

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

# The New York Times

THE WEATHER

Today, turning out partly sunny, increasingly windy, high 58. Tonight, mostly clear, windy, low 45. Tomorrow, partly to mostly sunny, windy, high 62. Weather map, Page B12.

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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



Staff members cleaned out the office of Representative Matt Gaetz, who resigned after being nominated to be the attorney general.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

### Trump's Picks Send Message To the Senate

A Warning to Confirm Or Be Elbowed Aside

By KATIE ROGERS

WASHINGTON — A Fox News ally for defense secretary. A former Democrat-turned-Trump-World-celebrity to oversee 18 spy agencies. A right-wing provocateur for the nation's top law enforcement job. A vaccine skeptic for health secretary.

President-elect Donald J. Trump's picks for top government jobs rolled in fast and furiously on Wednesday and Thursday, and his promise to build a presidential administration fueled by retribution quickly came into view.

Those plans were perhaps best summarized by Representative Matt Gaetz, who wrote of his enthusiasm for the wholesale elimination of federal law enforcement agencies just hours before Mr. Trump announced he'd chosen the Florida Republican to lead the Justice Department:

"We ought to have a full-court press against this WEAPONIZED government that has been turned against our people," Mr. Gaetz wrote on social media on Wednesday. "And if that means abolishing every one of the three letter agencies, from the FBI to the ATF, I'm ready to get going!"

Mr. Trump could not have said it better himself. And that is the entire point.

The president-elect's other bombshell picks on Wednesday included Pete Hegseth, a military veteran known for defending Mr. Trump on Fox News, to be his defense secretary; Tulsi Gabbard, a former Democratic congresswoman, to be director of national intelligence.

"These are so appalling they're a form of performance art," Michael Waldman, the president of the Brennan Center for Justice, said in an interview on Wednesday, reflecting on Mr. Trump's choices and their fitness for their jobs.

The following day, the president-elect picked Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to be secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

This parade of loyalists is Mr. Trump's first show of force to Senate Republicans, who will be under immense pressure to either confirm his nominees or sidestep that process altogether. But it is also something of a denial-of-service attack against one of the checks on the presidency: Mr. Trump has insisted that the next Senate majority leader allow for recess appointments, which would grant him

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**DILEMMA FOR G.O.P.** The president-elect's nominees raise constitutional questions. PAGE A16

**JOLT TO JUSTICE DEPT.** The staff is bracing for reprisals by its likely next boss, Matt Gaetz. PAGE A14

### TRUMP TO SELECT KENNEDY AS HEAD OF HEALTH AGENCY

#### A SKEPTIC OF VACCINES

Unclear if Senators Will Confirm Unorthodox H.H.S. Nominee

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG

WASHINGTON — President-elect Donald J. Trump said on Thursday that he would nominate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, setting up a debate over whether Mr. Kennedy, whose vaccine skepticism and unorthodox views about medicine make public health officials deeply uneasy, can be confirmed.

Mr. Trump is stocking his administration with people whom even some Republicans find alarming, including former Representative Matt Gaetz of Florida as attorney general and Pete Hegseth, a Fox News host, as defense secretary. In choosing Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Trump is picking someone who is at war with the very public health agencies he would oversee.

In a statement on Truth Social, his social media platform, Mr. Trump said Mr. Kennedy would restore the nation's health agencies "to the traditions of Gold Standard Scientific Research, and



Many of Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s views alarm health experts.

beacons of Transparency, to end the Chronic Disease epidemic, and to Make America Great and Healthy Again!"

Mr. Kennedy, who has railed against the revolving door between industry and government, vowed on social media to "free the agencies from the smothering cloud of corporate capture so they can pursue their mission to make Americans once again the healthiest people on Earth."

If he is confirmed, Mr. Kennedy would have sweeping control of a department with 80,000 employees across 13 operating divisions that run more than 100 programs. Its agencies regulate the food and medicine that Americans encounter in their daily lives, decide whether Medicare and Medicaid will pay for drugs and hospital treatments, guard against infectious disease, and conduct billions of dollars of medical research into diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's.

Many Democrats and public health experts were appalled by

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### Creeping Pace On Emissions, Research Says

By BRAD PLUMER and MIRA ROJANASAKUL

Countries have made scant progress in curbing their greenhouse gas emissions over the past year, keeping the planet on track for dangerous levels of warming this century, according to a report published Thursday.

The report, by the research group Climate Action Tracker, estimates that the climate and energy policies currently pursued by governments around the world would cause global temperatures to rise roughly 2.7 degrees Celsius, or 4.9 degrees Fahrenheit, above preindustrial levels by 2100.

That estimate of future warming has barely budged for three years now, the group said.

"We are clearly failing to bend the curve," said Sofia Gonzales-Zuñiga, a climate policy specialist at Climate Analytics, a science and policy organization, and a lead author of the report. "As the world edges closer to these dangerous climate thresholds, the need for immediate, stronger action to reverse this trend becomes ever more urgent."

The study was issued during the United Nations climate summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, where diplomats and world leaders have gathered to discuss how to raise trillions of dollars to cope with rising global temperatures.

Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, world leaders pledged to hold total global warming to "well below" 2 degrees Celsius, and preferably closer to 1.5 degrees Celsius, to limit the risks from climate catastrophes. Scientists

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### Run-of-the-Mill Soccer, With Top-Flight Security

By TARIQ PANJA and CATHERINE PORTER

PARIS — It was the type of political attention reserved for only the biggest of sporting occasions. Emmanuel Macron, the French president, the prime minister and other political grandees sat in the stands on Thursday to watch the national team play soccer.

But the French side was not chasing a big prize before a packed house. Instead, it was playing a run-of-the-mill match, without its star player Kylian Mbappé, against a mediocre opponent — the type of game that usually attracts scant attention, as demonstrated by the vast empty spaces in the stands at the national stadium just outside Paris.

#### A France-Israel Match Arouses Fears of Antisemitism

The reason for the V.I.P. turnout was the opponent, Israel's national team, and what was happening on the Stade de France field was very much overshadowed by what was happening away from it. The violence a week earlier in Amsterdam surrounding a soccer match between a Dutch team and a different Israeli squad guaranteed that Thursday's game — which ended 0-0 — would be far more a political event than a sporting one.

As Dutch authorities investi-

gate what they call antisemitic attacks on Israeli fans, as well as incendiary behavior by both sides, French authorities have vowed to prevent such scenes from being repeated here.

The result has been a massive security operation befitting a G20 summit. The security forces that blanketed the vicinity of the stadium in Saint-Denis, at key sites across Paris and throughout the transit system resembled the operation for the spectacularly successful Olympic Games held here this summer.

The city's police chief said there would be 4,000 officers deployed for the game, with 2,500 stationed around the stadium itself and the others spread across the city. Another 1,600 private security

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Thousands of officers were mobilized for the France-Israel game Thursday evening near Paris.

### Residents Take Reparations Deal in Palm Springs

By AUDRA D. S. BURCH

The city of Palm Springs, Calif., will consider a nearly \$6 million reparations settlement for former residents of a neighborhood of mostly Black and Latino families that was destroyed more than a half-century ago.

Former residents of Section 14, which was razed in the 1960s to make room for commercial development, accepted the city's final cash offer of \$5.9 million. Up to another \$21 million could go toward

#### \$6 Million for Homes Razed in the '60s

housing, economic development and small business programs. The City Council is expected to vote on the settlement offer and the initiatives at a public meeting on Thursday.

"We have been fighting for a long time to tell our story," said Margarita Genera, 86, who lived

with her parents and two siblings in the neighborhood.

If the settlement is approved, Palm Springs, a desert resort destination, would become one of a few municipalities in the country to have successfully reached a deal on reparations. Evanston, Ill., in 2021 became the first city to offer reparations in the form of housing grants, though the program is currently being challenged in a lawsuit. Some cities, like New York City and Tulsa,

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### Joking Aside, The Onion Plans to Buy Infowars

By BENJAMIN MULLIN and ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON

The Onion, a satirical publication that skewers newsmakers and current events, said on Thursday that it had won a bankruptcy auction to acquire Infowars, a website founded and operated by the conspiracy theorist Alex Jones. But in a twist all too typical of six years of often-chaotic litigation, within hours the bankruptcy judge temporarily halted the deal.

The Onion said its bid was sanc-

#### Set to Turn Jones's Site Into a Parody of Itself

tioned by the families of the victims of the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, who in 2022 won a \$1.4 billion defamation lawsuit against Mr. Jones and his company, Free Speech Systems. The publication plans to reintroduce Infowars in January as a parody of itself, mocking

"weird internet personalities" like Mr. Jones who traffic in misinformation and health supplements, Ben Collins, the chief executive of The Onion's parent company, Global Tetrahedron, said in an interview.

A lawyer for The Onion said the deal was secure. But during an emergency hearing, Judge Christopher Lopez of U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Houston put a hold on the sale until a hearing early next week.

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NATIONAL A11-19

#### Questions for Traffic Plan

New York's governor is renewing plans for congestion pricing, but it's not clear the lower tolls will be enough. PAGE A19

#### Abuses in Georgia Jail System

In a blunt report released by the Justice Department, officials were cited for broad civil rights violations. PAGE A18

INTERNATIONAL A4-10

#### Strikes on Lebanon and Syria

At least 12 emergency rescue workers died in an Israeli attack on a civil defense center in Lebanon, while fighter jets also bombed sites in Syria. PAGE A8

#### Musk Met With Iranian Envoy

The tech billionaire and the United Nations ambassador were said to discuss ways to defuse tensions. PAGE A9

OBITUARIES B10-11

#### Conservative Power Lawyer

Theodore B. Olson argued the Republican side in Bush v. Gore, but later championed gay rights. He was 84. PAGE B11



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#### Vonn Plans World Cup Return

A repaired right knee has the American ski racer aiming to compete, possibly, in the 2026 Olympics. PAGE B6

#### Tyson's Strange Spectacle

On Netflix, the 58-year-old former heavyweight champ will face a 27-year-old internet star in the ring. PAGE B7

BUSINESS B1-5

#### Finding Love 2.0

A New York Times reporter, single and living in San Francisco, tested a handful of A.I. chatbots to see if they could help him with his dating life. The results were decidedly mixed. PAGE B1

#### Deportation's Economic Toll

Expelling the 11 million undocumented immigrants in America is likely to raise prices on goods and services and lower employment rates for workers, many economists say. PAGE B1

OPINION A20-21

#### Pamela Paul

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WEEKEND ARTS C1-12

#### Inspiration From Egypt

An upcoming exhibition at the Met explores the shimmering civilization on the Nile as a continuing creative catalyst for Black artists. PAGE C1



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