



Analysis: Trump hits friendly territory on trail

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‘A movement of and for survivors’



Several thousand students, faculty, and community members attended a rally at Cornell University in Ithaca, Oct. 5. The protestors gathered to demand change from Cornell's administration after the handling of the Jane Doe sexual abuse allegations. PHOTOS BY SETH HARRISON/THE JOURNAL NEWS VIA USA TODAY NETWORK

Thousands rally at Cornell as Jane Doe case fuels calls for change

Jillian McCarthy
Ithaca Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Just weeks after a former Cornell University student known anonymously as Jane Doe filed a lawsuit against the university and seven former fraternity members, the student community rallied together to call for administrative change.

On Oct. 5, Cornell University's campus appeared as it does on any other fall day — a cold wind, sunny sky, orange and yellow leaves drifting to the ground and students roaming the grounds heading to their next class.

By 4:30 p.m., the energy shifted. A group gathered — students, faculty, Ithaca residents and concerned people from across the state — and steadily grew at the heart of the Ivy League cam-

pus. They came to demand accountability, to call for the resignations of Cornell University administrators and to deliver a message that could be heard for miles.

Justice for Jane Doe.

Cornell sexual assault allegations revisited

In the fall of 2024, a 20-year-old woman arrived at the front door of Cornell fraternity Chi Phi in Ithaca, New York. Nearly two years later, the night of Oct. 19, 2024, is at the center of a controversy including a civil lawsuit, a reopened criminal investigation and calls for accountability on Cornell's campus.

In her lawsuit, the former student and sorority sister alleges she was gang-raped by members of Cornell's Chi Phi

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President Donald Trump holds the executive order he signed Oct. 5 during a rally in Grand Island, Nebraska. NATHAN HOWARD/REUTERS

Trump order aims to reduce cost of diesel fuel

Bart Jansen
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump temporarily ordered broader access to tax-free diesel fuel, which is crucial for trucking and agriculture, but experts said the move would have limited results in reducing the high fuel costs.

Trump signed an executive order Oct. 5 during a rally in Grand Island, Nebraska, to defer collection of excise tax on so-called red dye diesel fuel through the end of the year. The fuel is dyed because it is typically used for off-road purposes such as agriculture and is exempt from federal highway taxes.

The president said the order will save truckers an average of \$100 each time they fill up and will save farmers millions of dollars. He signed the order after White House aide Natalie Harp carried it on stage, then tossed the Sharpie into the cheering audience.

"This order will also drive down the cost of all goods, including groceries very substantially," Trump said, based on the ripple effect from lower-cost trucking. "It's an honor to do it," he added, hoping it wouldn't be needed for long.

Trump's order was the latest reaction to fuel prices spiking in response to the U.S.-Israel war on Iran and Ukrainian strikes on Russian refineries. He has argued that gas and diesel prices will drop after the wars are resolved and that higher costs are "a small price to pay" to

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Experts: U.S. not likely to see cases of pneumonic plague

Sara Moniuszko
USA TODAY

After a laboratory worker at a plague research institute in southeastern Russia fell ill and died, prompting authorities to quarantine dozens of people, concerns around public health and another pandemic are growing on social media.

"Damn it, COVID-19 round two here we come," one person wrote on X.

"We are still recovering from the trauma and lack of trust from COVID. Can we like, not?" another said.

"Another lockdown loading?" one user wondered.

"Oh boy, here comes the masks again," another wrote.

But experts say Americans likely don't need to worry about an outbreak hitting the United States.

"The risk right now is negligibly low, and the chances of it to spread to our homeland is less likely," Dr. Rutul Dalal, an infectious disease physician at Penn State Health St. Joseph Medical Center, told USA TODAY.

He added that he understands the concern, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic, but pointed out there are differences here — namely, a way to treat it.

"We have antibiotics for treatment and for prophylaxis, and if given within the first 24 hours of symptoms, has an excellent track record of having great results," Dalal said. That contrasts greatly with the start of the COVID-19 pandem-

ic, when we didn't have a vaccine or medication yet to combat it.

Dr. Jeanne Marrazzo, CEO of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, added that people should "remain calm" but still "be vigilant."

Because of the location and many details left unconfirmed, the situation is raising questions.

"We don't really have a window onto what was going on at this research institute. Why were they studying plague?" Marrazzo said. "Whoever works with these agents in a laboratory should have many layers of safety incorporated. You would have expected if this happened that the worker would have immediately

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Questions remain after a doctor at the Medical Assistance and Rescue Centre in Shelekhov, Russia, died from pneumonic plague. REUTERS

