



In House, a vote to formalize inquiry

GOP seeks stronger legal footing in impeachment probe of Biden’s finances

BY JACQUELINE ALEMANY AND MATT VISER

House Republicans voted Wednesday to formally authorize an impeachment inquiry against President Biden in an effort to strengthen their oversight powers as Republican lawmakers continue to investigate the Biden family’s finances.

The inquiry, which was launched without a vote in September by Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), then serving as speaker, has so far been unable to prove the GOP’s claim that Biden benefited financially from his son’s foreign investment deals.

The vote brought about by Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.), however, had near-unanimous support among Republicans and comes after the president’s son Hunter Biden on Wednesday defied a congressional subpoena in the probe. Joe Biden is the eighth president to face an impeachment investigation.

No Democrats voted in support of the measure, which passed on a vote of 221-212.

Ahead of the vote, Democrats took to the House floor to denounce

SEE IMPEACHMENT ON A2

Hunter Biden: President’s son gives defiant public comments. **A18**

Deal calls for moving away from fossil fuels

Surprise climate accord addresses issue that predecessors had skirted

BY CHICO HARLAN, MAXINE JOSELOW AND TIMOTHY PUKE

DUBAI — Breaking a deadlock that had hindered climate talks for three decades, nations Wednesday struck a deal that calls for tackling the root cause of the climate crisis: fossil fuels.

The final agreement at the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Dubai, known as COP28, explicitly recommends “transitioning away from fossil fuels” such as oil, gas and coal that are dangerously heating Earth. That pledge — an obvious step, given the science — is nonetheless a breakthrough for the U.N. climate talks, which require consensus on final agreement. It also comes after several major countries fought furiously to preserve their right to extract wealth from under layers of earth.

Not even the landmark 2015 Paris agreement had specifically mentioned fossil fuel use, instead focusing on the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More than any climate deal before it, the new pact reflects a recognition that the world is doing more harm

SEE FOSSIL FUELS ON A13

Climate rethink: Rapid warming casts doubt on 1.5C threshold. **A12**

Deal would move Caps, Wizards to Virginia



JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin on Wednesday at the site of a proposed Alexandria arena for the Capitals and Wizards franchises.

D.C.’s negotiations: Critics say mayor’s offer is too little, too late. **B1**

Candace Buckner: From Leonsis, betrayal and broken promises. **D1**

Humiliating images of Palestinians condemned

Claims that detainees were Hamas militants come under scrutiny

BY KAREEM FAHIM, WILLIAM BOOTH, SUFIAN TAHA AND HAZEM BALOUSHA

The images of the Palestinian men, stripped to their underwear, forced to kneel, some bound, some blindfolded in the custody of Israeli soldiers, were certain to provoke extreme emotions.

When they exploded on social media, similar language across multiple tweets suggested a campaign — organized or spontaneous — to get them to the public. As photos and video spread on

X, Facebook and other platforms last week, they were picked up by Israeli media. “Images circulate of dozens of Hamas terrorists surrendering in Gaza,” the Jerusalem Post trumpeted in a typical headline. Israel’s military, which censors the Israeli media, did not object to the characterization or prevent the images’ spread.

Many in Israel viewed the images as evidence of victory over the militants who rampaged through Israeli communities on Oct. 7, killing 1,200 people. Or righteous vengeance.

Quickly, though, claims that the detainees were Hamas militants were challenged. Palestinians in Gaza identified relatives who they said were not fighters. Some of them were released. The images, rights activists say, began to convey something different,

SEE DETAINEES ON A9



YOSSI ZELIGER/REUTERS

An Israeli soldier stands by a truck filled with Palestinian detainees in the Gaza Strip on Friday. Rights activists call the actions in the images an attempt to humiliate and dehumanize Palestinians.

Hostages: Biden meets with relatives of Americans held by Hamas. **A10**

IMPERFECT UNION

A sliver of voters will wield outsize power in ’24

Electoral college result to turn on a small segment of people in a declining number of swing states

BY MICHAEL SCHERER, CLARA ENCE MORSE, JOSH DAWSEY AND MARIANNE LEVINE

Arlando Monk is an increasingly rare find in presidential politics: a voter whose choices matter.

The Black entrepreneur lives in Wisconsin, one of seven expected battlegrounds in the 2024 presidential race. He is registered to vote but not sure he will bother. He has not decided between former president Donald Trump or President Biden, if those are the major-party options.

“If it’s between them, I’m going to say this: Trump was hilarious. He was hilarious,” said Monk, 43, who lives in the Milwaukee area. Biden, meanwhile, has not delivered the change he expected, leaving Monk unsure. “I would say, it’s kind of up in the air.”

If U.S. presidents were selected through the principle of “one person, one vote” that governs legisla-

SEE ELECTIONS ON A6



JOSHUA LOTT/THE WASHINGTON POST

People at August’s GOP presidential debate in Milwaukee. Wisconsin is now a key election state.

THE ECONOMY

Digital activist Nandini Jammi hits far-right influencers where it hurts: their advertising revenue. **A14**

Capping its final policy meeting of the year, the Fed again left interest rates flat and indicated it might cut borrowing costs in 2024. **A15**

THE REGION

Prince William County’s board voted to approve a controversial data center project in a mostly rural area. **B1**

A judge ruled the Virginia NAACP cannot access a database the governor uses to decide whether to restore felons’ voting rights. **B1**

STYLE

In a new painting of Oprah Winfrey at the National Portrait Gallery, an olive branch speaks volumes. **C1**

LOCAL LIVING

Homeowners explain how they transformed garages into a dance studio, a social club, a DIY workshop and more.

BUSINESS NEWS.....	A14
COMICS.....	C6
OPINION PAGES.....	A19
OBITUARIES.....	B4
TELEVISION.....	C3
WORLD NEWS.....	A8

CONTENT © 2023
The Washington Post
Year 147, No. 53699



IN THE NEWS

Markets cheer Fed news The Dow Jones Industrial Average set a record amid signs that 2024 will yield interest-rate cuts. **A15**

Gravitas personified Actor Andre Braugher, who died this week at 61, practiced total and absolute dedication to understanding his characters. **Obituary, B4. Appreciation, C1**

THE NATION

Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.) has become the face of a movement against elite colleges. **A3**

The Supreme Court took up a challenge to a law used to charge Capitol riot defendants. **A4**

THE WORLD

Kyiv was hit by a barrage of ballistic missiles, injuring dozens and damaging buildings, after a cyberattack disabled Ukraine’s largest mobile phone and internet service provider. **A8**