

Houthis keep hitting Saudi airports

Attacks come as Trump mulls joining fight; Iran nixes US peace bid

By **Samy Magdy, Cara Anna and Julia Frankel**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO — A projectile struck a passenger terminal at the international airport in Riyadh on Sunday, a day after a missile hit the same

terminal and killed 12 people, the Saudi-led coalition fighting Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen said. The Houthis claimed responsibility for those attacks and others. Saudi authorities said there were injuries in the latest attack on the King Khalid International Airport complex for terminals 3

and 4 for domestic flights. Saturday’s missile attack was the deadliest in a Gulf Arab nation since the Iran war began, with another 300 people wounded, some critically. The airport was still closed Sunday. The sharp escalation in the new front in the war threatens to draw in greater U.S. military involve-

ment, as President Donald Trump has said he is weighing joining the fight against the Houthis. There was no White House comment Sunday. Also, a senior Iranian official says Tehran finds the latest U.S. response to a proposal to end the war “insufficient” and warns of attacks on regional data centers and cables if fighting intensifies again.

The head of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council spoke as efforts at negotiations to end the war and fully open the Strait of Hormuz limp along. The comments by Mohsen Rezaei, a former Revolutionary Guard commander, were carried by Iran’s state-run IRNA news agency.

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Bartender Albert Beringer stands near a sign warning customers of a 3% fee when using a credit card to pay at Tropical Smokehouse in West Palm Beach. **CARLINE JEAN/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**

Cash, credit or surcharge?

What to know before you pay in South Florida

By **Lois K. Solomon**
SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

It’s gotten confusing out there. When customers are ready to pay at South Florida businesses, they’re often not sure what type of money the venue will accept and what the conditions will be.

They have to ask: Is cash accepted, or is it strictly credit card-only? Will paying with plastic incur a surcharge? Do old-fashioned dollar bills unlock a discount? Retail worker Lauren Petschek has witnessed the bewilderment firsthand. At her downtown Delray Beach shop, customers often approach the counter warily to ask whether using a credit card comes with an extra fee. It doesn’t. But Petschek said her doctors’ and veterinarian’s offices have added in fees for credit card use. She tries to pay with cash

whenever she can, although it’s often not accepted. “I feel like we should have the option,” said Petschek, 69, a Delray Beach resident who objects to mobile payment terminals that servers bring to restaurant tables for quick credit-card tallying. “I tell them, ‘I’m paying cash. I want the check please. Put it on the table.’” As Americans increasingly rely on credit cards, cash enthusiasts such as Petschek are not relishing their minority status. A 2026 Pew Research Center survey shows this club is small: Only 12% of Ameri-

cans say they use paper money for most transactions. Many baby boomers and their senior counterparts were saddened when the penny, a tangible connection to their pre-credit card youth, was discontinued last year. But younger generations rarely use coins, or cash in general, and the U.S. government said each penny costs 3.69 cents to manufacture. “Over time, in my opinion, we will move further and further away

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ELECTION 2026

Contests show differing strategies for handling race

By **Jeffrey Schweers**
ORLANDO SENTINEL

TALLAHASSEE — A Black Democrat and a white Republican, both women, are vying to be U.S. Senator from Florida. The governor’s bout has the opposite, and far more unusual, configuration: white male Democrat vs. Black

male Republican. And that has led to striking if sometimes subtle stylistic and rhetorical differences in how race is playing in these two top-of-the-ticket contests. Angie Nixon, a progressive Democrat from urban Jacksonville, faces Ashley Moody, the former state attorney general

appointed by Gov. Ron DeSantis to fill out the remainder of Marco Rubio’s senate term. In the governors’ race, Byron Donalds, a GOP congressman from mostly white suburban Naples is running against David Jolly, a former Republican congressman turned Democrat from Indian Shores, a beachside community

in Pinellas County. While Nixon leans into the issues that affect Black voters, Donalds, an early favorite with his endorsement from President Trump, eschewed Black political events and specific issues for most of his campaign, focusing on

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Therapy firm’s billing probed

Company based in Fort Lauderdale under federal investigation

By **David Lyons**
SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

A fast-growing multi-state autism therapy firm based in Fort Lauderdale has acknowledged that it is under a federal investigation over its billing practices and is “working” with investigators. ABA Centers of America, whose growth and financial fortunes rocketed to national prominence in less than six years after its founding in 2020, has been under scrutiny since early 2025 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in New Hampshire, where a federal magistrate allowed investigators to scour the emails and other electronic communications of founder Christopher M. Barnett and multiple upper-echelon company officials. An 81-page federal affidavit submitted to a New Hampshire federal magistrate seeking access to executive Microsoft accounts of various ABA executives indicates agents are investigating possible offenses including alleged false statements relating to health

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The ABA Centers of America headquarters is in downtown Fort Lauderdale. **AMY BETH BENNETT/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**

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