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LEO XIV

A historic first: a US pope



Online, he's shared criticism of Trump policies, Vance remarks

By Meg Kinnard
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Elected Thursday as the Catholic Church's first global leader to hail from the United States, Pope Leo XIV is in a new job that will have many crossovers into politics — a realm not entirely unknown to the Chicago-born priest, whose social media history includes sharing criticism of Trump administration policies and of comments by Vice President JD Vance.

President Trump has wished the new pope well in his role, calling Leo's election "such an honor for our country." But it comes days after Trump posted an artificial intelligence-generated image of himself dressed as pope amid days of official mourning for Pope Francis. That act raised eyebrows at the Vatican and was denounced by former Italian premier Romano Prodi as indecent political interference in matters of faith.

And last month, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops announced the end of a half-century of partnerships with the

POLITICS, Page A7



TOP: TIZIANA FABI/AFP; STEFANO RELLANDINI/AFP

It was a joyous moment for Catholics around the world as the new pope addressed the crowd from the main central loggia balcony of St. Peter's Basilica for the first time. The wait for white smoke was not a long one.

Leo XIV, a Chicago native who spent decades in Peru, takes over a divided church

By Chico Harlan and Emily Wax-Thibodeaux
WASHINGTON POST

ROME — Robert Prevost broke a historical taboo against US popes with a path that was anything but typically American.

Though the man now called Leo XIV is a Chicago native, he is known in Rome as the "Latin Yankee" for the decades he spent in Peru, ministering to the dispossessed and marginalized and even becoming a naturalized citizen. Until several weeks ago, he held one of the most important Vatican posts, overseeing the powerful office that vets bishops from around the world.

His rise — as a multilingual American with global experience and contacts — marks an attempt by the Catholic Church

POPE, Page A6

BOSTON-AREA CATHOLICS CELEBRATE AND HOPE FOR UNITY, A5. | LEO HAS A CHANCE TO CONFRONT THE SEX ABUSE CRISIS. CULLEN, A7.

A woman who was accused of being a man while using a women's restroom at a Boston hotel has filed complaints alleging she was discriminated against. **B1.**

President Trump announced a new trade pact with Britain that he touted as likely to be just the first of many agreements with countries around the world. **A2.**

The Trump administration proposed a multibillion-dollar overhaul of the air traffic control system, which it said relies on old parts. **A2.**

Jayson Tatum said, "I need to be better" as the Celtics licked their wounds and prepared for Game 3. **C1.**

Driving force

Friday: Heavy rain. High 49-54. Low 45-50.
Saturday: Clearing, cool. High 57-62. Low 51-56.

Weather and Comics, G6-7. Obituaries, C9.

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The Trump administration scrapped **\$1.8 billion** in research grants between Feb. 28 and April 8, abandoning nearly 700 specific health-related projects.

NIH cuts felt far beyond schools

Analysis details staggering scope

By Chris Serres
GLOBE STAFF

Cancer. Heart disease. Diabetes. Youth suicide. Dementia. Alcoholism. Respiratory viruses. Air pollution.

Those are among the gravest threats to public health, yet research into their causes and cures are being paid for with federal research grants that are rapidly vanishing as the Trump administration continues its as-

sault on the nation's biomedical research apparatus.

A study released Thursday by researchers at Yale and Harvard provides the most comprehensive accounting yet of the scope of those cuts. Virtually every area funded by the National Institutes of Health, the world's premier biomedical agency, has been impacted. All told, the Trump administration terminated payments on health research grants worth \$1.8 billion, abandoning nearly 700 specific projects focused on a wide range of health condi-

tions.

"On a human level, this is a shock, with real personal fallout," said Dr. Harlan Krumholz, a cardiovascular medicine specialist at Yale School of Medicine and among the four authors of the study, which was published in the medical journal JAMA. "Over the long term, the message being sent is one of retreat from full-throated support for science and scientists."

While President Trump has used federal funding as a cudgel in an attempt to force elite

RESEARCH, Page A10

With 'brilliant lawyers,' Trump keeps options open on upholding Constitution

By Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — A famous sign on the Oval Office desk of President Harry Truman read, "The buck stops here." But if President Trump were to put one up, it might instead read, "The buck stops with my lawyers."

In recent interviews, Trump has dodged questions about his aggressive executive actions — many facing court challenges — by deferring to the government attorneys advising him. He pleaded, "I'm not a lawyer," when

asked on NBC's "Meet the Press" over the weekend if everyone in the United States has a right to due process as stated in the Fifth Amendment. And he evaded answering a follow-up about whether he needed to uphold the Constitution as president, which he swore to do in his oath of office.

"I don't know," he said. "I have brilliant lawyers that work for me, and they are going to obviously follow what the Supreme Court said."

LAWYERS, Page A10

Autism community divided on RFK Jr.

Talk of 'cause,' 'cure' welcomed, criticized

By Emily Spatz
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Gianna Hitsos and Patrick Trainor have a lot in common: both are young people with big plans for the future and a passion for music.

And both have autism. But while one wants scientists to find a cause and eventually a cure, the other said that's not only impossible, but unnecessary.

Their opposing perspectives

reflect a rift within the community after the nation's top health official, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., in April launched an undertaking to find a "cause" for autism, which he described as "an individual tragedy." Some said his remarks were dangerous and offensive, while others felt heard.

"It's wonderful that he's doing this, and [Kennedy] was right: the future is very bleak for people with autism," said Hitsos,

AUTISM, Page A10



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

Patrick Trainor, who has autism, is optimistic about his future. "So many on the spectrum end up getting jobs," he said.