

Trump rolls out red carpet for Saudi

Defends royal believed tied to columnist's death

By Katie Rogers, Vivian Nereim, and Thomas Fuller
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Trump welcomed Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Saudi Arabia's autocratic leader, to the White House on Tuesday, hailing him as a protector of human rights and a frequent phone friend. And in a remarkable Oval Office outburst, Trump defended him against a US intelligence report that he had ordered the murder of a journalist.

It was a chummy scene that underscored the president's desire to maintain strong relations with Saudi Arabia during a tumultuous period in the Middle East. Trump's defense of his guest obscured the crown prince's role in cracking down on domestic dissent and in the killing and dismemberment of a Washington Post columnist, Jamal Khashoggi, in 2018.

"We've been really good friends for a long period of time," Trump told reporters, Cabinet officials, and members of the Saudi delegation who had gathered there. "We've always been on the same side of every issue."

The 42-minute appearance contained plenty of talk about business deals and diplomatic partnerships as well as a presidential fit over pointed questions from reporters that was striking even for Trump, who is no stranger to televised dramatics. As he berated a reporter for asking about Khashoggi's

TRUMP, Page A6

Families of drug victims torn over Purdue deal

By Chris Serres
GLOBE STAFF

Insulting. Inadequate. Painful. Bittersweet.

Those are among the terms Massachusetts residents who lost relatives to drug overdoses used to describe a long-awaited deal approved by a federal bankruptcy judge Tuesday to resolve thousands of legal claims against Purdue Pharma, which played a leading role in the decades-long opioid addiction crisis by flooding the nation with highly addictive painkillers.

Many families of overdose victims say the settlement gives too much money to the states and far too little to individuals directly harmed by Purdue Pharma. They also object to burdensome paperwork requirements that will make it impossible for many victims to receive compensation.

The deal concludes a tortuous, six-year legal battle to hold Purdue and its owners accountable for their role in a public health catastrophe that has claimed more than 900,000 lives nationwide since 1999.

The settlement requires

PURDUE, Page B4

Harvard probe didn't note gift

Summers' wife got major donation brokered by Epstein

By Deirdre Fernandes and Tricia L. Nadolny
GLOBE STAFF

In 2014, Elisa New, a prominent Harvard poetry professor and wife of the university's former president Lawrence Summers, sought a major donation to enable her to expand her academic reach.

She turned to a troubled friend with tentacles deep in the finance and higher education world: Jeffrey Epstein. The convicted sex offender and disgraced financier helped broker a sizable gift from one of his high-profile connections.

The money "changed everything for me" at Harvard, New wrote in a 2015 email to Epstein.

"It really means a lot to me, all financial help aside, Jeffrey, that you

►Summers says he'll step back, but not from Harvard. B1.

are rooting for me and thinking about me," she signed off.

This major gift — which has not been previously reported — isn't mentioned in Harvard's definitive 2020 report on Epstein's two-decade-long relationship with the uni-

versity and his role in delivering millions of dollars to faculty and programs.

The omission raises new questions about the thoroughness of that investigation, which Harvard has repeatedly cited when asked about its connections to Epstein. Despite New's and Summers' ties to Epstein, which were known when Harvard commissioned the report in 2019, both are mentioned just once. (A separate gift Epstein made directly to a nonprofit New started is mentioned only in a footnote.)

SUMMERS, Page A7

Momentum building, Epstein file release OK'd



HEATHER DIEHL/GETTY IMAGES

Haley Robson (center), a survivor of Jeffrey Epstein's abuse, was overcome as the family of the late Virginia Giuffre, another victim, spoke Tuesday.

By Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — One by one, a dozen survivors of accused sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein stepped into the early morning sunshine outside the Capitol on Tuesday and called on House lawmakers to finally vote to order the Justice Department to release all its files about his years-long operation.

"Sexual abuse is not a Republican issue . . . or a Democratic issue. It is also not a hoax," said Jena-Lisa Jones, who like many of the emotional survivors held up a large photo of herself when she first met Epstein (in her case at 14 years old). "The world should see the files to know who Jeffrey Epstein was, and how the system catered to him and failed us."

The House overwhelmingly

agreed, voting 427-1 to order the release of the Epstein files, with those survivors cheering and hugging in the gallery above the House floor. The Senate then agreed to approve the order unanimously once the measure officially arrived from the House, a formality expected to happen on Wednesday. President Trump has said he would sign it.

The rapid-fire developments

marked the surprisingly swift culmination of a monthslong fight championed by Republican Thomas Massie of Kentucky and Democrat Ro Khanna. The two employed an arcane legislative procedure that required all House Democrats along with three other rogue Republicans to set in motion Tuesday's vote over intense opposition from Trump and House Speaker

EPSTEIN, Page A7

With luxury always in our faces, it's no wonder we're feeling poor

By Janelle Nanos
GLOBE STAFF

Chris Tringali feels like he's living a middle-class life. It just doesn't feel like it's enough.

Every day, the 27-year-old teacher drives 45 minutes to Walpole from Millville, the little town on the Rhode Island line where he

lives with his parents to save money for a home of his own. Tringali makes \$68,500, and he's paid off his car and student loans. He's thrifty and takes summer certification classes to bump up his salary. And yet he still feels like he's falling behind.

The nagging feeling is common these days among people hoping to achieve the signifiers of a traditional middle-class life — college, car, house, kids. But at a time of low unemployment, in a state where the median household income tops \$100,000, it can be hard to put a finger on why.

Yes, there are the obvious economic factors

making it harder to get ahead: Stagnant wage growth. High interest rates, inflation, and now tariffs. The ever-rising costs of health care, housing, and child care. Student loan debt.

But there's something else. Tringali sees it. A lot of other people do, too.

"You go on social media and every weekend someone is getting married, someone is in Italy, or someone is in Europe, having all these milestones," he said. "Meanwhile, I'm doomscrolling through all these big life moments for all these other people and I'm still living at home."

Where we all meet up

Economists describe the current state of the markets as "K-shaped." For the wealthiest among us, the stock market has been on a tear, and investment portfolios have been reaping the spoils. In the United States, the top 10 percent of earners now account for nearly 50 per-

SQUEEZED, Page A10



ASHLEY BORG/GLOBE STAFF



The perfect Thanksgiving

This meal won't cost much or chain you to the kitchen. **G1, 4-5.**

Shakin' off

Wednesday: Sunny, calmer. High 44-49. Low 31-36.

Thursday: More of the same. High 43-48. Low 36-41.

Sunrise: 6:40 Sunset: 4:19

Weather and Comics, G6-7.

A federal court in Texas blocked the state's newly redrawn and Republican-friendly congressional map from taking effect in 2026. **A2.**

Customers of a Worcester heating oil company will share in a settlement over biodiesel. **B5.**

Immigrants are feeling less safe but are determined to stay here, a national survey says. **A5.**

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