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SEVEN DAYS UNDER THE SHADOW OF ICE

‘I FEEL THAT NOWHERE IS SAFE’



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

Frilei Brás embraced his wife while his children comforted one another as he said his goodbyes.

AMID RECORD ARRESTS, THE GLOBE CHRONICLED THE HARROWING CHOICES FACING IMMIGRANTS CAUGHT UP IN TRUMP’S DRAGNET

This story was reported and written by Sean Cotter, Erin Douglas, Camilo Fonseca, John Hilliard, Esmey Jimenez, Katie Johnston, Danny McDonald, Giulia McDonnell Nieto del Rio, Emma Platoff, Maria Probert, Marcela Rodrigues, and Chris Serres.

A father self-deports before dawn. A retired postman helps a teenager he barely knows muddle through an immigration court proceeding. A community activist — to some, a modern-day Paul Revere — drives from city to city, making herself hoarse to warn her neighbors: *ICE is coming! ICE is on its way!* **ICE is here.** In May, ICE and other federal agents descended on Massachusetts, arresting more than 1,400 people, more than any other month on record — an extraordinary flex of might that shows no sign of stopping. It’s the leading edge of the immigration policy Donald Trump promised, the beginning of an era of mass deportations. About 13 million people are in the country without authorization, some have been here for decades. Polls suggest a majority of Americans support deporting at least some of these immigrants, but many are uneasy about separating them from their communities and families, and about whether the arrests could hurt the country’s economy. Nearly half of those detained in ICE’s May operation here had no criminal record. The Globe spent seven days reporting from immigrant communities, places where the streets and pews are quiet, the graduation is skipped, the barber shop empty. Some families have locked their doors and pulled their shades, turning their homes into stifling bunkers. When they must go out, they carry what papers they have and look over their shoulders.

ICE, Page A4

‘Today marks the culmination of Donald Trump’s betrayal of working people.’

REPRESENTATIVE PETE AGUILAR, *Democrat of California*

Tax bill’s next vote: 2026 midterms

Democrats already trying to hang perks for wealthy, cuts to health care on GOP

By Sam Brodey and Jim Puzzanghera

GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — When House minority leader Hakeem Jeffries delivered his marathon speech on the floor of the chamber on Thursday, it represented the last gasp of Democratic lawmakers’ resistance to Republicans’ marquee domestic policy bill before it passed.

It also may have been the first real

salvo of the 2026 midterm elections.

Across nearly nine hours, Jeffries used his unlimited speaking privileges to make the case against the GOP’s proposed cuts to Medicaid and social services — frequently by highlighting stories from real people in battleground districts held by Republicans.

“We heard from Mark from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,” Jeffries said. “Mark says, I’ve collected Medicaid and [Supplemental Nutri-

tion Assistance Program] benefits for over a decade now. . . . SNAP and Social Security benefits have been life-saving for me; they literally keep me alive.”

“Mark lives in Pennsylvania’s First Congressional District,” continued Jeffries. “I believe that district is represented by our colleague, Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick.”

And on and on Jeffries went, until he mentioned virtually every GOP member Democrats hope to defeat — an uncommon display of political name-checking by the staid stan-

MIDTERM, Page A12

Collateral damage as hits to Harvard spread

By Chris Serres

GLOBE STAFF

In the summer of 2020, in the aftermath of a deadly and mysterious outbreak of a mosquito-borne disease, two prestigious universities forged a dream partnership.

Virologists at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, home of the world’s largest depository of insect-borne viruses, were scrambling to understand why dozens of people in North America were dying of Eastern equine encephali-

tis, a disease that attacks the central nervous system. After a seminar in Cambridge, they struck a partnership with a team of Harvard Medical School microbiologists who study how such viruses enter and infect cells.

Despite being nearly 2,000 miles apart, the scientists made a series of breakthrough discoveries, ultimately identifying the receptors on the surface of cells that allow the mosquito-borne virus to infect its host. Their discoveries, published in elite scientific journals, marked a turning point in efforts to develop a vaccine for a virus that kills nearly a third of

HARVARD, Page A11

INSIDE THE WAR ON HARVARD

Desperate search for survivors of Texas flash floods

Many children are among the dead as high waters inundated a youth camp

By Edgar Sandoval, Erin McCann, and Ruth Graham

NEW YORK TIMES

KERRVILLE, Texas — Rescue teams in central Texas were furiously searching Saturday for up to 25 campers missing after flash floods that had surprised local officials and then strained their ability to react.

At least 35 people died, including 14 children, officials said. Three of the deaths occurred in the

Austin area, where torrential rain and flooding moved Saturday. Most were killed Friday, in Kerr County in the Texas Hill Country.

Authorities did not immediately identify who had died, but Sheriff Larry Leitha of Kerr County said nine were children. Some were likely to have been campers at Camp Mystic, where dramatic efforts by staff and rescuers saved many more.

An unknown number of other people were missing in Kerr County.

In an age of cellphones and ubiquitous forecasting websites and television channels, the questions Saturday turned to whether officials had been unprepared for the threat.

Early Thursday afternoon, the National Weather Service said, “We are not aware of any reports of fatalities or missing persons in the

TEXAS, Page A15



JULIO CORTEZ/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A sheriff’s deputy combed the banks of the Guadalupe River near Camp Mystic.

The Globe Magazine isn’t publishing today. Puzzles are on B4.

It’s blazing hot in Europe, too. Here’s how to enjoy Madrid like a local. Travel, K11.

Of course kids love water-slides. But why can’t adults join in the fun? Ideas, K1.

Two large fries

Sunday: Very hot. High 91-96. Low 71-76.

Monday: More of it. High 92-97. Low 71-76.

Sunrise: 5:14 Sunset: 8:24

Complete report, B10. Obituaries, A22.

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