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Hamas leader's death a triumph for Israel

Long-sought Sinwar killed by soldiers on routine parole; Netanyahu says 'mission ahead of us is still unfinished'

By Ronen Bergman, Aaron Boxerman, Raja Abdulrahim, Patrick Kingsley, and Michael Levenson
NEW YORK TIMES

It was a routine patrol for a unit of Israeli soldiers in the southern Gaza Strip. Then a firefight erupted and the Israelis, backed by drones, destroyed

part of a building where several militants had taken cover, Israeli officials said.

When the dust cleared and they began searching the building, the soldiers found a body that bore a striking resemblance to someone they had not expected to find, a man their country had been hunting for since Oct. 7, 2023: Yahya Sin-

war, the leader of Hamas.

For more than a year, as tens of thousands were killed in Gaza, Sinwar had eluded the full force of Israel's military and security establishment, which had dedicated every means at its disposal to finding and killing him. Many believed he was hiding underground in Gaza and had surrounded himself

with hostages taken from Israel.

In the end, the Israeli officials said, he was killed above ground Wednesday, alongside two other militants, with no sign of hostages nearby. Israeli authorities said they had confirmed his death Thursday, using dental records and fingerprints. His DNA was also tested for confirmation, according to one Israeli official and the White House.

Sinwar's death was the most

severe blow to Hamas's leadership after more than a year of escalating violence in the Middle East, and it immediately plunged the war in Gaza into a new and uncertain phase. It came less than three weeks after Israeli forces killed the leader of Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah, in an airstrike south of Beirut, the Lebanese capital.

While some hoped Sinwar's death might signal an end to the Israeli invasion, Prime Min-

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Many in Israel had believed Yahya Sinwar was hiding underground with hostages.

PARTY POLITICS

The US has big celebrations ahead, but they'll look very different depending on next president

By Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — In 1975, after years of deep political division, social unrest, and economic struggles, President Gerald Ford traveled to the Boston area to rally Americans around an approaching milestone: the nation's 200th birthday.

"It is a time to place the hand of healing on the heart of America — not division and not blame," Ford declared in a speech at the foot of the Old North Bridge in Concord, kicking off the more than year-long bicentennial celebration by commemorating the start of the American Revolution there. The audience of about 75,000 included people protesting Ford's economic and international policies, the Globe reported at the time.

But Americans ultimately rallied around a grand birthday bash, featuring a rare, multicity visit by Queen Elizabeth, a majestic parade of Tall Ships in Boston and New York harbors, and a steam-powered Freedom Train carrying the nation's historical treasures around the country. The festivities culminated with massive coast-to-coast Independence Day celebrations that included a speech by Ford at Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

The next president probably will play a similar high-profile role during equally tumultuous times as the United States celebrates its 250th birthday on July 4, 2026. On top of that, Kamala Harris or Donald Trump — both big sports fans — will be in office as the country hosts the 2026 men's World Cup (along with Canada and Mexico) and the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

CELEBRATIONS, Page A6



Bicentennial events were ramping up in 1975 when President Gerald Ford traveled to Concord to mark the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Lexington and Concord. In 1984, the Reagans celebrated the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, and in 1999, the Clintons marked a Women's World Cup quarterfinal win.

Not too late, bill on climate emerges

Wide support expected on Beacon Hill

By Sabrina Shankman
GLOBE STAFF

Months after the close of the formal legislative session, when lawmakers on Beacon Hill came oh-so-close to passing significant reforms only to fall short at the eleventh hour, House and Senate negotiators announced a comprehensive bill on Thursday that addresses the climate crisis and promotes more clean energy adoption. The legislation would again put Massachusetts near the front of the pack of state houses fighting climate change.

At the centerpiece of the bill is a sweeping change to the way

'Delayed but not diluted — not a bad result.'

SENATOR
MICHAEL BARRETT

energy infrastructure is sited and permitted, to speed the clean energy transition to renewable sources such as solar and wind in the state. The bill also includes provisions to boost battery storage, improve electric vehicle charging, and constrain the growth of natural gas infrastructure, according to a draft copy of the proposed legislation the Globe has reviewed.

The bill is expected to be filed as soon as Friday. It still has to pass both Democratic-led chambers and is widely expected to do so. The reforms have been a priority of Governor Maura Healey.

"Massachusetts must continue to be a national leader in the effort to combat climate change, a prerequisite for which will be transitioning to a

CLIMATE BILL, Page A10

'Corporate PAC' no longer dirty words for Democrats

By Sam Brodey
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — Not long ago, Democratic candidates for office introduced themselves with one specific promise to voters.

"I'm Theresa Greenfield," said the 2020 Democratic challenger to Senator Joni Ernst of Iowa in a TV ad. "And I don't take corporate PAC mon-

ey, because I don't think politicians should put corporate interests ahead of you."

In the previous three election cycles, dozens and dozens of Democrats running for House and Senate took a vow to shun campaign contributions from political action committees funded by corporations — a succinctly effective way to convey indepen-

dence from outside influence.

But in 2024, fewer candidates are making that pledge, according to a Globe review of databases maintained by End Citizens United, an advocacy group that encourages candidates to take a no-corporate PAC commitment and tracks who commits to them.

The development reflects a shift in

how Democrats are approaching the issue of campaign finance reform, which had been a core motivating concern of the party in the Donald Trump era.

Among the 10 most competitive Senate races this year, for instance, only two Democratic candidates — Representatives Colin Allred of Texas

CORPORATE PACS, Page A7

Endowment not one of Harvard's problems

Up nearly 10%, but donations have declined

By Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

Harvard University reported mixed financial results for its most recent fiscal year, in which its massive endowment rebounded to post strong returns, while donations to the school were down during a period of extreme turbulence on campus.

The financial metrics have become something of a litmus test on where Harvard stands after a tumultuous period of sharp division on campus over the Is-

rael-Hamas war, which triggered protests, sustained criticism from politicians and prominent alumni and donors, and reports of rising antisemitism and anti-Muslim sentiment.

The Ivy League school's portfolio of private equity, hedge funds, real estate, and other investments gained 9.6 percent in the fiscal year that ended June 30, surpassing Harvard's long-term return target of 8 percent, according to its annual report for the year that ended June 30 that the university released Thursday. A year ago, the portfolio gained 2.9 percent.

However, the school also said donations declined by some 15

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THE BRIGHT STUFF



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

A so-called super moon has been lighting up the skies this week, although it hasn't been very good news for comet watchers.



Facing push-back, Quincy delayed raises of 79 percent for the mayor and 50 percent for city councilors. **B1.**

The Fed recently made the first of what's expected to be several rate cuts, but mortgage rates have actually risen. Why? Larry Edelman's Trendlines, **B5.**

Lowell is celebrating Edgar Allan Poe with a multi-venue festival marking his many visits to the city. **G1.**

Stiff competition

Friday: Warming up. High 58-63. Low 44-49.

Saturday: Even better. High 66-71. Low 47-52.

Sunrise: 7:01 Sunset: 5:57

Weather and Comics, **G8-9.**
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