



ON KHAOSAN ROAD, Bangkok’s backpacker haunt, cannabis sales make up as much as 20% of all revenue, a local business group says.

In Thailand, where legal weed was seen as salvation, the party is over

Decriminalization didn’t work out as planned, so the government is reversing course

By Max Kim

BANGKOK — Two years ago, soon after Thailand became the first Asian nation to decriminalize cannabis, Sarunyu Toprasert and three friends joined a rush of pot entrepreneurs and launched the Channel Weed Store.

They opened their third location last month, pouring \$27,000 into the operation and bedecking the storefront with a neon light in the shape of a marijuana leaf and a poster advertising prices as low as \$4 a gram.

Days later, the country’s prime minister announced that the government was reversing course and would ban recreational marijuana by the end of the year.

“It was a shock,” said Sarunyu, 33. “There were



EMPLOYEES trim cannabis for the Thai franchise Four Twenty. After legalizing weed two years ago, the government says it will put a ban in place by year’s end.

rumors of this happening before, but this time they sounded serious.”

As in California, legalization here hasn’t worked out as planned. Promises of economic salvation for poor farmers have not materialized. There are growing concerns that marijuana is harming children and making the already chaotic roads even more dangerous.

And a growing worry about methamphetamine — which remains illegal — has made drugs in general an appealing target for politicians. In parliamentary elections last year, most political parties campaigned against the recreational use of pot.

“Drugs are a problem that destroys the future of the country,” Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin said last month. “Many young people

Justices deny gun rights of domestic abusers

Those who threaten partners can lose 2nd Amendment privilege, Supreme Court rules.

By David G. Savage

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court put new limits on the 2nd Amendment on Friday, ruling that dangerous people who have threatened a domestic partner may be denied their right to have guns.

The 8-1 decision upholds federal and state laws that take away guns from those who are subject to domestic violence restraining orders.

“Since the founding, our nation’s firearm laws have included provisions preventing individuals who threaten physical harm to others from misusing firearms,” said Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., a conservative, writing for the court.

The outcome shows that most of the court’s conservative majority is willing to restrict the 2nd Amendment.

The court reversed a ruling by the conservative 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans, which had struck down part of the federal Violence Against Women Act. The law authorizes judges to remove guns from those who pose a “credible threat” to a domestic partner or a child.

In the past, gun rights advocates had argued that a responsible and law-abiding person has a right to have a gun for self-defense, and the Supreme Court had agreed. Two years ago, the justices ruled in favor of gun owners in New York, saying they had the right to seek permits to carry a concealed gun when they weren’t in their homes.

But Friday, the justices were not willing to rule that the 2nd Amendment protects the rights of dangerous people who have threatened others.

“An individual found by a court to pose a credible

Oh, the places they’ll go! Summer Olympics spreading out in 2028

Swimming at SoFi Stadium? Softball in Oklahoma City? Yes, organizers say.

By David Wharton

The 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles are getting an extreme makeover, with organizers proposing changes that would shift basketball into the new Intuit Dome, put a temporary swimming pool in the middle of SoFi Stadium and move softball games 1,300 miles east to Oklahoma City.

Revisions to the original master plan would incorporate Southern California’s newest sports venues, make thousands of additional tickets available to fans and, according to the private LA28 committee, generate an estimated \$156 million in savings and revenue.

“Some people like to have

the Games nice and compact,” said Victor Matheson, a sports economist at the College of the Holy Cross, Mass., who studies the business of the Olympics. “But from an economic standpoint, spreading things out seems to make sense.”

Friday’s announcement marks the first of several expected updates to a concept devised years ago, before the construction of SoFi and Intuit in Inglewood, when organizers first bid for the Games.

“The venue landscape in L.A. since 2016 has changed a lot,” LA28 chairman Casey Wasserman said. “The worst thing we could do is be static and not adjust.”

International Olympic Committee leaders have conditionally approved the proposal, pending a vote by the Los Angeles City Council. Under terms of a Games agreement with organizers, L.A. has a right to consider modifications occurring

An antidote to LGBTQ+ book bans

Shop in San Francisco ships titles to parts of country where they are being censored.

By Kevin Rector

Lots of out-of-town visitors to Fabulosa Books in San Francisco react emotionally when they see what Becca Robbins calls the “Big Gay Wall” — which features a stack of shelves brimming with LGBTQ+ titles.

But Robbins, the store’s events manager, remembers the response of a 15-year-old Ohio boy the best.

“Wait a minute! Is every single book on this whole wall gay?” the teen asked after walking in from Castro Street last year.

When Robbins said they were, the boy went quiet, then smiled back at her. “Can I hug you?” he asked.

The moment was “super moving and sweet,” Robbins said, but also “kind of terrible” — a reminder, in one of America’s queerest neighborhoods, that LGBTQ+



FABULOSA BOOKS manager Becca Robbins picks out titles with queer themes for the nonprofit Books Not Bans program in San Francisco’s Castro District.

Jobless rate dips as employers step up hiring in May

California adds 43,700 positions across broad spectrum of industries, outpacing nation in job creation. **BUSINESS, A7**

L.A. Unified quietly beefs up funding for arts

Elementary school budgets see \$30-million boost amid accusations district violated Prop. 28. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather

Mostly sunny and hot. L.A. Basin: 89/67. **B8**

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