

# The New York Times

“All the News That’s Fit to Print”

### THE WEATHER

Today, variable cloudiness, some showers, high 66. Tonight, dry, clear, low 56. Tomorrow, remaining dry, mostly sunny, warmer, light breeze, high 80. Weather map, Page B12.

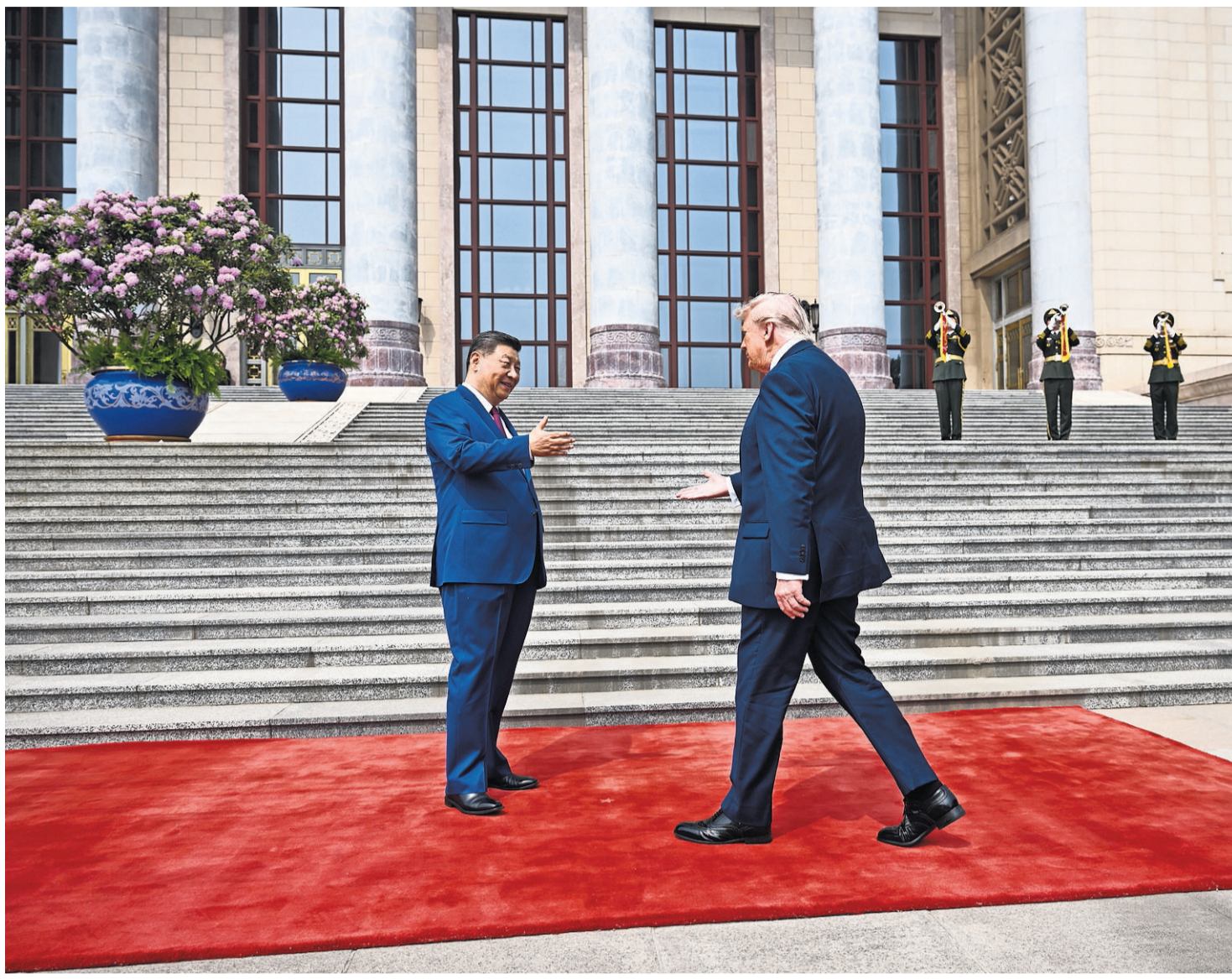
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FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Trump and President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Thursday. “You’re a great leader,” Mr. Trump told him. “I say it to everybody.”

### NEWS ANALYSIS

## Trump Butters Up Xi, Who Stands His Ground

### Seeking Quick Deals vs. Drawing Lines

By DAVID E. SANGER

BEIJING — For President Trump, the first day of his visit to Beijing was all about the personal relationship between him and Xi Jinping, the Chinese leader.

“You’re a great leader,” he told his host, whom he has often said he admires for his “powerful” control over a nation of 1.4 billion people. “I say it to everybody.”

Mr. Xi, unsurprisingly, spent little time on flattery. Once the 21-gun salute and precision-marching by units of the People’s Liberation Army were finished on Thursday, the disciplined Chinese leader plunged right away into setting boundaries for the countries’ relations. The red line was Taiwan, he said, making it abundantly clear that Mr. Trump’s effort at rapprochement could crash on takeoff if he interferes with China’s long-term effort to take control of the self-governing island. [Page A10.]

“The U.S. must handle the Taiwan issue with utmost caution,” he said, according to a readout from Xinhua, China’s official news agency. The warning came just minutes into his public remarks in the Great Hall of the People, the center of power for the People’s Republic starting just a decade into Mao’s revolution. For Mr. Xi, it was all about setting boundaries, from the start.

The moment seemed to capture the new equilibrium between the two adversaries. Mr. Xi arrived highly scripted, leaving no doubt that for all of China’s problems — deflation, depopulation, the bursting of the real estate bubble — the moment when China acts as a peer superpower had arrived.

At every turn, at least as he began his two-day trip to China, Mr. Trump sounded conciliatory, the exact opposite of his portray-

als of China in public appearances back home, where during his presidential campaigns he has talked about the country as a job-stealer and a national security threat. Mr. Xi, while smiling and welcoming to Mr. Trump, was quietly more confrontational — especially on Taiwan, where he delivered an unequivocal warning.

The gap spoke directly to the new level of confidence and authority Mr. Xi has adapted in his public speech, despite his challenges with the domestic economy, as he watches the United States plunge into conflict with Iran, another Middle East confrontation with no easy exit.

The Chinese president designed the day meticulously, down to a visit to the Temple of Heaven, the Ming dynasty complex not far from the Forbidden City. As Mr. Trump sat in the 13th-century wonder, he got a history lesson from the Chinese leader, tailored to echo the modern era.

At his toast at a televised State Banquet on Thursday night, Mr. Trump came with a lesson of his own, describing links between China and the United States that went back to the Empress of China, the ship that took a 14-month journey in 1783 to open trade and bring the first American diplomats to what was then known as Canton, now called Guangzhou.

“We’ve gotten along when there were difficulties; we worked it out,” Mr. Trump said. But even then he cast relations in personal terms, making clear that the huge divisions between the two countries had to be solved by two strong leaders.

“I would call you, and you

## Trump Might Welcome Chinese Investment. America Might Not.

By ALAN RAPPEPORT

WASHINGTON — A hallmark of President Trump’s second term has been his penchant for negotiating economic deals with countries that pledge to invest trillions of dollars in the United States.

“It’s now pouring in from all parts of the world,” Mr. Trump said during a speech last fall in which he boasted of nearly \$20 trillion of foreign investment.

The meetings this week between Mr. Trump and China’s

leader, Xi Jinping, in Beijing are expected to include talks over purchases of American farm products and planes and the possibility of expanding access for American companies into China’s vast consumer market.

There has also been speculation that Mr. Trump and his advisers are seeking a major investment from China. But such a pledge could be complicated by deep distrust in the United States toward Chinese firms, which many workers blame for the hollowing out of

### Worries About Security and Job Losses Loom Over Any Deal

American manufacturing. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent acknowledged the challenge in an interview on CNBC on Thursday, explaining that the United States and China were working to develop an investment

board that would determine what sectors were acceptable for Chinese investment. That would essentially provide China with guidance on how to invest in the United States without its transactions being blocked by the Committee on Foreign Investment, an interagency group that reviews foreign investment and is led by Mr. Bessent.

“Look, there are plenty of things that the Chinese could invest in in the U.S.,” said Mr. Bessent.

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## Justices Extend Access by Mail To Abortion Pill

By ANN E. MARIMOW

The Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that a widely used abortion medication could continue to be prescribed by telehealth and sent to patients by mail.

Two manufacturers of mifepristone had asked the Supreme Court to intervene after the conservative U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit restricted access to the medication nationwide.

The Supreme Court’s brief order means that the Fifth Circuit’s decision will remain blocked, perhaps for months, while litigation continues in the lower courts. The issue could eventually return to the high court.

The majority did not explain the reasons for its ruling, as is often the case when it issues emergency orders. Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel A. Alito Jr., the two most conservative justices, dissented, with Justice Alito calling the majority’s order “remarkable” and complaining that it was “unreasonable.”

The Fifth Circuit ruled on May 1, in response to a lawsuit filed by the State of Louisiana seeking to reimpose a requirement that patients obtain the medication only after seeing a provider in person. The F.D.A. first lifted that regula-

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BRENDAN BANNON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Nurul Amin Shah Alam, a Rohingya refugee, went missing in Buffalo for six days in February.

## A Blind Refugee, Helpless and Lost in the Snow

By DAN BARRY

BUFFALO — He was out there somewhere, forsaken in the city where he had sought sanctuary. His damaged eyes blurring the foreign world around him, he was lost in the snow-caked Buffalo sprawl, underfed, underdressed, speaking a language few understood.

Where was Nurul Amin Shah Alam?

### Left by Border Agents With No Way Home

Six days had passed since Border Patrol agents intercepted the Rohingya refugee upon his release from a downtown jail, where he had spent a year for a police incident rooted in confusion. With

no reason to detain him, the agents addressed the mistake by leaving the disabled man, still wearing jail-issue orange canvas shoes, in a darkened parking lot without informing anyone, even his family.

Six days, then, since Nurul Amin, a 56-year-old grandfather despondent over broken American promises, had last been seen,

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## Chaos Reigns as Schlossberg Campaigns to Revive Camelot

By NICHOLAS FANDOS

Reviving a political dynasty is best not left to chance. So on the morning that Jack Schlossberg, the grandson of John F. Kennedy, announced his campaign for a House seat in New York City, his team had a carefully choreographed plan.

Aides teed up calls with frenzied media outlets, Democratic luminaries and a roster of wealthy donors. The goal was to show that Mr. Schlossberg, a 33-year-old heir known for his good looks and madcap social media musings, was a serious candidate ready for what promised to be a grueling race.

But just hours into his Day 1 launch, the candidate abruptly announced a change of plans, according to three people familiar with the events. Forget dialing for dollars — Mr. Schlossberg said he needed a nap. He then effectively disappeared for the day, leaving his team reeling.

The incident would be unusual for any candidate for high office, especially one representing the beating heart of Manhattan. For Mr. Schlossberg, a first-time candidate with little traditional work experience, it was evidently par for the course.

In the months since, Mr. Schlossberg has translated his fame, charisma and creativity into



VINCENT ALBAN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Jack Schlossberg, a Kennedy heir, is running for Congress.

a narrow polling lead ahead of June’s Democratic primary, and has been endorsed by the Democratic titan Nancy Pelosi. But behind the scenes, a group of fellow Democrats, family friends, union leaders and others with direct knowledge of the campaign described an operation so erratic and plagued by turnover that it raises questions about how he might handle himself as a member of Congress.

Especially early on, Mr. Schlossberg would regularly blow off weekly strategy meetings called for his benefit, and made a

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### NATIONAL A14-23

#### Septic Tanks Lost in D.E.I. War

Alabamians in a rural stretch of counties were promised help to fund a solution to a sewage crisis. The Justice Department ended the deal. PAGE A14

### BUSINESS B1-6

#### New Fed Chair’s Challenges

Kevin M. Warsh will need to navigate a delicate economic time, a president who demands lower interest rates and a divided leadership committee. PAGE B1

### SPORTS B7-10

#### Another Cornerstone for Spurs

The rise of Dylan Harper, a graceful rookie guard, makes the future even brighter for San Antonio and its superstar, Victor Wembanyama. PAGE B7

### WEEKEND ARTS C1-14

#### Martin Short’s Silver Linings

The comedy star, who is the subject of a new documentary, has faced a series of unimaginable losses. Yet he says there are always laughs to remember. PAGE C1

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#### The Editorial Board

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More Than an Art Fair

Museum QUALITY

TEFAF

New York

May 15-19, 2026

for YOU to BRING home

GLOBAL LEAD PARTNER AXA

NEW YORK LEAD PARTNER BANK OF AMERICA

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