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IRANIAN PROTESTS SPREAD TO U.S.

Demonstrators in New York City invoke Mahsa Amini — who died in police custody in Tehran — as Iran came under fire at the U.N. General Assembly and in protests held in L.A. **WORLD, A5; CALIFORNIA, B1**

L.A. schools move to halt overdoses

Drug that reverses effects from opioids will be stocked on campuses after death.

By HOWARD BLUME

Los Angeles public schools will stock campuses with the overdose reversal drug naloxone in the aftermath of a student's death at Bernstein High School, putting the nation's second-largest school system on the leading edge of a strategy increasingly favored by public health experts.

The move, which will af-

fect some 1,400 elementary, middle and high schools, is part of the district's newly expanded anti-drug strategy, quickly assembled in response to student overdoses. Officials on Thursday said nine students had overdosed across the district in recent weeks, including seven linked to the Bernstein campus and Hollywood High School. The response plans will also include expanded parent outreach and peer counseling.

The death of 15-year-old Melanie Ramos, who died in a school bathroom last week after ingesting a pill that she bought from another student, has left the campus community reeling and touched off concern among parents throughout the 430,000-student district. The pill contained fentanyl, an opioid that is deadly in small doses.

Naloxone is highly effective at reversing opioid overdoses if administered quickly by a nasal spray or injection. L.A. Unified will be using the nasal version, which is as easy to use as any other nasal spray. Naloxone won't harm someone if that person is overdosing on drugs other than opioids, so it's always better to use it in the case of a suspected overdose, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The medication "has a limited but highly effective way of reversing that condition, allowing individuals to restore breathing," said L.A. schools Supt. Alberto Carvalho, adding that this "safe solution" lasts 30 to 90 minutes, providing first responders and medical professionals the opportunity to care for a student.

"We have an urgent crisis on our hands," Carvalho said. "Research shows that the availability of naloxone, along with overdose education, is effective at decreasing the number of deaths." [See Naloxone, A7]

Coastal fault could rival San Andreas

Palos Verdes zone quake could be 4 times as strong as previous estimate

By SALVADOR HERNANDEZ

A fault system running nearly 70 miles along the coast of Los Angeles and Orange counties has the potential to trigger a magnitude 7.8 earthquake, according to a new study that is the latest to highlight the seismic threats facing Southern California.

Known as the Palos Verdes fault zone, the system runs deep beneath the Palos Verdes Peninsula. It previously was thought to be a segmented network of smaller faults, but a closer look by scientists at Harvard University suggests it's a system of interconnected, closely spaced planar fractures stretching from the Santa Monica Bay to the waters off Dana Point.



ALLEN J. SCHABEN Los Angeles Times

THE PALOS VERDES fault zone extends 68 miles from the Santa Monica Bay to the waters off Dana Point. It is slipping faster than other L.A. County faults.

The analysis determined the fault system, which runs beneath numerous neighborhoods as well as the ports of Long Beach and L.A., has a much larger surface area that could rupture in the same seismic event, making it capable of a far more powerful quake than was previously known.

Scientists found the fault could produce a quake of a magnitude comparable to one from the San Andreas fault. Earlier estimates said the fault zone could generate up to a magnitude 7.4 earthquake, but the new study shows it could produce a quake as strong as 7.8.

The difference may be only a few decimal points, but an earthquake's energy is measured exponentially. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, a magnitude [See Fault zone, A7]

This would have Darwin abuzz

Bumblebees can be classified as 'fish' under conservation law, high court rules.

By LOUIS SAHAGÚN

JOSHUA TREE, Calif. — In a move that could allow a broad range of insects to be considered for endangered species status, the state Supreme Court has found that California bumblebees can be protected under the law as a type of fish.

The decision, which may carry deep consequences for the state's agriculture industry, focuses on the arcane wording and complicated legal history of the California Endangered Species Act — a precursor to the federal law.

The court said late Wednesday that it would not hear arguments over whether the California Fish and Game Commission can consider granting protections to a number of bumblebee species whose populations are in steady decline. For the last three years, state almond growers, build- [See Bumblebees, A9]

A cop's racist remark went undisclosed

LAPD detective's use of a racial slur in 2014 wasn't quickly shared with all defendants.

By LIBOR JANY AND JAMES QUEALLY

Richard Lathan wasn't sure how to react when he got a letter in July informing him that the Los Angeles police detective who helped put him in prison for murder had made a racist remark about Black people.

A glimmer of optimism

that the revelation could win him a new trial collided with the profound anger he felt about the more than three decades he has spent in prison for a crime he says he didn't commit. Lathan had always suspected the detective, Brian McCartin, targeted him simply because he was Black and a gang member.

And something else about the letter bothered Lathan: It said McCartin, who is now retired, made the remarks in 2014. The Los Angeles County district attorney's office, however, didn't notify Lathan about them

until this summer — eight years after prosecutors first learned of the comments and four years after The Times published a front-page story detailing them.

Why, he wondered, hadn't he been told sooner?

It is a basic rule of the U.S. justice system that prosecutors must turn over to defendants evidence that could help exonerate them, including information that calls into question the credibility of police officers involved in their cases. Failure to disclose such information — called Brady material, af- [See Detective, A12]



AL SEIB Los Angeles Times

CLEAMON JOHNSON, a.k.a. "Big Evil," looks at his defense attorney during a 2018 L.A. court appearance.

Far-right leader gains ground in Italy

Giorgia Meloni's rise underscores nation's conflicted relationship with its fascist past.

By TOM KINGTON AND TRACY WILKINSON

FLORENCE, Italy — Giorgia Meloni has been called a fascist, an extremist and — to an extent — a de facto heir to 20th century dictator Benito Mussolini.

She also seems well on her way to becoming Italy's next prime minister, favored by many voters weary of the country's fractious politics and resigned to trying someone new. New, and highly



DOMENICO STINELLIS Associated Press

VOTERS favor electing Giorgia Meloni, seen as Benito Mussolini's heir, as Italy's first female premier.

controversial.

Italy, which has seen seven governments in 11 years, holds parliamentary elections on Sunday. Meloni's Brothers of Italy party has been leading preelection polls. If it prevails, she would become the nation's first far-right leader since Mussolini — and its first female prime minister.

Her anticipated victory highlights Italy's conflicted relationship with its fascist past. Many voters interviewed here at a recent fundraising dinner for Meloni indicated their support for her was not ideological but the product of general frustration with national politics.

The trend is seen across [See Italy, A4]

Renewed scrutiny of royal coffers

The funeral of Queen Elizabeth II focuses Britons on cost at a time of growing poverty and rising inflation. **WORLD, A3**

Transit mask order to end

L.A. County will lift the coronavirus measure on public transportation and in airports. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather

Sunny and very warm. L.A. Basin: 92/69. **B6**

