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FACEBOOK BOARD'S DECISION STYMIES TRUMP

Extension of ban cuts off his GOP base and deals him a political blow, at least for now.

BY JANET HOOK

WASHINGTON — The decision by Facebook's Oversight Board to extend a ban on former President Trump on the world's biggest social media platform is a major political blow, at least for now, that denies him access to a huge audience he needs to help amplify his message, maintain his fundraising base and retain his dominance over the Republican Party.

For a former television celebrity who is a glutton for public attention, the decision extends by six months a political starvation diet imposed since January by a social media blackout and his departure from the White House.

The Oversight Board on Wednesday upheld Facebook's decision to suspend Trump's account following his inflammatory posts in relation to the Jan. 6 storming of the U.S. Capitol by his supporters.

But the board said it was inappropriate for Facebook to have set that suspension "indefinitely," and said the company should, in the next six months, review the case [See Facebook, A9]

Onus is back on social media giant

Facebook doesn't manage to offload a radioactive decision about its Trump ban. **BUSINESS, A8**

Panel's ruling satisfies no one

New Oversight Board fails to justify its existence, Michael Hiltzik writes. **BUSINESS, A9**



FELIPE DANA Associated Press

A KEY STEP FOR GLOBAL VACCINE ACCESS

The U.S. says it will support waiving patent protections on COVID-19 vaccines, a shift that could hasten inoculations in developing countries. Above, a COVID-19 patient in a Ukraine conflict zone. **NATION, A4**

An effort to clear up the air

Warehouses and shipping hubs disproportionately pollute communities of color. Regulators are considering new rules.

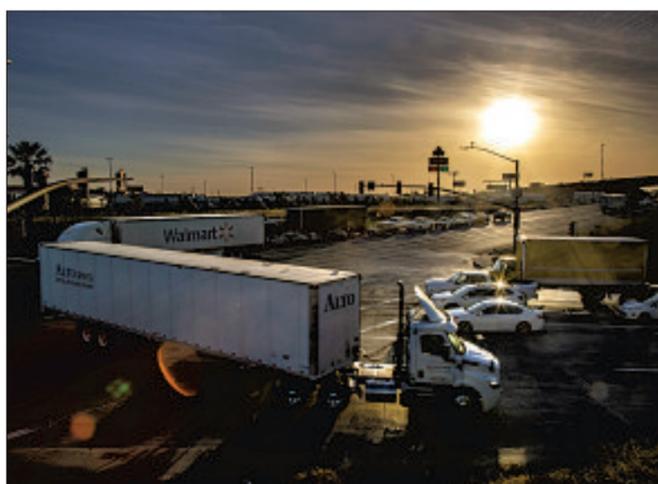
BY TONY BARBOZA

Roxana Barrera realized air pollution was a problem in her San Bernardino neighborhood when her son Leo got really sick just before his first birthday. He was wheezing so much she had to rush him to urgent care.

"It was scary," the 27-year-old said. "The first time it happened, I didn't know what was going on, I could just hear that he was really struggling to breathe."

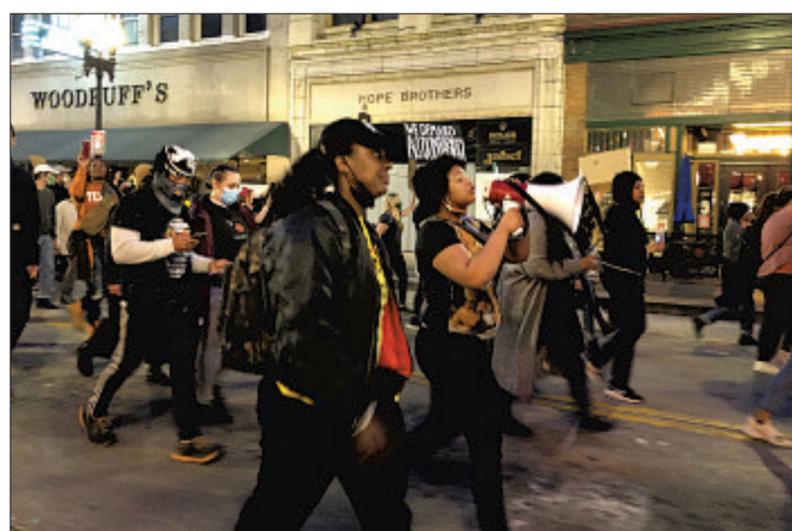
Leo, now 3, was prescribed an inhaler, and Barrera was told that poor air quality was partly to blame. Air pollution in her neighborhood is among the worst in the nation, and its asthma rate is in the 97th percentile statewide.

"I didn't link it to the smog in our region at the time, but once I started to piece everything together, I thought, 'Oh my god, this is a result of [See Pollution, A12]



GINA FERAZZI Los Angeles Times

AS WAREHOUSES and shipping have exploded in inland areas, residents say they are increasingly seeing negative health effects.



JENNY JARVIE Los Angeles Times

ACTIVIST CONSTANCE EVERY, foreground, and other marchers protest the police killing of student Anthony J. Thompson Jr. in Knoxville, Tenn., last month.

Black high school grapples with a spate of gun deaths

BY JENNY JARVIE

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — The Black community that surrounds Austin-East Magnet High School was still mourning its dead — four students gunned down this year — when the news broke.

Another shooting, this one inside the school.

With Austin-East in lockdown and police with rifles patrolling the halls, it was hours before officials announced that a fifth student

had been fatally shot.

For many, this killing was the hardest to take: The shooter was a police officer, and he was Black.

The extraordinary streak of violence has spurred both anger and reflection as parents, teachers and students at Knoxville's only predominantly Black high school — long a source of pride and affection in the community — contemplate how to stop the killing and what role the police should play in any solution.

"We have a threat inside

the school, we have a threat on the streets, and then we've got a police department we can't trust," said Clifford Bishop, 59, whose great-nephew Stanley Freeman Jr. was the second student killed.

"We are not just blaming the system," he said. "We're saying all hands on deck. It's going to take a whole village of people."

The killings occurred as much of the nation was focused on police brutality and racism highlighted by [See Shootings, A6]

Cases show limits of vaccine protection

Scientists explore why a tiny number of those fully vaccinated can still contract COVID.

BY MAURA DOLAN

Carey Alexander Washington, 80, a practicing clinical psychologist, called his daughter in January as soon as he received his first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

"He was just so excited that he had gotten it," said Tanya Washington, 49, a resident of Atlanta who works

at an investment firm.

Carey received his second shot Feb. 4. A little more than a month later, the South Carolina resident experienced shortness of breath. His internist did not test him for the coronavirus. Carey, after all, was fully vaccinated. The doctor sent him to a cardiologist instead, who also didn't test for the virus.

On March 25, Carey died after nearly two weeks in the hospital, his final days in intensive care. COVID-19 had destroyed his lungs.

Carey was among a tiny proportion of people who [See Infections, A7]

Role of COVID in recall could dwindle

Some Newsom critics say the campaign must focus on other issues such as homelessness.

BY PHIL WILLOM

SACRAMENTO — With the spread of COVID-19 plummeting in California, triggering reopenings across the state after a devastating year of lockdowns, the campaign to recall Gov. Gavin Newsom from office could lose one of its strongest selling points by the time voters are asked whether to remove him this fall.

Recall organizers remain confident that animosity will continue to linger over past school closures, job losses and the billions of dollars the state paid out to fraudulent unemployment claims during the pandemic, along with Newsom's missteps, such as attending a lobbyist's birthday party at Napa Valley's French Laundry restaurant after asking Californians to refrain from similar gatherings.

But other Newsom critics say the recall campaign must tap into discontent over homelessness, sky-high housing costs and other central issues beyond the pandemic if the effort hopes to succeed.

"People want to get out and do things they haven't done for a year and a half, so I think the challenge is getting their attention on issues that are not related to the pandemic," said Republican political consultant Tim Rosales, who is not affiliated with the recall campaign. "The question is: Will people be thinking about that stuff again or will they say, 'Hey look, I just want to get back to my life?'"

Rosales pointed out that the Democratic governor's political fortunes could rise or fall over the next several months, but Newsom's prospects appear bright at the moment. California has the lowest COVID-19 test positivity rate in the nation, driven in large measure by high vaccination rates and a state budget windfall that could top \$30 billion by next summer. The governor has also vowed to reopen California's economy by mid-June.

But that could change in an instant if the state sees another surge in virus cases, as other states and countries, including India, have experienced, or if the lives of Californians are upended by more familiar threats — wildfire and drought. [See Recall, A7]

Gray Davis faced a different state

Changes since recall vote in 2003 may benefit Gov. Newsom, Mark Barabak writes. **PERSPECTIVES, A2**

Atlanta officer is reinstated

A panel says the cop who killed Rayshard Brooks was fired improperly. **NATION, A4**

Red vs. blue in noose logo fight

The debate in Placer County isn't just about racism, Erika D. Smith writes. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather
Patchy fog, then sun. L.A. Basin: 77/59. **B6**



GREGORIO BORGIA Associated Press

FINNEGAN LEE ELDER reacts during the verdict.

Verdict in Italian officer's slaying

Two Californian friends are sentenced to life in prison in a small-time drug sting gone awry. **WORLD, A3**