

Deadly quake: At least 800 killed in Afghanistan; death toll likely to rise.



College football: Ex-UGA QB Carson Beck stars for Miami in season-opening victory.

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Trump expands duties of Ga.'s 'citizen soldiers'



National Guard troops patrol the Mall near the Labor Department in Washington, where an image of President Donald Trump hangs on the building. Gov. Brian Kemp hasn't ruled out deploying Georgia troops to aid Trump's anti-crime initiatives. AP



Kemp sees deploying Guard troops at Trump's request as part of the state's ongoing commitment to assist federal missions. AJC 2021

Gov. Brian Kemp defends decision to deploy National Guard to aid immigration crackdown.

By **Jeremy Redmon**
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The National Guard recruits new troops with the motto: "Serve Your State. Defend Your Nation." In Georgia, Guardsmen routinely help civilians during natural disasters. They tested patients for COVID-19 at the height of the pandemic and assisted overwhelmed hospitals. They have deployed overseas to war, including in Afghanistan and Iraq. Nicknamed "citizen soldiers"

for their part-time roles, Georgia's Guardsmen are seeing their responsibilities expand substantially under President Donald Trump's administration. Monday, Trump signed an executive order for designating "an appropriate number" of Guardsmen from all 50 states to rapidly mobilize for the purpose of "quelling civil disturbances and ensuring the public safety and order" nationwide. The same day, the Georgia Guard confirmed it would deploy 75 of its soldiers and airmen across the state this fall to

National Guard continued on A6

'Anytime you want to do this ... you just call me.'

Body cam gives largely unfiltered look at ICE-Chatham police collaboration.

By **Lautaro Grinspan**
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Around an hour after dawn on June 11, Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents positioned themselves near a majority-Hispanic mobile home park outside Savannah. Two traffic stops and just a handful of minutes later, ICE apprehended eight immigrant laborers on their way to work, with the help of local police officers. The close collaboration between ICE and the Chatham County Police Department alarmed Georgia immigrant rights advocates. But police's involvement also exposed federal agents to a level of public scrutiny they are typically unburdened by. Body camera footage requested by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution from Chatham County authorities provides a rare, close-up look at the behavior of ICE agents when questioning and arresting immigrants in the community.

Body cams continued on A6



"I'm going to work," the driver of a landscaping company truck repeatedly protested while getting handcuffed by an ICE agent near Savannah on June 11. The driver was caught up in an immigration sweep. COURTESY OF CHATHAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Data centers again could come under a regional review

Georgia agency weighs rule changes so impact of facilities will be vetted.

By **Drew Kann**
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In July, a Georgia agency quietly allowed proposed data centers – whose energy, water and land demands have caused a stir around metro Atlanta – to stop going through in-depth, regional reviews to evaluate their impacts. The temporary pause to the Development of Regional Impact process for new data centers raised concern from environmentalists worried it could leave the state "flying blind" when it came to the facilities' vast needs. Now, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs – which sets DRI guidelines – is weighing rule changes to once again make certain data cen-

Data centers continued on A7

Debate grows over vaping sensors in schools

More than 20K students disciplined in 2023-24 for vaping in Ga. schools.

By **Cassidy Alexander**
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Dozens of schools in metro Atlanta will be equipped with vape detectors this year as part of a push to keep students from using electronic smoking devices. But far more schools have no plans to install the sensors. The DeKalb County School Dis-

trict is spending \$1.6 million to put the sensors, which resemble smoke detectors, in its high schools. Marietta City Schools will spend up to \$60,000 to put the sensors in three schools. But spokespeople for Atlanta Public Schools and the Cherokee, Cobb, Fulton and Gwinnett school districts said they do not use the sensors and do not plan to. Vape sensors have been used in middle and high schools in Douglas County for the past three years.

Vaping continued on A6



E-cigarettes are the most commonly used tobacco product among middle and high school students in the United States. AP 2018

MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM, B1

Tech's King rambles on, and praise rumbles in



Georgia Tech quarterback Haynes King might not be a true Heisman candidate, as Colorado coach Deion Sanders suggested, but if the Yellow Jackets' star can continue to play the way he did against Colorado, he certainly could be the best player in the ACC. The AJC's Michael Cunningham looks at a big win for Tech, trouble for Alabama and a growing confidence around the WNBA's Atlanta Dream.

Democrat makes strong showing in race to fill vacant state Senate seat in deep-red district



People enter Canton City Hall on Aug. 26 to vote in a special election to fill the state Senate seat vacated by Brandon Beach, who was appointed the next U.S. treasurer. MIGUEL MARTINEZ/AJC

Runoff necessary after Debra Shigley took 40% in seven-candidate field.

By **Michelle Baruchman**
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As officials finalize the results from a special election in Cherokee and Fulton counties Aug. 26, Democrats have been energized by what they see as a promising showing in a deep-red district

while Republicans are settling which candidate will move forward to a Sept. 23 runoff. Jason Dickerson, president of a private investment company, appears to have slipped past fellow Republican Steven West by just 65 votes to advance to the Senate District 21 runoff, but the margin is within the state's threshold for a candidate to request a recount. The secretary of state's office said it has not yet received a

Election continued on A7



GOVERNMENT, A11

Federal job cuts affecting Black women the most

"This will be a model for what happens across this nation," says an expert who represents Education Department staff.

LIVING, C1

Israeli hostage to discuss memoir at book fest Oct. 11

The annual Book Festival of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta spotlights some sobering topics this year.

INDEX

Classifieds	C5
Comics	C6
Crossword	C3
Lotteries	B2
News Digest	A7
Opinion	A13
Weather	B8

Volume 77, Number 245

