

# Dock strikers go back to work

Tentative deal gives 62 percent hike, extends contract to January

BY IAN DUNCAN, DAVID J. LYNCH AND LAUREN KAORI GURLEY

Striking dockworkers agreed to go back to work Thursday evening after reaching a tentative agreement with port operators for a 62 percent wage increase that extends the current contract through Jan. 15, providing more time to bargain over remaining issues.

The deal — brokered with the apparent help of senior Biden administration officials, according to a person close to the talks — came on the third day of the strike, sparing the U.S. economy the worst of the disruptions. It also takes a difficult issue for the Biden administration out of play less than five weeks before the presidential election, in which the White House's stewardship of the economy is a key issue.

“Effective immediately, all current job actions will cease and all work covered by the Master Contract will resume,” the parties said in a joint statement announcing the agreement.

The International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) had been seeking a substantial wage increase and a ban on the introduction of additional automation at 36 East and Gulf coast ports. Wag-

SEE STRIKE ON A18

## ELECTION 2024

# Trump's Jan. 6 role roars back into focus

BY AMY GARDNER AND JOSH DAWSEY

Former president Donald Trump's effort to overturn his loss four years ago and his role inciting the violent attack on the Capitol roared onto the 2024 campaign stage this week even as he continues to suggest he won't accept a defeat if it happens a second time.

On Tuesday, running mate JD Vance declined to say during the vice-presidential debate that Trump lost in 2020. On Wednesday, special counsel Jack Smith filed an explosive new pleading in federal court surfacing new details about Trump's lack of concern about the Capitol riot and his push to reverse his loss even as advisers repeatedly told him Joe Biden had legitimately won.

And on Thursday, Vice President Kamala Harris made a campaign appearance in the battleground state of Wisconsin with Liz Cheney, the former Republican congresswoman who lost her seat largely because of her condemnation of Trump's actions inciting the riot on Jan. 6, 2021.

The injection of the drama of 2020 into this year's presidential election could mobilize supporters on either side of the race.

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**'60-day rule':** In a time DOJ avoids politics, Trump case is different. A4

# War Biden sought to temper widens and rages on

BY KAREN DEYOUNG AND MISSY RYAN

On the morning of April 1, President Joe Biden's top national security aides had a stern message to deliver to Israel as it prepared to launch a military operation in Gaza's southernmost city of Rafah: Its northern Gaza offensive against Hamas militants had already killed tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians. The same thing could not happen again.

As Israeli Ambassador Michael

In Gaza fight, president stood by Israel but urged restraint. Netanyahu undercut him at every turn.

Herzog arrived at the White House Situation Room to attend a virtual meeting that Jake Sullivan, Biden's national security adviser, and Secretary of State Antony Blinken were about to hold with their counterparts in Tel Aviv, the Israeli diplomat pulled Blinken aides aside with startling news.

Less than an hour earlier, he said, Israeli warplanes had struck

an office building in Damascus, targeting the Syrian headquarters of Iran's elite Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, a building next to the Iranian Embassy.

Later that same day, Herzog alerted the White House with news of yet another strike.

Missiles from Israeli drones operating in Gaza had struck a clearly marked convoy of the Washington-based World Central

Kitchen, one of the few organizations able to get supplies to starving civilians. Seven people were dead, including aid workers from the United States, Britain, Poland and Australia, along with their Palestinian driver.

It was a terrible mistake — a tragedy, Herzog said. Israel, he vowed, would investigate and hold those responsible to account.

In a statement, an outraged U.S. president said that despite months of urging, Israel “has not done enough” to protect aid

workers and civilians from its attacks in Gaza.

Six months into the war, the events of that day encapsulated for Biden the dual challenges he has faced since the conflict began with Hamas's murderous Oct. 7 incursion into Israel that left about 1,200 people dead and 250 taken hostage.

While personally committed to supporting Israel's goal of obliter-

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**Lebanon:** Israel unleashes major strikes near Beirut. A16



ERIK S. LESSER/EPA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Terry Robinson retrieves items Thursday from his home in Swannanoa, N.C., after floodwaters swept away the house.

# Flood insurance rare in Helene's inland path

BY KEVIN CROWE, SHANNON OSAKA AND MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE

In Buncombe County, N.C., where an entire town disappeared beneath floodwaters, less than 1 percent of households had flood insurance. In Unicoi County, Tenn., where dozens of residents were stranded atop a hospital roof as waters rose, it was under 2 percent.

Storm underscores shortcomings of federal program and disaster aid

On average, just a tiny fraction of households in the inland counties hit hardest by Hurricane Helene and its remnants had flood insurance, according to a Wash-

ington Post analysis of recent data from the National Flood Insurance Program. Across seven affected states, only 0.8 percent of homes in inland counties affected by the storm had flood insurance. By contrast, 21 percent of homes in coastal counties in those areas had coverage.

The Post estimated the share of homes with flood insurance by using policy counts as of Oct. 1 provided by the Federal Emergen-

cy Management Agency and housing unit counts from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Experts say that lack of insurance will prove deeply damaging for those households in the years to come, adding to the overall toll of the devastating storm. So far, there have been at least 213 deaths

SEE HELENE ON A11

**Hospitals:** Push to conserve IV fluids after N.C. plant closure. A10

# D.C. paid millions to informant's nonprofit

2 people say Life Deeds' founder was man who allegedly bribed White

This article is by Paul Schwartzman, Meagan Flynn, Spencer S. Hsu, Jenny Gathright and Katie Shepherd

The FBI informant who allegedly bribed D.C. Council member Trayon White Sr. operated a nonprofit that was awarded millions in city contracts even after it committed an error serious enough that officials nearly barred it from government work, according to public records, city officials and people familiar with the matter.

The nonprofit, Life Deeds, is at the center of the federal investigation into White, who prosecutors allege took \$35,000 this summer in exchange for his promise to pressure city officials into awarding the contractor additional work.

Prosecutors have not publicly identified the nonprofit or the informant who they say handed White (D-Ward 8) cash-stuffed envelopes during four secretly recorded meetings. But two people familiar with the matter, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to discuss it, identified the informant as Allieu Kamara, the founder of Life Deeds, a

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**Further allegations:** Report says another D.C. official was bribed. B1



BRYNN ANDERSON/POOL/AP

Colt Gray, in a green shirt, leaves a court appearance Sept. 6 in Winder, Ga. The 14-year-old is accused of killing two students and two teachers at Apalachee High School in Winder on Sept. 4.

# The making of an alleged school shooter

Years of missed warnings and neglect for Ga. teen

This article is by Sarah Blaskey, John Woodrow Cox, Hannah Natanson, Laura Meckler and Shawn Boburg

WINDER, GA. — Three weeks before Colt Gray became the youngest alleged mass school shooter in a quarter century, his grandmother told him to hide in his bedroom and shut the door.

He had called his grandmother because, he told her, his mother was angry and “acting weird again.” His mom had struck him in the past, the grandmother said, recounting the episode to The Washington Post. This time, she said, the 14-year-old decided to confront his mother when she stepped through the doorway.

He reached for the AR-style rifle his dad had bought him for

Christmas, family members said, using the gun to shove her out of the bedroom and into a wall in the hallway.

He made a plea to his grandmother that day.

“I really need you to get my mother out of this house,” he said, according to the grandmother. Later, she would identify that as the moment Colt stopped believing his life would get better.

By then, family members said, Colt was adrift in a childhood ravaged by violence and addiction and overlooked by a system that failed to pull him out of it. His grandmother, Debbie Polhamus, had for years prodded schools, counselors and caseworkers to help him. None of it had been enough.

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## IN THE NEWS

**Fatal beating of Tyre Nichols** One of the three former police officers charged was found guilty of civil rights abuses; two others were convicted of witness tampering. A4

**Three Mile Island** The nuclear plant seeks \$1.6 billion in taxpayer backing to restart the facility and sell electricity to Microsoft. A18

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**Health officials** said there is still no evidence bird flu is spreading easily among humans. A3

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**Matthew Broderick,** star of “Babbitt” at D.C.'s Shakespeare Theatre Company, talks playing unlikable characters.

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