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Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2025 • \$4

Mammoth spending bill passes House vote

After marathon talks, it heads to Senate, where price tag may be a pitfall

BY JACOB BOGAGE, MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR, MATTHEW CHOI AND PAUL KANE

House Republicans approved President Donald Trump's sprawling tax and immigration agenda Thursday morning, sending to the Senate legislation that the GOP hopes will transform the federal government and the economy and power the White House's drive to deport immigrants and build up the military.

Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill, as the measure is formally known, extends trillions of dollars in tax cuts from his first term along with new campaign promises — including no taxes on tips and overtime wages — and hundreds of billions of dollars in new spending.

But the legislation, which passed 215-214-1 after marathon talks, carries a hefty price tag. The latest projection from the Congressional Budget Office, lawmakers' nonpartisan bookkeeper, showed it will add \$2.4 trillion over 10 years to the national debt, which already exceeds \$36 trillion.

To offset the cost, the measure would slash spending on social safety net programs by more than \$1 trillion over 10 years. Even then,

SEE HOUSE BUDGET ON A14

Federal debt: Bill spooks investors, driving up Treasury bond yields. **A13**

What's in it: Ten ways the massive measure may affect your cash. **A15**

Deadlocked justices block first religious public school

BY JUSTIN JOUVENAL, LAURA MECKLER AND ANN E. MARIMOW

The Supreme Court deadlocked Thursday over the constitutionality of what would have been nation's first public religious charter school, blocking the creation of a Catholic institution that would have reshaped American education and blurred the line between church and state.

With only eight justices voting, the Supreme Court's 4-4 tie leaves in place an Oklahoma Supreme Court ruling that St. Isidore of Seville Catholic Virtual School would violate state law and the U.S. Constitution.

A ruling for St. Isidore would have allowed, for the first time, direct and complete taxpayer funding to establish a faith-based charter school, legalizing government sponsorship of a curriculum that calls for students to adhere to Catholic beliefs and the church's religious mission.

Instead, the current landscape of government funding for religious schools remains intact. Under previous court rulings, taxpayer money may be used for vouchers to pay tuition at religious schools. But public schools — including charter schools — may not include religious teaching.

SEE COURT ON A8

Regulators: Court allows Trump to fire independent officers. **A15**

Death, shock at Jewish museum



EVELYN HOCKSTEIN/REUTERS

Members of Misaskim, a Jewish group that helps grieving families, gather remains where two Israeli Embassy staffers were shot in D.C.

Before victims were gunned down, they pursued their dreams together

BY DAN ROSENZWEIG-ZIFF, JASMINE HILTON AND ANNIE GOWEN

Yaron Lischinsky was a photographer who played soccer and had long wanted to be a diplomat. Sarah Lynn Milgrim was an environmentalist who tried to forge relationships to bring peace.

The couple met while working for the Israeli Embassy: Lischinsky, 30, an Israeli citizen, was a research assistant in the embassy's political department. Mil-

grim, 26, who grew up in the Kansas City area, organized missions and visits to Israel.

Lischinsky and Milgrim often attended Jewish events in Washington and had planned to move in together in July, according to friends and others who knew them.

They were scheduled to fly to Israel to meet his parents in the coming days, "so we assumed it was very serious," Robert Milgrim, Sarah's father, said in an interview.

SEE VICTIMS ON A7



COURTESY OF ROBERT MILGRIM

Sarah Milgrim and Yaron Lischinsky in D.C. this year. He hoped to propose on their upcoming trip to meet his parents in Israel.



SANDY HUFFAKER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

'Everything on fire all at once'

A small plane crashed in San Diego's Murphy Canyon neighborhood Thursday morning, killing at least two and setting several homes ablaze. Eight people on the ground were hurt. **Story, A3**

DHS yanks Harvard's admission of foreign students

BY DANIELLE DOUGLAS-GABRIEL, SUSAN SVRLUGA AND LAURA MECKLER

The Department of Homeland Security on Thursday revoked Harvard University's certification to admit foreign students, making good on a threat by President Donald Trump and escalating his fight with the Ivy League school.

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi L. Noem ordered the agency to terminate Harvard's Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) certification, which allows U.S. universities to admit international students, for allegedly allowing "anti-American, pro-terrorist" foreigners "to harass and physically assault individuals ... and obstruct its once-venerable learning environment." The secre-

tary also accused the university of working with the Chinese Communist Party by hosting and training members of its paramilitary group.

The decision means Harvard can no longer enroll foreign students, and existing international

SEE HARVARD ON A2

Education Dept.: Judge says fired workers must be reinstated. **A16**

Martin's failure shows Trump's hold has limits

Facing protracted battle with his party's senators, president walked away

BY MARTINE POWERS AND SPENCER S. HSU

It was mid-April, and Ed Martin knew his nomination was in danger.

The interim U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia had been in the job for about three months. But a cascade of revelations — about his actions in office, his ties to the Jan. 6, 2021, rioters and his sketchy Senate disclosures, among others — had left some Senate Republicans in doubt as to whether they could stomach a vote to install him permanently in the role.

Thus started Martin's final three-week sprint to win over members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, an effort that one witness said grew "frantic" as Martin's prospects faded.

In the end, his efforts failed. Earlier this month, President Donald Trump said he was withdrawing Martin's nomination and swapping in former judge and Fox News personality Jeanine Pirro. Martin would be placed in a different job within the Justice Department.

2 ISRAELI EMBASSY WORKERS KILLED

Suspect in D.C. shootings charged with murder

This story is by Tom Jackman, Dana Hedgpeth, Emily Davies, Kate Brady and Kyle Swenson

A young couple who had just attended a Jewish diplomatic reception stepped out onto a quiet street in downtown Washington on Wednesday night and were suddenly shot and killed, sending shock waves through the city that reverberated around the world.

On Thursday the alleged gunman, a Chicago man who supported the Palestinian cause, was charged with two counts of first-degree murder and murder of foreign officials, a death-penalty-eligible offense. Investigators said he confessed to the shootings at the scene.

The victims, Yaron Lischinsky, 30, and Sarah Lynn Milgrim, 26, were about to get engaged and had devoted their lives to furthering peace. Both worked in the Israeli Embassy in Washington. They were among more than 100 people attending a "Young Diplomats Reception" hosted by the American Jewish Committee at the Capital Jewish Museum near the corner of Third and F streets NW.

Police said the assailant paced outside the reception before he approached a group of four people who emerged from the museum and began shooting after walking past them. Court records indicated the entire incident was captured by surveillance cameras.

The assailant then walked into the lobby of the museum and sat down, one witness told The Washington Post. "He was sitting there and someone got him a glass of

SEE SHOOTING ON A6

Suspect: Chicago man, 31, said he "did it for Gaza," witness says. **A4**

Israel reacts: Nation's politicians trade blame for attack abroad. **A6**

IN THE NEWS

Abashed dictator Looking on as North Korea's newest warship partly capsized at a launch ceremony, Kim Jong Un decried the failure as "catastrophic" and "criminal." **A12**

WMATA standoff ends Accused of making Metro less safe, the system's safety watchdog relented on self-driving trains. **B1**

THE NATION Parts of the "MAHA Report" on the American health contradict scientific consensus. **A2**
Visual evidence shed light on an ICE tussle that resulted in charges against a lawmaker. **A4**

THE WORLD Trump's false claims of "genocide" have dredged up racial tensions in South Africa. **A11**
On Ukraine and Gaza, Britain has ventured out of its usual lockstep with the United States. **A12**

THE CLIMATE A Senate vote to block California's ban on sales of gasoline cars is the latest in Republicans' targeting of blue states' climate policies. **A10**
Even at current levels of warming, the polar ice sheets will probably continue to melt quickly, a study found. **A10**

THE REGION The USDA unveiled banners of Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Donald Trump on the National Mall. **B1**
Maryland will require reservations during peak times starting Memorial Day weekend at two state parks: Sandy Point and Greenbrier. **B1**

STYLE Media staffers see the departure of the CBS News president as a harbinger of a Trump lawsuit settlement. **C1**

WEEKEND A 62-year-old Tom Cruise in his skivvies can mean only one thing: The 34 most anticipated movies of the summer.

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