insight into the first family and its attempt to find closure after the death of the president’s son Beau, and the pain and grief that still threaten those efforts.

While the trial, whose guilty verdict was announced Tuesday, focused on the narrow question of whether Hunter Biden lied on a gun-purchase form six years ago, it was more broadly a trial

SEE BIDENS ON A4

Monica Hesse: For the Bidens, “mother” goes beyond genetics. C1



MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Customers line up Tuesday at the Call Your Mother deli at 35th and O streets NW.

A Georgetown deli may be too popular

Some neighbors want the bagel shop gone. But it has a big ally: The city.

BY ELLIE SILVERMAN

If the crowds scarfing bagels outside got to make the call, the self-described “Jew-ish” deli in a bright pink D.C. rowhome would have no trouble winning officials’ blessing to keep selling sandwiches to the hungry masses.

But on the street in Georgetown

where Call Your Mother sits amid million-plus-dollar rowhouses, some neighbors are not thrilled with strangers downing pastrami and candied salmon on their stoops, then leaving the trash behind. Citing decades-old zoning laws and a D.C. Appeals Court ruling, they want the business operating in a residential area to stop

serving prepared food.

“Everybody loves the restaurant, right? And that’s probably one of the detriments,” said Paul Maysak, an advisory neighborhood commissioner, at a contentious hearing Wednesday before the Board of Zoning Adjustment hearing that will help determine

SEE BAGELS ON A5

Tormented ‘Mr. Clutch’ shaped Lakers on, off court

BY JOHN OTIS

Jerry West, who made the Los Angeles Lakers a dominant force in pro basketball for three decades, first as a high-scoring guard whose graceful dribbling silhouette inspired the NBA logo, then as the team’s astute general manager, died June 12 at 86.

The Los Angeles Clippers announced his death. Other details were not immediately available.

Mr. West forged one of the most successful overall careers in National Basketball Association history. He was widely regarded as one of the league’s greatest players, and his late-game heroics for the Lakers earned him the nickname “Mr. Clutch.”

His most famous shot came against the New York Knicks in Game 3 of the 1970 NBA Finals. With three seconds remaining and the Lakers trailing by two points, Mr. West took an inbound pass, dribbled three times, then from well behind the half-court line shot a 60-foot rainbow that dropped through the hoop. (It forced the game into overtime, in which the Lakers lost.)

“The crowd was in a frenzy, everybody was going crazy, and there we were looking up at the scoreboard wondering what happened? What the hell happened?” the Knicks’ Walt Frazier, who



PICTORIAL PARADE/GETTY IMAGES

Jerry West, among the NBA’s best scorers, left a permanent mark: His dribbling silhouette inspired the league’s logo.

guarded Mr. West for most of the game, later told the Los Angeles Times.

After hanging up his No. 44 uniform in 1974, Mr. West engineered an even more triumphant second act as the league’s preeminent executive. His prescient draft picks, timely trades and knack for massaging talent

SEE WEST ON A6

Jerry Brewer: On court or in front office, an all-time influencer. D1

IN THE NEWS

A significant decline Researchers detected a dip in levels of hydrochlorofluorocarbons, gases that deplete Earth’s ozone layer. A8

A moment of triumph Federal and Maryland officials announced the reopening of the Port of Baltimore’s shipping channel two days after it was fully restored. B1

THE NATION

The House weighs a defense policy bill, putting the Pentagon at the center of culture wars. A3
The Republican-led House voted to hold Attorney General Merrick Garland in contempt. A4

THE WORLD

Britain’s Nigel Farage hopes a hard-up Brexit stronghold will send him to Parliament. A14
Hezbollah fired rockets at Israel, while the U.S. accused Hamas of prolonging the war. A15

THE ECONOMY

Artists are fleeing Instagram for new app Cara in protest of Meta using their work to train its technology on artificial intelligence. A17
Tesla investors are voting on whether CEO Elon Musk should have his \$50 billion pay package restored. A19

THE REGION

The D.C. Council approved the city’s \$21 billion budget and declined to include an amendment on mobile sports betting. B1
At least 20 cases of E. coli, including seven hospitalizations, have been reported after visits to Lake Anna. B1

SPORTS

The WNBA is about to get a windfall from a new media deal. The catch? The NBA is still pulling the strings. D1

LOCAL LIVING

America has soured on matching bedroom sets. Try mixing furniture finishes instead.

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