

Is Pope Francis Leading the Church to a Schism?

REVIEW

WSJ

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What's News

World-Wide

A federal judge in Texas invalidated the Obama-era DACA initiative that provided deportation protections and work permits to some young immigrants, a ruling that places the program in jeopardy. **A1**

◆ **Border Patrol agents** have made more than a million arrests at the U.S.-Mexico border so far this year, already higher than any full-year total since at least 2005. **A2**

◆ **The Biden administration** is warning American businesses about the increasing risks of operating in Hong Kong as China's tightening grip on the city causes business conditions to deteriorate. **A1**

◆ **Five senior officers** of Haiti's National Police have been detained in connection with the assassination of President Moïse, Haiti's National Police chief said. **A8**

◆ **One month after** California fully reopened for business, many of the state's most populous counties are putting their masks back on amid rising Covid-19 infections. **A3**

◆ **Big names in corporate America** have resumed donating to GOP lawmakers who voted against certifying Biden's victory after announcing pauses or reviews of their political donations in response to the Capitol riot. **A4**

Business & Finance

◆ **Shoppers in the U.S.** stepped up retail spending in June, offering a boost to the economic recovery as it faces concerns about accelerating inflation. **A1**

◆ **The extra return** investors demand to hold lower-rated corporate bonds over ultrasafe Treasuries has fallen within striking distance of all-time lows. **B1**

◆ **Lordstown Motors** confirmed the DOJ is probing its business, investigating matters related to its reverse merger deal and preorders for its forthcoming pickup truck. **B3**

◆ **China sent regulators** including state security and police officials to Didi Global's ride-hailing business as part of a cybersecurity investigation. **A6**

◆ **U.S. stocks fell** and snapped a three-week winning streak. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq both lost 0.8% on Friday, while the Dow retreated 0.9%. **B15**

◆ **The cost of refinancing** government-backed home loans is expected to fall as Fannie and Freddie are set to drop a fee imposed last year amid the pandemic. **A3**

◆ **Binance, the world's** largest cryptocurrency exchange operator, said it would stop offering digital tokens tied to stocks such as Apple and Tesla. **B15**

OPINION

The Woke Threat To Philanthropy **A11**

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Flooding in Europe Leaves Trail of Death and Destruction



DISASTER: Rescuers in Germany and neighboring countries raced to find survivors from the region's worst flooding in decades, as the death toll rose to more than 120. Above, a scene of damage in the Blessem district of Erfstadt in Germany. **A7**

DACA Program Is Ruled Unlawful by Federal Judge

Migrants are blocked from new protections, but effect on current recipients is postponed

By BRENT KENDALL
AND MICHELLE HACKMAN

A federal judge in Texas on Friday invalidated an Obama-era initiative that provided deportation protections and work permits to some young immigrants, a ruling that places the program in jeopardy.

U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen ruled the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program was unlawful because Congress never gave the executive branch the power to grant mass reprieves to immigrants who are in the U.S. without authorization.

"As popular as this program might be, the proper origina-

tion point for the DACA program was, and is, Congress," Judge Hanen, a George W. Bush nominee, wrote.

Judge Hanen's ruling barred the Biden administration from approving new DACA applications. But the judge stayed the immediate effect of his ruling on current DACA recipients, citing their longtime reliance on the program, meaning there won't be upheaval right away for those people who are currently in good standing.

Current recipients will also be allowed to renew their status under the program, the ruling said.

The judge sent the matter back to the Department of Homeland Security for it to determine how to proceed. DHS has previously said it is working on a formal regulation to codify a DACA-like program in the coming months, which po-

tentially could firm up some legal vulnerabilities.

The case is likely to see additional legal proceedings at higher-level courts, which could leave any final outcome many months away.

The White House, Justice Department and DHS didn't respond to requests for comment.

DACA has offered temporary protections to any immigrants in the country without legal authorization who were 30 or younger when the program was announced. DACA recipients must have arrived in the U.S. by 2007, before they turned 16, and satisfied other conditions, including being a student or graduate and having no significant criminal record.

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◆ **Border arrests top a million for this year.....A2**

U.S. Warns Firms Of Hong Kong Risk

By WILLIAM MAULDIN
AND ALEX LEARY

WASHINGTON—The Biden administration is warning American businesses about the increasing risks of operating in Hong Kong as China's tightening grip on the city causes business conditions to deteriorate.

In an advisory issued Friday, the Biden administration cautions businesses and individuals working for them that they are subject to a restrictive national-security law that Beijing imposed on Hong Kong a year ago. The advisory cites the risks of electronic surveillance without warrants and of being compelled to surrender corporate and customer data to the government.

"This new legal landscape...could adversely affect businesses and individuals op-

erating in Hong Kong," said the advisory, jointly issued by the Treasury, State, Commerce and Homeland Security departments. "As a result of these changes, they should be aware of potential reputational, regulatory, financial, and, in certain instances, legal risks associated with their Hong Kong operations."

In addition to the advisory, the Treasury Department added seven Chinese officials working in China's main government office in Hong Kong to a sanctions list that already includes many leading officials in the city. The move blocks any assets in the U.S. financial system and puts U.S. citizens on notice not to deal with them.

Beijing deployed the national-security law to stamp out an antigovernment protest movement that rocked Hong

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Wall Street's New Rivalry: Who Can See the Most People in Person

Dealmakers get back on the road, and JPMorgan awards points for meetings

By CARA LOMBARDO
AND DAVID BENOIT

Wall Street investment bankers are well-acustomed to jockeying for multimillion-dollar fees on corporate deals. Now, the game is focused on just showing up.

After more than a year of Zoom, Wall Street's elite are beginning to emerge from behind their screens and returning to the timeworn custom of in-person client visits, handshakes and wine-soaked dinners.

Rivals Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and JPMorgan Chase & Co., which have already brought their employees back to the office faster than the rest of Wall Street, are urging their bankers to get out and visit boldfaced corporate clients—a nod quickly, before others do.

Goldman chief David Solomon began touting the importance of traveling to see clients as soon as New York state quarantine restrictions softened in early April, people

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Heading out

EXCHANGE



POWER DYNAMIC
Adam Neumann and Masayoshi Son fueled WeWork's rise—and fall. **B1**

Beijing Targets Tibet For Assimilation

China expands surveillance and restrictions, borrowing some tactics used in Xinjiang

By LIZA LIN, EVA XIAO
AND JONATHAN CHENG

MAQEN, China—A quiet state-run campaign is ramping up the assimilation of one of China's most recognizable minorities.

At Lari, a small Tibetan Buddhist monastery in the Qinghai province, devotees spin prayer wheels under the watchful eye of surveillance cameras and a large portrait of Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

To the north, monks at the 127-year-old Xin Monas-

tery say new restrictions on youth participation are making it hard to bring in recruits. Across the region, schools are slashing recruitment of teachers who give classes in Tibetan and replacing traditional artwork with posters of Chinese leaders.

Mr. Xi has made it a national priority to forge a single Chinese identity in the name of unity—one centered on the Han Chinese majority and loyalty to the Communist Party. The government's

Please turn to page A10



My wild crypto ride

Lessons from a flutter on the new financial frontier

LIFE & ARTS

Germany fears climate change caused floods

More than 100 die as rivers overflow

GUY CHAZAN — BERLIN

German politicians have blamed climate change for the devastating floods in the west of the country that killed at least 105 people and left a trail of devastation in their wake.

Rivers across the region burst their banks after days of heavy rain. Houses were swept away, bridges and roads were destroyed and several town centres were left in ruins.

In the western state of Rhineland-Palatinate, 100 people were unaccounted for. Other countries were affected, with 14 dead in Belgium.

Armin Laschet, governor of North Rhine-Westphalia, one of the worst-affected German regions, said the country was experiencing a "flooding catastrophe of historic proportions".

Laschet, the conservatives' candidate to succeed Angela Merkel as chancellor after September's election, said the government should accelerate efforts to combat climate change. "Germany must go down the path towards carbon neutrality more quickly now," he said.

Scientists have warned that extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and heatwaves will increase as the planet continues to warm. Ursula von der Leyen, European Commission president, echoed those concerns when

asked about the floods. "Science tells us that with climate change we see more and more extreme weather phenomena that last longer," she said.

Speaking in Washington before talks with US president Joe Biden, Merkel pledged she would deploy "all the powers of the state" to help those affected. Horst Seehofer, Germany's interior minister, told Der Spiegel that the government would provide financial aid to the affected regions as quickly as possible.

Seehofer, 72, a political veteran, said that "in my entire career in Germany I have never seen such a flood with such terrible consequences, with so many deaths and so many people missing".

He added: "Any sensible person must get the fact that freak weather of this intensity and frequency is not a normal phenomenon in this part of the world but the consequences of man-made global warming."

This month's floods across Europe are expected to lead to another billion-dollar loss for insurers, according to broker Aon. It follows a torrent of hail and heavy rain in June that Aon forecast would lead to \$4.5bn in payouts, making it Europe's costliest two-week stretch.

Additional reporting by Erika Solomon and Ian Smith
EU climate policy page 3
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Golden rule Athletes warned against podium protests at Tokyo Olympics



US sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos raise their fists in support of civil rights at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, one of the highest-profile protests made by athletes.

But Thomas Bach, president of the International Olympic Committee, has warned athletes against such gestures at the forthcoming Tokyo Olympics. He told the Financial

Times that "the podium and the medal ceremonies are not made... for a political or other demonstration".

Tokyo activism page 4
FT View page 8

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Cinderella and theatre's return

LIFE & ARTS



Cuba

The coming revolution?

BIG READ



Survivors' stories

Norway 10 years on

LIFE & ARTS



The boating dream

New lives at sea

LIFE & ARTS



Russia hopes for trade off with Siberian rail upgrade

Russia is spending \$17bn to propel its Soviet-era rail network into the 21st century and grab a bigger slice of the transport revenues in the billions of dollars of freight traded between Asia and Europe. The Baikal-Amur Mainline runs across 4,300km of eastern Siberia through some of the planet's toughest terrain to the Pacific. Competition from China's superfast trains could be a bigger obstacle. The average speed on Russia's network is 43km per hour.

Slow train > PAGE 2

Binance under fire on wider front after Lithuania and Hong Kong join the fray

ADAM SAMSON — LONDON

Regulators in Lithuania and Hong Kong have become the latest to crack down on Binance, further complicating one of the largest cryptocurrency exchange's efforts to do business in key jurisdictions.

Lithuania's central bank said yesterday a Vilnius-based Binance payments affiliate was providing "unlicensed investment services". Meanwhile, Hong Kong's regulator issued a warning over the exchange's stock tokens trading programme, which this year faced scrutiny in the UK and Germany. Binance said it would shut the tokens scheme for "commercial" reasons.

The censures, which follow similar moves from Italy and the UK, may further limit Binance's ability to link up with the traditional system.

Watchdogs have expressed concern over issues including securities rules and consumer protection. Binance struggled to keep its compliance function on a par with its growth, people familiar with its operations have said.

The warning from the UK's Financial Conduct Authority in June, while limited in scope, proved the first in a string of responses to one of the biggest crypto market participants. It prompted high street banks Barclays and Santander to restrict customers from sending funds to the Caymans-incorporated company.

Clear function, a UK payments group that had connected Binance to euro and sterling money transfer networks, also cut off the exchange this week.

"We take a collaborative approach in working with regulators, and we take our compliance obligations very seriously," the exchange said yesterday.

Most of the group's trading is in crypto assets and their derivatives, but Binance relies on traditional and generally regulated companies to allow customers to put hard currency on the exchange. Lithuania's intervention could damage this link to payments entities in Europe.

The affiliate Binance UAB, owned by chief executive Changpeng Zhao, acts as a payment "agent" for the group, the exchange's website states. The exchange said Binance UAB "does not provide investment services and it does not operate or control Binance.com".

But the articles of association for the entity, filed last year, say its main activities include "investing in virtual assets" and "establishment of funds to invest in virtual assets". The bureau's terms of service had described the company as a Binance "operator" until at least July 5.

On Wall Street page 14

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Jul 16	prev	%chg		Jul 16	prev	%chg		price	yield	%chg
S&P 500	4340.31	4390.03	-1.15	\$ per €	1.181	1.182	-0.08	US Gov 10 yr	148.18	1.31	-0.02
Nasdaq Composite	14502.88	14643.13	-0.96	£ per \$	1.379	1.380	-0.07	UK Gov 10 yr	0.63	-0.04	-0.01
Dow Jones Ind	34504.52	34987.02	-1.39	¥ per \$	0.856	0.852	0.47	Ger Gov 10 yr	-0.35	-0.02	-0.01
FTSE Euro Stoxx 50	1754.84	1761.30	-0.36	₹ per \$	110.105	110.035	0.06	Japan Gov 10 yr	117.95	0.02	0.01
FTSE 100	4032.74	4056.39	-0.58	₹ per €	151.852	152.564	-0.47	US Gov 30 yr	115.13	1.94	-0.01
FTSE MIB	7008.09	7012.02	-0.06	₹ per \$	1.086	1.085	0.09	Ger Gov 2 yr	105.73	-0.68	0.00
FTSE AEX	4002.80	4005.00	-0.06	₹ per \$	0.847	0.846	0.12				
CAC 40	6460.98	6493.36	-0.51								
Nikkei 225	15640.31	15623.66	-0.11								
Hang Seng	28003.96	28270.01	-0.96								
MSCI World \$	3043.52	3050.59	-0.23								
MSCI EM \$	1348.48	1338.13	0.77								
MSCI ACWI	723.86	728.09	-0.57								



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U.S. STOOD BEHIND HAITI'S PRESIDENT AS TURMOIL GREW

FEARS OF CRISIS IGNORED

Long Before Deadly Plot, a Washington Habit of Backing Autocrats

By NATALIE KITROEFF
and MICHAEL CROWLEY

As protesters hurled rocks outside Haiti's national palace and set fires on the streets to demand President Jovenel Moïse's resignation, President Donald J. Trump invited him to Mar-a-Lago in 2019, posing cheerfully with him in one of the club's ornate entryways. After members of Congress warned that Mr. Moïse's "anti-democratic abuses" reminded them of the run-up to the dictatorship that terrorized Haiti in decades past, the Biden administration publicly threw its weight behind Mr. Moïse's claim on power.

And when American officials urged the Biden administration to change course, alarmed that Haiti's democratic institutions were being stripped away, they say their pleas went unheeded — and sometimes never earned a response at all.

Through Mr. Moïse's time in office, the United States backed his increasingly autocratic rule, viewing it as the easiest way of maintaining stability in a troubled country that barely figured into the priorities of successive administrations in Washington, current and former officials say.

Even as Haiti spiraled into violence and political upheaval, they say, few in the Trump administration took seriously Mr. Moïse's repeated warnings that he faced plots against his life. And as warnings of his authoritarianism intensified, the Biden administration kept up its public support for Mr. Moïse's claim to power, even after Haiti's Parliament emptied out in the absence of elections and Mr. Moïse ruled by decree.

When Mr. Moïse was assassinated this month, it left a gaping leadership void that set off a scramble for power with the few elected officials remaining. The

Continued on Page 6

Where Few Got Covid Vaccine, Many Get Sick

By SHARON LaFRANIERE

MOUNTAIN HOME, Ark. — When the boat factory in this leafy Ozark Mountains city offered free coronavirus vaccinations this spring, Susan Johnson, 62, a receptionist there, declined the offer, figuring she was protected as long as she never left her house without a mask.

Linda Marion, 68, a widow with chronic pulmonary disease, worried that a vaccination might actually trigger Covid-19 and kill her. Barbara Billigmeier, 74, an avid golfer who retired here from California, believed she did not need it because "I never get sick."

On July 8, all three were patients on 2 West, an overflow ward that is now largely devoted to treating Covid-19 at Baxter Regional Medical Center, the largest hospital in north-central Arkansas. Mrs. Billigmeier said the scariest part was that "you can't breathe." For 10 days, Ms. Johnson had relied on supplemental oxygen being fed to her lungs through nasal tubes.

Ms. Marion said that at one point, she felt so sick and frightened that she wanted to give up. "It was just terrible," she said. "I felt like I couldn't take it."

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Parched farmland in California, which is experiencing its most severe drought since the 1970s.



Flooding from heavy rain killed at least 170, mostly in Germany, last week. Hundreds are missing.

Has the Time Come to Let the Games Be Gone?

By JOHN BRANCH

In the middle of the night nearly two years ago, construction crews gathered near Senso-ji, Tokyo's oldest Buddhist temple and a popular tourist site. The streets were empty, the air was sultry and the workers hoped it would not rain. Machines rumbled to life.

It was a little thing, barely noticed. But it was a sign of the sometimes futile and farcical lengths taken to put on the biggest show in sports.

More than 1,000 Japanese had died of heat-related causes in July and August of 2018 and 2019, and several Olympic test events in Tokyo had made athletes ill and had scuttled schedules. Dramatic measures for the upcoming Olympics were required.

In Olympics, Critics See a System Doing More Harm Than Good

Among them was this project, resurfacing the 26.2-mile marathon course with a shiny, reflective coating meant to bounce the heat away. It was a small expense for an event that would cost billions, and officials were not entirely sure it would do much good. But inch by inch, with large machines making whooshing noises over several hot August nights, the marathon course was unveiled in a silvery stripe.

Two months later, officials moved the marathon course 500

miles north to Sapporo, which has cooler weather. Left behind was the meandering stripe through central Tokyo, a marker of regrettable ideas.

Six months later, the coronavirus pandemic postponed the 2020 Tokyo Games for a year. Many Japanese wondered if this bloated sports festival was worthwhile anymore, worth the risks to public health or the billions spent on venues and stagecraft and other concessions to the International Olympic Committee.

Too late. The Summer Olympics are happening, amid a spiking pandemic and in mostly empty venues. The opening ceremony on Friday will bring curiosity and a question that might be aimed not just at the Tokyo Games, but at the entire Olympic movement:

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Patrons took in Alex Da Corte's installation "As Long as the Sun Lasts," on the Met's Roof Garden.

Climate Change Comes For the Wealthy Nations

Brutal Heat and Deadly Floods Show World Unprepared to Cope With Extreme Weather

By SOMINI SENGUPTA

Some of Europe's richest countries lay in disarray this weekend, as raging rivers burst through their banks in Germany and Belgium, submerging towns, slamming parked cars against trees and leaving Europeans shellshocked at the intensity of the destruction.

Only days before in the North-western United States, a region famed for its cool, foggy weather, hundreds had died of heat. In Canada, wildfire had burned a village off the map. Moscow reeled from record temperatures. And this weekend the northern Rocky Mountains were bracing for yet another heat wave, as wildfires spread across 12 states in the American West.

The extreme weather disasters across Europe and North America have driven home two essential facts of science and history: The world as a whole is neither prepared to slow down climate change, nor live with it. The week's events have now ravaged some of the world's wealthiest nations, whose affluence has been enabled by more than a century of burning coal, oil and gas — activities that pumped the greenhouse gases into the atmosphere that are warming the world.

"I say this as a German: The idea that you could possibly die from weather is completely alien," said Friederike Otto, a physicist at Oxford University who studies the links between extreme weather and climate change. "There's not even a realization that adaptation is

something we have to do right now. We have to save people's lives."

The floods in Europe have killed at least 170 people, most of them in Germany, Europe's most powerful economy. Across Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands, hundreds have been reported as missing, which suggests the death toll could rise. Questions are now being raised about whether the authorities adequately warned the public about risks.

The bigger question is whether the mounting disasters in the developed world will have a bearing on what the world's most influential countries and companies will do to reduce their own

Continued on Page 9



A wildfire in California during a record heat wave this month.

THE TOLL 12 residents of a care home were among the dead from the flooding in Germany. PAGE 8

Condo Cave-In Spooks Insurers Already Rattled by Hurricanes

This article is by Christopher Flavelle, Patricia Mazzei and Giulia Brevetti.

Steve Rosenthal escaped with his life when his condo building in Florida crumbled and left him homeless last month, but he still owes more than \$100,000 on his mortgage.

Mr. Rosenthal, a 72-year-old restaurant advertising executive, soon received two small insurance checks for living expenses and personal property, but he was still waiting for his big payout. He expects it to be over six figures, but it will probably go to the bank to pay off his mortgage on a condo that no longer exists.

"We're all freaking out," he said

of survivors of the partial collapse of Champlain Towers South in Surfside. "I don't want to dip into savings that I wasn't supposed to touch until I'm 80."

For Mr. Rosenthal and other survivors of the collapse, sorting out complicated insurance payouts is but one part of starting over after a catastrophic loss. And his fellow Floridians may soon be feeling the shock waves from the tragedy, as spooked insurance companies begin scrutinizing the buildings they are covering, raising rates that are already among the highest in the nation, or canceling coverage altogether.

The Surfside collapse, which killed at least 97 people, is causing

Continued on Page 20

New York Is Counting on Culture To Lead the Way on Reopening

This article is by Michael Paulson, Ben Sisario and Robin Pogrebin.

Broadway is planning to start performances of at least three dozen shows before the end of the year, but producers do not know if there will be enough tourists — who typically make up two-thirds of the audience — to support all of them.

The Metropolitan Opera is planning a September return, but only if its musicians agree to pay cuts.

And New York's vaunted nightlife scene — the dance clubs and live venues that give the city its reputation for never sleeping — has been stymied by the slow, problematic rollout of a federal aid program that mistakenly declared some of the city's best-known

A CITY STIRS

The Arts Hope for a Rebound

nightclub impresarios to be dead.

The return of arts and entertainment is crucial to New York's economy, and not just because it is a major industry that employed some 93,500 people before the pandemic and paid them \$7.4 billion in wages, according to the state comptroller's office. Culture is also part of the lifeblood of New York — a magnet for visitors and residents alike that will play a key role if the city is to remain vital in an era when shops are battling e-commerce, the ease of remote work has businesses rethinking the need to stay in central business districts.

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NATIONAL 13-22

Bourdain in A.I.

The documentary uses a voice that makes Anthony Bourdain using artificial intelligence. Is it ethical? PAGE 22

Attacks in San Francisco

Recent violence against older Asian men and women has spurred differing reactions in the community. PAGE 13



INTERNATIONAL 14-12

Afghans Take Up Arms Again

As Taliban forces mount, regional power brokers have returned to recruiting militias. But some worry that the quick fix will cause a wider crisis. PAGE 4

Hospital Fires Spur Outrage

Two coronavirus wards have burned in three months, adding to Iraqis' unrelenting despair. PAGE 12

THE MAGAZINE

The Starbucks of the Right

Black Rifle Coffee doubled sales by leaning into America's culture war. Now it's distancing itself from customers.

SPORTS 26-29

The Dark Side of Chess

How can a 12-year-old become a grandmaster? Through hard work, and by cutting deals with opponents. PAGE 26

A U.S. Bid at the British Open

The young Americans Collin Morikawa and Jordan Spieth were close behind the veteran Louis Oosthuizen. PAGE 29

OBITUARIES 23-25

Hip-Hop's Brilliant Goofball

Biz Markie, whose unlikely crossover 1989 hit "Just a Friend" led one critic to call him (favorably) "the father of modern bad singing," was 57. PAGE 23

ARTS & LEISURE

His New Stage: Activism

When it comes to theaters reopening, Andrew Lloyd Webber is a thorn in the British government's side. PAGE 8

Popcorn and Possibilities

Cinemas are open, A.O. Scott writes. But with a new screen culture taking shape, what are movies now? PAGE 1



SUNDAY BUSINESS

Greeting Green Jobs Warily

Solar power benefits the environment, but doesn't always deliver rewards for the workers who help harness it. PAGE 1

What's Up With Watson?

IBM's supercomputer once made headlines, and seemed ready to change industries. It hasn't happened. PAGE 1

SUNDAY REVIEW

Michelle Goldberg

PAGE 4



A TIMES INVESTIGATION



TAMMY MARTINEZ claims spinal surgeon Lokesh Tantuwaya failed to notice circulation had been cut off to her left leg, necessitating its amputation. He's in jail on fraud charges, but his license is still valid.

Shielding physicians

California's medical board keeps doctors in business even after allegations of negligence causing injuries and deaths

Reporting by Jack Dolan and Kim Christensen | Photography by Carolyn Cole

Lenora Lewis hoped spinal surgery would relieve her chronic back pain. But when the mother of three from Lancaster awoke from the operation in 2003, she was paralyzed from the waist down, her feet numb but for the horrifying sensation of "a billion ants running through them."

What she didn't know then was that her surgeon, Dr. Mukesh Misra, had been publicly accused by the Medical Board of California of operating on the wrong side of another patient's brain.

In March, after investigating Lewis' case — and another in which a 46-year-old woman died of complications from a severed artery discov-

ered minutes after Misra operated on her spine — the medical board revoked his license for gross negligence, but then it stayed the action and placed him on probation, allowing him to keep practicing, which he is doing today.

Misra is among the 10 doctors most frequently found to have committed serious malpractice by the medical board, according to a Times analysis of board actions since 2008. The accusations substantiated by the board include gross negligence that left patients dead, paralyzed or missing limbs.

Some doctors also were alleged to have misled patients — and the board's own investigators — to conceal signifi-

[See Board, A10]



STAN GERBRANDT, a 69-year-old chiropractor, has had chronic pain in his right leg ever since an operation by Dr. John Chiu. He now must use a walker on his daily stroll.

MORE ONLINE: Dr. Kevin Ciresi, disciplined twice for DUIs but allowed to continue practicing medicine, ignored a patient's signs of infection; she died the next day. San Diego surgeon Lokesh Tantuwaya, indicted federally for fraud, is in jail awaiting trial, but his medical license is still active. Find more of The Times' analysis of the Medical Board of California at latimes.com.

GOP legislators rejected in O.C.

Three venues refuse to host event by controversial Trump allies. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Recall campaign in its final phase

A look at candidates who are hoping to oust Gov. Gavin Newsom. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

'Titane' wins top prize at Cannes

Director Julia Ducournau is the second woman to receive the Palme d'Or. **WORLD, A4**

Weather
Partly sunny.
L.A. Basin: 86/71. **B10**



Weighing the dangers of a Taliban return

By NABIH BULOS

KABUL, Afghanistan — Since the day the Taliban and the U.S. began negotiating almost two years ago, Laila Haidari hasn't had a good night's sleep.

Haidari owns Taj Begum, a cafe in Kabul's shabby-chic Pull Surkh neighborhood. Why would that make her a target of the Taliban's wrath? Let's count the ways.

Perhaps it's her jet-black bob, makeup and nail polish, all coordinated with a shimmering white shalwar kameez that's as far from a burqa as Kabul is from L.A. Or it could be the gaggle of young men and women who dare to sip tea together in Taj Begum's elegant garden. [See Afghanistan, A4]



LAILA HAIDARI tends the garden at her cafe, Taj Begum, in Kabul. As the U.S. leaves Afghanistan, many women there fear a return to repressive Taliban rule.

Family swipes \$18 million in COVID relief

San Fernando Valley clan set up fake businesses to get loans, then bought homes, gold, jewelry.

By MICHAEL FINNEGAN

The Tarzana couple were returning from a Caribbean beach vacation last October when they ran into trouble.

On a layover in Miami, a passport scan flagged Richard Ayvazyan and Marietta Terabelian for extra screening. Customs agents led them away. Their luggage and phones were searched.

Ayvazyan was carrying credit cards in the name of "Tullia Zhadko." Terabelian had one belonging to "Viktoria Kauchiko."

The FBI had been investigating "Zhadko" and "Kauchiko" for months — tailing suspects, rummaging through trash, poring over bank records. Agents suspected the names were aliases used to secure emer-

gency pandemic relief loans for fake small businesses in the San Fernando Valley. Ayvazyan and Terabelian looked to be part of a family fraud ring not well skilled at covering its tracks.

After hours of questioning, they were arrested at 3 a.m. and jailed for the rest of the night.

So began the unraveling of one of the more lurid scams that swindlers across the U.S. mounted last year as the government raced to send trillions of dollars in emergency funds to businesses upended by coronavirus lockdowns. Some of the players would ultimately turn on their own family members in a scramble to dodge prison time.

Just three days after Congress approved an initial \$2.2-trillion relief package in March 2020, "Zhadko" signed up for a \$12,000 loan for "Top Quality Contracting." The next day, "Kauchiko" requested \$150,000 for "Journeyman Construction."

What followed was a tor-

[See Fraud, A8]

9th Circuit hit by a year of reversals

U.S. justices rejected 15 of 16 rulings from West's liberal court.

By DAVID G. SAVAGE AND MAURA DOLAN

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court's favorite target again this year was the California-based U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which saw 15 of 16 rulings overturned on review.

For decades, the high court's conservatives have trained a skeptical eye on the historically liberal appeals court and regularly reversed its rulings, particularly on criminal law and the death penalty.

But by some estimates, this year saw the most Supreme Court reversals of 9th Circuit decisions since 1985. And the range of issues was broad, including immigration, religion, voting rights, property rights and class-action lawsuits.

In four years, President Trump appointed 10 judges to the appeals court, a sprawling Western jurisdiction that includes nine states and two U.S. territories. Presidents Obama and George W. Bush each named seven judges to the 9th Circuit in their eight

years in the White House.

Trump's 9th Circuit picks appear to have played a significant role this year by pressing for internal review of rulings they didn't like and joining sharp dissents that drew the interest of the Supreme Court.

"The more people who join the dissents, the more it gets the attention of the conservatives," said one 9th Circuit judge, speaking on the condition of not being identified by name. [See 9th Circuit, A7]

To bypass the heat, sockeye take the highway

By RICHARD READ

EAGLE, Idaho — The fish shimmed past her underwater office window inside the Lower Granite Dam, solo and in small groups, an endless parade of Chinook salmon, steelhead and shad.

Debbly Stallcop observed and counted, dutifully logging each traveler by species with a tap on a specialized keyboard.

Finally, an hour and a half into her shift at the eastern Washington dam, a lime-green fish, nearly 2 feet long with a forked tail, appeared through the glass. Its distinctively large eye seemed to stare back at her.

Stallcop reached for her desk phone and hit a number on speed dial.

"We've got a sockeye," she announced.

More precisely, a Snake River sockeye — a once-abundant fish pushed to the brink of extinction by overfishing, dam construction and climate change.

Billions of dollars have been spent over the last four decades to save Snake River salmon by restoring [See Salmon, A9]

Tragedy in Southeast
6-year-old girl killed in drive-by shooting as she walked home with family **METRO**



Meet your new wardrobe Return to the office with a casual look: Think elastic waistbands **BUSINESS**



New beginning Wes Unseld Jr., son of the franchise icon, is named Wizards' head coach **SPORTS**

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Envoys' daunting mission in Kabul

Troops' departure from Afghanistan creates hurdles at U.S. Embassy

BY MISSY RYAN,
KAREN DEYOUNG
AND DAN LAMOTHE

The conclusion of the Pentagon's two-decade effort in Afghanistan lays bare the challenges facing U.S. diplomats and aid workers who remain behind, as a modest civilian force attempts to propel warring Afghans toward peace and protect advances for women without the support and reach provided by the military mission.

Current and former officials described an array of obstacles that a shrinking cadre of civilians in the bunkered U.S. Embassy in Kabul must navigate, with the coronavirus pandemic and the specter of a possible diplomatic evacuation compounding the significant difficulties inherent to working in Afghanistan.

"In the absence of a military complement in Kabul, the task of the U.S. Embassy is made infinitely more complex, dangerous and difficult," said Hugo Llorens, who served as the top U.S. diplomat in Afghanistan under presidents Barack Obama and Donald Trump.

The diplomatic challenges have come into focus after President Biden's decision to withdraw U.S. forces by the end of August, a move that has emboldened the Taliban, which has intensified its campaign to retake lost ground, and deepened fears that the Kabul government could collapse.

Already a growing list of countries, including France and China, have evacuated their citizens from Afghanistan. Peace talks between

SEE AFGHANISTAN ON A19

It's time for a coronavirus reality check, experts say

BY JOEL ACHENBACH

Maria Van Kerkhove, a World Health Organization epidemiologist, was in her Geneva office last weekend preparing for a keynote address when a simple phrase came to mind. She had been pondering the dismaying rise in coronavirus infections globally during the previous three weeks, a reversal of promising trends in late spring. The surge came as people across much of the Northern Hemisphere were moving around again in a suddenly freewheeling summer — as if the pandemic were over.

She wrote in her notebook: "The world needs a reality check."

Van Kerkhove's subsequent comments on Twitter pointing out the lack of social distancing drew predictable flak from the social media trolls, something she has gotten used to in the past year and a half. But she is not an outlier. Around the world, scientists and public health officials fear that the world's protracted battle against

SEE CORONAVIRUS ON A9

End of era: Maryland closes mass vaccination site at Six Flags. **C1**

Staying safe: What to know with the delta variant on the rise. **A8**

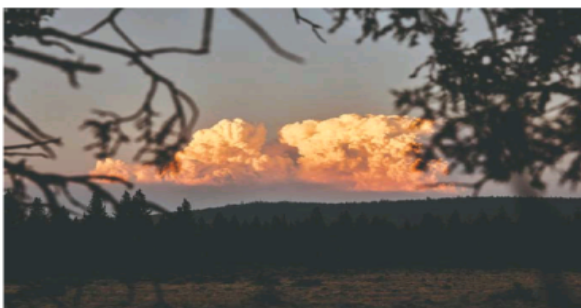


PHOTOS BY MASON TRINCA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

As wildfires rage, Oregon meets climate change with skepticism

Conservative towns near Bootleg Fire blame environmentalists and marijuana farmers

BY JOSHUA PARTLOW



TOP: Jim Rahl fills up his water tanker at the Lake County Fairgrounds on Wednesday in Lakeview, Ore. ABOVE: Pyrocumulus clouds in the distance in Klamath Falls, Ore. As the Bootleg Fire has become the largest wildfire in the West, many nearby have chosen to remain home despite evacuation orders.

SPRAGUE RIVER, ORE. — Youth pastor Matt Wolff and his wife, Jennifer, followed God's direction when they settled at the end of a rutted dirt track in the pine forests above this southern Oregon town.

And they have prayed plenty in the past two weeks as the plume of smoke that started beyond their neighbor's A-frame exploded into the largest of the dozens of wildfires burning in the American West, a conflagration that has already consumed 241,000 acres, destroyed at least 75 homes and other types of outbuildings, and has shown no signs of stopping as hot dry winds continue to scour Klamath County.

But the Wolffs and many of their neighbors in a ribbon of conservative towns and back-

SEE OREGON ON A12

Peru's Andean community feels forgotten



MICHAEL ROBINSON CHAVEZ/THE WASHINGTON POST

Despite Peru's economic success, outside of some paved roads and tractors, agricultural infrastructure in the Andes has hardly improved. Those who do the backbreaking work of harvesting in the hills are paid only 10 cents per kilo and feel resentment as the rest of the world eats well and they fall into poverty. The area's voters hope a new president will improve their lives, but more than a month after the election, a winner is yet to be declared. **Story, A16**

Tokyo's 1964 Games sequel may not take gold

These Olympics struggle to rise above pandemic

BY SIMON DENYER

TOKYO — When Tokyo staged the Olympics in 1964, the Games marked Japan's reemergence from the ashes of defeat in World War II and symbolized its readmission in the post-war international order. It was a moment of immense national pride.

The Games also crowned what author Robert Whiting calls "the greatest urban transformation in history." Thousands of buildings were put up in a furious rush, new subway lines and highways carved out of the city, five luxury hotels constructed, and the world's fastest train line, the bullet train to Osaka, opened just days before the Games.

"The Olympics signified Japan's reentry into the global community and Tokyo's change from a third-world, disease-ridden backwater into a high-tech megalopolis," said Whiting, who first arrived in Tokyo in 1962 "as a raw



NIEGE BORGES FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Gold medal moms Olympians who also are mothers no longer are forced to choose. **D1**

19-year-old GI from small-town America and ended up staying. Life magazine called the 1964 Olympics "the greatest Games ever."

It was always going to be hard making a sequel to live up to the original. So far Tokyo 2020, as the

SEE TOKYO ON A18

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BUSINESS...G1
CLASSIFIEDS...G9

COMICS...INSERT
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LOTTERIES...C3

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WORLD NEWS...A20

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Sonríe el rugby después de un largo receso

Aun con protocolos y sin público, volvió tras 21 meses el torneo de la URBA; los Pumas, en Cardiff, cerraron la gira con un buen triunfo sobre Gales: 33-11. Deportes



TANDIL ALBERGA EL SILICON VALLEY ARGENTINO

—el berlinés

Un pujante polo tecnológico demuestra la eficacia de la sinergia entre lo público y lo privado, apuesta a la industria del software y exporta a todo el mundo.

EL NARCO QUE PLANEABA ATENTAR CONTRA JUECES

—seguridad

Una línea de investigación apunta a que Mario Segovia, conocido como el Rey de la Efedrina, tenía explosivos para vengarse de funcionarios. Página 33

LA NACION

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Fernández ya definió a su candidata, pero siguen las tensiones en el oficialismo

LISTAS. Aunque busca imponer a Tolosa Paz en la provincia, el kirchnerismo aún no la avala

Con una oposición que ya tomó las principales decisiones, la atención central en la última semana antes del cierre de las listas legislativas estará en el oficialismo, especialmente en la provincia de Buenos Aires. Allí, el presidente Alberto Fernández ya hizo saber que su elegida para encabezar la nómina de diputados es la

presidenta del Consejo Nacional de Coordinación de Políticas Sociales, Victoria Tolosa Paz.

Sin embargo, su postulación no está definida porque aún no tiene el visto bueno del kirchnerismo, que preferiría otros candidatos y que instaló el nombre de Santiago Cafiero, el jefe de Gabinete, una

opción que el Presidente rechaza. "Falta la cumbre del G-2", dicen en el Frente de Todos, en referencia a la cumbre entre Fernández y Cristina Kirchner que se produciría esta semana. En el medio, la danza de nombres se entremezcló con operaciones cruzadas, pactos rotos y varios globos de ensayo. Página 12

EL ESCENARIO

Batallas cruentas en nombre de la unidad

Martín Rodríguez Yebra

Página 18

Cristina, a la espera de un fallo clave para su futuro

CORRUPCIÓN. Si se anulara la causa del pacto con Irán, podrían caer otros tres procesamientos

El tribunal que debate el pedido de Cristina Kirchner para anular el juicio por el pacto con Irán tiene en sus manos una decisión que puede torcer de manera drástica la suerte judicial de la vicepresidenta. Si aceptara el argumento que ella expuso el viernes de que los jueces Mariano Borinsky y Gustavo Hornos actuaron con parcialidad, podrían dispararse medidas similares en otros expedientes en los que ellos intervinieron: Los Sauces, Hotesur y Vialidad. Fuera de esa hipotética cascada quedaría la causa de los cuadernos de las coimas. Página 22

EL ANÁLISIS

Una Justicia vip para la vicepresidenta

Joaquín Morales Solá

—LA NACION—

Ahora también hay juicios vip. La Justicia inauguró un sistema para privilegiados, al que solo acceden los que integran la casta gobernante. Nunca antes hubo una audiencia preliminar a un juicio oral y público, y ante el mismo tribunal que llevará luego el juicio (si es que lo lleva), para recibir el pedido de nulidad de una causa. Cristina Kirchner logró establecer ese sistema con una Justicia que no le puso límites. Continúa en la página 39

Marcharon en reclamo de vacunas para chicos

Página 28



Contrabando de soja: las balsas que mueven millones

FRONTERA. La ciudad misionera de El Soberbio, frente a Brasil, crece sin control de la mano de un negocio irregular. Página 30

Diego Cabot
ENVIADO ESPECIAL

Balsas con cargas ilegales cruzan el río Uruguay, entre El Soberbio (Misiones) y Brasil

HERNÁN ZENTENO/ENVIADO ESPECIAL

Protestas. El embargo, epicentro de la puja ideológica que envuelve a Cuba

Rafael Mathus Ruiz
CORRESPONSAL EN EE.UU.

WASHINGTON.— Cuba es una isla, pero no está aislada del mundo. En 2019, antes de la pandemia del coro-

navirus, comerciaba con más de 70 países, según el propio régimen. Uno fue Estados Unidos, el tercer proveedor de alimentos y productos agrícolas, detrás de la Unión Europea y Brasil, según un informe del Congreso nor-

teamericano. Cuba tiene inversiones extranjeras, y obtiene dólares de las remesas y el turismo. Reliquia de la Guerra Fría, el embargo es uno de sus problemas, pero dista de ser el único o el principal. Continúa en la página 6

EL ESCENARIO

Un disfraz que nos costará muy caro

Jorge Fernández Díaz

Página 38

tóquio 2020

ENFIM, OS JOGOS VÃO COMEÇAR

Após ter sido adiada no ano passado, a Olimpíada de Tóquio-2020 finalmente se materializa para uma edição sem precedentes, realizada em meio à pandemia; cobertura especial tem início hoje p. 1

+ ANÁLISE Leandro Colon
Política e dinheiro ignoram bom senso, e capital japonesa vive medo p. 2

MÔNICA BERGAMO

Paulo Coelho afirma que é preciso não se vitimizar diante de ataques à cultura

Ilustrada Ilustríssima C2



Julia Ducournau, premiada em Cannes Valéry Hache/AFP

'Titane', da diretora Julia Ducournau, ganha a Palma de Ouro em Cannes

Mundo A15

Ricardo A. Pereira Chame, hic, uma ambulância, hic

O atleta destrutível que é indiferente a uma pandemia foi hospitalizado com crise de soluços. Difícil de entender os desígnios da natureza. Por que razão há de o brasileiro suportar a doce pandemia e o gentil esgoto, mas se vergar perante o cruel soluço? Ilustrada Ilustríssima C3

População com 18 anos ou mais*

	ao menos uma dose	totalmente vacinada
Brasil	57,1%	21,0%
MS	73,1%	39,0%
RS	65,0%	28,2%
ES	62,3%	22,9%



Rafael Martins/Folhapress

COM IMUNIZAÇÃO, TURISMO NO NORDESTE VÊ RETOMADA

Ocupação de hotéis tem mostrado recuperação lenta, mas persistente, em cidades como Salvador; setor aguarda retomada das viagens de negócios e de grandes eventos Mercado A19

Totalmente vacinada



Números da pandemia

	Casos	Óbitos
Total	19,3 mil	541,3 mil
Méd. móvel	39,0 mil	1.196
Varição**	-23,3%	-23%
Em 24 h	32,7 mil	823

Dados das 20h de 17 jul *Ao menos uma dose: tomou dose única ou 1ª dose. Totalmente vacinada: tomou dose única ou 2ª dose **Em relação a 14 dias

Estágios

■ Acelerado
■ Estável
■ Desacelerado
■ Reduzido
Brasil
■ Desacelerado



EDITORIAIS A2

Caminho estreito

Sobre restrição orçamentária atual e no pós-2022.

Turismo orbital

A respeito de novo mercado aberto por bilionários.

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



Ronny Santos/Folhapress

SEM SINAL, TABLETS DA PREFEITURA NÃO AJUDAM ALUNOS

Alice Pedra, 7, e Clara Guimarães, 9, de Marsilac, são 2 dos 100 mil alunos paulistanos que não conseguem estudar por falta de acesso à internet, mesmo ganhando tablets cotidiano B3

Youtubers cubanos desafiam a ditadura

Com mistura de humor e política, primeira geração digital do país irrita regime, que responde com repressão

Chamados de delinquentes e de "manipuladores das emoções da população" pelo líder cubano Miguel Díaz Canel, youtubers que aderiram aos protestos na ilha irritam o regime com vídeos de humor e política.

No domingo (11), Dina Stars postou um vídeo direto das manifestações que explodiram contra o regime cubano em todo o país. Dois dias depois, foi presa em sua casa, enquanto dava uma entrevista, ao vivo, para uma TV espanhola.

Olhando direto para a câmera, declarou: "Torno o governo responsável por qualquer coisa que possa me acontecer". Ficou um dia na prisão.

Segundo familiares, três influenciadores digitais continuam presos.

O cônsul-geral de Cuba em São Paulo, Pedro Monzón, afirma que esses youtubers são cubanos de ultradireita, respaldados financeira e politicamente pelos Estados Unidos.

Para o brasileiro David Nemer, professor da Universidade da Virgínia que estuda a internet em Cuba, influenciadores digitais são novidade no país, com a qual as autoridades não sabem lidar.

"Essa é a primeira geração digital de Cuba. Estão acostumados com a forma de se comunicar da rede, de emitir opinião do jeito que querem." Mundo A13

Presos e vigiados, artistas cubanos comentam os protestos no país

Ilustrada Ilustríssima C6

Dobram os casos de alta patente impunes na Justiça

Em dez anos, mais do que dobrou a quantidade de processos que investigaram generais, brigadeiros e almirantes arquivados pela Justiça Militar. De 2011 a 2020, foram 52 casos arquivados, segundo informação do Superior Tribunal Militar. Na década anterior, eram 25. Poder A8

Pazuello nega ter negociado doses com intermediários

O ex-ministro da Saúde Eduardo Pazuello negou ter negociado a aquisição de vacinas. Reportagem da Folha revelou que ele prometeu a intermediadores comprar doses do imunizante Coronavac por quase o triplo do preço negociado pelo Instituto Butantan. Poder A11

Vida pós-vacina ainda requer cautela, dizem especialistas

Com milhões de brasileiros se imunizando contra a Covid-19, começa uma fase de transição da pandemia, com pequenas liberdades, mas médicos e cientistas recomendam cumprir todas as medidas de prevenção até que a cobertura vacinal chegue a pelo menos 70%. Saúde B1

Na crise, Congresso tenta emplacar reforma

O Congresso quer emplacar em 2021 a maior reforma eleitoral e política desde 1988. Os projetos vão do voto impresso à mudança na eleição de deputados e vereadores. Poder A4

Novos hábitos de consumo mudam foco das empresas

Líderes de grandes companhias dizem à Folha que as mudanças nos hábitos dos consumidores com a Covid devem nortear a estratégia quando a pandemia passar. Foco na oferta digital e soluções que economizem tempo do cliente são algumas das diretrizes pós-vírus. Mercado A17 a A19

Grupo mirava vender mais de 1 bilhão de doses

O grupo de vendedores informais de vacinas do qual Luiz Paulo Dominghetti fazia parte mirava entregar mais de 1 bilhão de doses e, emblefe, citava suposto acesso a autoridades. Poder A11

Ancestralidade e DNA embaralham cor da pele no país

A miscigenação "embaralhou" genes ligados à cor da pele e a outras características físicas da população, a ponto de traços visuais se desvincularem da ancestralidade. A semelhança genética, porém, não se reflete em igualdade entre aqueles que se declaram negros. Cotidiano B4 e B5



Exigirán test PCR y 5 días de cuarentena a los que lleguen del extranjero

Usarán 500.000 dosis de Pfizer para ampliar la franja etaria

Mañana darán a conocer hasta qué edad bajan el requisito para la vacunación. Jornada para la segunda inoculación tuvo escasa asistencia. Otra denuncia de robo de vacunas.

PÁGINA 2 a la 4

Trámites en Registro Público tienen mucha demora y genera pérdidas a escribanos

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Consultora advierte que bajante de los ríos es una amenaza para la reactivación

PÁGINA 36

Los candidatos de la oposición para intendente de Asunción no descartan la unidad

PÁGINA 12



Iniciativa. La cadena de Supermercados Stock contrató transportes escolares para ofrecer el servicio gratuito de traslado a vacunatorios en Central.

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DOMINGO

Raúl Cano Ricciardi, vice de Integración
"Uruguay puso al Mercosur en una situación delicada"

PÁGINA 14

Jeff Bezos tiene la mirada puesta en las estrellas, pero los pies firmes en la tierra

PÁGINA 54

Cuba: Una economía en crisis, sanciones y un modelo ineficaz, germen de protestas populares

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

L'ÉTÉ
DU FIGARO

VOYAGES TOQUÉS

NAPLES,
UNE FUSION
GOURMANDE

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FIGARO NONRéponses à la question
de vendredi :
Approuvez-vous
l'amende de 45 000 euros
pour les restaurateurs
qui ne contrôlèrent pas
le passe sanitaire
de leurs clients ?OUI 40% NON 60%
TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 193 730Votez aujourd'hui
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à l'isolement obligatoire
des personnes testées
positives au Covid-19 ?GONZALO FUENTES/REUTERS -
SEBASTIEN SORIANO/LE FIGAROMA SŒUR, MON MIROIR
BLANDINE ET LISON
DE CAUNES,
AINSI SONT-ELLES
PAGE 23FESTIVAL DE CANNES
LE PALMARÈS
DES CRITIQUES DU « FIGARO »
PAGE 12Boris Johnson fait le pari
du vaccin et de la liberté

Malgré la reprise des contaminations, le premier ministre britannique doit confirmer, lundi, la levée des restrictions sanitaires, estimant que la population vaccinée peut « vivre avec le virus ».

Malgré l'offensive du variant Delta, Boris Johnson ne recule pas et maintient la levée de presque toutes les restrictions sanitaires pour ce lundi. Ce sera le « retour à la normale » tant attendu, qui avait dû être repoussé d'un mois. Mais la

flambée des contaminations tempère quelque peu l'enthousiasme : les appels à la prudence se multiplient et certaines précautions, comme le port du masque, seront maintenues ou conseillées par endroits. En déplacement jeu-

di dans le centre de l'Angleterre, le premier ministre s'est dit confiant, estimant que le pire de la pandémie est derrière les Britanniques, pour peu qu'ils restent prudents. « Chaque jour qui passe, nous élevons le mur de l'immunité acquise par

la vaccination », a-t-il dit, pointant la nécessité de relancer l'économie. Il estime aussi que l'été, avec les écoles fermées et une pression moins forte sur le système de santé public, se prête à son pari. C'est maintenant ou jamais...

→ LA SITUATION RESTE FRAGILE MALGRÉ UNE FORTE COUVERTURE VACCINALE
→ « LE PASSE SANITAIRE GÉNÉRALISÉ EST AUSSI EFFICACE QU'UN CONFINEMENT »
PAGES 2, 3 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

Éric Dupond-Moretti a été mis en examen pour prise illégale d'intérêts. Le premier ministre lui « renouvelle sa confiance » tandis que les mondes politique et judiciaire s'inquiètent d'une position « intenable » pour l'exercice de ses fonctions. PAGE 8

ÉDITORIAL par Philippe Gélie pgelie@lefigaro.fr

L'invariant anglais

À l'heure où l'administration française se débat avec la légalité et l'application d'un passe sanitaire pour aller au cinéma ou au restaurant, l'Angleterre de Boris Johnson vogue toutes voiles dehors vers un grand large affranchi des contraintes liées au Covid. Lundi, le « Jour de la liberté », décalé d'un mois pour cause de variant Delta, verra la fin du masque obligatoire dans les transports et les lieux fermés, l'abandon des « jauges » et de la « distanciation » - sans substitut documentaire. Le pari reste audacieux face au regain de contaminations, mais il est rendu possible par le succès phénoménal d'un plan de vaccination qui a cassé le lien entre la propagation du virus et ses effets mortels. Première en Europe, la Grande-Bretagne restaure la « responsabilité individuelle » et décide de « vivre avec le Covid ».

De Gaulle avait raison, la force de ce pays est d'être insulaire et de ne compter par nature que sur lui-même. Huit décennies après le Blitz, la promptitude des Anglais à entrer en résistance commande invariablement le respect. Il a certes fallu que le fantasme premier ministre atterrisse en soins intensifs pour qu'il

prenne au sérieux cet ennemi-là. Mais, dans la foulée, il a mis en place un cabinet de guerre que n'aurait pas renié Churchill, soutenant l'université d'Oxford dans la course au vaccin, confiant les achats de doses à un commando venu du privé et la logistique des injections à l'armée de Sa Majesté. Quand la France suspendait en mars l'administration du sérum AstraZeneca, jetant la suspicion sur un geste qu'elle voudrait aujourd'hui rendre obligatoire, l'Angleterre cavalcadait dans une épopée nationale inaugurée par la pique de l'octogénaire William Shakespeare (ça ne s'invente pas) et conclue par une standing ovation à Wimbledon pour la chercheuse Sarah Gilbert.

Grâce à la fermeture des frontières et à une agilité administrative à rebours des lourdeurs de Bruxelles, le Brexit a-t-il « sauvé des vies », comme l'a écrit le Times ? N'oublions pas que près de 130 000 ont d'abord été perdues. Mais, pour les deux tiers des Britanniques, cet acte d'indépendance a passé un test bien plus décisif que les défis économiques qu'on lui avait proposés. Les Européens misaient sur le chaos outre-Manche pour dissuader d'autres aventuriers : attention au retour de flamme. ■

Le boom en
trompe-l'œil
des
créations
d'entreprises
en France

Les Français n'ont jamais été si nombreux à créer des entreprises. Au premier semestre, ils en ont lancé 584 000, près de 50 % de plus qu'en 2019. Une belle performance tempérée par le record de radiations au cours de la même période (131 000). Avec la crise, les chefs d'entreprise n'hésitent pas à jeter l'éponge. Autre signe de fragilité : la nette hausse des liquidations immédiates lors des faillites. PAGES 26 ET 27

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