



Wayland books win over Marlborough

SPORTS, 1B

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Concord native Ty Andrews will be climbing the world's highest peak, Mount Everest, in May without supplemental oxygen. When most people climb Everest, they bring bottled oxygen and breathe through a mask at high altitude, which makes it significantly more manageable. PROVIDED BY TY ANDREWS

Concord native poised to climb Mount Everest

Ruth Thompson
Wicked Local
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ty Andrews was planning a career in music when he got into running in high school. From there, things took off — literally and figuratively. He ran competitively in college, qualifying twice for the Olympic Marathon Trials. And he holds nearly 100 national and interna-

tional distance and trail running records. He then moved on to mountain climbing. "Running and climbing aren't as separate as people think, at least the way I do them," said Andrews, 35, a Concord native. "I came up as a track and field runner, then got into ultra-running and trail running, and the natural extension of that is just going higher and steeper."

His whole focus over the last few years has been bringing a runner's mentality — pacing, efficiency, physiological preparation — to the big Himalayan peaks. He is targeting a summit window for the world's highest peak, Mount Everest, of roughly May 10-25, weather dependent.

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Will the high court limit mail-in ballots?

SCOTUS ruling could affect elections in MA

Maureen Groppe and Margie Cullen
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Supreme Court's ruling on mail-in ballots could affect elections in Massachusetts.

The high court signaled March 23 that it could back a Republican effort to stop states from counting late-arriving mail-in ballots, a decision that would be a win for President Donald Trump and would lead to stricter voting rules around the country.

During more than two hours of oral arguments, the court's conservative majority sounded skeptical of a Mississippi law allowing ballots cast by Election Day to be counted if they're received within five days.

Justice Samuel Alito said not having a firm deadline raises many other questions, including how long a grace period can be and whether ballots have to be postmarked.

"You have a variety of line-drawing problems," he told Mississippi's attorney.

But Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, one of the court's three liberal justices, said it's up to Congress and the states — not the court — to make such decisions. And the fact that Congress is considering legislation to end grace periods shows lawmakers think they're currently allowed.

"I think we have several federal statutes that suggest that Congress was aware of post-Election Day ballot deadlines that the states had enacted,"

See **BALLOTS**, Page 2A

When is Tax Day 2026? Can you request a filing extension?

Bailey Allen and Daniel de Visé
USA TODAY NETWORK - New England

Tax Day 2026 is this month. Here's what to know about federal filing deadlines and extensions.

Most U.S. citizens and permanent residents who work in the U.S. have to file tax returns, according to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The threshold is typically based on an individual's age and income.

You can check whether you are re-

quired to file a tax return on the IRS website.

As of March 27, the IRS had received more than 88.4 million tax returns for the current filing season. The agency had issued approximately \$221.7 billion in refunds, with the average refund totaling \$3,521.

When is the filing deadline for 2026?

Tax returns are due by Wednesday

April 15, this year. If you don't expect to file your taxes by then, you can request a six-month extension.

What happens if you miss the tax deadline?

If you fail to file your federal tax return on time, the standard penalty is 5% of any tax due for every month the return is late, up to 25% of the unpaid balance. If you file a return but fail to pay any taxes you owe, or if you get an exten-

sion, you typically face a much smaller monthly penalty of 0.5% of any unpaid amount.

Are there exceptions to the April 15 tax deadline?

Yes, the IRS extends the annual tax deadline for taxpayers who live or do business in areas afflicted by disasters. This year, the list includes extended

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