



## Cavs sense 'renewed energy, a belief'

SPORTS, 9A

# Telegraph-Forum

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## U.S. has a looming sewage problem



A fence separates the path from the C&O Canal where millions of gallons of untreated sewage were being diverted in Cabin John, Maryland, on Feb. 16. A section of the Potomac Interceptor, a sewage pipe, collapsed on Jan. 19. CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

## Will Trump avoid MAGA 'dud' pick in primaries?

Zac Anderson  
USA TODAY

Senate GOP leaders have rallied around Texas Republican Sen. John Cornyn in his hotly contested primary, suggesting he has the best chance of holding the seat and urging President Donald Trump to endorse him.

While it hasn't worked – Trump remains uncommitted ahead of the March 3 contest – the lobbying campaign shows the president's continued dominance of the GOP, something Trump reveled in recently when asked about the Texas race.

"They say whoever I endorse wins," Trump told reporters on Feb. 1 at his Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach, Florida. "That's probably right."

As Trump's broader political power dims amid backlash to his aggressive second term, it burns brightly in the GOP primaries that kick off next month and run through the early fall. How Trump uses it could have a big impact on the 2026 midterm election, the president's last two years in office, and beyond, setting the direction of the GOP for years to come and framing the president's legacy.

Trump has long wielded his endorsements as a cudgel to purge the party of those he clashed with, such as former Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney and his first-term Attorney General Jeff Sessions. That continues to be the case.

The president is backing primary challenges to GOP incumbents in both the House and Senate who have defied him, and threatening more to come,

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Some Republicans are frustrated that President Donald Trump hasn't endorsed Texas Sen. John Cornyn in his hotly contested GOP primary. KAYLA BARTKOWSK/GETTY IMAGES FILE

## Wastewater systems often receive a 'D' grade

Dinah Voyles Pulver  
USA TODAY

Officials and engineers have warned for decades of a growing crisis with the aging systems that handle the billions of gallons of water flowing from toilets, tubs and washing machines across the country every day.

So when news broke of the untreated wastewater spill into the Potomac River in January, it wasn't a surprise to industry experts.

"When you think about the number of miles of wastewater pipes in the ground, and the age of them, and the fact that for many, many years they have been underfunded, it's not surprising that things like this can occur," said Darren Olson, a professional engineer who chairs the Committee on

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In August 2025, intense rain in Milwaukee led to 5.14 billion gallons of untreated wastewater from the city's combined sewer being discharged into nearby waterways and Lake Michigan. CAITLIN LOOBY/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL FILE

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