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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 10.10.22

[Sollenberger, “‘Pro-Life’ Herschel Walker Paid for Girlfriend’s Abortion,” *The Daily Beast*, 10.4.22.](https://www.thedailybeast.com/pro-life-herschel-walker-paid-for-girlfriends-abortion-georgia-senate?ref=scroll)

1. Who is Herschel Walker and what office is he running for?
2. What is the basic allegation against him?
3. Why would it matter that Herschel Walker paid for an abortion?
4. The main source for the story wants to remain anonymous. Is that done in journalism? Why and how?
5. What has Walker threatened to do to *The* *Daily Beast*? What do you think are the odds he would prevail in that effort? Why?
6. What evidence did *The Daily Beast* provide to back up their overall claims?
7. What other claims does the article make about Walker?
8. Why is this particular Senate race so important and so watched?
9. Do you believe Walker, or the report and the accuser? Why?

[Bernstein, “Marijuana pardons help thousands, leave others in Prison,” Reuters, 10.9.22.](https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-marijuana-pardons-help-thousands-leave-others-prison-2022-10-09/)

1. Who is affected by President Biden’s Marijuana pardon?
2. What presidential role did Biden play in issuing the pardon? When he called on governor’s to follow suit?
3. What is the “bully pulpit” and how is Biden using it here?
4. How many people were arrested nationwide for possession in 2020?
5. How would you characterize this article in terms of bias/objectivity?
6. What news organization created and issued this story? What is unique about it?

[Carpenter, “The Astronaut and the Alien,” *The Bulwark*, 10.6.22.](https://www.thebulwark.com/the-astronaut-and-the-alien/)

1. Who are the candidates in this debate and what office are they running for?
2. How did the author characterize the debate between these Senate candidates?
3. What topic did Blake Masters want to talk about, even when irrelevant to the question?
4. What did author say about a “soundbite”? What does that say about how candidates prepare?
5. Who was the third candidate, and what was Carpenter’s impression of him?
6. What impact will this debate have?