



6 biggest questions heading into NBA postseason

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The Pueblo Chieftain

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BG Travis McIntosh swore in twenty new recruits who took the Oath of Enlistment during Saturday's U.S. Army 250th Birthday celebration. TONY CENTONZE / FOR THE LEAF CHRONICLE / USA TODAY NETWORK VIA IMAGN IMAGES

COLORADO'S 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Romero competing in primary

James Bartolo
Pueblo Chieftain
USA TODAY NETWORK

Dwayne Romero officially launched his campaign for Colorado's 3rd Congressional District on March 5, 2026, but told the *Chieftain* he has been thinking about a congressional run for several years.

Facing businessman and fourth-generation Coloradan Alex Kellogg in the June 30 Democratic primary, Romero is a U.S. Army veteran and Bronze Star recipient. He has served as a state economic development director, an Aspen city councilman and a board of education director, among other public servant positions. Romero is also the CEO of the Romero Group, a real estate management business.

If elected, Romero looks to address affordability, ensure public officials are held accountable, protect public lands and water rights and honor the rule of law.

"I believe Congress at the moment is not performing its duties as a checks and balances institution against the executive to ensure that, frankly, the written code and the spirit of the Constitution is back in place," he said.

Romero, the second oldest of three boys, was born to a single mom working minimum wage jobs in southeast Texas. He was recruited to play baseball at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and took an oath at age 18 to defend the Constitution with his life "against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

He told the *Chieftain* that President Donald Trump's administration's "unprovoked wars" have hit close to home, as he has a daughter currently serving as an active-duty Army officer.

Romero also said that, unlike the Trump administration, previous administrations outlined specific objectives they looked to achieve, showed high regard for international law, and carried out wars with the support of several allies. He contrasted the Gulf War, a conflict for which he said the U.S. had the support of over 20 allies and clear objectives, with the recent "assault" on Iran supported by "no allies other than the state of Israel."

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Draft registration to become automatic

Nate Trela
Fort Collins Coloradoan
USA TODAY NETWORK

As the war with Iran approaches 50 days, a new policy that would automatically register eligible people for a possible military draft is renewing interest in the rules and process around military conscription.

It's the latest policy change around adding people to the military, following announcements of the maximum age for someone to volunteer with the Army and looser rules about eligibility for military service after a drug conviction.

In theory, the draft registration change just streamlines a process required under federal law. Most men — or people assigned male at birth — living in the U.S. are already required to register with Selective Service within 30 days of turning 18. The requirement stands regardless of whether they have objections to military service or think they will be declared exempt or granted de-

ferments from military service. You stay in the system until you turn 26.

However, only about four out of five eligible men actually did register in 2024, including about two in five eligible 18-year-olds, according to Selective Service. That is propped up by 46 states and territories, including Colorado, that automatically register men with Selective Service when they get a driver's license, learner's permit or identification card. Those gaps are why Selective Service sought — and won — approval and funding from Congress to institute automatic registration, which is slated to go into effect in December.

Who is eligible for the draft?

Most males — and people assigned male at birth — between ages 18 to 25 are required to register with the Selective Service System, the agency that oversees the draft.

Citizenship status does not matter. Undocumented immigrants, dual citi-

zens, green card holders and refugees must register like citizens do.

Is there a draft?

No. A draft would have to be authorized by the president and Congress. The last draft happened in 1973, during the Vietnam War.

Registering does place you in a database of draft-eligible people.

What happens if you don't register with Selective Service?

Registering with Selective Service is required under federal law and failing to do so is a felony punishable by up to five years in prison and/or \$250,000 in fines.

Failing to register can also affect eligibility for federal student financial aid and federal employment. Some states also limit access to benefits if you are

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Altercation between neighbors escalates into shooting

Justin Reutter
Pueblo Chieftain
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Pueblo man was charged with attempted murder and first-degree assault last week in connection with a shooting that was caught on camera, according to an arrest affidavit authored by Pueblo police.

Cody Walters, 22, was charged with two counts of attempted first-degree murder after shooting another man during an argument between neighbors on

April 8, Pueblo police officials said.

Pueblo PD's ShotSpotter gunshot monitoring system detected four shots in the 1700 block of East 10th Street at approximately 5:45 a.m. that day, and police responded to the scene, according to the affidavit.

Investigating officers learned that an argument had started between four people from one residence, including Walters, and two people from a neighboring residence. That argument then allegedly escalated into a shooting.

Officers allegedly learned from Wal-

ters' mother that Walters had fired the shots, and Walters allegedly confessed to shooting a handgun at the other party, according to the affidavit.

Police say security camera footage of the shooting showed that the argument initially started between Walters' father and two men from the neighboring residence, who had left their residence to confront the father over an ongoing dispute.

The argument escalated and Walters came out of the house along with his mother and brother.

Walters appeared to have a firearm in

his hand when he exited the residence, according to the affidavit. The security footage allegedly showed him raising both arms in front of his body, seemingly adopting a "shooting stance."

Walters then walked toward the fence line at the front of the property and pointed the gun at the two men from the neighboring residence, according to the affidavit.

Both men could be seen in the video beginning to retreat. One raised his hands

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