



NELVIN C. CEPEDA U-T

Investigators examine the panga, suspected of smuggling immigrants, that washed ashore near Children's Pool on Thursday.

SUSPECTED SMUGGLING BOAT CAPSIZES IN LA JOLLA; 1 DEAD

15 in custody after lifeguards rescue 10 from waves; fourth similar attempt in a week along S.D. coast

BY KAREN KUCHER & KRISTINA DAVIS

One person died and 10 others were rescued from a suspected smuggling boat that eventually capsized off the La Jolla shore early Thursday, authorities said. The incident is one of at least four at-sea human smuggling attempts in San Diego in just the past week, and comes nearly

three weeks after three undocumented immigrants drowned when their boat crashed near Cabrillo National Monument. In predawn darkness, lifeguards used boats and at least one rescue board to pluck people from the water near Marine Street Thursday. The panga then continued north and eventually came into shore about a mile away, where it capsized in the surf

line near the Children's Pool. A submerged victim was found nearby and did not survive. In all, 15 people were taken into custody from the small panga-style vessel, said Border Patrol Supervisory Agent Jeffrey Stephenson. Agents first spotted the boat off the coast near Point Loma around 5:10 a.m. and tracked it to La Jolla, hoping to see where it

was going to make landfall. Around 5:20 a.m., an agent saw several people in the water who appeared to be in distress and called San Diego lifeguards, said Border Patrol Agent Jacob MacIsaac. Video shot by OnScene TV showed a Coast Guard helicopter circling over the water as lifeguards on a rescue boat and a rescue board worked to pull people SEE BOAT • A9

ISRAEL, HAMAS AGREE TO CEASE-FIRE IN GAZA

Bilateral truce reached after 11 days of fighting; hundreds killed, wounded

BY STEVE HENDRIX, LOVEDAY MORRIS, SHIRA RUBIN & HAZEM BALOUSHA

JERUSALEM A cease-fire aimed at ending 11 days of withering combat between Israel and Hamas militants took effect early today, hours after Israel's security cabinet voted to approve an Egyptian initiative to stop the fighting. The cabinet, made up of top security officials and ministers, voted unanimously to accept what Israel described as a bilateral and unconditional cease-fire. Facing mounting international pressure, including from President Joe Biden in recent days, the Israeli government said it decided to bring the air and artillery campaign to a halt after significantly degrading Hamas's military infrastructure and killing many of its commanders. Hamas, which governs the Gaza Strip, said it had also agreed with the Egyptian proposal, which came into force at 2 a.m. local time. "The Palestinian resistance will abide by this agreement as long as the occupation is committed," said Taher al-Nounou, a media adviser to the head of the Hamas political bureau, referring to Israeli forces. The conflict has taken a steep toll. Israel pounded Gaza with airstrikes and artillery fire, causing extensive SEE CEASE-FIRE • A13

CITY, UNIONS REACH DEALS TO PROVIDE RAISES FOR 6K WORKERS

BY DAVID GARRICK

New labor deals negotiated by San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria include pay raises for about 6,000 city workers, including 29 percent hikes for 640 engineers designed to make their pay more competitive when compared to other cities. Gloria has reached agreements on contracts with unions representing the city's 150 deputy city attorneys, 4,000 white-collar workers and 1,800 blue-collar workers. The deals must be approved by the City Council after members of the unions have finished voting on them. The mayor is still negotiating deals with unions representing the city's 1,900 police officers, 900 firefighters and roughly 100 full-time lifeguards. All of the deals are expected to be two-year agreements extending through July 2023. Deputy city attorneys are getting 12 percent raises over the next two years — 4 percent raises on both July 1 and in July 2022, coupled with 2 percent raises in both January 2022 and January 2023. Blue-collar workers are getting 8 percent raises over the two years, 4 percent on July 1 SEE WORKERS • A10

S.D. COUNCIL MEMBER EXPRESSES 'GRAVE CONCERNS' ABOUT LINCOLN HIGH WOES

Montgomery Steppe writes letter to school district citing continuing 'crisis'

BY KRISTEN TAKETA

A City Council member wrote a letter to San Diego Unified leadership Wednesday expressing "grave concerns" about leadership turnover at Lincoln High and other issues, including allegations of past mispending and sexual assaults at the school. "Perpetual missteps have turned into a crisis that continues to impact our entire community," wrote City Council member Monica Montgomery Steppe, whose jurisdiction includes Lincoln, in a letter that was published on Instagram and distributed to media outlets Wednesday. "LHS has been a source of hope for our community, and we must improve it in order to have a full and thriving district." But school district officials said Montgomery Steppe's letter ignores progress that has been made by Lincoln's new



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For years some community advocates have argued the S.D. school district has failed to stabilize Lincoln High School.

principal, Stephanie Brown, who was picked by a committee of a dozen people in July 2019 to lead the school. Under Brown's leadership, Lincoln's graduation rate rose

from 80 percent in 2019 to 84 percent in 2020, according to state data. A record number of Lincoln students graduated early this year, the district said: SEE LINCOLN • A11

BIDEN SIGNS BILL ADDRESSING ANTI-ASIAN HATE CRIMES

■ **A4** • The president signs a measure meant to address a proliferation of assaults and other violent crimes against Asian Americans since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SANCTIONED OVER PHOTOS

■ **B1** • A governing body for S.D. high school sports imposed sanctions on Cathedral Catholic High's football program in response to players circulating racist photos aimed at Lincoln High.

WEEKEND

GRAB YOUR POPCORN

Hollywood is bringing out the big stuff and hoping audiences are ready to return this summer. **E1**



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