



After history-making Week 1, young Ironmen return home

SPORTS, 1B

The Gaston Gazette

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Ashton Lamb, with the Carolina Thread Trail, holds a map of the South Fork River Corridor near the site of where a new trail head will be created at Poston Park. MIKE HENSILL/THE GASTON GAZETTE

Spencer Mountain trail moves closer to reality

Project receives \$500K grant from state

Kara Fohner
Gaston Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

Carolina Thread Trail has received a \$500,000 grant from North Carolina's Great Trails State Program to fund a trail project that would allow hikers to summit Spencer Mountain, the third highest point in the Charlotte region. The grant is one of the final pieces of funding needed for the \$1.5 million project,

said Ashton Lamb, trail development manager for Catawba Lands Conservancy. "We are really close to closing the gaps on the \$1.5 million," Lamb said. "Less than half million dollars away from our goal, so we're getting really close." The project will create 3 miles of trail on Spencer Mountain, as well as a

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The Spencer Mountain trail project is part of a larger project, a 23-mile trail linking users from Spencer Mountain to Daniel Stowe Conservancy, with stops in McAdenville and Cramerton along the way.

Motive unknown in MN school shooting

YouTube videos show troubling views

John Bacon, Corey Schmidt, Christopher Cann and Amanda Lee Myers
USA TODAY

MINNEAPOLIS – The city mourned the violent death of two children Aug. 28 while authorities tried to determine the motive of a suspect who fired dozens of rounds through stained glass windows at a Catholic church as students and teachers prayed at a Mass celebrating the start of school. The attack killed two children, ages 8 and 10, and wounded 17 others: 14 children ages 6 to 15 and three adults in their 80s. One child was in critical condition Aug. 28 at Hennepin Healthcare, the city's largest trauma center, and one adult and one child remained in "serious" condition, interim CEO Thomas Klemond told reporters.

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Mourners pray outside the Annunciation Church, which is a home to an elementary school and was the scene of a shooting the day before, in Minneapolis on Aug. 28. TIM EVANS/REUTERS



President Donald Trump is banking on Vice President JD Vance's blue collar bona fides to sell his massive tax and spending law. KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

Vance leads rebrand of GOP tax law

Francesca Chambers
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Vice President JD Vance is embracing his role as salesman-in-chief for President Donald Trump's agenda and taking charge of an effort to rebrand their tax cut and spending law.

It's been tagged by critics as a giveaway to rich elites, and the administration is tapping a vice president who grew up poor to turn public perception. Trump insisted on calling the law – which is meant to be their signature achievement – the "One Big Beautiful Bill." Yet, surveys show the legislation, with provisions that take health insurance from 10 millions people, is not playing well with voters. Enter Vance, who rolled out the rebrand in Peachtree City, Georgia, where he repeatedly called the law the "Working Families Tax Cut."

"We've got to make sure that people See VANCE, Page 3A

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