

What's News

Business & Finance

- ◆ **Sony Pictures and Apollo** submitted a \$26 billion all-cash offer for Paramount Global, the latest twist in one of the messiest deal dramas in recent memory. **A1**
- ◆ **Apple's revenue** declined for the fifth time in the past six quarters, dragged down by ailing iPhone sales and new competition from smartphone rivals in China. **A1**
- ◆ **The FTC said former Pioneer CEO Scott Sheffield** attempted to collude with OPEC officials to raise oil prices and referred the allegation to the Justice Department for a potential criminal probe. **B1**
- ◆ **Tech shares led U.S. stock indexes** higher ahead of a jobs report for April, with the S&P 500 and Dow both rising 0.5% and the Nasdaq gaining 1.5%. **B1**
- ◆ **The SEC ended a probe** into large bets that three prominent investors made on Activision days before the company agreed to be acquired by Microsoft in 2022. **B1**
- ◆ **TikTok and Universal Music** struck a new licensing deal that will return the record label's artists and their songs to the video-sharing app, ending months of disagreements over pay. **B2**
- ◆ **Standard Chartered** posted a rise in first-quarter net profit due to higher trading income, despite lower earnings from the bank's lending business. **B1**
- ◆ **A Justice Department probe** into TD Bank's internal controls focuses on how Chinese crime groups and drug traffickers used the Canadian lender to launder money from U.S. fentanyl sales. **B3**

World-Wide

- ◆ **Parents of students** attending universities rolled by pro-Palestinian protests are frustrated with the colleges' response and have shown themselves ready to push back financially. **A1, A6**
- ◆ **Trump's onetime fixer** Michael Cohen grew despondent when he learned he wouldn't be getting a White House job, a former lawyer for porn star Stormy Daniels said at Trump's hush-money trial. **A4**
- ◆ **The political calculations** of Israel's prime minister and Hamas's top leader in Gaza, both hard-liners, have left them little room to reach a compromise over the war between the two sides, posing a problem for the Biden administration. **A7**
- ◆ **The OECD said** the global economy could suffer a significant setback if an escalation of conflict in the Middle East were to push oil prices sharply higher. **A7**
- ◆ **Estonia's border city** of Narva, singled out by Putin as historically Russian land, is among potential Baltic targets for destabilization by Moscow should the Russian leader further test the West's political and military resolve. **A8**
- ◆ **Chubb is preparing** to make a \$350 million insurance payout to Maryland in connection with the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge before the rebuilding of the span begins. **A3**
- ◆ **A Georgia business owner** who bragged that he "fed" a police officer to rioters at the Capitol was sentenced to nearly five years in prison in connection with the Jan. 6, 2021, attack. **A2**

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Sony, Apollo Bid for Paramount

Offer of \$26 billion in cash comes as window for Skydance deal is set to close

By JESSICA TOONKEL AND MIRIAM GOTTFRIED

Sony Pictures and private-equity firm Apollo Global Management have submitted an all-cash \$26 billion offer for Paramount Global, the latest

twist in one of the messiest deal dramas in recent memory.

Apollo and Sony on Wednesday submitted the offer letter, which was signed by Sony Pictures Chief Executive Tony Vignicuerra and Aaron Sobel, a partner at Apollo, according to people familiar with the situation. The offer is a starting point for discussions and is nonbinding.

The joint bid comes as Paramount had been in exclusive merger talks with Skydance

Media, a production company led by David Ellison. A number of shareholders have protested the Skydance offer, which they said gave controlling shareholder Shari Redstone a sweetheart deal for her stake in National Amusements, the company through which she controls Paramount.

The company has since parted ways with CEO Bob Bakish, and four of its directors left. Bakish and at least one of the directors voiced concerns

over the Skydance deal.

Both Skydance and Paramount entered into exclusive negotiations over a deal last month, but that exclusivity period runs out at the end of Friday—meaning Paramount and Redstone can open up sales discussion with other possible suitors.

Under the terms of Sony and Apollo's offer, Sony would become the significant majority shareholder, with Apollo

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Apple's Sales Fall On Slow Demand in Key Areas

Share buybacks of \$110 billion unveiled, a return to revenue growth is forecast

By AARON TILLEY

Apple's revenue declined for the fifth time in the past six quarters, dragged down by ailing iPhone sales and new competition from smartphone rivals in China.

Still, shares of Apple rose more than 7% in after-market trading as the company authorized \$110 billion in stock buybacks and signaled that the current quarter is likely to see revenue growth. Also, while sales and profits fell in the March quarter, the numbers were slightly better than analyst expectations.

Apple is struggling on a number of fronts. The company's single most important business—the iPhone—has faced sluggish growth. In recent years, Apple has seen success by steering consumers toward its more expensive "Pro"-designated phones. Its latest iPhone 15 Pro Max was its most expensive ever with a starting price of \$1,200. But this premium strategy isn't propping up overall revenue as much as it did in the past.

For the first three months of the year, Samsung reclaimed the No. 1 spot for worldwide smartphone market share, according to research firm IDC.

Apple iPhone unit shipments slipped nearly 10% for the quarter over the previous year, while the total smartphone market expanded about 8% annually. Apple had briefly become the No. 1 smartphone vendor near the end of 2023. In the most recent quarter, iPhone sales declined 10.5% from the prior year to \$46 billion. That was in line with analyst projections.

Some investors said they

Please turn to page A6

◆ **Tech stocks lead rally** before jobs data. **B11**

Police Move In to Dismantle UCLA Protest Camp



FACEOFF: Police confronted pro-Palestinian demonstrators on the campus of the University of California, Los Angeles early Thursday to clear the protesters' encampment. Cleanup crews later removed tents, wood and other debris. **A6**

Colleges' New Headaches: Irate Parents

Colleges already have a student revolt on their hands. Now their parents are rebelling, too.

By Clare Ansberry, Oyin Adedoyin and Katherine Hamilton

Parents paying as much as \$90,000 for their kids to attend elite schools are angry and frustrated with colleges' responses to the Gaza pro-

tests—on both sides of the political divide. Whether their kids are protesting, counter-protesting or trying to stay out of it, parents are demanding that schools do more to keep their kids safe and learning.

"They are not getting the education they expected and paid for," said Zev Gewurz, a Boston real-estate attorney whose daughter is a senior at Barnard College in New York City.

Parents are preparing to push back financially. They are requesting tuition refunds where classes have been canceled and even contacting college counselors to ask how to get their money back. Parents are also threatening not to donate in the future.

College officials said they are trying to keep students safe, adding security measures while also trying to respect students' rights to demon-

strate. But tensions have exploded in the past few days.

The tensions are further fraying the relationship between colleges and parents. They add to a drumbeat from more families questioning the value—and hefty pricetag—of a college education. The evaluation is especially significant for current college seniors, whose end of high school and four years in col-

Please turn to page A6

Inside RFK Jr.'s Unorthodox Campaign

By REBECCA BALLHAUS AND ELIZA COLLINS

As the presidential election was heating up in February, Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s campaign made an announcement to staff: Charles Eisenstein, the director of messaging, would spend weeks in Costa Rica, "reconnecting with spirit." While there, he recorded a podcast interview in which he said some of his boss's ideas were "actually repugnant" but that Kennedy was still the best candidate.

In recognition of his sojourn in the Central American country, Eisenstein took a pay cut for working less: rather than earning \$21,000 a month, he started billing the campaign \$14,000.

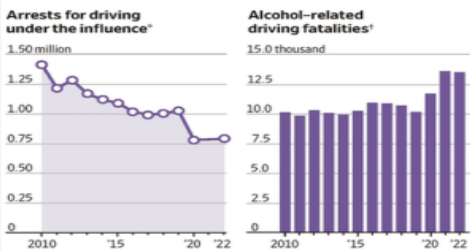
The episode highlights the unusual nature of the Kennedy operation, which even by the standards of free-wheeling political campaigns stands out for its eclectic mix of characters, poor financial planning and what some staffers describe as a dysfunctional, unprofessional atmosphere.

Kennedy, 70 years old, has surrounded himself with aides and advisers who have little political experience and, in some instances, histories that might have raised eyebrows on other campaigns. Former staffers complained that some top

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Drunk-Driving Deaths Rise

About 13,500 people died in alcohol impairment-related crashes in 2022, 33% above 2019's toll. At the same time, arrests for driving under the influence have plummeted. **A3**



*Data unavailable for 2021. †Fatalities in crashes where the highest driver BAC is .08 or higher. Sources: FBI (arrests); National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (fatalities)

Ordinary Guy Takes a \$3,000 Case to the Supreme Court

'I'm just wondering why the government's making us do this,' says one justice

By BEN FOLDY

In the coming weeks, the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to issue eagerly awaited decisions on abortion, firearms



Federal case

The Department of Defense employee is waiting to find out whether a missed email

spells an end to his 11-year quest to get \$3,000 of pay (and interest) he says was wrongly withheld during 2013 budget cuts that briefly forced him out of work.

His case would feel right at home in small-claims court. But in March, the nine justices of the highest court in the land heard oral arguments about whether the government should let him continue his

Please turn to page A9

Europe Takes Radical Steps To Boost Production

State spending to help manufacturers compete with China and the U.S. is up

By TOM FAIRLESS AND KIM MACKRAEL

FLAMANVILLE, France—Early this year, a top European Union official made an eye-catching proposal: A €100 billion public fund that would curb Europe's reliance on U.S. defense manufacturers, who make nearly two-thirds of Europe's military hardware.

The cash could subsidize European companies to develop and manufacture more

weapons at home at a time when the continent faces a growing threat from Russia.

Many officials were skeptical. For decades, the EU had been fighting European governments to limit state support for domestic companies. Now, one of its leaders was calling for taxpayers' money to finance them.

The idea of such large-scale funding for the defense industry is still under discussion.

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INSIDE



BUSINESS & FINANCE
Peloton CEO steps down, workforce cut by 15% as demand continues to lag. **B1**



MANSION
A supply crunch is affecting high-end markets across the country. **M1**

USA TODAY WEEKEND

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MATT WINKELMEYER/
WIREIMAGE

Piecing together deadly encounter

Amid partygoers, 16-year-old is beaten by teen gang known for blitz attacks. In Weekend Extra

Hold the applause for top seed Celtics

Zillgitt: Boston finished off Miami in NBA playoffs but team still has ways to go to win title. In Sports

Rise and shine for 'Unfrosted' comedy

Director and star Jerry Seinfeld dishes on breakfast matters and comedian secrets. In Life

Protest charges unlikely to stick

Offenses in mass arrests often reduced or dropped

Cybele Mayes-Osterman and Asher Stockler
USA TODAY

Hundreds of college students arrested this week while protesting the war in Gaza face criminal charges amid encampments, building takeovers and civil unrest. But how those charges play out — and whether they will stick — remains a key question.

On Tuesday night, New York City police arrested nearly 300 people at Columbia University and the City College of New York, part of the City University of New York (CUNY) system. A day earlier, clashes at the University of Texas in Austin resulted in 79 arrests. Tulane University said 14 protesters were arrested at an "illegal encampment" on the New Orleans campus. And officers made at least 70 arrests late last week and over the weekend at Arizona State University.

But scores of cases at other universities have already been dropped. In Texas, Travis County prosecutors dropped charges against 57 people arrested on the Austin campus last week. Travis County officials said the arrests, all of them on charges of criminal trespassing, lacked probable cause.

Experts say prosecutors will need strong evidence to gain convictions — if the cases even get to trial or even past initial court appearances.

Richard Serafini, a South Florida criminal defense attorney and former prosecutor at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, explained that with hundreds of arrests at a mass protest, prosecutors still "have to be able to have the evidence" against each arrestee. "You can't charge someone who just happened to be there," he said.

Given the sheer number of people arrested, Serafini said it would not surprise him if many of the charges were dropped. "It's not unusual" in circumstances such as this, he said.

Addressing the statement by New York authorities that they were trying to rid the Columbia University campus of "outside agitators," Serafini cautioned that as a prosecutor, "you look at what the person does; you don't look at their status."

Throughout U.S. history, charges against protesters have typically fallen

See CHARGES, Page 2A



Police have arrested hundreds of protesters this week in clashes on campuses at Columbia University and the City College of New York. CHARLY TRIBALLEAU/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Charlotte shootout echoes nationwide



Mourners at a vigil Tuesday at Little Rock AME Zion Church in Charlotte, N.C., honor the memories of four law officers who died in a firefight outside a home where they had tried to serve a warrant. PHOTOS BY ANGELA WILHELM/USA TODAY NETWORK

Cities, police, crime and guns converge in a cycle of violence

Trevor Hughes
USA TODAY

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Rissa Reign and her girlfriend were doing spring cleaning, door open to let the sun in and the dust out, when they heard gunshots.

This being East Charlotte, they didn't think much of the first burst, or even the second. Lots of people have guns, she said, and maybe someone was showing off.

"And then I heard the third round of shots and I knew something was up," said Reign, 27.

She thought about her friends working at the nearby corner store and decided to check if they were OK. But she didn't make it that far.

As she headed out, police cars raced in, swerving onto front lawns as they careened down the street. Reign

See CHARLOTTE, Page 6A



Flowers rest near the doorway to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. One of its officers was among those killed in the firefight Monday.

United Methodists lift ban on LGBTQ+ clergy

Liam Adams
The Tennessean
USA TODAY NETWORK

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — United Methodists lifted a 40-year ban on gay clergy Wednesday in a major step toward greater LGBTQ+ inclusion in the nation's largest mainline Protestant denomination.

The vote to remove the ban was the latest decision by the United Methodist Church's top legislative assembly here this week toward rolling back what many progressive and centrist Methodists view as overly restrictive policies. Other proposals to remove restrictions on same-sex unions and change the disciplinary consequences for dissent are also up for debate.

The UMC General Conference's de-

"Today, our Church made the right choice."

Reconciling Ministries Network
A group that advocates for LGBTQ+ inclusion

isions are aimed at reversing a series of policies that traditionalists worked for decades to pass and protect. Beyond the legislative implications, the decisions are critical to ushering in a new chapter for the UMC as it moves beyond a splintering in which 7,500-plus U.S. churches left following disputes over church policy and theology, including dealing with LGBTQ+ rights.

As the UMC General Conference

See LGBTQ+ CLERGY, Page 6A

Kentucky Derby allure endures within troubled racing industry

Dan Wolken
USA TODAY

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Sometime in the early evening here Saturday, dusk will settle over Churchill Downs' picturesque twin spires, and more than 100,000 people leaving the grounds in various states of intoxication and perspiration will return to real life from this once-a-year fantasy world that gets bigger, ritzier and more in-demand every year.

The party will be over. The 150th Kentucky Derby will have been run. And the two-minute horse race they

See DERBY, Page 4A

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How grabbing Russian assets could backfire

BIG READ, PAGE 15

TikTok and Tesla run into pragmatic politics

JOHN THORNHILL, PAGE 17

College clash Police storm Gaza protests

Pro-Palestinian students link arms in a face-off with police at the University of California in Los Angeles yesterday.

In Joe Biden's first public comments since police stormed college encampments set up by protesters from New York to Los Angeles, the US president warned demonstrators that "acts of chaos" would not be permitted and that he supported efforts by police to restore order.

"We're a civil society and order must prevail," he said. "Violent protest is not protected, peaceful protest is."

Officers in riot gear removed tents and detained protesters at UCLA in the early hours of yesterday after university classes were cancelled.

More than 1,600 people have been arrested at 50 colleges across the US in the past fortnight, according to the Associated Press.

Chaos threatens Biden page 4



Elaine Laurent/AFP via Getty Images

Briefing

Hong Kong opens hedge fund insider trading case
The territory's financial regulator has begun criminal proceedings in an insider dealing case against hedge fund Segantini Capital Management and its founder and director, Blackpool Football Club owner Simon Sadler. — PAGE 6

Aid to Beirut stepped up
Brussels is to pay €1bn in grants over the next three years to counter instability in the region and curb the number of refugees crossing from Lebanon and heading for Europe. — PAGE 2

Universal changes tune
The record company has ended its boycott of Chinese-owned social media platform TikTok with a licensing agreement that brings "improved remuneration" for artists. — PAGE 6; LEX, PAGE 18

Views diverge on PE risks
The head of the UK's Financial Conduct Authority is "not convinced" that private equity groups pose a systemic risk, a stance at odds with warnings from the Bank of England. — PAGE 8

Pyeongang defies curbs
Russia shipped more than 165,000 barrels of refined petrol to North Korea in March in defiance of UN checks, the White House has said as it prepares sanctions to target those aiding the transfers. — PAGE 3

Pioneer's ex-boss accused
Regulators have alleged that Scott Sheffield, ex-chief of the biggest US shale oil producer, tried to collude with Opec to drive up prices as they banned him from the ExxonMobil board. — PAGE 6

German society at a cross
Births have hit their lowest level in a decade while the number of marriages is close to record postwar lows, compounding the demographic challenges facing Europe's largest economy. — PAGE 2

Blue Owl poised to swoop
The Wall Street alternative asset manager has said it plans to keep pursuing acquisitions to expand the firm further beyond its core business of arranging financing for private equity groups. — PAGE 8

Gazprom plummets to worst loss in decades as European sales collapse

◆ \$7bn hit as Ukraine war takes toll ◆ EU nations find gas elsewhere ◆ Russian monopoly fails to adapt

MAX SEDDON — RIGA
ANASTASIA STOGNEI — TBILISI

Russian energy giant Gazprom plunged to its biggest loss in at least a quarter of a century after gas sales more than halved in the fallout from Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine.

The loss of Rbs629bn (\$6.9bn) in 2023 underlines how the Russian president's invasion of Ukraine has ravaged the state-owned natural gas monopoly, leading to plummeting sales in Europe, its main source of income.

Gazprom's revenues fell almost 30 per cent year-on-year to Rbs5.5tn, with gas sales falling from Rbs8.4tn to Rbs4.1tn. The company's Moscow-listed shares fell more than 4.4 per cent on the news. Most Russian analysts had expected it to make a small profit.

Analysts said the losses showed how Gazprom, once a cash-rich "national champion" that used its stronghold over Europe's energy supply as a geopolitical weapon, had failed to adapt to losing the EU market. Gazprom's revenue from gas sales outside Russia fell from Rbs7.5tn in 2022 to Rbs2.9tn last year, a drop analysts said was mostly driven by the loss of its European sales.

European countries, meanwhile, have

Russia's economy, rather than serving as a constraint, might become an additional incentive for Moscow to prolong the war in Ukraine
Elina Ribakova
Page 17

had greater success than expected in finding alternative sources of gas: Russia's share of Europe's gas imports dropped from 40 per cent in 2021, the last full year before the invasion, to 8 per cent in 2023, according to EU data.

The results showed that what was once Gazprom's core business — selling gas to Europe — had become a loss-making millstone only partially offset by profits from its oil sales, analysts said.

Earnings from oil, gas condensate and petroproducts rose to Rbs4.1tn, up 4.3 per cent on the previous year, showing how Russian exporters had successfully navigated western attempts to limit the Kremlin's revenue from energy sales.

But those efforts were not enough to stop Gazprom from making a loss. "Gazprom used to be a huge gas com-

pany with an oil business, Gazprom Neft, on the side," said Sergei Vakulenko, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Russia Eurasia Center in Berlin.

But last year Gazprom Neft generated almost as much in sales as Gazprom's gas business and brought in a profit equal to two-thirds of the gas segment's 2022 profit, Vakulenko said, despite having a quarter of its parent's assets.

Gazprom's operating costs and capital expenditure also went up last year, further adding to the losses, he added.

Other avenues for exports grew slightly last year but still accounted for only 5 to 10 per cent of the lost European sales, according to analysts.

The Kremlin and Gazprom have trumpeted growing Chinese purchases of Russian gas as an eventual replace-

ment. Those exports, however, were only 22bn cubic metres last year against the 230bn cubic metres a year Russia exported on average in the decade before the Ukraine invasion.

The long-delayed Power of Siberia 2 pipeline is planned to send gas from the fields that once supplied Europe but would require years to build and still not compensate Gazprom's losses in Europe, analysts say.

"The loss of revenues from Europe is an unfixable problem without going back into Europe," said Craig Kennedy, a Harvard-affiliated scholar and former vice-chair at Bank of America. "It was cross-subsidising the rest of the business and they are finally being forced to show this in their accounts."

Russia's oil fuels North Korea page 3

Sacked SocGen risk-taker complains bonus withheld in salvo against bosses

SARAH WHITE — PARIS

A Société Générale trader dismissed over unauthorised risky bets has hit out at the French bank, saying the "entire risk team and other bosses" were equally responsible and complaining his bonus had been withheld.

Kavish Kataria wrote on LinkedIn yesterday that he was being made a "scapegoat" and said all his trades were correctly recorded and visible to his superiors in Hong Kong and Paris. "Instead of taking the responsibility of the lapse in their risk system and not identifying the trades at the right time they fired me and terminated my contract," he said.

Kataria worked on the Delta One desk, the same derivatives trading area where rogue SocGen trader Jérôme Kerviel caused a €4.9bn loss 16 years ago in a scandal that still haunts the bank.

SocGen confirmed this week that two people based in Hong Kong had left last year — a trader and a team leader — after a "one-off trading incident in 2023, which didn't generate any impact and led to appropriate mending measures".

Kataria did not exceed authorised limits on his trades but was dealing in options on Indian indices, which he was not supposed to do, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Most trades had not been detected directly because they were intraday, the person said, adding that although they did not generate losses, they could have been loss-making in a harsh and sudden market downturn.

In a public post, Kataria said he had not hidden his trades, which were booked automatically in the bank's systems, generating an email to others at the lender showing the trades had been

reconciled. "If the risk management team and their risk system would have identified the trades on day one and would have informed me that the trades are not in your mandate I wouldn't have traded that strategy," he wrote.

He claimed he made \$50mn for the bank in eight months and complained his "previous year bonuses were also withheld and I was just paid seven days salary", pointing out that there were no rules or regulations that "fight for trader justice".

"I would like to ask during all this time there was no one to check what has been happening on the desk?" he wrote. "I accept I did trade options on Indian indices and according to me it was in my mandate and well within the trading limits."

SocGen declined to comment on Kataria's statement.



'Genius' supplies firepower behind Buffett's Berkshire

The insurance business that provides the cheap capital underpinning Warren Buffett's vastly profitable conglomerate is headed by the 72-year-old Ajit Jain. Described by one former employee "as a sweetheart" but also "tough as nails", Jain is arguably the second most vital person at Berkshire. Now, as the group ponders a future after Buffett, the other big question is whether it can replace Jain's ability to calculate risks when he eventually decides to retire.

Berkshire after Buffett — PAGE 9

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World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				GOVERNMENT BONDS			
	May 2	Prev	%Chg	Pair	May 2	Prev	%Chg	Yield (%)	May 2	Prev	Chg
S&P 500	5042.33	5018.39	0.48	\$/€	1.069	1.068	0.008	US 2 yr	4.90	5.01	-0.11
Nasdaq Composite	15751.15	15605.48	0.93	\$/£	1.249	1.249	0.001	US 10 yr	4.60	4.65	-0.06
Dow Jones Ind	38097.25	37963.29	0.48	€/£	0.956	0.955	0.001	US 30 yr	4.74	4.75	-0.01
FTSE 100	1994.22	1998.72	-0.23	\$/¥	154.950	157.055	-0.013	UK 2 yr	4.47	4.50	-0.03
Euro Stoxx 50	4895.14	4821.22	0.53	\$/¥	192.351	196.958	-0.024	UK 10 yr	4.38	4.47	-0.09
FTSE 100	8172.15	8121.24	0.63	\$/¥	0.976	0.982	-0.006	UK 30 yr	4.74	4.80	-0.06
FTSE All-Share	4446.15	4418.80	0.62	CRYPTO				JPN 2 yr	0.28	0.29	0.01
CAC 40	7914.65	7894.93	0.88	Bitcoin (B)	59250.00	58711.26	1.61	JPN 10 yr	0.90	0.89	0.01
Xinhua	17896.50	17922.17	-0.20	Ethereum	3000.10	2972.05	0.94	JPN 30 yr	1.98	1.97	0.01
Nikkei	38236.07	38274.05	-0.10	COMMODITIES				GER 2 yr	3.05	3.10	-0.06
Hang Seng	16207.13	17783.03	2.50	Oil WTI \$	78.50	79.00	-0.51	GER 10 yr	2.54	2.58	-0.04
MSCI World \$	3294.01	3305.30	-0.34	Oil Brent \$	83.24	83.44	-0.24	GER 30 yr	2.64	2.69	-0.05
MSCI EM \$	1045.52	1045.95	-0.04	Gold \$	2302.35	2307.00	-0.20				
MSCI ACWI \$	754.26	756.61	-0.31								
FT Worldex 2500	6478.91	6487.48	-0.29								
FT Worldex 5000	50438.70	50572.40	-0.28								

Prices are latest for edition. Data provided by Morningstar

LONGINES SPIRIT FLYBACK

Chronic is an attitude

LONGINES

The LONGINES SPIRIT FLYBACK is a bold illustration of the pioneering spirit that has always driven the brand. Its Flyback mechanism, invented by Longines in the 1920s, resets the chronograph's seconds hand to zero and immediately restarts the timing with a single push. This stunningly timeless chronograph is an invitation to the explorer inside you. Ready for adventure?



The pristine paddock at Churchill Downs. Saturday's Kentucky Derby kicks off Triple Crown season one year after seven horses died at the track the week of the race.

Last Year's Deaths Cast Long Shadow on Racing

By JOE DRAPE and MELISSA HOPPERS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The Kentucky Derby has been run through two World Wars, the Great Depression, civil rights unrest and, most recently, a life-paralyzing pandemic. Now, on the 150th anniversary of America's most famous race, the Sport of Kings faces another formidable foe: itself. Last year, beneath Churchill Downs's iconic twin spires, seven horses died during the week of the showpiece event — two of them in races in the hours leading up to the Derby. In the days after, five more sustained fatal injuries, prompting Churchill officials to move their races to another Kentucky racetrack. It got worse. A colt trained by the sport's most recognized and controversial trainer, Bob Baffert, died at Pimlico Race Course hours before Mr. Baffert saddled the winner of the Preakness Stakes, the second leg of the Triple Crown. Two more horses not trained by

Unsavoury Practices and Doping Leave Sport at a Crossroads

Mr. Baffert died in races surrounding the Belmont Stakes, the third leg, in June. At the historic Saratoga Race Course in New York, 13 horses died while racing and training at the sport's signature summer meet, including two who seemed poised to win their races before breaking down near the finish line on nationally televised broadcasts. Over the past 12 months, The New York Times analyzed confidential documents and covert recordings made by law enforcement, and obtained exclusive interviews as part of an investigation into why so many horses, supposedly in peak physical condition, were breaking down so frequently. In the documentary "The

Broken Horses," now streaming on Hulu, The Times found that reckless breeding and doping practices, compromised veterinarians and trainers, and decades-long resistance to changes that could save horses' lives have placed a multibillion-dollar ecosystem in peril and put the social acceptability of one of America's oldest sports at risk. "There's a genuine feeling that this is the inflection point, and if we don't act, it may be too late," said Lisa Lazarus, the chief executive of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority, or HISA, the federal agency that now regulates the sport. In Louisville, Ky., on Saturday, racing officials and horse lovers will hold their collective breath and hope that every horse comes home safely. PAGE 22

A RACE'S ROOTS A look at those who started, captured and continued the Kentucky Derby. PAGE 88

NEWS ANALYSIS

Gap Between U.S. and Israel Only Grows on Gaza Endgame

By EDWARD WONG and ISABEL KERSHNER

TEL AVIV — Nearing the end of a whirlwind Middle East trip this week, Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken finished meetings with the Israeli prime minister and relatives of American hostages held by Hamas, left his beachside hotel in Tel Aviv and shook hands with protesters gathered outside. He looked them in the eye and said there was a new hostages-for-peace deal on the table that Hamas should take. "Bringing your loved ones home is at the heart of everything we're trying to do, and we will not rest until everyone — man, woman, soldier, civilian, young, old — is back home," he said. That public show of empathy with frustrated protesters is something that Prime Minister

Benjamin Netanyahu has avoided since the war began in October. And, lately, he has focused his recent public comments on an imminent ground offensive — an invasion of the city of Rafah in southern Gaza "with or without" a cease-fire deal, as the Israeli leader put it on Tuesday. Though it was not the first time Mr. Netanyahu had promised to invade the last Hamas stronghold in Gaza, U.S. officials were taken aback by the timing of the comment. Threatening an offensive in Rafah can put pressure on Hamas to take the deal — but only if Hamas leaders think freeing hostages for Palestinian prisoners and a six-week pause in fighting could eventually lead to a permanent cease-fire. PAGE 10

BIDEN DENOUNCES CAMPUS VIOLENCE, BREAKING SILENCE

BACKS LAWFUL DISSENT

President Rejects 'Chaos' Over War in Gaza as Arrests Increase

By PETER BAKER
WASHINGTON — President Biden broke days of silence on Thursday to finally speak out on the wave of protests on American college campuses against Israel's war in Gaza that have inflamed much of the country, denouncing violence and antisemitism even as he defended the right to peaceful dissent.

In a previously unscheduled televised statement from the White House, Mr. Biden offered a forceful condemnation of students and other protesters who in his view have taken their grievances too far. But he rejected Republican calls to deploy the National Guard to rein in the campuses.

"There's the right to protest, but not the right to cause chaos," Mr. Biden said in his first personal remarks on the campus fray in 10 days. "People have the right to get an education, the right to get a degree, the right to walk across the campus safely without fear of being attacked." Antisemitism, he added, "has no place" in America.

The president's comments came as universities across the nation continued to struggle to restore order. Police officers in riot gear arrested about 200 people as they cleared a protest encampment at the University of California, Los Angeles, while other officers removed demonstrators occupying a library at Portland State University in Oregon. Activists erected 30 tents at the University of Wisconsin-Madison a day after the police removed tents and detained 34 people.

The confrontations on Thursday followed a tense 24 hours during the weekend. PAGE 21



PROTESTS Inside the tensions at U.S. colleges. Pages A18-19.

A Tale of Geopolitics, Forgery and Vanishing Russian Literature

By RACHEL DONADIO

PARIS — In April 2022, soon after Russia invaded Ukraine, two men arrived at the library of the University of Tartu, Estonia's second-largest city. They told the librarians they were Ukrainians fleeing war and asked to consult 19th-century first editions of works by Alexander Pushkin, Russia's national poet, and Nikolai Gogol. Speaking Russian, they said they were an uncle and nephew researching censorship in czarist Russia so the nephew could apply for a scholarship to the United States. Eager to help, the librarians obliged. The men spent 10 days studying the books. Four months later, during a routine annual inventory, the library discovered that eight books the men had consulted had disappeared, replaced with facsimiles of such high quality that only expert eyes could detect them. "It



A forged copy of an 1822 first edition by Alexander Pushkin was found at the University of Warsaw.

Biden Faces Unfamiliar Hurdle: Competitive Race for Re-election

By REID J. EPSTEIN

WASHINGTON — In October 1984, Senator Joseph R. Biden Jr. of Delaware was invited to address a conservative Baptist church near Wilmington as he campaigned for a third term. Mr. Biden, hardly the favorite of social conservatives, was in hostile political territory. But as the incumbent, he was given the first speaking slot — and he used it to hold court uninterrupted for nearly an hour. Mr. Biden's Republican opponent barely got to introduce himself before time was up for the event, while the dozens of other candidates there for the forum never got a word in. The episode, from "Only in Delaware," a political history of Delaware by Celia Cohen, a longtime Wilmington journalist, illustrates just how easily Mr. Biden was able to sweep challengers to the side — not just in that race, but through

out his Senate career. Incumbency gave him a staggering advantage. In 30 years, Mr. Biden never encountered a serious threat to his office. His Republican opponents were underfunded, little-known, inexperienced or some combination of the three. None of them took more than 41 percent of the vote against him. His re-election fight against former President Donald J. Trump — his 13th bid for federal office, all told — is shaping up to be the opposite of those long-ago Senate campaigns: travel-intensive, nasty and close. A rival is, for the first time with him atop the ticket, forcing him to make a compelling case for his return. Before his 2020 presidential campaign, which in the general election was light on in-person

INTERNATIONAL A4-13

Myanmar's Civil War Wears On Three years after a military coup, the Southeast Asian nation is teetering on the brink of chaos. PAGE A12

A Portrait Artist Fit for a King Jonathan Yeo's rendering of Charles III will be unveiled at Buckingham Palace this month. The Global Profile. PAGE A4



NATIONAL A14-22

Mistrial in Abu Ghraib Case A federal jury says it could not reach a verdict in a suit filed by three Iraqi men who said they were tortured while held at the notorious prison. PAGE A21

A Deal Discussed on Tape The jury heard a tape of Michael Cohen telling former President Donald J. Trump about a payment he made to a former Playboy model. PAGE A16

'Trauma' and Menendez Cash Senator Robert Menendez's lawyers want a psychiatrist to testify at his corruption trial about the impact of his father's death by suicide. PAGE A15

BUSINESS B1-5

Self-Storage Bottom Falls Out A pandemic surge spurred investments in new storage facilities, but demand has lately taken a sharp turn. PAGE B1

Big Tech's Big Trial Google and the U.S. began final arguments in a case over what is fair game for dominant tech companies. PAGE B1

OBITUARIES B10-11

Patron of Psychedelics Peggy Mellon Hitchcock, a scion of a storied family, supported the counterculture and found a spot for Timothy Leary to experiment. She was 90. PAGE B10

WEEKEND ARTS C1-14

Pre-Streaming Viewing The film "I Saw the TV Glow" looks back to when we all watched the top weekly shows at the same time. PAGE C1

A Rich, Cross-Cultural Mix The Frieze New York art fair features an impressive collection of painting, textiles and collage in its booths. PAGE C12



SPORTS B6-9, 12

Coach Prime's Castoffs Deion Sanders's roster makeover at Colorado led to dozens of college players entering the transfer portal. PAGE B6

The Gift of Time Making short work of the Heat gives the Celtics a chance to adjust to Kristaps Porzingis's absence. PAGE B7

OPINION A24-25

David Brooks PAGE A25



The Washington Post

Print may vary in some outside metropolitan Washington

RE 11 12 13 14

Partly sunny 76/55 • Tomorrow: Showers 64/56 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024 • B3

U.S. says its strike killed civilian, not a terrorist

Military review affirms Post report doubting claim on al-Qaeda figure

BY ALEX HORTON AND MEG KELLY

A U.S. drone strike in Syria last year killed a 56-year-old shepherd after confusing him for a terrorist leader, an internal investigation concluded, underscoring the Pentagon's persistent struggle to avoid unintentional casualties despite the Biden administration's pledge to curb such incidents.

The new assessment by U.S. Central Command, which oversees American military activity throughout the Middle East, affirms a Washington Post investigation published a year ago that cast doubt on officials' initial public claim to have slain a senior al-Qaeda figure. A summary of the investigation's findings was released Thursday.

Lotfi Hassan Misto was tending to his animals on May 3, 2023, in Qorqayya, a rural town in northwestern Syria. Above, his movements were being tracked by an armed Predator drone. When U.S. forces fired a Hellfire missile into the suspected militant behind his home, commanders had confidence they were attacking a terrorist, officials said afterward. Instead, a defense official said this week, the suspected militant who had been their target slipped away and remains at large.

SEE SYRIA ON A16

THE DROWNING SOUTH

WHERE SEAS ARE RISING AT ALARMING SPEED

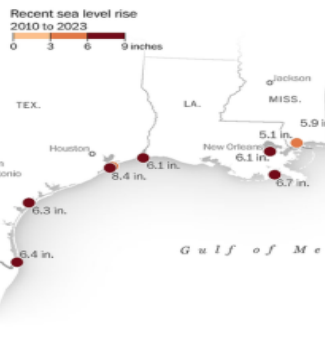
BY CHRIS MOONEY, BRADY DENNIS, KEVIN CROWE AND JOHN MUYSKENS

One of the most rapid sea level surges on Earth is besieging the American South, forcing a reckoning for coastal communities across eight U.S. states, a Washington Post analysis has found.

At more than a dozen tide gauges spanning from Texas to North Carolina, sea levels are at least 6 inches higher than they were in 2010 — a change similar to what occurred over the previous five decades.

Scientists are documenting a barrage of impacts — ones, they say, that will confront an even larger swath of U.S. coastal communities in the coming decades — even as they try to

SEE SEA LEVEL ON A5



Trump's team paints him as a target

BY DEVLIN BARRETT, SHAYNA JACOBS AND MARK BERMAN

Donald Trump's defense team suggested Thursday that rather than orchestrating a hush money scheme, the former president was really the target of a shakedown attempt by unscrupulous entertainment figures who saw his 2016 presidential campaign as an opportunity for a quick payday.

In the most contentious testimony yet in the criminal trial, Los Angeles lawyer Keith Davidson denied accusations that he flirted with extortion when he negoti-

defense lawyers portray him as a shakedown victim, not a schemer

ated settlements with celebrities to keep potentially damaging stories out of the public eye.

By accusing him, Trump's lawyers displayed a key element of their defense strategy: getting jurors to focus on the lawyers and middlemen who negotiated hush money payments on Trump's behalf in 2016, rather than the politi-

cian who — according to prosecutors — orchestrated the payments and allegedly falsified paperwork about one of them to try to separate it from his presidential campaign.

The jury also heard a secretly recorded phone conversation between Davidson and Trump's then-lawyer, Michael Cohen, in which Cohen claimed Trump told him, "I hate the fact that we did it," in reference to the hush money payment to adult-film actress

SEE TRUMP ON A4

On the trail: When not in court, Trump relishes his rallies. A6



MARK PETERSON/APP/GETTY IMAGES

At his trial Thursday, Donald Trump's attorneys sought to focus on the actions of a lawyer they described as verging on extortion.

Bowser stands by D.C.'s downtown in year of cuts

Mayor warns of budget woes but proposes investing in area

BY MEAGAN FLYNN AND MICHAEL BRICE-SADDLER

They struggled to be heard from the back of the room, shouting as Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) tried to ignore them.

"Are you on the side of billionaires, or the working-class people of the District of Columbia?" one person yelled, as a demonstration broke out at the tall end of a budget forum Bowser held before releasing her proposal.

It was Dana White, advocacy director at Miriam's Kitchen, which aids the homeless. White and more than a dozen demonstrators had come to reject what they saw as a paradox: How could Bowser ask residents to brace for budget cuts in a time of fiscal

SEE BOWSER ON A2



ROBB HILL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D), shown with Police Chief Pamela A. Smith and City Administrator Kevin Donahue in March, has proposed half a billion in cuts to city programs next fiscal year.

Big Tech fights plan to monitor payment apps

Scrutiny on Hill reflects a sea change in the way Americans spend money

BY TONY ROMM

The U.S. government is weighing whether to treat Apple, Google and PayPal-owned Venmo more like banks — and regularly inspect some of their operations — in a move meant to protect millions of Americans who now use their smartphones to pay at the register and send money to family and friends.

But the prospect of heightened federal oversight has sparked deep and wide-ranging unease throughout the tech industry, triggering a lobbying offensive that aims to limit the govern-

ment's power to monitor mobile wallets, accounts or other digital payment services.

The spats have occurred with little fanfare on Capitol Hill and at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which unveiled its proposal for new tech scrutiny in November. The agency seeks to subject the largest payment apps and services — from money-transferring tools like Cash App, for example, to the smartphone wallets offered by Apple and Google — to the same rigorous checkups as their brick-and-mortar predecessors.

In practice, the CFPB would gain the ability to conduct on-site reviews at these companies and examine their private documents and communications, a form of monitoring — known as supervision — meant to ensure the stewards of Americans' money have

SEE TECH ON A11

IN THE NEWS

A floating threat? China's plans for mobile nuclear reactors in the contested South China Sea have U.S. officials worried. A13

Goodbye, RFK The National Park Service approved demolition of D.C.'s aging stadium, paving the way for the city to revitalize the 190-acre property. B1

THE NATION Biden expanded two national monuments in California crucial to tribal groups. A3
The president senses opportunity in North Carolina, where he narrowly lost in 2020. A7

THE WORLD Paris unveiled a \$1.4 billion reservoir to keep the Seine clean for the Olympics. A12
Haitians are enduring poverty and violence as aid workers flee and relief funds dwindle. A14

THE ECONOMY Walmart has launched Bettergoods, a private label featuring more than 300 trendy products with prices ranging from \$2 to \$15. A17
Apple finds itself at a crossroads as it tries to revive consumer enthusiasm for its products. A18

THE REGION Dive teams recovered the body of Miguel Luna, a construction worker who was killed in the Key Bridge collapse. B1
A Texas man received a five-year prison sentence and \$200,000 fine for his role in the Jan. 6 riot. B1

STYLE When children seem to remember details of past lives, their families must decide how to cope. C1
WEEKEND Tom Sietsema's current favorite restaurants take you on an international flavor tour — all without leaving D.C.

BUSINESS NEWS.....A17
COMICS.....C5
OBITUARIES.....B6
OPINION/PAGES.....A19
TELEVISION.....C4
WORLD NEWS.....A12

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Modest payments could get thousands off streets

Many need as little as \$750 for housing — far less than costs of other solutions — L.A. academics say.

By Doug Smith

A monthly payment of \$750 to \$1,000 would allow thousands of the city's homeless people to find informal housing, living in boarding homes, in shared apartments or with family and friends, according to a policy brief by four prominent Los Angeles academics.

Citing positive preliminary results of pilot studies in several cities, including Los Angeles, the researchers say the income could provide access to housing for a portion of the population who became homeless primarily as the result of economic setbacks.

"This could ultimately save millions of dollars in public services, they say, and leave the overstretched and far more expensive subsidized and service-enriched housing for those who have more complicated social needs.

"If the idea is to reduce the number of people on the street, definitely the fastest way to do that is money and not this incredibly complex system that we have built up primarily to help people with serious disabilities," said lead author Gary Blasi, a professor emeritus at UCLA School of Law. The paper offers no prescriptions for how the payments should be funded or who should receive the money. Instead, the authors, coming from four separate disciplines, contrast the simplicity and documented effectiveness of basic income with the high cost and inadequate results of programs that seek to provide standard housing for every homeless person.

"The truth is, we cannot [See Income, A9]



POLICE clash with pro-Palestinian protesters Thursday who had set up an encampment at UCLA that officials deemed "unlawful." Photographs by WALLY SEALLI/Los Angeles Times

UCLA defends dismantling camp

Online sleuths rush to ID those who attacked protest camp

By Brittney Mejia, Jessica Garrison and Matt Hamilton

The online sleuths got to work within hours of violence sparking at UCLA this week.

They grabbed videos of the mostly masked rioters who attacked the pro-Palestinian student encampment near the quad and tried to zoom in on faces. They pored over each frame, waiting for the moment masks slipped and faces were exposed to take screen grabs. Then they uploaded those faces to X (formerly Twitter), Instagram and other social media platforms and beseeched the internet to do its thing.

From across the country and around the world, people logged on and joined the collective research [See Sleuths, A7]



OF THE 209 people arrested, many were booked on suspicion of failing to disperse, a misdemeanor, a law enforcement source said.

Journalists attacked

Four Daily Bruin staffers are assaulted by pro-Israel counterprotesters on campus. A6

An unsettling barrage

Before chaos, pro-Palestinian encampment was hit with light and sound, activists say. A7

More than 200 arrested after police clear area of protesters

By Matthew Ormseth, Connor Sheets, Ruben Vives, Hannah Fry and Richard Winton

More than 200 people were arrested Thursday morning as police moved into the pro-Palestinian encampment at UCLA, dismantling tents and pushing out protesters in a clash that lasted hours.

The operation capped two days of upheaval on the Westwood campus that began when UCLA declared the encampment "unlawful" and continued when a group of pro-Israel counterprotesters attacked the camp Tuesday night, with police taking hours to stop the violence.

Early Thursday morning, officers wearing body armor, helmets and face shields methodically pulled [See UCLA, A6]

U.S. protection of San Gabriels expanded

Biden administration adds to monument established by Obama in 2014

By Alex Wigglesworth

President Biden on Thursday expanded San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by nearly a third in an action that was widely praised by the Indigenous leaders, politicians, conservationists and community organizers who had long fought for the enlargement of the protected natural area that serves as the backyard of the Los Angeles Basin.

The president also signed a proclamation expanding Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument by adding the 13,696-acre Molok Luyuk, or Condor Ridge, to the 330,000-



HIKERS STAND next to 50-foot-tall Millard Falls in the San Gabriel Mountains near Altadena. MEL MELCON/Los Angeles Times

acre swath of rolling oak woodlands, lush conifer forests and dramatic rock formations along Northern California's inner Coast Range.

Biden's actions put in place stronger federal protections for areas that were left out when each monument was initially set aside by then-President Obama, in 2014 in the case of the San Gabriel Mountains and the following year for Berryessa Snow Mountain. Advocates say the designations will expand underserved communities' access to open space and better preserve sacred and historic Indigenous cultural sites. The move also [See Monument, A12]

COLUMN ONE

A farmworker's legacy — built on his notebooks

A Mexican migrant's ledgers tell the story of the generational wealth he amassed, penny by penny, toiling on U.S. farms and orchards

By Xavier Martinez
Reporting from Huajuapalan de León, Mexico

My grandmother told me about the missing notebook.

It had a blue cover, she said, and was unmarked except for "cuaderno de trabajo" written in the italicized superscript taught in elementary schools around Mexico. Kept by my grandfather when he labored on farms and orchards in the United States, the notebook recorded where he had worked, how much money he earned and — most important — where that money went.

The problem, my grandmother said, was that the "notebook of work" probably had been destroyed or thrown out. My grandfather, a man of few words, didn't know where it was either.

But what if that notebook wasn't gone? After graduating from college in 2023, I traveled to the Mexican state of Oaxaca to visit relatives and to report on the effects of remittances to Mexico. I was unable to find old bank records or receipts, but my grandmother mentioned the missing [See Farmworker, A4]

Recalling regret at aiding Trump

Tabloid lawyer testifies about his reaction to 2016 win and realization he might have contributed to it. **NATION, A12**

L.A. seeks to keep tenants housed

Council member wants to prevent displacement at 17 apartments slated to become affordable housing. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Uncertainty this summer for Kings

After a third straight playoff loss to the Oilers, L.A. stands at crossroads while facing many questions. **SPORTS, B10**

Weather

Turning sunny. L.A. Basin: 73/57. **B6**

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VIERNES
3 DE MAYO
DE 2024

ABC

Isabel Díaz Ayuso, en presencia ayer
de Ángel Víctor Torres, Enrique
Ossorio y José Luis Martínez-Almeida



Ayuso enarbola desde Madrid «la España donde nadie sobra»

La presidenta reivindica una comunidad donde no triunfan «ni los abusos ni las injusticias» y que defiende la unidad, la Monarquía, la Constitución y la Transición

PÁGINAS 50 A 52

FOTO: JAIME GARCÍA / ABC

Sánchez elude un mayor control a la financiación de los partidos

Ha ignorado las continuas recomendaciones del Tribunal de Cuentas y su promesa de ejercer más transparencia mientras pide fiscalizar a los medios

PÁGINAS 14-15



ENXURRADA NO SUL

Chuva afeta barragens, e RS manda evacuar áreas

Já são 29 mortos e 15 mil desalojados. Inundação ameaça Porto Alegre

A situação é cada vez mais crítica no Rio Grande do Sul, onde as chuvas que não dão trégua já mataram 29 pessoas e deixaram 60 desaparecidos e 15 mil desalojados. Cinco barragens estão ameaçadas, e uma rompeu na Serra Gaúcha, levando à ordem de evacuação de áreas de risco em nove cidades. A Defesa Civil também deu ordem para que moradores

deixem suas casas em locais de perigo próximos ao Rio Guaíba, que banha Porto Alegre e pode atingir a maior cheia desde 1943, subindo cinco metros. Em 169 pontos do estado há

EDITORIAL

FALTA PLANEJAMENTO PARA ENFRENTAR A TRAGÉDIA DAS CHUVAS MONTEZ

peças aguardando resgate. "A situação que estamos vivendo é absurdamente excepcional. É o momento mais crítico que o estado terá registro na sua História", afirmou o governador Eduardo Leite, que decretou estado de calamidade pública e recebeu em Santa Maria o presidente Lula, que prometeu assistência e recursos federais. MONTEZ



Submersa. As fortes chuvas fazem transbordar o Rio Taquari, inundando a cidade de Encantado e deixando à vista apenas os telos das casas e os pontos de luz dos postes

Prefeitos pagam a assessores de senadores para liberar emendas

Prefeituras do Piauí atendidas por emendas dos senadores Ciro Nogueira (PP) e Marcelo Castro (MDB) recorreram a consultoria em nome de assessores dos dois parlamentares para ajudar a liberar verbas. Foram 114 contratos para elaboração de projetos e assistência técnica com 51 cidades desde 2018. Eles renderam à empresa R\$ 9,5 milhões, informou **PATRICK CAMPOS**. O assessor de Ciro deixou o Senado em 2023, e o de Castro foi exonerado na semana passada. MONTEZ

Disputar público com Bolsonaro é uma cilada para Lula

JANAINA FIGUEIREDO
O papel de Brasil, EUA e Colômbia após a eleição venezuelana MONTEZ

FLÁVIA OLIVEIRA
Madonna no Rio prova potência da cadeia produtiva da cultura MONTEZ

Aliquota do imposto após a reforma não vai superar 30%, diz Appy

Para o secretário da Reforma Tributária, modificações a serem feitas pelos parlamentares não vão desconfigurar a regulamentação do novo sistema de impostos. Com isso, a alíquota padrão não deverá ultrapassar em muito os 36,5% calculados pelo governo ao entrar o texto para o Congresso. MONTEZ

A despeito de arrocho, Milei tem aprovação de metade dos argentinos

Apesar dos cortes gerais e da forte recessão, popularidade do presidente argentino de ultradireita surpreende, registrando entre 47% e 51% de aprovação. Segundo pesquisa, crença de que o país vai melhorar explica tolerância. MONTEZ

Empresa avalia entrar no mercado de grandes jatos

SABESP PRONTA
Câmara de SP aprova mudança de contrato, que viabiliza venda MONTEZ

Entrevistando Trump



— Será que eu gostaria de estar no Rio amanhã para ver a Madonna... MONTEZ

Madonna ensaia, e fãs deliram

Com praia lotada, às 20h30 a diva subiu mascarada ao palco de 802m² que tem até elevadores, cantou vários hits e ensaiou com Pablo Vittar, bailarinos e ritmistas. Projecção de Casuzza emocionou a plateia. MONTEZ **SONORA CASERNO**



NOS BASTIDORES
Cantora ensaia 8h por dia no Copacabana, à base de água SONORA CASERNO

FUTURO AQUINO
Um furacão que desafiou até o Papa SONORA CASERNO

Os riscos da gripe aviária, doença que se expande

A propagação do vírus a mamíferos aumenta ameaça aos humanos? O consumo de carne, leite e ovo é seguro? Veja as respostas para essas e outras perguntas. MONTEZ

Amorim punido por ofensa de gênero

Em decisão inédita, TRE RJ condenou o deputado Rodrigo Amorim por violência política de gênero a vereador trans. MONTEZ

La inundación en Brasil rompió una represa y la situación es dramática

—el mundo

Miles de personas abandonaron la zona de Río Grande do Sul ante el avance de las aguas; se cuentan al menos 29 muertos y 60 desaparecidos. **Página 8**



Tierra del Fuego y Santa Cruz, las preferidas por los migrantes

—sociedad

Son las dos provincias con más habitantes nacidos en otras jurisdicciones; la promoción industrial, uno de los atractivos. **Página 22**

LA NACION

VIERNES 3 DE MAYO DE 2024 | LANACION.COM.AR

Oficializan el tope para la suba de las prepagas: bajan menos de lo anunciado

INFLACIÓN. El Gobierno había previsto recortes del 33%; finalmente, descontarán entre 11% y 19%

El Gobierno confirmó que las prepagas OSDE, Swiss Medical, Galeno, Omint, Medifé, Hospital Alemán y Hospital Británico deben recalcular los valores de sus cuotas a cobrar este mes tomando como referencia, por un lado, los montos cobrados por los servicios de diciembre y, por el otro, la inflación acumulada al momento

al cual corresponda la facturación. Para la cuota de mayo se deberá aplicar, entonces, un aumento máximo del 114,6% (la inflación acumulada de noviembre a marzo). La aplicación de esa regla generará rebajas de entre 11% y 19% con respecto a lo pagado en abril; así, el efecto será inferior al estimado por el Gobierno en un primer

momento, que esperaba una baja del 33%.

Algunas empresas ya envían las nuevas cuotas con rebajas que se ajustan, de hecho, a la fórmula oficializada ayer, mientras se discute en la Justicia la devolución de lo cobrado por encima de estos aumentos. **Página 18**

DESDE ADENTRO

La libertad aprende y luego avanza

Florencia Donovan

Página 20

La jefa de la Aduana tomó crédito con acusados de contrabando

POLÉMICA. Lodovico había sido ascendida por Milei, tras pasar por la gestión de Massa

Camila Dolabjian
LA NACION

Rosana Lodovico, directora de Aduanas, tomó junto a su exmarido una deuda de US\$250.000 con una empresa denunciada por contrabando. El crédito fue acordado en 2022 con una sociedad anónima llamada Promarlon SA, según consta en su declaración jurada ante la Oficina Anticorrupción. Ayer, tras la revelación del vínculo con la empresa, el Gobierno evitó responder sobre el futuro de la funcionaria. **Continúa en la página 15**

Zeballos, un argentino en la cumbre del tenis



ATP TOUR

deportes — El tenis argentino sumó un hito: a los 39 años, Horacio Zeballos (izquierda) será desde el lunes próximo el número 1 del ranking del circuito ATP de dobles, junto con el español Marcel Granollers, con el que llegó a las semifinales del Masters de Madrid. El marplatense es el primer varón en lograr el máximo puesto en la especialidad por parejas, tras las gestas de Paola Suárez y Gisela Dulko. También lo consiguió Gustavo Fernández en tenis adaptado.

Biden busca frenar el brote de violencia en los campus universitarios

EE.UU. Condenó el vandalismo y dijo que solo las manifestaciones pacíficas están protegidas; las protestas dominan el debate previo a la campaña

Rafael Mathus Ruiz
CORRESPONSAL EN EE.UU.

WASHINGTON.— Tras varios días de violentos enfrentamientos y represión policial de costa a costa en Estados Unidos, en las protestas pro palestinas en contra de Israel en los campus universitarios, el presidente Joe Biden dijo ayer en un discurso en la Casa Blanca que mantendrá su política en Me-

dio Oriente y condenó el "vandalismo", la toma y la destrucción de edificios y los episodios de acoso, antisemitismo, islamofobia, discriminación y racismo que han teñido las manifestaciones por la guerra en la Franja de Gaza.

Más de 2000 personas fueron arrestadas desde que comenzaron las protestas la semana pasada, según un recuento del diario *The New York Times*. **Continúa en la página 2**

Revisan la entrega de tierras en el kirchnerismo

PARQUES NACIONALES. Las autoridades de Parques Nacionales avanzan con un relevamiento para revisar y eventualmente anular la cesión de tierras y el reconocimiento de lo que el Gobierno define como "falsos pueblos originarios". El proceso de cesiones se aceleró en los últimos días de la gestión de Alberto Fernández, tras la derrota electoral de noviembre pasado. El relevamiento revisará la situación en los 39 parques nacionales de la Argentina. **Página 17**

El BCRA redujo otra vez la tasa y presiona sobre los plazos fijos

INTERÉS. La llevó al 50% anual; además, subió el encaje a billeteras virtuales y fondos. **Página 19**

El tenista argentino, junto al español Granollers, al tope en el ranking mundial de dobles. **P.44**



Racing perdió 2-1 ante Talleres de Remedios de Escalada y quedó eliminado de la Copa Argentina. **P.38**



Le ponen techo a la suba de las prepagas: 114% desde diciembre

Así lo definió el ministro de Economía, Luis Caputo, para la cuota de mayo.

Es la nueva fórmula permitida para las siete principales prepagas que nuclean al 75% de los más de 6 millones de afiliados a la medicina privada. Estas son Galeno, Hospital Británico,

Hospital Alemán, Medifé, Swiss Medical, Omint y OSDE. La Comisión Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia ordenó que deben retrotraer sus cuotas a diciembre de 2023 y, por cinco meses,

disponer subas que no superen la inflación mensual. De esa manera, deberán aplicar un incremento como máximo del 93,3% para la cuota de abril, y del 114,6% para la de mayo. **P.3**

Confían en que la inflación seguirá cayendo y el Central bajó otra vez la tasa

La llevó al 50% anual. Estaba en 133% en diciembre, cuando Javier Milei arrancó su gestión. Sigue siendo negativa frente a la suba de precios, pero le permite al Banco Central sanear su balance y emitir menos pesos. También cae el rendimiento que reciben los ahorristas por depósitos a plazo fijo. Las consultoras privadas como el Gobierno, proyectan que en abril se logrará una inflación de un dígito. **P.8**

La entrevista. Con Mondino y Pablo Quirno en París.



NOEL SMART

Negocian con 4 gobernadores para aprobar la Ley Bases en el Senado

El Gobierno busca acordar con los mandatarios provinciales Gerardo Zamora (Santiago del Estero), Alberto Weretilneck (Río Negro), Rolando Figueroa (Neuquén) y Claudio Vidal (Santa Cruz) para sumar senadores y lograr sacar la Ley Bases. Sin embargo, en la Rosada no descartan que en el Senado introduzcan cambios que obliguen a reenviar el proyecto a Diputados y que demore su sanción. **P.12**

"En la base china no hay personal militar; son chinos, son todos iguales"

Lo dijo la canciller Diana Mondino en una entrevista con Clarín en París, junto al secretario de Finanzas, Pablo Quirno. Regresaban de una visita a

China y, en la capital francesa, su objetivo era plantear el ingreso de la Argentina a la OCDE. Defendió la negativa de Javier Milei a negociar con "comunis-

tas" y aclaró que se refirió a las relaciones Estado-Estado, no al sector privado. Afirmó que el proyecto de las represas en el Sur "está terminado". **P.19**

Denuncias por abuso y maltrato infantil contra un orfanato

Está en General Rodríguez y la Justicia ya apartó a la administradora, evangélica practicante, sobre las que pesan graves acusaciones: chicos enjaulados y torturados. A la mujer se le prohibió el acceso al lugar, luego de que la fiscalía recibiera fotos y videos que revelan las lesiones de los meno-

res y los testimonios de ex empleados. Varios de los internados ya pudieron ser reubicados, aunque todavía 14 permanecen en el lugar. Las primeras denuncias se conocieron en 2019 y desde hace dos años se multiplicaron. Involucraron también a familiares de la administradora. **P.30**

Escándalo por los seguros: el juez pide que Fernández nombre abogado

El juez Ercolini formalizó la acusación en contra del ex presidente, que evitaba darse por imputado y nunca se presentó en el expediente. Y le pidió que designe abogado. Fernández se encuentra inhibido, se ordenó el levantamiento fiscal y bancario sobre sus cuentas, los llamados de sus líneas telefónicas son monitoreados y su patrimonio está bajo la lupa. **P.18**

5 PULSO

Proyección de PIB 2024 para Chile se afianza de 2,5% hacia arriba, pese a menor Imacec de marzo

4 POLÍTICA

RUF: gobierno busca evitar que los casos de uniformados pasen a la justicia militar



21 NACIONAL

Fiscalía refuerza cerco a testigo clave de homicidio de carabineros en Cañete

2-3 PULSO

Gasto público en inversión crece a su mayor ritmo en 15 años, pero caen ingresos por cobre y litio

37-38 CULTO

CULTO



Mega se adjudica el Festival de Viña para período 2025-2028

34-35 QUÉ PASA



Ministra Aisén Echeverry explica proyecto de ley sobre inteligencia artificial

28-29 MUNDO

Protestas universitarias en EE.UU. por Gaza complican campaña y reelección de Biden

42-43 DEPORTES

Detienen a 9 excadetes de Cobreloa tras denuncia por violación grupal



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Chicago Tribune



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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

IG says state employees defrauded aid program

Some made up businesses, lied about their incomes, to receive pandemic funding

By Olivia Olander
Chicago Tribune

Illinois state employees fabricated hair salons, paid others to inaccurately fill out forms and drastically inflated income numbers for their side businesses in an effort to fraudulently receive pandemic-era Paycheck Protection Program loans, according to recently released reports from the Office of Executive Inspector General.

One Department of Human Services employee said on a PPP application that his car-washing business made \$110,000 in a year but later acknowledged the venture had no customers or income, according to one report. Asked why he listed that amount, the report says he told investigators: "I just randomly put it in to see what I could get; I wanted to try my business again and wanted to go mobile with it."

Another DHS employee who claimed to have six-figure income from a beauty salon business later told investigators she had only ever made \$20 to \$40 per month doing hair for friends and family and did not consider it a business.

The woman told investigators she "did what everyone else was doing at the time in order to get money," the IG reports said. "She said that she did not use loan proceeds for any kind of business expenses because she does not have any business expenses."

Those cases are two of the 275 instances in which the inspector general found PPP wrongdoing, the alleged thefts totaling more than \$7 million in public funds, according to the IG's April newsletter. Department of Human Services employees accounted for 175 of those cases. The Department of Corrections was the next highest, with 31 cases.

While the state IG provided updates on PPP investigations last year, the specifics of the alleged fraud weren't made public until the state's Executive Ethics Commission in recent weeks published about a dozen reports — all except one regarding Department of Human Services workers — detailing how they say state employees

Turn to Aid, Page 2

INSIDE Leaders skip meeting on racial disparities in CFD

Chicago aldermen and residents criticized Fire Department brass and officials from Mayor Brandon Johnson's administration for not attending a Thursday meeting on a lack of diversity in the ranks of the department. **Chicagoland**

■ Thornton's Morez Johnson Jr. and Lincoln's Kloe Froebe took far different paths to get to be this year's Mr. and Ms. Basketball in Illinois. **Chicago Sports**

Despite warm weather, Illinois cicadas remain a few weeks away from a historic emergence set to excite experts and bug enthusiasts alike



Horticulturist Rachelle Froesch demonstrates how to gently place fine-mesh netting around young or vulnerable trees to protect them from the state's emerging cicadas at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle on Tuesday. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Loud, but harmless

By Adriana Pérez | Chicago Tribune

In a restored savanna habitat behind the Lake Forest College science center, professor Sean Menke crouched down next to a small circular hole and stuck a thermometer into the ground.

After a short wait, he took the device out to look at the temperature. "That was 52 (degrees), so that's great."

The hole was, presumably, a periodical cicada's tunnel dug ahead of this summer's emergence of billions of others that will come out simultaneously across the United States. They belong to Brood XIX, four species that appear every 13 years

in the Southeast, and Brood XIII, three species that appear every 17 years in northern Illinois.

Since earlier in the week, Menke has been monitoring soil temperatures which, once reaching 64 degrees at 8 inches, should signal the cicadas that they can come out to mate.

"With the weather we've been having, there's some concern that they're going to be emerging earlier," Menke said. "And we're hearing reports from people that they're finding the

Turn to Cicadas, Page 4

Biden grasps for center on protests over Israeli military

In lawsuit, activists say city unprepared for DNC rallies

By Nell Salzman
Chicago Tribune

As protests surge across America just months before the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, activists representing LGBTQ+ and women's reproductive rights say Mayor Brandon Johnson's administration is violating their First Amendment rights and is unprepared for the onslaught of dissidents headed to the city this August.

The claims were made as Bodies Outside of Unjust Laws filed a federal lawsuit Thursday alleging the city wrongfully denied permits for the group to protest by the Water Tower on Michigan Avenue, an area where many Democratic delegates will be staying during the Aug. 19-22 convention.

Joined by the ACLU of Illinois, activists with the LGBTQ+ and women's

Turn to Lawsuit, Page 7



Police clad in riot gear confront students protesting Israel's attacks on Gaza on Thursday at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. **JOHN RUDOFF/GETTY-APF**

President addresses unrest after silence draws critics

By Chris Megerian
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Thursday rejected calls from student protesters to change his approach to the war in Gaza while insisting that "order must prevail" as college campuses across the country face a wave of violence, outrage and fear.

"Dissent is essential for democracy," Biden said at the White House. "But dissent must never lead to disorder."

The Democratic president broke days of silence on the protests with his remarks, which followed mounting criticism from Republicans who have tried to turn scenes of unrest into a campaign cudgel. By focusing on a law-and-order message while defending the right to free speech, Biden is grasping for a middle ground on an intensely divisive

Turn to Protests, Page 7



Cetrapam y Fetram sentaron postura en audiencia pública sobre el servicio Transportistas se lavan manos y culpan al Gobierno por crisis

Aseguran que regulada de buses se debe a incapacidad de gestión de autoridades. No quieren renovar flota por falta de políticas sostenibles. "En ocho meses no han hecho nada", afirman.

PÁGINA 17

La Albirroja Sub 20 femenina clasificó para el Mundial

PÁGINA 42

UNIVERSIDAD MARIA AUXILIADORA

Raudales: Eterno drama

Estragos. La tormenta de ayer de nuevo puso en jaque a Asunción y ciudades de Central. Raudales y cortes de luz provocaron caos en varias zonas. PÁGINA 18

Ministro habla de inminente acuerdo con Brasil sobre la tarifa de Itaipú

PÁGINA 8

La creciente inseguridad sobrepasa al Ejecutivo

PÁGINA 2

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Saltan errores del Juzgado del caso La Fiscalía vuelve a imputar al intendente de Lambaré por muerte de militares

PÁGINA 36

El esperado concierto de Karol G se pospone para hoy por la lluvia

PÁGINA 40



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Demos poder demais para López Obrador, diz opositora

Ex-senadora Xóchitl Gálvez, candidata à Presidência do México por frente de oposição, propõe desmilitarizar a segurança pública, em país com altos índices de violência. "Demos ao presidente [López Obrador] ferramentas que não havíamos dado a nenhum outro", diz, em referência à permissão de usar o Exército no policiamento. Xóchitl está em 2º lugar nas pesquisas. **Mundo A11**

Ilustrada C1
Seinfeld lança novo filme e critica patrulha contra humor afiado

Guia C10
Agenda musical de maio em São Paulo tem Simone, McFly, D2 e Zeca Pagodinho

Saúde B6
Exame de sangue pode ajudar a prevenir risco de apneia obstrutiva do sono

Temporais isolam cidades no RS; Lula promete verba

Mortos chegam a 29 e há 60 desaparecidos; presidente faz visita após três dias

Em um dos maiores desastres causados pelas chuvas, o Rio Grande do Sul contabilizava ontem 29 mortos e 60 desaparecidos, 15 mil fora de casa, 154 cidades afetadas, 60 rodovias com bloqueios, 330 mil imóveis sem luz e 542 mil sem água. Uma represa se rompeu na serra gaúcha e outras podem colapsar.

As condições do clima prejudicam o socorro por helicópteros a ilhados. Até ontem, 110 pessoas foram resgatadas, entre elas pacientes em hospitais de cidades isoladas. O governador Eduardo Leite (PSDB) decretou calamidade pública e fez um apelo para que moradores deixem áreas de risco.

Após três dias, o presidente Lula (PT) foi a Santa Maria com seis ministros e encontrou-se com Leite. Disse que "não permitirá que falte recurso para reparar os danos", mas não detalhou a ajuda financeira ao estado. As Forças Armadas enviaram 626 militares, e o estado recebeu ajuda de SP e de SC.

Segundo meteorologista, os temporais são "evento extraordinário", influenciados por El Niño e onda de calor no Sudeste e no Centro-Oeste, o que impede que a chuva deixe o sul. **Cotidiano B1 e B2**
Agro vê situação caótica, com grãos não colhidos e produção paralisada p.6

Brasileiro é suspeito de assassinato com espada em Londres

Cotidiano B3

Lewandowski não consegue marca em 3 meses no governo

O ministro Ricardo Lewandowski (Justiça), empossado em fevereiro, impôs novo estilo à pasta, tirando-a do embate político. Ele, contudo, mantém o governo sem marca positiva na segurança, e não avançou em programa de enfrentamento ao crime. **Política A5**

Câmara e prefeito de SP autorizam venda da Sabesp

Em sessão contestada na Justiça, vereadores aprovaram ontem, por 37 a 17 votos, projeto que altera lei de 2009 e autoriza a gestão Tarcísio de Freitas (Republicanos) a privatizar a Sabesp. O texto foi sancionado pelo prefeito Ricardo Nunes (MDB). **Mercado p.5**

Nunes deve abrir mão de licitação em contrato do lixo

Em ano eleitoral, o prefeito Ricardo Nunes (MDB) deve renovar os contratos de coleta de lixo em São Paulo sem licitação. Segundo ele, estudo mostrou que a prorrogação é vantajosa. Em 2023, a prefeitura repassou R\$ 2 bi a concessionárias. **Política A6**

Tati Bernardi ouviu mulheres acima de 50 em 'Se Ela Não Sabe, Quem Sabe?'

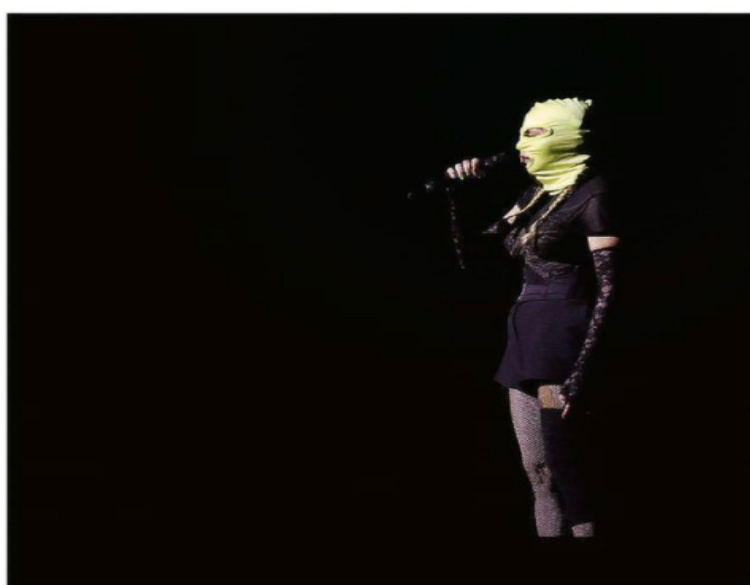
Equilíbrio B5

EDITORIAL A2

A nota do Brasil
Sobre melhora da perspectiva do país pela Moody's.



Ruas alagadas pelo rio Caí, que atingiu 17 metros, em São Sebastião do Caí (RS); moradores ilhados foram resgatados por bombeiros **Carlos Macedo/Folhapress**



Ricardo Moraes/Reuters

DE BALACLAVA, MADONNA ENSAIA EM COPACABANA

A cantora faz passagem de som no palco do show de amanhã, em ensaio com Pablo Vittar e ritmistas de escolas de samba; Rio vive expectativa, com festas dedicadas à estrela **Ilustrada C6**

EDITORIAL A2

Lula e os fósseis do sindicalismo

Mostrou-se um fiasco a comemoração do Dia do Trabalho patrocinada pelas centrais sindicais governistas, que contou com Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT).

Ou as forças políticas em torno do PT se atualizam, inclusive nos temas relacionados ao trabalho, ou correrão mais riscos de ser derrotadas nas próximas eleições.

Mercado espera divergência sobre juros no próximo Copom

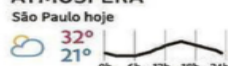
Mudanças no cenário macroeconômico dos Estados Unidos e do Brasil levaram o mercado financeiro a esperar divergência nos votos na próxima reunião do Copom (Comitê de Política Monetária), no dia 8.

A sinalização era a de manter a intensidade de redução de juros ocorrida em março. No entanto, a inflação dos EUA ficou acima do esperado e o governo Lula (PT) alterou a meta fiscal de 2025. **Mercado p.1**

Com etanol, híbrido é aposta do Brasil; mundo projeta elétricos

Mercado p.8

ATMOSFERA



Fonte: www.climatempo.com.br



LE FIGARO

« Sans la liberté de blâmer, il n'est point d'éloge flatteur » Beaumarchais



ALAIN DAMASIO
LA PLONGÉE D'UN ÉCRIVAIN
DANS L'UNIVERS INQUIÉTANT
DE LA SILICON VALLEY PAGE 18

LE FIGARO SCOPE

• PARIS : NOTRE TEST DES NOUVEAUX
BRUNCHS • CARCASSONNE : UN WEEK-END
ENTRE TRADITION MÉDIÉVALE ET NOUVELLE
BISTRONOMIE AUDOISE PAGES 36 À 39



Le Bar des Maillets
d'Argent (5*)

EXÉCUTIF

Le grand calme
politique avant
la tempête
des européennes
et des JO PAGE 2

ENTRETIEN

Estrosi : « Sur la
sécurité, l'inertie
gouvernementale
m'inquiète » PAGE 4

GÉORGIE

Manifestations
géantes à Tbilissi,
après le vote d'une
loi sur l'influence
étrangère PAGES 5

EUROPE

Course contre
la montre pour
dépenser les
800 milliards
du plan de relance
PAGES 22 ET 23

SNCF

L'accord sur les fins
de carrière fait
des vagues PAGE 25

CHAMPS LIBRES

• Comment le Japon
a (presque)
éradiqué
la délinquance

• Visite de Xi Jinping
en France : Paris
devrait méditer les
soucis chinois de
la Maison-Blanche

• Le bloc-notes
de Laurence
de Charette

• L'analyse d'Isabelle
Lasserre
PAGES 16 À 19

FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON

Réponses à la question
de jeudi :

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Glucksman ait été
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Procès, scandales, adversaires : rien n'arrête Donald Trump

Depuis trois ans et demi, l'ancien
président a surmonté tous
les obstacles politiques et judiciaires
qui empêchaient son retour, pour
se retrouver de nouveau aux portes
de la Maison-Blanche. PAGES 6, 7 ET L'ÉDITORIAL



PAUL SANCOUP

Wokisme, Gaza... les universités françaises sous influence américaine

À l'image des mobilisations
d'ampleur observées sur les
campus de Columbia, de Har-
vard ou d'Ucla, les manifesta-
tions pro-paléstiennes se mul-
tiplient dans les universités

françaises. Une nouvelle illus-
tration de l'américanisation
de l'enseignement supérieur,
avec Sciences Po à la pointe
des idées woke venues des
États-Unis. PAGES 10 ET 11



Félix Tshisekedi : « Une guerre avec le Rwanda est possible »

Dans un entretien au Figaro, le
président de la République dé-
mocratique du Congo affirme
qu'« un génocide se produit »
dans l'est de son pays. Il accu-
se le régime rwandais « de

pillar ses minerais critiques et de
terroriser les populations ». En
visite à Paris cette semaine, il a
demandé à Emmanuel Macron
d'intervenir auprès du Conseil
de sécurité de l'ONU. PAGE 8

ÉDITORIAL par Philippe Gélie

La métamorphose

Donald Trump n'a pas changé. Quatre ans de pouvoir ne l'avaient pas normalisé comme président; trois ans et demi de traversée du désert jalonnée de poursuites judiciaires ne l'ont pas rendu modeste. Au contraire : sa campagne tourne plus que jamais autour de sa seule personne, il n'accepte les règles que lorsqu'elles jouent en sa faveur, institutionnalise plus que jamais le mensonge comme « réalité alternative », ne reconnaît aucune faute, aucun échec et n'accepte bien sûr aucun châtement comme légitime. Ainsi campe-t-il la figure paradoxale du « gagnant » martyrisé, de la victime triomphante que rien n'arrête. Défiant la loi des probabilités, l'ancien président, quasiment exilé en Floride après son coup de force raté contre l'élection de 2020, domine à nouveau sans partage la droite américaine. Sa résistance à toute épreuve - procès, primaires, scandales, faillites - renforce son aura et ses chances de franchir le seuil de la Maison-Blanche pour la seconde fois en janvier prochain. Si cela advient, commencera la véritable métamorphose de Donald Trump. Jusqu'ici, il s'est contenté de faire ce dans quoi il a toujours excellé : gérer sa marque, les cinq lettres de son

nom, sur le « créneau » de la politique - comme auparavant dans l'immobilier, les golfs, les casinos, la télé-réalité, les cravates... Ses électeurs constituent son fonds de commerce et sa protection contre ce « système » qu'il estime voué à sa perte. Élu à 78 ans pour un ultime mandat, ce serait une autre histoire : il pourrait se blanchir d'un trait de plume présidentiel et façonner son héritage.

Finis l'amateurisme et l'improvisation, les « adultes dans la pièce » qui court-circuitaient ses impulsions. La prochaine présidence Trump sera bien préparée. Au programme : un grand coup de balai jusqu'aux strates inférieures de l'administration, la mise au pas de la justice pour blanchir les siens et pourchasser ses ennemis, la détention ou l'expulsion de millions d'immigrés illégaux, la suppression de l'Éducation nationale, la neutralisation de l'Otan, une refonte des alliances et de la politique étrangère... S'il sauve sa peau dans les urnes, Donald Trump soumettra ces institutions qui l'ont menacé. Un président averti en vaut deux. Des électeurs aussi. ■

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ELECTIONS '24 | DALLAS

\$1.25 billion eyed for infrastructure

Proposed bonds aim to improve city roads, parks, address needs

By LEAH WATERS, EVERTON BAILEY JR., MARÍA RAMOS PACHECO and DEVYANI CHHETRI Staff Writers

Voters are on the cusp of deciding if Dallas should issue bonds worth \$1.25 billion to address some of the city's most pressing infrastructure needs. Over 5,000 projects are up

for consideration in 10 separate propositions that would authorize borrowing to finance potential new road improvements, building repairs, parks spaces and storm drainage controls, among other needs.

The municipal election day is Saturday, when communities across North Texas will vote on spending projects and changes to their charters, and will elect local officials.

See **FUNDS** Page 5A



Become informed
The election is Saturday. Here are some of our resources you can use to become more informed.

READ UP about the candidates and their backgrounds.

CREATE your own ballot that you can take to the polls.

FIND OUT which candidates the editorial board recommends and why they were selected.

SOUTHERN DALLAS

Residents celebrate land-use changes

Compromise plan with zoning for agriculture, industrial limits OK'd

By MARÍA RAMOS PACHECO and DEVYANI CHHETRI Staff Writers

Floral Farms residents in southern Dallas celebrated zoning revisions that would prevent construction of industrial businesses near residential

areas and preserve single-family homes in their neighborhood that was blighted for years by a mountain of industrial debris.

In its third try in the past two months, the City Plan Commission on Thursday approved a compromise that would zone undeveloped land in the area as agricultural, establish residential zoning for existing residences and create a Planned Development District that would limit heavy indus-

trial uses. The 15-member commission unanimously approved the zoning changes for the 552-acres. The changes still require approval from the City Council. Shingle Mountain was created after Blue Star Recycling illegally dumped a 70,000-ton mountain of roofing debris near a residential area. The pile was there for about three years.

See **RESIDENTS** Page 5A



Jae C. Hong/The Associated Press

Police advanced on pro-Palestinian demonstrators Thursday on the University of California, Los Angeles campus. Hundreds of protesters defied orders to leave, some forming human chains as police fired flash-bangs to break up the crowds. At least 200 were arrested.

UNIVERSITIES

Biden addresses campus protests

President seeks balance between right to free speech and rule of law

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden defended the right to protest peacefully but demanded that "order must prevail" as demonstrations against the Israel-Hamas war have wreaked havoc on U.S. college campuses.

"There's the right to protest but not the right to cause chaos," Biden said at the White House on Thursday, his first extended comments on the pro-Palestinian unrest at schools

across the country. "Vandalism, trespassing, breaking windows, shutting down campuses, forcing the cancellation of classes and graduations — none of this is a peaceful protest," he added.

The demonstrations have posed a threat to Biden's reelection bid, and the president faced mounting pressure to personally address them before his unscheduled remarks on Thursday. The president said the protests have not caused him to re-

think his approach to the war.

The clashes have highlighted the growing discontent among progressives, young people and Muslim and Arab Americans over the war — and the deep rift within Biden's own Democratic party over his handling of the issue.

The war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza has increasingly become a drag on Biden's political standing, opening him to attacks from both sides and with polls show-

ing voters are losing confidence in his approach.

Pro-Palestinian encampments spread to at least 100 colleges in 30 states and Washington, D.C., since protesters first erected tents on Columbia's quad on April 17. More than 2,000 people have been arrested during pro-Palestinian protests at college campuses across the United States in recent weeks, according to

See **PROTESTS** Page 8A

JAN. 6 INSURRECTION

Texas man gets 5-year sentence

He was also fined \$200K after refusing to cooperate with probation officers

By TOM JACKMAN The Washington Post

A Texas man who repeatedly declared his intent to use force to halt certification of the 2020 presidential election results on Jan. 6, 2021, brought two guns to a D.C.-area hotel and fought with police at the U.S. Capitol that day, was sentenced Thursday to five years in prison after prosecutors said he was in "a class of his own" among Capitol rioters.

Appearing in U.S. District Court in Washington, the defendant, Ryan Nichols, also was fined \$200,000, by far the largest financial penalty yet handed down in a Jan. 6 case, a spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney's office confirmed.

Most of the more than 800 defendants sentenced so far in Capitol riot cases either have not been fined — because they lacked the money to pay — or were fined only a few thousand dollars, in addition to a \$2,000 restitution payment for damage to the Capitol which all defendants have been assessed.

But Senior U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth said Nichols refused to cooperate with probation officials about his financial status, so Lamberth ordered him to pay the maximum amount allowed under federal sentencing guidelines.

Nichols, 33, of Longview, traveled

See **RIOTER** Page 9A

Stray thunderstorm
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BUSINESS

State's priciest homes are in North Texas

Eight of the state's 10 priciest homes listed were in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, including a well-known Dallas estate with an asking price of \$47 million. **3B**

METRO

Poorly kept power lines tied to fire

A wildfire that started in February in Hutchinson County and became the state's largest ever was caused by power lines that "had not been effectively maintained or replaced by a utility provider and an oil and gas operator," an investigative panel ruled. **1B**



Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

A tough start

Jordan Spieth reacted after playing his tee shot on the 18th hole during the first round of the CJ Cup Byron Nelson in McKinney on Thursday. Spieth, the biggest local favorite with No. 1-ranked Scottie Scheffler absent, struggled down the stretch. "It's a very gettable golf course," Spieth said. "I just played the easy holes poorly." **(Coverage, 2C)**

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The Daily Telegraph



Biden hits out at UCLA chaos and pledges Israel support

Special report

By Sergio Jimenez
in California

AS THEY prepared for the most violent clash with police since the student protests began, demonstrators at UCLA in California separated themselves into three groups. The green team was formed of day trippers, who planned to leave as soon as things got ugly. The yellow team would stay as long as possible, but avoid arrest, while only the hardcore reds would stay until the latter end to defend the ramshackle pro-Palestine "encampment" on the university's central plaza. The green team already had cause to go home while the others fortified the walls around their makeshift fortress with plywood, nailed together and draped in "Free Palestine" banners. Hundreds of police formed up on the outside of the encampment, bearing a recorded message for the crowds to disperse. The police line was a mixture of patrol officers, specialist riot police and traffic cops, pulled in on overtime to boost the numbers. Hearing the order to disperse, the protesters called back: "F--- you! You don't scare us! Free Palestine!" The encampment at UCLA became the flagship for the student protest movement after the original demonstration at Columbia in New York was dismantled by police on Tuesday. Many of the demonstrators in California are from New York.

Police face pro-Palestinian students after destroying part of their encampment barricade on the campus of the University of California in Los Angeles yesterday

PM to offer Ireland Rwanda deal

Sunak rejects Irish demand to take back asylum seekers after row over surge in arrivals from UK

By Charles Hymas and James Crisp
DOWNING Street has offered Ireland the opportunity to join the Rwanda scheme, amid a row over asylum seekers fleeing the UK to the Republic. No 10 said it was open to exploring Ireland's participation in the scheme after Irish ministers blamed the deterrent effect of deportation to Rwanda for the surge in asylum seekers arriving in Dublin from Britain. Rishi Sunak has rejected demands by Simon Harris, the Irish prime minister,

to take back the asylum seekers, unless the EU agrees to receive migrants who have arrived in the UK after crossing the Channel. A Downing Street source said: "If the Irish government believes the Rwanda plan is already having an effect, we can explore Ireland joining the Rwanda scheme. Many countries are looking at a third country now, which is why Sir Keir Starmer's amnesty for 15,000 illegal immigrants a year is so short-sighted." Mr Sunak is relying on the Rwanda scheme to stop the flow of migrants across the Channel, and has made the policy a key dividing line with Labour who say they would axe the scheme. At least 100 migrants earmarked to be sent to Rwanda have already been detained. However, new figures revealed a record 711 migrants crossed the Channel yesterday, the highest number on a single day so far this year. It takes this year's total to 8,278, up 34 per cent on

the same point last year. It comes as there were protests in London over the treatment of asylum seekers, with the Home Office forced to postpone the transfer of migrants from a hotel to the Bibby Stockholm barge after protesters disrupted their removal and slashed a coach's wheels. Downing Street is braced for criticism of Mr Sunak's leadership following the results of yesterday's local elections, which are expected to show heavy Tory losses. The Anglo-Irish row intensified on Wednesday after the Irish proposed redeploying 100 officers to the border area to stop asylum seekers fleeing the UK. Irish ministers have said that up to 90 per cent of asylum seekers who have entered the Republic this year came across the northern border. Yesterday, it emerged that, amid the crisis, Irish ministers are considering making further cuts to support and benefits for Ukrainian refugees. Ireland has a special legal right to opt

out of EU migration and immigration rules, like Denmark, which has held talks with Rwanda about sending migrants to the east African state to have their asylum claims processed there. No 10 sources confirmed Mr Sunak was working on a "statement of intent" with like-minded countries like Italy and Denmark to explore "alternative and untested" schemes that would act as a deterrent to migrants. This includes deals where migrants' claims are processed in third countries. Both Mr Sunak and Mr Harris have claimed the apparent increase in migrants crossing to Ireland from the UK is evidence that even the threat of deportation to Rwanda is acting as a

deterrent. Asylum seekers interviewed in Dublin by The Telegraph cited the prospect of removal to Rwanda as their reason for fleeing the UK. Mr Harris has ordered his justice ministry to bring forward legislation to declare the UK a "safe" third country for asylum seekers, overturning an Irish high court judgement that ruled the UK was "unsafe" because of the risk of migrants being sent to Rwanda. The Irish government has been contacted for comment, but Hermann Kelly, president of the Irish Freedom Party, said: "If a flight to Rwanda, or even a boat trip to Iceland acts as a deterrent, those proposals should certainly be examined and quickly." The UK Government is gearing up for multiple legal challenges to its

Rwanda legislation from detainee migrants as well as civil service unions. The Telegraph can reveal that at least 100 migrants earmarked for deportation to Rwanda have been detained since Monday. They are being put in contact with lawyers to seek legal challenge their removal, according to charities specialising in immigration detention. The charity Care4Calais said it had been contacted by 812 prospective deportees. They will be put in contact with lawyers who will seek legal aid ahead of the flights in nine to 11 weeks and prepare legal challenges on the basis that they could be at risk of "serious and irreversible harm" if removed to Rwanda. Report Page 8 Editorial Comment Page 15 Features Page 4-5

Families of AstraZeneca Covid vaccine victims end legal fight

By Investigations Team
FAMILIES whose loved ones died after taking the AstraZeneca Covid vaccine have abandoned attempts to sue the pharmaceutical giant after being told that they were likely to lose. Gareth Ewe and other families whose relatives were harmed after having the job have pulled out of the High Court case after being told that they would be unlikely to succeed with their claims because a leaflet issued at the height of the pandemic warned of a rare side effect associated with the vaccine. The document, given out at vaccination centres, said that "extremely rare cases of blood clots with low levels of platelets have been observed following vaccination with Covid-19 vaccine AstraZeneca". Legal experts believe that this could potentially protect the pharmaceutical firm against cases brought by families

whose relatives were given a dose supplied after April 7 2021. In total, 12 families have now dropped out of the legal action. More than 50 are still suing the pharmaceutical giant in the High Court, however, because their vaccines were supplied before the warning about blood clots was added to the leaflet. "It's like the Government and AstraZeneca have wriggled off the hook on a technicality" the patient's family said. Mr Ewe, whose wife, Lisa Shaw, died in May 2021 after having the jab, said he felt it was "unjust" that the families like his could not continue. He said: "It's like the Government and AstraZeneca have wriggled off the hook on a technicality when you just

think, 'come on, what is the right thing to do here?' In my opinion there is a battle here that needs to be had, but I'm not even able to do that anymore. "If I didn't remove my name from the legal action, I would be covered by the insurance. I could be liable for the drug company's costs, which could run into hundreds of thousands of pounds." He said he felt "utterly bereft". After abandoning his legal claim against AstraZeneca, Mr Ewe said the £120,000 compensation offer by the Government was insufficient and called for ministers and the drug company to "sit down and have a conversation" with families like his. "AstraZeneca and the Government might not have a legal obligation to support us, but they have a moral responsibility," he said. Independent studies show the AstraZeneca vaccine was effective in tackling

Mordaunt: I won't be installed in No 10 like some new boiler

By Ben Riley-Smith
POLITICAL EDITOR
PENNY MORDAUNT has denied that she will be installed in Number 10 "like a new boiler", with Rishi Sunak's leadership set to come under scrutiny after yesterday's local elections. When challenged by a Labour MP, Ms Mordaunt, the Commons Leader - tipped as a future Tory leadership contender - said she would continue to support Mr Sunak. Downing Street has been forced for the fallout from the local elections for councillors, mayors and police and crime commissioners in England and Wales. The results in the last nationwide votes before the general election are being seen as a test of whether the Conservatives are as unpopular as the polls suggest. A survey by YouGov, conducted

before yesterday's votes, found that Labour held a 26-point lead over the Tories, who are now polling lower than under Liz Truss's leadership. Just 18 per cent of respondents said they would vote for the Conservatives, before yesterday's votes, found that Labour held a 26-point lead over the Tories, who are now polling lower than under Liz Truss's leadership. Just 18 per cent of respondents said they would vote for the Conservatives,

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NEWS
Groupthink accused of fuelling inflation
The former Bank of England governor has criticised "groupthink" at the central bank for fuelling the inflation crisis. Lord King has said a lack of dissenting voices meant the bank failed to address rising inflation. In a House of Lords debate, Lord King said: "It is troubling that not just on the monetary policy committee but also the federal reserve open market committee there were no dissenting voices to challenge the view that inflation was transitory." Page 2

NEWS
Poland 'will be richer than Brexit Britain'
Poles will be richer than Britons in five years' time because of Brexit, Donald Tusk, the prime minister of Poland, has said. Mr Tusk was European Council president during the Brexit negotiations and was notorious among Brexiters for his scathing criticism of Britain's decision to leave the European Union. He referred to a Labour Party forecast based on World Bank data that said Poland would outstrip the UK in gross domestic product (GDP) per capita by 2030. Page 6

NEWS
Frozen IVF embryos linked to leukaemia
Babies born through IVF using frozen embryos are at increased risk of childhood leukaemia, a study suggests. Although the numbers were very small, French experts found that the risk of disease was 61 per cent higher in babies born from frozen embryos compared with children conceived naturally. Children born through fresh embryos also had a 42 per cent increased risk of leukaemia. In Britain, about 42,000 frozen embryo transfers are transferred each year. Page 9

SPORT
Anton Villa outgunned 4-2 by Olympiacos
A Europa League hat-trick for Ayoub El Kaabi gave Olympiacos a huge advantage ahead of a home second-leg. Odie Watkins and Moussa Diaby brought Villa back into the game but Santiago Heszer's deflected shot was the finishing touch. In the Premier League, goals in either half from Trevor Chalobah and Nicolas Jackson were enough for Chelsea, who beat a lacklustre Tottenham side at Stamford Bridge, enhancing Villa's hopes of European action next season. Sport: Pages 1-5

The Boston Globe

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Ken Cirillo, dredge director in Barnstable County, walked along a beach in Harwich where new sand was being added.

ON THE CAPE, BRINGING IN SAND TO MAKE A STAND

With erosion seemingly unstoppable, desperate towns are forced to get creative

By Beth Treffeisen
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

FALMOUTH
The engine roared as a large metal pole, like an egg beater mounted on the tip of a massive dredging machine, scooped up silt at the bottom of Great Pond in Falmouth. This was step one of clearing out a channel used by recreational boaters and fishermen on the brackish pond.

But the project had an important side benefit.

The slurry — filled with sand, water, and occasional debris such as old tires and fishing gear — was then pushed through a large

underwater tube, over a rock barrier, and onto a nearby beach along Menauhant Road. As the water was dumped into the nearby ocean, a mountain of sand took shape, the remnants of the slurry.

"Sand is gold," said Ken Cirillo, dredge director in Barnstable County, overlooking the operation.

Falmouth has big plans for the sand, trucking it to fortify nearby beaches damaged in recent winter storms. It's a growing trend across the Cape as towns compete to replace sand through dredging projects, as well as from underground pits — located on and off the Cape — or even offshore sand mining, where dredges are sent well into the

ocean to mine the sea floor.

Coastal beaches have always been dynamic environments, where sand is constantly washed away and replaced in a natural cycle. In places like Florida, sand replenishment has long been common after hurricanes. What's changed on the Cape and Islands is the increasing volume of sand that's now needed as strong storms and rising sea levels — made worse by climate change — batter the area, leading to more extreme coastal erosion.

In years past, Cirillo said, towns would dump sand on their beaches to make them less rocky. Now, it's a way to keep them from

SAND, Page A6

'It is really hard to run at this point as a pro-choice Republican and make it through a primary.'

ARIEL HILL-DAVIS, cofounder of Republican Women for Progress

With Senate at stake, Republicans tailor abortion message to where they're running

By Lissandra Villa de Petrzalka
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — Senator Steve Daines of Montana knows to expect questions about abortion and acknowledges it's important for Republican candidates to get their messaging right.

But the content of those messages will depend on where they are running.

"We're advising our candidates first of all to take a position on abortion that best matches the state they represent," Daines, chair of the National Republican Senatorial

Committee, told reporters at a breakfast Thursday. "That's what we're telling candidates, and we'll let them decide where they're going to stand on it."

Since *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, new court decisions, state laws, and ballot initiatives have continued to change the abortion landscape. For Republican candidates, that means there is no more one-size-fits-all approach as Republicans try to win at least two seats to take the Senate majority outright. Instead, there is a patchwork of positions, with some candidates trying to soften long track records of opposing abortion

access, and at least one avoiding even listing abortion among issues on his campaign website.

For those hoping the top of the GOP ticket would provide guidance, former president Donald Trump offered no lifeline, telling *Time* magazine in a recent interview, "I'm leaving everything up to the states."

"It's all going to be candidate- and campaign-specific," said Jesse Hunt, a former spokesperson for the NRSC. "I don't know that there is one specific way [to address abortion] because each state is addressing it in a different manner."

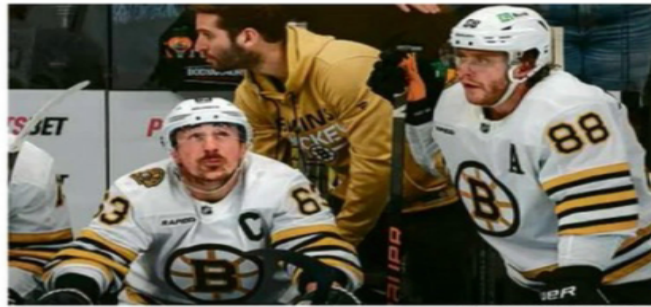
SENATE, Page A8

Paramedics testified that Karen Read repeatedly shouted "I hit him" as her boyfriend, Officer John O'Keefe, lay motionless outside during a blizzard. **B1.**

Jurors heard a recording of Donald Trump discussing with his then-lawyer and personal fixer a plan to buy the silence of a Playboy model who has said she had an affair with him. **A2.**

Massachusetts may have fewer options for building EV charging stations after market leader Tesla decided to pull back this week. **B5.**

"The Fall Guy" is a rare crowd-pleasing romantic action comedy, writes movie critic Odie Henderson. **G1.**



MATTHEW J. LEE/GLOBE STAFF

FORCED TO GAME 7

The Bruins had a chance to close out their first-round series with the Maple Leafs in Toronto on Thursday night but were outplayed in a 2-1 loss. The deciding game will be Saturday night. **C1.**

Protests must be peaceful, Biden says

Defends right to dissent but denounces campus 'chaos'

By Peter Baker
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Biden broke days of silence on Thursday to finally speak out on the wave of protests on American college campuses against Israel's war in the Gaza Strip that have inflamed much of the country, denouncing violence and antisemitism even as he defended the right to peaceful dissent.

In a previously unscheduled televised statement from the White House, Biden offered a forceful condemnation of students and other protesters who in his view have taken their grievances over the war too far. But he rejected Republican calls to deploy the National Guard to rein in the campuses.

"There's the right to protest, but not the right to cause chaos," Biden said into cameras in his first personal remarks on the campus fray in 10 days. "People have the right to get an education, the right to get a degree, the right to walk across the campus safely without fear of being attacked." Antisemitism, he added, "has no place" in the United States.

The president's comments came as universities across the nation continued to struggle to restore order.

Police officers in riot gear arrested about 200 people as they cleared a protest encampment at the University of California Los Angeles, while other officers removed demonstrators occupying a library at Portland State University in Oregon. Activists erected 30 tents at the University of Wisconsin

BIDEN, Page A9

At Northeastern, resolve, concern as police closed in

School now says decision was made 24 hours before

By Danny McDonald
GLOBE STAFF

and Alexa Coultoff
and Lila Hempel-Eggers
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

At around 8:30 p.m. last Friday, a protester made an important announcement to the 100 or so people huddled on Northeastern University's Centennial Common, where the day before students had erected an encampment to protest Israel's war in Gaza.

Organizers of Huskies for a Free Palestine, the protester said, had heard from a "credible source"

► Pro-Israel counterprotesters visit pro-Palestinian encampment at Harvard. **B1.**

that sometime that night or early the next morning, a moving company would assist State Police with a sweep of the encampment.

"Call friends and people you trust to take your belongings away from campus," the protester continued, adding that others should prepare to resist arrest. "If you need to sleep, sleep now and be up."

The warning would prove prescient. Around

NORTHEASTERN, Page A9

Moderna is at a crossroads as demand for vaccine wanes

Analysts split on company's prospects after COVID

By Jonathan Saltzman
and Robert Weisman
GLOBE STAFF

Plunging sales of Moderna's breakthrough COVID-19 vaccine have touched off a Wall Street debate about the future of a biotech company once seen as the brightest star in the Massachusetts drug-making firmament.

Sales of Moderna's messenger RNA vaccine fell 91 percent in the first quarter from a year earlier, a dramatic illustration of waning demand for protection from the virus that caused a global pandemic. The Cambridge company's earnings report, posted Thursday, continued a downward trend for sales of the biotech's vaccine, Spikevax.

Nevertheless, Moderna's shares surged more than 12.5 percent on the Nasdaq exchange, apparently because the revenue drop wasn't as sharp as many investors had anticipated. Sales of Spikevax, Moderna's only marketed product, plummeted to \$167 million from \$1.9 billion last year. That actually beat analysts' predictions of \$97.5 million.

"The stock is eliciting some head scratching" among skeptics who think the stock is overvalued and question if the company can meet the same success with follow-on products, said Mani Fooohar, an analyst with Boston investment bank Leerink Partners who is among the doubters.

Barely known to most people five years ago, Moderna became a household name early in the pandemic. It raced New York-based phar-

MODERNA, Page A6



Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt shine in new action film "The Fall Guy;" find reviews & more.



In today's paper
LOCAL: Florida issues emergency rules for exceptions under new 6-week abortion ban. 3A

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Haiti presidential council reverses decision on a prime minister, but crisis continues

BY JACQUELINE CHARLES
jcharles@miamiherald.com

A majority bloc within Haiti's newly installed presidential council is doing an about-face on its selection of the country's next prime minister, saying it will return to the original political agreement to choose the leader of the transitional government from a pool of appli-

cants. In a press statement issued late Wednesday, the newly emerged political alliance, which is calling itself "The Indissoluble Majority Bloc," said its four members have resolved to return to the April 3 political agreement that expresses a common vision of the transition to a new government among the nine sectors and political parties that make up

the transitional presidential council. The accord outlines a roadmap for the transition and the governance of the nine-member council tasked with restoring security and staging general elections by Feb. 7, 2026. It also explains how the seven members with voting rights are to go about choosing a president to coordinate their affairs, select a new prime minister and form a new cabinet.

In a surprising and controversial move on Tuesday, four of the voting members decided to forgo a public vote on the presidency of the council. They said they had, instead, decided among themselves that former Sen. Edgard Leblanc would serve in the role. They also said they had reached an agreement to designate

Fritz Bélizaire, a former minister of youth and sports, as the next prime minister. Hours later, a document was leaked showing the names of the council's four members who had signed onto the nomination: Smith Augustin, Louis Gérard Gilles, Emmanuel Vertilaire and Leblanc. Bélizaire's nomination immediately plunged the council into its first crisis

and threatened its implosion. Members of the majority bloc, who represent sectors close to former President Michel Martelly's Haitian Tèt Kale Parti, or PHTK, were accused of having already distributed key government ministries such as finance, interior and justice, and engaging in the kind of political horse-trading that has

SEE HAITI, 2A

County is preparing to take care of Seaquarium's animals if needed

BY DOUGLAS HANKS
dhanks@miamiherald.com

As an eviction fight ramps up, Miami-Dade County said Wednesday it will be ready to take custody of the sea lions, dolphins, birds and other animals belonging to the Miami Seaquarium.

"The county is currently putting together a contingency plan in case we do have to care for the animals," Melanie Spencer, an assistant county attorney, told a federal judge during a Wednesday afternoon hearing on a Seaquarium effort to block the eviction notice Miami-Dade issued two weeks ago.

A Seaquarium lawyer warned that park animals were at risk if Miami-Dade steps in to take care of them, telling U.S. District Judge Jacqueline Becerra the county isn't ready for that undertaking.

"I don't believe they understand the scope of the number of animals in [the Seaquarium's] custody," said Hilton Napoleon II, a Coral Gables lawyer representing the theme park. "The amount of food they eat. Why the dolphins need to eat ice."

The competing scenarios of a county Seaquarium takeover rested mainly on a legal argument, rather than Miami-Dade threatening to take custody of the theme park's menagerie as part of the eviction proceedings.

The hundreds of animals in the Seaquarium belong to the Dolphin Company, which

SEE SEAQUARIUM, 2A

GETTING REVVED UP



PHOTOS BY MATIAS J. OCNER mocner@miamiherald.com

Formula 1 auto racing comes to town this week for the Crypto.com Miami Grand Prix, and it's sure to be fast fun overflowing with the rich and internationally famous. Drivers had a bit of fun on Thursday at the Miami International Autodrome next to Hard Rock Stadium. Above, RB drivers Yuki Tsunoda and Daniel Ricciardo try to catch a football and below Scuderia Ferrari mechanics move Carlos Sainz's and Charles Leclerc's cars after a team photo.

More coverage: Street closures, 3A and A look into the cultural spectacle, 14A



Appeals court clears convicted Miami-Dade cop of lying, battering young Black woman

BY CHARLES RABIN
crabin@miamiherald.com

Two years ago a jury convicted a Miami-Dade Police Officer of lying on an arrest form and battering a young Black woman who called police after an older white male neighbor pointed a shotgun at her. Video of the incident was jarring and rocketed through social media. Community leaders cried out and the officer - whose job was to train others - was fired.

Late Wednesday, the conviction of former Field Training Officer Alejandro Giraldo was overturned by the 3rd District Court of Appeal in Miami. The three-judge panel reasoned in its seven-page ruling that the state's argument that Giraldo falsified the arrest form was "subjective." The court said since intent could not be proven, the battery charge would also be dismissed.

Giraldo, sentenced to a year minus a day in jail and 18 months probation, only spent part of the day he was convicted in jail. He's been released since on an appeal bond.

"... the State attempts to criminalize a whole new category of statements relying on subjective opinions and perceptions, as opposed to objective falsehoods. Because Giraldo's subjective interpretation wasn't clearly refuted by objective facts, it didn't—and couldn't—rise to the

SEE GIRALDO, 2A

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WEST SHORE HOME

Can anyone write a hit song?

Jude Rogers finds out

Film & Music G2



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Dua Lipa *Radical Optimism* ★★★



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PM to allow oil and gas exploration at sites intended for offshore wind

Helena Horton
Kiran Stacey
Pippa Crerer

Fossil fuel companies will be allowed to explore for oil and gas under offshore wind sites for the first time, the government will announce today, in a move that campaigners say is further proof that ministers are abandoning the climate agenda.

The North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA), which regulates North Sea oil and gas production, will confirm it is granting about 30 licences

to companies to look for hydrocarbons on sites earmarked for future offshore windfarms.

The move has renewed criticism of Rishi Sunak by environmentalists, including his own former net zero tsar, who say any future oil and gas production could hamper clean energy generation. But it will give the prime minister a welcome piece of news to sell to his restive backbenchers - many of whom are keen to see more oil and gas production in the North Sea - after what are set to be a bruising set of local election results.

Chris Skidmore, the former Tory

MP who quit as Sunak's net zero tsar in protest at the government's climate policies, said: "With a general election just months away this is a deeply irresponsible and divisive move that goes against all advice from the IEA

'This is a political and cynical stunt that will only backfire'

Chris Skidmore
Former net zero tsar

[International Energy Agency] or the UN, and regrettably will further set back the UK's climate reputation. The investment should instead be in more wind and renewables. More fossil fuels will only create stranded assets and stranded jobs at a time when demand for oil and gas is falling."

He added: "This is a political and cynical stunt that will only backfire ... We need to stop playing politics with climate and people's future, and take a grownup position on seeking to find consensus for an end date to new oil and gas."

A spokesperson for the NSTA said:

"The NSTA have worked closely with other regulators to consider matters of co-location with offshore wind and other users."

Sources say that the oil exploration itself will not involve any drilling, with companies largely using data to decide whether sites have the potential to be profitable for extraction.

Supporters of the scheme add that if any sites under windfarms prove suitable for production, the platforms will be able to use power from the wind turbines to lower their emissions. They will also have to strike an agreement with



'Order must prevail' Biden warning on campus protests

Page 6 →

Swinney on track to be first minister

Severin Carrell
Libby Brooks

John Swinney is expected to be crowned Scotland's next first minister within days after his only rival ruled herself out and pledged to support his candidacy.

Kate Forbes, the former finance secretary who came close to winning the SNP leadership last year, said she was persuaded to step aside because Swinney promised he would "govern from the mainstream".

Barring a challenge from an outsider, Swinney is likely to be confirmed as the Scottish National party's next leader without a contest on Monday afternoon, and to take his seat as first minister by Wednesday.



PHOTOGRAPH: ÉTIENNE LAUKENT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Fútbol

Michel: "Quiero que se recuerde cómo juega el Girona" —P34 Y 35



Agentes de la policía inmovilizaban ayer a un manifestante en la UCLA, en Los Ángeles. MIKE BLAKE (REUTERS)

La policía reprime las protestas por Gaza en los campus de EE UU

● Biden hace un llamamiento a los manifestantes para que eviten la violencia y "sembrar el caos" ● Detenidas más de 200 personas en Los Ángeles tras el desalojo de un campamento

M. A. SÁNCHEZ-VALLEJO
M. PORCEL
Nueva York / Los Ángeles

La policía ha empezado a reprimir las protestas por la guerra de Gaza en las universidades de Estados Unidos. Las movilizaciones se han propagado por

los centros educativos de todo el país. Ayer fueron detenidas más de 200 personas en Los Ángeles de la universidad californiana

UCLA, después de que se negaran a desalojar un campamento proalestino. El presidente de EE UU, Joe Biden, hizo un llama-

mamiento a evitar la violencia. "Existe el derecho a protestar, pero no el derecho a sembrar el caos", dijo. Sí rechazó el despliegue de la Guardia Nacional para desalojar a los manifestantes, como están pidiendo los republicanos. —P2 Y 3

Francia y Reino Unido temen el contagio de las movilizaciones en sus universidades —P3

Miles de letrados mayores de 70 años siguen trabajando por la escasez de sus pensiones

La precariedad llega tras una vida con toga

M. MORENO MENDIETA
Madrid

José Antonio Iglesias tiene 75 años y es uno de los más de 4.500 abogados que, superados los 70, continúan al pie del cañón por la escasez de la pensión que le quedó, 600 euros al mes, tras cotizar

desde 1977 a la Mutualidad de la Abogacía. Miles de letrados se han organizado para que el Gobierno ponga en marcha una pasarela que permita convertir el dinero ahorrado en la mutualidad en años cotizados a la Seguridad Social. —P26

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ELECCIONES 12-M

Sánchez reaparece con un alegato en defensa de la "política limpia"

El líder del PSOE apoya a Illa y arremete contra los "poderosos"

JOSÉ MARCOS
Barcelona

El presidente del Gobierno, Pedro Sánchez, reapareció ayer, en la campaña de las elecciones catalanas, con un alegato en defensa de la "política limpia" y contra los "poderosos". El líder socialista acudió a Barcelona para dar su apoyo al candidato del PSC, Salvador Illa. —P14

Vox extrema en Cataluña su discurso islamófobo —P15

El diálogo social se estanca tras los pactos de la pandemia

GORKA R. PÉREZ
EMILIO SÁNCHEZ HIDALGO
Madrid

El diálogo social entre Gobierno, empresarios y sindicatos se ha estancado. Tras los 14 pactos alcanzados durante la pandemia para evitar el colapso socioeconómico, las mesas de negociación entre las tres partes se han ralentizado por la secuencia de citas electorales. —P25

Sanidad
El Supremo levanta el veto a un fármaco genérico que va a ahorrar 138 millones al año —P30

Investigación
Hallada una mutación genética que causa la espina bífida —P31