

Escaping the Efficiency Trap
REVIEW



Vacation in
The 'Great'
Outdoors
OFF DUTY

What's
News

World-Wide

The Taliban seized the capital of Afghanistan's Nimroz province, the first such takeover since the insurgents launched an offensive to take advantage of the U.S. troop withdrawal, and assassinated the head of the Afghan government's media office in Kabul. **A1**

◆ The Biden administration is extending a moratorium on federal student-loan payments through early 2022. **A3**

◆ One of New York Gov. Cuomo's executive assistants filed a criminal complaint with the Albany County sheriff's office alleging the governor groped her. **A3**

◆ Amazon and United Airlines announced new mask and vaccine requirements for their workers as more companies respond to the resurgent Covid-19 threat posed by the Delta variant. **A4**

◆ More states and employers are requiring nursing home staff to be vaccinated as the latest surge leads to more cases in some facilities. **A3**

◆ Israel's military said it struck areas in southern Lebanon after a barrage of rockets were fired across the border by Hezbollah. **A7**

◆ A Russian court gave an American private-equity investor a suspended sentence of 5½ years after an embezzlement conviction. **A8**

Business & Finance

◆ A strengthening U.S. labor market added cushion to the economic recovery in July ahead of the surge in cases of the Delta variant, with employers creating jobs at the best pace in nearly a year and the unemployment rate falling sharply. **A1**

◆ The Dow and S&P 500 rose 0.4% and 0.2%, respectively, closing at records in the wake of the jobs report. The Nasdaq fell 0.4%. **B11**

◆ Nasdaq's push for greater diversity in corporate boards cleared a key hurdle as the SEC approved its proposal to include gender and race in listing rules. **B1**

◆ Facebook's WhatsApp messaging unit blasted Apple's plan to monitor sexually exploitative images of children on iPhones as bad for privacy. **B1**

◆ Walmart is offering special bonuses to many warehouse employees to work every hour they are scheduled and in some cases giving temporary pay raises. **B3**

◆ China's antitrust regulator is preparing to impose a roughly \$1 billion fine on food-delivery giant Meituan for allegedly abusing its dominant market position. **B3**

◆ Huawei posted a 38% decline in quarterly revenue amid a deepening bite in its sales from U.S. sanctions. **B3**

NOONAN
New York's Capital
Is Crazytown A15

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Job Gain Is Best in Nearly a Year

Surge in U.S. payrolls, drop in unemployment cushion recovery as variant poses a threat

By ERIC MORATH

A strengthening U.S. labor market added cushion to the economic recovery in July ahead of the surge in cases of the coronavirus's Delta variant, with employers creating jobs at the best pace in nearly a year and the unemployment rate falling sharply.

Nonfarm payrolls rose by a seasonally adjusted 943,000 in July, the best gain in 11 months, the Labor Department said Friday.

The unemployment rate, derived from a separate survey of households, fell to 5.4% last month from 5.9% in June to touch the lowest level since the pandemic took hold in the U.S. in March 2020. The latest data also showed some additional workers were drawn off the sidelines, and wages rose at a strong rate.

Friday's report shows that the U.S. economy is facing any

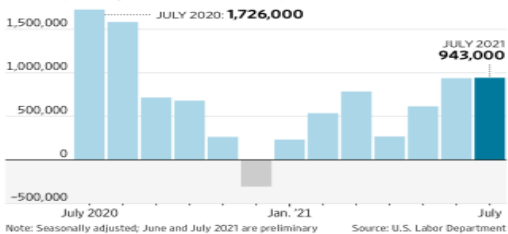
threat posed by the Delta variant with a strong tailwind. The economy has recovered rapidly this year with availability of vaccines, business reopenings, pent-up consumer demand and aid flowing from multiple rounds of government stimulus legislation. So far there is little evidence to suggest that the recent case surge is significantly slowing the U.S. recovery.

"We saw a welcomed upward shift in July, and that's a

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◆ **Hear on the Street: Calls for Fed caution may intensify.** B12

Monthly change in U.S. nonfarm payrolls



Track Star Felix Sprints Into History in 400-Meter Final



GROWING LEGACY: Allison Felix took bronze in the women's 400-meter final on Friday for her 10th career Olympic medal, making her the most decorated female track Olympian in the world and tying Carl Lewis for the most Olympic medals in history by a U.S. track and field athlete. Ms. Felix was expected to be part of the women's 4x400 relay on Saturday. **A11**

Taliban Seize Province Capital, Kill Media Official in Kabul

By ALAN CULLISON
AND EHSANULLAH AMIRI

KABUL—The Taliban seized the capital of Nimroz province along the Iranian border Friday, the first such takeover since the insurgents launched an offensive to take advantage of the U.S. troop withdrawal, and assassinated the head of the Afghan government's media office in Kabul.

The Taliban have swept through much of Afghanistan's

countryside since President Biden announced the U.S. troop withdrawal in April. Though the Taliban have pierced the defenses of some provincial capitals during this offensive, Friday's fall of Zarani, the capital of Nimroz in southwest Afghanistan, marked a major milestone.

Videos circulating on social media showed Taliban fighters loitering near the open gates of the Nimroz governor's residence. One resident reached

by phone said the Taliban took the city without a fight, and that the provincial governor and senior officials had fled. Many of them headed over the nearby Iranian border as the Taliban advanced, said the resident, who declined to give her name for fear of retribution.

"I am afraid," she said. "I cannot go out because the Taliban are in the city and who knows if they come and search houses."

Though sparsely populated,

Nimroz is an important trade gateway with Iran. In recent weeks, the Taliban captured most of Afghanistan's international border crossings, leaving only a handful of customs points under tenuous government control.

While the Taliban had seized some Afghan provincial capitals in the past, they were pushed out because of U.S. air support—backing that is no longer readily available because

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Virus Disrupts Rebound In Travel

Americans returned to the road, skies and stadiums this year. But lately, the great reopening has lost some momentum.

By Katherine Sayre,
Dave Sebastian
and Anne Steele

Shows are being canceled, mask requirements are returning to casinos and locales, and consumers are reconsidering their travel plans thanks to a surge in Covid-19 infections. The reaction to the increased cases isn't as dramatic as last year, but it has caused travel and leisure executives to notice a recent dip in business.

"It's people concerned about Delta," Glenn Fogel, chief executive officer of on-line travel agency Booking Holdings Inc., said in an interview this week. The operator of websites like Priceline and Kayak said it saw a slight pull-back in booking trends in July compared with June.

Travel and leisure executives described the most recent disruption as modest and likely short term, and they said they don't plan material changes to their reopening plans. To many of them, it is important to prove they can operate normally in a world with Covid-19 and without the need for the more stringent virus-related restrictions seen earlier in the pandemic.

"If they require live events to go back to 50% capacity, that doesn't work economically," Jay Marciano, chief ex-

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◆ **Vaccine mandates on the rise** for nursing-home staff A3

◆ **Amazon, United set new** mask, inoculation rules A4

Meme-Stock Guru Stands Her Ground

Cathie Wood's ETFs endure lackluster year

By MICHAEL WURSTHORN

Fans of fund manager Cathie Wood have built websites that track her every investment move. They sell T-shirts with her picture in the style of the Barack Obama "Hope" poster and with the ticker symbol of her flagship exchange-traded fund, ARK Innovation. On social media, they call her "Mamma Cathie," "Aunt Cathie" and, in South Korea, "Money Tree." Behind the adoration is her unchecked enthusiasm for a certain kind of speculative investment: companies that generate little or no profit but have what she says is the po-

tential to change the world through "disruptive innovation." Her asset-management firm, ARK Investment Management LLC, has bet heavily on buzzy sectors including alternative-energy businesses, space exploration and digital currencies.

Her focus on meme-worthy investments and her ubiquitous presence on Twitter and financial news channels have thrust her alongside market influencers such as Tesla Inc. Chief Executive Elon Musk, venture capitalist Chamath Palihapitiya and Barstool Sports founder David Portnoy, who use Twitter, You-

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EXCHANGE



PAYDAY

An Ohio factory's test: How do higher wages affect the bottom line? **B1**

Road Warriors, Back at the Airport, Feel Like Rookies Again

Business travelers' pro navigating skills have become rusty; 'so embarrassing'

By ALISON SIDER

For more than five years, Jessica Ridlen treated business travel as a ritual. The biotechnology executive kept a go-bag at the ready, refilled her mini toiletry stash regularly and boasted two sets of every charging cord.

The pandemic put a ground stop on her routine. Restarting again is proving a heavy lift. She's forgotten clothing and has shown up at the wrong airport. On a recent trip through Salt Lake

City, Ms. Ridlen lifted her laptop out of her bag before going through security—forgetting that she qualified for TSA PreCheck, a service under which vetted fliers skip that part.

"The security guy said, 'Is this your first time going through?' " Ms. Ridlen says. The 44-year-old reddened up. "I felt like a total

newbie."

There is nothing more important to the corporate warrior than the satisfaction of waltzing through the more

Please turn to page A10

The inner secrets of the world's great chefs



Daniel Humm and NY's finest speak out

LIFE & ARTS

India to refund Cairn \$1bn as it scraps tax law

- Delhi bid to fix business reputation
- Vodafone and SABMiller to benefit

AMY KAZMIN AND BENJAMIN PARKIN — NEW DELHI

India is set to refund \$1bn to UK-based Cairn Energy after it launched a rapid move to scrap a contentious retrospective tax law that had provoked years of bitter fights with foreign investors.

The lower house of parliament yesterday approved a draft law, introducing the previous day, cancelling a 2012 policy that enabled New Delhi to retrospectively tax some foreign investments. The upper house is expected to approve the law as early as next week.

New Delhi would also drop \$13.5bn in outstanding claims against companies such as Vodafone, the telecoms group, brewing giant SABMiller and French pharmaceutical company Sanofi as part of efforts to repair its damaged reputation as an investment destination.

Analysts said the legal initiative would allow New Delhi to resolve a bitter international tax battle with Cairn, which has grown increasingly embarrassing for India. In recent months the UK energy group has sought to sell some of the government's estimated \$70bn worth of overseas assets.

"It's a settlement offer masquerading as a law," said one foreign business analyst, who requested anonymity.

Prime minister Narendra Modi's gov-

ernment hopes the resolution of the dispute can bolster its reputation among foreign companies as it seeks new investment to revive India's Covid-battered economy.

"We want to give a message to the investors that the country believes in the stability and certainty of taxation," Tarun Bajaj, revenue secretary, told journalists yesterday. "Taxation is a sovereign right and can't be taken away. But we should use it sparingly, judiciously."

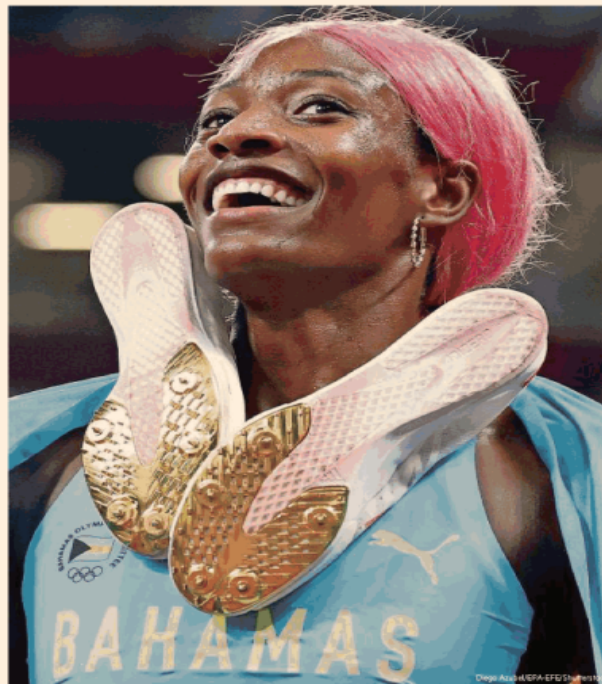
Bajaj said about \$1.2bn collected from companies under the tax provision would be refunded, if companies agreed to drop litigation, including claims for interest and penalties. About \$1bn of this would go to Cairn, and \$270m to other groups including Vodafone.

He said India would also drop about a dozen pending tax cases on which no collections have been made, but which are valued — along with interest and penalties — at \$13.5bn.

In December, an international arbitration panel ordered New Delhi to pay Cairn \$1.2bn, plus interest and costs, in relation to the 2014 seizure and sale of a 10 per cent stake in Cairn's former Indian operation. Cairn, which estimated the value of the arbitral award at \$1.7bn, declined to comment.

Vodafone's India venture page 13

Running story Week of records on the athletics track reaches finish line



Shaunae Miller-Uibo celebrates winning the women's 400m final in Tokyo yesterday, retaining her Olympic title. Records stir debate, Page 5; Tanya Joseph, Page 9; Tokyo Diary, Life & Arts Page 2

What Frank Ocean did next: exclusive interview

HOW TO SPEND IT



Sarah Ferguson 'It's hard above the parapet'

LUNCH WITH THE FT



Boom to Bust How Barca spent a fortune on talent and blew it

LIFE & ARTS



China's nanny state Middle classes under strain

BIG READ



Dealing Delta variant deals Vegas a poor hand

There has never been more money going into slot machines, the socially distanced gambling option, as Las Vegas fights to bounce back. Visitor numbers had revived but as the Delta variant looms, Nevada's mask mandate has been reinstated. There are variant efforts to enforce rules without killing the party. At one venue, where Barry Manilow is due to play, guests are told to wash their hands for as long as it takes to sing a chorus of "Copacabana".

Analysis — PAGE 4

Apple wins ministers' backing for plan to scan iPhones for child abuse images

MADHUMITA MURGIA AND TIM BRADSHAW — LONDON

Governments yesterday welcomed Apple's move to search US users' devices for illegal photos of child sexual abuse, piling pressure on reluctant tech rivals to adopt similar tools.

Apple's proposed system, first revealed by the Financial Times, would automatically alert reporters to illegal imagery. They would then pass the information on to US law enforcement.

An Indian official said the government "welcomed" the new Apple technology that set "a benchmark for other tech companies". One EU official said the company had designed a "quite elegant solution". Richard Blumenthal, a US senator, called Apple's new system an "innovative and bold step".

"Time for others — especially Face-

book — to follow their example," tweeted Sajid Javid, the UK's health secretary and former home secretary.

Apple's decision to push ahead with its own individual system, rather than join a cross-industry negotiation with regulators around the world, has riled its Silicon Valley neighbours. "Some of the reaction I've heard from other competitors to Apple is they are incandescent," said Matthew Green, a security professor at Johns Hopkins University.

The security and privacy community expressed concern that Apple had set a precedent that could be exploited by repressive regimes or overzealous law enforcement. "To say that we are disappointed by Apple's plans is an understatement," said India McKinney and Erica Portnoy of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a digital rights group.

Apps including Facebook-owned

WhatsApp, Telegram and Signal, as well as Google with its Android operating system, are already being urged to replicate Apple's model. India has passed laws compelling tech platforms to trace the source of unlawful messages, in effect breaking end-to-end encryption.

An Apple executive acknowledged the furore its moves had caused in an internal memo. "We've seen many positive responses today," wrote Sebastian Marneau-Mes in a note obtained by Apple blog 9to5Mac. "We know some people have misunderstandings, and more than a few are worried about the implications, but we will continue to explain and detail the features so people understand what we've built."

Facebook and Google declined to comment.

Additional reporting by Stephanie Findlay and Valentina Pop

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Aug 6	prev	%chg		Aug 6	prev	%chg		Aug 6	prev	%chg
S&P 500	4436.79	4425.10	0.17	\$ per £	1.176	1.184	-0.68	US Gov 10 yr	150.43	1.30	0.08
Nasdaq Composite	14834.15	14856.12	-0.47	£ per \$	1.367	1.393	-1.87	UK Gov 10 yr	150.43	0.61	0.05
Dow Jones Ind	26322.05	26064.25	0.29	€ per \$	0.848	0.850	-0.24	Ger Gov 10 yr	117.50	0.01	0.05
FTSE 100	1811.52	1810.61	0.05	¥ per \$	110.325	109.700	0.57	Japan Gov 10 yr	117.13	1.54	0.08
Euro Stoxx 50	4176.13	4161.08	0.36	SFr per \$	152.572	152.845	-0.18	US Gov 30 yr	150.43	-0.76	0.01
FTSE All-Share	4098.54	4089.91	-0.02	₹ per \$	1.076	1.074	0.19	Ger Gov 2 yr	150.43	-0.76	0.01
CAC 40	6816.96	6791.19	0.37	₹ per £	0.950	0.945	0.53				
Hong Kong	27220.04	27228.12	-0.33								
Hang Seng	26179.40	26204.68	-0.10								
MSCI World \$	3102.23	3095.83	0.21	Oil WTI \$	69.49	69.96	-0.67	Fed Funds Eff	0.10	0.08	0.02
MSCI EM \$	1303.09	1302.09	0.76	Oil Brent \$	70.90	71.29	-0.55	US 3m	0.05	0.05	0.00
MSCI ACWI \$	732.57	729.43	0.43	Gold \$	1800.75	1829.10	-1.55	UK 3m	0.07	0.07	0.00

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Late Edition
Today, clouds and sunshine, high 86.
Tonight, cloudy, thunderstorms, low 72.
Tomorrow, periodic clouds and sunshine, thunderstorms, high 84.
Weather map appears on Page A12.



Dominik Gieler, the mayor of Rech in the Ahr Valley of western Germany, looking over the river where his family home once stood.

CUOMO ACCUSER FILES COMPLAINT

Report's Details Assailed
by Governor's Lawyer

By JONAH E. BROWWICH
and LUIS FERRE-SADURNI

On the day news broke that a woman who has accused Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo of groping her breast had filed a formal criminal complaint against him, his lawyers responded with their most detailed defense of the governor yet and sought to cast doubt on key parts of the woman's story.

In a news conference streamed online, the governor's personal lawyer, Rita Glavin, suggested that the woman, an executive assistant who has not been named, was not alone with Mr. Cuomo at the Executive Mansion on the day in question, was sent there for different reasons than she has said and had expressed no qualms about the day in emails to colleagues.

Ms. Glavin's focus on the unnamed executive assistant highlighted the danger the assistant's account poses for Mr. Cuomo and the possibility that it could lead to criminal charges.

Ms. Glavin and lawyers for the executive chamber also used the news conference to question the fairness of a report released this week by the New York state attorney general, Letitia James, that accused the governor of sexually harassing the woman and 10 others, and questioned the impartiality of the investigators who compiled it.

"I know the difference between putting together a case against a target versus doing independent fact finding with an open mind," Ms. Glavin said. "There has been no open-minded fact finding here."

In response to the lawyers' news conference, a spokesman for the attorney general, Fabien Levy, defended the office's investigators in a statement, saying Mr. Cuomo's lawyers were trying to "undermine and politicize" the inquiry that Mr. Cuomo himself had authorized Ms. James to supervise.

Continued on Page A15

German Village Rethinks Footprint After Floods

By KATRIN BENNHOLD

RECH, Germany — Shortly before midnight Dominik Gieler received one last WhatsApp message from his mother. She had watched as a tsunami of river first took one, then two, then all of the houses around her own. "I won't make it out of here," she told him.

Then the connection failed. Mr. Gieler, the mayor of a small village in the Ahr Valley, a lush winemaking region in western Germany that became the epicenter of devastating floods last month, was only five minutes down the road from his mother but he could not help her. He was trapped on the top floor of his own house with his wife and children after the gentle brook he had played in as a boy had turned into a 33-foot raging river that roared past his second-floor windows on

Coming to Grips With Climate Change in Plans to Rebuild

both sides carrying roof tops and whole camper vans. The river swallowed not just Mr. Gieler's entire childhood home that July night but the ground it once stood on. His mother's body was found five miles downstream 10 days later.

"I have never felt so small and powerless," he said one recent afternoon gazing at the now empty space on the opposite bank of the river.

"We have to rebuild, but we have to rebuild differently," he said. "We have to completely rethink how we live with our envi-

ronment." Three weeks after the megaflood killed 189 people and cut a wide path of destruction through western Germany, people in the valley are still in shock. There is grief, desperation, fear of the next heavy rainfall and anger at politicians who did not heed urgent warnings in the days before. German prosecutors have opened an investigation into two officials in the region on suspicion of "negligent homicide."

But amid the cacophony of recriminations there is also something else. A sense of humility in the face of a calamity that no one had thought possible. The disaster brought home the realization that climate change is here, already, and even a rich country like Germany is living its effects. And it forced a painful recognition that the flooding was made worse by

Continued on Page A6

Push to Speed Extra Vaccines For Vulnerable

Immune-Impaired Get
Priority From F.D.A.

By APOORVA MANDAVILLI
and SHARON LAFRANIERE

The Food and Drug Administration is speeding efforts to authorize extra doses of the coronavirus vaccines for Americans with weakened immune systems, a change that reflects a growing concern within the Biden administration about these vulnerable patients as the contagious Delta variant surges nationwide.

The regulatory move would mean that people with impaired immune responses who need an extra shot, such as certain cancer patients, would be able to get one legally. That is a safer alternative than patients seeking shots on their own, as many now do, several experts said.

"The data are unequivocal that they have not gotten a good response to begin with" and need additional doses, Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, lead medical adviser to the White House on the pandemic, said in an interview on Friday.

Compared with other Americans, "there is much, much more of a compelling reason to do that sooner rather than later," he said. The benefit of vaccinating these patients may extend well beyond this group. Persistent infection with the coronavirus in immunocompromised people may lead to more transmissible or virulent variants, according to recent research. Protecting these patients may help prevent variants from emerging.

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the F.D.A. had been exploring special programs to get additional shots to immunocompromised patients. Now, if scientific data from the C.D.C. supports such a move, the F.D.A. aims to modify the emergency authorization of the vaccine produced by Moderna, perhaps as early as next week, according to two people with knowledge.

Continued on Page A13

FLORIDA GAMBLE A surge is testing Gov. Ron DeSantis's defiant approach to Covid. PAGE A13

EMPLOYERS EAGER FOR U.S. REBOUND ADD 943,000 JOBS

NEW MOMENTUM IN JULY

Unemployment Slips to
5.4% — Delta Variant
Casts a Shadow

By NELSON D. SCHWARTZ

The American economy roared into midsummer with a strong gain in hiring, overcoming trouble in matching workers with openings, as the recovery appeared to take hold.

Employers added 943,000 jobs in July, the Labor Department reported Friday, with restaurants and bars leading the way. It was the best monthly performance in nearly a year, and it was accompanied by a sharp drop in the unemployment rate to 5.4 percent, the lowest since the pandemic began, from 5.9 percent.

One cloud loomed over the buoyant numbers: The data was collected in the first half of last month, before the Delta variant of the coronavirus exploded in many parts of the country. Experts warn that a sustained outbreak could pose a threat to industries just regaining their footing.

Nevertheless, after sizable jumps in employment in May and June, July's showing reinforced the case that the recovery is proceeding, helped by healthy consumer spending, trillions of dollars in government support and a pickup in business investment.

"It's an unambiguously positive report," said Michael Gapen, chief U.S. economist at Barclays. "Labor market conditions are strong. Unemployment benefits, infection risks and child care constraints are not preventing robust hiring."

For the Federal Reserve, July's data is likely to increase confidence that the economy is on a solid track.

The Fed has held interest rates near zero since March 2020 and is

Continued on Page A11

A WELCOME SIGN The data shows a pace unseen in recoveries from the last three recessions. PAGE B1



'JOY,' ACROSS 400 METERS Allyson Felix collected a bronze in Friday's race, giving her a record-tying 10th Olympic medal. Page D4.

It's Not Just the Medal. Many Olympic Winners Get Cash, Too.

By JAMES WAGNER

TOKYO — After winning a gold medal at the Summer Olympics here, Tamyra Mensah-Stock, a United States wrestler, had big plans for the bonus money that comes with it: buying her mother a \$30,000 food truck.

Tamerlan Bashbaev, 25, a Russian judoka who claimed a bronze medal, wants to use his money to get married and go on a honeymoon. Andrea Prose, a rower who helped Canada win its first gold medal in the women's eight since 1992, can't wait to take her mother on vacation to London. "I haven't been able to see her,"

said Prose, 35, who will get \$20,000 Canadian dollars, roughly \$16,000 U.S. dollars. "We've all been really in our own bubble. So just to be able to hug my mom for the first time since we return post Covid is going to be special."

Winning an Olympic medal is often the crowning achievement of an athlete's career. Most Olym-

pians, though, aren't multimillionaire athletes like Naomi Osaka, Rory McIlroy or Kevin Durant, so competing at this elite level can be a financial struggle.

But many Olympic medalists are leaving Tokyo with more than just prizes dangling from their necks. They are given an extra be-

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INTERNATIONAL A4-8

Italians Show Proof of Shots

Patrons mostly embraced the first day of having to show a health passport for access to indoor dining, museums and a wide range of social activities. PAGE A5

NATIONAL A9-15

Bikers Just Keep On Truckin'

The annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally began on Friday, even as the Delta variant of the coronavirus is producing a surge in cases nationwide. PAGE A13

BUSINESS B1-6

Tokyo's Olympic Belly Flop

The Games have failed to live up to their promise of glory and riches for the host city and have cast a harsh light on Japan's political culture. PAGE B1

ARTS C1-6

A Rebirth in the Bronx

A federal program that has brightly refurbished the Baychester Houses could be used to rebuild other subsidized housing complexes. PAGE C1

OPINION A16-17

Ezra Klein

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TOKYO OLYMPICS

COLUMN ONE

Offering feast for palate, eyes in Tokyo

7-Eleven and other convenience stores dazzle visitors with selection, quality.

BY DAVID WHARTON AND NATHAN FENNO
REPORTING FROM TOKYO

The first time can be disorienting. You walk past shelves brimming with instant ramen — curry, seafood, chili tomato — all in packages of bright red, orange and yellow.

Deep-fried rice crackers and soy-flavored potato chips fill another aisle, not far from a bewildering selection of sugary candies and a dozen brands of sake.

The refrigerated section occupies the entire back wall: tofu bars, udon with shredded beef, steamed chicken and broccoli in onion dressing, boiled eggs sprinkled with tuna and bonito flakes.

There are so many carefully prepared meals, glistening in their clear plastic containers, it is difficult to focus. How fresh are they? Some don't have expiration dates — they have expiration hours.

All of which makes you blink your eyes and look back over your shoulder to double-check the familiar green, red and orange sign you passed on the way in.

Yes, this is a 7-Eleven. Eating can be a trouble-some at the Summer Olympics. Journalists, sports officials and support staff work ungodly long days, the dining choices at arenas and stadiums limited to soft drinks and hamburgers.

Tokyo's omnipresent convenience stores — known as *konbini* — have extended a lifeline to some [See Tokyo, A4]

U.S. BASKETBALL GOLD

Kevin Durant, who said that only victory would make the odyssey worthwhile, led Team USA's win over France. **SPORTS, D1**

VOLLEYBALLERS ON CUSP

Middle blocker Foluke Akinradewo Gunderson, a mother to a 20-month-old, and the U.S. women are eyeing gold. **SPORTS, D2**

KEEPING THEIR DISTANCE

The rise of coronavirus cases has given people in parts of Japan reason to avoid Tokyo, Dylan Hernández says. **SPORTS, D3**

Biden takes quiet victory lap over jobs

After receiving the best employment report in nearly a year, the president urges Americans to get vaccinated. **BUSINESS, A9**

An escalating Mideast conflict

Hezbollah shoots a barrage of rockets toward Israel, which retaliates with artillery fire. **WORLD, A3**

U.S. hits pause on student loans

White House issues what it says will be the final extension to moratorium to put off debt payments. **NATION, A6**

Weather

Clouds clearing. L.A. Basin: 83/63. **B5**

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WALLY SKALLS Los Angeles Times

ALONE AT THE TOP

Allyson Felix celebrates winning a bronze medal in the women's 400 meters, her 10th Olympic medal. Felix is now the all-time leader among female track and field athletes. **SPORTS, D1**

NEXT TRICK: GET SOME RESPECT

Japan's skateboarders have won five medals, but out on city streets the sport is still seen as a nuisance



BEN CURTIS Associated Press

SAKURA YOSOZUMI of Japan on her way to winning gold in the women's park skateboarding final. A teammate took silver.

BY HANAKO LOWRY

TOKYO — On a sunny Saturday afternoon in Tokyo, a few disappointed skateboarders hung about outside the sealed-off grounds of Komazawa Skate Park, boards in hand.

Some were regulars, there to continue working out tricks they'd long been practicing. Others were first-timers, inspired by Japan's dominance at skateboarding's Olympic debut on their home turf earlier in the week.

But they arrived to find the gates shut due to the city's pandemic state of emergency, and outside the fence, unwelcome glares told them it didn't matter that Japan captured three of the four available gold medals of the Summer Games: Skateboarding would continue to be seen as an unacceptable nuisance on Tokyo's streets and beyond.

Yuta Isumura and his friend had [See Skateboard, A4]

SOME REFUSE TO FLEE DIXIE BLAZE

Firefighters struggle with evacuation holdouts as fire burns 110,000 acres in a day.

BY ANITA CHABRIA, ALEX WIGGLESWORTH AND LILA SEIDMAN

GREENVILLE, Calif. — More than three weeks after it ignited in a remote canyon, the monster Dixie fire continued to break records Friday, leaping Oregon's Bootleg fire to become the largest burning in the U.S. and the third largest in recorded California history.

As the effects of climate change are felt more intensely worldwide, this singular blaze was raging in four counties — Butte, Lassen, Plumas and Tehama — and scorched 679 square miles, an area considerably larger than the city of Los Angeles.

Stoked by extreme drought, dry vegetation and gusty winds, it was burning more rapidly and behaving more erratically than even veteran firefighters could recall ever seeing.

After razing the Sierra Nevada town of Greenville, the fire continued to spread and throw off spot fires Thursday, burning through the small community of Canby. [See Fire, A8]

Conditions elevate fire risk in region

Wind and low humidity are in the forecast for the Southland. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Would another virus jab help?

Experts say boosters are largely not needed despite Delta variant, 'breakthrough' cases.

BY LUKE MONEV AND FAITH E. PINHO

With the highly contagious Delta variant raging across California and the country, some people who have already been vaccinated against COVID-19 are asking whether another shot might better armor them against potential infection.

Like so many things in the time of COVID-19, the idea of vaccine boosters has become an oft-discussed concept but hardly a settled science. State and federal health officials continue to say that they're largely unnecessary and that the primary focus should be getting the unvaccinated to roll up their sleeves.

After all, despite concerns surrounding the relatively rare occurrence of post-vaccination "breakthrough" cases, experts say those who are unvaccinated [See Boosters, A8]

Delta brings state to 4 million cases

Milestone underscores pandemic's rebound as highly contagious variant surges. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Tension rising at the Texas border

Ranchers fear violence as migration intersects with hunting season

BY MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE

DEL RIO, Texas — When ranch manager Cole Hill saw the back door of a house he was supposed to be guarding kicked in last Saturday, he suspected migrants had broken in.

Hill, 31, a father of three small children, had responded to a break-in earlier that day and the past Thursday at the 8,000-acre Gun Hill Ranch about 100 miles west of San Antonio. Never had he seen so many migrants stream through the west Texas outpost, hundreds trying to skirt a nearby U.S. Customs and Border Protection checkpoint. He started carrying a 9-millimeter handgun on his hip.

Hill figured migrants he saw inside the house might have discovered the guns there, too. So he entered with his gun drawn. Several migrant men fled ahead of him out another door, dropping. [See Texas, A6]



ERIC GAY Associated Press

MIGRANTS CROSS the Rio Grande to turn themselves in to authorities in Texas, where ranchers say they have encountered more trespassers.

The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.



Storms 80/69 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny, humid 89/73 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2021 • \$2

Governor shuns rules as Fla. sees virus surge

DeSantis attacks Biden, declares covid mandates are the real threat

BY FENIT NIRAPPIL,
BRITTANY SHAMMAS
AND LORI ROZSA

As covid-19 hospitalizations in Florida surged past 12,000 this week — far exceeding a record already shattered over the weekend — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) was fed up.

Not with those spreading misinformation about vaccines or refusing to take protective measures. DeSantis instead railed against reporters for creating “hysteria” about rising hospitalizations and accused President Biden of facilitating the coronavirus by not reducing immigration at the southern border.

Florida is the epicenter of a summer coronavirus spike fueled by the highly transmissible delta variant, reporting a fifth of all new U.S. infections and current hospitalizations. New cases and admissions have surpassed last summer’s Sun Belt surge. Florida is center stage in a dangerous phase of the pandemic with a new strain spreading more rapidly in a fully reopened society, attacking young and middle-aged adults and filling up hospital beds faster than ever. The state has reported more than 132,000 new cases and 631 deaths in the past seven days.

“When Florida was one of the only places to open, the country used Florida as a way to return to normalcy, and we allowed it,” said

SEE VIRUS ON A7

Vaccines: Biden’s mandate snarls federal workers’ return to office. A6

Officials seek booster shots for nation’s vulnerable

BY LAURIE MCGINLEY,
LENA H. SUN
AND DEREK HAWKINS

Federal health officials are racing to ensure that millions of Americans with weakened immune systems can get additional shots of coronavirus vaccines to protect them against the highly contagious delta variant.

The extra shots are expected to be authorized within days or weeks, according to federal officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the plan has not been announced.

The stepped-up activity reflects increased urgency by the Biden administration to shield some of the nation’s most vulnerable adults as coronavirus cases rise sharply. The pressure has also grown as other countries have taken steps to get additional shots to people who are immunocompromised or older — and as some Americans pursue such shots on their own.

In the next week or two, the Food and Drug Administration is expected to review data from the Centers for Disease Control and

SEE VACCINE ON A5



MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

‘A recipe for death’

In a West Virginia community ravaged by opioids and threatened by covid-19, fighting one epidemic meant losing ground against the other

BY PETER JAMISON
IN MARTINSBURG, W.VA.

Rachel Lambert was alone when she learned how Jimmy Horton died, and the news came — as so many other things now did — over a screen. The world’s attention was on the coronavirus, but the Facebook post Lambert saw as she sprawled in bed on a Sunday night said her old high school friend had been claimed by a more familiar epidemic: He had overdosed.

Fear, anger, despair — she was seized by all the emotions that grip one recovering drug user who learns that another has relapsed. But all she managed to tap out on her phone was an expression of disbelief.

“How do you know Jimmy OD’d?” Lambert wrote to the Facebook post’s author.



PHOTO BY MARISA BOONE

TOP: A full moon rises over Martinsburg, W.Va., in a region that has become a hotbed in the nation’s opioid crisis. **ABOVE:** Jimmy Horton and wife Marisa Boone in 2019.

Drug deaths are not rare in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia, and Lambert knew the risk as well as anyone. She was 34 but had attended so many friends’ funerals that she sometimes felt much older. She herself had taken the hard road from tying off in gas station bathrooms to brewing coffee at 12-step meetings, and knew how easy it was to stray. Yet she was astonished and alarmed that Horton, a thriving electrician who had been clean for four years, would return to heroin.

It would be months before she understood more about what lay behind her friend’s relapse — and behind a record-breaking year of fatal drug overdoses, in West Virginia and across the country.

When Horton died on May 23, 2020, just 10 weeks had passed since the nation entered a state of emergency in response to covid-19. But Lambert was already

SEE OVERDOSES ON A10

U.S. adds 943,000 new jobs in July

EXPERTS FEAR DELTA MAY STALL GROWTH

Wages increase for a fourth straight month

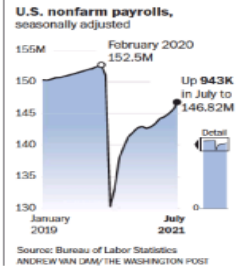
BY ELI ROSENBERG

The U.S. economy added 943,000 jobs in July as hiring surged and employers raised wages to lure workers. It marked the second straight month of impressive growth as the country’s recovery sped up amid widespread availability of vaccines.

But the renewed strength of the coronavirus in late July and early August is raising concerns about whether this momentum can continue. The delta variant has sped through the country’s vaccination-resistant population in recent weeks, leading to new government restrictions.

That has clouded many economists’ outlook for the second half of the year and raised questions about whether July could serve as a high-water mark of the recovery’s second wave.

The unemployment rate in July fell to 5.4 percent from 5.9 percent. SEE JOBS ON A16



TOKYO OLYMPICS



TOMI L. SANDYS/THE WASHINGTON POST

A bronze for the books: Allyson Felix wears a flag and a smile after winning a bronze medal in the 400 meters in Tokyo. In her fifth Games, the hardware made her the most decorated female track and field athlete in Olympic history. **Sports, D1**

Taliban fighters overrun Afghan provincial capital

Move marks significant escalation in group’s military offensive

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE
AND EZZATULLAH MEHRDAD

KABUL — Taliban fighters seized control Friday of the capital of Nimruz province in southwestern Afghanistan, the first provincial capital to be overrun by the militants since the withdrawal of U.S. and NATO forces from the country.

“People and the security forces lost their morale,” said Gul Ahmad Noorzad, a parliament member from Nimruz. Noorzad said Afghan government forces largely fled the city of Zaranj, allowing the Taliban to move in without a fight.

“The Afghan forces simply took off their uniforms and crossed into Iran,” he said, along with many civilians and government officials.

Rohullah Gul Khairzad, the province’s deputy governor, confirmed that the city had fallen to the Taliban.

The fall of a provincial capital to the Taliban marks a significant escalation of the group’s offensive. Previously, fighting was largely confined to the country’s rural areas, but recently the Taliban has begun increasing pressure on some of the country’s largest cities.

The capture of Zaranj, a relatively prosperous town bolstered by border trading with Iran, came as the Taliban further stretched Afghanistan’s already thin, beleaguered military in the cities of Herat, Kandahar and Lashkar Gah. The Afghan army’s 215th Corps is responsible for security in both Zaranj and Lashkar Gah, which has been the site of intense fighting for weeks.

Afghan military officials in recent days have signaled an intense desire to keep control of Lashkar Gah, the capital of Helmand province. The population of the city has swelled in recent

SEE AFGHANISTAN ON A15

IN SUNDAY’S POST



«Power and place The path to political influence — defecting from your hometown and moving to one of a handful of wealthy Zip codes — is corroding our democracy. **Magazine**

The right track In Northern Idaho, two “epic” bike routes showcase the success — and potential — of the rails-to-trails movement. **Travel**



Eye on the Apple New York City’s newest green space, Little Island, is 2.4 acres of urban green space built on tulip-shaped concrete containers off the west edge of Manhattan. It floats above the water, offers views in all directions and re-creates the spectator-spectacle dynamic that is the essence of urban narcissism. **Arts & Style**

INSIDE

REAL ESTATE
Small-town vibes

Sales are rising in Southern locales, especially those that feature lakefront options.

THE ECONOMY
Cryptocurrency battle

The administration resists a group of senators who want limits on regulation of cryptocurrencies. **A15**

THE NATION
A town destroyed

Little of the sparsely populated mountain town of Greenville, Calif., remains after the Dixie Fire. **A3**

THE DISTRICT
Coach, not team mom

Nicole Vorassi Bates’s Little League baseball team has a shot at the World Series. **B1**

BUSINESS NEWS	A15
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OBITUARIES	B5
TELEVISION	C3
WORLD NEWS	A12

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The Washington Post / Year 144, No. 245



ideas

Alberto Barbieri

«Nos debemos un gran debate para mejorar la educación»

ENTREVISTA — por María Elena Polack



LANZAN UN FONDO PARA FINANCIAR FUTUROS UNICORNIOS

—comunidad de negocios

De la mano de cinco referentes del ecosistema local nació Newtopia VC, que invertirá US\$50 millones en startups de toda la región.

ADN DEL CRIMEN. LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL ASESINO DE LAS MIL CARAS

—seguridad

Para la Justicia, Luis Menocchio fue el coautor de los crímenes de Manuel Roseo y de su cuñada para quedarse con un campo de 250.000 hectáreas. Página 34

LA NACION

SÁBADO 7 DE AGOSTO DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

El enviado de Biden le pidió a Fernández apoyar la democracia en la región

BILATERAL. El mandatario recibió a Jake Sullivan y agradeció por carta la donación de vacunas

Sin referencias directas a Venezuela y Nicaragua, según lo que comunicó la embajada de Estados Unidos, Alberto Fernández y Jake Sullivan, el consejero de Seguridad Nacional de Joe Biden, repasaron ayer una extensa cantidad de temas, entre los que se destacó "la importancia de

la cooperación entre la Argentina y Estados Unidos para apoyar la democracia en la región".

El influente funcionario estadounidense conversó con el Presidente en Olivos durante tres horas. También estuvo reunido con algunos ministros. Fernández aprovechó

la visita de Sullivan para entregarle una carta de agradecimiento para Biden por la donación de 3,5 millones de dosis de la vacuna Moderna contra el coronavirus. Le transmitió el impacto que esto tendrá en la campaña de vacunación en curso. Página 22

Encuentro con ministros, empresarios y gremios
Cecilia Devanna Página 22

Los dictadores latinoamericanos
Sergio Ramírez Página 39

Amplían a 1700 el cupo de ingreso y disponen más aperturas

CORONAVIRUS. Hasta ayer eran 1000 pasajeros por día; habilitan eventos sociales y espectáculos

A pesar del avance de la variante delta, el Gobierno anunció que a partir de hoy se amplía de 1000 a 1700 el cupo diario de pasajeros para ingresar al país. Habría miles de personas que no pueden regresar al país desde el 25 de junio, cuando se limitó el cruce de las fronteras.

A través de un decreto, el Presidente anunció además la flexibilización de reuniones sociales, el regreso del público a espectáculos masivos y una apertura al turismo a quienes estén vacunados. Alberto Fernández precisó que serán "aperturas sostenidas y progresivas". Página 6

JUEGOS OLÍMPICOS TOKIO 2020

LA NACION EN JAPÓN



Leonas de plata, deportistas de oro

TOKIO (Enviado especial).—"Es una plata que vale oro". Así lo sintieron, con orgullo, las Leonas, luego de conseguir la medalla de subcampeonas olímpicas tras caer ante el favorito Países Bajos por 3-1. Fue la quinta medalla para el hockey femenino en seis Juegos Olímpicos, mérito del esfuerzo y tras superar numerosos obstáculos en su preparación por la pandemia. Deportes

Messi, de Barcelona a París: solo falta el anuncio oficial del PSG

GESTIONES. El equipo francés acelera las negociaciones por el crack

La conmoción mundial deportiva por la salida de Lionel Messi de Barcelona continúa, mientras se termina de definir su futuro,

cada vez más perfilado hacia el fútbol francés. Todo indica que su próximo destino sería el PSG, donde juegan, entre otros, sus amigos

Neymar y Ángel Di María. Las gestiones se habrían acelerado en las últimas horas y hasta el hermano del jeque dueño del club hizo pos-

tes en Twitter que sugieren el inminente desembarco del astro argentino. Incluso, trascendió que podría ser presentado el martes próximo en la Torre Eiffel.

Como contracara, Barcelona no sale del estupor. El presidente, Joan Laporta, admitió que no podían retener al jugador por un tema financiero y sus excompañeros lo despidieron en las redes sociales con mensajes emotivos. Deportes

Covid-19. El país superó la marca de cinco millones de casos

Página 12

El Presidente se defendió por las visitas en cuarentena

POLÉMICA. A casi dos semanas de que se iniciara la controversia por las visitas sociales a Olivos en pleno aislamiento, Alberto Fernández se defendió ayer y negó conocer al empresario taiwanés Chien Chia Hong, que ganó seis licitaciones. No se refirió al cumpleaños de su pareja, en el que hubo nueve invitados. Página 23

Giro: Guzmán culpó a los empresarios por la inflación

Página 28

SANTIAGO FILIPUZZI / ENVIADO ESPECIAL

tóquio 2020 MENINAS DE (QUASE) OURO

Sem Tandara, seleção de vôlei garante vaga na final e faz país bater recorde de medalhas p. 1

+ PÚBLICO VETADO Delegações, voluntários e jornalistas viram torcida nas arenas p. 5

+ PLAYLIST OLÍMPICA Funk domina o pódio musical dos atletas brasileiros p. 6

Lira e Aras silenciam diante de falas golpistas de Bolsonaro

Em surto de ataques, presidente chama ministro Barroso de 'filho da puta', mas nega ofender juízes

O procurador-geral da República, Augusto Aras, e o presidente da Câmara, Arthur Lira (PP-AL), mantiveram o silêncio ontem diante de reiterados ataques do presidente Jair Bolsonaro ao Supremo Tribunal Federal e outras ameaças golpistas.

Após dizer por dois dias que poderia abandonar a Constituição e jogar com as "armas do outro lado", e que tal momento estaria "chegando", o presidente chamou o chefe do Tribunal Superior Eleitoral, Luís Roberto Barroso, de "filho da puta".

Pouco depois da declaração feita a apoiadores em Joinville (SC), Bolsonaro disse que parte da corte quer "a volta da corrupção". Negou, porém, ofender os juízes. Aras esteve com Luiz Fux, presidente do STF, durante 50 minutos nesta sexta.

Na véspera, Fux cancelara reunião entre os chefes dos Poderes, afirmando que o presidente não tem palavra. Do PGR, cobrou que cumpra seu papel. Há receio no Supremo de que o alinhamento de Aras ao Planalto o mantenha silente ante a escalada.

Lira, que disse cumprir a Constituição, declarou que não fará movimento que rompa a harmonia entre Poderes. Poder A4 e A6

Alto-Comando do Exército dá razão a Fux e teme que Bolsonaro imite Trump A6



Com Carol Gattaz no centro, jogadoras da seleção feminina de vôlei comemoram depois de vencerem a Coreia do Sul; decisão da medalha de ouro será contra as americanas Yuri Cortez/APP

+ NA RETA FINAL, BRASIL DISPUTA SEIS OUROS
HIPISMO
7h salto por equipes
FUTEBOL MASCULINO
8h30 Brasil x Espanha
MARATONA MASCULINA
19h final
GINÁSTICA RÍTMICA*
23h45 final feminina
VÔLEI FEMININO
1h30 Brasil x EUA
BOXE FEMININO
(PESO LEVE)
2h Bia Ferreira x Kellie Anne Harrington (Irlanda)

De festas a shows, estados retomam grandes eventos

Mesmo com a circulação da variante delta e as mortes no país, prefeitos e governadores decidiram liberar grandes eventos como Réveillon, jogos de futebol com público e festas com centenas de pessoas diante do avanço da vacinação e da queda nas internações em UTIs de Covid. Saúde B1

Maria da Penha faz 15 com desafio pós-pandemia

Marco no combate à violência contra a mulher, a Lei Maria da Penha completa 15 anos. Especialistas apontam desafio de superar o período pandêmico, pois a quarentena dificultou boletins de ocorrência presenciais de agressões, e a crise financeira estressou relações. Cotidiano B3

INSS e salários são metade de despesa com precatórios

O Ministério da Economia projeta para 2022 R\$ 45,3 bilhões em dívidas da União com benefícios previdenciários e despesas de pessoal, pouco mais da metade dos R\$ 89,1 bilhões previstos para os precatórios. O governo pretende parcelar valores a partir de R\$ 455 mil. Mercado A17

Lira declara que PEC do voto impresso irá a plenário

O presidente da Câmara, Arthur Lira (PP-AL), anunciou que vai levar a PEC do voto impresso a plenário, mesmo após ela ter sido rejeitada em comissão especial. A estratégia, segundo pessoas próximas de Lira, seria derrotar o projeto com folga na Casa e esvaziar a pressão de Jair Bolsonaro.

Rodrigo Pacheco (DEM-MG), que comanda o Senado, afirmou que não admitirá "retrocessos democráticos" e que a tendência do Congresso é rechaçar a mudança. Poder A10 e A11

Assessor de Biden diz a Bolsonaro que EUA confiam nas urnas A15

Ilustrada C1
Jorge Amado, morto há 20 anos, continua desnudando o Brasil

Guia C7
Veja quais são os drinks e bebidas ideais para o seu pai

EDITORIAIS A2

Vigor democrático
Sobre reações na política e na sociedade a Bolsonaro.

Chance para grileiros
Acerca de projeto que facilita regularizar terras.

População com 18 anos ou mais*

	ao menos uma dose	totalmente vacinada
Brasil	68,5%	27,9%
MS	82,4%	46,3%
RS	74,2%	35,4%
SP	81,5%	31,5%

Totalmente vacinada



	Total de doses aplicadas	única
Brasil	106,2 mil	41,0 mil
1ª SP	38,2 mil	10,2 mil
2ª MG	10,5 mil	4 mil
3ª RJ	8,3 mil	3,3 mil

Dados das 20h de 6 de ago. *Ao menos uma dose: tomou dose única ou 1ª dose. Totalmente vacinada: tomou dose única ou 2ª dose. **Em relação a 14 dias

Doria confirma início da vacinação para adolescentes no dia 18 B2



Adriano Vizoni/Folhapress

VENDE DE SKATES DISPARA COM EFEITO RAYSSA LEAL

Skates na distribuidora Brutus, em São Paulo; comércio dobrou em algumas plataformas na internet, e compras realizadas por mulheres representam 70% da receita Mercado A24

Brasil registra 2º pior ano de desmate amazônico, diz Inpe B7

Conflito com radicais em Moçambique cresce e já envolve seis países A12

PAINEL S.A.

Para Pedro Passos, renúncia seria via menos traumática

Mercado A18

“Se o presidente não gosta das regras do jogo democrático, tem um caminho muito mais natural. É a renúncia. Pedro Passos cofundador da Natura

Luís F. Carvalho Fº
Governo age como quadrilha contra a democracia Cotidiano B3



ANR cuestiona inacción del Gobierno y vincula a la izquierda con piqueteros

Extorsivo paro de camioneros golpea la economía y crea tensión social

- Gremios piden fin de violencia y denuncian plan en contra de la libertad y el desarrollo
- Ejecutivo alarga negociaciones con piqueteros y contribuye a la prolongación del conflicto
- Maestros y campesinos se suman a los cierres de rutas y los pescadores bloquean el río

PÁGINAS 6, 14, 15, 16 y 21

Después de un año
Area metropolitana y Asunción salen de zona roja de contagios Covid

PÁGINA 3

Sigue la violencia en Concepción
Criminales queman la estancia del intendente de colonia San Alfredo

PÁGINA 52

CON ESTA EDICIÓN

POSTER SAN CASERANO

SIEMPRE BELLA Y SANA 12

COMPRA OPCIONAL

NEBROCIENCIA Y PSICOLOGIA 23

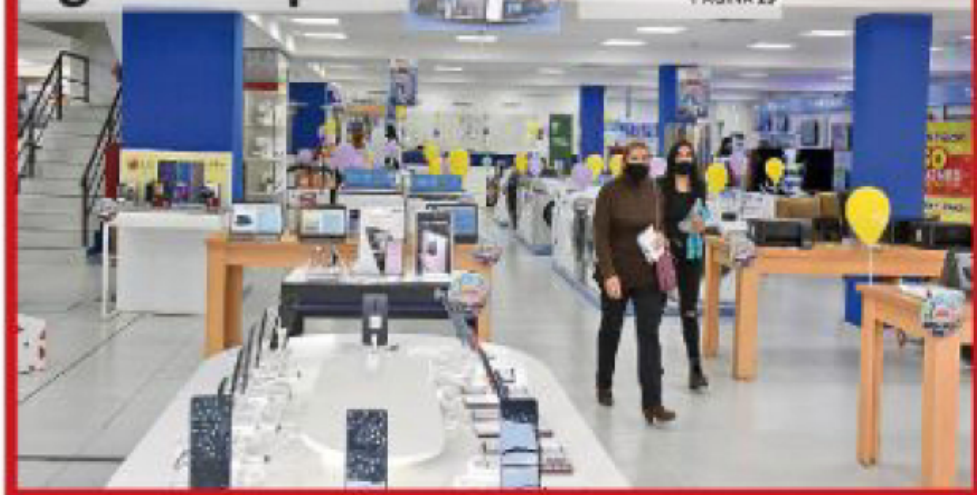
PLAZA INTERIOR

Libro: C. 40.000

Atrayentes descuentos en Agosto Liquida

Oportunidad. Los descuentos y las ofertas siguen hasta mañana en las más de 60 empresas adheridas.

PÁGINA 19



Persiguen el bien de sus familias y no de la ciudadanía
Familiares de los opositores también tienen sus cupos en las binacionales

PÁGINA 8

Universidades, MEC y Ministerio de Justicia solicitan recursos
Llueven en Diputados los pedidos de ampliaciones presupuestarias

PÁGINA 7

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LE FIGARO

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

L'ÉTÉ
DU FIGAROLES ROUTES INSOLITES
DU PATRIMOINE
GROTTES ET GOUFFRES
ENCHANTENT ENTRE LOT
ET DORDOGNE PAGE 22CÉLINE
LA DÉCOUVERTE DE NOMBREUX
MANUSCRITS RELANCE LA
PASSION POUR SON ŒUVRE PAGE 13L'AUTO PREND
LA PAROLE
ANNÉES 2010:
L'AUTOMOBILE
À L'ÈRE DU
NUMÉRIQUE
PAGE 15
CES PRODUITS NÉS
DANS DES LABOS
DR. MARTENS,
CHAUSURE
ORTHO-
PÉDIQUE
DEVENU
PUNK
PAGE 27
JEUX D'ÉTÉ
PAGES 17 ET 18À droite, la bataille pour 2022
s'accélère au cœur de l'été

Les candidats déclarés profitent des vacances pour enchaîner les déplacements de terrain. La multiplication des ambitions donne des arguments aux partisans de la primaire.

Pas de répit pour les candidats de la droite à la présidentielle. Tout au long de l'été, les prétendants déjà déclarés à l'investiture multiplient les rencontres avec les Français. À l'instar du président des Hauts-de-France,

Xavier Bertrand, parti le premier dans la course et qui espère s'imposer comme le leader naturel de son camp. Face à lui, la présidente d'Ile-de-France, Valérie Pécresse, entend le contraindre à participer à une primaire. Une

option sur laquelle travaille déjà Jean Leonetti, mandaté par Les Républicains pour élaborer une méthode de « départage ». Un sondage sera lancé à la fin du mois auprès de 15 000 sympathisants de la droite et du centre

pour jauger le potentiel des différentes candidatures et tester la pertinence d'une primaire. Il sera décortiqué lors d'un congrès crucial fin septembre, qui pourrait décider de l'organisation d'un vote en novembre.

→ PÉCRESSE CAPITALISE SUR LES ANTI-BERTRAND
→ LE TOUR DE FRANCE LOIN DES CAMÉRAS DE BERTRAND
→ « LA PRIMAIRE ACCROÎT LES CHANCES DE DÉSIGNER LE MEILLEUR CANDIDAT »
PAGES 2, 3 ET L'EDITORIALPASSE SANITAIRE
L'exécutif se prépare à un vent de colère PAGES 4 ET 5RÉGIONS
La tradition des fêtes de village malmenée par le Covid PAGE 7YÉMEN
Un Français détenu pendant un an et demi PAGE 8CUBA
Le gouvernement distribue des vivres pour calmer le peuple affamé
PAGE 9CHAMPS
LIBRES
• La chronique de Mathieu Bock-Côté
• La tribune de Thomas Morales
PAGE 21FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NON
Réponses à la question de vendredi:
Passe sanitaire :
êtes-vous satisfait de la décision du Conseil constitutionnel ?
OUI 45% NON 55%
TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 266 591Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr
Jeux olympiques :
êtes-vous satisfait des résultats obtenus par les athlètes français ?

DAMIEN BUTAËVE/SES DE PADIRAC - ©BRIDGEMAN IMAGES

Nuits des étoiles : une fascination toujours intacte



De Vénus aux Perséides, les amateurs d'étoiles n'auront d'yeux que pour la voûte céleste, ce week-end. Le Figaro en profite pour vous amener à l'observatoire de Saint-Véran, dont le ciel est parmi les plus purs d'Europe. PAGES 12 ET 20



ÉDITORIAL par Jim Jarrassé jarrasse@lefigaro.fr

Guerre des nerfs

Qui va céder le premier ? La bataille qui s'engage à droite à huit mois de la présidentielle n'est pas sans rappeler cette scène mythique de *La Fureur de vivre* : sur les hauteurs de Los Angeles, James Dean y défie son adversaire dans un jeu dangereux consistant à précipiter sa Chevrolet vers la falaise. Le premier qui freine a perdu. La Californie des années 1950 n'est pas la France d'aujourd'hui, mais, au milieu de la torpeur estivale, c'est bien une guerre des nerfs qui s'installe en vue de 2022. D'un côté, Xavier Bertrand, pied au plancher, exclut de participer à un processus de sélection. De l'autre, ses adversaires déclarés (Valérie Pécresse) ou non (Laurent Wauquiez) refusent de voir dans le président des Hauts-de-France le leader naturel de la droite. Comment sortir de l'impasse ? Même si leur fiabilité est souvent remise en question, les sondages seront les premiers juges de paix. À commencer par l'enquête que LR lancera fin août auprès de ses sympathisants. Si aucun des prétendants ne se détache clairement - ce qui est actuellement le cas -, la droite devra se résoudre à activer sa « mé-

thode de départage ». Ne dites surtout pas « primaire », le mot est tabou depuis l'échec de 2017. Pourtant, quelle autre solution que le vote ? La célèbre citation de Churchill sur « la démocratie, pire système à l'exception de tous les autres » s'applique aussi à cet exercice. Ses effets pervers sont indéniables et il peut dérouter un camp nourri par le mythe gaullien de l'homme providentiel, mais il demeure le moyen le plus sûr de dégager rapidement un candidat unique.

Ne plus perdre de temps, c'est ce qu'exigent des électeurs excédés par les batailles d'ego, les défaites successives et l'interminable débat sur la désignation de leur champion. C'est seulement à l'automne que la droite pourra entrer pleinement dans la course présidentielle, dans laquelle Emmanuel Macron et Marine Le Pen sont déjà lancés à pleine vitesse. Entre les incessantes dérobades du président de la République et la normalisation factice de la candidature du RN, elle a les moyens de perturber un match écrit à l'avance dont beaucoup de Français ne veulent pas. Il n'est pas (encore) trop tard. ■

Rebond spectaculaire des créations d'emploi en France

Avec 239 500 créations nettes de postes de salariés dans le privé au printemps, et après 91 000 cet hiver, la France retrouve son niveau d'avant-crise. Ce rebond est beaucoup plus rapide que ce qui était envisagé il y a un an après le premier confinement, qui avait mis l'économie à l'arrêt. L'emploi se redresse dans tous les secteurs (construction et services...), y compris l'industrie, qui n'a toutefois pas retrouvé son niveau de la fin d'année 2019.

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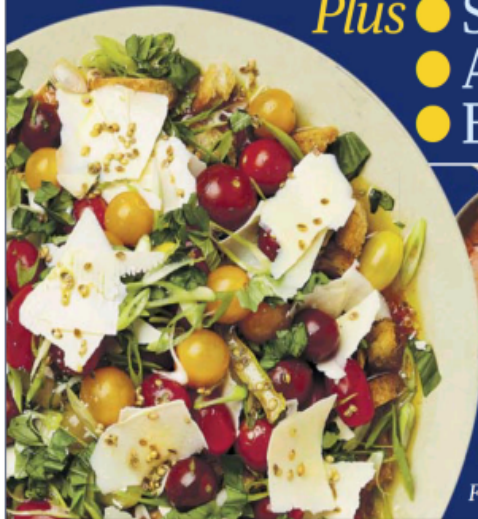
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Johnson refuses to isolate after aide contracts Covid

Exclusive
Aubrey Allegretti

Boris Johnson is facing mounting anger after it emerged he continued with a tour of Scotland and decided not to isolate despite a member of his team testing positive for Covid-19 on the trip.

A senior government source told the Guardian the prime minister and the official were "side by side" on several occasions and even travelled together on RAF Voyager between

Glasgow and Aberdeen, but a Downing Street spokesperson insisted they did not come into close contact.

The civil servant, who is now isolating at a hotel in Scotland, had attended an event with Johnson at a police college on Wednesday.

Later that day, he and the staffer flew as part of a small No 10 contingent featuring about a dozen people to the next leg of Johnson's two-day tour of Scotland - though they were said to be sitting at opposite ends of a large cabin.

The group were tested on landing,

and the official's result was positive so they went into isolation. Some whose result came back negative were told to make their own way home, while others, including Johnson, finished the tour. The prime minister was then pictured meeting with the business secretary, Kwasi Kwarteng, Scottish Tories leader Douglas Ross and the Conservative MP Andrew Bowie.

Johnson and several members of the No 10 contingent are not isolating - but a government source told the Guardian "the whole lot should be". The Downing Street spokesperson

also refused to say if he had been tested since the positive case was discovered. The prime minister is spending the weekend at Chequers, meaning if he is told to stay at home it will be the second time in a month he has had to spend 10 days in his countryside grace and favour mansion.

After coming into close contact with the health secretary, Sajid Javid, who tested positive for Covid-19 in mid-July, Johnson and the chancellor, Rishi Sunak, initially resisted isolating - claiming they could avoid it by participating in

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PM's flag drive costs thousands

Exclusive
Ben Quinn

Robert Jenrick criticised BBC presenters for daring to gently mock the size of his, Grant Shapps has a little plastic one on his bookshelf, while Matt Hancock paired his with a Damien Hirst picture of the Queen.

In the era of the video political interview, it seems that government ministers believe nothing signals their patriotic credentials like a union flag placed strategically in the background.

But away from spare rooms in ministers' homes, new spending figures highlight the increasing embrace of the flag by the government under Boris Johnson's premiership - whether motivated by Brexit, Scottish nationalism or the so-called culture wars.



Leaping for joy

More success for Team GB

Page 4 and Sport →

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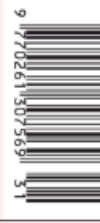
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