

# The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026

## Cup has done us a world of good

Smitten fans offering reminders of the many wonders of America

By Janelle Nanos  
GLOBE STAFF

They're marveling at our gas stations. They're swooning at our big box stores. They're tasting clam chowder and corn dogs and ranch dressing and nearly losing their minds.

► **Local Ghanaians celebrate their team. B1.**

As throngs of World Cup fans from abroad have descended upon the US, many are documenting everyday American culture with a sense of wonder, posting earnest clips on TikTok and Instagram that have quickly gone viral. And Americans have been eating it all up with relish.

Perhaps never before has the US hosted an event of such scale — unlike a Super Bowl or Olympics in one location, the World Cup plays out in cities from sea to shining sea, and fans from 48 nations are celebrating their national heritage with gusto.

Unlike the 1994 World Cup, this one's all being documented and displayed on social media — the University of Kansas marching band playing the Algerian national anthem to welcome the team, throngs of Iraqi fans beating darbuka drums on Boston Common, Belgian and Egyptian fans dancing arm-in-arm in the streets of Seattle. It's a coast-to-coast international spectacle that has, at least to some, become an opportunity to reflect on who we are as Americans.

In a moment when identity politics has driven us apart, and the mere mention of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives can upend conversations, these made-for-Instagram moments feel like fresh reminders of what it feels like to celebrate together, despite our differences.

Several of these posts have garnered millions of views due to the genuine sentiments on display. But often, there's also a not-so-subtle undertone that this is not the America they were expecting. After watching our divi-

**WORLD CUP, Page A7**



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF



CHRISTIAN KANTOSKY FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

From top: Scottish fans embraced a Moroccan fan near City Hall before the two teams met; champion bagpiper Connor Jardine played at Horizons for Homeless Children in Roxbury; and Cape Verdean fans cheered on their underdog team.

## SJC OK's primary question for ballot

Backers seek end of role of parties in initial voting

By Matt Stout  
GLOBE STAFF

A proposal that would scrap the state's party primaries and fundamentally change how Massachusetts voters pick candidates can appear on the November ballot, the state's highest court ruled Monday, rejecting a challenge from some Democratic Party leaders who argued that the measure was unconstitutional.

The court's ruling all but assures voters will be able to weigh in this fall on the so-called all-party primaries proposal. The campaign behind the ballot question has said it already submitted more than enough signatures to officially get it a place on the Nov. 3 ballot.

In its 26-page decision, the Supreme Judicial Court ruled that the measure doesn't "significantly interfere with the constitutionally protected right to vote" or the rights of people to seek office, effectively affirming Attorney General Andrea J. Campbell's decision to certify the proposal.

"Our task is not to determine whether the proposal at issue is better or worse than the current system, or whether it will serve government interests more or less effectively than the status quo," Justice Dalila Argaez Wendlandt wrote.

The court's responsibility, she wrote, is to determine whether the ballot question "presents a reasonable regulation of elections," she wrote. ". . . We conclude that it does."

**PRIMARIES, Page A5**

## Judge denies teen's request against mayor

Scolds Brockton's leader on his 'offensive' touching

By Shelley Murphy and John R. Ellement  
GLOBE STAFF

HINGHAM — A judge denied a 17-year-old girl's request Monday to extend her restraining order against Brockton Mayor Moises Rodrigues but admonished him for touching the student while she was marching in a parade last month with the Brockton High School band.

District Judge Scott Peterson said he found that the touching of the student's shoulder and waist by Rodrigues was "unwelcome, offensive, and certainly unprofessional," but it didn't meet the criteria for indecent assault and battery that were required to extend the order.

He warned the 64-year-old Rodrigues, who is serving his first term as mayor, not to have any contact with the girl, noting, "I can tell you for certain that she's not interested in any apology."

The ruling followed a day-long hearing in Hingham District Court, where the judge heard testimony from the teenager, the mayor, and a band director. He also watched a series of short video clips showing Rodrigues at the Huntington Day parade on May 22.

**BROCKTON, Page A7**

## She got off the bus, chaos ensued

Simple errand turned deadly; carjack suspect held on no bail

By Lea Skene and Nick Stoico  
GLOBE STAFF

and Hannah Goeke  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

It was a sunny Saturday afternoon, with plenty of foot traffic along Blue Hill Avenue in Mattapan, the neighborhood's busiest thoroughfare.

Mabinty Jannah was headed to the bank. But moments after she stepped off the bus, chaos ensued.

Seeing a driver careering down the sidewalk toward them, pedestrians ran for their lives. Among them was Jannah, 32, who ultimately couldn't escape the reckless driver.

Prosecutors said she was dragged several hundred feet after being struck. She was pronounced dead on the scene.

Ibraim Matos, 37, pleaded not guilty Monday to a host of charges associated with the deadly crash. He allegedly carjacked someone Saturday afternoon and sped off in the stolen vehicle, then struck and killed Jannah, stopping only after he hit an MBTA bus.

The Hyde Park man was ordered held without bail and sent to Bridgewater State Hospital for a mental health evaluation. Doctors there will determine whether he's mentally competent to stand trial after a preliminary assessment raised questions about his psychological state, court officials said.

Authorities have provided little information to indicate what may have prompted the deadly rampage.

As Matos appeared in Dorchester District Court for

**MATTAPAN, Page A6**

## Cannabis cafes bleed cash while awaiting regulators

Owners stuck in a tiff between state, local officials over next step in approval process

By Bryan Hecht  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Amsterdam-style cannabis lounges are still coming to Massachusetts — just much slower than many business owners expected.

It's been six months since the Cannabis Control Commission approved regulations for these businesses. Yet almost no towns have passed zoning changes for the ventures to move forward — and the commission has not opened the licenses up for applications. Both municipalities and the commission say they're waiting for the other to move forward.

In the meantime, entrepreneurs across the state are bleeding cash as

they wait to open. Many have sunk tens of thousands of dollars in rent, renovation, and project planning for new communal smoking venues.

"Every single day that we miss out on opening our doors to social consumption it is a detriment to our business," said Caroline Pineau, owner of Stem, a Haverhill pot shop, who months ago broke ground on an over \$2 million renovation to turn the top floor of her waterfront dispensary into a cannabis lounge.

She sent a proposal for the needed zoning to Haverhill's Planning Board last month, but city legal officials re-

**CANNABIS CAFES, Page A6**



KEN MCGAGH FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Caroline Pineau (right), owner of the cannabis dispensary Stem, shared plans for a lounge with Haverhill City Councilors Colin LePage and Devan Ferreira.



### Drops behind

**Tuesday:** Rain early, clearing. High 70-75, low 62-67.

**Wednesday:** Sunnier, warmer. High 80-85, low 63-68.

Sunrise: 5:08. Sunset: 8:25.

Weather and comics, **D5-6.**

Obituaries, **C10.**



**Patrice Bergeron, the former smooth-scoring Bruins captain, was named to the NHL's Hall of Fame. C1.**

**Alan Greenspan died.** The former Fed chairman was known for overseeing a long period of prosperity but his legacy was tarnished by the failure of the financial sector in 2008. **C10.**

VOL. 309, NO. 174

Suggested retail price  
\$4.00

