Antetokounmpo 'speechless' over ex-coach's critical comments, 13A

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Miami Herald

After a 38-year wait, Heat to host NBA's All-Star Weekend in 2028

BY ANTHONY CHIANG
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For the first time in nearly four decades, Miami will host NBA All-Star Weekend.

Miami will be the site for NBA All-Star Weekend in 2028, a source confirmed to the Miami Herald. Miami has hosted the league's annual showcase event just once before. That came in 1990, when the All-Star Game was held at Miami Arena.

Phoenix will host 2027 NBA All-Star Weekend at the Suns' home arena, Mortgage Matchup Center, in February before Miami serves as the host in February 2028.

Why did it take 38 years for NBA All-Star Weekend to return to Miami?

Previous NBA All-Star Games were usually held on Presidents' Day Weekend in February, which is the same weekend that the Miami International Boat Show is held. That conflict led to the long hiatus, with the boat show using the Miami Beach Convention Center and taking up a large chunk of hotel rooms in the area.

Moving All-Star Weekend to a different week to avoid the boat show conflict, which the NBA has been reluctant to do most years, wouldn't eliminate all the logistical challenges. The NFL usually holds the Super Bowl the week before Presidents' Day Weekend and Kaseya Center usually hosts "Premio Lo Nuestro," a Latin music awards show, during the week after

SEE NBA, 2A

Luxury condos get all-clear for historic church site in Brickell: What's next?

BY ISABEL RIVERA
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The downtown Miami skyline will continue to change with the approval of a 75-story luxury condo tower at a historic church on a slice of bayfront land.

The 619 Brickell By Nobu will rise behind First Miami Presbyterian Church, 609 Brickell Ave., after the city's historic preservation board lifted one of the last hurdles needed to build on the site.

The Brickell area has seen a boom in luxury skyscrapers thanks to an influx of wealthy buyers.

Board members voted 6-1 on Nov. 3 to lift a historic designation from the church's school and parking lot, which sits directly behind First Miami Presbyterian, an area that will become the tower's home.

They also approved shrinking the site's historic boundary — which originally included the entire three-acre parcel that the church, school and parking lot sit on — to just the sanctuary footprint plus a 15-foot buffer.

Only one condition came with the vote: that the preservation board retain architectural review powers if any substantial changes are made to the tower's exterior.

"We appreciate the Historic and Environmental Preservation Board's careful consideration of all the information presented and its ultimate decision to preserve the historic 1949 sanctuary, enabling the church to serve future generations," Rey Melendi, chief operating officer of the 13th Floor development firm, told the Miami Herald. "We look forward to advancing the project and bringing this vision to life."

HOW WE GOT HERE

This isn't 619 Brickell by Nobu's first time seeking the board's approval — or getting it.

Over the past two years, the historic status change has been approved by the board and city commissioners. But neighboring

SEE CONDO, 6A



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First Miami Presbyterian Church in Brickell.



PHOTOS BY DAVID SANTIAGO Miami Herald file

A water pump operates as a car drives through floodwaters caused by high tide at North Bay Road and 183rd Drive in Sunny Isles Beach in October 2025.

'WE'RE GOING TO BE UNDER WATER'

What Florida's property tax cut means for flooding

BY ALEX HARRIS
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Florida voters resoundingly decided to slash their own property taxes on Election Day, sending shock waves through the local governments that now have to figure out which services to cut.

On the potential chopping block: the millions (and billions) of flooding projects that are sorely needed in soggy South Florida.

At the Southeast Florida Climate Compact's annual summit this week, elected officials from Palm Beach County to the Keys openly worried about what this new mandate means for the projects they've been advocating for. On stage, Broward County Commission Steve Geller put it bluntly.

"I advise people to move to another state because Florida is going to be a hellhole," he told the crowd. "We're going to be under water."

Florida's new constitutional amendment, which passed with 62% approval, raised the property tax homestead exemption from $50,000 to $250,000 by 2028. It's a severe blow for local governments that rely on property taxes as the foundation of their budgets.

Broward County could lose $333 million of its budget by 2028, according to an estimate from flood consultant firm Brizaga. Miami-Dade estimates that if the amendment were in place today, it would lose $700 million — about 20% of the property taxes it collects every year.

While some politicians, including Miami-Dade Commissioner Raquel Regalado, have thrown cold water on the panicky language around this change and suggested it

SEE FLOODS, 2A



City of Hollywood workers installed a temporary water pump in a flooded area near South Ocean Drive and Azalea Terrace in May 2025.

'Too tough': Trump says his mass deportation mandate hurt Republicans in the midterms

BY CHURCHILL NDONWIE
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President Donald Trump, whose mass deportation mandate has upended the lives of many South Florida families and stripped thousands of deportation protections and work permits, now says he may have gone too far with his strict immigration enforcement policies and ultimately hurt himself in the midterms.

"I think it might be too tough. Yeah," he said in a "60 Minutes" interview that aired Sunday. "And a lot of people would say that it's great, but a lot of people think it's too tough."

Following a midterm election that left Democrats in control of the House and Senate, Trump said he is willing to negotiate on immigration. He said that certain segments of the country view strict enforcement as essential for securing the United States' southern border, but others object to the deployment of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and allied police to immigrant communities.

During the interview, Trump, who displayed an unusually somber demeanor, said that within his administration there was a group of advocates on the "pretty far right" who wanted all immigrants

SEE TRUMP, 2A



CHARLY TRIBALLEAU AFP via Getty Images

Federal law enforcement agents stand watch near a security checkpoint at JFK Airport in New York.

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