



Election protests in Venezuela

Thousands of people were arrested in Venezuela for protesting the results of the presidential election on July 28. The current president, Nicolás Maduro, claimed victory, but some political experts said the results were fraudulent and that his opponent, Edmundo González, had actually won. As citizens took to the streets to protest Maduro, some world leaders refused to recognize his win.

Maduro first took office in 2013 and has tightly controlled the South American nation ever since. Under his leadership, the country's economy has suffered. Close to 82% of Venezuelans live in poverty, and at least 7 million people have left the country. Maduro has also imprisoned people for speaking out against him or his government.

On August 1, the US said it recognized González as the winner. Brazil, Mexico, and Colombia released a joint statement asking for the election results to be made public to verify Maduro's claim. Maduro has accused the US and other countries of meddling and instructed his government to continue arresting protesters.



Edmundo González



Tim Walz

ELECTION 2024

STATE CHAMPS

Tim Walz helped coach the Mankato West High School football team in Minnesota to its first state championship.

Democratic VP nominee chosen

Kamala Harris, the Democratic Party's nominee for US President, announced on August 6 that she has chosen Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her Vice Presidential running mate. Harris, who is currently serving as Vice President, began campaigning for the Presidency in July after President Joe Biden stepped down from the race.

Walz, age 60, was born in Nebraska and grew up on his family's farm. After high school, he enlisted in the Army National Guard, serving for 24 years. He attended a state college and moved to Minnesota, where he spent 20 years as a high school teacher and football coach. He later earned a master's degree in educational leadership.

Walz was first elected to public office as a member of the US House of Representatives (one half of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws) in 2006 and served six two-year terms.

He was elected governor of Minnesota in 2018 and was re-elected for a second term in 2022.

Harris considered other potential running mates—including Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro and Mark Kelly, a US senator from Arizona—before choosing Walz. "As a governor, a coach, a teacher, and a veteran, he's delivered for working families like his," Harris said of Walz. "We are going to build a great partnership." Walz said, "It is the honor of a lifetime to join Kamala Harris in this campaign."

Harris and Walz made their first appearance together at a rally in Pennsylvania on August 6. Next, they will campaign across the US and attend the Democratic National Convention, set for August 19–22 in Chicago, Illinois. They will face Republicans Donald Trump and J.D. Vance in the election on November 5.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

DIVING INTO KNITTING

UK diver Tom Daley has five Olympic medals—and he's a knitting champ. When he wasn't competing at the Paris Games, he was seen knitting in the stands. He took home a silver medal and also made a sweater in the colors of the French flag. "It's...fun to have this as a little bit of a memory," Daley said.



Tom Daley

GOLD-MEDAL MUFFINS

Millions of people have watched Olympic swimmer Henrik Christiansen's videos about the chocolate muffins served in the Olympic Village, where the athletes live during the Games. Christiansen, who is from Norway, said the "choccy" muffins, as he calls them, are "insane, 11/10."



Henrik Christiansen

TEAMWORK

After Yoshiaki Oiwa and Team Japan won bronze in a horseback riding event, Oiwa snapped a selfie with his horse, whose name is MGH Grafton Street. NBC reposted it with the caption "A man, a medal and his horse," while a fan commented, "Best selfie of the Olympics." It was Japan's first equestrian medal in 92 years.



The selfie



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