

HSAS COMMON SENSE: CURRENT EVENTS RELEASE

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Global Events: Israel's Plan for Rafah

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- Rafah, 25 square miles in southern Gaza, currently holds over half of Gaza's total population.
- There have been worries over Israel's plans for a ground offensive in Rafah. These worries have heightened since many occupants of this area have been pushed southward by Israeli military orders.
- The Prime Minister of Israel has ordered the military to start planning for an evacuation of civilians in Rafah.
- Human rights groups have argued that it is impossible to evacuate that area without violating international law. Rafah is also one of the main ways to get aid to Gaza. An invasion could be disastrous.
- Most of the world and many of Israel's notable allies are also against this invasion including the United States, Great Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. UN officials and aid groups also oppose the invasion.

American Politics: Investigation of Trump Prosecutors in Georgia

Veronica Mollod and Sebastian Kopp, Grade 9, Staff Writers

- A trial of Donald Trump in Fulton County Georgia has turned towards the prosecutors.
- Trump's lawyers and co-defendants have argued that the district attorney and special prosecutor for the case should be disqualified due to having romantic and financial connections with each other.
- The prosecutors, Fani T. Willis and Nathan J. Wade, have both strongly rejected the accusations being made against them, saying that they were once in a relationship, but were not anymore.
- The timeline that Ms. Willis gave the court when she testified, however, might help the defense's efforts to thwart progress in the case, as she and Mr. Wade were still in a relationship when she hired him for the case.
- If the two are disqualified, the prosecution would be thrown into disarray, delaying the case.

Miscellaneous News:

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- Baby Boom in Zoos! Zoos and conservation societies around the world found success in their breeding programs for endangered and threatened animals. For example, the Indianapolis Zoo just received a baby white rhino on Super Bowl Sunday.
- The American Museum of Natural History has recently closed down The Eastern Woodlands and Great Plains halls in response to new federal regulations stating that sacred objects of Native American tribes should be returned. Museum officials and tribe members alike are supportive of the change and aim to improve the transfer process moving on.
- Robert F. Kennedy Jr. came under fire on Super Bowl Sunday when a PAC supporting his campaign reused a famous advertisement for JFK without the family's permission, even superimposing RFK's face onto his uncle's. RFK alleges that he had no involvement in the ad, and tweeted an apology.

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