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"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, mostly sunny and warm, high 64. **Tonight,** clear with light and variable winds, low 46. **Tomorrow,** plenty of sun as warmth continues, high 66. Weather map, Page A26.

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LEXI PARRA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Ryleigh Schecter, 5, in her bedroom at home in Twinsburg, Ohio. She was diagnosed this year with an incurable brain tumor.

Trump Weighs More Attacks Against Iran

Israel Urges Action as Tehran Rearms Itself

This article is by ***Julian E. Barnes****,* ***Eric Schmitt****,* ***Maggie Haberman****,* ***Jonathan Swan*** *and* ***Ronen Bergman****.*

WASHINGTON — President Trump is weighing plans for another round of extensive military strikes on Iran, taking into account new intelligence about Iranian capabilities and intensifying pressure from Israel to move quickly and aggressively, U.S. and Israeli officials briefed on the discussions said.

Mr. Trump has yet to make a decision, they said. But he has been considering warnings from Israel about Iran's success in rebuilding its missile and drone arsenals and advancing its chemical and biological weapons programs.

And he is taking into account that the United States now has a window in which it has significant military firepower in the region.

There are deep differences of opinion within the administration about the strength of the intelligence and the wisdom of assaulting Iran again, especially after a midterm election in which voters clearly expressed displeasure with a war that has driven up prices and failed to yield the quick triumph that Mr. Trump had promised at its outset, nearly eight months ago.

But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, whose hold on his job is especially tenuous after elections there last month, is pressing hard for the United States to join his country in a four- to seven-day campaign of airstrikes against Iran, the people briefed on the discussions said. The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe sensitive security issues.

The conversations intensified last week. Roman Gofman, the director of Mossad, the Israeli intelligence agency, held meetings in Washington, including with the C.I.A. director, John Ratcliffe. Other top Israeli officials, including Shlomi Binder, the director of military intelligence, have advocated a resumption of operations in discussions with American counterparts.

A senior Israeli official disputed the notion that Mr. Netanyahu had pressured Mr. Trump. A spokesman for Mr. Netanyahu said the prime minister had always acted to "safeguard the security" of Israel.

Mr. Trump has repeatedly vacillated in recent months about restarting major combat. He has declared at times that the war is over and suggested at others that he

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DEMOCRATS VOTE TO BACK JEFFRIES AS NEXT SPEAKER

A FRICTIONLESS ASCENT

Poised to Make History as First Black Lawmaker to Lead the House

By ANNIE KARNI

WASHINGTON — House Democrats on Wednesday nominated Representative Hakeem Jeffries of New York to be speaker, voting overwhelmingly over resistance from the left to put him in line to become the first Black lawmaker to hold the post.

The election by secret ballot came just over two weeks after Mr. Jeffries, 56, who has led House Democrats since 2022, presided over sweeping victories for his party, which won a historically large majority in the midterm elections.



KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Representative Hakeem Jeffries accepted the nomination.

The vote was 251 to 11, with two Democrats abstaining, according to a person who attended the confidential session and detailed the results on the condition of anonymity. The margin demonstrated the breadth of Mr. Jeffries's backing in a large and ideologically diverse caucus.

Accepting the nomination, he paid homage to the civil rights hero and long-serving Representative John Lewis of Georgia, who frequently exhorted people to get in "good trouble" fighting injustice.

"It's a 'good trouble' moment in America," Mr. Jeffries told the assembled Democrats.

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How Peltola Triumphed

Fuel prices and overfishing bothered Alaskan voters. Mary Peltola made sure to keep her Senate campaign hyperlocal. Page A13

Hi, Help Desk, Tech Systems Seem Broken

This article is by ***Sabrina Tavernise****,* ***Georgia Gee*** *and* ***Madaleine Rubin****.*

In five short days, Americans have begun to wonder if their country is actually breaking.

It started Thursday, with the Microsoft outage. Then, on Friday, came the nationwide flight stoppage, only the third this century. After that, four major U.S. banks reported tech problems on Monday, the same day United Airlines' computers went down. On Tuesday morning, the National Security Agency's internal communications network was offline, then Apple services were disrupted.

The cascading series of tech failures left Americans stranded in airports, refreshing their work computers, and generally scratching their heads over what was actually happening. Was some massive hack causing a near-simultaneous shutdown of our digital arteries? Were rogue A.I. agents at work? Or was it more about the aging bones of a 20th century nation unready for the 21st, where one router and a few copper wires in Arkansas could cause everything to go kerflooey?

Perhaps most importantly, was anyone at the helm to fix it?

"I think we ought to be briefed thoroughly on what is actually happening here," Senator Josh Hawley, a Republican from Missouri, told reporters Tuesday on Capitol Hill.

"If this is all a coincidence," he added, "it's like the greatest coincidence in the history of the world."

So far, no evidence has emerged to tie the outages together. President Trump, speaking during a trip to Asia, shrugged it off, remarking, "It's life. When you're big and powerful and have all the money, things like this happen. It's fine."

One explanation for the string of failures was indeed A.I. — not the artificial intelligence programs themselves, but the rush to prevent them from hacking into systems. That rush, Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Wednesday, was causing government agencies and companies to patch their systems so quickly that the patches themselves, or new pieces of equipment, were overloading networks.

But at a base level, many people were left with a feeling that the

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U.S. Stalls Study of a Deadly Childhood Cancer

By LISA MILLER

SCIENCE UNDER SIEGE
Human Toll of Research Cuts

TWINSBURG, Ohio — When Ryleigh Schecter answered the front door to her home, she was wearing an oversized lavender bow in her hair that matched the stripes on her shirt. "Rainbow" is her favorite color, she told me as I sat with her and her parents, Amanda and Aaron, in their cozy living room in Twinsburg, Ohio. To prove it, she recited the colors of the spectrum in order, adding "pink, silver, gold" at the end. She is 5.

Eventually, the Schecters and I began to talk about the medicine she takes, and on cue Ryleigh sped to the kitchen and raced back with a sandwich bag full of Skittles. It contained only the red, orange and yellow ones. "I don't like the purple or the green," she explained.

Ryleigh takes two drugs every night, one designed to treat breast cancer. Her mother mixes them as if from a chemistry set and administers them orally with a syringe. Ryleigh hates them.

"The first one tastes disgusting, and the second one tastes medium," Ryleigh told me.

What does the first one taste like? I asked her.

"Dirty water mixed together," she replied. After each dose, Ryleigh eats a Skittle to wash away the taste. She likes orange best.

Seven months ago, Ryleigh was diagnosed with an incurable brain tumor called D.I.P.G. Her drug regimen is part of a clinical trial, the only slim chance of extending or saving her life. Through trials, scientists start to understand not only what helps a particular child, but how generations may be cured in the future.

A child with diagnosed D.I.P.G. will usually get six weeks of radiation five days a week. After that there is no proven treatment, no standard of care. The average time between diagnosis and death is nine to 12 months. Knowing this, parents will consent to anything. They will move. They will quit their jobs. They will sign forms acknowledging that under experimental treatment, their child may

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RALF HIRSCHBERGER/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

The latest entry from the violent, frenzied franchise will be one of the biggest launches in history.

Millions of Video Outlaws Ready to Run Amok

Grand Theft Auto VI on Track for $3 Billion

By MARC TRACY

The year's signature cultural event is expected to arouse the same fan passion as a sports championship, earn the eye-popping money of the biggest summer movie blockbuster and prompt the same obsessive study as a new Taylor Swift album. And it all began on Thursday when millions worldwide booted up their PlayStations and Xboxes to play what is likely the most anticipated video game ever.

Grand Theft Auto VI, the violent, frenzied franchise's first new story in 13 years, has reached 15 million pre-orders, according to the data tracker Sensor Tower. Should that sales number climb to 20 million this week, as many anticipate, then the sales will approach $2 billion. By the end of the year, according to estimates from Wedbush Securities, $3 billion and more than 30 million units is in reach.

"On Nov. 19, we will see the biggest release of any kind of enter-

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AFTER YOUR HEART Series moves beyond car crashes and stickups with a game about love. PAGE C1

What Crypto Convict Regrets: Anthropic Windfall Got Away

By DAVID YAFFE-BELLANY

Sam Bankman-Fried, the convicted cryptocurrency fraudster, lives in a 30-person unit at the federal prison in Lompoc, Calif., a barbed-wire compound about a million miles away from his former life as a technology billionaire in the Bahamas.

For the most part, Mr. Bankman-Fried, 34, tries not to think about all the "could-have-beens," he said on a recent call. But one has become difficult to ignore.

In late 2021, the heyday of his FTX crypto exchange, Mr. Bankman-Fried spent $500 million on a 13.5 percent stake in a little-known artificial intelligence start-up called Anthropic. On Thursday, Anthropic is set for an initial public offering that could value the company at $1.5 trillion, potentially one of the largest Wall Street debuts in history.

At that valuation, Mr. Bankman-Fried's investment, diluted over several years, would now be worth an eye-watering $35 billion — about the size of FTX's entire business at its peak.

But the shares are gone. They were tied up in bankruptcy court until 2024, when executives overseeing the scattered remains of FTX sold the Anthropic stake for $1.34 billion — a tiny fraction of its current value.

For Anthropic, the fate of those shares is an odd quirk of history. For Mr. Bankman-Fried, it's a source of extreme frustration and resentment. Even after a fraud conviction, a failed appeal and a succession of public humiliations,

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A Russian's 'Need to Rebel'
A rereleased documentary brings new attention to the 1980s underground rock star Boris Grebenshchikov. PAGE A4

A Warm Embrace for Trump
President Xi Jinping offered a red-carpet welcome to the president. No one mentioned a spy scandal. PAGE A7

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The history of sprawling corporate combinations is rich, colorful and mostly disappointing. Could a SpaceX-Tesla merger be a success? PAGE B1

No Return for Huang
Nvidia's board has no interest in reinstating Jensen Huang, despite a lobbying effort by his allies. PAGE B3

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Results of the midterm elections may curb Trump's plans to revamp the Smithsonian and Kennedy Center. PAGE C1



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Hollywood Hills residents sue Los Angeles, saying visitors to their famous sign create dangerous conditions. PAGE A12

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A question of whether the wealthiest New Yorkers, at the global center of capitalism, should foot the bill. PAGE A23

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After winning over fans like Joe Rogan and 50 Cent with his lessons in ruthlessness, the author Robert Greene now wants to cultivate the sublime. PAGE D7

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Master of Manga Illustration
Tetsuya Chiba's serialized story "Ashita no Joe," or "Tomorrow's Joe," about a troubled boxer, was a cultural sensation in Japan in the 1970s. He was 87. PAGE B11

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Saving a Hometown Hero
Bernie Kosar was close to death in a Cleveland hospital, and finding a liver was a long shot. Then a family of Browns fans made a decision. PAGE B7

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