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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

TMU, Student services, Signal Awards, Lotto Max, TTC safety, Brampton cameras, Bike lanes, Scarborough traffic, Electric vehicles, Ridgeway Plaza, AI technology, Ballroom Bowl, Entertainment news, Basketball updates, Municipal elections

SPEAKERS

Vaishnavi Sriparan, Speaker 9, Speaker 16, Sydney Warren, Maia McDaniel, Speaker 14, Tarun Paul Singh, Speaker 6, Speaker 15, Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa, Joey Fellows, Daisy Gammon, Aaliyah Nguyen, Isha Rizwan, Speaker 11, Angela Misri, Chris Harrison, Debora Ca Quindecam, Julia Pen, Malia Alancia, speaker 2, Speaker 3, Jess Spieker, Garrett Raakman, Karina Leung, Speaker 4, Speaker 13, Speaker 12, Speaker 1

M Malia Alancia 00:13
Cycling advocates gathered to voice their discourse over bike lane removal.

S Sydney Warren 00:17
The effects of AI on Toronto restaurants and digital artists,

M Malia Alancia 00:21
Brampton is considering installing school bus cameras to enforce road safety.

S Sydney Warren 00:26
Rising fuel costs have Toronto drivers considering electric.

M**Malia Alancia 00:42**

Good afternoon. Thanks for joining us today. I'm Malia Alancia,

S**Sydney Warren 00:45**

and I'm Sydney Warren. TMU has been ranked number one in student services by Maclean's Magazine in its 2027 Canadian University's rankings for large universities. This marks the second consecutive year TMU has ranked first in Canada for student services. The ranking focuses on assessments of Canadian universities on a variety of topics, including retention rate, graduation rate, research impact, scholarships, bursaries, and reputation.

M**Malia Alancia 01:16**

Two podcasts produced by TMU students and faculty have been recognized at the 2026 Signal Awards, which celebrate excellence in podcasting, "We Met U When," season four, produced by TMU Professor Shari Okeke, and her students won gold for best student podcast. While CSE 200 Creative Strategic Foresight, produced by TMU Professor Angela Misr and TMU alumni Dmitry Mironov, earned bronze in science and education. Other winners of the Signal Awards included Amy Poehler, John Stewart, and Monica Lewinsky.

S**Sydney Warren 01:49**

Speaking of winning, if you have relatives in Alberta, tell them to check their Lotto Max tickets. The \$90 million jackpot has been sold in the province, with the winning numbers being 08, 1519, 2326, 28, and 34, with a bonus number of 38. This marks the largest lottery jackpot ever won in Canada.

M**Malia Alancia 02:11**

Well, not everything can be a win. On August 31, the TTC introduced new safety barriers at TMU Station in an effort to boost commuter safety. With the two-month pilot project entering its final stretch, Toronto is said to have spent a starting amount of \$2 million to fund the pilot. Joey Fellows has more.

J Joey Fellows 02:31

Every single day, 1000s of Toronto Metropolitan University students arrive onto the platform, making them primary Tuss commuters for the new setup. But talking to students reveals a clear divide between those who welcome the extra layer of physical security and those who feel it misses the root of the problem.

i 02:48

And the TTC are like helpful enough. I just don't think that the barriers are like necessarily maybe like doing what it was intended to do.

S speaker 2 02:56

I think they should take out the barriers, and if they want fair control, maybe pay people to inspect that rather than putting these stupid metal things.

J Joey Fellows 03:04

While some students question the barriers, the TTC says the project is still being evaluated with more installations planned. In an emailed statement to On The Record, the TTC confirms 14 barriers have been installed with more to come. The agency says it's collecting customers' feedback and measuring whether the barriers reduce delays. As the TTC prepares to review the trial's success, students and daily riders will be watching closely to see if there's any feedback and permanent changes done to the station. Joey Fellows On The Record Toronto.

S Sydney Warren 03:37

TTC safety is one concern, but road safety is a wider one. Brampton is considering cameras on school busses to catch drivers who illegally pass them while their red lights are flashing. The city is also adding school zone signs as part of its road safety efforts. Tarun Paul Singh reports on the proposal and the questions that remain.

T Tarun Paul Singh 03:59

We take road safety as a paramount responsibility in our city. For some families in Brampton, the issues goes beyond traffic violations. It's about the safety of their children. Parents say they are increasingly worried about the drivers ignoring school bus stop signs and putting young lives at risk. Some families have even taken drastic measures.

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Speaker 3 04:23

Me personally, I live I live right by Gage Park here, but I bring my kids to school in Mississauga. We don't go to school in Brampton because we had problems for the first three years. I have a nine and a seven-year-old boys, and it was not conducive to the way I want my children to be brought up. The

T

Tarun Paul Singh 04:42

proposed camera plan, Brampton Exploring, is aimed at recording drivers illegally, passing stop busses when their red lights flash and stop arms extended.

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Speaker 4 04:54

Launching 15 additional red light cameras with 20 to follow. We've also. Launch new technology for license plate reading that we're using in school zones to make sure that if you're parked illegally, blocking sight lines, making it more dangerous for students, that we can give tickets to those individuals.

T

Tarun Paul Singh 05:13

While Brampton is working with the school board and Peel Region, however, the municipal road safety update does not specify a launch date. How many busses would receive cameras on an approved program budget?

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Speaker 4 05:27

The message today from us at the City of Brampton is to drive safe. Be mindful of the crossing guards. Be mindful of the stop signs. Be mindful of the kids who are crossing the street, the busses that are stopping, and most importantly, please slow down.

T

Tarun Paul Singh 05:43

Brampton Road Safety Update says enhanced signs are being installed at 141 school zone sites. Speed cameras stopped issuing tickets last November. Officials are now exploring school bus stop arm cameras to deter illegal passing and protect children getting on off busses. While the stopping rule has already been there, nothing much has been given, according to the statement given by them. While the stopping rules are already in place, Brampton municipal election updates do not see who would review footage, administer tickets, or measure changes on illegal passing. Tarun Paul Singh On The Record, Brampton.

M

Malia Alancia 06:20

From Brampton to Etobicoke, where the province started removing bike lanes last week, cycling advocates and local residents have gathered over the weekend to make their voices heard. Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa has more.

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Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 06:34

For those gathered along Bloor Street West, this is no longer a debate over urban infrastructure. It's a matter of life and safety.

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Speaker 6 06:41

So it's egregious that the our provincial government is spending 48 million dollars to actually remove them, knowing that it is endangering people's lives and that it is not going to reduce congestion.

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Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 06:55

According to the Ontario Newsroom's website, the province will remove bike lanes on Bloor Street, Yonge Street, University Avenue, Queens Park, Queens Park Crescent, and Avenue Road in Toronto, the province will start its removals over a 1.2-kilometer span between Clissold Road and Royal York Road. For Sasha Chua and her 10-year-old daughter, biking is the main mode of transportation. With bike lanes being removed, this may not be an option anymore.

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Speaker 1 07:23

When my daughter rides in the bike lanes, I want her to have that space where she can explore, she can become more independent, and she can do so safely.

S

Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 07:32

Jess Speaker, who nearly died while cycling on Bathurst Street in 2015, only bikes on streets with bike lanes now. She said she feels forced to switch to driving if bike lanes are removed from other streets.

J

Jess Spieker 07:44

Those complete streets were installed, and now I can bike to most of my workplaces and leave my car at home in the driveway. And so, if those are ripped back out, I'm going to be back out there in my car, wasting my money, of which I don't have that much. So this is very harmful for low-income people to force them to spend money on gas and car maintenance when they otherwise could just ride a bike.

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Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 08:03

On the other hand, some are taking to social media to express their support for the provincial government's decision. Despite the protests and mixed opinions on this matter, the province is still set to remove bike lanes across the city. For on-the-record news, I'm Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa.

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Sydney Warren 08:19

and the debate over bike lanes is stretching beyond Utopoco. While cyclists push to keep protected lanes, a new project in Scarborough is drawing pushback from drivers who worry the changes will choke traffic flow, eliminate turning lanes, and compromise road safety. Daisy Gammon has more.

D

Daisy Gammon 08:39

The 13 million dollar reconstruction of Scarborough Golf Club Road between Ellesmere Road and Lawrence Avenue East has reduced vehicle lanes for a separated bike lane. The city says the project was an opportunity to improve road safety while replacing aging infrastructure, but for some drivers, the changes have made navigating the neighborhood more difficult.



09:00

It's all one lane now. So before, while there was a filter lane and it was safe to turn right at the same time other people were turning left, you now have people trying to turn left and right at the same time who don't know that this change has happened.



Daisy Gammon 09:14

Scarborough councilor Paul Ainsley has also questioned whether the redesign adequately accommodates all road users. He says the reconstruction was intended to balance the needs of drivers, transit, emergency services, cyclists, and pedestrians. The roadway was already scheduled for major reconstruction, including water main replacement and road repairs. The new cycling infrastructure also now connects to existing routes, reflecting the city's goal of building a cycling network rather than leaving cyclists to navigate isolated stretches of bike lanes, in Scarborough, cycling infrastructure was incorporated into a broader road reconstruction and intended to connect to existing routes. Downtown, the debate centers on whether established bike lanes should remain under provincial legislation. Together, the two cases highlight how Toronto's cycling network is shaped by more than just the number of people riding bikes today. And as Toronto continues to reshape its streets, the challenge is building a safer, more connected cycling network while meeting the needs of everyone who relies on the road. For on-the-record news, I'm Daisy Gammon.



Malia Alancia 10:24

As winter approaches, rising fuel prices are putting more pressure on Canadians already dealing with the high cost of living. Some drivers are looking at electric vehicles as a way to cut fuel costs, but the question remains: Are electric cars a practical alternative? Maia McDaniel tries to answer this question.



Maia McDaniel 10:42

Statistics Canada reports that Canada sold 44.8 billion liters of gasoline in 2025, up 2.3 percent from the year before. As the demand for gas rises, data from Cheap Gas Toronto revealed that Toronto gas prices experienced an upward trend over the summer, with median prices shifting higher from early July to September in 2026, with winter driving often involving longer warm-ups and changing road conditions, fuel expenses can add up. Summer moving away from gasoline and going electric.



11:15

Do the math on on fuel is crazy, but with fuel prices rising right now. More people are going to be buying hybrids slash EVs.



Speaker 6 11:24

However, upfront purchase prices, access to charging stations, and the availability of public chargers remains important considerations.



11:32

Only problem with electric cars is you can't go as far as you can with gas cars.



Speaker 6 11:38

Transport Canada counted more than 39,000 public chargers across Canada by March 2026. That's 27 electric vehicles for every charger.



11:47

I mean, if you're a person that travels long distances, I don't think it's such a great idea.



Maia McDaniel 11:53

Winter adds another challenge. Natural Resources Canada says electric vehicles can lose an average of 29% of their range in minus 18 degrees. Cold weather also makes gas-powered vehicles less fuel-efficient, so drivers may burn more gasoline to drive the same distance. As electric vehicles continue to grow in popularity, gas cars remain the biggest way that Canadians get around. For on-the-record news, I'm Maia McDaniel.



Sydney Warren 12:18

Packed parking lots, viral late-night eats, and nonstop energy. Ridgeway Plaza is one of the most talked about destinations in the GTA. But along with its popularity comes complaints. Isha Rizwan takes us right into the heart of Ridgeway Plaza.

I Isha Rizwan 12:34

Ridgeway Plaza has become an extremely popular strip mall located here in Mississauga. But the popularity comes with the cost. The crowded parking lots have become an issue for the city. As municipal elections progress, the plaza has become a hot topic of debate between mayoral and council candidates, each proposing a solution. For visitors, though, the plaza is their first choice to spend the weekend night.

S Speaker 11 12:56

I come to Rishibe because of the food and the culture and community. I see it as a vibrant space, and I really like coming here.

I Isha Rizwan 13:06

One of the issues candidates have on their table to address is congestion that residents have been complaining about

S Speaker 12 13:12

since the beginning of this plaza. This area has been getting really crowded, and the noise pollution is crazy. Also, the traffic-it's like really crazy to travel from one place to another.

I Isha Rizwan 13:23

The real test, however, is if the city can solve these burning issues while keeping the spirit of Ridgeway alive.

S Speaker 9 13:28

I come to Ridgeway because of many reasons. One of them, the main reason why I come to Ridgeway, is because the variety of food. I feel like you and your friends can want different things.

I Isha Rizwan 13:41

Ridgway Plaza is more than just a commercial hub; it defines a culture, and visitors want the city to solve its issue with care it deserves. For on-the-record news, this is Isha Rizwan.

S Sydney Warren 13:53

Speaking of restaurants, a growing number of them are using AI to help them design their menus and set prices. Julia Pen takes a closer look at how this technology could end up shaping your next meal.

J Julia Pen 14:05

These food images may look like traditional advertisements, but no photographer was behind the camera. Artificial intelligence is giving restaurants another way to display items on their menu and promotional material. For some businesses, the appeal is simple.

S speaker 2 14:21

Well, first thing is it's fast and it's cheap. I think those two reasons just made AI the better choice.

J Julia Pen 14:32

While AI enables restaurants to generate content faster and more affordably than traditional photography or design, other restaurant owners say that their experience had a very different outcome.

S Speaker 12 14:43

Honestly, my customers did not like any of the AI pictures. They said, "Oh, why do you have these AI pictures? Why didn't use your original pictures of your product?"

J Julia Pen 14:54

Marad has since hired a professional designer to create a new menu with real images, and. Some customers say that's what they would rather see.

S

Sydney Warren 15:02

For me, I think I would prefer more real pictures, like how it is shown.

J

Julia Pen 15:09

For creative professionals behind the camera, the rapid use of AI raises concerns.

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Speaker 13 15:15

Honestly, I feel scary because AI might take our jobs because it's fast and easy. Everybody can do it.

J

Julia Pen 15:21

While losing a job is one fear, however, maintaining creativity remains a distinct competitive advantage.

S

Speaker 13 15:28

As a person who actually worked there, I think human has advantage because we can understand what kind of people working there. We can talk with them, and also that we can see their character. AI cannot do it.

J

Julia Pen 15:42

As AI finds its way into everything from restaurant operations to marketing, businesses are learning where the technology fits and where it doesn't. For On The Record News, I'm Julia Pen.

M

Malia Alancia 15:52

After only 20 months of being there, the Ballroom Bowl's Yonge and Dundas location has closed after its lease ended over unpaid rent. A notice posted on the door says the location has been repossessed by its landlord. The company's two other Toronto locations on John Street and Yorkville will remain open.



16:12

Now turning to entertainment, here's Vaishnavi Sriparan with what's happening this week.



Vaishnavi Sriparan 16:18

From record-breaking concert announcements to new film premieres. Toronto's entertainment scene is making headlines this week. Backstreet Boys are back in Toronto. The iconic boy band has announced 12 shows at the Rogers Center next year. The group has doubled the venue's previous record of six shows held by Taylor Swift, and with nearly half a million fans potentially attending, the band is proving that nostalgia is still a major force in the concert industry. Meanwhile, the 26th annual Real World Film Festival returns to Toronto this Thursday, October 22, at the Scotiabank Theater. This four-day festival showcases films by Black, Indigenous, and racialized filmmakers. Opening night features the Ontario premiere of *Jersey Boy*, directed by Jess Karen Singh. The Toronto Reference Library has opened a new exhibition celebrating 75 years of the National Ballet of Canada, titled *A Legacy in Motion*. The free exhibition features original costumes, photographs, and designs from productions including *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*. And for independent film lovers, the Toronto Art House Film Festival is running from October 19 to 22 at Innis Town Hall, showcasing films with free admission. The festival showcases creative and experimental films from around the world, giving emerging filmmakers a platform to share their work. That's all for entertainment. Back to the desk.



17:50

From entertainment to sports, TMU Bold's men's basketball team is making their first regular season appearance later this week. Aaliyah Nguyen has more.



Aaliyah Nguyen 18:04

The Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) men's basketball team play their first game of the 2026-27 regular season on Friday, October 23rd. The Bold will face the Laurier Goldenhawks at the opposing team's home court in Waterloo. After last year's Ontario University Association (OUA) win, Bold supporters can expect to see some new faces this season. Former Bold player Aaron Rooms was a focal point for the team last season by being named the 2025-26 U Sports Player of the Year. With his departure, many former students took advantage of U Sports' new transfer rule.



Speaker 14 18:46

Is basically in your first or second year, you're allowed the ability to transfer to a new school with no penalty.

A

Aaliyah Nguyen 18:57

This rule came into effect for the 2026-27 season, with the recruitment of nine new players, six of those players played for a different team last season.

S

Speaker 14 19:08

We had a whole new team to assemble, right? So usually the guys that are in second and third year are still on your team.

A

Aaliyah Nguyen 19:24

The move to recruit transfers is motivating their new players to perform at their best.

S

Speaker 15 19:29

If I'm not stepping on the court, it's because I'm not doing something right. So I tend to to to work on that when we're in practice. If it's communicating, then I have to communicate. If it's getting to the spot early, then then I have to get to the spot early. There's no there's no going back and forth with with the coach. That's one thing I learned is to just say yes, coach. Me coming to TMU, a lot of people.

A

Aaliyah Nguyen 20:03

Team chemistry is easily flowing between players after their tournament in Halifax, especially the ones who have played together in the past. Not only did second-year guard Nathaniel Savage win the OCAA championship alongside Kazadi, but he also has a long-standing history with Gabriel Gutsmore, a fourth-year guard who has been with the Bold since his freshman season.

S

Speaker 16 20:26

I also know what Nathaniel likes to do, so when I'm playing with him or if we're in practice, I'm playing against him. I kind of can push him to do new things and do something I haven't seen before. So I get we're both getting better in like each different way every single day.

A**Aaliyah Nguyen 20:38**

So far, the Bold have been handed four wins and three losses in the preseason. Their newly formed team has until February to reclaim their provincial championship. For On The Record News, I'm Aaliyah Nguyen.

S**Sydney Warren 20:53**

Also in sports, more updates about the TMU Bold women's varsity teams. Here's Chris Harrison with more.

C**Chris Harrison 21:00**

Thanks. In TMU Bold News, the women's basketball team will hit the road Friday against the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks. The Bold are coming off a 15-point win over Guelph in their regular season opener. The game will tip off at 6 p.m. Also on Friday, the TMU women's hockey team will face the University of Toronto in their home opener, they're in search of their first win after a 5-1 loss to Wilfrid Laurier to open the season. Puck drop is set for 11:15 a.m. In other basketball news, the NBA is working with several sportsbooks to ban certain types of bets. The league sent a memo to gambling partners that combining the under on players' individual stats into parlays is no longer allowed. This news comes after Raptors player Jonte Porter received a lifetime ban in 2024 for intentionally manipulating prop bets. The Toronto Raptors play their season opener Wednesday night against the Chicago Bulls, looking to improve on last season when they finished fifth in the Eastern Conference. It will be Kawhi Leonard's first regular season game since his return to Toronto. Tip off is set for 7:30 p.m. That's all for sports. Back to you.

A**22:11**

Now let's hear from the newsroom with our live news flash, where we have Deborah Ca Quindcam standing by live. Deborah, what do you have for us this week?

D

Debora Ca Quindecam 22:21

Thanks, Sydney. We've got a variety of news stories on our website this week. OTR reporter Aline Ewan wrote about the engagement of Toronto City with the WNBA leading up to the league's final that took place this past Saturday. Moreover, earlier this month, secondhand bookstore ABC Books announced they'd be closing due to financial reasons. I reported on how other bookstores of the same sort are coping in the current landscape of independent bookstores. Additionally, reporter Joey Fellows and Sharanki Kolin Turarasa published a photo essay covering the World 13 debate that took place October 7th, co-hosted by The Bridge and OTR. Speaking of election coverage, make sure to check out our on the ballot TikTok as we've been uploading daily content about the municipal election. We've also got a couple of stories to look forward to. OTR reporter Isher Rizwan is working on a story about the ballet and dance industry as the National Ballet gears up to celebrate its 75th anniversary at the end of the month. Simultaneously, reporters Taryn Paul Singh and Unit Show are preparing three character profiles about people who are impacted by immigration through express entry. All stories mentioned and more can be found on our website on therecornernews.ca. Back to the desk.

S

Sydney Warren 23:39

Thanks, Deborah. Before we come to the end of today's segment, Karina Leung has more on this week's weather.

K

Karina Leung 23:46

Thanks. We're in for a crisp fall week across the GTA with plenty of sunshine, but cooler temperatures that'll have you reaching for your favorite sweater and jacket. Across the GTA, temperatures are reaching highs of around 15 to 16 degrees. So whether you're commuting to school or heading out, dressing in layers is the way to go. Now let's take a look at the five-day forecast for Toronto. Wednesday temperatures will reach a high of 14 degrees and a low of 5 degrees. Thursday temperatures are expected to reach a high of 16 degrees. Skies will be mainly sunny, but it's expected to get a bit chilly at night with temperatures dropping to 4 degrees. On Friday temperatures will continue to drop with a high of just 11 degrees and an overnight low of 3 degrees. Looking ahead to the weekend, Saturday will be mostly sunny skies with a high of 13 degrees and a low of 4 degrees overnight. Sunday will be slightly warmer, reaching a high of 15 degrees with a mix of sunshine and clouds. Temperatures will dip to around 8 degrees overnight, making for another cool fall evening. So while we'll have some sunshine to enjoy and cooler mornings and evenings, a reminder that autumn is settling in. That's all for your weather update. Back to the desk.

M

Malia Alancia 24:50

On October 26, On The Record News will be hosting a comprehensive coverage of the 2026 municipal election. The show will be live streamed at 6:30 p.m. on OTR. As part of OTR's election coverage, students launched a TikTok campaign that was widely covered by CBC and CTV News, as well as TMU's communications team. Let's watch.

K

Karina Leung 25:12

Young people should know they have a right to vote. They should know that they have the right to decide what happens to their city, and they should definitely exercise their democratic rights.

A

Angela Misri 25:25

We started to think about how students and people of the students' age group are actually interacting with elections, and it's generally over social media. We wanted to find a way to reach people where they were, and because we run a student newsroom, these are the students who can reach those people in those mediums.

K

Karina Leung 25:39

TikTok is all about you know quick engagement, and I think spreading awareness about the election is this is the best way, right?

G

Garrett Raakman 25:46

Statistically, young voter turnout for in municipal politics is extraordinarily low in this country, and especially in this province. And I think people really underrate how important what is actually going on in our city is

A

Angela Misri 26:01

what we want to do is one TikTok video a day, all the way up to the municipal election, and we're going to be looking at things about what students care about, what, where can you vote? If you're an international student, can you vote?

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Shaaranki Kulenthirarasa 26:12

Essentially, the whole idea is just to adapt to the audience and make things more accessible and breaking it down for the young audience.

D

Daisy Gammon 26:20

TikTok is the place where people, like younger people, currently have their communities. I think wherever the space is that they kind of have their own community is where they're going to want to engage with that community, including news.

A

Angela Misri 26:33

I wanted to bring in an expert, so I brought in Layla Ahmed, who has worked for the CBC, for TIFF, for various places in this medium. She's a TikTok web producer, so she can speak about how to ethically and factually create content for TikTok. Because that's one of the complaints we get: is this really journalism? This is journalism. This is storytelling. It is just structured for a different medium.

D

Daisy Gammon 26:51

It's kind of good to show that news isn't always just like upsetting. You know, it's it can be fun too sometimes.

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Sydney Warren 27:04

That's all for On The Record today. I'm Sydney Warren,

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Malia Alancia 27:08

and I'm Ali Alcancia. Thanks for tuning in.