Sac Republic fans celebrate title at Capitol Mall parade, 1B

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Trump, Newsom clash over death penalty, presidential pardons

BY SHARON BERNSTEIN
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President Donald Trump and Gov. Gavin Newsom traded barbs on Monday over Newsom's plan to commute the death sentences of more than 500 condemned California inmates to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The dueling statements, in which each accused the other of allowing criminals to walk free, came as crime victims and prosecutors who support the death penalty met with Trump in Washington, D.C. and joined him at a news conference.

They are the latest public airing of the Trump administration's rancorous relationship with California. Trump's Department of Justice has sued the state numerous times, recently seeking to force its majority Democratic leaders to set aside ballots from 20,000 voters the government said might not be U.S. citizens. California, in turn, has sued the federal government more than 100 times in less than two years.

"Just days ago the governor

SEE CLASH, 7A



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Sacramento Republic FC defender Ryan Spaulding, center, prepares to raise the team's USL Championship trophy surrounded by teammates on Capitol Mall on Monday.

As Sac Republic celebrates, Railyards stadium begins to rise

BY ANNIKA MERRILEES
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As Sacramento Republic FC followed its path to victory this season, ending in a championship win Saturday against Louisville City FC, the team's future stadium was beginning to rise from the ground in the Railyards. Its capacity will nearly double that of Heart Health Park.

Team President and General Manager Tim Holt, who served as president of the United Soccer League from 2009 to 2015, said any championship win is sure to give any team and all of its initiatives "a bit of a tailwind."

"This club has been around for a decade and a half, and consistently put a good product out there," Holt said in an interview Monday, before the team paraded through downtown. "But when you win a championship, people really take notice. And our fans are really locked in each and every season, but I think for the casual sports fans, or people that don't even necessarily follow sports, Sac Republic will be sort of front-of-mind right now."



MANICA Sacramento Republic FC

A rendering shows Sacramento Republic FC's planned, 20,000-seat stadium in the Railyards district.

At the site of the team's

SEE STADIUM, 6A

California reviews pest control after Costco plant issue

BY LIZZIE KANE
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The California Legislature will conduct an oversight review of a state pest and disease control program following two incidents that led to a grapevine-killing pest spreading throughout the state after infected plants were shipped to Costco.

The first shipment of infected plants to Costco came from a Fresno County nursery in May. The second shipment to Costco came from Texas in June.

AB 1861, which extended the law governing the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Pierce's Disease Control Program and its funding, will be the focus of the review. Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, D-Hollister, announced the review in a Monday news release about the oversight program known as Outcomes Review, a legislative initiative launched this year to evaluate the effectiveness of state laws.

Assemblymember Dawn Addis, D-Morro Bay, who authored AB 1861 in 2024, will review the law, "evaluating efforts to protect California crops from Pierce's disease and the glassy-winged sharpshooter," Rivas' office said in the news release.

Glassy-winged sharpshooters were found on grapevines and ornamental plants sold at Costco stores in dozens of counties, including Sacramento County. Thousands of plants were sold and are still unaccounted for. The destructive pests spread Pierce's disease, which kills grapevines, and can make homes in numerous other fruits. Glassy-winged sharpshooters are not a risk to humans or animals.

Public and private spending on the pest control programs has totaled hundreds of millions of dollars since they began in 1999. State funding has

SEE PEST CONTROL, 8A

California sues HUD over new mixed immigration status housing rule

BY MATHEW MIRANDA
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California Attorney General Rob Bonta joined nearly two dozen states Monday in a lawsuit to block the federal administration from implementing a new rule that would prohibit mixed-status families from receiving federal housing assistance.

The lawsuit, filed in the U.S. District Court for Massachusetts, argues that the change exceeds the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's statutory authority provided by Congress. The administration finalized the proposed rule earlier this month in an attempt to crack down on mixed status households — those made up of members with different immigration statuses — using HUD programs.

The rule would require verification of immigration status for all applicants and tenants covered in the programs by March. Families unable to prove certain legal status would face eviction. The rule would affect more than 7,000 mixed status households in California, per a news release Monday.

"With families already struggling to afford basic necessities, the last thing our economy needs is a rule that would exacerbate the already existing housing crisis, and force citizens and noncitizens alike out of their homes and communities," Bonta said in the news release. "Families should not have to choose between remaining together and keeping a roof over their heads."

SEE HOUSING RULE, 6A

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