



FORMER President Trump is surrounded by Secret Service agents during a campaign rally on Saturday in Butler, Pa. Trump appeared to raise a fist amid the commotion, drawing cheers from his supporters.

Trump is rushed off stage in rally shooting

Campaign says former president, appearing to be bloodied, is ‘fine’ and under medical care after incident in Butler, Pa.

By TIMES STAFF
AND WIRE REPORTS

BUTLER, Pa. — Former President Trump’s campaign said in a statement that the Republican candidate was “fine” after a shooting at his rally on Saturday in Butler, Pa. A local prosecutor says the suspected gunman and at least one attendee were killed.

“President Trump thanks law enforcement and first responders for their quick action during this heinous act,” spokesman Steven Cheung said in a statement. “He is fine and is being checked out at a local medical facility. More details will follow.”

Supporters clutching signs with the slogan, “Joe Biden, You’re Fired!” shrieked as Trump grabbed

at his right ear and went down.

“Jesus Christ!” one man behind the stage said.

When Trump rose to his feet, the crowd cheered. Many of the attendees had their mobile phones trained on the former president, who was quickly surrounded by his security detail.

As the dark-suited security personnel moved to whisk Trump off the stage, he appeared to say, “Wait,” several times. Then he raised a fist, and the crowd cheered. With the officers surrounding Trump in a tight circle, he appeared to shout the word “fight” three times, each utterance punctuated by a fist pump.

In the crowd behind him, supporters urged on the former president. One man screamed, “We love you!”

The former president

and presumptive Republican nominee was showing off a chart of border crossing numbers during his last rally before the Republican National Convention opens Monday when bangs started ringing through the crowd. Trump could be seen reaching with his right hand toward his neck. There appeared to be blood on his face.

He quickly ducked behind the riser as agents from his protective detail rushed the stage and screams were heard in the crowd of several thousand people. The bangs continued as agents tended to him on stage.

The crowd cheered as he got back up and pumped his fist.

His motorcade left the venue. His condition was not immediately known.

Police began vacating the

fairgrounds shortly after Trump left the stage in what local officers described as a crime scene.

President Biden was briefed on the shooting and said, “There’s no place for this kind of violence in America,” adding that he’s “praying” for Trump.

House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) posted on the social media platform X that he was praying for Trump.

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin and Julie Carr Smith and Times staff writer Daniel Miller contributed to this report.



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Conservatives and California on path toward a culture clash

Project 2025, GOP platform set to take on possible Biden stand-ins

By KEVIN RECTOR

At the start of Project 2025’s conservative playbook for a second Trump presidency, Heritage Foundation President Kevin Roberts took aim at leaders who he said wield power to “serve themselves first and everyone else a distant second.”

He mentioned North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un comfortably ruling over an impoverished nation, “billionaire climate activists” flying on private jets while criticizing carbon-emitting cars, and two “COVID-19 shutdown politicians” in California who were seen out and about — at a hair salon and a fancy restaurant — while calling on their constituents to stay home.

Name-dropping U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi and Gov. Gavin Newsom in the conservative right’s blueprint for the White House was a way for Roberts to tie them, and California, to the idea that out-of-touch coastal elites are ruining the country.

That notion — well worn in American politics — appears throughout the Project 2025 plan, a wonky, 900-plus-page manifesto released last year by conservative thought leaders and Trump acolytes.

The idea is also evoked more subtly in the much snappier, 16-page Republican Party platform spearheaded by Trump and adopted by party officials last week, which criticizes American politicians who “insulated themselves from criticism and the consequences of their own bad actions” while average Americans suffered.

Roberts and other Heritage Foundation officials were not available for comment. A Heritage Foundation spokesperson said Project 2025 is a product of more

than 100 conservative organizations and “does not speak for any candidate or campaign.”

According to political experts, the conservative strategy of criticizing “woke” liberal ideas, many of which got traction in California, has become particularly useful in the current election cycle, as Trump’s base has proved especially receptive to conservative virtue signaling on issues such as abortion, climate change, guns, immigration and [See Project 2025, A9]

How the Baldwin ‘Rust’ case fell apart

Trial judge threw out the charge against the actor over a potential evidence issue involving bullets.

By MEG JAMES

SANTA FE, N.M. — The spectacular collapse of New Mexico’s criminal prosecution of Alec Baldwin in the deadly “Rust” movie shooting laid bare nearly three years of errors by state officials who were eager to prove themselves on a world stage.

Legal experts had long said it was a risk to charge Baldwin with involuntary manslaughter, a felony, for the 2021 death of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins, whom the actor accidentally shot while preparing for a scene with a firearm. Baldwin had been told — incorrectly — that his prop gun contained no actual ammunition.

New Mexico 1st Judicial District Court Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer threw out Baldwin’s charge late Friday after a daylong hearing in which defense attorneys alleged Santa Fe County deputies and a special prosecutor concealed potential evidence — a bag of bullets a retired police officer turned in after the incident — that may have proved helpful to Baldwin’s case.

“If this conduct does not rise to the level of bad faith, it certainly comes so near to bad faith to show signs of scorching,” Marlowe Sommer said, directing her scorn at prosecutor Kari T. Morrissey.

Baldwin, who had been facing an 18-month prison sentence if convicted, sobbed as he heard the decision.

Legal experts were stunned at what they said was the prosecution’s botch- [See Baldwin, A10]

Doctor led abortion pill ‘reversal’

San Diego physician George Delgado, who has built an antiabortion empire, helped take the fight all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court

By MACKENZIE MAYS

Two months before the U.S. Supreme Court shot down an attempt to ban abortion medication, a San Diego County doctor who was a plaintiff in the case stepped onto a stage in Texas and warned that another civil war is coming — this time over an issue “deeper than” slavery.

“This is life versus death, much more fundamental to our existence and to our relationship with our creator than being free or being a slave,” Dr. George Delgado said in April at an event hosted by the antiabortion group Life First. “This has a true potential to divide our country in a civil war. ... The pro-life states must remain vigilant.”

In a Supreme Court ruling last month, all nine justices declared that plaintiffs including Delgado, who has practiced medicine in California for more than 30 years, lacked standing and could not seek to pull abortion pills off the market simply because they are morally opposed.

[See Delgado, A12]



DR. GEORGE DELGADO, founder of Culture of Life Family Services in Escondido, Calif., is certified in family medicine and palliative care.

Mexico could legalize shrooms

Popularity of the psychedelic fungi elsewhere spurs debate over who should have access. **WORLD, A5**

Sex advice guru ‘Dr. Ruth’ dies

The psychologist who enlightened radio, TV and newspaper audiences for decades was 96. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Final crowning for NBA’s king?

LeBron James is leading America’s best basketball talent as it goes for the gold medal in Paris. **SPORTS, D1**

Weather

Partly sunny. L.A. Basin: 84/62. **B10**

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