

# The New York Times

THE WEATHER

Today, mostly cloudy, morning showers, high 82. Tonight, cloudy, late-night showers, low 68. Tomorrow, cloudy, showers, humid, cooler, high 75. Weather map, Page A22.

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

VOL. CLXXV . . . No. 60,927

© 2026 The New York Times Company

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2026

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

## Disastrous One-Two Punch of Earthquakes Adds Misery to a Crisis-Plagued Venezuela

### Residents Search Ruined Homes for Victims

This article is by Maria Victoria Fermín, Anatoly Kurmanaev, Julie Turkewitz, Isayen Herrera and Michael Levenson.

CARACAS, Venezuela — Rescue workers and desperate residents dug for survivors in the rubble of large apartment buildings and flattened homes on Thursday after back-to-back major earthquakes struck Venezuela, a country already reeling from decades of economic and political upheaval.

The Venezuelan government said that at least 188 people had been killed and more than 1,500 injured in the two quakes. The first, with a magnitude of 7.2, struck west of the capital, Caracas, on Wednesday just after 6 p.m. It was followed by another, much stronger one measuring 7.5 just 39 seconds later.

The rare one-two punch, known as a doublet, was one of the most powerful tectonic events to strike Venezuela in the past century, and the death toll was virtually certain to rise as rescuers began to reach hard-hit areas and remote hillside towns.

La Guaira, a port city north of Caracas, appeared to have taken one of the heaviest blows. Entire buildings there had crumbled to the ground. Some apartments had only walls remaining, making them look skeletal.

On Thursday morning, as Yorliana Colmenares stood near one building that had been reduced to rubble, she heard tapping noises.

Her boyfriend was trapped inside, she believed. But no rescue workers, firefighters or medical workers had arrived, so residents were digging by themselves through crushed walls and knotted wire and dust.

"They've pulled out a lot of dead people," Ms. Colmenares said. "Injured people, children, animals."

Outside another building, a couple searched for their 8-year-old son. He was playing basketball when the quakes hit and had not been seen since.

The disaster came at a critical moment for Venezuela.

Less than six months ago, U.S. forces captured the country's autocratic leader, Nicolás Maduro, and took him to New York to face drug-trafficking charges. Mr. Maduro's removal transformed Venezuela from a U.S. adversary into what is effectively a satellite state led by his former vice president, Delcy Rodríguez. She has been backed by the Trump administration and has been facing popular discontent.

Since it arrested Mr. Maduro, the Trump administration has demanded that Venezuela open its oil sector to foreign companies (especially those from the United States), work with U.S. security and intelligence services, cut ties with adversaries of the United States.

Continued on Page A8



ADRIANA LOUREIRO FERNANDEZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Looking for family members in Catia La Mar, Venezuela. Twin quakes struck Wednesday evening.



ADRIANA LOUREIRO FERNANDEZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Rescuers in Pinto Salinas. Venezuela's government said nearly 200 people had died nationwide.



GABY ORAA/REUTERS

Navigating a road in the hard-hit port city of La Guaira, where more than 100 buildings collapsed.

## JUSTICES AMPLIFY PRESIDENT'S CLOUT OVER IMMIGRATION

### 6-3 Rulings Bolster His Power to Deport Migrants and Close Off Border

By ANN E. MARIMOW

WASHINGTON — In a pair of sharply divided decisions on Thursday, the Supreme Court allowed President Trump's aggressive crackdown on immigration to move forward, permitting the administration to expel hundreds of thousands of migrants from the country and to turn away others at the southern border.

Taken together, the opinions from the court's conservative majority signaled deference to the president's ability to set the nation's immigration policy, as the justices prepare in the coming days to issue more rulings that will decide how much power to give Mr. Trump across his boundary-pushing agenda.

In one ruling on Thursday, the justices allowed the Trump administration to end humanitarian protections that have permitted people from Haiti and Syria to live and work legally in the United States for more than a decade.

Mr. Trump has long pushed to terminate the program, known as Temporary Protected Status, as part of his efforts to restrict immigration. The program was created by Congress with bipartisan support in 1990 to provide temporary legal status to people whose home countries were deemed unsafe because of war, natural disasters or other crises.

The court's 6-to-3 decision, divided along ideological lines, clears a path for the potential deportation of 350,000 Haitians and 6,100 Syrians, and it is likely to have implications for T.P.S. holders from about a dozen other countries.

The United States, which has a long history of political and military interventions in Haiti, initially extended T.P.S. protections for Haitians in response to a 2010 earthquake that killed an estimated 220,000 people. People from Syria were included in T.P.S. protections in the months after civil war broke out there in 2011. Both countries have faced violence and instability in the years since.

In immigrant communities throughout the United States on Thursday, the ruling brought fear and uncertainty, as people who were following the rules and living in the country legally contemplated a change in their status, potentially also affecting their ability to obtain work permits and driver's licenses.

The ability of the government to quickly expel individuals who previously had protections will depend on whether they already have pending deportation orders. In many instances, T.P.S. holders have not received such orders, which will allow some of them to contest their removal before an immigration judge.

In a separate decision that was also split 6 to 3, with the liberals dissenting, the court on Thursday also said the Trump administration could turn away migrants seeking asylum along the U.S.-Mexico border by physically preventing them from crossing into the United States as they sought

Continued on Page A12

## Top Court Rejects Suit Alleging That Weedkiller Caused Cancer

By ABBIE VANSICKLE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Thursday sided with the manufacturer of the weedkiller Roundup, overturning a jury award for a Missouri man who claimed the widely used herbicide caused cancer in a decision that could have sweeping impacts on thousands of other Americans who similarly claim the product sickened them.

In the 7-to-2 decision, written by Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh, the majority found that a federal law that regulates pesticides barred the Missouri man's lawsuit.

Justice Kavanaugh wrote that the Missouri case would "require a cancer warning on Roundup's label," which would directly conflict with the label required by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Because of this conflict, he wrote, federal law "expressly pre-empts" the Missouri man's claim.

In an unusual pairing, Justices Ketanji Brown Jackson, a liberal, was joined by Neil M. Gorsuch, a conservative, in dissent. Justice Jackson wrote that in her view the majority had misunderstood the scope of the federal law, leaving the Missouri man "without a remedy for the significant harms he has suffered."

The dispute focused on a single case, a \$1.25 million award for John Durnell, a gardener in St. Louis who had used Roundup for decades and claimed that years of exposure to the product led him to develop non-Hodgkin lymphoma, a blood cancer. Mr. Durnell claimed that the company had failed to warn consumers of the dangers of the product.

The ramifications of the decision could be enormous, potentially jeopardizing thousands of

Continued on Page A12

## Trump Foiling Party Facing Midterms: His Own

By CARL HULSE

WASHINGTON — Congressional Democrats had been anxious about helping Republicans pass a major housing bill that would give the G.O.P. a notable win on the affordability issues at the center of the midterm campaigns, and dilute Democratic attacks on rising costs.

They needn't have worried. Just as Republicans were pointing to the measure as proof that they could deliver big things

### Repeated Rug-Pulling Is Wasting His Trifecta in Washington

with their majority, President Trump scuttled his party's big moment by disparaging the legislation and refusing to sign it unless he got a new bill to impose voting restrictions.

It was just the latest twist in an increasingly tortured relationship between Mr. Trump and his

fellow Republicans, who were left dumbfounded and wondering if for some reason the president was trying to sabotage their chances in November and cost them their majorities. And it reflected how profoundly Mr. Trump had crippled his once vaunted governing trifecta, now all but paralyzed by his whipsawing demands and pronouncements.

Frustrated and stymied, Republican senators threw in the towel on Wednesday night and left town until mid-July, leaving

Continued on Page A11

## N.F.L. 'Insider' Whose Access Became the Story

By KATHERINE ROSMAN and KEN BELSON

Dianna Russini had been busted.

It was January, and Ms. Russini — then the star N.F.L. reporter for The Athletic, a sports publication owned by The New York Times Company — had been pulled over by a police officer while texting and driving with her two young sons. It was the second time in a month, she would later recall, that the police had stopped her.

On this occasion, Ms. Russini tried to fend off a ticket by telling

### Closeness to Coach Led to a Journalist's Exit From The Athletic

the officer that the coach of the Buffalo Bills had been fired and that she was trying to break news.

The officer was unmoved, telling her he was a fan of a different team.

That's when she made him an offer. Maybe she could connect him, right then and there, to his fa-

vorite team's coach.

"Do you want to talk to the coach? You should talk to the coach," Ms. Russini said she told the officer as she recounted the incident a couple of weeks later on "Stugotz and Company," a radio show and podcast.

"I FaceTime the head coach," she said, without naming him. "Head coach is in his office. He said, 'What's up?' I go, 'I just got pulled over and I just wanted you to meet my friend, Officer Joe.'"

The coach helped her get out of the ticket by telling the officer,

Continued on Page A14



INTERNATIONAL A4-9

### Flocking to Turkey to Tango

Istanbul's many tango schools, clubs and skilled artists have won the city acclaim as a dancing destination.

PAGE A4

### Deadly Heat Stifles Europe

A second heat wave since May broke more records, as Spain warned of the potential for over 200 deaths.

PAGE A5

NATIONAL A10-19, 22

### A Push Against Abortions

Support is building among the right to arrest women who have abortions as more are ending pregnancies now than when Roe v. Wade fell.

PAGE A13

### Primary Winners Lean Left

Progressive New York candidates won Democratic primaries as some party leaders urge centrism.

PAGE A17

OBITUARIES B10

### The Scary Mommy Blogger

A mother of three, Jill Smokler shared a warts-and-all look at parenting that attracted millions. She was 48.



SPORTS B6-9

### A Vibe Shift in Vancouver

Despite its pro sports woes, the city celebrated after hosting Canada's first victory at a men's World Cup.

PAGE B9

### M.L.B. Navigates Pride Night

Facing a protest by some players, the league wavers in its commitment to an issue that was once a priority.

PAGE B6

BUSINESS B1-5

### Trump's Face on a \$250 Bill?

Cash might be a relic, but — like royalty and emperors — the president still wants his face to be engraved on American currency, perhaps on one to celebrate the nation's anniversary.

PAGE B1

### Inflation Woes Far From Over

The risks are pointing up, an economist said, as Fed officials are grappling with the need to raise rates to make good on the central bank chairman's vow to deliver price stability.

PAGE B1

OPINION A20-21

Michell Goldberg

PAGE A20



WEEKEND ARTS C1-10

### A Billionaire's Basquiats

Ken Griffin looks for artworks with an obvious "wow" factor, never mind the number of zeros on the price tag.

PAGE C1



0 354613 9