



Mostly sunny 97/77 • Tomorrow: A t-storm around 95/75 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

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ELECTION 2024

## Selection of Harris resets map for election

Democrats see rebound in poll numbers; focus returns to swing states

BY MARIANNE LEVINE

President Biden's withdrawal and Vice President Harris's selection as the presumptive Democratic nominee have reset the 50-state race for the White House.

Former president Donald Trump had gained in national and state-level polls after a June debate in which Biden appeared confused and was at times unable to answer questions.

But in the two weeks since Biden dropped out and Harris became the presumptive Democratic nominee, Democrats' poll numbers — and their chances of holding the White House — have rebounded. The path to victory for Harris once again runs through seven key swing states: Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

"The Democratic base is coming home," said Amy Walter, publisher and editor in chief of the Cook Political Report with Amy Walter. "In states that we know that are evenly divided and have been very, very close for these last few elections, they kind of snap back to being very, very competitive and will be the focus of the 2024 campaign."

Although Trump's paths to victory were expanding in late June and early July, the race "is

SEE HARRIS ON A2

## Vance's positions shaped by his service

Some Marine friends are vexed by shift from GOP moderate to Trump ally

BY DAN LAMOTHE AND ALEX HORTON

JD Hamel was a high school senior in an Ohio steel town when the United States invaded Iraq in 2003. The future senator and nominee for vice president, who uses Vance for his surname now, joined the Marines a few weeks later confident, he later recalled, that freedom and democracy would follow.

But his optimism was short-lived as the war, deemed necessary by President George W. Bush after spurious intelligence indicated a dire threat to U.S. security, quickly proved a deadly quagmire instead.

"My entire life has been influenced and affected by the decisions we made a month before I enlisted," Vance said last year in a speech at the conservative Heritage Foundation. He lamented how those who were "the most wrong" about Iraq "suffered no consequences." The U.S. foreign policy establishment, he asserted, "has learned zero lessons from what is perhaps the most unforced and catastrophic error

SEE VANCE ON A4

PARIS OLYMPICS



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Noah Lyles and the roaring crowd at Stade de France were unsure who had won the men's 100-meter final until after a review.

## In a photo finish, Lyles doesn't blink

Brash sprinter from Alexandria captures dramatic 100-meter final, becoming an Olympic legend



Barry Svrluga

COLUMN

SAINT-DENIS, FRANCE — The 100 meters at the Olympics takes a blink. Cross the finish line as the eyelid closes, and you're a legend. Wait till the eyelid opens,

and you're an afterthought. What a way to determine legacies.

On Sunday night, when eight sprinters crossed the finish line at Stade de France — all seemingly on that same down blink — legacies couldn't be determined by the naked eye. Chests heaving, nearly the entirety of the field looked at the scoreboard, yearning for answers. Aside seven of their names sat a single word in all caps: PHOTO.

Poll the nearly 80,000 people

who packed the place who won, and it might have been an even split. Cameras had to do the work. As the sprinters mingled to try to unfry their nerves, American Noah Lyles approached Jamaican Kishane Thompson.

"Bro," Lyles told Thompson. "I think you got that one, big dog."

The first runner — it looked to be Thompson or Lyles, but who's to say? — crossed the line in 9.79 seconds. The last finished in 9.91. It took 28 seconds — nearly three times as long as the race — to show the result.

"I was not sure," Thompson said. "It was that close."

When the scoreboard finally revealed whose life would change irreversibly, Lyles's name popped to the top. His time registered on the

SEE SVRLUGA ON A6



ODD ANDERSEN/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Kristen Faulkner became the first American woman since 1984 to win the road race gold medal in cycling. More in Sports, D7

Fastest man alive: Alexandria's Noah Lyles finds his fire in the 100. D1

Rule the pool: As the swim meet ends, the U.S. team is still on top. D1

## Gimme swelter: Scottsdale markets heat to tourists

Campaign portrays liability as a lure, though some warn health risks may be lost in the cooling misters



ASH PONDERES FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Guests enjoy an early-morning dip in the pool July 27 at the Fairmont Scottsdale Princess hotel in Scottsdale, Ariz. The sprawling resort offers camp activities such as mini golf from 5 to 10 p.m.

BY RUBY MELLEN

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZ. — For most of the year, it's not hard to attract visitors to this city known for its spa resorts, golf courses and astonishing Sonoran beauty. But when summer hits, the heat is enduring and oppressive.

Travelers saw a problem, but some in Scottsdale sensed an opportunity: If you can't beat the heat, why not sell it?

The triple-digit temperatures? True. But not sticky or sweat-inducing, marketers claim in an ad campaign called, "It's that hot!" that launched nationally this year. The unrelenting heat? "Elegant," they assured. "Like a sage-scented sauna." And for those bold enough to seek out summer in Scottsdale, there are unbeatable rates at hotels and resorts that have innovated their offerings to accommodate blistering temperatures.

A warming planet is upending summer travel rituals — and the ways regions try to draw visitors. Sweden advertises "coolcations" as Southern Europe bakes. Adventure travelers increasingly

SEE SCOTTSDALE ON A9

Lobbyists push state lawmakers to advance legislation supporting it

BY TONY ROMM

U.S. pension funds are beginning to explore investments around bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, a move that could expose millions of former teachers, police officers, firefighters and other retirees to the wild ups and downs of a largely unregulated financial product.

In at least five states, industry lobbyists have aggressively hawked the idea, aiming to woo local lawmakers with the promise that digital assets can deliver sky-high profits — often without fully acknowledging the possible risks.

The emerging sales campaign contrasts with the broad warnings in Washington that investing in cryptocurrency could leave retirees' life savings vulnerable to "fraud, theft and loss." Federal officials first sounded those alarms even before the disastrous collapse of crypto giant FTX in 2022, which troubled a handful of pensions globally that had indirect exposure to a company that once seemed like a profitable tech juggernaut.

SEE CRYPTO ON A7

## IN THE NEWS

**Harris's running mate** The vice president interviewed at least three potential picks Sunday and is expected to announce her selection by Tuesday night. A6

**Debby approaches Florida** The storm is forecast to make landfall Monday before stalling over Georgia and the Carolinas. A8

**THE NATION**  
**Donald Trump** repeatedly attacked the GOP governor of Georgia at a rally in Atlanta. A3  
**As a fire** bears down on a tiny Washington town, residents are defying an evacuation order. A8

**THE WORLD**  
**Taiwan is struggling** to ready its citizens for a potential invasion by China. A10  
**Far-right protesters** clashed with riot police at a British hotel housing asylum seekers. A12

**THE ECONOMY**  
**We can all learn** something from JD Vance's blog resurfacing, Tatum Hunter writes. A13

**THE REGION**  
**Rayful Edmond III**, the former D.C. drug kingpin who became an informant in prison, is set to be released in 2025. B1

**Metro trains** have repeatedly come close to hitting workers over the past few years because of safety lapses, an audit found. B1  
**A Russian plane** shot down by the Germans during World War II is being restored for display at the National Air and Space Museum. B1

**STYLE**  
**This election season** has given us an eyeful of the glorious highs and perilous lows of men's makeup. C1  
**In "The Art of Power,"** Nancy Pelosi's new book, the former House speaker knocks Trump but pleads for political decency. C1

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