

A peek at life inside Pompeii

Museum exhibit, literally centuries in the making, is now open. D1



UCF dismissals a sensible move

Bianchi: Rejection of gun-toting students controversial? Why? C1

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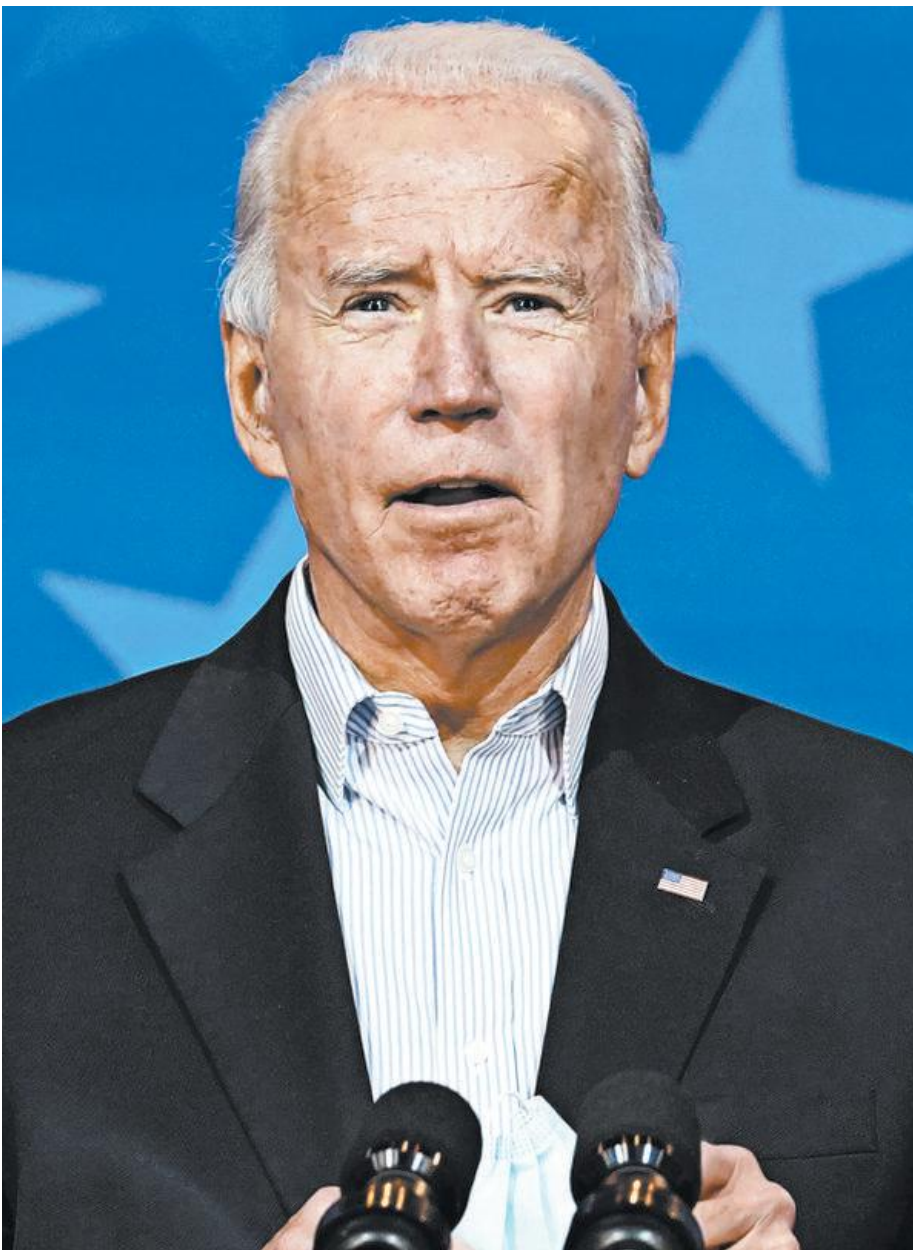
Friday, November 6, 2020

\$3.00

ELECTION 2020

Not there yet

Biden urges calm, Trump sows doubt while US awaits verdict as battleground states Arizona, Georgia, Pennsylvania press on with count



CAROLYN KASTER/AP

Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden speaks in Wilmington, Delaware.



DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Donald Trump speaks in the East Room of the White House.

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE, ZEKE MILLER AND WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With votes still being counted across the nation, President Donald Trump on Thursday sought to undermine confidence in the nation's election, making unsupported accusations from the White House about the integrity of the results in his race against Democrat Joe Biden.

Hours earlier, Biden offered reassurances that the counting could be trusted, seeking to project a more presidential appearance while urging patience from Americans.

The candidates' sharply contrasting postures intensified a national moment of uncertainty as the nation and the world waited to learn which man would collect the 270 electoral votes needed to capture the presidency. Trump pursued legal options with little success, working the phones and escalating efforts to sow doubt about the outcome of the race.

Please turn to ELECTION, A8

WHERE THE ELECTION STANDS

Through 9:50 p.m. Thursday
Georgia — Trump leads by 1,902 votes.
Pennsylvania — Trump leads by 42,142.
Nevada — Biden leads by 11,438.
Arizona — Biden leads by 46,257.
Go to [OrlandoSentinel.com/results](https://www.orlandosentinel.com/results) for latest totals.

MORE COVERAGE

- Trump lawsuits thrown out in Georgia, Michigan. A3
- Florida sheds laughingstock label with rapid voting tabulation on election night. B1
- Opinion: Is political polling on last legs after 2020 general election? A11

Unitarian church's progressive banners repeatedly defaced

BY LINA RUIZ

A rainbow-colored banner displayed on First Unitarian Church of Orlando's lawn that declared the church's progressive values, such as "Love is love" and "Climate change is real," was found sliced in half two Sundays before Election Day.

Days later, a "Black Lives Matter" sign the church put up in its place — which had already been repaired after prior vandalism — was also found slashed. The church's signs, which previously went unbothered for years, have now been vandalized five times since June, church leaders said.

The latest incident happened overnight after members left the campus Wednesday at 8:15 p.m and returned Thursday morning at 9 a.m., said Rev. Sam Schaal, a minister with the church. The vandal cut the corners of the banner, attempting to detach it from the

Please turn to BANNERS, A4

TOURISM

SeaWorld's attendance plummets 81% for a \$79 million loss in 3Q

BY GABRIELLE RUSSON

SeaWorld's theme parks suffered a \$79 million loss as attendance dropped as much as 81% this summer amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the company said Thursday.

But attendance improved later in the summer, according to the Orlando-based company, which cut operating costs by limiting hours and laying off staff.

SeaWorld Entertainment, which operates 12 parks across the country, released third-quarter earnings that showed the ongoing financial hit from the coronavirus.

By Sept. 30, the end of the quarter, 10 of the company's parks, including all five in Florida, were open again after closing from the pandemic but all were operating

Please turn to TOURISM, A4

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

State hospitalizations remain stable, even with rise in cases

BY NASEEM S. MILLER

COVID-19 hospitalization numbers across Central Florida remain mostly stable, with a slight uptick in some counties. But it's too soon to tell how the early signs of the rise in coronavirus infections could affect this trend, as Florida recorded the biggest increase in daily coronavirus infections since Sept. 1 with 6,257 cases on Thursday.

While local health systems are watching the numbers closely, they have not yet raised alarm. But they also don't expect to see a significant decline in the numbers of COVID-19 patients until a vaccine becomes available.

To date, more than 50,000 people in Florida have been hospitalized because of COVID-19. The state cur-

Please turn to COVID-19, A4