

NBC's *Today*
10/28/26
7:00:15 a.m. [TEASE]
41 seconds

SHEINELLE JONES: The midterms fast approaching.

CRAIG MELVIN: Just six days to go, with major races heating up on the campaign trail. It is October 28. This is *Today*. Battle for Texas.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Battle for Texas]

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: Hello, Texas.

MELVIN: President Trump holding multiple rallies across the state, part of a last-minute scramble to hang onto a critical Republican Senate seat. Meanwhile, the Democratic challenger addressing voters at a dueling event just miles away.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JAMES TALARICO (D-TX): This election is a battle between the powers that be and the powers that ought to be.

MELVIN: This morning, where things stand in that midterm battle and the other key races that will decide control of Congress.

(...)

7:03:21 a.m.
33 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Midterm Countdown; 6 Days]

MELVIN: The crucial midterm elections are now just six days away. Both parties doing all they can to get out the vote amid several tight races.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Happening *Today*; Campaign Blitz]

JONES: After a pair of tight races in Texas yesterday, President Trump heads to battleground Ohio. Former President Obama hitting the trail again as well, with a rally set for Georgia.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Happening *Today*; Inflation Fears]

MELVIN: And it comes with high inflation and consumer prices expected to fuel voter turnout. The Fed meeting today for the final time before the election. They're set to decide whether or not to raise interest rates. We're covering all of it for you this morning.

(....)

7:04:02 a.m.

3 minutes and 12 seconds

MELVIN: We're going to start, though, with the midterms and NBC's Ryan Nobles. Ryan, good morning to you.

RYAN NOBLES: Hey, Craig, good morning from Capitol Hill. And, in the final days of this ferocious battle for control of this building behind me, the campaigns and the candidates are narrowing their focus to a small group of the most competitive states, spending all of their time and resources in places like Michigan, and, of course, Texas. With six days to go until the critical midterms that will determine which party controls Congress —

TRUMP: Hello, Texas.

NOBLES: — President Trump stumping in Texas, with a last-minute push to keep the Senate in Republican hands. The President trying to boost GOP turnout, in one of the nation's most contested Senate races, between Democrat James Talarico and Republican Ken Paxton.

TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL KEN PAXTON (R): Isn't he amazing?

NOBLES: Paxton and the President portraying Talarico as too liberal.

TRUMP: The people of Texas are going to defeat Dumocrat communist James Talafreako.

NOBLES: Talarico embracing the President's nickname at his own competing rally.

TALARICO: And appreciate all 4,000 of you that showed up here this evening. That's — that's a lot of Talafreakos in one room.

NOBLES: The race has become the most expensive in the country, mostly from Republicans pouring money in to keep the state red, including billionaire Elon Musk.

TALARICO: This election is a battle between the powers that be and the powers that ought to be.

NOBLES: In Michigan, another contentious Senate race, pitting Mike Rogers against el-Sayed. El-Sayed, a Michigan-born public health official, would be the country's first Muslim senator if elected, facing a barrage of GOP attacks over his religion. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. sparking a backlash over these comments made while campaigning for Rogers.

HHS SECRETARY ROBERT F. KENNEDY JR.: There's 500 million Arabs in the world, and yet, they don't produce; they don't win the Nobel Prize. [SCREEN WIPE] They don't produce literature.

NOBLES: El-Sayed accusing Kennedy of rich baiting, and, “it’s rich to have an anti-scientist come to Michigan to lecture a doctor.” But now, el-Sayed’s campaign also facing scrutiny for an ad from his supporters, being widely criticized as anti-Semitic, connecting high grocery prices to U.S. aid to Israel.

WOMAN [in anti-Semitic ad]: Apparently, it’s costing us a lot of money to drop bombs on Gaza.

NOBLES: The el-Sayed campaign saying, it is not affiliated in any way with the ad. And, of course, in addition to Texas and Michigan, Ohio remains one of the most competitive states on the map. And that’s where President Trump will spend his focus today. He will rally on behalf of both the gubernatorial and Senate candidates there. Meanwhile, Democrats will hold their own competing rally, as we sprint to the finish in this highly competitive midterm election. Craig?

MELVIN: Ryan Nobles for us there, starting us off. Ryan, thank you. Be sure to stay with NBC News for the latest on the final push to the midterms. And, of course, we will bring you complete decision ‘26 election night coverage next Tuesday.

(....)

8:00:18 a.m. [TEASE]
13 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Final Sprint]

MELVIN: Coming up, final sprint. President Trump and former President Obama back on the trail today as key races that will decide control of Congress get even tighter. We’re live with the very latest with just six days to go.

(....)

8:02:45 a.m.
3 minutes and 8 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: News at 8; Races Heat Up as Midterms Approach]

MELVIN: And we begin with the final push to the midterms. Now just six days away, both parties doing what they can to try to get out the vote amid several tight races. President Trump and former President Obama both hitting the campaign trail, hoping to give their candidates a boost. NBC’s Ryan Nobles is in Washington with more. Ryan, good morning.

NOBLES: Hey, Craig, good morning. President Trump will be in Ohio today. President Obama will travel Georgia, as these campaigns and candidates are focusing on an increasingly small group of the most competitive states, including Ohio, Georgia, Michigan, and don’t forget about Texas. With six days to go until the critical midterms that will determine which party controls Congress —

TRUMP: Hello, Texas.

NOBLES: — President Trump stumping in Texas, with a last-minute push to keep the Senate in Republican hands. The President trying to boost GOP turnout, in one of the nation's most contested Senate races, between Democrat James Talarico and Republican Ken Paxton.

PAXTON: Isn't he amazing?

NOBLES: Paxton and the President portraying Talarico as too liberal.

TRUMP: The people of Texas are going to defeat Democrat communist James Talafreako.

NOBLES: Talarico embracing the President's nickname at his own competing rally.

TALARICO: And appreciate all 4,000 of you that showed up here this evening. That's — that's a lot of Talafreakos in one room.

NOBLES: In Michigan, another contentious Senate race, pitting Mike Rogers against el-Sayed. El-Sayed, a Michigan-born public health official, would be the country's first Muslim senator if elected, facing a barrage of GOP attacks over his religion. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. sparking a backlash over these comments made while campaigning for Rogers.

HHS SECRETARY ROBERT F. KENNEDY JR.: There's 500 million Arabs in the world, and yet, they don't produce, they don't win the Nobel Prize. [SCREEN WIPE] They don't produce literature.

NOBLES: El-Sayed accusing Kennedy of rich baiting, and, "it's rich to have an anti-scientist come to Michigan to lecture a doctor." But now, el-Sayed's campaign also facing scrutiny for an ad from his supporters, being widely criticized as anti-Semitic, connecting high grocery prices to U.S. aid to Israel.

WOMAN [in anti-Semitic ad]: Apparently, it's costing us a lot of money to drop bombs on Gaza.

NOBLES: The el-Sayed campaign saying, it is not affiliated in any way with the ad. And, as President Trump travels to Ohio today, it's one of a few states that has both a gubernatorial and Senate campaign. Democrats will hold their own competing rally. Meanwhile, hundreds of millions of dollars continues to be poured into these races all across the country. But if you watch a lot of TV news, you're probably sick of those TV ads. And Craig, the good news is, those ads are going away in less than a week. Back to you.

MELVIN: Oh, that is good news, indeed, Ryan Nobles. Ryan, thank you. For a closer look at the midterms, including our polling page, expert analysis, and more subscriber-only content, be sure to check out NBCNews.com, where you can also scan that QR code that's on your screen right now to subscribe.