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May 5, 2024

New at Emerson, already in crisis

President faces heat over how protest ended

By Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

For nearly five hours Monday, scores of Emerson College students at the school's Semel Theater voiced their anger and frustration about the arrest of more than 100 pro-Palestinian protesters in a public alleyway between campus buildings. The principal target of the tirade, Jay Bernhardt, the college's newly installed president, sat quietly for the entire town hall, taking notes and listening, according to professors in attendance.

At one point, a student who'd been yelling at campus leaders paused to pull a can of spray paint out of his backpack. Eric Alexander, chairman of Emerson's board, leapt from his seat and told the student to "back the [expletive] up." Bernhardt, stayed seated, but put a restraining hand on Alexander's leg, according to a video clip published on the student newspaper's website.

"It was a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day for

EMERSON, Page A16

IN THE SHADOW OF GRIEF

In Lewiston, a community finds a place of healing

Rhonda Webber kissed Tom Giberti during the grand reopening of Just-In-Time Recreation in Lewiston, Maine, on Friday.

Story by Samantha J. Gross | Photos by Craig F. Walker | Globe Staff

LEWISTON — Before the sun even had a chance to peek above the horizon Friday, the Jurays felt a mix of powerful emotions.

They were excited to see familiar faces bring warmth to the bowling alley they had renovated, Just-in-Time Recreation, when they unlocked to door for the "grand reopening." They were nervous about how people would react to the changes they made to the beloved social hub six months after a gunman walked through the double glass doors and shattered a comfortable Wednesday night of bowling and camaraderie with carnage and fear.

> "You're the reason. This is why. This is why we decided to reopen.'
>
> JUSTIN JURAY, *co-owner of Just-in-Time Recreation*

The Jurays had a feeling in their stomachs as they watched that door, a sense of trepidation. But building manager Wayne Storman, a dear friend with a law enforcement background, stood guard over the entrance,

LEWISTON, Page A14

For the BSO, an electric addition

A high energy boss for august institution

By Malcolm Gay
GLOBE STAFF

This time last year, Chad Smith arguably had the best job in classical music.

Just past 50, he'd risen through the ranks to lead the Los Angeles Philharmonic, once dubbed "the most important orchestra in America" and the envy of ensembles everywhere. With its Frank Gehry-designed concert hall, rock star music director, and outsize budget, the LA Phil is that rare orchestra that seems to have cracked the 21st-century code, performing world-class symphonic music while gaining diverse young audiences.

So it came as a surprise last May when Smith left Los Angeles to lead the Boston Symphony Orchestra, a storied ensemble with a tradition of excellence — if not

BSO, Page A18

Still loyal to RFK, aides seethe over his son's candidacy

By Emma Platoff
GLOBE STAFF

Like a lot of people who worked for the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy, Peter Edelman still has strong, reverent feelings for the man, more than 50 years after he was assassinated.

"I think about him every day," said Edelman, who worked for Kennedy for four years in the 1960s and is now a professor at Georgetown Law School. "I love him. He was wonderful."

Edelman has equally strong — but far less warm — feelings about Kennedy's son, the third-party presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

"Terrible. Sad. And really dangerous," was how Edelman described RFK Jr.'s long-shot bid for the presidency, in a recent interview. "The point is that this person is not serious."

The Kennedy surname connotes political royal-

RFK SR., Page A12

How could a 32-year-old with a government job spend nine months posing as a foster child in Boston schools? And how could nobody notice? The secret lives of Shelby Hewitt. **Globe Magazine.**

Who is the best "Saturday Night LIve" player ever? Tell us what you think. **SundayArts, N1.**

How to exit an airplane, politely. **SundayTravel, N11.**

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST AT TD GARDEN

The Bruins advanced to the second round of the NHL playoffs after outlasting the Maple Leafs in Game 7, winning on a David Pastrnak goal in overtime. **Sports, C1.**

MATTHEW J. LEE/GLOBE STAFF

Two's a cloud

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, High: 52-57. Low: 45-50.

Monday: Sun possible. High: 68-73. Low: 55-60.

Sunrise: 5:34 Sunset: 7:49

Complete report, **A24.**

Deaths, **A19-23.**

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