

All the News
That's Fit to Print

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, humid, a stray thunderstorm, high 84. Tonight, humid, showers and a thunderstorm, low 73. Tomorrow, a shower and thunderstorm, high 86. Weather map, Page A20.

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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

Biden Lays Out Plan to Change Supreme Court

Term Limits and a Code of Ethics Face Snags

By KATIE ROGERS

AUSTIN, Texas — President Biden, warning that the country's courts were being weaponized as part of an “extreme and unchecked” conservative agenda, said on Monday that he would push for legislation that would bring major changes to the Supreme Court, including term limits and an enforceable code of ethics on the justices.

Mr. Biden detailed his plans in a speech at the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library and Museum in Austin, his first public engagement since he announced his decision to end his presidential campaign last week.

His visit was initially scheduled to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. But it quickly became a venue for Mr. Biden to begin buttoning up a 51-year legislative legacy while outlining an election-year intention to try to stop what many in his party feel is the Supreme Court's ideological drift into conservatism.

The proposal would require congressional approval and has little hope of gaining traction in a Republican-controlled House and a divided Senate. In a social media post, Speaker Mike Johnson called the plan “dead on arrival” in the House. (Mr. Biden later said onstage that Mr. Johnson’s “thinking is dead on arrival.”)

This month, the court issued a 6-to-3 ruling that grants broad immunity to presidents from prosecution for actions they take while in office. Mr. Biden called for a constitutional amendment that would limit such immunity.

“For all practical purposes, the court’s decision almost certainly means that the president can violate the oath, flout our laws and face no consequences,” Mr. Biden said. “Folks, just imagine what a president could do trampling civil rights and liberties, given such immunity.”

Mr. Biden, warning that “extremism is undermining the public confidence in the court’s decisions,” said conservative plans for sweeping policy changes if former President Donald J. Trump wins a second term, known as Project 2025, would continue to push the courts to the right.

“They’re serious, man,” Mr. Biden said. “They’re planning another onslaught attacking civil rights in America.”

His remarks were met with support from others in his party, including Vice President Kamala Harris, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, who said she was a partner in the effort and would take up Mr. Biden’s proposal in her campaign.

“These popular reforms will help to restore confidence in the court, strengthen our democracy and ensure no one is above the law,” she said in a statement sent by her campaign.

The conservative activist Leonard A. Leo, who is known for making the appointments of conservative judges a core of the Republican Party’s agenda, assailed Mr. Biden’s efforts as partisan: “It’s



Voters at a polling station at sunrise on Sunday for Venezuela’s presidential election, which drew accusations of widespread fraud.

Gunman Kept One Step Ahead of Secret Service

This article is by Haley Willis, Aric Toler, David A. Fahrenthold and Adam Goldman.

Nearly 100 minutes before former President Donald J. Trump took the stage in Butler, Pa., a local countersniper who was part of the broader security detail let his colleagues know his shift was ending.

“Guys I am out. Be safe,” he texted to a group of colleagues at 4:19 p.m. on July 13. He exited the second floor of a warehouse that overlooked the campaign rally site, leaving two other countersnipers behind.

Outside, the officer noticed a young man with long stringy hair sitting on a picnic table near the

Several Officers Were Aware of Him Earlier Than Thought

warehouse. So at 4:26 p.m., he texted his colleagues about the man, who was outside the fenced area of the Butler Fair Show grounds where Mr. Trump was to appear. He said that the person would have seen him come out with his rifle and “knows you guys are up there.”

The countersniper who sent the texts confirmed to The New York Times that the individual he saw was later identified as the gunman.

By 5:10 p.m., the young man was no longer on the picnic table. He was right below the countersnipers, who were upstairs in a warehouse owned by AGR International. One of the countersnipers took pictures of him, according to a law enforcement after-action report, which along with the texts from the Beaver County Emergency Services Unit was provided to The Times by the office of Senator Charles E. Grassley, Republican of Iowa. The text messages were independently verified by The Times.

At 5:38 p.m., the photos were shared in a group chat, and another text went out among the officers, saying they should inform the Secret Service. “Kid learning

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Nations Doubt Election Result For Venezuela

By FRANCES ROBLES

CARACAS, Venezuela — The United States and countries around the world denounced the results of Venezuela’s presidential election, in which the incumbent, Nicolás Maduro, declared victory in the face of accusations of widespread fraud, officially proclaiming the election decided without releasing the full vote counts.

Protests broke out in Caracas, the capital, and other cities, with hundreds of people marching through the streets.

Mr. Maduro appeared to dig in, with his government announcing that it was investigating top opposition leaders, accusing them of hacking the electoral computer systems.

The move by the electoral authority to not release detailed voting results, which it had routinely done in past elections, intensified the sense among many Venezuelans and international observers that the election had been essentially stolen.

Sporadic demonstrations in Caracas slums on Monday morning grew throughout the day as residents angered by the election results headed toward the center of the capital, reaching areas that have not seen political unrest for more than two decades. Pro-government paramilitaries responded by opening fire in the air and police shot tear gas to disperse the protests.

Protesters tried to reach the election headquarters in Cumaná, 250 miles east of the capital, but they were pushed back by the National Guard.

The disputed election put renewed attention on the Biden administration, whose negotiations

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JENN ACKERMAN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

To Paris the Hard Way

Sunisa Lee overcame a lot to be able to defend her Olympic all-around gymnastics title. Page B8.

NETANYAHU VOWS ‘SEVERE’ REACTION TO ROCKET STRIKE

THREAT TO HEZBOLLAH

Lebanese Tense as Israeli Counterattack on Militia Looms

By ISABEL KERSHNER and EUAN WARD

JERUSALEM — Tensions were high on both sides of the Israeli-Lebanese border on Monday as Israeli leaders vowed to deliver a significant military blow against the armed group Hezbollah in response to a deadly rocket attack over the weekend.

The attack on Saturday killed 12 children and teenagers in the Druse Arab village of Majdal Shams in the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights.

Hezbollah, an Iran-backed militia that dominates southern Lebanon and that has been firing rockets into Israel for months, denied responsibility for the strike. But Israel and the United States blamed the group, saying it was Hezbollah’s rocket that had been fired from territory it controls.

Israel’s prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, who visited the site of the attack on Monday, said, “Our response is coming, and it will be severe.” Local residents heckled Mr. Netanyahu, telling him they had no security and chanting, “Murderer! Murderer!” videos posted on social media showed.

Mr. Netanyahu’s visit to Majdal



AVISHAG SHAAAR-YASHUV FOR THE N.Y.T.

Surveying damage after an attack on the Golan Heights.

Shams came the morning after Israeli cabinet ministers authorized him and Israel’s defense minister, Yoav Gallant, to determine the nature and timing of the military response. The strike and Israel’s expected counterattack have raised fears that nearly 10 months of armed conflict between Israel and Hezbollah could escalate into an all-out war.

Hezbollah began firing rockets, antitank missiles and drones into Israel in solidarity with Hamas after that group, which is also backed by Iran, led the deadly Oct. 7 attack on southern Israel.

Israel and Hezbollah have since fired thousands of missiles across the border, wrecking towns, killing hundreds, displacing tens of thousands on both sides of the lines and leading each to threaten the other with a ground invasion. The strike on Majdal Shams was the deadliest attack on civilians in Israeli-controlled territory since

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Harris’s Words From 4 Years Ago May Haunt Her

By REID J. EPSTEIN

WASHINGTON — When she ran for president the first time, Kamala Harris darted to the left as she fought for attention from the Democratic Party’s liberal wing.

After she dropped out, social and racial justice protests swept across the country in the summer of 2020, and Ms. Harris joined other Democrats in supporting progressive ideas during what ap-

In Primary, She Took Progressive Stances

peared to be a national realignment on criminal justice.

One presidential cycle later, with Vice President Harris less than a week into another race for the White House, video clips of her old statements and interviews are

being weaponized as Republicans aim to define her as a left-wing radical who is out of step with swing voters.

Former President Donald J. Trump is calling out her past positions and statements at his rallies, and on Monday his campaign began reserving time for television advertisements that are likely to resurface videos of Ms. Harris.

“The archive is deep,” said Brad

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In Pain, and Beguiled by a Far-Right Miracle Cure

By ELI SASLOW

Michael Chesebro awoke to the same reality as he did each morning, with pain radiating up his spine and into his shoulders before he opened his eyes. He remained still for a moment, summoning the courage to reach from his bed to his night stand. He rolled onto his back, which was fused together with metal after almost 20 years as a paratrooper in

Learning of ‘Medbeds’ via Conspiracist Site

the military. He extended his arm, which he had broken several times while wrangling bulls and horses on his ranch outside Cheyenne, Wyo.

Finally, his hand found his cellphone, and he logged on to the on-

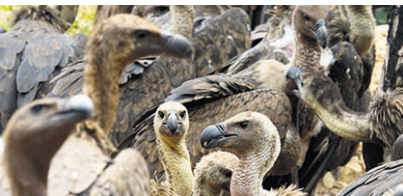
line universe where he spent most of his days.

“How’re we all doing this morning?” asked Michael, 63. “I’m hurting again — too much time spent jumping out of perfectly good airplanes.”

“You served our country well,” a retired teacher from Kansas responded.

“Hang in there, patriot,” a truck driver in Texas said. “Remember,

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Vultures and Humans in Crisis

The birds were accidentally poisoned in India. New research shows that led to a half a million human fatalities. PAGE A4

Details on Drug Lord’s Arrest

Officials said the last chief of Mexico’s Sinaloa drug cartel had been ambushed by a former ally. PAGE A6

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Evacuees Wonder What’s Left

Many who fled the rapidly spreading Park fire in Northern California are anxiously waiting to hear whether their houses are still standing. PAGE A12

Ruling Seeks N.R.A. Reforms

A New York judge let the group keep its independence, but wanted assurances it would overhaul its practices. PAGE A12

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The Olympic Flame That Isn’t

Two torches may have been used to open the Paris Games, but that’s not a fire in the cauldron. PAGE B7



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Ready, Set, Slow

At the World Snail Racing Championships in England, 0.006 m.p.h. is considered a breakneck speed. PAGE D8

Calculations at the Games

We consider the Newtonian trampoline, the physics of skateboarding and other matters of concern in Paris. PAGE D2

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Solar Panels on Balconies

Plug-and-play panels are popping up in yards and on balcony railings across Germany, driven by high electricity costs, bargain prices as low as \$217 and looser regulations. PAGE B1

Japan Feels Inflation’s Pinch

The country, seeking to shake itself out of decades of deflation, welcomed higher prices. Now the economy is faltering after that rise led consumers to cut back on spending. PAGE B1

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Jen Harris

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Fiery Dragons, Upscaled

For a “Game of Thrones” prequel series, the producers had to figure out how to make the creatures bigger, badder and more prominent. PAGE C1

