

Gone fishin': Ex-Nine boss Sneesby opens up on new life



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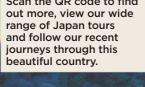
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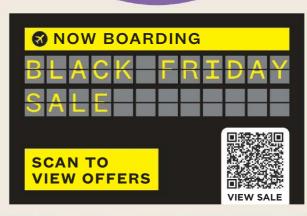


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# Leader's abortion warning

Jade Gailberger and Angira Bharadwaj

The Minister for Women is demanding Peter Dutton call on two of his MPs to withdraw an "anti-abortion bill" after the Opposition leader delivered a staunch warning to his party room over women's reproductive rights.

Mr Dutton told his party room in the year's third last sitting week to stay out of the abortion debate after the issue dogged the Queensland state election.

"It is typical of Peter Dutton to view this purely as a matter of winning or losing votes, rather than any genuine commitment to women's healthcare," Katy Gallagher told The Daily Telegraph.

In a challenge to Mr Dutton, Ms Gallagher is demanding he ask Nationals Senator Matt Canavan and Liberal Senator Alex Antic to withdraw a private bill on protecting the rights of children born alive after an abortion. The bill was also sponsored by United Australia Party Senator Ralph Babet.

Mr Dutton told his team on Tuesday they should all "be ready" because the election could be called at "any time".

He said issues such as abortion policy could not be addressed by the federal parliament, "so attempts by Labor to draw us off in that area should be seen as exactly what they are ... a distraction".

## 50c fares 'go slow' threat

Commuters could face rail chaos over Christmas with light rail workers threatening to "go slow" at just 10km/h unless fares are reduced to 50c after a breakdown in pay negotiations.

In a dispute that has dragged on for 18 months, the Rail, Tram and Bus Union NSW has been demanding light rail operator Transdev/Greater River City offer better pay and extra sick leave. French transport giant Transdev in June offered the workforce a four-year 18 per cent pay boost, which workers rejected.

The union – which says light rail drivers are among the lowest paid transport workers at \$22.95/hour – wants five extra days of sick leave and a 23 per cent raise over four years. **EDITORIAL PAGE 18** 



Sneesby's racing off to the US

## Ex-Nine CEO reveals next move after turbulent year

## EXCLUSIVE Peter Jenkins and Jonathon Moran

Former Nine boss Mike Sneesby flies out of Australia today on an overseas trip as he considers his next career move after quitting the media giant after a scandal-filled year.

Breaking his silence for the first time since a #MeToo-style scandal engulfed Nine, including the departure of former news boss Darren Wick following allegations of inappropriate behaviour, Mr Sneesby told The Daily Telegraph he would head to the US for a series of meetings after enjoying a muchneeded break with his son on the NSW north coast.

Mr Sneesby departed as chief executive of Nine Entertainment at the end of September, ahead of the release of a report into workplace culture at the network.

At Royal Randwick yesterday, a relaxed Mr Sneesby, alongside wife Ursula, enjoyed the hospitality in the VIP Ballroom at The Big Dance.

There, he opened up on his immediate plans for the future.

"I've spent a bit of time with my son camping and fishing, which was my highest priority the last couple of weeks," he said. "I finished up at Nine on the first day of school holidays and we did a road trip up to Byron.

"We fished and camped, stayed in tents, stayed in hotels.

"Tomorrow I'm off to the US, spending a few weeks over there just talking to people in my network.

"My family will join me towards the end of November."



Ursula and Mike Sneesby.

Nine Entertainment, owner of Channel 9, 2GB radio and the Sydney Morning Herald, has come under intense scrutiny this year. On October 17, an independent report into culture at Nine found "a systemic issue with abuse of power and authority; bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment".

The review included interviews with current and past employees, and a company-wide survey, and found 52 per cent of staff claimed to have experienced or witnessed abuse of power, 49 per cent said they had experienced bullying, discrimination or harassment, and 24 per cent said they had experienced sexual harassment.

The investigation was launched after shock allegations were made against Wick, with several women coming forward to claim he had sexually harassed them and was part of a toxic newsroom culture.

In June, Nine Chairman Peter Costello resigned days after a clash with a journalist at Canberra Airport and on October 14, it was announced that Nine communications boss Victoria Buchan had been made redundant.

#### WORKSHOP CANNED

## Anti-racism training firm gets the boot

An anti-racism workshop hosted by a company co-founded by an anti-Israel activist – who circulated the details of hundreds of Jewish Australians online – has been cancelled after the North Sydney mayor complained: "I do not tolerate racism."

Elsa Tuet-Rosenberg's company Hue was recruited to "facilitate" a training event on November 14, but the Executive Council of Australian Jewry denounced it as "a sick joke" and Mayor Zoe Baker subsequently canned it.

#### **APOLOGY**

## ABC 'sorry' for fake gunshot scandal

The ABC has apologised for "inadvertently" including additional audio of gunshots in a series of stories about an Australian military operation in Afghanistan in 2012.

ABC news director Justin Stevens told a Senate estimates hearing yesterdat that the issues with the audio "shouldn't have occurred" but refused to name any staff involved in the stories that ran on the 7.30 program and on the broadcaster's website. **EDITORIAL PAGE 18** 

#### **CRY FOR HELP**

## Cops and ambos are burnt out, stressed

Police and paramedics are among the most stressed-out public servants, with a state government staff survey revealing high rates of burnout, exhaustion and low enthusiasm.

The highest level of burnout was among paramedics at 56 per cent, with most feeling mentally exhausted "on most days". Almost half were struggling to maintain enthusiasm.

Burnout and mental exhaustion was also a key issue among police at 45 per cent, with 39 per cent losing enthusiasm for the job.

#### PLEAS DELAYED

## Accused killer cop's lawyer withdraws

A police officer has made a late change to his legal representation after he was accused of murdering two men with his service weapon in an alleged double homicide.

Beau Lamarre-Condon faced a Sydney court on Tuesday after spending more than eight months behind bars on remand.

The 29-year-old was expected to enter pleas on Tuesday, but his lawyer told the court he was withdrawing from the matter. He will now be represented by Legal Aid.



## **USELECTION 24**

## **Expect a** wait and plenty of

### WHEN WILL THE RESULTS BE ANNOUNCED?

It could be several days before a winner is announced as president-elect.

Kamala Harris, the Democratic nominee, has for weeks held a razor-thin lead over Donald Trump, her Republican opponent, according to the polls, but it may not be enough to carry her to victory in the swing states that will determine who reaches 270 Electoral College votes to secure the White House.

In 2020, it took five days to call the election for Joe Biden after a surge in mail-in voting during the Covid-19 pandemic caught some states unprepared.

This was the longest delay since 2000, when after five weeks of uncertainty the Supreme Court ruled that a ballot recount in Florida should end, in effect handing the presidency to George W. Bush.

Approximately 244 million Americans are eligible to vote. Should voter participation match the record 67 per cent turnout in 2020, about 162 million ballots will be cast across the 50 states.

#### EXIT POLLS, THE **FIRST INDICATOR**

Exit polls provide an early indication of who is voting, who they are voting for, and what their motivations are.

This year, surveys are being conducted at hundreds of randomly selected polling stations around the country on election day. Absentee voters, who are unable to make it to a polling station, are surveyed by phone and email.

Voters are typically asked about 25 questions, including who they voted for, how the economy is faring and what the most important issue is to them.

Exit polls often provide a more accurate picture of the state of the race than polls conducted in the lead-up to election day, as they only capture people who have voted.





Oprah Winfrey campaigns for Kamala

Harris at her final rally. Picture: Angela Weiss/AFP

#### **Tom Minear**

Tens of millions of Americans headed to the polls overnight to decide what loomed as one of the closest presidential elections in modern history.

On a frenetic final day of an extraordinary campaign, Donald Trump and Kamala Harris blitzed the battleground states and jockeyed for favouritism, with the former president saying it was "really not tight" while the Vice President maintained "the momentum is on our side".

The candidates remained deadlocked in the polls, meaning the result may not be decided today in a stalemate that could spark chaos across the

Tough security measures were in place to protect election officials as voting began, as well as the Republican and Democratic events in Florida and Washington DC, while intelligence agencies warned of an unprecedented disinformation campaign by foreign adversaries.

Ms Harris spent her final day in Pennsylvania – the state that may well decide the election - where she knocked on doors and rallied with celebrities including Oprah Winfrey, Lady Gaga and Katy Perry.

Before the rally Ms Harris shared a happy moment with husband Doug Emhoff, with the pair coming together on Air Force Two before flying to her event.

"We have an opportunity in this election to finally turn the page on a decade of politics driven by fear and division ... we are done with that," she said in Pittsburgh.

Ms Harris in her final

campaign blitz in Rankin,

Pennsylvania. Picture: AFP

At a duelling rally in the same city, Mr Trump invoked his brush with death when he was shot in July, saying that "many people say that God saved me in order to save America".

During Mr Trump's speech he invited his children onto the stage, with only his son Barron and daughter Ivanka watching from afar.

"With your help, we will fulfil that extraordinary mission together," the former presi-

"If we win Pennsylvania, we

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### Weather







### **Word Puzzle**



In making a word each letter may be used only once, and the centre letter must be included. No slang, hyphens, apostrophes or plurals ending in 's'. Minimum four letters. Good 21, Very good 28, Excellent 30



#### LAST PUZZLE'S ANSWERS

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### Final drive for votes

Donald Trump and Kamala Harris' itineraries for the last day of campaigning.

**TRUMP** 

**HARRIS** 

Donald Trump told a Pittsburgh rally (below left) he has no doubt he will win the election. Picture: Rebecca Droke / AFP



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Raleigh **NORTH CAROLINA** 

Mr Trump's family joined him on stage in Pittsburgh.

They'll try, and they are trying," he claimed. It came as the Republican Party – which has already

will win the whole thing."

"we have to swamp them".

He told his supporters the

"I think it's too big to rig.

race was "ours to win" but that

launched more than 130 lawsuits during the election - prepared a legal counteroffensive to challenge the results if he lost.

"If we win decisively tomorrow, you don't give them a week to find that magical truck filled with ballots," Mr Trump's son Donald Jr said.

"You know what they're going to try to do, we've seen this playbook before, but this time we're prepared."

Harris campaign chair Jen O'Malley Dillon said the race was "incredibly close" and that the results may not be known "for several days".

"We're going to continue to see new votes being reported for many days after election day, and that's obviously not a sign of fraud, it's just the way it works," she said.

The election is expected to be decided in seven key swing states, with Ms O'Malley Dillon predicting "near complete results" would come today from Georgia. North Carolina and Michigan, plus "partial results" from Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Arizona.

More than 78 million Americans voted prior to election day – half the number who

voted in 2020, when it took four days for Joe Biden to be confirmed as the victor over do.' Mr Trump.

get everybody out and vote, there's not a thing they can

He mostly stuck to his script "It's ours to lose," Mr Trump during his final rallies, and she said was "a tribute to those

years leading "the greatest political movement by far in the history of our country".

"We do not have to settle for weakness, incompetence, decline, and decay," Mr Trump said in Pittsburgh, as he promised to "make America great again".

He also celebrated the endorsement of America's most popular podcaster Joe Rogan, while sparking a fresh controversy by saving it would be "interesting" to put boxer Mike Tyson "in the ring with Kamala".

Ms Harris later held her final rally on the famous "Rocky Steps" at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, in what said in North Carolina. "If we sounded nostalgic about his who start as the underdog and interfere in the election.

climb to victory".

"It comes down to this: one more day in the most consequential election of our lifetime, and the momentum is on our side," she said.

"The race ain't over yet, and we must finish strong. This could be one of the closest races in history ... make no mistake: we will win."

In a sign of the tense environment, a Georgia poll worker was arrested for making bomb threats to colleagues and a voter in Illinois was charged with punching an election judge.

US intelligence agencies said they expected foreign adversaries - led by Russia -

## A two-horse race that's as hard to pick as the Cup

#### ANALYSIS **Tom Minear**



is a two-horse race. But picking a winner this time feels as difficult as it does in a 24-horse field.

This really is Donald Trump's race to lose. Voters are broadly unhappy with soaring inflation, illegal immigration and wars in Europe and the Middle East. They are unsure about Kamala Harris, a historically unpopular vice president who has had only 106 days to campaign. And their alternative is a former president who heroically survived an assassination attempt.

The fact Mr Trump is essentially tied in the polls with Ms Harris is seen by Republicans as evidence he will win. After all, he trailed by wide margins on the eve of the 2016 and 2020 elections, only to win the first and almost the second. Mr Trump is tipping a landslide.

At the same time, however, he is also ramping up his claims about cheating, most notably in a dark rant about the "demonic" and "corrupt" Democrats the weekend before the election. If the 78-vear-old truly believed he would win, wouldn't he want voters to trust the results?

That opens up the possibility that Mr Trump thinks the momentum is no longer in his favour. Ms Harris, meanwhile, is happily claiming that it is flowing in her direction.

Her team thinks she is suc-

cessfully reclaiming some of Mr Trump's hard-won gains with young men and black and Hispanic voters. Even more importantly, they believe women are surging to support her, a crucial advantage given more women vote than men.

This was laid bare in a shock poll that put Ms Harris up by three percentage points in Iowa, a state Mr Trump has won twice before which was not thought to be up for grabs.

There are other anecdotal indicators of momentum. The size of Mr Trump's prized crowds are waning, while Ms Harris's rallies are bursting with enthusiasm.

But her team maintains she is the underdog. They say they are only "cautiously optimistic", and with good reason.

Mr Trump, for all his flaws, is still so hard to beat.