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WOMEN outside the U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday hold up signs in favor of bans on transgender athletes.

BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP IS UPHELD BY THE SUPREME COURT

The justices reject Trump's attempt to revise Constitution by executive order.

By DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld the Constitution's promise that all those born in the country are citizens of the United States, regardless of the status of their parents.

In a 6-3 decision, the justices rejected President Trump's plan to revise the Constitution by executive order and to end citizenship at birth for newborns whose parents were in the country illegally or temporarily.

Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. spoke for the court to reject Trump's proposed limits on birthright citizenship.

"Citizenship, then and now, was the right to have rights — to freely participate in our political community," he said. "The Framers of the 14th Amendment extended that promise to 'every free-born person in this land.' We keep that promise today."

Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Amy Coney Barrett and Ketanji Brown Jackson joined in full. Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh concurred in the outcome based on the federal law that incorporates birthright citizenship.

But the outcome was closer than most had predicted.

Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Neil M. Gorsuch dissented in agreement with Trump.

They said the framers of

the 14th Amendment did not intend to extend citizenship to waves of illegal or temporary visitors.

The decision is the second major defeat for Trump from a conservative court that usually supports broad presidential power.

In February, the court struck down Trump's sweeping worldwide tariffs, his signature economic policy. Roberts said Congress, not the president, has the power to raise revenue and impose taxes, including duties on imports.

In April, Trump came to the court to hear the arguments over birthright citizenship. He sat in the gallery while the justices posed steadily skeptical questions to his solicitor general.

He left after an hour, having heard enough to know he was likely to lose.

Two hours after the decision was released Tuesday, Trump wrote on his social media platform Truth Social that the Supreme Court's decision was "bad for our country."

But he nodded to Kavanaugh's partial dissent, in which the justice wrote that Congress could "enact new legislation establishing exceptions to birthright citizenship for children born to foreign citizens unlawfully or temporarily in the country."

"But Congress has not yet done so," Kavanaugh [See Citizenship, A6]

Campaign funding limits are struck

The high court rejects rules on political parties' spending in coordination with their candidates. **A7**

Plan to expand voting rights put on hold

City Council backs off measures to include noncitizens, shift police oversight.

By DAVID ZAHNISER, MELISSA GOMEZ AND NOAH GOLDBERG

The Los Angeles City Council reversed course on two high-profile ballot proposals on Tuesday, postponing plans to increase their oversight of the Police Department and to expand voting rights for noncitizens.

Council members unanimously held off on a Nov. 3 ballot measure that would have asked voters to create a pathway for noncitizens — possibly green-card holders and recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals — to vote in city and school board elections.

Roughly an hour later, council members voted 8 to 6 to delay a second ballot measure that would have given themselves direct power over broad policy decisions at the Los Angeles Police Department. That vote took place after the Los Angeles Police Protective League, the union that represents rank-and-file officers, threatened to sue, saying the city's labor negotiators had failed to meet and confer with the union on the changes.

Both proposals are now out of the running for the Nov. 3 ballot but will be studied by a committee for consideration in a future election year.

The two votes brought an underwhelming end to a yearlong effort to rewrite the city charter, L.A.'s municipal governing document. A citizens commission on charter reform convened in June and held dozens of meetings. [See Noncitizens, A7]

Federal agencies lose political independence

Ruling shakes institutions long seen as protected

By MICHAEL WILNER

WASHINGTON — Federal agencies long regarded as pillars of nonpartisan stability are facing an identity crisis after the Supreme Court this week swept away nearly a century of precedent limiting presidential power.

The high court's decision in *Trump vs. Slaughter*, allowing the president to remove members of historically independent agencies without cause, has sent shock waves through institutions that once believed their legal protections were secure. And it has raised concerns about the future credibility of agencies that serve crucial public functions, from the Securities and Exchange Commission, which protects investors, to the National Labor Relations Board, which safeguards the rights of private-sector workers.

Some experts question the ruling's practical impact, noting that existing laws still require political balance on

many agency boards.

Presidents already wield significant influence over agency leadership. Still, most agree the decision could inject overt partisan politics into agencies that have traditionally resisted it, eroding public trust in their rules and judgment, chilling enforcement and kicking off a cycle of regulatory whiplash.

Already, President Trump has removed members of several independent regulatory bodies and appointed new leadership — including Brendan Carr as chair of the Federal Communications Commission — stoking fear among critics that these agencies are being used to advance the administration's political priorities.

The ruling, Trump said, is the "greatest increase in presidential power in the last 100 years," praising the decision as a necessary expansion of his authority. [See Agencies, A6]

From detention to disaster

MEXICO CITY — Darwin Elizer Serrano López left Venezuela three years ago, dreaming of earning enough to put his daughters through school. He ended up in Chicago, where he drove for Uber seven days a week, pausing at 8:30 each night to call home.

When immigration agents came to his door with a deportation order, Serrano's family was worried but also relieved to know that they would get to see him again soon. Speaking to his mother from a detention center, Serrano, 33, promised to return to Venezuela in time for his daughter's 10th birthday on July 31.

On June 24, Serrano was put on a plane in shackles and flown from Miami to Caracas. From there, Venezuelan officials took him and dozens of other U.S. deportees to the Hotel Santuario La Llanada, a complex of buildings overlooking the ocean in the port city of La Guaira.

Hours later, when twin [See Deportees, A3]

Dozens of U.S. deportees are trapped in rubble of hotel that collapsed in Venezuela's quakes

By KATE LINTHICUM AND CECILIA SÁNCHEZ VIDAL



THE TEMBLORS struck hours after the deportees arrived in Venezuela. Above, damage in La Guaira.

Justices let states bar trans athletes from girls' sports

By DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld laws in West Virginia and Idaho that forbid transgender athletes from competing on girls' sports teams.

In a 6-3 decision, the court said the federal Title IX law envisioned separate teams for girls and boys based on their biological sex at birth.

"Separate sports teams for biological males and biological females are reasonable," wrote Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh. "Given the inherent physical differences between the sexes, allowing only biological females to play on women's and girls' teams can reduce the risk of physical injury and ensure fair competition."

Kavanaugh, who has coached girls' teams for many years, said 27 states have adopted laws prohibiting transgender athletes on girls' teams.

But his opinion does not say states such as California must change their laws that forbid schools from discriminating based on gender. Instead, he stressed states are free to make their own decision.

"Consistent with Title IX and the Equal Protection Clause, we hold that the states may maintain women's and girls' sports for biological females. They may determine eligibility for women's and girls' sports based on biological sex. The Constitution and Title IX do not require an overhaul of women's and girls' sports throughout America," Kavanaugh said.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor dissented in part. She said the state should have considered transgender students on a case-by-case basis to decide whether they had an unfair advantage. Justices Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson dissented as well.

The court's decision is [See Athletes, A6]

For Lakers, it's a future without 'King James'



LEBRON JAMES intends to sign with a different team for next season, The Times has confirmed.

By THUC NHI NGUYEN AND BRODERICK TURNER

LeBron James is continuing his record-setting NBA career, but he won't do it with the Lakers.

The 41-year-old superstar has informed the Lakers he intends to sign with a different team as an unrestricted free agent, The Times confirmed Tuesday. After eight seasons, James felt it was best to part ways with the Lakers, according to people familiar with the situation not authorized to discuss it publicly. [See James, A8]

James' tenure with the Lakers was his longest continuous stint with any franchise during his illustrious career. He led the team to its 17th NBA championship in 2020, broke the NBA's all-time scoring record while wearing the purple and gold and set the league record for seasons played, reaching 23 unprecedented years.

His record-extending 24th season will now be elsewhere.

The Golden State Warriors were reported as a potential option after Draymond Green opted out of his [See James, A8]

Skid Row's only post office closes

Officials say safety concerns prompted the decision, which has sparked frustration. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Paramount deal could be tested

Britain's culture minister may challenge takeover of Warner Bros. **BUSINESS, A9**

Weather

Turning sunny; cool. L.A. Basin: 76/61. **B6**

Markets **A11**
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Dancing through a changing scene

As L.A. dance venues and institutions close, performers persevere. **ENTERTAINMENT, E1**

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