

What's News

Business & Finance

Apple plans to introduce new iPhone software that is designed to identify and report collections of sexually exploitative images of children. **A1**

Exxon is considering a pledge to reduce its net carbon emissions to zero by 2050, in what would amount to a significant strategic shift. **A1**

Nearly three dozen of the nation's most influential business groups are calling on the Biden administration to restart negotiations with China and cut tariffs on imports. **A2**

ViacomCBS said it added 6.5 million streaming subscribers across its platforms in the second quarter and unveiled a distribution partnership with Comcast's Sky TV unit. **B1**

Qualcomm offered to buy Veoneer for \$4.6 billion, moving to outbid Magna International for the auto-technology company. **B1**

The U.S. is enlisting the help of tech firms, including Amazon, Microsoft and Google, to bolster the country's critical infrastructure defenses against cyber threats. **B4**

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq rose 0.6% and 0.8%, respectively, to close at records. The Dow gained 0.8%. **B11**

Robinhood shares fell 28% after a filing with the SEC indicated that early investors in the firm can sell up to about 98 million shares over time. **B11**

Grill maker Weber's shares rose 18% in their first day of trading to close at \$16.50. **B3**

Penn National Gaming agreed to acquire Score Media for about \$2 billion. **B3**

World-Wide

Congress's nonpartisan scorekeeper found that the roughly \$1 trillion infrastructure bill would widen the budget deficit by \$256 billion over 10 years, countering negotiators' claims that the cost of the legislation was covered by new revenue and savings measures. **A1**

Biden made dual moves to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, imposing tougher fuel-efficiency standards on auto makers and challenging them to drastically ramp up sales of electric vehicles by 2030. **A2**

The FDA expects to have a strategy on Covid-19 vaccine boosters by early September that would lay out when and which vaccinated individuals should get them. **A5**

Officials in the New York state Assembly said their impeachment investigation of Gov. Cuomo is nearing completion and set an Aug. 13 deadline for him to submit evidence in his defense. **A4**

The Justice Department launched a broad civil-rights investigation into the practices of the Phoenix Police Department. **A4**

Ten Republican senators have signed on as co-sponsors of a bipartisan bill to repeal the 1991 and 2002 authorizations for use of military force in Iraq. **A4**

Ebrahim Raisi was sworn in as Iran's president, bringing all branches of power in the country under the control of hard-liners. **A6**

Died: Richard Trumka, 72, AFL-CIO president. **A3**

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Fire Destroys Heart of California Town as Residents Flee



DEVASTATED STREETS: Nearly all of the downtown area in Greenville, Calif., was left destroyed Thursday after the Dixie Fire raged through the town overnight. The town's population of approximately 800 was ordered to evacuate just hours before. **A3**

Apple Plans iPhone Software To Report Child-Abuse Images

Company says change will protect minors from predators; critics fear privacy intrusion

By ROBERT MCMILLAN

Apple Inc. plans to introduce new iPhone software designed to identify and report collections of sexually exploitative images of children, aiming to bridge the yearslong divide between the company's pledge to protect customer privacy and law enforcement's

desire to learn of illegal activity happening on the device. The software, slated for release in an update for U.S. users later this year, is part of a series of changes Apple is preparing for the iPhone to protect children from sexual predators, the company said Thursday. Apple, which has built much of its brand image in recent years on promises to safeguard users' privacy, said that its new software will further enhance those protections by avoiding any need for widespread scanning of im-

ages on the company's servers, something that Apple currently doesn't perform. After news of Apple's plans leaked out Wednesday, critics said they worried that by building software that can flag illegal content belonging to its users, Apple might be softening its stance on how it protects user data via encryption—a source of growing contention between the technology giant and law-enforcement organizations over the past decade. Apple's system will use new techniques in cryptography and artificial intelligence to

identify child sexual abuse material when it is stored using iCloud Photos, the company said. Using software that runs on both the iPhone and Apple's cloud, Apple will detect whether images on the device match a known database of these illegal images. If a certain number of them—Apple declined to say exactly how many—are uploaded to iCloud Photos, Apple will review the images. If they are found to be illegal, Apple said it would report them to the National Center for Missing and Exploited

Trade Gap Expands to Record

The U.S. trade deficit hit a seasonally adjusted \$75.7 billion in June, widening to a record as the resurgent American economy drove strong demand for foreign-made goods. **A2**



China's Corporate Crackdown Raises Investor Anxiety

Beijing is just getting started in regulatory push, executives say

In recent months, China has blown up what would have been the world's largest initial public offering, launched probes into some of its biggest technology companies, and wiped out more than \$1 trillion in market value while investors scramble for cover. By Jing Yang, Keith Zhai and Quentin Webb

There are many signs it isn't over yet. Investors, analysts and company executives believe the government is just getting started in its push to realign the relationship between private business and the state, with a goal of ensuring companies do more to serve the Communist Party's economic, social and national-security concerns. The government's far-reaching ambitions

under Xi Jinping promise serious and often unpredictable implications for business, these people say—and keeping foreign investors happy isn't a priority. That means more risk for people who have plowed billions of dollars into China's fast-growing companies hoping to capitalize on the only tech industry that can rival Silicon Valley. "This round of governance storm has not yet reached the stage of calming down," said Fang Xingdong, a former internet entrepreneur and founder of Beijing-based think tank China Labs. China's biggest private companies have benefited from years of lax regulatory oversight, he said, and it will take a

Exxon Weighs 'Net-Zero' Carbon by 2050

By CHRISTOPHER M. MATTHEWS AND EMILY GLAZIER

Exxon Mobil Corp. is considering a pledge to reduce its net carbon emissions to zero by 2050, according to people familiar with the matter, in what would amount to a significant strategic shift by the oil company.

In March 2020, Exxon Chief Executive Darren Woods described ambitious carbon-reduction targets made by some European rivals as nothing more than a "beauty competition," saying the pledges lacked tangible plans to achieve them. Mr. Woods and others on

Exxon's board are now giving the same idea serious debate, the people said. Mr. Woods is facing pressure from investors to demonstrate a bolder path to reducing emissions. Following a bruising proxy fight this year, an activist hedge fund elected three new members to the company's board.

SPACs Set Their Sights On Emerging Markets

By MATT WIRZ

Blank-check companies are venturing to far-flung locales such as Brazil, Israel and Turkey to find attractive merger targets these days. Special-purpose acquisition companies, or SPACs, explicitly pursuing companies in Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa remain a small part of the overall market. But they are growing at a faster clip than their conventional coun-

terparts, according to The Wall Street Journal's analysis of data from SPAC Research. In the first half of 2021, 60 new SPACs focused on emerging markets filed documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission, almost triple the number for all of 2020, according to the analysis. The number of non-emerging-market SPACs grew by about 67% to 515 over the period. The surge coincides with mounting competition that has

INSIDE



SPORTS
Soccer legend Lionel Messi won't return to Barcelona with new contract. **A12**

MANSION
Families are keeping the home classrooms they added during lockdown. **M1**

Gaining currency

Fed research brings crypto closer to the mainstream — GILLIAN TETT, PAGE 17

Attorneys assemble

Johansson's fight with Disney is pure box office — INSIDE BUSINESS, PAGE 6



Spoiled brats

Covid exposes the west's damaging inability to share — EDWARD LUCE, PAGE 4

Burning issue
Fire and flood intensify crisis

A man battles to stop a Turkish power plant being engulfed by one of multiple wildfires that have swept the nation.

While all of Europe has experienced extreme weather this summer, from flooding in the north to severe heatwaves and fires, Turkey has been hit by its most intense blazes on record.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has been criticised for the state's response to the disaster. Scientists say Turkey's fires are part of a chain of extreme weather events caused by a changing climate, but Turkey is the only G20 nation to refuse to ratify the Paris agreement on climate change.

Erdogan under pressure page 4

Big Read page 15

David Pilling page 17



Serdar Gurbuz/AP

Apple plan to scan iPhone images raises fears over bulk surveillance

◆ Software targets child abuse ◆ US rollout planned ◆ Privacy lobby warns of 'tectonic' move

MADHURITA HURGA AND TIM BRADSHAW — LONDON

Apple intends to install software on iPhones sold in the US to scan for child-abuse imagery, raising alarm that the move could open the door to surveillance of millions of personal devices.

Apple detailed its proposal — known as "neuralMatch" — to US academics this week, according to two security researchers briefed on the virtual meeting. The automated system will alert human reviewers if it detects potentially illegal imagery, who would then contact law enforcement if the material could be verified. The scheme will initially roll out only in the US.

The proposals are Apple's attempt to find a compromise between its own promise to protect users' privacy and

demands from governments, law enforcement agencies and child-safety campaigners for more assistance in criminal investigations, including into terrorism and child pornography.

However, security experts warned that the move risked enabling governments around the world to seek access to citizens' personal data, potentially far beyond Apple's original intent.

"It is an absolutely appalling idea because it is going to lead to distributed bulk surveillance of... our phones and laptops," said Ross Anderson, professor of security engineering at the University of Cambridge.

Although the system is trained to spot child abuse, it could be adapted to target any other imagery or text, for instance, terror beheadings or anti-government

signs at protests, say researchers. Apple's move could also increase pressure on other tech companies to use similar techniques.

"This will break the dam — governments will demand it from everyone," said Matthew Green, a security professor at Johns Hopkins University.

Alec Muffett, a researcher and privacy campaigner who formerly worked at Facebook and Deliveroo, said that Apple's move was "tectonic" and a "huge and regressive step for individual privacy".

"Apple are walking back privacy to enable 1984," he said.

The tension between tech companies such as Apple and Facebook, which have defended their increasing use of encryption in products and services,



Apple's system could be adapted to target other imagery or text, researchers say

and law enforcement has only intensified since the iPhone maker went to court with the FBI in 2016 over access to a terror suspect's iPhone after a shooting in San Bernardino, California.

Cloud-based photo storage systems and social networking sites already scan for child-abuse imagery but that process becomes more complex when trying to access data stored on a personal device.

Apple's system is less invasive in that the screening is done on the phone, and "only if there is a match is notification sent back to those searching", said Alan Woodward, a computer security professor at the University of Surrey. "This decentralised approach is about the best approach you could adopt if you do go down this route."

Apple declined to comment.

Briefing

◆ Investors try to retrieve China stakes

Groups that poured billions of dollars into Chinese tutoring start-ups are exploring how to claw back their money after Beijing launched a crackdown that will destroy the companies' value. — PAGE 6

◆ BoE signals rate rises will be discussed

In a hawkish shift of stance, the Bank of England has said that "some modest tightening of monetary policy is likely to be necessary" over the next two years to keep inflation under control. — PAGE 2

◆ SoftBank bets on Household name

The rapid dealmaking pace of SoftBank's second Vision Fund looks set to continue with plans to invest \$100m in a fund started by Jeff Bezos, one of its former partners. — PAGE 8

◆ Adidas sales hit by supply-chain issues

The world's largest sportswear group has warned that supply-chain constraints caused by the pandemic could cost it as much as €500m in sales by the end of the year. — PAGE 9



◆ US grants haven to Hong Kong residents

The US is to grant temporary haven to Hong Kong residents who are in the US by deferring their removal for 18 months, citing "ongoing repression" by China in the Asian financial hub. — PAGE 3

◆ Biden moves to boost climate drive

Joe Biden was set to sign an order calling for half of all new vehicles sold in the US to be electric by 2030 as part of plans to toughen Obama-era rules on emissions gutted by the Trump presidency. — PAGE 2

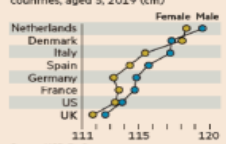
◆ Moderna jab fuels \$3bn quarterly profit

The US drugmaker said its Covid-19 vaccine remained 95 per cent effective six months after the second dose, as sales of the treatment helped lift the company to a record \$2.8bn quarterly profit. — PAGE 6

Datawatch

The long and short of it

Average height in high income western countries, aged 5, 2019 (cm)



Source: NCD-Risc

British five-year-olds are among the shortest in the developed countries, possibly because of poor access to nutritious food. Footballer Marcus Rashford has used the research by Imperial College to raise awareness of child food poverty.



China's nuclear missile silos a challenge for US

The US administration is being forced to reassess a newly assertive China that is increasingly flexing its nuclear muscle. Since June, experts have discovered more than 200 missile silos that are being built in the country's remote deserts. The nuclear expansion has been driven by a change in China's geopolitical perspective and it suggests that Beijing will replace its long-held 'minimum deterrence' policy with a new 'launch on warning' stance.

Arms build-up — PAGE 3

India seeks to restore foreign investors' trust by scrapping retrospective tax

AMY KAZMIN AND STEPHANIE FINDLAY NEW DELHI

India took a step towards repairing its damaged image as an investment destination by moving to scrap a retrospective tax that had ensnared companies including Cairn Energy and Vodafone.

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party introduced a bill in parliament yesterday to rescind a 2012 tax provision that had allowed New Delhi to impose retrospective taxes on some foreign investments.

The provision — rushed into law after New Delhi lost a \$2.9bn tax battle with Vodafone in the supreme court — had severely damaged the country's reputation as a place to do business.

"We think this is an important time for India to be welcoming of investment," TV Somanathan, India's finance secretary, said after the bill was tabled.

"We are very keen to basically get the economy on a faster growth path."

India's economy is reeling from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, with gross domestic product contracting 7.2 per cent last year. Even before the virus hit, the economy was in the doldrums, with GDP growth slowing for eight consecutive quarters.

New Delhi's image has been battered by its battle with Cairn Energy over the Scottish group's 2006 restructuring, in which it listed its Indian operations on the Bombay Stock Exchange. In December, an international arbitration tribunal told New Delhi to pay Cairn \$1.7bn as compensation for the state seizure and sale of a 10 per cent stake in Cairn India to set against the disputed tax.

New Delhi refused to honour the award and Cairn last month secured an order from a French court freezing

Indian-government owned property in Paris as a step towards collecting on its debt. Cairn also filed a lawsuit in the US seeking to seize state-owned Air India aircraft, and said it had identified more than \$70bn of Indian government assets that it could seize in lieu of payment.

Amending the tax code — thereby sanctioning a refund to Cairn — allows New Delhi to say it has settled the dispute under Indian law, rather than bowing to an international tribunal.

"We are doing this under Indian law," Somanathan said. "There is a principle at stake here — it's being done through Indian statute."

Cairn said it had "noted" the proposed legislation and was "monitoring the situation". Shares in the company soared as much as 47 per cent before easing slightly to close at 160p, up 27.4 per cent on the day.

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Aug 5	prev	%chg		Aug 5	prev	%chg		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4420.53	4402.66	0.41	\$ per £	1.184	1.185	-0.01	US Gov 10 yr	151.36	1.22	0.05
Nasdaq Composite	14873.95	14789.53	0.53	£ per €	1.230	1.231	-0.01	US Gov 10 yr	151.36	1.22	0.05
Dow Jones Ind	34862.63	34792.67	0.57	€ per ¥	0.896	0.892	0.44	Ger Gov 10 yr	117.63	0.01	0.01
FTSE100	1810.61	1804.89	0.32	¥ per \$	109.700	109.555	0.13	US Gov 30 yr	118.22	1.96	0.03
Euro Stoxx 50	4181.72	4144.90	0.41	€ index	82.296	82.241	0.05	Ger Gov 2 yr	105.00	-0.78	0.01
FTSE All-Share	4089.91	4085.47	0.11	\$ per €	1.074	1.074	0.00				
CAC 40	6181.19	6146.23	0.52	£ per \$	0.945	0.944	0.10				
Xetra Dax	15744.67	15682.13	0.33								
Nikkei	27728.12	27584.08	0.52								
Hang Seng	26204.88	25426.55	-0.84								
ASX 200	3468.83	3392.51	-2.22	CU WTI \$	68.85	68.15	1.00				
MSCI EM \$	1363.99	1294.18	5.39	CU Brent \$	71.08	70.38	0.99				
MSCI ACWI \$	729.43	730.15	-0.10	Gold \$	1829.10	1812.65	0.91				

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HOW CUOMO TEAM USED RETALIATION TO HUSH ACCUSERS

AIMING TO INSTILL FEAR

Report Details Strategies
From Inner Circle and
Outside Loyalists

By LUIS FERRÉ-SADURNÍ
and JONAH E. BROWMWICH

The governor's inner circle was in a frenzy: A former state employee had just publicly accused Andrew M. Cuomo of a yearslong sexual harassment campaign against her.

The group huddled in the State Capitol office of Melissa DeRosa, the governor's top aide, and launched an effort to discredit the woman, Lindsey Boylan, collecting a box of personnel files filled with sensitive information that they thought would undermine her credibility.

Before they could leak the files to reporters, some names had to be removed. One of the governor's senior advisers hunted for Wite-Out with the help of an executive assistant — a woman who would later accuse Mr. Cuomo of groping her breast in the Executive Mansion.

That episode in December was just one of many described in a damaging report from the New York State attorney general this week, which found not only that Mr. Cuomo sexually harassed 11 women, but that a cadre of his top aides and associates engaged in unlawful retaliation against one of the women — retaliation that frightened others into maintaining their silence.

The report laid bare how Mr. Cuomo had come to rely on a small band of advisers — not just his closest government aides, but also a handful of outside loyalists, even consulting leaders of groups dedicated to supporting gay rights and victims of sexual har-

Continued on Page A17

State Assembly Starts to Weigh Impeachment

Governor Gets a Week
to Offer His Defense

This article is by Michael Gold,
Jeffery C. Mays and Luis Ferré-
Sadurní.

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo has been given until the end of next week to submit evidence in his defense for a wide-ranging State Assembly investigation that seems headed for a vote on the governor's impeachment.

Charles D. Lavine, the chairman of the Assembly's Judiciary Committee, said on Thursday that the Assembly would soon consider "potential articles of impeachment" against the governor, the most vivid indication yet that the Assembly was moving quickly to impeach Mr. Cuomo, a third-term Democrat.

The statement underscored how much Mr. Cuomo's fortunes have changed since a report from the New York State attorney general's office this week concluded that Mr. Cuomo had sexually harassed nearly a dozen women. Mr. Lavine said that the investigation was "nearing completion."

Mr. Cuomo was also stung on Thursday by the defection of two more prominent left-leaning organizations, with a union that represents health care workers asking Mr. Cuomo to step down, and a major fundraising platform for liberal politicians saying it would no longer process campaign donations to him.

With Mr. Cuomo offering no indication of an imminent resignation, his fate seemed to lie with the State Assembly, whose Democratic leadership held an emergency video meeting on Tuesday, hours after the report was released.

Behind the scenes, lawmakers expressed significant disagreement, scuffling over how quickly to move against the governor. Many of the 50 or 60 lawmakers who spoke favored quickly drafting articles of impeachment based

Continued on Page A16



Sharing a meal provided by a community center in a village near East London, South Africa.

No Job, No Food: Virus Deepens Global Hunger

By CHRISTINA GOLDBAUM

EAST LONDON, South Africa — Even as thousands died and millions lost their jobs when the Covid-19 pandemic engulfed South Africa last year, Thembakazi Stishi, a single mother, was able to feed her family with the steady support of her father, a mechanic at a Mercedes plant.

When another Covid-19 wave hit in January, Ms. Stishi's father was infected and died within days. She sought work, even going door to door to offer housecleaning for \$10 — to no avail. For the first time, she and her children are going to bed hungry.

"I try to explain our situation is different now, no one is working, but they don't understand," Ms. Stishi, 30, said as her 3-year-old daughter tugged at her shirt. "That's the hardest part."

The economic catastrophe set

Over 270 Million Who
Live Hand to Mouth
Are Pushed to Edge

off by Covid-19, now deep into its second year, has battered millions of people like the Stishi family who had already been living hand to mouth. Now, in South Africa and many other countries, far more have been pushed over the edge.

An estimated 270 million people are expected to face potentially life-threatening food shortages this year — compared to 150 million before the pandemic — according to analysis from the World Food Program, the anti-hunger agency of the United Nations. The number of people on the brink of famine, the most severe

phase of a hunger crisis, jumped to 41 million people currently from 34 million last year, the analysis showed.

The World Food Program sounded the alarm further last week in a joint report with the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization, warning that "conflict, the economic repercussions of Covid-19 and the climate crisis are expected to drive higher levels of acute food insecurity in 23 hunger hot spots over the next four months," mostly in Africa but also Central America, Afghanistan and North Korea.

The situation is particularly bleak in Africa, where new infections have surged. In recent months, aid organizations have raised alarms about Ethiopia — where the number of people affected by famine is higher than anywhere in the world — and

Continued on Page A5

Japanese Tears and Apologies Over 'Shameful' Silver Medals

By MOTOKO RICH

TOKYO — Kenichiro Fumita was crying so hard that he could barely get the words out.

"I wanted to return my gratitude to the concerned people and volunteers who are running the Olympics during this difficult time," Fumita, a Greco-Roman wrestler, said between sobs after finishing his final bout at the Games this week.

"I ended up with this shameful result," he said, bobbing his head apologetically. "I'm truly sorry."

Fumita, 25, had just won a silver medal.

In what has become a familiar — and, at times, wrenching — sight during the Tokyo Olympics, many Japanese athletes have wept through post-competition interviews, apologizing for any result short of gold. Even some who had won a medal, like Fumita, lamented that they had let down their team, their supporters, even their country.

After Japan's judo team earned silver, losing to France, Shoichiro Mukai, 25, also apologized. "I wanted to withstand a little bit



JACK GUEZ/A.F.P. — GETTY IMAGES
Kenichiro Fumita, a wrestler.

more," he said. "And I'm so sorry to everyone on the team."

Apologizing for being second best in the world would seem to reflect an absurdly unforgiving metric of success. But for these athletes competing in their home country, the emotionally charged displays of repentance — which often follow pointed questions

Continued on Page B14

Coaxing and \$1,000 Bonuses: A Workplace Struggles to Vaccinate

By NICOLE HONG

Tiara Felix loves her job at an eyewear store in the Bronx, where she spends five days a week managing customer orders in a back-room lab, surrounded by colleagues fitting and cutting lenses for glasses.

But there is one thing that could prompt Ms. Felix, 31, to leave: a vaccine mandate.

"There's no choice," she said. "I'll have to quit."

Ms. Felix is among the six remaining unvaccinated employees at her company, Metro Optics Eyewear, who have been unmoved by a monthslong campaign by their bosses to persuade every employee to voluntarily get a co-

ronavirus vaccine.

Time is running out. Employers across the United States are now confronted with the same question of whether to fire workers who refuse to get vaccinated, a dilemma that carries new urgency as the rapidly spreading Delta variant leads to a surge in hospitalizations among the unvaccinated and threatens to stall the economic recovery.

This week, New York City became the first American city to announce a vaccination requirement for workers and customers at a variety of indoor venues, including restaurants, gyms and theaters. Across New York City, 66 percent of adults have been fully vaccinated.

The new rules followed weeks



LAURA STEVENS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES
John Bonizio, owner of Metro Optics Eyewear in the Bronx.

of pressure by city leaders on private businesses to mandate vaccines or frequent testing as a condition of employment. A growing number of companies, including Facebook, Microsoft and the fit-

ness chain Equinox, have announced that employees must be vaccinated to return to the office.

But the issue can be particularly complicated for the many small businesses that provide jobs to more than three million people in New York City, about half of the city's work force.

They often employ lower-income workers, who polling has shown are less likely to get vaccinated because of a mix of factors, including distrust of public health officials, limited access to vaccine sites and less of an ability to take time off work. Losing even one employee by requiring vaccinations can have an outsized impact, especially in a summer where help-wanted signs have dotted

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INTERNATIONAL A4-9

Mystery in Australia Mountains
The high country of the south is "remote and beautiful and unpredictable," a place where visitors can be swallowed up without a sound. PAGE A6

NATIONAL A10-17

Math of Infrastructure Bill
A Congressional Budget Office estimate confirmed suspicions that the sprawling \$550 billion legislation would end up adding billions to the deficit. PAGE A12

Phoenix Police Under Scrutiny

The Justice Department will look at whether officers discriminate against minorities, use excessive force, retaliate against peaceful protesters or mistreat homeless and disabled people. PAGE A12

BUSINESS B1-5

Missing the Podium on Ratings
The pandemic has cut into NBC's viewership for the Olympics, typically a festive television event, contributing to complaints from advertisers. PAGE B1

OBITUARIES B16

Labor Boss With Political Clout
Richard Trumka rose from the Pennsylvania coal mines to the corridors of power as the president of the A.F.L.-C.I.O. for the last 12 years. He was 72.

SPORTS B6-15

A Bronze Worth Its Weight
The U.S. women's soccer team came chasing gold, but after a tough Olympic run, third place is still a "joy." PAGE B11



WEEKEND ARTS C1-12

A Life Beyond 'S.N.L.' Laughs
A memoir by Cecily Strong isn't so much a recounting of her showbiz career as it is a candid unflinching of her life prompted by the pandemic. PAGE C1



Celebrating an Artistic Upstart
What became of the Pattern and Decoration movement's riotous décor? A Bard College exhibition looks back at an irreverent style and its brief yet prescient life. A review by Roberta Smith. PAGE C8

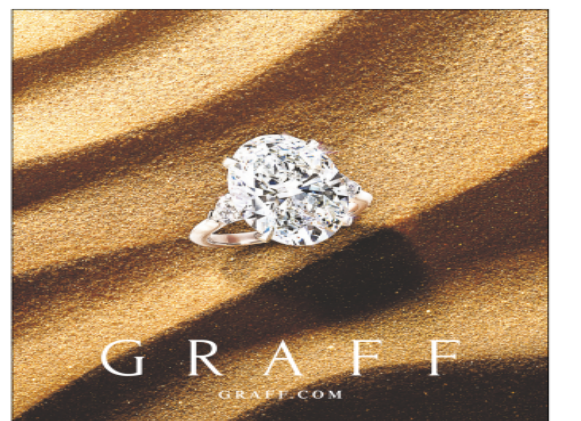
OPINION A18-19

David Brooks

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A FIREFIGHTER surveys downtown Greenville, Calif., on Thursday after the Dixie fire tore through. The blaze ignited three weeks earlier near a Pacific Gas & Electric station in Feather River Canyon.

Photographs by JOSH EDELSON AFP/Getty Images

Greenville's fiery end breaks hearts, dreams

Dixie fire destroys a Gold Rush town rebuilt after 1881 blaze

BY ANITA CHABRIA,
BRITNEY MEJIA,
ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
AND LILA SEIDMAN

GREENVILLE, Calif. — Curtis Machlan alternated between past and present tense as he spoke about Greenville.

The 58-year-old in 2007 moved to the Gold Rush-era town, where the population sign read more than 2,000 people but where the community numbers just over 1,000.

It's the town where he met his wife, Kimberly, who had moved to the area in the late 1990s from San Jose.

"We'd go to the local grocery store and sometimes it would take over an hour to get out, just to run in and get a gallon of milk or something, because we knew everybody," Machlan said.

Greenville, nestled in dense forests southeast of Lake Almanor, was decimated Wednesday when the massive Dixie fire swept through [See Greenville, A7]



A BURNED Jeep sits amid the smoldering ashes of a destroyed home on Thursday in what was once downtown Greenville.

Biden calls for stricter vehicle emission rules

Plan to reverse Trump rollback will fall short of Obama's standards and activists' hopes.

BY ANNA M. PHILLIPS

WASHINGTON — President Biden unveiled plans Thursday to strengthen car pollution standards through 2026, putting the United States on a path to reduce greenhouse gas emissions — though not as quickly as many environmentalists say is needed.

The proposed standards, written by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Transportation Department, would replace significantly weaker Trump-era rules that essentially undid the nation's biggest climate change initiative. In their place, the Biden administration is offering a compromise that it hopes progressives can live with and au-

tomakers can follow. The president also signed an executive order that encourages automakers to produce more zero-emissions vehicles and sets a new goal of making half of all new cars and trucks emissions-free by 2030. This would include battery-electric, plug-in hybrid electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

The future "is electric," Biden said to supporters gathered Thursday on the South Lawn of the White House, with several electric vehicles, including Ford's F-150 Lightning, as a backdrop. "There's no turning back," he said. "The question is whether we'll lead or fall behind in the race for the future."

After signing the order, the president took an electric Jeep Wrangler for a drive around the White House.

Biden's proposal would tighten pollution standards over a four-year period. [See Emissions, A7]

Newsom decries homeless camps

Governor supports cleanups, including in L.A., but also calls for compassion, housing.

BY BENJAMIN ORESKES

STOCKTON — Gov. Gavin Newsom expressed strong support Thursday for increased efforts around California to remove large homeless encampments, calling them unacceptable and saying the state will need more federal help to create additional housing and expand services for homeless people.

Newsom's comments come at a time of growing alarm over the homeless-

ness crisis, which has become a focus of criticism by Republican candidates running to replace him in the upcoming recall election.

Newsom took on the state's most vexing and politically potent issue when he became governor, pouring billions into building more shelters and housing. The latest state budget commits \$12 billion over the next two years to not just more motel purchases and funding for mental health care facilities but also encampment cleanups and hazardous waste removal.

But the governor, in an interview Thursday with The Times as he watched state workers clear a homeless encampment here, [See Newsom, A6]

TOKYO OLYMPICS



U.S. OLYMPIC climber Brooke Raboutou, shown training in May, is fastidious about taking care of her hands, including using special salves and lotions.

COLUMN ONE

Climbers strive to get a grip

Calluses welcome in sport where hands are everything

BY DAVID WHARTON
REPORTING FROM TOKYO

The hands make all the difference. Small tendons in the fingers must be strengthened and thickened over the course of years, all the better to dangle from a narrow ledge. Nails must be clipped short. Skin must be soft enough to gain traction when reaching for a slight crevice or protrusion, yet durable

enough to withstand constant wear and tear.

And calluses. Don't start climbers talking about their calluses.

"They are, in a sense, our most-prized possession," Nathaniel Coleman says.

This week, sport climbing is making its Olympic debut at the Summer Games in Tokyo. Coleman earned a surprise silver medal in the men's final on Thursday night; the women are scheduled to go on Friday.

The new event [See Climbing, A12]

U.S. gold standard: Ross and Klineman dominate beach volleyball. **SPORTS, D1**

For Golden Globes, reform vote is a step back from brink

Group passes changes after a furor that took the show off the air. Critics still skeptical.

BY STACY PERMAN

Several months after the Hollywood Foreign Press Assn. pledged "transformational change," the vast majority of its 84 members voted for a slate of proposed bylaws intended to overhaul

the organization, expand membership with a focus on diversity and restore its credibility with the entertainment industry.

The vote is seen as a significant step to pull one of Hollywood's highest-profile awards shows — the Golden Globes — back from the brink of possible extinction. The bylaws are expected to codify reforms involving core issues, including governance and membership, as well as policies concerning Golden Globes voting, mem-

bers' conduct, compensation, ethics and a host of perks — including the prohibition of gifts from studios and others.

The tally was 63 to 19 in favor of the new bylaws, according to sources familiar with the vote who weren't authorized to comment.

The proposed statutes required a two-thirds majority to pass. They are aimed at addressing the controversies that have long dogged the association, trig- [See Golden Globes, A9]

Respite for Hong Kongers in U.S.

President Biden offers temporary "safe haven" to help visitors avoid China's crackdown on the territory. **WORLD, A3**

Vaccine mandate across California

Full inoculation will be required of healthcare workers and in the L.A. County Superior Court system. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather

Mostly sunny. L.A. Basin: 84/63. **B6**



ALEX BRANDON/Associated Press

LABOR LEADER DIES

Richard Trumka, a former miner who served as president of the AFL-CIO since 2009 and was close to President Biden, was 72. **BUSINESS, A8**

BUSINESS INSIDE: If you're uninsured, here's how to haggle for lower healthcare bills. **A8**

JUEGOS OLÍMPICOS
TOKIO 2020

LA NACION EN JAPÓN

El voleibol, en un clásico por el bronce

Francia ganó 3-0 y la Argentina se quedó en la semifinal; el sábado va contra Brasil. **Página 4**



SAN LORENZO TIENE LUZ VERDE PARA VOLVER A BOEDO

—sociedad

La Legislatura de la ciudad aprobó la rezoñificación que le permitirá hacer el nuevo estadio; el proyecto contempla escuelas y espacios verdes públicos. **Página 23**

TEATRO ABIERTO, A 40 AÑOS DE UN HITO CONTRA LA OPRESIÓN

—espectáculos

En plena dictadura, 250 artistas, autores y directores clamaron por la libertad y la democracia en un ciclo de 21 obras; no fue fácil y hasta hubo un incendio.

LA NACION

VIERNES 6 DE AGOSTO DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

El Gobierno avala un sindicato de piqueteros oficialistas

ORGANIZACIONES. El Ministerio de Trabajo aprobó los estatutos de la UTEP, paso previo a la personería gremial; resistencia en la CGT

El Gobierno aprobó ayer los estatutos de la Unión de Trabajadores de la Economía Popular (UTEP), paso previo para otorgarle la personería gremial y abrir el camino para su integración a la CGT.

En la UTEP confluyen las cuatro organizaciones piqueteras cercanas al oficialismo: la CTEP (Juan Graboís), la Corriente Clasista y Combativa (Juan Carlos Alderete), el Frente Dario Santillán (Dina Sánchez) y Barrios de Pie (Daniel Menéndez).

La aprobación firmada ayer por el Ministerio de Trabajo les brinda un marco legal a los 2,5 millones de inscriptos por las agrupaciones, y pavimenta su camino para transformarse en un sindicato poderoso.

EL ESCENARIO

La política social, en deuda

Claudio Jacquelin

Página 14

so en la CGT. Ese es un anhelo de los dirigentes de los trabajadores informales que genera resistencias en varios líderes sindicales tradicionales. La UTEP prepara para mañana una marcha por el día de San Cayetano, como expresión de fuerza. **Página 12**

Maduro busca apoyo diplomático argentino

MESA DE DIÁLOGO. CARACAS (Para LA NACION).— En lo que sería una audaz iniciativa diplomática, el régimen de Nicolás Maduro buscaría que la Argentina tenga representación como observadora de las negociaciones con la oposición, que comenzarán el viernes próximo en México, revelaron a LA NACION fuentes políticas venezolanas. El Palacio San Martín aún no recibió la invitación de Caracas, dijeron a LA NACION en la Cancillería. **Página 8**

La deuda del BCRA, cada vez más costosa

INTERESES. El Banco Central ya gastó \$720.000 millones este año en pagos de intereses a los bancos por la deuda que asume vía Leliq o pases pasivos para retirar de la calle parte de los pesos que emite. Abonó en siete meses la misma cifra que desembolsó por igual concepto en 2020 o 4% más que en 2019, erogación criticada por Alberto Fernández en su campaña presidencial, cuando prometía usar esos fondos para dar aumentos a los jubilados. **Página 19**



La imagen es del miércoles: Messi y su familia regresan de sus vacaciones a Barcelona

IMAGEN DE TV

Impacto mundial: Barcelona anunció la salida de Messi

SORPRESA. El club oficializó la partida del rosarino debido a los problemas económicos de la entidad y el fair play salarial de la liga española

Barcelona informó oficialmente ayer que Lionel Messi no seguirá en el club, al que llegó en 2000, y provocó un terremoto global. Con la noticia se desató un sinfín de especulaciones. Aunque el contrato del rosarino había finalizado el 30 de junio pasado, todo parecía encaminado hacia la renovación. Inclu-

so, Messi había regresado a su hogar en Castelfelers, con su familia, el miércoles pasado. Sin embargo, ayer estalló la novedad. ¿Será realmente definitivo? Hay una lucha de poderes atrás entre el club catalán y la liga española, mientras asombraría Paris Saint-Germain en su horizonte deportivo. **Deportes**

Ni jugando gratis: los números en rojo
Alejandro Casar González
Página 2

La carta de amistad que tiene PSG en la mano
Alberto Cantore
Página 3

Más empresas dicen que falta personal calificado

TENDENCIA. Luego de que Daniel Herrero, presidente de Toyota, hizo pública la dificultad que tuvo la automotriz para contratar personal por falta de calificación, otras empresas y especialistas reforzaron esa sensación de escasez de preparación, en

momentos en los que crece, simultáneamente, el desempleo. Los expertos en el mercado laboral y en economía del conocimiento advierten que los cambios de paradigmas tecnológicos ahondarán este problema estructural. **Página 20**

Criptoarte. Archivos digitales que valen millones

Una guía elemental sobre el nuevo fenómeno que sacude al mercado. **Página 24**

Bolsonaro diz estar chegando hora de deixar Constituição, e Fux reage

Presidente redobra ameaça golpista e ataca Moraes e Barroso; chefe do STF desmarca reunião entre os três Poderes

EDITORIAL

Ensaio de ditador

Inação de PGR e Congresso põe democracia em risco; é preciso reagir, até por sobrevivência

Jair Messias Bolsonaro é um presidente contra a Constituição. Comete desvios em série na sua fuga rumo à tirania e precisa ser parado pela lei que despreza.

Há loucura e há método na sequência de investidas contra a democracia e o sistema eleitoral, ao passo que o país é duramente castigado pela ausência de governo. São demasiadas horas perdidas com mentiras, picuinhas e bravatas enquanto brasileiros adoecem, morrem e empobrecem.

Os danos na saúde, na educação e no meio ambiente, cujos ministérios têm sido ocupados por estafetas, serão sentidos ao longo de gerações.

Os juros sobem e a perspectiva de crescimento cai quando há nada menos que 14,8 milhões de desempregados. A disparada nos preços de energia e comida vitima os mais pobres. Artimanhas para burlar a prudência orçamentária afugentam investidores.

Aqui a insânia encontra o cálculo. Ao protótipo de ditador cujo governo fracassou resta enxovalhar as instituições e ameaçar-las de ruptura pela força.

Mas o uivo autoritário encontrou reação firme de agentes da lei. O Supremo Tribunal Federal e o Tribunal Superior Eleitoral incluíram o presidente da República em inquéritos, que precisam ir até o fim.

Os presidentes da Câmara e do Senado e o procurador-geral da República, no entanto, não entenderam o jogo. Por ingenuidade ou interesse equivocado, associaram-se a uma figura que se pudesse fecharia o Congresso, o Ministério Público e o Supremo.

Falta ao procurador Augusto Aras perceber que a vaga que ambiciona no STF de nada valeria em um regime de exceção; ao deputado Arthur Lira (PP-AL), que a pusilanidade de hoje não seria recompensada com mais poder em uma ditadura.

A deliberação sobre os pedidos de impeachment torna-se urgente. Da mesma maneira, os achados e conclusões da CPI da Pandemia devem desencadear a responsabilização do presidente. A Procuradoria cumpre exercer a sua prerrogativa de acionar criminalmente o chefe do governo.

A inação de Aras e Lira põe em risco a democracia; é preciso reagir, até pela própria sobrevivência.



Eduardo Knapp/Folhapress

CAPITAL PAULISTA GANHA NOVO MIRANTE NO CENTRO

Homem limpa chão de vidro do Sampa Sky, que fica a 150 metros de altura, no 42º andar do edifício Mirante do Vale; atração passa a receber visitantes a partir de domingo (8) Guia C7

Jair Bolsonaro redobrou a ameaça golpista, atacou o ministro Alexandre de Moraes, do Supremo Tribunal Federal, e repetiu que pode abandonar o campo democrático — em breve. O presidente fez as declarações e ameaças durante programa da Rádio 93 FM, emissora gospel do Rio.

"A hora dele [Moraes] vai chegar. Porque está jogando fora das quatro linhas da Constituição há muito tempo. Não pretendo sair das quatro linhas para questionar essas autoridades, mas acredito que o momento está chegando", disse. "Não dá para continuarmos com ministro arbitrário, ditatorial."

Bolsonaro intensificou as declarações contra o STF, o sistema eleitoral e a democracia depois que Moraes o incluiu como investigado no inquérito que apura a disseminação de fake news eleitorais.

A decisão acata pedido do presidente do Tribunal Superior Eleitoral, ministro Luís Roberto Barroso, que por sua vez reagiu às reiteradas afirmações do chefe do Executivo sobre fraudes no sistema eleitoral, carentes de prova.

Bolsonaro tem falado em condicionar a eleição de 2022 à impressão do voto, o que acirra a crise entre os três Poderes e põe em xeque a democracia.

Presidente do STF, Luiz Fux cancelou reunião prevista entre os chefes dos Poderes. "O presidente da República tem reiterado ofensas e ataques de inverdades a integrantes desta corte. (...) Quando se atinge um dos integrantes, se atinge a corte por inteiro." Poder A4

tóquio 2020

SKATE ACIMA DE TODOS

Medalhista no park, Pedro Barros vê prata como suvenir de Tóquio p. 1

+ BAIXA NO VÔLEI

Tandara é cortada após suspeita de violação de regra antidoping p. 5

+ AGENDA DO BRASIL

HIPISMO (SALTO)
7h classificatória por equipes
VÔLEI
9h Brasil x Coreia do Sul
semifinal (fem.)
1h30 Brasil x Argentina
disputa do bronze (masc.)
GINÁSTICA RÍTMICA
22h classificatória por equipes
CANOA/KEM
23h53 final 1000 m (masc.)
BOXE (PESO MÉDIO)
2h45 final (masc.)



UTIs para Covid ficam vazias em pequenas cidades

A redução de casos de Covid tem levado ao fechamento de vagas de UTI para a doença em pequenas cidades do país. Leitos começam a ser reintegrados à clínica médica. Saúde B1

Site da Saúde informa mais vacinas para SP do que o estado registra B1

EDITORIAIS A2

Juros de volta

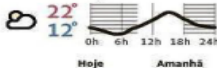
Sobre elevação mais acelerada da taxa básica do BC.

Modelo em xeque

Acerca de restrições chinesas contra a Covid-19.

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



População com 18 anos ou mais*

	ao menos uma dose	totalmente vacinada
Brasil	67,7%	27,5%
MS	81,5%	46,1%
RS	73,8%	35,2%
SP	80,5%	30,8%

Dados das 20h de 5 ago *Ao menos uma dose: tomou dose única ou 1ª dose. Totalmente vacinada: tomou dose única ou 2ª dose **Em relação a 14 dias



Cabral em entrevista à Folha

Lava Jato achou em mim um Cristo, afirma Cabral

Na primeira entrevista desde a prisão pela Lava Jato, em 2016, o ex-governador do Rio Sérgio Cabral diz à Folha querer confessar crimes fora da cadeia e crítica tratamento dado pela operação. "Não me largam", afirma. Poder A8

Filipe Campante Ameaças devem ser levadas a sério Poder A5

China faz maior expansão de sua capacidade nuclear Mundo A11

Ilustrada C1 Moda anti-Bolsonaro tem até calças abertas nas nádegas entre protestos

Comissão da Câmara rejeita PEC do voto impresso

Comissão especial na Câmara rejeitou relatório de Filipe Barros (PSL-PR) favorável ao voto impresso. Arthur Lira (PP-AL) falou em levá-lo a plenário. A7

Manifesto amplia pressão do PIB sobre presidente

Mais duro recado do PIB a Jair Bolsonaro diante de suas ameaças, o manifesto de apoio às eleições e à ordem democrática assinado por representantes da sociedade civil ganhou adesões, chegando a cerca de 6.000 nomes. Poder A6

Ex-secretário de Guedes é confirmado para AGU Escolha de Bruno Bianco para chefiar a Advocacia-Geral da União foi anunciada pelo presidente. A6



Recurren a la violencia para forzar la aprobación de la ley que regule el flete

Camioneros atacan a los que no se pliegan a su medida de fuerza

Cámara Alta aprobó en general la legislación que reclaman. Conacom afirma que no corresponde. Paro afectará distribución de productos perecederos y la cadena de abastecimiento.

PÁGINAS 14 y 15



Se agotaron las dosis de la vacuna Moderna

Vacunatorios.

La SND tuvo que hacer frente ayer a un aluvión de personas que fueron por su 2ª dosis de la Pfizer y de Moderna.

PÁGINA 3



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Debe expedirse Diputados
La Cámara de Senadores aceptó el veto del Poder Ejecutivo a la ley de autoblandaje

PÁGINA 8

Retiro dorado en binacionales
Ex comandante de Policía de gobierno de Nicanor y su hija, beneficiados con cargos en EBY

PÁGINA 6

Rebajas de hasta el 60%
Agosto Liquida, la mayor feria de descuentos del país, inicia hoy y va hasta el domingo

PÁGINA 20

TU EQUIPO
IDEAL



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LE FIGARO

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

L'ÉTÉ
DU FIGARO
**LES ROUTES INSOLITES
DU PATRIMOINE**
**VAGUE MODERNISTE
SUR LA CÔTE D'AZUR**
 PAGE 19

EXPOSITIONS
GIVERNY, GUIMET :
LA PASSION DES PEINTRES
POUR LES JARDINS PAGE 12
L'AUTO PREND
LA ROUTE
ANNÉES 2000 :
L'ELECTRO-
NIQUE PREND
LE VOLANT
 PAGE 13

OUVERT LA NUIT

À L'ESCALE
VILLAGE, AU
RENDEZ-VOUS
DES NOCTAM-
BULES
 PAGE 17
CES PRODUITS NÉS
DANS LES LABOS
LES CORN
FLAKES
DU DOCTEUR
KELLOGG
 PAGE 25

JEUX D'ÉTÉ

ALLEMAGNE

 Ce couple qui
 espionnait pour
 la Chine PAGE 6

COVID-19

 Les enfants sont-ils
 plus à risque face
 au variant Delta ?
 PAGE 11

FOOTBALL

 Lionel Messi quitte
 le FC Barcelone
 PAGE 10

DROITS TV

 Football : Canal+
 va payer et diffuser
 les débuts de
 la Ligue 1 PAGE 26
CHAMPS
LIBRES
 • La tribune
 de Christian Kessler
 PAGE 18
FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NONRéponses à la question
de jeudi :
 Vaccins, passe sanitaire :
 approuvez-vous
 l'initiative d'Emmanuel
 Macron de répondre aux
 questions des Français
 sur les réseaux sociaux ?

OUI
49%
NON
51%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 131 975

Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr
 Passesanitaire : êtes-vous
 satisfait de la décision
 du Conseil constitutionnel ?

 JEAN FRANÇOIS OTTONELLO/
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Steven Da Costa,
un Français premier
champion olympique
de karaté


HEDWATULLAH AMO/ÉVA MAXPPP

 Lors d'une journée de jeudi marquée par la médaille d'argent du décathlonien Kevin Mayer, le karatéka Steven Da Costa a décroché l'or pour la toute première apparition aux JO de sa discipline (qui ne sera pas reconduite à Paris en 2024). Les équipes de France masculines de handball, basket-ball et volley-ball ont, elles, brillé en se qualifiant pour la finale de leur tournoi respectif. **PAGES 8 ET 9**

Le passe sanitaire jugé conforme à la Constitution

Les Sages ont validé ce jeudi le texte de loi, censurant toutefois l'isolement obligatoire des personnes contaminées et la rupture anticipée de certains contrats de travail.

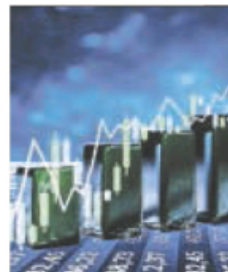
En jugeant conforme l'extension du passe sanitaire, notamment aux restaurants, et l'obligation vaccinale des soignants, le Conseil constitutionnel a confirmé que le texte de loi n'était pas contraire aux libertés. Les Sages ont en revanche cen-

suré les dispositions qui prévoyaient le placement « automatique » à l'isolement des personnes contaminées ainsi que la rupture anticipée de certains contrats de travail pour les non-vaccinés, les estimant non conformes à la Constitution. Le premier

ministre, Jean Castex, s'est aussitôt réjoui de cette décision, tout en prenant acte des deux rejets.

Dès jeudi, des rassemblements de protestation se sont tenus dans plusieurs villes du pays, avant une plus grande mobilisation, prévue samedi.

➔ LA CLASSE POLITIQUE DIVISÉE DEVANT L'AVIS RENDU PAR LES SAGES ➔ UNE VICTOIRE POLITIQUE POUR L'EXÉCUTIF ➔ LE PASSE, UNE SOLUTION DURABLE POUR CONTRÔLER L'ÉPIDÉMIE ? PAGES 2 À 4



Les géants du CAC 40 sortent renforcés de la crise

Le rebond financier des plus grandes sociétés françaises cotées est spectaculaire. Elles ont engrangé plus de 60 milliards d'euros de profits au premier semestre, contre 2 milliards de pertes cumulées il y a un an. Leurs performances dépassent même largement celles de

2019 avant la crise du Covid. Les multinationales profitent du redémarrage mondial et d'une réduction des dépenses engagées en 2020. Pas moins de 26 groupes du CAC 40 ont relevé leurs prévisions de résultats pour l'année 2021.

PAGES 22, 23 ET L'ÉDITORIAL
ÉDITORIAL par Jacques-Olivier Martin jomartin@lefigaro.fr

Les entreprises à deux vitesses

La pire crise depuis un siècle n'aura donc été qu'un trou d'air pour les multinationales françaises. On se pince pour le croire. Pourtant, la publication de leurs résultats à la mi-année laisse peu de doutes. Un an après le confinement qui les a plongés en coma artificiel et a nourri beaucoup d'inquiétudes sur leur capacité à s'en remettre, les géants français du CAC 40 sont tous dans le vert, sauf deux d'entre eux. Et certains font même déjà plus de profits qu'avant la crise... Leur préoccupation du moment est surtout de gérer au mieux les pénuries en tous genres qui freinent leur accélération.

À l'heure des comptes, Bruno Le Maire pourrait légitimement s'enorgueillir du regain de santé des géants français. Entre ceux qui ont recouru au chômage partiel au pire de la crise sanitaire et les plus touchés, comme Renault qui a reçu quelques milliards pour éviter la défaillance, l'État a fait son travail, plutôt bien et surtout avec rapidité. La plupart s'en sont toutefois sortis tout seuls. Cette « Super Ligue du CAC 40 », si forte dans la mondialisation, cache - on l'aurait presque oublié - l'immense forêt de nos PME... bien

moins fringantes. C'est aussi cela, la réalité de cette sortie de crise. Un monde économique à deux vitesses. D'un côté, des locomotives relancées à pleine vapeur, et de l'autre, des dizaines de milliers d'entreprises qui ont survécu grâce aux aides publiques d'urgence et qui aujourd'hui serrent les dents parce que leurs marges sont faibles, leurs machines fatiguées et leur transition numérique peu avancée.

Les sociétés du CAC 40 ont effacé la crise, pas les PME

qui savent profiter du moindre vent de reprise, en Asie, en Europe, en Afrique, en Amérique, partout où elles produisent et vendent, l'avenir des petites entreprises dépend en effet de la compétitivité de notre pays, de son attractivité, de la qualité de sa formation... En d'autres termes, de la capacité de la France à rester (revenir ?) dans la Super Ligue des économies mondiales les plus dynamiques. ■

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L'abus d'alcool est dangereux pour la santé, à consommer avec modération.

Jimmy Cliff

'Rebel spirit is still in Jamaica'

→ Film & Music



Man City sign Grealish for £100m as Messi leaves Barcelona

→ Sport



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Extra cash for medical schools as grades surge

A-level results inflation forces ministers to fund hundreds more places

Rachel Hall and Richard Adams

The government has been forced to fund hundreds of extra university places on medical and dental courses in England, as rampant grade inflation caused by cancelling exams has led to unexpectedly high numbers of students qualifying for places.

The Department for Education (DfE) announced that extra places at medical and dental schools would be added because of the huge increase in applications and universities reporting applicants with historically high levels of A-level grades.

The Guardian has learned that the DfE approached English medical schools asking them to take applicants from heavily oversubscribed courses when it became clear hundreds more students had reached qualifying grades than anticipated.

Gavin Williamson, the education

secretary, said in January that formal exams for A-levels and GCSEs would be scrapped this year, and instead asked teachers to assess individual marks despite fears that it could lead to widespread grade inflation.

An admissions officer told the Guardian: "We are seeing roughly one grade of grade inflation compared to last year," which if repeated nationwide would outstrip the 2020 A-level grade inflation that led to the proportion of A*s and As awarded doubling in several subjects.

High levels of acceptances are also being seen on courses such as nursing, with one vice-chancellor warning that students at her university would be asked to delay matriculation until next year to ease demand.

Universities this week received official A-level grades for this year's applicants, with the jump in the highest marks meaning many more have met the terms of their offers. Students will be given their grades on Tuesday.

The DfE said: "For this academic year, universities that can accommodate an increase to medical and dentistry places for students that have met the grades and hold a firm offer at a

19 →



'I knew I'd get there'
Holly Bradshaw wins Britain's first ever pole vault medal

News and sport Page 4 →

PHOTOGRAPH: CLODAGH KILCOYNE/REUTERS

Live events insurance 'is too late for many'

Mark Brown
Arts correspondent

Britain's live events sector, which includes everything from summer music festivals to conferences, has finally been promised a Covid cancellation insurance scheme.

Campaigners have long been pleading for an insurance scheme to help the sector get back on its feet, because commercial insurers have not provided cover for Covid-related cancellations. Although welcomed, the announcement comes far too late for a string of festivals and events already abandoned.

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Experts see 'scary' signs of Gulf Stream collapse

Damian Carrington
Environment editor

Climate scientists have detected warning signs of the collapse of the Gulf Stream, one of the planet's main potential tipping points.

The research found "an almost

complete loss of stability over the last century" of the currents that researchers call the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC). The currents are already at their slowest point in at least 1,600 years, but the new analysis shows it may be nearing a shutdown.

Such an event would have

catastrophic consequences around the world, severely disrupting the monsoons that billions of people depend on for food in India, South America and West Africa; increasing storms and lowering temperatures in Europe; and pushing up the sea level in eastern North America. It would also further endanger the Amazon rainforest and Antarctic ice sheets.

The complexity of the AMOC system and uncertainty over levels of future global heating make it impossible to forecast the date of any collapse for now. It could be within a decade or two, or several

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