

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER

Today, mostly cloudy, high 50. Tonight, rain and drizzle late, low 42. Tomorrow, cloudy, a brief shower or two, a light southwest wind, high 59. Weather map appears on Page A14.

VOL. CLXXIII . . . No. 60,105

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TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

Delay Denied In Trump Trial In Manhattan

Hush-Money Case Set to Start April 15

This article is by **Ben Protess, Jonathan E. Bromwich, Jesse McKinley and Kate Christobek.**

Donald J. Trump is all but certain to become the first former American president to stand trial on criminal charges after a judge on Monday denied his effort to delay the proceeding and confirmed it would begin next month.

The trial, in which Mr. Trump will be accused of orchestrating the cover-up of a simmering sex scandal surrounding his 2016 presidential campaign, was originally scheduled to start this week. But the judge, Juan M. Merchan, had pushed the start date to April 15 to allow Mr. Trump’s lawyers to review newly disclosed documents from a related federal investigation.

Mr. Trump’s lawyers had pushed for an even longer delay of 90 days and sought to have the case thrown out altogether. But in an hourlong hearing on Monday, Justice Merchan slammed their arguments, rejecting them all.

In a particularly low moment for the defense team, the judge questioned the assertions — and eventually, the résumé — of one of Mr. Trump’s lawyers as the former president looked on.

After a midmorning break, the judge returned to the courtroom, said that Mr. Trump had suffered no harm from the late disclosure of the documents and made the April 15 trial date final.

“Defendant has been given a reasonable amount of time,” the judge said crisply.

The ruling — coming nearly a year to the day after the Manhattan district attorney’s office obtained an indictment of Mr. Trump — makes it highly likely that the former president will go on trial next month even as three other criminal cases against him are mired in appeals and other delays.

The decision underscored the limits of Mr. Trump’s favored legal

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TRUMP’S BOND CUT An appeals court unexpectedly lowered the amount to \$175 million. PAGE A13

Will a Refusal To Court Haley Haunt Trump?

By **SHANE GOLDMACHER**
and **MAGGIE HABERMAN**

When Nikki Haley dropped out of the 2024 presidential race in early March, she withheld endorsing Donald J. Trump and extended a pointed invitation for him to court her and the political coalition she constructed. “This is now his time for choosing,” she said then.

It has been nearly three weeks. He has not called.

There has never been very much magnanimity in the MAGA movement.

But as Mr. Trump prepares for a rematch against President Biden that is expected to offer little margin for error — the last race was decided by fewer than 50,000 votes across three states — the question is whether Mr. Trump’s decision to bypass any sort of reconciliation with Ms. Haley after a brutal and personal primary will matter.

Even out of the race, Ms. Haley has continued to pull in a significant number of voters in primary contests. Across the five swing states that have held primaries — Arizona, Georgia, Michigan,

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NARIMAN EL-MOFTY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Evacuating the Most Vulnerable From Gaza

Many children have sustained grievous injuries during Israel’s monthslong campaign against Hamas. Page A8.

Legal Woes Looming, Bolsonaro Holed Up at Hungarian Embassy

This article is by **Jack Nicas, Christoph Koettl, Leonardo Coelho and Paulo Motoryn.**

RIO DE JANEIRO — On Feb. 8, Brazil’s federal police confiscated former President Jair Bolsonaro’s passport and arrested a pair of his former aides on accusations that they had plotted a coup after Mr. Bolsonaro lost the 2022 presidential election.

Four days later, Mr. Bolsonaro was at the entrance to the Hungarian Embassy in Brazil, waiting to be let in, according to the embassy’s security camera footage, which was obtained by The New York Times.

The former president appeared to stay at the embassy for the next two days, the footage showed, accompanied by two security guards and waited on by the Hungarian ambassador and staff members. Mr. Bolsonaro, a target of various criminal investigations, cannot be arrested at a foreign embassy that welcomes him, because they are legally off-limits to domestic authorities.

The stay at the embassy suggests that the former president was seeking to leverage his friendship with a fellow far-right leader, Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary, into an attempt to evade the Brazilian justice system as he faces criminal investigations at home.

The Times analyzed three days’ worth of footage from four cameras in the Hungarian Embassy

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Speaker Wants to Aid Ukraine. The Obstacle Is His Own Party.

By **CATIE EDMONDSON**

WASHINGTON — When Speaker Mike Johnson opened the floor for questions at a closed-door luncheon fund-raiser in New Jersey last month, Jacquie Colgan asked how, in the face of vehement opposition within his own ranks, he planned to handle aid for Ukraine.

What followed was an impassioned monologue by Mr. Johnson in which he explained why continued American aid to Kyiv was, in his view, vital — a message starkly at odds with the hard-right views that have overtaken his party. He invoked his political roots as a Reagan Republican, denounced President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia as a “madman,” and conceded the issue had forced him to walk a “delicate political tightrope.”

Reminded by Ms. Colgan, a member of the American Coalition for Ukraine, a nonprofit advocacy group, of the adage that the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil was for good people to do nothing, Mr. Johnson replied that he kept a copy of the quotation framed in his office.

“That’s not going to be us,” he assured her. “We’re going to do our job.”

The exchange reflects what Mr. Johnson has privately told donors, foreign leaders and fellow members of Congress in recent weeks, according to extensive notes Ms. Colgan took during the New Jersey event and interviews with several other people who

‘We’re Going to Do Our Job,’ Johnson Vows

have spoken with him.

While the speaker has remained noncommittal about any one option, he has repeatedly expressed a personal desire to send aid to Ukraine — something he has voted against repeatedly in the past — and now appears to be in search of the least politically damaging way to do it.

The challenge for Mr. Johnson is that any combination of aid measures he puts to a vote will likely infuriate the growing isolationist wing of his party, which considers the issue toxic. Representative

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HAIYUN JIANG FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES
Speaker Mike Johnson.

Michigan Is Looking for a Hollywood Comeback

By **MATT STEVENS**
and **CHRISTOPHER KUO**

Michigan desperately wanted a Hollywood makeover. And for \$500 million, studios were more than happy to help.

When the state started writing checks in 2008 from one of the nation’s most generous film incentive programs, productions flocked there, making box-office hits like Clint Eastwood’s “Gran Torino,” Sam Raimi’s “Oz the Great and Powerful” and Zack Snyder’s “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice.”

Pricey Film Tax Breaks Are Rarely Worth It, Experts Say

Then Michigan did the math.

After a state economist determined that “the film incentives represent lost revenue” and that their economic benefits were “negligible,” Michigan, which cut funding for the police and schools while facing a severe budget deficit, eventually decided to end

its incentives.

As the program gradually unwound, “The Avengers” moved to Cleveland and “Iron Man 3” went to Wilmington, N.C. Even “Detroit” was filmed in Boston.

Now, almost a decade after the state stopped paying Hollywood, lawmakers think they can no longer afford not to.

“We’re not on an even playing field,” said Dayna Polehanki, a state senator and one of the sponsors of legislation that would thrust Michigan back into fierce competition with dozens of states

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INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Tracing the Moscow Attackers

Online videos and images appear to connect the four suspects detained by Russia to last week’s massacre. PAGE A6

Sanctions on Chinese Hackers

The United States accused the nation’s elite hacking units of targeting critical infrastructure in America. PAGE A5

NATIONAL A11-17

Who Makes Hunting Rules?

A bill in Vermont that would add people who don’t hunt or fish to the board that drafts hunting and fishing rules has stirred an outcry in the state. PAGE A15

Settlement for Home’s Value

After a Black couple claimed bias relating to their house’s appraisal, their mortgage lender agreed to a payout and several policy changes. PAGE A16

Agents Raid Combs’s Homes

Homeland Security agents searched homes in Los Angeles and Miami that were said to be linked to Sean Combs, the hip-hop mogul. PAGE A14

BUSINESS B1-6

Boeing C.E.O. to Step Down

The chief executive, Dave Calhoun, said he would leave at the end of the year amid the company’s most significant safety crisis in years. PAGE B1

NBC Faces On-Air Rebellion

In live remarks, some of the network’s best-known anchors questioned a decision to hire a political analyst. PAGE B1

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Doubts on Psychedelic Studies

A scientist was known for rigorous research into the benefits of psilocybin, but now questions have arisen. PAGE D1

SPORTS B7-10

Leave Me Alone, Coach

Major league hitters and pitchers are struggling to sort through all the voices in their ears as the coaching staffs expand and the players also work with their own advisers. PAGE B7

A Testament to Toughness

Four Houston starters fouled out and a walk-on had to shoot crucial free throws for a 100-95 overtime victory against Texas A&M in the N.C.A.A. men’s basketball tournament. PAGE B8

OPINION A18-19

Tina Brown

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ARTS C1-6

Afghan Bowls in Connecticut

Matin Malikzada, a ceramist who left Afghanistan in 2021, has made a new life in America. Above, “wedging” clay before putting it on a wheel. PAGE C5

