

The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024

SUPER TUESDAY

No surprise, it's a big night for Trump

With dominating performance, he nears the GOP nomination

By Jess Bidgood

GLOBE STAFF

RALEIGH, N.C. — If there is a promising purple-state beachhead for former president Donald Trump in 2024, look no further than North Carolina.

It's a place that might have opened doors for former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley, given its clusters of highly educated voters and its status as the only one of the 15 states holding primaries on Tuesday where Trump and President Biden finished less than 2 percentage points apart in 2020.

But Trump's iron grip on his party

was evident practically everywhere here.

Trump steamrolled Haley in North Carolina, according to the Associated Press, with Republican voters apparently ignoring her warnings that the former president will be a hard sell in narrowly divided states such as this one. He is moving to install hometown favorites such as the chair of the state GOP to lead Republicans on the national stage. And candidates he endorsed notched down-ballot victories that will ensure the state's Republican Party sounds all the more like him in the months to come.

"It speaks to the complete Trumpification of the Republican Party, and you'll see that statewide," said Steven Greene, a professor of political science at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. "I don't want to say Donald Trump changed everything, because that's hyperbole, but in a hyperbolic sense, he absolutely did."

On a day widely seen as a possible last stand for Haley — and for the idea of Republican opposition to Trump generally — the former president dominated the polls across the country, running up margins among GOP voters in blue states such as

SUPER TUESDAY, Page A6

Precincts were numbered in Bridgewater on Tuesday as voters across the state went to the polls. The results were predictable but many people expressed dissatisfaction with their choices. **B1.**



JONATHAN WIGGS/GLOBE STAFF

Expiring patents not translating into cheaper drugs

AbbVie able to hang on to market share with high-priced Humira

By Robert Weisman

GLOBE STAFF

A long-awaited moment for consumers arrived last year when patent protection expired on the nation's most prescribed medicine, AbbVie's wildly successful — and costly — rheumatoid arthritis drug Humira.

Nine rival drug makers piled into the market, offering what are essentially generic versions of Humira, an anti-inflammatory treatment developed in a Worcester research lab. Most of the alternatives were priced at a discount of 85 percent below Humira's list price of \$84,000 a year.

But a year after the first low-cost substitute became available, AbbVie still controls more than 98 percent of prescriptions for the injectable drug, according to data compiled by the Forian analytics firm.

The failure of Humira's competitors to gain much traction — so far, at least — helps illustrate the market grip maintained by brand-name drug makers like AbbVie and the influence of large intermediaries such as CVS Caremark in determining which drugs are accessible to patients.

It also underscores the challenges of winning acceptance for cheaper versions of biologic

HUMIRA, Page A7

Higher spending on rebates appears to have contributed to a **45% decline** in AbbVie's net revenue from Humira in the US, which fell to **\$3.7 billion** in the last three months of 2023 from **\$5 billion** in the same period a year earlier.

Most of the alternatives were priced at a discount of **85%** below Humira's list price.

Dartmouth team breaks new ground by voting to unionize

By Kevin Cullen

GLOBE STAFF

HANOVER, N.H. — Members of the men's basketball team at Dartmouth College voted to unionize Tuesday, making them eligible to receive compensation and other benefits, a historic precedent that is expected to spark similar organizing efforts at other private schools.

By a vote of 13 to 2, the players agreed to become members of Service Employees International Local 560, which also represents workers at the Ivy League school. They are now eligible to bargain with the college administration for pay and other benefits — a first that could again challenge the fiercely debated position taken by most universities that college athletes are amateurs, not paid professionals.

The players said they were motivated to organize in part because the Ivy League doesn't offer athletic scholarships and players work part time on campus, which makes it harder to juggle sports and studies.

It's not clear when, or if, bargaining will begin.

After the ballots were



ADAM GRAY/GETTY IMAGES

Romeo Myrthil (right) was a leader in the men's team's push for a union.

counted, Dartmouth asked the National Labor Relations Board to review its decision in February to recognize Dartmouth's players as employees, clearing a path for Tuesday's vote.

If the federal labor board upholds the decision, Dartmouth could appeal in federal court and ultimately to the Supreme Court, said the agency's spokesperson, Kayla Blado.

DARTMOUTH, Page A8

'It sucks the magic out of it. Who wants to find a marble someone threw there?'

DAVE VALLE, *who offers no compromises when it comes to sea glass*



PHOTOS BY ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF



Dave Valle, shown at Revere Beach, has been a serious hunter and crafter of sea glass for a decade. At left, one of his finds; at right, some of his works.



Getting at the heart of glass

Beachcombing purists recoil at 'seeding' with actual marbles

By Billy Baker

GLOBE STAFF

GLOUCESTER — Dave Valle, the bad boy of New England sea glass hunting, does not debate; instead, he attacks those he disagrees with, which is anyone he sees as cheating him, and all "purists," out of the serendipity they chase.

The target of his war is specific: seeders, and anyone who condones the practice of intentionally throwing glass into the ocean so that it can be tumbled by swells and rediscovered in the future, transformed. But it is a particular kind of seeding, one that has grown in recent years, that triggers the rage in Valle that got him kicked out of three Facebook groups — marbles.

"A marble is supposed to be the most exciting thing to find beachcombing. It's the ultimate treasure," he said as he hunted a field of beach pebbles on a recent day, holding a walking stick with a spade fashioned to one end. "They say they're leaving this for the future? It's littering. And it sucks the magic out of it. Who wants to find a marble someone threw there?"

Sea glass collecting has exploded lately, buoyed by Facebook forums, a thriving market for sea-glass jewelry and crafts, and an older fan base who embraced safe ways to be outside during the pandemic. When seeding marbles became a trend — Valle said it was a few people in Rhode Island who

GLASS, Page A7

Liberal Mass. leaders faced with hard choices on migrants

By Emma Platoff

GLOBE STAFF

Community groups were displaced when a beloved Boston recreation center became an emergency shelter for migrant families. The governor imposed the first-ever cap on the number of homeless families guaranteed shelter under state law. And looming financial challenges could force Massachusetts to slash hundreds of millions of dollars from the budget as soon as next year.

As the nation grapples with record

numbers of migrants fleeing violence, political unrest, and economic turmoil at home, Governor Maura Healey has had to balance services for new arrivals against the longstanding needs of other vulnerable communities — forcing difficult choices and testing the state's progressive reputation.

She is just one in a group of blue state and city leaders facing thorny new challenges due to inaction by the federal government and a fresh tactic from Re-

MIGRANTS, Page A5

Devra First made a reservation and ate dinner at Table, the center of a recent controversy. Here's what her meal was like. **G1.**

The MBTA's progress on removing slow zones has stalled, with the numbers actually worsening. **B1.**

Major mud

Wednesday: Warm, rain later. High 53-58. Low 40-45.

Thursday: Tapering to drizzle. High 44-49. Low 34-39.

Weather and Comics, **G6-7.** Obituaries, **C11.**

VOL. 305, NO. 66

* Suggested retail price

\$3.50

