

BASEBALL PREVIEW

Nats believe they have a foundation to build upon SECTION F



AMERICA'S CHANGING CITIES

Urban center transformations — from DC to LA SECTION J



ALL-MET TEAMS

The best prep athletes across the DMV SECTION G



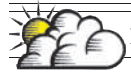
RETROPOLIS

From kings to pigs: A collection of historic tales SECTION H

# The Washington Post

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023 • \$5

## Judge rules Pence must testify to prosecutors

Decision is high-profile defeat for Trump's legal efforts in election probe

BY JOSH DAWSEY AND DEVLIN BARRETT

A federal judge has ruled that former vice president Mike Pence must provide testimony to prosecutors investigating President Donald Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 election results, according to people familiar with the matter.

However, the judge also ruled that Pence can remain silent on topics that deal specifically with his role in Congress on Jan. 6, 2021, when a formal tabulation of the presidential election results was interrupted by a violent pro-Trump mob, said the people, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe court proceedings that have not been made public.

Special counsel Jack Smith subpoenaed Pence for his testimony in the long-running investigation into whether efforts to block or undo Joe Biden's 2020 victory constituted federal crimes, and Pence and Trump fought the demand on two separate legal grounds.

Trump argued that executive privilege, which shields some presidential discussions from being disclosed, barred Pence from appearing; Pence's lawyers maintained that a constitutional protection against forcing lawmakers to provide evidence also prevented Pence — who presided over the Senate on Jan. 6 — from testifying.

U.S. District Judge James Boasberg ruled, in essence, against the executive privilege claim, which judges have repeatedly rejected for a host of Trump witnesses in criminal investigations involving the former president. But Boasberg ruled, in essence, against the executive privilege claim, which judges have repeatedly rejected for a host of Trump witnesses in criminal investigations involving the former president. But Boasberg ruled, in essence, against the executive privilege claim, which judges have repeatedly rejected for a host of Trump witnesses in criminal investigations involving the former president.

SEE PENCE ON A2

## Appeals panel reinstates conviction of Adnan Syed

BY OMARI DANIELS AND DAN MORSE

A Maryland appellate court panel on Tuesday reinstated the murder conviction of "Serial" podcast subject Adnan Syed, deciding a lower court had violated the right of the victim's family to attend a crucial hearing in the case in person.

In a 2-1 decision, the Maryland appellate court ordered a do-over of the hearing at which Syed's conviction was vacated, which it said "results in the reinstatement of the original convictions and sentence." The panel for the state's second-highest court ruled that a circuit court judge had violated the rights of Young Lee, the brother of the teenager Syed had been convicted of killing, because the judge did not give Lee an adequate chance to attend the hearing.

In a statement, Erica Suter, an assistant public defender and Syed's lawyer, said his legal team would seek review of the decision in the Maryland Supreme Court. She noted that the Lee family's appeal "was not about Adnan's innocence but about notice and mootness."

"There is no basis for re-traumatizing Adnan by returning him to the status of a convicted felon.

SEE CONVICTION ON A8

AMERICAN ICON A series examining the AR-15, a weapon with a singular hold on a divided nation

# REVERED AND REVILED

The AR-15 thrives in times of tension and tragedy. This is how it came to dominate the marketplace — and loom so large in the nation's psyche.



ILLUSTRATION BY BLAKE CALE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

BY TODD C. FRANKEL, SHAWN BOBURG, JOSH DAWSEY, ASHLEY PARKER AND ALEX HORTON

It is revered as a modern-day musket.

It is reviled as a tool for mass killers.

The AR-15 wasn't supposed to be a bestseller.

The rugged, powerful weapon was originally designed as a soldiers' rifle in the late 1950s. "An outstanding weapon with phenomenal lethality," an internal Pentagon report raved. It soon became standard issue for U.S. troops in the Vietnam War, where the weapon earned a new name: the M16.

But few gunmakers saw a semiautomatic version of the rifle — with its shrouded barrel, pistol grip and jutting ammunition magazine — as a product for ordinary people. It didn't seem suited for hunting. It seemed like overkill for home defense. Gun executives doubted many buyers would want to

SEE AMERICAN ICON ON A11

## How bullets from an AR-15 blow the body apart

BY N. KIRKPATRICK, ATTHAR MIRZA AND MANUEL CANALES

The wounds show the lethal force of the AR-15, but they are rarely seen.

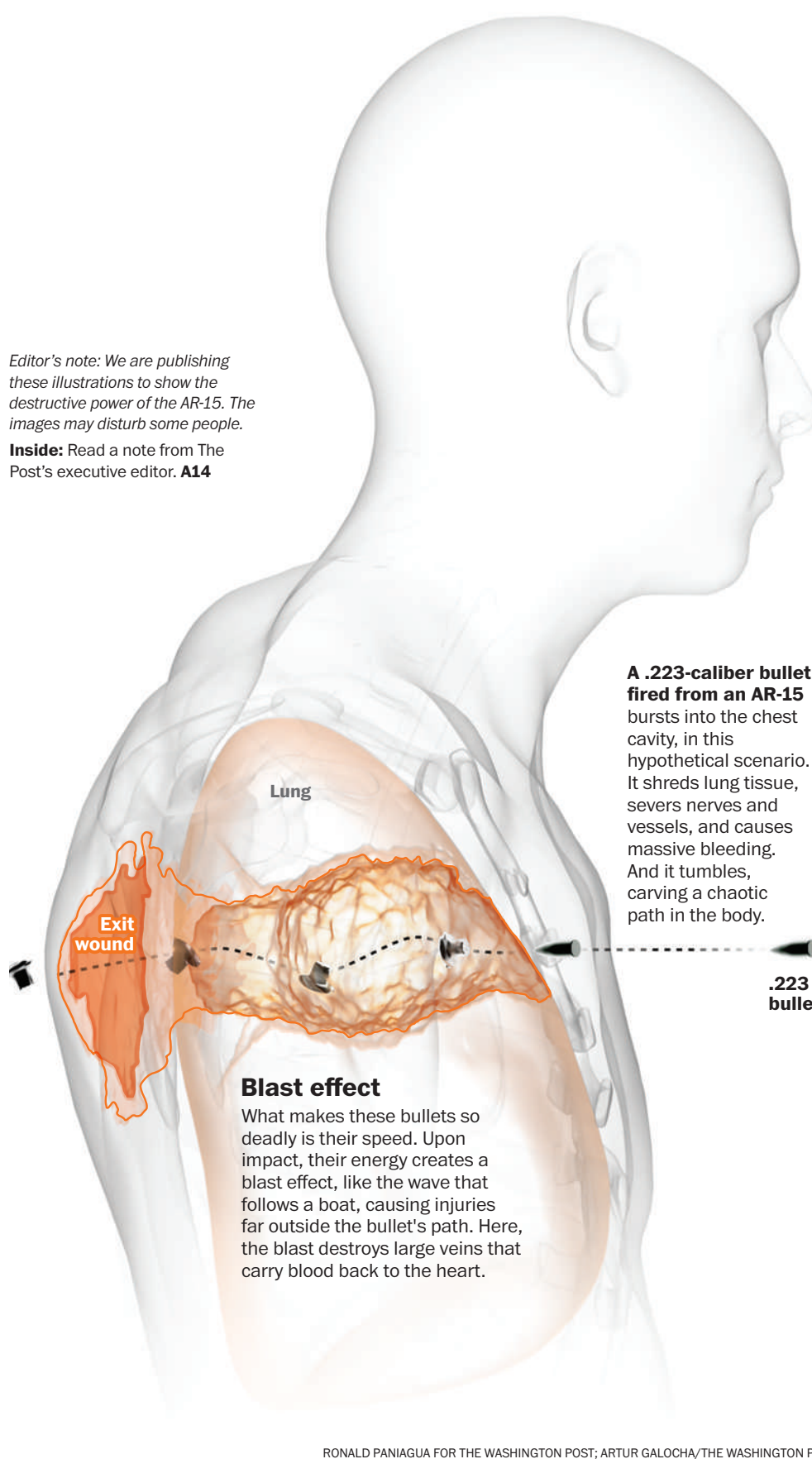
The gun is the weapon of choice for many mass killers. It fires bullets at such a high velocity — often in a barrage of 30 or even 100 in rapid succession — that it can eviscerate multiple people in seconds. A single bullet lands with a shock wave intense enough to blow apart a skull and demolish vital organs. The impact is even more acute on the compact body of a small child.

"It literally can pulverize bones, it can shatter your liver and it can provide this blast

SEE BODY IMPACT ON A13

Editor's note: We are publishing these illustrations to show the destructive power of the AR-15. The images may disturb some people.

Inside: Read a note from The Post's executive editor. A14



A .223-caliber bullet fired from an AR-15 bursts into the chest cavity, in this hypothetical scenario. It shreds lung tissue, severs nerves and vessels, and causes massive bleeding. And it tumbles, carving a chaotic path in the body.

### Blast effect

What makes these bullets so deadly is their speed. Upon impact, their energy creates a blast effect, like the wave that follows a boat, causing injuries far outside the bullet's path. Here, the blast destroys large veins that carry blood back to the heart.

RONALD PANIAGUA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST; ARTUR GALOCHA/THE WASHINGTON POST

## Police actions at school lauded

### NASHVILLE FOOTAGE DETAILS OPERATION

Experts: 'Exact opposite' to Uvalde shooting

BY ROBERT KLEMKO

For the second time in 10 months, police officers were called to confront a mass killer at an American elementary school. But this time, unlike last spring in Uvalde, Tex., the officers at the Covenant School in Nashville rushed right in.

Body-camera footage released Tuesday shows heavily armed officers methodically sweeping colorful classrooms and backpack-lined hallways until they find and kill the suspect — a police response experts described as "textbook."

"They did an awesome job in a very high-stress situation," said AJ Yokley, an instructor in firearms and building clearing at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy in Nashville. "You're going into a situation where you can hear the shots fired. It's a difficult thing to run towards the sound of gunfire, but that's what they did. Every single one of them displayed tremendous courage."

Robert Carlson, a firearms instructor and owner of the Brave Defender Training Group in Memphis, said the Nashville police response was the "exact opposite" of the Uvalde shooting.

SEE RESPONSE ON A6

Tears, love, light: Relatives and friends remember the victims. A6

'Emotional disorder': Police said the shooter was in treatment. A7

## 40 die in fire at migrant center near U.S. border

BY LORENA FIGUEROA, MARY BETH SHERIDAN AND ADELA SULIMAN

CIUDAD JUÁREZ, MEXICO — A fire at a migrant detention facility just south of the U.S. border killed at least 40 people, who appeared to be trapped in locked cells as flames spread Monday night and guards left the scene. It was one of the deadliest tragedies in years involving foreigners apprehended while trying to reach the United States.

Mexico's National Migration Institute said the blaze started shortly before 10 p.m. Monday in the men's detention area of its office in Ciudad Juárez, across the border from El Paso. Sixty-eight men were staying in that part of the one-story building, according to the government-run institute.

In a Tuesday morning news conference, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said the fire was apparently sparked during a protest by migrants who had learned they were going to be deported. "In the door of the shelter they put some mattresses and set them on fire," he said. "They never imagined that would cause this tragedy."

SEE FIRE ON A21

Italy worried: Migration is surging, and it's still the slow season. A21