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April 4, 2017

The Washington Post

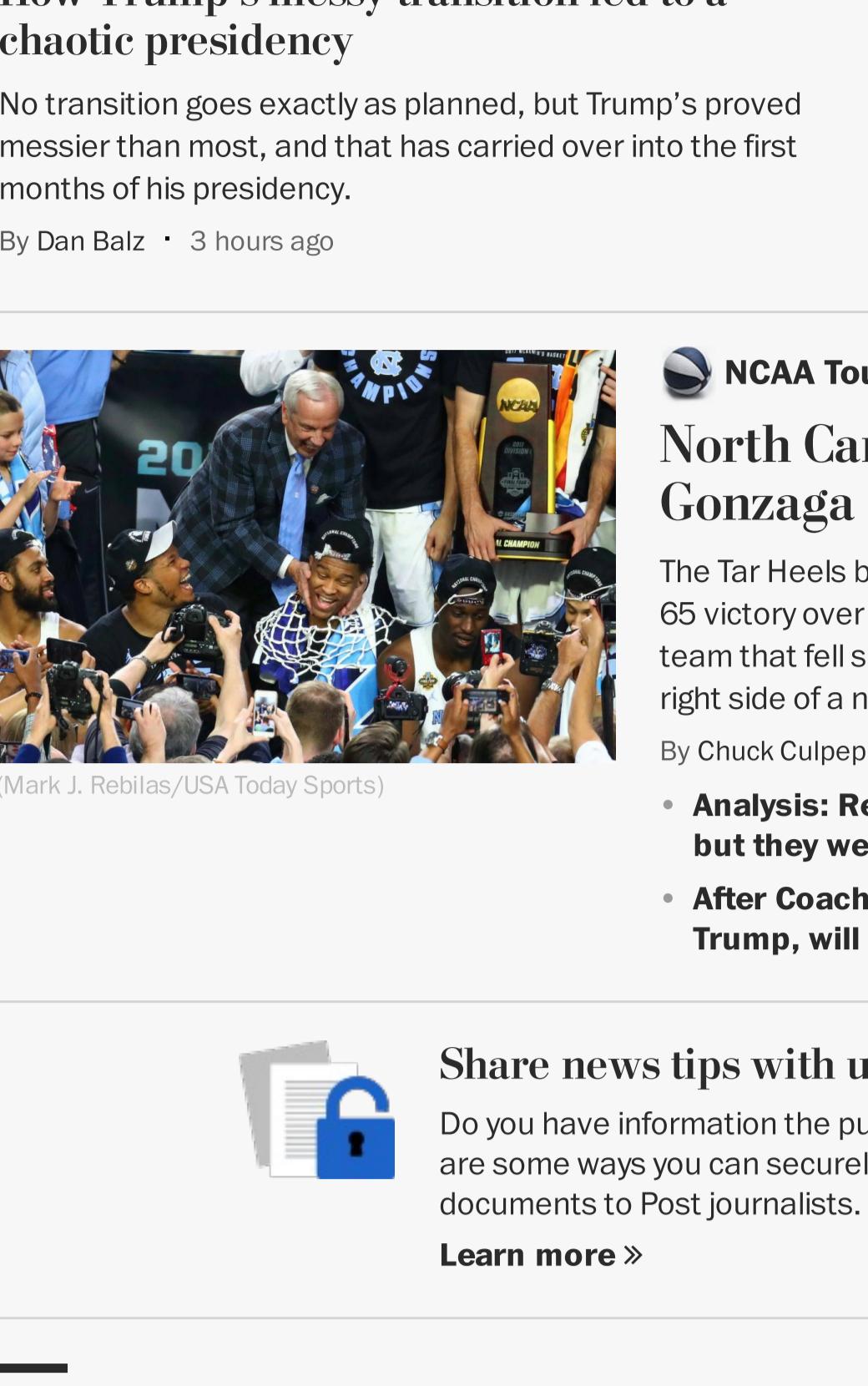
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EXCLUSIVE

Trump donor met Putin
ally in secret to establish
U.S.-Russia back channel

(Video: Sarah Parnass/Post; wire photos)

The United Arab Emirates arranged the meeting — nine days before Donald Trump's inauguration — between Blackwater founder Erik Prince and a Russian close to President Vladimir Putin as part of an apparent effort to establish a back-channel line of communication between Moscow and the president-elect, according to U.S., European and Arab officials. The White House said it was not aware of any meetings and Prince had no role in Trump's transition.

By Adam Entous, Greg Miller, Kevin Sieff and Karen DeYoung

• Graphic: Here's what we know so far about Team Trump's ties to Russian interests

• The Fix: The White House is a smoke machine when it comes to Russia

It went off the rails almost immediately:
How Trump's messy transition led to a chaotic presidency

No transition goes exactly as planned, but Trump's proved messier than most, and that has carried over into the first months of his presidency.

By Dan Balz • 3 hours ago

With help from Pence,
House Republicans jump-
start talks on stalled
health-care plan

Vice President Pence attended a meeting of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus, days after President Trump launched a remarkable intraparty attack on the staunch conservatives who helped block the bill last month. The negotiations raised hopes that the closely watched legislation could pass the House as soon as this week.

By Mike DeBonis and John Wagner

Sessions orders review of
police reform agreements — a key legacy of the Obama administration

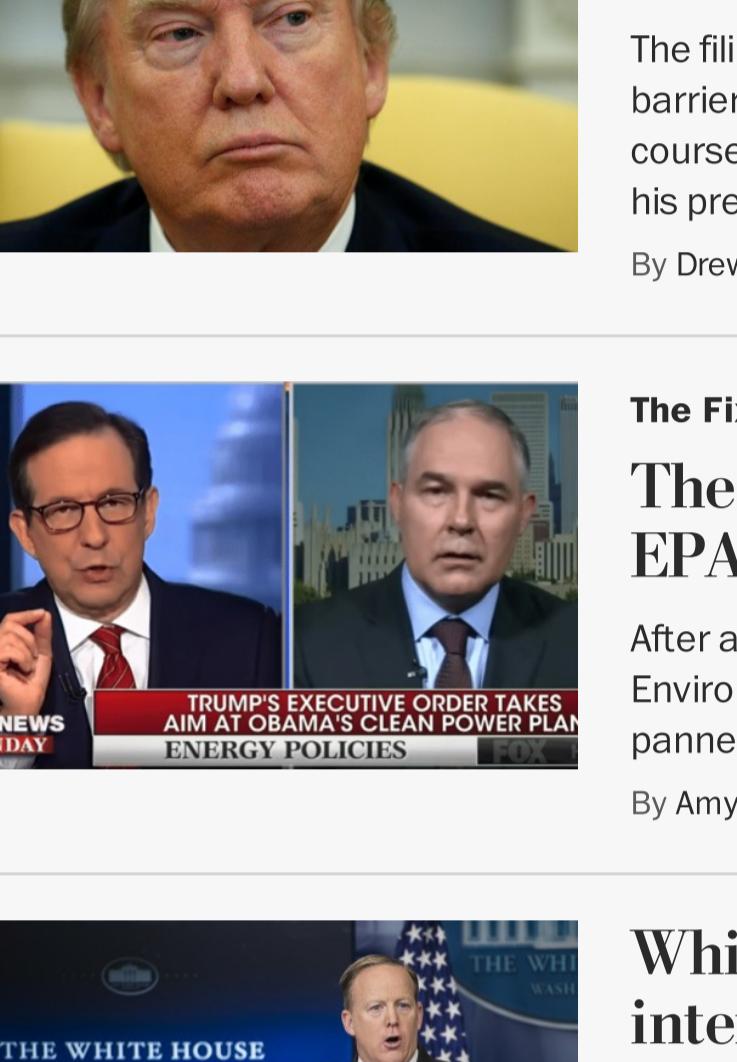
Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the review was necessary to ensure the reform agreements did not work against the Trump administration's goals of promoting officer safety and morale while fighting violent crime.

By Sari Horwitz, Mark Berman and Wesley Lowery

Kushner trip to Iraq underscores his singular role in Trump's White House

The portfolio of Jared Kushner has grown to include everything from foreign policy to serving as a mediator within the West Wing. But his outsized role has led to larger-than-life sniping and resentments.

By Ashley Parker and John Wagner

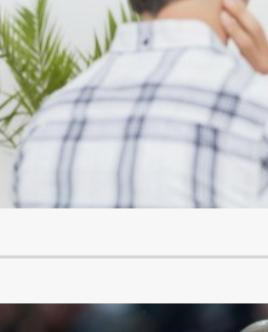
NCAA Tournament
North Carolina finds redemption, beats Gonzaga to win NCAA championship

The Tar Heels battled back from a rough first half to claim a 71-65 victory over the Bulldogs, as Coach Roy Williams and his team that fell short of the championship a year ago were on the right side of a narrow win.

By Chuck Culpepper

- Analysis: Referees spoiled the NCAA championship, but they were only doing their job
- After Coach Roy Williams' disparaging remark about Trump, will the Tar Heels visit the White House?

Opinions



A (probably futile) plea for sanity in the Senate

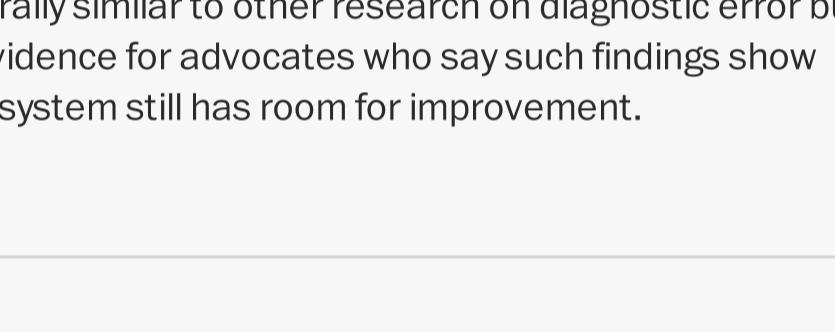
By Ruth Marcus

The one thing these senators can agree on: They're about to do something very bad

By Dana Milbank

Bringing peace to the Mideast is Kushner's second-toughest job

By Eugene Robinson



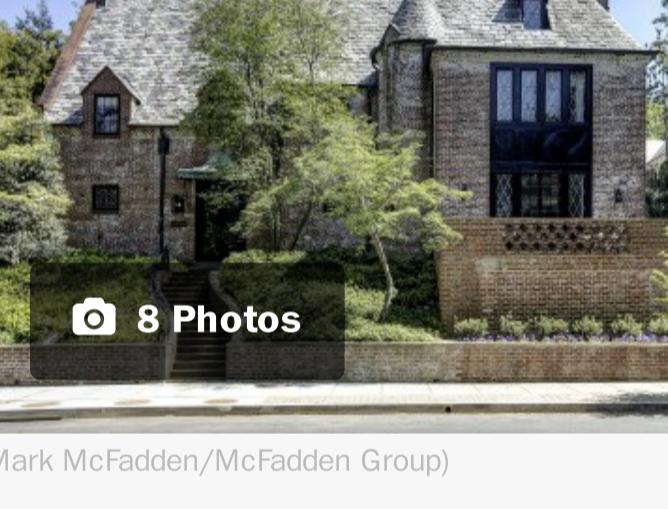
Trump's court needs a fool

By Catherine Rampell



Fox serves up a fetid reminder that when you're a star, you can still do anything

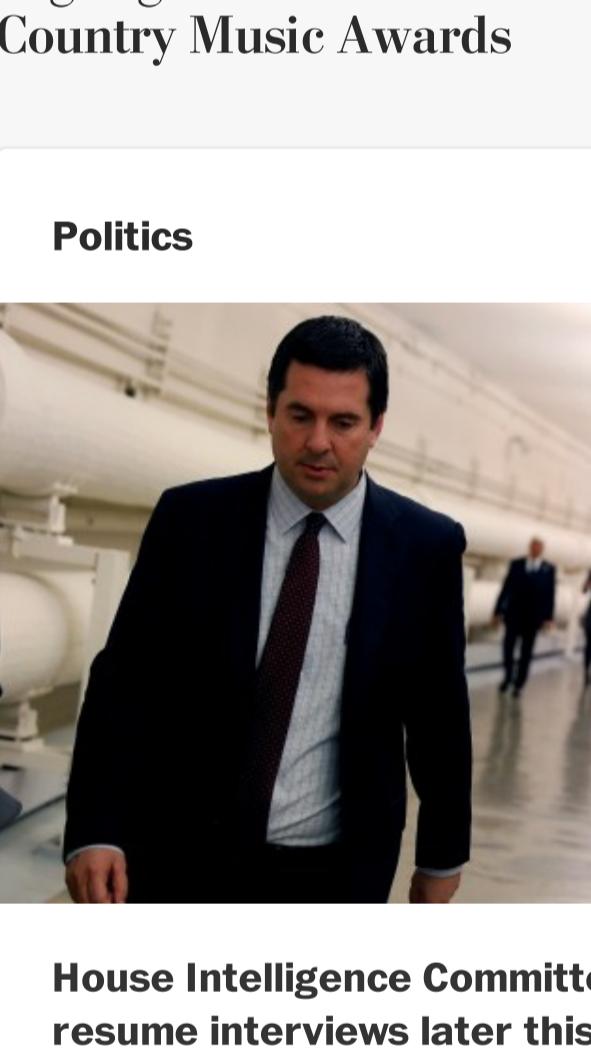
By Michael Gerson



The Senate is on the brink of an historic mistake

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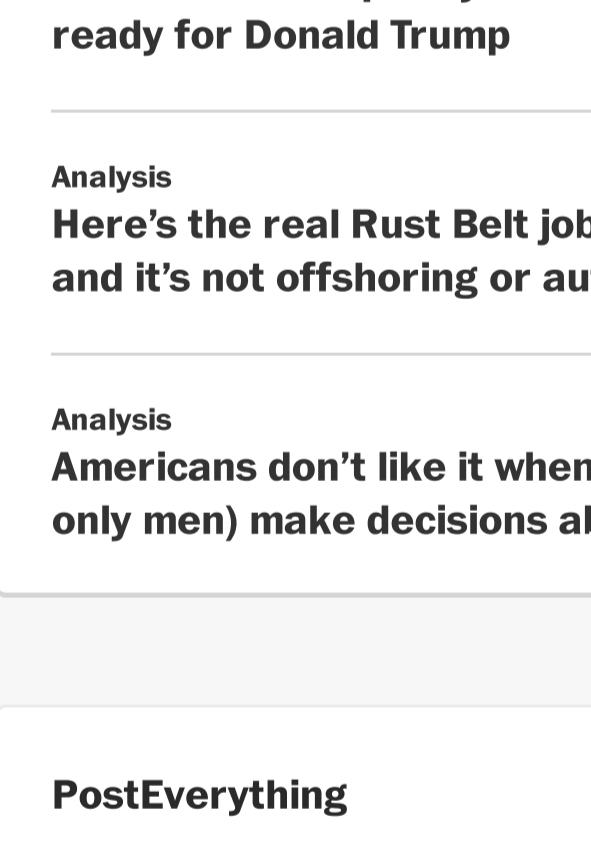
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Activists say gas attack kills 58 in northern Syria, with victims 'foaming at the mouth'

The air strike comes as European Union is meeting to discuss funds for Syria's reconstruction.

By Louisa Loveluck • 2 hours ago



Authorities name suspect from Kyrgyzstan in St. Petersburg metro bombing

The state security service of Kyrgyzstan identified the suspect in the incident that killed 14 people and wounded dozens as Akbarzhon Dzhallow, a Russian citizen born in the Central Asian nation.

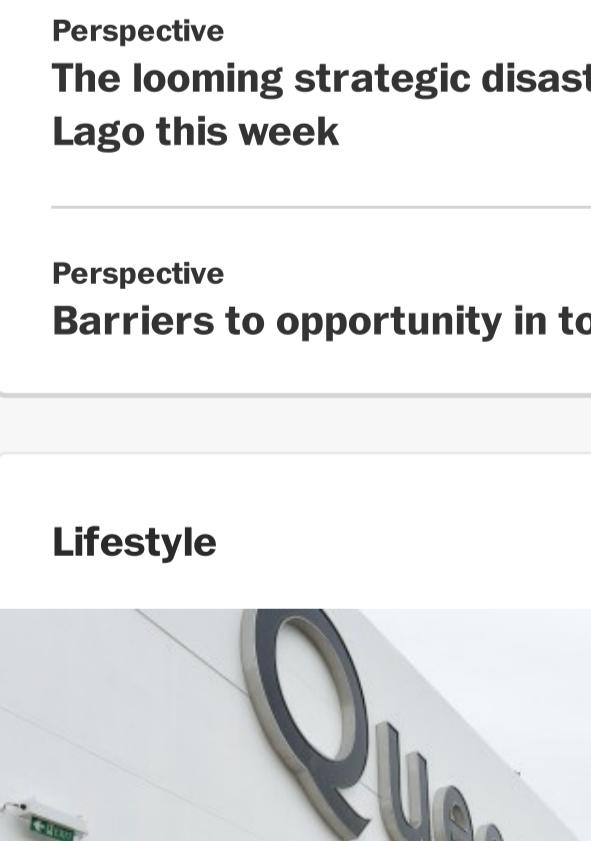
By Andrew Roth and David Filipov • 2 hours ago



Foreign tech workers on edge as lottery opens for 'high skilled' H-1B visas

The 85,000 visa slots are expected to fill in a matter of days, with nearly three-quarters of them expected to go to Indian workers. But the Trump administration injected new uncertainty in the process with a warning to employers.

By Tracy Jan

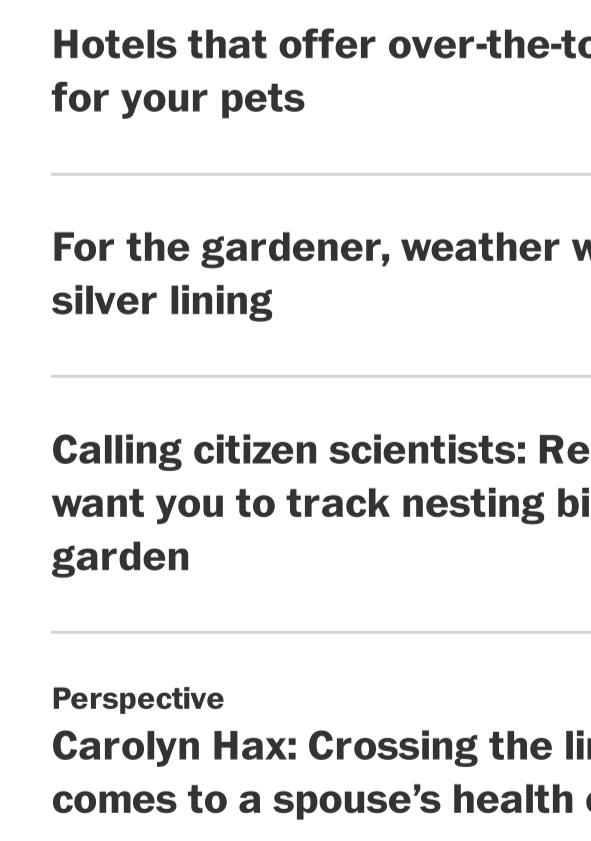


Trump can quietly draw money from trust whenever he wants, new documents show

The filing reveals more evidence that the trust agreement offers little barrier against President Trump making money from the hotels, golf courses and other business interests that he has widely promoted during his presidency.

By Drew Harwell

The Fix Analysis



The left and right agree: Fox News destroyed EPA chief Scott Pruitt over climate change

After a grilling on "Fox News Sunday," the controversial head of the Environmental Protection Agency earned the rare distinction of being panned by both climate change advocates and skeptics alike.

By Amy B Wang

Visual Stories



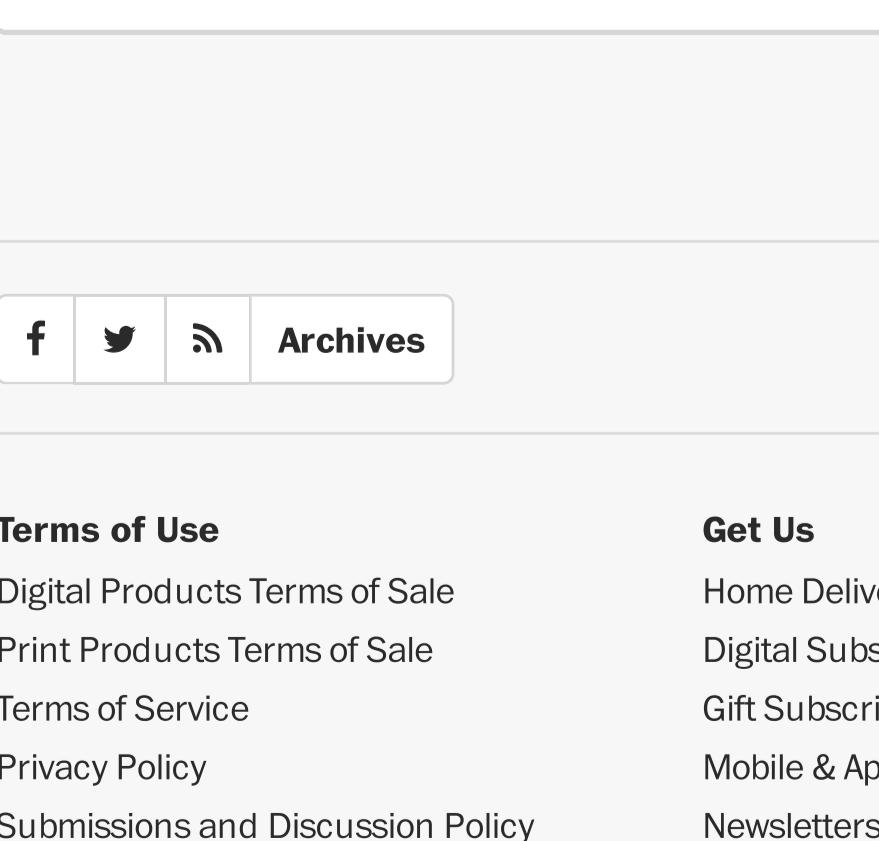
White House decries media's 'lack of interest' in reports of Obama officials spying

Sean Spicer said he would not comment on a report that President Barack Obama's national security adviser had requested that the intelligence community provide names of Trump associates whose conversations with foreigners were intercepted.

By Karen DeYoung

• Fact Checker: The Trumpian spin on 'surveillance of Trump'

In Sight

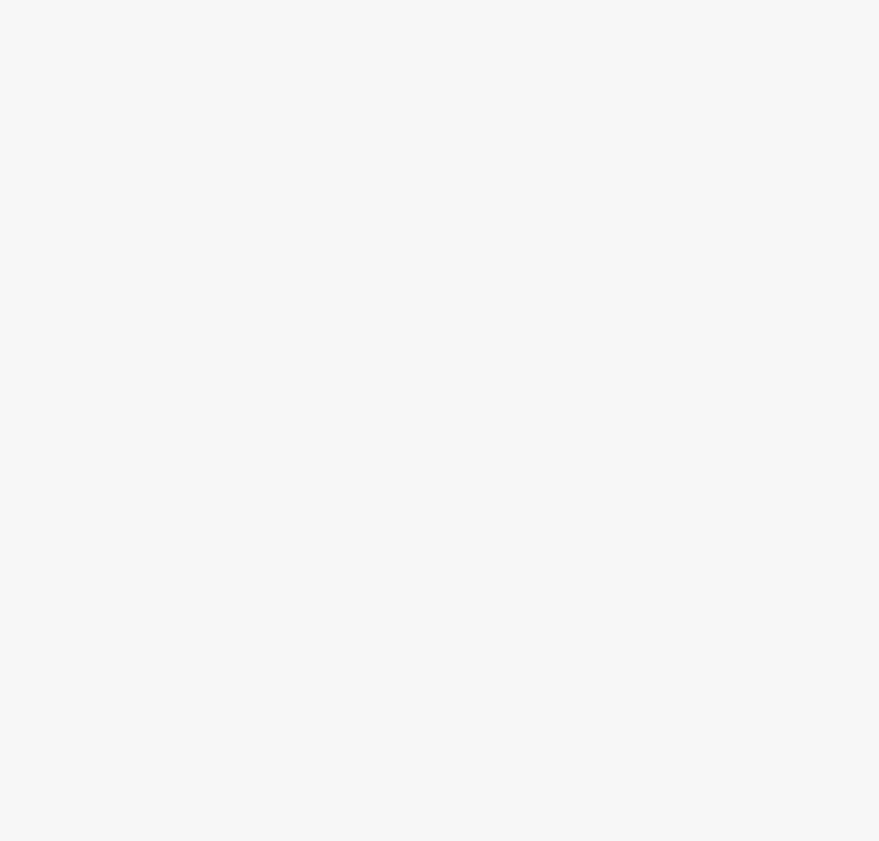


When radio reporter April Ryan tangles with the White House, people listen

The press room veteran has found herself in multiple scrapes in recent weeks.

By Paul Farhi • 3 hours ago

Graphic

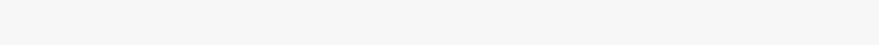


20 percent of patients with serious conditions are first misdiagnosed, study says

The results are generally similar to other research on diagnostic error but provide additional evidence for advocates who say such findings show that the health-care system still has room for improvement.

By Lenny Bernstein

Perspective



There is both love and risk in Georgetown's hiring of Patrick Ewing

Georgetown needed its greatest player to return. And Ewing needed Georgetown to fulfill another dream.

By Jerry Brewer

• Georgetown University hires star alumnus to replace John Thompson III as men's basketball coach

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The web of conspiracy theorists that was ready for Donald Trump

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Americans don't like it when men (and only men) make decisions about women

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I told Paul Ryan what it's like to be poor. I wonder if he remembers me now

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Barriers to opportunity in today's America

Lifestyle

Hotels that offer over-the-top amenities — for your pets

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Calling citizen scientists: Researchers want you to track nesting birds in your garden

Carolyn Hax: Crossing the line when it comes to a spouse's health care

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There will be blood in Signature's 'Midwestern Gothic'

Review

Nilaja Sun channels a village show 'Pike St.'

Review

'American War' follows today's vitriol to a dystopian future

Technology

Graphic

Why one tech giant is investing another \$3 million to close its pay gap

Graphic

There is a jobs crisis brewing that the Trump administration should not ignore

Graphic