

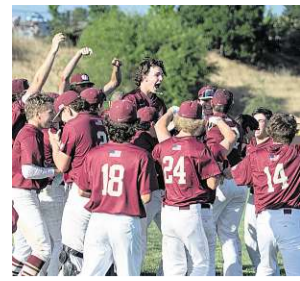


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WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times

A pro-Israeli supporter throws an object at the Pro-Palestinian encampment at UCLA early Wednesday morning.

Violent clashes at UCLA protest camp prompts investigation of response

BY SAFI NAZZAL, TERESA WATANABE, ASHLEY AHN, HANNAH FRY AND RICHARD WINTON
Los Angeles Times

Hours of violence that unfolded overnight at a pro-Palestinian encampment set up on UCLA's campus prompted administrators to cancel classes Wednesday and has triggered questions about authorities' response.

In a letter to the University of California Board of Regents obtained by the Los Angeles Times, UC President Michael V. Drake wrote that there is "sufficient confusion" surrounding the violence and that he was ordering an independent review of the university's planning, its actions and the

response by law enforcement. "I believe such a review can address many of my immediate questions but also help guide us for possible future events," he wrote.

Just before midnight Wednesday, a large group of counterdemonstrators, wearing black outfits and white masks, arrived on campus and tried to tear down the barricades surrounding the encampment, which had been erected days earlier in a demand for divestment from Israel and an end to the country's military actions in Gaza.

The unrest prompted L.A. Mayor Karen Bass — who was in Washington meeting with federal officials in her capacity as chair of the U.S. Conference

of Mayors Task Force on Homelessness — to return home early. She condemned the violence, saying on the social platform X that it was "absolutely abhorrent and inexcusable."

Campers, some holding lumber and wearing goggles and helmets, rallied to defend the site's perimeter. Earlier in the evening, UCLA had declared the camp "unlawful" and in violation of university policy.

Videos showed pyrotechnics being set off with at least one firework thrown into the camp. Over several hours, counterdemonstrators hurled objects, including wood and a metal barrier, at the camp and those inside. Fights repeatedly broke out. Some tried to force their

way into the camp, and the pro-Palestinian side used pepper spray to defend themselves.

A group of security guards observed the clashes but did not move in to stop them. Police eventually cleared the area around 3 a.m.

Students, professors and the broader community have criticized UCLA administrators and law enforcement for not intervening faster.

"What we've just witnessed was the darkest day in my 32 years at UCLA," said David Myers, a professor of Jewish history at UCLA who is working on initiatives to bridge differences on campus. He called the situation a "complete and total systems failure at the university, city and state levels."

"Those in the encampment were defenseless in the face of a violent band of thugs. And no one, wherever they stand politically, is safer today," Myers said.

At least 15 people were injured, officials said. A 26-year-old man suffering from a head injury was taken to the hospital

SEE PROTEST, 6A

Large state budget deficit looms for Newsom

BY LINDSEY HOLDEN
lholden@sacbee.com

California Gov. Gavin Newsom is likely to face a budget deficit even bigger than the \$38 billion he projected during his initial spending plan presentation in January.

This means it will be tougher for the governor, who must detail his revised budget proposal — updated with the most recent tax receipts — by May 14.

That's because the latest state tax receipts have brought in revenues below the expectations Newsom's Department of Finance set earlier in the year. The agency's April finance bulletin shows California's fiscal year-to-date revenues were \$5.8 billion or 4% below the \$146 billion forecast as of March.

The year-to-date personal income tax receipts made up \$3.4 billion of the overall shortfall, the bulletin reported. Year-to-date corporation tax receipts were \$1.4 billion below forecast, and sales tax receipts were down \$1 billion. The Department of Finance will not release any new budget numbers until Newsom presents his updated spending plan.

The revisions will kick off a month of budget negotiations between Newsom, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, D-Hollister, and Senate President Pro Tem Mike McGuire, D-Healdsburg.

The Legislature must pass the 2024-2025 budget by June 15. The new fiscal year starts July 1.

Assembly budget advisor Jason Sisney said in an April 25 post on his #CABudget Substack that Newsom's revised budget is "virtually certain" to lower revenue projections from those he released in January.

"Will that downgrade be as significant as the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) suggested in February and March?" Sisney wrote. "My personal view is: I doubt it, but that decision is

SEE BUDGET, 4A

Bill would eliminate statute of limitations for some sex crimes

BY JOE RUBIN
jrubin@sacbee.com

For Deanna Hampton, last week was all about confronting the past and the legacy of rampant sexual abuse within the Catholic Church and trying to ensure that families don't suffer in the future.

It's a deeply personal issue for Hampton. Last fall, The Sacramento Bee told the story of her son, Trevor Martin, who was serially abused by priest Michael Kelly in Calaveras County.



HECTOR AMEZCUA hamezcua@sacbee.com

Deanna Hampton of Auburn holds a book last year with photos of her late son Trevor, who was abused by Father Michael Kelly at St. Andrews parish in San Andreas. Trevor testified about the abuse before a grand jury in 2014, but died in a tragic accident before Kelly could be brought to trial.

Rather than face a criminal trial, Kelly fled to Ireland. Despite having a warrant issued by Sacramento's U.S. Attorney for unlawful flight, Kelly traveled to Morocco and Mexico — known sex trafficking destinations. Kelly also led at least one tour of Ireland for members of

a group of followers from California called "Friends of Father Kelly," according to depositions.

On Wednesday, Hampton sent a letter to State Attorney General Rob Bonta accusing

SEE BILL, 7A

Greene says she'll demand vote to oust House speaker

BY ROBERT JIMISON
NYT News Service

WASHINGTON

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., said on Wednesday that she would demand a vote next week on a motion to remove House Speaker Mike Johnson, moving forward in the face of all but certain defeat with a second attempt during this Congress to depose a Republican speaker.

In a morning news conference at the Capitol, Greene excoriated Johnson for working with Democrats to push through major legislation and said it was time for lawmakers to go on the record about where they stood on his speakership.

"I think every member of Congress needs to take that vote

and let the chips fall where they may," Greene said. "And so next week, I am going to be calling this motion to vacate."

The move comes just over a week after Johnson pushed through a long-stalled \$95 billion package to aid Israel, Ukraine and other U.S. allies over the objections of Greene and other right-wing Republicans who staunchly opposed sending additional aid to Ukraine.

And it came one day after House Democratic leaders said they would vote to block the effort to remove Johnson, which would give Republicans more than enough backing to kill Greene's motion before it could be considered.

SEE GREENE, 6A



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