



Coyotes advance to WNIT's Feb 4

SPORTS, 1B

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Iran threatened with targeted strikes

But Trump claims 'great progress' in negotiations

Bart Jansen, Christopher Cann, Andrea Riquier and Thao Nguyen
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump on March 30 said the United States was engaged in "serious discussions" with Iranian officials on a deal to end the war –

but threatened to launch strikes on the country's power, oil and water facilities if negotiations fail.

"Great progress has been made" Trump said on Truth Social. However, he continued, if a deal is not reached shortly and the Strait of Hormuz remains effectively closed, the United States will "conclude our lovely 'stay' in Iran by blowing up and completely obliterating all of their Electric Generating Plants, Oil Wells and Kharg Island (and

possibly all desalination plants!), which we have purposefully not yet 'touched.'"

More than a month into the war, Iran has maintained its grip on the critical trade route, raising energy prices globally.

The president told reporters March 29 that Iran had responded favorably to 15 points the United States proposed to end the war. Trump hasn't detailed the demands.

As an indication Tehran is moving toward a peace agreement, Trump cited Iran's decision to allow 10 oil tankers through the Strait of Hormuz.

"They're agreeing with us on the plan," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One. "We're having very good meetings, both directly and indirectly, and I think we're getting a lot of very important points."

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ANALYSIS

No Kings rallies a massive show of political force



Protesters march at Times Square in New York City during the No Kings national day of protest on March 28.

CHARLY TRIBALLEAU/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Senator says Democrats have 'failed this moment'

Kathryn Palmer
USA TODAY

Sen. Cory Booker said the Democratic Party has "failed this moment" in an interview, urging the left to support new leadership to temper the nation's deep divides.

Speaking to NBC News' "Meet the Press" on March 29, the New Jersey Democrat promoted his new book, "Stand," in which he wrote that the Democratic Party has stumbled in issuing "purity tests" for its members. Booker argued those have created a coalition that is "too small to make a big change."

"I'm proud of so many things that my Democratic colleagues are doing, but as a whole, our party has failed this moment," Booker said.

Expanding on that passage in his book, the lawmaker told host Kristen Welker that Democrats must have a "generational renewal" in order to bridge stark partisanship.

"This is one of our biggest crises. It is time for a new vision of our country that's far more uniting, that brings people together, doesn't deepen divides," Booker said. "I really believe this is a time where we need new leadership, new moral imagination, to pull our country together."

Booker added that the Democratic Party's challenges are larger than President Donald Trump and his administration, which the party, and Booker, have ardently opposed. Booker delivered a marathon 25-hour speech on the Senate floor in 2025 protesting the president and channeling Democratic frustrations with the administration's policies.

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But it remains to be seen if protests will affect elections



Sarah Elizabeth Greer, called the No Kings march in New York City a "divine entanglement of democracy" as she carted her two dogs with thousands of demonstrators on March 28.

EDUARDO CUEVAS/USA TODAY

Susan Page
USA TODAY

The demonstration outside the Minnesota State Capitol for the marquee No Kings rally, with Bruce Springsteen and Jane Fonda on the bill, wasn't the most notable development during the day of protests on March 28.

More notable was the No Kings march in Staunton, Virginia. And Salisbury, Maryland. Rockford, Illinois. Beaver, Pennsylvania. Eugene, Oregon. Chillicothe, Ohio. Port Huron, Michigan. Flatwoods, West Virginia. And more than 3,000 other places across the country, plus a scattering around the world.

"A divine entanglement of democracy," Sarah Elizabeth Greer, 56, called it as she marched in Manhattan, pushing her two tiny dogs in a cart festooned with a pair of handwritten signs: "NO barKING" and "BITE the Power!"

The left-leaning protests with the Revolutionary-era call against Presi-

dent Donald Trump as a would-be monarch and authoritarian had the broadest geographic reach of any single-day protest in the United States in more than a half-century. They included not only familiar precincts in New York and Los Angeles and Austin but also communities in all 50 states and every congressional district, including rural and Republican territory.

While the mood was generally sunny and marches largely peaceful, the third No Kings protests were an unmistakable display of political force that could reverberate in the 2026 midterms and beyond.

In the wake of Republican defeats in a string of special elections – including a Democratic victory in the Florida state house race to represent the president's home district – the record-setting protests were one more omen of upheaval ahead in November's midterm elections.

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Sen. Cory Booker, D-New Jersey, did not rule out a presidential bid in 2028 when directly asked. He ran unsuccessfully for his party's nomination in 2020.

JEENAH MOON/REUTERS FILE

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