The Single-Column Edition

FROM § EACH

SATURDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2026 — THE EVENING EDITION FREE, FOREVER

White House's answer to historic midterm losses: promote the architect of the hard-line agenda.

BY THE LODGERS
The Euro Desk

Today we are making a transition that changes nothing on the stove, which is a dish you only get here by accident, so I shall go slowly.

You will need Susie Wiles, who is out after what CBS News calls "a dismal midterm performance for Republicans," and Stephen Miller, who is in, an immigration hardliner the Hill notes "has been with the president since he launched his first campaign." You will also need the pledge Miller gave the Guardian on taking the job: "total devotion" to the president. No Senate vote attaches to this post, either way.

Clive *Total devotion. I've been drafting a villanelle on total devotion for a fortnight, and this house still won't call that loyalty.*

Gary *A villanelle on devotion doesn't read the meter, and this meter hasn't been read since your fortnight started.*

Begin with what the kitchen already knew. On the 15th, Trump waved off reporting that Wiles's job was in jeopardy; four days later a former White House deputy press secretary called the prospect "terrifying." By Friday the swap was made, and the pledge went out the same day.

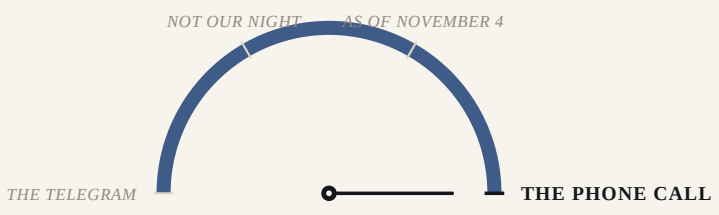
... Continued on Page A231

THE WORD

§85 — 07 NOVEMBER 2026

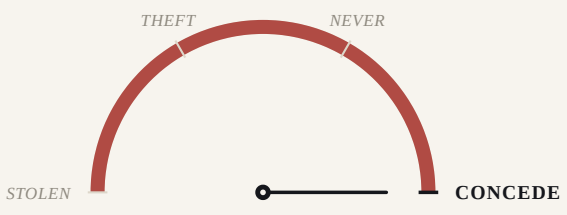
On concede

DEMOCRAT



THE PHONE CALL

REPUBLICAN



CONCEDE

"My brother-in-law and I played gin for thirty years. You lose, you say "good game," you push the cards over. No law says so. I looked. A concession, same thing, there's no legal or constitutional need for it. Collins called. Sununu said it was not their night. Paxton said he'd be praying. Sorry, one thing before you go. About this election he told the Times, "I am absolutely willing to accept those results." He wasn't running in this one. The one he ran in, he said "we will never concede." Which of those is the phone call?" — Lou

... Continued on Page W85

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

THE RESCUE IS A LOAN

One section of the federal passport rules refuses the book to a parent more than $2,500 behind on child support, and lets the State Department refuse it to an American who has not paid back the seat on the flight out of a war.

... Continued on the Investigative Reporting page

Podium that broke over a bar exam now offered to UFC boss told to bring fighters as aides.

BY LOU
One More Question

You're smart. I'll say that first, because it matters this week: a smart operation doesn't leave what's sitting on page nine of this paper sitting there without somebody upstairs noticing. I read it twice, to be sure I wasn't the one missing something.

Here's the order, because order is the only part of this job I trust myself with.

Fourth of October — I wrote the date down — the White House hired a new assistant press secretary. Days earlier she'd been covering the president for a right-wing outlet; the story that ran about her hiring was about a photograph, her holding a rifle in a T-shirt with a word on it I won't repeat at the bar. The White House defended her. That's the hiring story. I went through my own paper after that — the glovebox, the shoebox under the seat, every place I keep things I don't want my wife asking about — looking for the story where she left. Didn't find one. Maybe it's filed somewhere I haven't opened yet. Does the record in front of you show one?

Next day, the fifth: the woman who'd held the job before all this —

... Continued on Page A231

Texas needs a chaos escape for the third time this season, gets it from the SEC's officiating crew.

BY GUS
The Sports Desk

HOT MIC MOMENT

Three times this season this reporter has watched a handful of paid officials decide the outcome of a game broadcast to a paying crowd and a cable subscriber base, and this reporter does not know who, if anyone, answers for the call before the next kickoff. Somebody get this to the political desk. This reporter does downs and distances, not accountability.

... Continued on Page S20

Prediction market credited with calling 98% of midterm races is under felony charges for taking the bets

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

Ninety-eight percent of federal races had the winner ahead on a betting exchange, and the house that took the bets is a criminal defendant. Ninety-eight. You are thinking one of those facts has to give way to the other. Neither is obliged to.

Utah filed felony charges on 29 October against Kalshi and two of its executives: violating the state gambling ban, profiting from illegal activity. Two days earlier, on 27 October, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission sued Utah — to stop the state shutting down CFTC-registered contract markets. Do note the order. The regulator moved first, and the state had won its round in August: a federal judge in Utah refused to keep the anti-gambling laws off the firm. Won, mind you, and collected nothing. What protects the exchange is not a verdict in its favour; it is preemption, and preemption is indifferent to the merits ... which is why a company can be a felony defendant in October and the week's most-cited analyst in November.

The firm calls the charges "crazy overreach". One column this week credits its markets against "billions of dollars in political advertising". The New

... Continued on Page F136

"Nothing up there is a conspiracy. That's the part that should worry you — it's all on the record, filed, stamped, and in a couple of cases notarized."

— *Sal*

"Nothing here is a scandal. A scandal requires surprise, and I can assure you nobody involved was surprised."

— *Chip*

At first light the dog got up.
The fox heard the chain fall.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

Podium that broke over a bar exam now offered to UFC boss told to bring fighters as aides.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Trump says he offered White House press secretary job to Dana White", 7 November 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The president offered the press secretary job to UFC chief executive Dana White, telling him to bring fighters as aides.

WHO GETS PAID. Dana White and the UFC gain a White House podium and paid staff slots for their own fighters.

WHAT SLIPS. The basic expectation that the president's chief spokesperson is vetted for the job slips further, after a predecessor who could not say where she passed the bar.

WHAT'S NEXT. The record does not yet show whether Mr. White has accepted the job or when he might start; nothing further is scheduled on the record right now.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

You're smart. I'll say that first, because it matters this week: a smart operation doesn't leave what's sitting on page nine of this paper sitting there without somebody upstairs noticing. I read it twice, to be sure I wasn't the one missing something.

Here's the order, because order is the only part of this job I trust myself with....

...(cont) Fourth of October — I wrote the date down — the White House hired a new assistant press secretary. Days earlier she'd been covering the president for a right-wing outlet; the story that ran about her hiring was about a photograph, her holding a rifle in a T-shirt with a word on it I won't repeat at the bar. The White House defended her. That's the hiring story. I went through my own paper after that — the glovebox, the shoebox under the seat, every place I keep things I don't want my wife asking about — looking for the story where she left. Didn't find one. Maybe it's filed somewhere I haven't opened yet. Does the record in front of you show one?

Next day, the fifth: the woman who'd held the job before all this — youngest press secretary in that administration's history — announced she was joining a television network. She'd left the White House earlier in the year, after her second child was born. Is that the same shape of ending as what I just described, or a different one?

Ninth of October, a new press secretary is sworn in with one job: get the briefings running again, because the room had been dark. One of those questions is where she passed the bar exam. Her answer, on the record, is "when I moved to China." Is that a jurisdiction you've heard of? Three days later, the sixteenth, she's gone. Five days, start to finish — a shorter run than most warranties on a fan belt.

How many of them got a clean goodbye story, like the one on the fifth? How many got a firing story, like the one on the sixteenth? And how many got neither, so far as the record in front of you shows?

Now, this weekend, the president has offered that same podium to the chief executive of a fighting organization, and told him, in the same post, to bring some of his own fighters along as aides. The Hill's account has him naming several of those fighters. The Times account has him telling Mr. White to bring fighters along, full stop, no names attached. So I don't actually know which fighters. Do you, from what you've got in front of you?

A smart operation would have read page nine before it wrote page one. I don't run an operation. I run a Dodge with two hundred thousand miles on it, and I notice things slowly, which might be why I noticed this one.

Oh — hold on, one more thing, because I almost walked out without it. The post announcing the offer doesn't call Mr. White a communicator, or a spokesman, or anything along those lines. The president's own words for him are "a violent Fighter and Warrior." Is that the line that goes on a résumé for standing at a podium and taking questions from reporters, or is that a different résumé?

"This is the same podium that ended a five-day lawyer over a licensing question, and now it's going to a guy whose entire business is getting hit in the face on pay-per-view — nobody in that building is checking credentials anymore, that's the whole point. They don't need a press secretary who can explain policy; they need one who can take a punch and keep smiling for the cameras. Count the job description shrinking and tell me that's not the plan."

— Sal

"Dana White runs one of the most disciplined media operations in sports, he knows how to handle a hostile room — I mean, it's UFC pressers, those get a little rowdy too, but — look, at least nobody's going to ask him where he passed the bar, because that's not even a thing he — wait, did I just defend not needing qualifications? Forget I said that."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *The predecessor who quit the podium now hires whoever replaces the successor who couldn't hold it five days.* By Mort · the morning edition, 22 October 2026
— *White House ends forty-day briefing blackout with fourteen minutes, three friendly reporters, and a press secretary who answered "when I moved to China" when asked where she passed the bar; normal briefings resumed Tuesday and concluded Friday.* By Chip · the evening edition, 18 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Trump says he offered White House press secretary job to Dana White
The Hill MAINSTREAM · *13:55 EST*
President Trump said he offered the job of White House press secretary to Dana White, president and CEO of the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC). In a Truth Social post Saturday, Trump said he requested White bring "assistants" with him and named several UFC fighters.

~~Trump offers White House press secretary position to Dana White~~
Trump says his press secretary should be 'a violent Fighter and Warrior'
Washington Examiner RIGHT · *13:56 EST*
President Donald Trump said on Saturday that he offered the role of White House press secretary to UFC CEO Dana White, a longtime ally. "I am pleased to announce that the Great Dana White, a violent Fighter and Warrior, has been offered the job of Press Secretary of the United States," the president posted on [...]

Trump Asks Dana White of U.F.C. to Be His Press Secretary
The New York Times MAINSTREAM · *16:07 EST*
On social media, the president offered the now-vacant job of White House press secretary to Dana White, the organization's C.E.O., and told him to bring along fighters as aides.

· 'She Can Barely Read': New Trump Press Secretary Katie Zacharia Faceplants in First Briefing *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Trump's former press secretary Karoline Leavitt to join Fox News *from the morgue, 5 Oct 2026*

· Who could replace Katie Zacharia as White House press secretary? *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· White House defends new press aide who posed with rifle in 'Fuck Joe Biden' shirt *from the morgue, 4 Oct 2026*

· Scaramucci replaced by shorter unit of time - a Zacharia *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· White House press secretary out after less than a week *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· Embattled new White House press secretary Zacharia 'let go' from her role *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· Katie Zacharia fired after five days as White House press secretary *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· Katie Zacharia admits she never passed legal exams – video *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer announces his intention to resign as White House Press Secretary due to Donald Trump's appointment of Anthony Scaramucci as the White House Communications Direc *from the morgue, 21 Jul 2017*

· Scaramucci quips about new press secretary Zacharia's tenure: 'The clock is running' *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Who is Katie Zacharia, Trump's next White House press secretary? *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*

· Russia's Lavrov blasts US, Western allies as "warmongers' in fiery UN tirade *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Russia and China unite against US over Iran and Cuba in UN speeches *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· U.S. military lays groundwork for potential action around Cuba *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· The United Nations Security Council has resoundingly rejected a United States bid to extend a global arms embargo on Iran. In a Security Council vote, United States only got support from the Dominican *from the morgue, 14 Aug 2020*

· U.S. Threatens New Economic War on Iran by Targeting China & Tehran's Other Top Trading Partners *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump slams reporting on removal of his endorsements from GOP candidate's website *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

· Donalds removes several Trump mentions from campaign website *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Read Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the morgue, 7 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision' coming up on Iran: 'Do I want to go in and annihilate them' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

· Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· U.S. Strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN investigators conclude 'reasonable grounds' to believe certain US strikes in Iran were war crimes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Suspects US War Crimes in Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Trump says he has a 'big decision coming up' on Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· White House issues explosive response to UN-backed report claiming US committed war crimes against world's No.1 sponsor of terror, Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Energy Consumers Have Spent $121 Billion Extra Since Trump Launched Iran War: Moody's *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran downed at least 2 American drones in recent days, U.S. officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran: Account of US Air Force colonel's rescue 'fictional' *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion as Oil Prices Pass $100 a Barrel *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Rep. Thomas Massie forcing vote on Pete Hegseth's impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Did Johnson Just Adjourn Congress for 7 Weeks to Avoid Massie's Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth? *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· The Hitchhiker's Guide to Massie saying Johnson is sending the House home early to prevent Hegseth impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'You're Elected to Fight and Kill the Other Side': How Congress Lost Its Way *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Fossil Fuel Advertising Contracts Hit Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'How are we gonna get through this?' Many Americans are struggling as prices rise *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Million Richer During Iran War: Analysis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· 'Trump Did It!': At $5.85 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· Warsh under pressure as Fed weighs rate hike *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Inflation held at 3.4% in August in consumer price index, creating tough choice for Warsh Fed *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Warsh indicates Fed could raise rates to cool inflation *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· Key U.S. Bond Rate Near 20-Year High as Oil Prices Keep Climbing *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· 10-year Treasury yield hits highest level since 2007, oil surges above $105 as Fed expected to hike interest rates *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

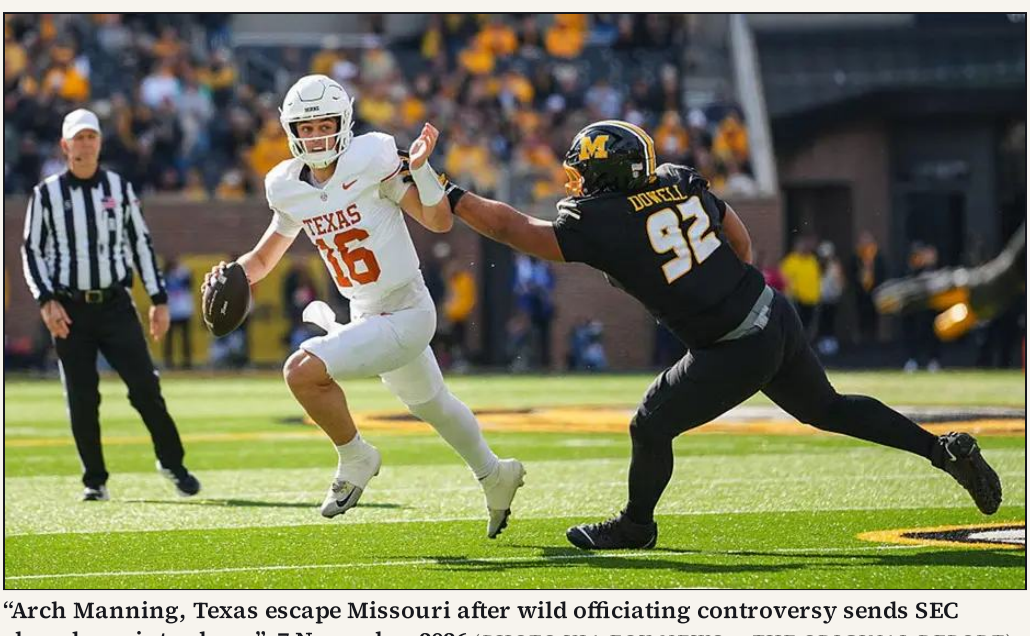
· Benchmark mortgage rate hits 14-month high as bond yields keep rising *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Benchmark mortgage rate hits highest mark in over a year *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Texas needs a chaos escape for the third time this season, gets it from the SEC's officiating crew.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK



"Arch Manning, Texas escape Missouri after wild officiating controversy sends SEC showdown into chaos", 7 November 2026 (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Texas beat Missouri on November 7, 2026, after a disputed fumble call and an SEC officiating meltdown.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. Nothing slips here yet.

WHAT'S NEXT. The record names no date for Texas's next game, so the count stops here for now; the season continues.

● HOT MIC MOMENT

Three times this season this reporter has watched a handful of paid officials decide the outcome of a game broadcast to a paying crowd and a cable subscriber base, and this reporter does not know who, if anyone, answers for the call before the next kickoff. Somebody get this to the political desk. This reporter does downs and distances, not accountability.

GUS HIS SIDE

Arch Manning and the Texas Longhorns escaped Columbia, Missouri, on Saturday, after a disputed fumble ruling and an SEC officiating crew sent a nationally televised showdown into the kind of disarray this reporter associates with earlier, less distinguished eras of the sport. Fox News had the call sheet: Texas survived. Missouri's crowd did not take it well.

This reporter would note, for the record, that this is not new. This is the third time this season the Texas Longhorns have needed a chaos escape to survive a football game, and a program that keeps surviving by accident eventually stops being lucky and starts being a pattern.

Take the Ohio State game, back in September of 2025, when Arch Manning and this Texas team clawed back from a thirty-point mountain to steal a win that had this reporter checking the scoreboard twice.

Before that there was the season opener itself, against Texas State on September 5, 2026, a game Fox News correctly flagged as make-or-break for Manning before a snap had been played, in a matchup so lopsided the posted line had the total under 59.5 points.

Now, Missouri. The fumble ruling that decided it was disputed enough that Fox News led its story with the officiating crew's chaos rather than the final score, and Missouri's own fans were, in the wire's word, stunned.

TRUDY *HER SIDE*

Two things, Gus. That comeback was this season — September 13, 2026, not 2025, per Fox News's own story that day. And it wasn't thirty points, it was twenty: Texas trailed Ohio State 23 to 3 before the fourth-quarter surge. Same source, same paragraph. You're oh-for-two and we're only in the third graf.

Gus, that's not a tangent, that's a filibuster with a fumble recovery in it, and the production truck cut your mic for a reason — go lie down before the pregame show. For the record, though, since you stumbled into something true: Fox News ran the chaos on all three, in order — Texas State on September 5, Ohio State on September 13, Missouri on November 7, 2026.

"Three times this season this same team needed a disaster to survive — that is not luck, that is a product built on chaos, because chaos keeps people watching. Nobody puts a name on the whistle that decided it, and the bigger the game, the less anybody answers for the call."

— Sal

THE RECEIPTS

Arch Manning, Texas escape Missouri after wild officiating controversy sends SEC showdown into chaos

Fox News RIGHT § *16:09 EST*

Texas Longhorns escaped Columbia after Arch Manning's controversial fumble ruling and a chaotic SEC officiating crew left Missouri fans stunned.

· Texas opens season against Texas State as Arch Manning faces a make-or-break college football year *from the morgue, 5 Sep 2026*

· Arch Manning and Texas Longhorns erase 20-point deficit to stun Ohio State in shocking comeback for the ages *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

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Prediction market credited with calling 98% of midterm races is under felony charges for taking the bets

By STERLING
THE OWNERSHIP DESK

"STU BURGUIERE: Put your money where your mouth is: Prediction markets won the midterms", 7 November 2026 (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Utah charged the prediction-market company Kalshi and two of its executives with felony gambling crimes.

WHO GETS PAID. Kalshi, the betting exchange, which keeps taking money on elections while its federal regulator, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, sues the state trying to stop it.

WHAT SLIPS. Utah's own criminal law stops deciding what is legal inside Utah; a federal agency's registration list decides it instead.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the federal claim holds, the state's gambling ban no longer reaches anyone holding a federal registration. That is what Denton, Texas got after 4 November 2014: voters banned fracking, and 195 days later the governor signed a law barring cities from regulating oil and gas at all.

❦ THE FORECAST ❦

Mark the date.

The Commission's suit may end in an order barring the state from enforcing its gambling laws against any federally registered contract market. The felony counts against the company and its two executives may stay on the docket and never be tried.

THE ENVELOPE. 27 October 2026, the date the Commodity Futures Trading Commission set by filing against the state of Utah.

EARL

The book: the calendar, 27 October 2026 · E7

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Ninety-eight percent of federal races had the winner ahead on a betting exchange, and the house that took the bets is a criminal defendant. Ninety-eight. You are thinking one of those facts has to give way to the other. Neither is obliged to.

Utah filed felony charges on 29 October against Kalshi and two of its executives: violating the state gambling ban, profiting from illegal activity. Two days earlier, on 27 October, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission sued Utah — to stop the state shutting down CFTC-registered contract markets. Do note the order. The regulator moved first, and the state had won its round in August: a federal judge in Utah refused to keep the anti-gambling laws off the firm. Won, mind you, and collected nothing. What protects the exchange is not a verdict in its favour; it is preemption, and preemption is indifferent to the merits … which is why a company can be a felony defendant in October and the week's most-cited analyst in November.…

…(cont) The firm calls the charges "crazy overreach". One column this week credits its markets against "billions of dollars in political advertising". The New York Post, the same day, calls it "a digital bookie shadowing your kid's school day". Three descriptions, one company.

Utah keeps the statute. Somebody else keeps the jurisdiction.

The toll man woke at the ford.
Upstream, in the dark, the herd crossed.

— ENOCH
The Ownership Desk

"Utah says taking money on an election is a felony, and the federal regulator ran to court to stop Utah from saying it. Nobody in that fight argued the betting should stop — they argued over who gets to allow it, and the exchange was pricing your races the whole time. Now the pitch is your kid's school day, and the same federal card beats your state's law."

— Sal

"Look, 98 percent of federal races, against billions in political advertising that tried to mislead people — those aren't my numbers, that's the coverage. And nobody is putting a bookie in a school; did I say bookie? That doesn't sound like me. It's a CFTC-registered contract market, which is federal, so with respect, Utah doesn't really get a vote here."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Justice Department abandons hunt for ballots that don't exist; Peltola's campaign sues to see the ones that do.* By Mort · the morning edition, 7 November 2026
- *Justice Department abandons its own lawsuit against ballots the Supreme Court already let stand.* By Mort · the evening edition, 7 November 2026
- *Trump sued to block Alaska's count if the Republican lost; a week later Mississippi's trailing Republican tried the same move* By Mort · the morning edition, 6 November 2026
- *Grand conspiracy probe has spent three lead prosecutors since September and filed zero charges* By Lou · the morning edition, 6 November 2026
- *Trump demands decoy's 3,600 votes be reassigned, not recounted, to the real Dan Sullivan* By Mort · the morning edition, 5 November 2026
- *Justice Department's clause for a narrow Republican loss meets a narrow Republican loss, exactly as drafted.* By Mort · the evening edition, 5 November 2026

THE RECEIPTS

STU BURGUIERE: Put your money where your mouth is: Prediction markets won the midterms
Fox News RIGHT $ *14:35 EST*
Billions of dollars in political advertising tried to mislead voters, but Kalshi's prediction markets had winners ahead in 98% of federal races.

But: Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department *NBC News, May 2026*
Courts Reject Trump's Attempt at Deploying ICE to Intimidate Voters
Truthout $ *09:18 EDT*
A judge ordered Homeland Security to stop sending agents door to door in nine key states to hunt for "voter fraud."

Say no to Kalshi or any online-betting biz in NYC's schools
New York Post RIGHT $ *13:13 EST*
A digital bookie shadowing your kid's school day is something every mom and dad should at least know about beforehand.

· Utah files criminal charges against prediction market Kalshi and company co-founders *from the morgue, 29 Oct 2026*

· CFTC sues to block Utah from enforcing gambling laws against prediction markets *from the morgue, 27 Oct 2026*

· Trump ask to set aside 'Decoy Dan' Alaska Senate ballots 'not even possible': attorneys *from the morgue, 31 Oct 2026*

· Peltola repeats denial of ballot-stacking reports, stays silent on federal probe *from the morgue, 31 Oct 2026*

· Trump prosecutions under Biden set precedent for DOJ's Alaska 'Decoy Dan' probe, ex-FEC chair says *from the morgue, 31 Oct 2026*

· Murkowski snubs Trump-backed Alaska candidate, endorses Democrat for governor *from the morgue, 28 Oct 2026*

· DOJ sues to block Alaska Senate certification if Sullivan loses *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Alaska Election Gambit Shows Justice Dept. Has Bowed to Trump's Demands *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Donald Trump challenges Alaska Senate trace *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration sues to block possible Democratic win in Alaska Senate race *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· The controversy surrounding convicted former election official Tina Peters *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Alaska Senate race featuring two Dan Sullivans is 'blatantly corrupt': Joe Concha *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Trump officials abandon effort to investigate election threats, experts warn *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Tina Peters turns down job with California county's registrar of voters *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Election deniers stoke Trump-driven ballot security fears before midterms *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Facing an electoral wipeout, Trump goes after the system *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Justice Dept. Demands That California Counties Help Identify Noncitizen Voters *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· Sabato's Crystal Ball shifts Alaska and South Carolina Senate races in favor of Democrats *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Appeals Court Rejects 'Likely Unlawful' Trump Push to Undermine Mail-In Voting as Supreme Court Looms *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· US justice department sues California over alleged noncitizen voting *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· Trump knocks Alaska voting system: 'How stupid are we to do this?' *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*

· Corey Lewandowski Always Found His Way Back to Trump. Until Now. *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump announces $6.6bn defense shipyard owned by top Republican donor's firm *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Companies Backed by Trump Sons Have Scored Over $6 Billion in Pentagon Contracts: Analysis *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· DOJ demands that California counties help identify noncitizen voters *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· DOJ demands that some California counties set aside alleged noncitizen ballots *from the morgue, 25 Oct 2026*

· California officials ordered by DoJ to set aside 'likely' noncitizen ballots *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· LA feds move to halt ballot counting over 20K suspected noncitizen voters *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump 'Laying the Groundwork for Election Meddling' With DHS Hunt for Noncitizen Voters *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· California has no real safeguards for voting and voter registration *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*

· Federal efforts over alleged noncitizen voting escalate with California arrests *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*

· Federal voter fraud arrests intensify in California days after DOJ warning *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*

· Trump DOJ issues stark warning to California ballot counters after suing state over 20K suspected noncitizen voters *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· Intel Democrats on how they'll react if Trump alleges election meddling *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump told DOJ to sue to block Alaska Senate results if Republican narrowly loses *from the morgue, 26 Oct 2026*

· Trump says he personally ordered DOJ lawsuit intervening in Alaska Senate election *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Ramaswamy accuses Acton of 'lying' about attack ad, but court records contradict mother's claim – live *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2026*

· DoJ sues to block certification of Alaska Senate results if Republican incumbent loses *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump-Ordered DOJ Lawsuit in Alaska Seen as First Salvo in GOP Effort to Undermine Midterm Elections *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump on the Alaska election lawsuit: 'I'm the one that said, "do it"' *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration sues to block certification of upcoming Alaska election *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· DOJ files lawsuit to block results in Alaska Senate race after two Dan Sullivans land on November ballot *from the morgue, 23 Oct 2026*

· Trump previews trip to Alaska to campaign for Dan Sullivan, ripping into the other Dan Sullivan *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump urges Alaskans to vote for the 'real' Dan Sullivan in tight midterms battle *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Sullivan trails Peltola in Alaska Senate contest: AARP poll *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Trump vows to probe other Dan Sullivan in alleged Dem plot to sabotage 'real' Alaska GOP senator *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration sued over plans to send election monitors to voting sites *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· AGs v. Trump: How an AWOL Congress made hundreds of lawsuits possible *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· The Electoral College meets in the state capitals to officially elect the next President. Joe Biden, the presumptive president-elect, is officially elected president after securing California's 55 ele *from the morgue, 14 Dec 2020*

· US federal agents raid home of Democratic congresswoman and Trump critic Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Ilhan Omar's Home Raided by DHS Following Trump-GOP Deportation Threats *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Federal Agents Search Home of Rep. Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's residence searched as part of ongoing criminal investigation: DOJ *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's D.C. home searched by Homeland Security investigators *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's DC home raided by DHS as part of probe into Dem's immigration paperwork *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation involving Ilhan Omar, says he knows 'things are going on' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· WATCH: Ilhan Omar denies feds have contacted her after border czar Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Could Trump revoke Ilhan Omar's citizenship for alleged brother marriage? Ex federal prosecutor breaks it down *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Did Ilhan Omar marry her own brother? The claims explained *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Russia's Lavrov blasts US, Western allies as "warmongers' in fiery UN tirade *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Russia and China unite against US over Iran and Cuba in UN speeches *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· U.S. military lays groundwork for potential action around Cuba *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· The United Nations Security Council has resoundingly rejected a United States bid to extend a global arms embargo on Iran. In a Security Council vote, United States only got support from the Dominican *from the morgue, 14 Aug 2020*

· U.S. Threatens New Economic War on Iran by Targeting China & Tehran's Other Top Trading Partners *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump slams reporting on removal of his endorsements from GOP candidate's website *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

· Donalds removes several Trump mentions from campaign website *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

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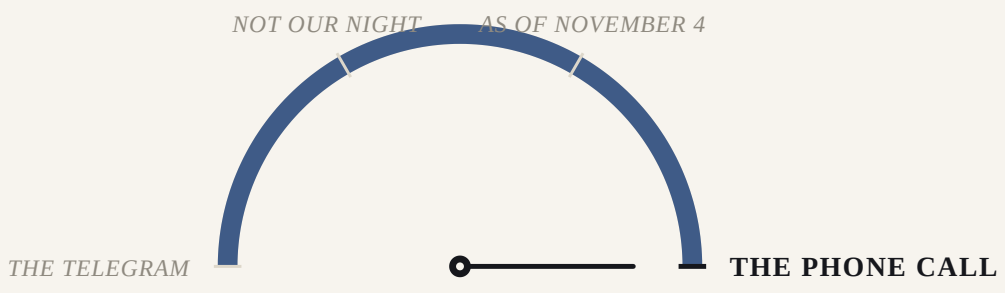
On concede

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



THE PHONE CALL

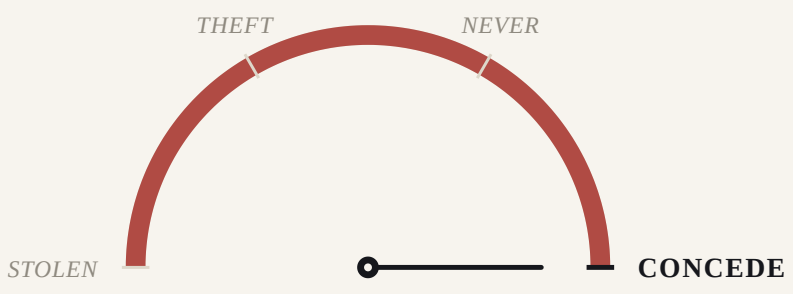
William Jennings Bryan started the modern habit by telegram in 1896: "We have submitted the issue to the American people and their will is law" [1]. Kamala Harris conceded on November 6, 2024 [2].

This week's log. Susan Collins: "It has been the honor of my life to serve the people of Maine" [3]. John Sununu: "it is not our night" [3]. Ken Paxton said he would be "praying" for James Talarico [3]. Mike Lawler called before 11 p.m. [4]. Richard Hudson, chair of the House GOP's campaign arm: "I called to congratulate Richard Ojeda on his victory" [5]. As of November 4 two Senate races stayed open. Scott Colom led Cindy Hyde-Smith by 43 votes at a 3 a.m. count, and Dan Sullivan said he was "confident when all the votes are counted" [4 6]. That is a count finishing. There is no legal or constitutional need for any of these calls [1]. The last one that did not come was followed by an attack on the Capitol [1].

SOURCES

1. Bryan's 1896 telegram; "no legal or constitutional need"; Trump's January 7, 2021 condemnation of the Capitol attack after refusing to concede — Wikipedia, Concession (politics) ↑
2. "Harris conceded victory to Trump on November 6" — Wikipedia, 2024 United States presidential election ↑
3. Concessions by Collins, Sununu and Paxton, quoted — CBS News live coverage, 3–4 November 2026 ↑
4. Lawler: "About 20 minutes ago, I called my opponent," just before 11 p.m. ET; Sullivan "confident when all the votes are counted" — NBC News live blog, 4 November 2026 ↑
5. "I called to congratulate Richard Ojeda on his victory" — CBS News live coverage, 4 November 2026 ↑
6. Colom 462,821, Hyde-Smith 462,778 as of 3 a.m. Wednesday, with about 95.6 percent tabulated; "We remain confident" — WLBT, 4 November 2026 ↑

REPUBLICAN



CONCEDE

Give the waiting its due. A candidate may wait for a count. Al Gore phoned George W. Bush on November 8, 2000, took the call back when Florida tightened, and conceded on December 13 after the Supreme Court ruled [1]. That is a loser with a count to finish.

The 2020 version came with a doctrine. The networks projected Biden the winner on November 7, six years ago today [2]. On January 6, 2021, Trump stated the doctrine to a crowd: "We will never give up, we will never concede. It doesn't happen. You don't concede when there's theft involved" [3]. There were more than 60 court cases [4]. His January 7 statement pledged a smooth transition and admitted no defeat [1]. Now the word is back in service. On election night he told the Times, "I am absolutely willing to accept those results" [5]. He had no race to concede. The one he had reads never.

SOURCES

1. Gore's retracted call and December 13 concession; Trump's refusal and his January 7, 2021 statement; "no legal or constitutional need" — Wikipedia, Concession (politics) ↑
2. Major networks projected Biden the winner on November 7, 2020 — Wikipedia, 2020 United States presidential election ↑
3. "We will never give up, we will never concede. It doesn't happen. You don't concede when there's theft involved" — transcript, NPR, 10 February 2021 ↑
4. "There were over 60 court cases" — Campaign Legal Center ↑
5. "I am absolutely willing to accept those results," to the New York Times on election night — TIME live coverage, 3 November 2026 ↑

"My brother-in-law and I played gin for thirty years. You lose, you say "good game," you push the cards over. No law says so. I looked. A concession, same thing, there's no legal or constitutional need for it. Collins called. Sununu said it was not their night. Paxton said he'd be praying. Sorry, one thing before you go. About this election he told the Times, "I am absolutely willing to accept those results." He wasn't running in this one. The one he ran in, he said "we will never concede." Which of those is the phone call?" — Lou

"Concede. One phone call. That's the whole technology. Bryan did it by telegram in 1896. This week Collins did it, Sununu did it, Paxton did it, and the chair of the House Republicans' entire campaign arm did it before the network got to the end of the sentence. Over sixty court cases and one man still can't find the phone. You know what he calls it? Theft. Nobody needs a word that big for losing unless the small word costs him something. There's no law behind a concession. It's manners. The whole republic runs on somebody picking up."

— Sal

"The president has accepted the results of an election in which he did not run, which I'd call a meaningful down payment on the one in which he did."

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎