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HardWear by Tiffany
A gift that celebrates love's strength.



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"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, heavy rain, high 67. **Tonight,** mostly cloudy and dry, low 57. **Tomorrow,** a mix of clouds and sunshine with a few afternoon showers, high 65. Weather map, Page B12.

VOL. CLXXVI .... No. 61,060 © 2026 The New York Times Company FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026 Prices in Canada may be higher $4.00

Trump Team Saw Collapse Coming Days Before the Vote

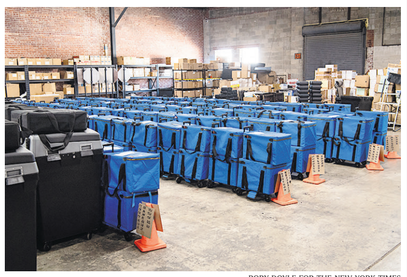


CHRISTOPHER MILLER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Count Goes On
Delivering ballots in Juneau, Alaska, above, and election observers and stacks of ballot boxes at an election office in Jackson, Miss. The two states' Senate races were among several undecided on Thursday, including the contest for governor in Kansas. Page A16.



RORY DOYLE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



RORY DOYLE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Unpopularity of War and President Was Too Much to Overcome

This article is by ***Shane Goldmacher****,* ***Jonathan Swan*** *and* ***Maggie Haberman****.*

Six days before the election, more than two dozen of President Trump's top strategists logged onto a private video call.

The mood was grim. The discussion began with talk of cyanide.

"Do you want the white pill first, or the black pill first?" asked Tony Fabrizio, the president's chief pollster.

Tim Saler, one of the Republican Party's top data consultants, laid out two scenarios. In the first, the $400 million MAGA Inc. super PAC was reaching the voters that it had wanted and expected to vote. "That's the optimistic scenario," he said.

The other was a wipeout.

"I'm getting my affairs in order," James Blair, who left the White House to oversee the president's midterm strategy, said to laughter, according to four people on the call. "I suggest everybody else do the same."

For roughly 30 minutes, the call ran on gallows humor: funeral arrangements, prison food, presidential pardons, even a brief riff on fleeing the country.

"At least Bibi won. He'll protect us," Mr. Blair said sarcastically of the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, whose country had voted the day before. (Mr. Netanyahu's bloc fell short of a majority, and his party soon claimed the election had been stolen.)

"Maybe we could get asylum in Israel," Mr. Fabrizio said.

The scope of the Republican wreckage would become clear a week later.

Democrats stormed to a huge House majority and won control of the Senate, a remarkable feat powered by victories in Republican strongholds — Kansas, South Carolina, Texas — that few could have imagined a year ago.

This account of the Republican Party's collapse is based on interviews with more than 70 people — among them lawmakers, political strategists, party leaders, pollsters, White House officials and congressional aides — who were directly involved in the midterm elections, many of whom were granted anonymity to describe private conversations and decisions.

Continued on Page A12

NEWS ANALYSIS

Capitol Sweep May Give Lift To Moderates

By ROBERT JIMISON and OLIVIA DIAZ

WASHINGTON — For much of the midterm campaign, progressive Democratic insurgents commanded the spotlight in the fight to wrest control of Congress, defeating establishment incumbents in primaries, drawing enthusiastic crowds and promising to reorder their party's priorities and remake American politics once they got to Washington.

But the path to Democrats' sweeping victory this week, when they won control of both chambers of Congress, was paved overwhelmingly by moderates who had spent months persuading voters in Republican-leaning states and competitive congressional districts that they could be trusted to govern and would deliver dissatisfied voters a practical alternative to President Trump.

Their success has fundamentally altered the balance of power among Democrats in Congress, handing Representative Hakeem Jeffries, the presumptive next speaker, and Senator Chuck Schumer, the would-be majority leader — both New York moderates viewed with disdain by the left — majorities built around lawmakers who campaigned not as left-wing heroes but as pragmatic populists. They promised to reduce costs, improve health care and restore trust in government, not necessarily to deliver the sweeping transformations championed by the party's as-

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Nithya Raman, left, a democratic socialist, had strong support from younger voters as she defeated Mayor Karen Bass.

Raman Elected Mayor of L.A. In Win for Left

This article is by ***Shawn Hubler****,* ***Jill Cowan*** *and* ***Orlando Mayorquin****.*

LOS ANGELES — Nithya Raman, a 45-year-old democratic socialist who tapped into a widespread frustration with the quality of life in the nation's second-largest city, will become the new mayor of Los Angeles, The Associated Press reported Thursday.

Her victory over Karen Bass, the 73-year-old incumbent, is a sweeping success for a new generation of progressive leaders and the arrival of younger Angelenos as a political force in the sprawling metropolis.

A Harvard-educated policy expert who served six years on the City Council, Ms. Raman turned the page on a liberal bastion whose leaders had been consumed with big-picture battles with the Trump administration.

Instead, she zoomed in on the nuts-and-bolts distress of young voters who increasingly found themselves priced out of the famously expensive city. Polls consistently showed her ahead by a

Continued on Page A19

D.O.J. Steps Up Criminal Probe Of Court Leak

By JODI KANTOR and MICHAEL S. SCHMIDT

The Justice Department is pursuing a criminal investigation into who leaked the Supreme Court's 2022 decision overturning the right to abortion, examining the inner workings of an institution that has long operated in secrecy and resisted oversight from the other branches of government.

At issue is who provided the draft decision to Politico two months before it was formally released by the court, a seismic breach of confidentiality that led to intense partisan accusations about the motivations of the leaker.

Despite an internal inquiry by the court, no leaker has ever been publicly identified. An F.B.I. official said last year that the Justice Department was exploring the issue.

But prosecutors are now pursuing a criminal case, which has not previously been reported. The investigation has ramped up in recent weeks as prosecutors have sent grand jury subpoenas for testimony and sought information from people who worked at the court at the time of the leaks, according to people familiar with the inquiry.

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80-Cent Pouch Saves Mothers' Life in Childbirth

By STEPHANIE NOLEN

KANO, Nigeria — A few hours after she nearly bled to death, Husaina Balarabe was serenely unaware that her life had been in peril.

She cuddled her newborn baby, a lush-cheeked boy she had named Aabid, and showed him off to her sisters from her bed in a noisy hospital delivery ward in the northern Nigerian city of Kano.

Ms. Balarabe, a 26-year-old optometrist, had experienced a postpartum hemorrhage, a side effect of childbirth that is the leading cause of maternal death around the world.

She did not die because her midwife used a low-cost, low-tech intervention that was pioneered here and in other maternity wards in some of Africa's poorest places, and that is now saving lives across the continent.

The device was a piece of thin, green plastic the size of a cookie sheet with a pouch at its end, called a maternal drape. It lay beneath Ms. Balarabe as she delivered, and the pouch hung off the end of the bed. The midwife who caught baby Aabid saw blood running into the pouch and quickly reaching and surpassing the danger level — 300 milliliters (or 10 ounces), indicated by a mark on the pouch.

The midwife swiftly grabbed a cart stationed in the middle of the packed maternity ward, called for help and went to work. From the cart, she took a syringe of the drug oxytocin and injected it through an IV to get Ms. Balarabe's uterus to contract. She added a dose of tranexamic acid, to prompt clotting.

She massaged Ms. Balarabe's abdomen, encouraging more uterine contractions, while a nurse started IV fluids to restore her blood volume.

The bleeding slowed, and after a couple of minutes, it stopped altogether.

It was all so swift and smooth that the new mother had no idea there was cause for alarm.

One in every 10 women who give birth experiences postpartum hemorrhage, and at least 70,000 women die from it each year. Almost all of those women are in low-income countries; more

Continued on Page A7

African Women Often Risked Bleeding Out



TAIWO AINA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Husaina Balarabe with her newborn, Aabid, in Kano, Nigeria. A so-called maternal drape had signaled a postpartum hemorrhage.

TRUMP INQUIRIES Congressional Democrats will have the power to look into possible conflicts linked to Trump family businesses. PAGE A15

QUIET POWER PLAYER A Massachusetts liberal who has never sought the top spot is set to become the House majority leader. PAGE A15

'NEVER ENOUGH' Despite surviving tough cycles in the past, Susan Collins was felled by the current anti-Trump fever in Maine. PAGE A14

INTERNATIONAL A4-10
Russell Brand Is Found Guilty
The conspiracy-minded YouTuber who first found fame as a comedian and an actor was convicted in a London court of rape and sexual assault. PAGE A8

NATIONAL A11-21
Newsom Empties Death Row
The California governor, who is expected to run for president, commuted the sentence of every prisoner condemned to death to life without parole. PAGE A19

BUSINESS B1-6
Tech Stocks Drop, Erasing Rally
The S&P 500 slumped to its worst daily decline in more than a year on Thursday, as investors fretted about the durability of the A.I. build-out. PAGE B1

WEEKEND ARTS C1-12
Wielding a Broader Brush
The artist Yoshitomo Nara discusses the effect glaucoma has had on his work. Exhibitions of his work are underway in New York and Washington. PAGE C1

OPINION A22-23
Jamelle Bouie PAGE A22

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