



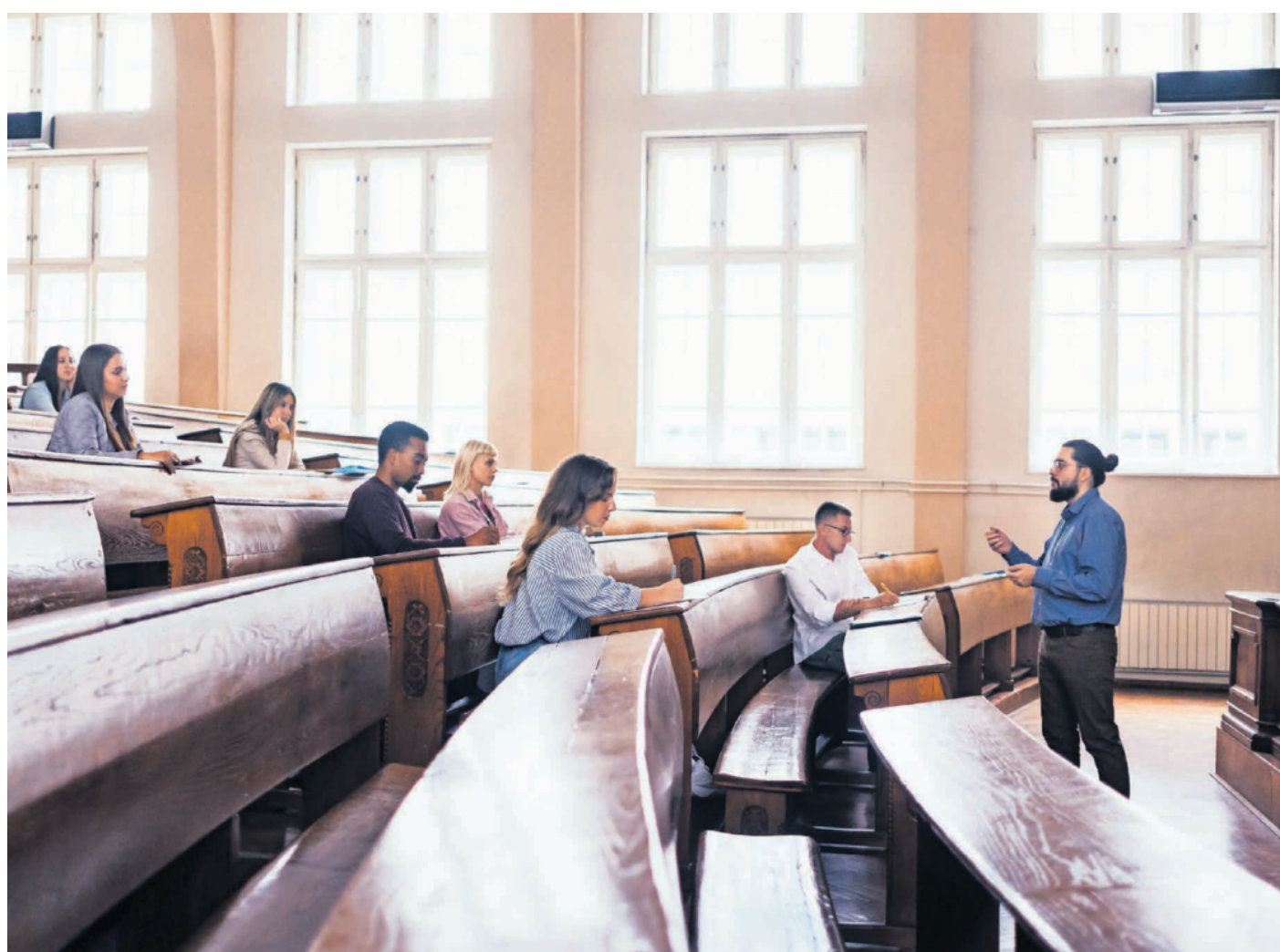
GAME FIVE

ARE THE CAVS ONE WIN FROM ADVANCING, OR ONE LOSS FROM AN EXTENDED GOLF TRIP? PD EXTRA ONLINE HAS THE NEWS FROM WEDNESDAY'S GAME AT READER.PD.CLEVELAND.COM. **C1**



HIGHER EDUCATION OHIO

International student enrollment is in steep decline



Total international student enrollment fell by 46,407 in 2026, a 3.6% drop from 2025. The decline in Ohio was 7.2%. *Getty Images*

A world of difference: Ohio suffered the fifth-largest percentage decline in the nation from 2025 to '26.

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COLUMBUS — Ohio saw one of the steepest declines in international student enrollment in the country over the past year, losing 7.2% of students between March 2025 and March 2026, according to Manifest Law, an immigration law firm that analyzed federal data.

The state enrolled 35,919 international students as of March 2026, down by more than 2,800 students from 38,748 a year earlier. Ohio's decline was the fifth-largest in the nation by percentage, nearly double the national average drop of 3.6%.

Nationally, total international student enrollment fell by 46,407 students to 1,233,676 — the first year-over-year decrease since a post-pandemic rebound began. Enrollment reached a record 1.33 million in 2025 before pulling back. Washington state had the largest per-

centage decline, with enrollment falling 15.8% over the same period. Hawaii was second at 10.5%, followed by Montana at 9.9% and Missouri at 7.4%. In raw numbers, New York, Massachusetts and California suffered the largest absolute losses. Researchers attributed the broader

national decline to a combination of factors, including expanded visa screening requirements, backlogs in consular processing and rising costs associated with maintaining legal status.

Researchers attribute the national decline in international college student enrollment to a combination of factors, including expanded visa screening requirements, backlogs in consular processing and rising costs associated with maintaining legal status.

New requirements for in-person visa interviews and social media vetting have added uncertainty for prospective students, the report said.

The decline comes after a turbulent year for international students in the U.S. A year ago, President Donald Trump's administration revoked the legal status of hundreds of international students, including at least 62 students across 15 Ohio public and private colleges.

The students mostly learned through email their status had been terminated. Some sued over their status, arguing they had never been convicted of a crime and were successful in court.

After public polling showed support for the students and the administration suffered several court losses, the Trump administration on April 25, 2025, manually restored the status of all students with revoked visas in the student visa system, while saying it was developing a new policy framework for international students.

SEE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, A2

IMMIGRATION

SCOTUS hears case to decide fate of Haitians in Ohio, U.S.

The Trump administration is asking whether federal judges can review decisions to end Temporary Protected Status.

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COLUMBUS — The fate of thousands of Haitians living in Ohio was before the U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday morning.

The justices heard oral arguments in *Trump v. Miot*, a case that will decide whether Haitian immigrants can continue to live and work in the United States.

About 15,000 Haitians live in the Springfield area, along with another 30,000 in Central Ohio.

But the case could reach far beyond Haiti. The Trump administration is asking the justices to decide whether federal judges can review decisions to end Temporary Protection Status.

If courts cannot, as the administration argues, about 1.3 million people from 17 countries could face deportation.

WHAT IS TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS?

TPS is a federal program created by Congress in 1990 that lets people live in the United States if war, political violence or natural disasters have made their home country dangerous.

Those protections can be renewed — or ended — by the Department of Homeland Security every 18 months after a review of conditions on the ground.

Haitians began immigrating through TPS in 2011 after a devastating earthquake.

Since then, multiple administrations renewed the program as violence and instability continued, including the 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moise.

SEE TEMPORARY PROTECTION STATUS, A2

WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST

\$25 billion and counting

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth faced withering questioning over a costly conflict being waged without congressional approval. **A6**



SPORTS

G's snap skid

Rookie Travis Bazzana went hitless Wednesday in his second big-league game, but Gavin Williams threw a gem to lead the G's past the Rays. **C1**

AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READERS

Who's searching Cleveland's Flock cameras?

City refuses to share records despite a public records request and growing concerns about surveillance.

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Cleveland keeps a list of every police department that has searched the city's Flock Safety camera system. But even as residents raise concerns about surveillance, city officials have not released that list to the public.

Cleveland.com and The Plain Dealer requested those records March 11, seek-

ing logs that detail each time outside law enforcement agencies accessed Flock's automatic license plate readers. The city keeps those logs permanently — but after seven weeks, Mayor Justin Bibb and his administrators have not explained the delay or said when they will be released.

So far, the only peek at how Flock is being used comes from a 30-day look-back prepared for Cleveland City Council, which council shared with cleveland.com.

That limited window shows 228 searches. Beachwood police, Euclid police and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service are among the most frequent users of Cleveland's Flock data. But departments from as far as Florida, Texas and Kansas have also run searches.

Cleveland's license plate readers — along with its gunshot-detection technology from ShotSpotter — have drawn increased scrutiny since Bibb proposed expanding the city's Flock contract in November, a move that would broaden the use of license plate readers and replace ShotSpotter's microphones with Flock technology.

That proposal has since been shelved. Residents organized under the banner "Flock, No" have called on the city to cut ties with Flock over privacy concerns and fears that federal immigration agencies could use it to track individuals. City Council, while open to both technologies, instead pushed for a competitive bidding process.

SEE CAMERAS, A2

