

INGLEWOOD

SoFi on win streak as global event host



Belgium forward Jeremy Doku controls the ball against Spain in the second half of a FIFA World Cup 2026 quarterfinal soccer match at Los Angeles Stadium in Inglewood on Friday. PHOTOS BY KEITH BIRMINGHAM — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After World Cup rave reviews, venue looks ahead to Super Bowl, Olympics

By Fred Robledo
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INGLEWOOD — That’s a wrap. The NFL’s Rams and Chargers will return to SoFi Stadium in the fall, and the beautiful natural grass field used during the 2026 FIFA World Cup will be replaced by the NFL teams’ artificial surface. But Los Angeles Stadium, which is what the Inglewood venue was called during eight World Cup matches that concluded on Friday with Spain’s 2-1 quarterfinal victory over Belgium in front of a lively crowd of 70,492, left quite an impression. Competitors marveled at the stadium’s massive size, design and surface. So much so that following New Zealand’s 2-2 draw with Iran in front of 70,108 fans for a group play match on June 15, New Zealand coach Darren Bazeley thought he had just seen the Holy Grail of football pitches. “I’ve been in a lot of football stadiums around the world,” Bazeley said. “This is the best football stadium I’ve ever been.” More than the name was changed: SoFi Stadium transformed into a natural grass surface to meet strict FIFA requirements for the World Cup. The field was raised roughly 3 feet higher than an NFL surface, and it was widened. United States defender Antonee Robinson was asked about the playing surface following a 4-1 victory over Paraguay in the Americans’ World Cup opener



Spain midfielder Fabian Ruiz scores past Belgium goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois in the first half of the World Cup quarterfinals game Friday in Inglewood.

INSIDE: For more on the World Cup quarterfinals match between Spain and Belgium, see Sports. **B1** on June 12. “It’s probably the best field I’ve ever played on in the States,” Robinson said. Friday’s match was the final World Cup match in Southern California. Spain advanced to Tuesday’s semifinals against France at Dallas Stadium, also known as AT&T Stadium, home to the Dallas Cowboys. Spain’s Mikel Merino broke a 1-1 tie with an 88th-minute goal, slotting a putback just minutes before stoppage

time to help the Spaniards pull out the victory to advance. In quarterfinals to be played today, England will take on Norway in Miami, while Argentina faces Switzerland in Kansas City. The World Cup, which is hosted by the United States, Mexico and Canada, will culminate with the championship July 19 at New York/New Jersey Stadium, aka MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. For the \$5 billion SoFi Stadium palace, which will be 6 years old in September,

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HOUSING

Trump says he won’t sign bill

Despite protest over unrelated Save America Act stalled in Senate, legislation will be law

By Michael Gold
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Friday that he would not sign a major bipartisan housing bill, a decision he framed as a protest against Senate Republicans for failing to pass an unrelated voting bill that does not have enough support to clear the Senate. “I will not sign the Housing Bill, which has been fully approved by Congress and sent to the White House, in PROTEST over the fact that the United States Senate is not capable of passing THE SAVE AMERICA ACT,” Trump wrote on social media, referring to the elections bill.

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INSIDE: Trump ousts members of a bipartisan election committee in push to reshape U.S. voting process. **Page A9**

LEGISLATURE

Lawmakers push bill to fast-track adoptions for abused animals

By Lillian Ashworth
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What happens to animals involved in active animal cruelty cases? California legislators are considering whether they are finding loving homes quickly enough. Assembly Bill 2344 — the Rehome Abused Animals Act — aims to fast-track the adoption process for animals removed from abusive situations. This bill would authorize shelters to put animals up for adoption 30 days after a defendant fails to appear in court. And if a defendant is placed under probation, this bill would prohibit them from owning or residing with animals of any kind throughout the period of

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MIDDLE EAST

U.S. demands Iran unblock strait

Washington: A public declaration that ships can move freely needed

By Michelle L. Price, Jon Gambrell and Will Weissert
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is demanding that Iran make a public statement saying the Strait of Hormuz is open and that ships crossing the vital corridor won’t be attacked anymore, senior U.S. officials said Friday, adding that internal Tehran power struggles have made it difficult to reach and keep a deal. The U.S. officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe to reporters the state of play with Iran, said the resumption of strikes this week came after what they described as a rogue faction of Iranian hard-liners trying to sabotage the ceasefire between Tehran and Washington. It comes as U.S. President Donald Trump reiterated on social media



A man waves an Iranian flag during funeral ceremonies for slain Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and members of his family in Tehran, Iran, on Sunday. Iran’s leaders since Khamenei’s death are divided, complicating peace talks, U.S. officials say. **NALTAF QADRI — AP** Friday that he views the interim ceasefire deal as “OVER!” But he said the U.S. would continue talks aimed at putting a permanent end to the war. The officials said Friday that

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INLAND EMPIRE

2 sex offenders tied to elderly parole debate die a few weeks apart

By Joe Nelson
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Two Inland Empire convicted sex offenders whose parole cases became flashpoints in efforts to reform California’s Elderly Parole Program have died within weeks of each other, according to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Cody Woodson Klemp, 70, of Moreno Valley died Thursday and Charles William Mix, 71, of Riverside died June 19. Their cases helped fuel proposed legislation to exclude violent sex offenders from early parole eligibility. Klemp was transferred to a medical facility from the California Institution for Men in Chino and pronounced dead at 11:55 a.m. Thursday, CDCR spokesperson Mary Xjimenez said. She

said the San Bernardino County Coroner’s Office will determine his cause of death. Klemp had served more than 32 years of a 170-year prison sentence for the repeated rape of his 14-year-old niece in his home in 1990. His parole case sparked a broader push to reform California’s Elderly Parole Program, drawing criticism from victims’ advocates, prosecutors and lawmakers who argued violent sex offenders should not be eligible for early release. Although the California Board of Parole Hearings later rescinded Klemp’s parole grant, his case helped galvanize legislative efforts to narrow the program and exclude violent sex offenders from consideration. Klemp was already a

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