



Teen pulled over by ICE has talks with authorities again

LOCAL, 3A

TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

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Israel launches Gaza ground assault

‘IDF strikes with an iron fist,’ says Israeli official

Steven Scheer and Nidal al-Mughrabi
REUTERS

JERUSALEM – Israel unleashed a long-threatened ground assault on the Gaza Strip on Sept. 16, declaring “Gaza is burning” as Palestinians there described the most intense bombardment

they had faced in two years of war. An Israel Defense Forces official said ground troops were moving deeper into the enclave’s main city, and that the number of soldiers would rise in the coming days to confront up to 3,000 Hamas combatants the IDF believes are still in the city.

“Gaza is burning,” Defense Minister Israel Katz posted on X. “The IDF strikes with an iron fist at the terrorist infrastructure and IDF soldiers are fighting bravely to create the conditions for the release of the hostages and the defeat of Hamas.” In launching the assault, Israel’s government defied European leaders threatening sanctions, and warnings

from even some of Israel’s own military commanders that it could be a costly mistake. But Washington offered its apparent blessing, conveyed by Secretary of State Marco Rubio. In the latest expression of international alarm, a United Nations Commission of Inquiry concluded that Israel

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Jeanne Butler, 67, of Ipswich, hits a single during a Sept. 16 Worcester County Senior Softball League game. While the league is coed, she was the only woman in this game. PHOTOS BY ALLAN JUNG/TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

Runs, hits, elders



Vietnam veteran Dennis Naylor, 77, of Sturbridge, watches a teammate’s hit from the dugout with fellow members of the Worcester County Senior Softball League during a game at Pappas Field in Auburn on Tuesday, Sept. 16.

Worcester jury gets interstate bridge case

Joshua Hubert accused of tossing girl off span

Craig S. Semon
Worcester Telegram & Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

WORCESTER — Heated closing arguments in the case of a city man accused of kidnapping and raping a 7-year-old girl before throwing her off an Interstate 290 bridge into Lake Quinsigamond in 2017 were made Tuesday, Sept. 16. The case went to the jury, with no verdict by midafternoon. Joshua Hubert is accused of sexually assaulting and choking the daughter of a family friend Aug. 26, 2017, before throwing her off a bridge. The girl, now 15, who swam to shore in the middle of a dark night and knocked on the door of a house on the Shrewsbury side of the lake, was the prosecution’s first witness. She was in the courtroom, along with her family, to hear the closing. Attorney Kevin C. Larson gave the closing for the defense. As he said in his opening remarks,

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Hollywood loses icon Redford

Influential star was 89; career lasted 60+ years

Brian Truitt
USA TODAY

Robert Redford, the legendary leading man with boyish good looks and charm who used his star power to advocate for independent filmmaking, environmentalism and LGBTQ+ rights, has died. He was 89. Redford died Sept. 16, at his home at Sundance, Utah, “the place he loved, surrounded by those he loved. He will be missed greatly,” his representative, Cindi Berger, told USA TODAY in a statement. “The family requests privacy.” During an acting career lasting

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