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**OUT OF CONTROL:** Popular spots across the nation's capital have turned into scenes of violence this spring, and U.S. Attorney Jeanine Pirro is furious.

**DISTRICT**

## Pirro eyes jail time for parents of teen offenders

By **MATT DELANEY**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

D.C. authorities are bracing for a summer of teen takeovers of public spaces in the absence of an emergency juvenile curfew law, as federal prosecutors consider charging the parents of criminal youths.

Swarms of teenagers repeatedly wreaked havoc this spring in neighborhoods such as Navy Yard. The incidents resulted in arrests connected with robberies, assaults and at least one shooting, as well as calls for more policing, focused

## Youth takeovers leave victims bruised, businesses trashed, families shaken

restrictions and parental responsibility. Jeanine Pirro, U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, said she intends to make parents account for their children's crimes. She cited a teen-fueled melee last weekend inside a Chipotle restaurant where viral video footage showed a father shielding his small children from the chaos.

"That infuriated me, and it should

infuriate every one of you," Ms. Pirro said this week. "These [juveniles] feel that they can do this, and that they can destroy the property of others and victimize other human beings. People are petrified, and we're going to put an end to this."

The father, Air Force veteran Rafael Jauregui, said he was dining with his seven children after the family left a

Washington Nationals-Baltimore Orioles game that ended Saturday evening.

Police said the fight broke out at about 8:40 p.m. after one group of youths entered the restaurant and confronted another group inside.

Mr. Jauregui described the scene as an "ambush." He had his children huddle around him to keep them safe. Although the family was not physically harmed, Mr. Jauregui said the fight left its scars.

"My son said on the way home, 'Papa, I can't unsee that,'" Mr. Jauregui told

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**EUROPE**

## Poland stakes claim as NATO's top force

### Trump to send 5,000 U.S. troops

By **JOHN T. SEWARD**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

**WARSAW, POLAND** | A top Polish defense official said in an exclusive interview that his country unequivocally possesses the most powerful land army in Europe and is gearing up for a drastic increase in defense manufacturing capacity, only a generation after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Pawel Zaleski, Poland's deputy minister of national defense, made the assertions in a wide-ranging discussion with The Washington Times' Threat Status platform Monday before heading to Washington for a slate of high-level meetings with U.S. officials at the Pentagon.

"We have the biggest land NATO army in Europe with the biggest capabilities," Mr. Zaleski said. "We are taking lessons learned from Ukraine. It shows that a country at war must have very short supply chains, so we're investing in this capability also."

Mr. Zaleski said Poland is also eager to continue investing in its own defense industry and is also working to deepen ties with U.S. defense manufacturing companies as Warsaw becomes the new European center of gravity for military power.

Concerns over the strength of U.S.-Poland military ties have risen in the wake of Washington's abrupt decision

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**DISAPPOINTED:** Harvard undergraduates broadly oppose policies to limit the number of top grades. A report last year found that 60% of all grades in 2024-2025 were in the A range and questioned the school's ability to distinguish exceptional work.

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

## Harvard puts lid on grade inflation: Only 20% of students per course get A's

By **SEAN SALAI**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Harvard University will cap A grades at one in five undergraduates starting in fall 2027 in an effort to tame runaway grade inflation.

Faculty members voted 458-201 on Wednesday to approve the grade cap. Harvard will limit A's to 20% of students in each course starting in fall 2027, with up to four additional A's at the professor's discretion.

"This matters for our students above all," members of the faculty

subcommittee that developed the policy said in a statement. "A Harvard A grade will now tell them, as well as employers and graduate schools, something real about what a student has achieved."

The Ivy League school's faculty also voted 498-157 to use internal percentile rankings rather than grade-point averages to determine future undergraduate awards and honors.

The faculty voted 364-292 against a third measure that would have let courses opt out of the cap by substituting "unsatisfactory," "satisfactory" and "satisfactory-plus" marks for letter grades.

An October report found that 60% of all grades awarded at the top-ranked campus in 2024-2025 were in the A range, up from 25% two decades ago.

The report raised questions about Harvard's ability to distinguish exceptional work from high-achieving students. It also bolstered concerns that the perceived value of its degrees was declining.

In response, the student-run Harvard Crimson newspaper reported, the faculty cut the share of A's to 53% in the fall.

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**MIDDLE EAST**

## Trump draws line on Iran's uranium

### Pakistan scurries to broker deal

By **TOM HOWELL JR.**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

President Trump said Thursday he will not let Iran keep highly enriched uranium, raising a possible sticking point in negotiations as Pakistani mediators prodded Iran to advance a peace deal.

Mr. Trump drew a firm line on uranium, declaring, "We will get it" during remarks in the Oval Office.

"We don't need it, we don't want it. We'll probably destroy it after we get it, but we're not going to let them have it," Mr. Trump said.

Mr. Trump, who insists Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon, repeated his demand about the uranium hours after a Reuters report said Iranian Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei wants the country's near-weapons-grade uranium to remain in the country.

The back-and-forth underscored the tenuous nature of diplomatic talks to end the war.

Pakistani mediators were working feverishly to strike a deal that would extend the ceasefire in the region and pave the way for lasting peace.

"I believe the Pakistanis will be traveling to Tehran today, so hopefully that will advance this further," Secretary of State Marco Rubio told reporters Thursday. "If we can get a good deal done, that would be great."

At the same time, Mr. Rubio declined to be "overly optimistic."

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**UKRAINE**

## Zelenskyy pushes plan to export war expertise

### Moves to legalize private armies

By **GUILLAUME PTKA**  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES

**KYIV, UKRAINE** | Ukraine is considering a step that would have seemed politically radioactive before the war: legalizing private military companies to turn the country's unmatched experience of modern warfare into an export business.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on May 6 said he had instructed the government, the Interior Ministry, intelligence agencies and his office to draft legislation allowing the creation of Ukrainian private military companies. The goal, he said, is to turn Ukraine's "security export" into a real economic opportunity

and outlet for veterans after the war.

Mr. Zelenskyy framed the idea as part of Ukraine's postwar economy and veteran policy.

The idea is politically sensitive, legally complicated and easy to misunderstand. Ukraine is not talking about legalizing private armies within the country. Rather, the draft framework under discussion would create state-regulated companies registered in Ukraine and authorized to provide certain military, security and training services abroad.

For Kyiv, the proposal is part veteran policy, part industrial strategy and part

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**SALESMAN:** Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has spent months promoting the country's defense industry and sees a new opportunity.

**CALIFORNIA**

## Reality star Pratt shakes up Los Angeles mayor's race

### 'Hills' villain channels wildfire fury

By **SETH McLAUGHLIN**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Spencer Pratt has reinvented himself more than once — from reality-TV villain to "Pratt Daddy" crystal peddler to viral wildfire survivor when the Palisades Fire leveled his family home.

Now he is running an insurgent campaign for Los Angeles mayor, starring in artificial-intelligence-generated ads that turn him into Batman one moment and the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air the next. The pitch leans hard on raw frustration over the government's wildfire response and a wider belief that elected leaders never pay a price for their failures.



Pratt

Mr. Pratt is shaping up as the ultimate millennial candidate, and the reality star is giving Mayor Karen Bass and the rest of the political establishment a reality check heading into the June 2 jungle primary.

"His candidacy has been able to crystallize two things. Most importantly, there's dissatisfaction with the state of

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**POLITICS**

Justice Department charges 15 people with fraud in Minnesota. **A3**

**NATION**

Supreme Court ducks IQ question for inmate on death row. **A6**

**WORLD**

Israel deports hundreds of Gaza flotilla activists after global recoil. **A8**

**SPORTS**

College tennis teams face uncertainty amid financial strain. **B10**

VOLUME 44, NUMBER 102



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