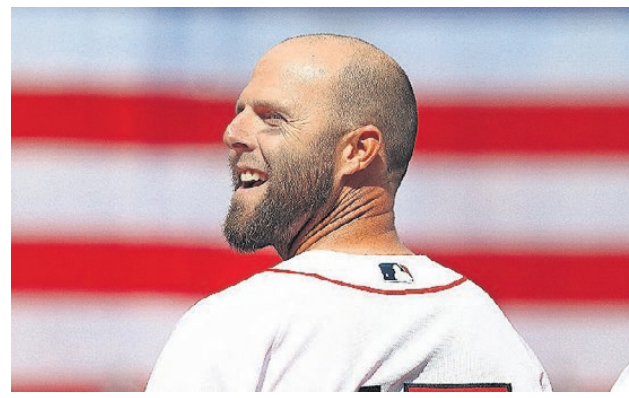


The Enterprise



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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021

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Trump supporters called 'loaded cannon' at Capitol

'His conduct endangered the life of every single member of Congress,' Democrats charge in making case vs. Trump

By Eric Tucker and Mary Clare Jalonick
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump endangered the lives of all members of Congress when he aimed a mob of supporters "like a loaded cannon" at the U.S. Capitol, House Demo-

crats said Tuesday in making their most detailed case yet for why the former president should be convicted and permanently barred from office. Trump denied the allegations through his lawyers and called the trial unconstitutional.

The Democratic legal brief forcefully linked Trump's baseless efforts to overturn the results of the presidential election to the deadly Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol, saying he bears "unmistakable" blame for actions that threatened the foundation of American democracy. It argued that he must be found guilty when his impeachment trial opens before the Senate next week on

a charge of inciting the siege. And it used evocative language to conjure the day's chaos, when "terrified members were trapped in the chamber" and called loved ones "for fear they would not survive."

"His conduct endangered the life of every single member of Congress, jeopardized the peaceful transition of power and line of succession, and compromised our national security," the Democratic managers of the impeachment case wrote. "This is precisely the sort of constitutional offense that warrants disqualification from federal office."

Trump's lawyers responded with their own filing that de-

nieed that he had incited the riot by disputing the election results or by exhorting his followers to "fight like hell." In any event, they said, the trial was unconstitutional now that Trump has left the White House.

The dueling filings offer the first public glimpse of the arguments that both sides intend to present at the impeachment trial, Trump's second. They show how Democrats will look to explicitly fault Trump for his role in the riot and to also make the case that his behavior was so egregious as to require permanent disqualification from office. On the other side will be challenges

to the trial's constitutionality and claims that Trump's speech was protected by the First Amendment.

"It is denied that President Trump ever endangered the security of the United States and its institutions of Government," defense lawyers wrote in a 14-page brief.

The Constitution specifies that disqualification from office can be a punishment for an impeachment conviction.

"This is not a case where elections alone are a sufficient safeguard against future abuse; it is the electoral process itself that President Trump attacked and that must be protected from him and anyone else who

would seek to mimic his behavior," the Democrats wrote.

The Democrats drew heavily on the words of prominent Republicans who have criticized the former president. Among them are Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney, who voted for Trump's impeachment and said there has never been a "greater betrayal" by a president, and Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, who said Trump "provoked" the rioters.

"The only honorable path at that point was for President Trump to accept the results

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IT'S TIME TO SNOW



ALYSSA STONE/THE ENTERPRISE

The downtown Easton street clock and Main Street businesses are lit up Monday evening as snow falls from a nor'easter. See more storm photos, page 9.

'This is life-changing': Redditors behind the GameStop stock saga

By Jessica Menton
USA TODAY
USA TODAY NETWORK

Gavin May can't help but constantly check his Robinhood app every few minutes following the GameStop mania.

Last Monday, his \$6,000 investment in the stock market, which includes a \$5,400 position in the video-game retailer that he's built in recent months, broke \$10,000. By last Wednesday, it peaked over \$100,000.

"This is life-changing," says May, 19, who is a freshman at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. "I was euphoric. I've never seen more than five digits in my bank account."

Although GameStop shares lost ground this week following an astonishing rise, May and others are still holding strong even as the stock shed more than half of its value in the past two days.

"Everyone who's still in at this point is in it to win it!"

In another part of the country, Roger Lin, a

GAMESTOP/PAGE 2

TAUNTON

Hundreds join parade for toddler with cancer

By Susannah Sudborough
THE TAUNTON DAILY GAZETTE
USA TODAY NETWORK

TAUNTON — "All walks of life were participating in this for Finn, and that's what's super cool," said Sharon Barbosa of her 2-year-old son Finn Paradis's Sunday car parade.

Finn has anaplastic ependymoma — a rare and aggressive brain cancer, and is undergoing chemotherapy. So Barbosa decided she wanted to do something special for his birthday, and thought of a car parade.

Phillip Gaspar and Orlando Cornier from the Cars For Kids Facebook group — a

group that has helped arrange car parades for children during the COVID-19 pandemic — helped Barbosa arrange the event, and she said she was very grateful for their help.

Barbosa said more than 200 vehicles drove by her house — everything from tractor trailers to dump trucks to fire trucks — while she, Finn, Finn's father Ryan Paradis, her parents and some cousins stood out on their lawn for 45 minutes to watch.

"Everyone turned around and drove the opposite direction, so it lasted a little bit longer," she said. "And Finn was thrilled. He was sitting in

his wagon. We don't usually give him sweets, so he was just chomping on a cookie the whole time waving at people."

Barbosa said many people decorated their cars with signs and balloons. She said others had megaphones, and she noticed someone dressed up as a Minion, another person dressed up as a panda and an entire family dressed as The Incredibles.

Though Barbosa had recommended people just do something nice for others instead of buying gifts, she said the family received a lot of gifts, as well as cards, gift certificates and custom t-shirts. She said

she now has three bins full of toys, some of which she will bring to the hospital with Finn when he goes for treatment.

Finn is doing well now, Barbosa said, but he's going back for more chemo on Wednesday.

Seeing so many people come together to support their family is what really made the parade special, she said.

"You know people have your back and people support you, but it's just tough, especially with COVID to sometimes — it feels so isolated. And yesterday it was the opposite of that. I wish we could do it every week."



MIKE BORDEN/TAUNTON GAZETTE

Finn Paradis, 2, waves, as hundreds of people turn out Sunday in Taunton for a birthday car parade for the boy battling brain cancer.

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