



Seattle Times file illustration via TNS

Here are 10 questions you should ask when choosing a day-care provider.

In today's paper **NATION:** Federal aid coming to Mississippi for tornado recovery. 2A



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MERCED SUN-STAR

City police investigating officer-involved shooting

BY ANTHONY GALAVIZ
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Police in Merced are investigating an officer-involved shooting that happened Saturday afternoon. According to police, an officer made a traffic stop for a moving

violation at 3:30 p.m. in the parking lot of a shopping center at the corner of West Olive Avenue and M Street. Police said multiple people inside the car got out when the car stopped. An officer fired one round. No one was hit, police said. It was unclear if those in the

car shot at police. Police said some of the suspects fled on foot. Two were detained by responding officers. Others who remained in the car drove off and police said officers were unable to find it. It's unclear how many people were inside the car. The incident is under in-

vestigation. Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Sgt. Calvin Haygood at 209-388-6998 or by email at haygoodk@cityofmerced.org. Case Number: 2023-00015375. *Anthony Galaviz: 559-441-6042, agalaviz_TheBee*

Study finds CSU faculty salaries are in line with national averages

BY ASHLEY A. SMITH
EdSource

California State University faculty are paid salaries comparable to those at other similar universities across the country, according to a long-awaited study released Wednesday. But those salaries do not reflect the realities of California's high cost of living, officials concede. The study conducted by an independent national consulting firm found that professors, instructors, librarians, counselors and coaches in the 23-campus system are, on average, paid market rates compared with others across the country, although some are underpaid depending on their discipline, job and location. For example, CSU has 3,055 associate professors who average \$104,315 annually — 2% more than the \$103,890 national market salary median. However, among the nearly 4,900 higher-ranked full professors in CSU, they average \$122,069 annually — 2% less than the market median. The salary study was presented during the CSU board of trustees meeting. It could influence upcoming contract talks with the faculty union, as well as discussions with the governor's office and the Legislature over providing more funding to help CSU pay its employees. Interim Chancellor Jolene Koester said the next step is for the chancellor's office to meet with the California Faculty Association, the faculty union, and "bargain in good faith" with them as both sides understand the data from the study. The study compared salaries at each Cal State campus against other similar or comparable universities across the country. Neither the UC nor the state's community colleges were included because faculty at those institutions have different missions and work expectations. For example, UC faculty are predominantly focused on research. A similar study of CSU staff salaries was released last year and found that those non-faculty employees in clerical, information technology, health care and custodial jobs were underpaid. "While the numbers purely show that CSU faculty on the average is paid pretty much on the median with comparable institutions across the United States, California is one of the highest-cost states," trustee Romy Saballius said. "We should keep this in mind, that the dollar amount alone doesn't reflect whether it's adequate, fair or good pay." The study also included a survey of faculty members and found that few felt they were paid fairly by the nation's largest public university system. Between 70% and 80% of faculty said they were dissatisfied with their pay. Only 5% said they were paid fairly.



LIBKOS AP

Smoke rises Sunday from burning buildings in Bakhmut, the site of heavy battles with Russian troops in the Donetsk region, Ukraine.

Ukraine demands emergency UN meeting over Putin nuke plan

BY KARL RITTER
Associated Press

KYIV, UKRAINE

Ukraine's government on Sunday called for an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council to "counter the Krem-

lin's nuclear blackmail" after Russian President Vladimir Putin revealed plans to station tactical atomic weapons in Belarus. One Ukrainian official said that Russia "took Belarus as a nuclear hostage." But Moscow said it was mak-

ing the move in response to the West's increasing military support for Ukraine. Putin announced the plan in a television interview that aired on Saturday, saying it was triggered by a U.K. decision this past week to provide Ukraine with armor-piercing rounds contain-

ing depleted uranium. Putin argued that by deploying its tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus, Russia was following the lead of the United States. He noted that Washington has nuclear weapons based in Bel-

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Wanted man arrested after Merced police say he tried to run

BY ANDREW KUHN
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A wanted man was arrested after he tried to flee from officers serving a search warrant in Merced, according to authorities. Ricky Ornelas Jr., 39, was arrested Friday when Merced police detectives and gang officers served a search warrant in the 2000 block of East Childs Avenue in Merced, according to a Merced Police

Department news release. Authorities said the warrant was served about 12:45 p.m. after police received information that Ornelas was in possession of firearms and stolen property. According to police, Ornelas was wanted for multiple probation violations. As officers served the warrant, police said, Ornelas fled from the property. He was tracked and arrested by the drone unit and perimeter offi-

SEE POLICE, 4A



Courtesy of Merced Police Department

A 39-year-old man was arrested in Merced on Friday after officers located loaded handguns and stolen property during a search in the 2000 block of East Childs Avenue, according to a Merced Police Department news release.

SEE SALARIES, 4A



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