



# WSJ

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEEKEND

Why Ugly  
Shoes Sell  
OFF DUTY



DOW JONES | News Corp \*\*\*\*\* SATURDAY/SUNDAY, AUGUST 21 - 22, 2021 - VOL. CCLXXVIII NO. 44 WSJ.com ★★★★★ \$5.00

### What's News

World-Wide

**Biden promised** to evacuate every American who wants to leave Afghanistan and said he would seek to extract Afghan allies, but he cautioned that the mission is dangerous and didn't rule out losses, following days of chaos at Kabul's international airport. **A1, A7, A8**

◆ **The FDA is expected** next week to grant full approval of the Covid-19 vaccine from Pfizer and partner BioNTech, according to people familiar with the planning. **A2**

◆ **A group of property managers** and real-estate agents asked the Supreme Court to block the Biden administration's new eviction moratorium after a federal appeals court rejected their challenge. **A5**

◆ **A California judge said** a ballot measure that allowed Uber and Lyft to bypass a state law that sought to reclassify their drivers as employees was unconstitutional. **A3**

◆ **The Biden administration** has decided it won't nominate acting FDA Commissioner Woodcock to lead the agency on a permanent basis, according to people familiar with the situation. **A5**

◆ **U.S. business groups sued** to block parts of a federal rule requiring insurers and employers to disclose prices they pay for health-care services and drugs. **B10**

### Business & Finance

◆ **Topps was forced** to cancel plans to go public via a SPAC a day after Major League Baseball and the players association struck exclusive trading-card agreements with a new company. **A1**

◆ **Chinese stocks were hit** by a fresh wave of selling, capping off a tumultuous week that saw China regulators step up their scrutiny of internet-technology firms. **A1**

◆ **U.S. stocks rose** Friday, but the Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq posted declines of 1.1%, 0.6% and 0.7%, respectively, for the week. **B11**

◆ **Asset managers** are jockeying to create the first U.S. bitcoin ETF after the SEC's Gensler earlier this month signaled a path to approval. **B1**

◆ **GM is expanding** its safety recall of the Chevy Bolt to include newer models, a move that will cost an additional \$1 billion to remedy a problem that has increased the risk of battery fires. **B3**

◆ **Ackman disclosed** plans to unwind Pershing Square Tontine Holdings, his \$4 billion SPAC, in the face of a lawsuit questioning the vehicle's legality. **B11**

◆ **The U.K. government** said it is considering an in-depth probe of Nvidia's proposed takeover of Arm, citing antitrust concerns. **B3**

### NOONAN

What Biden  
Can Still Save  
In Afghanistan **A13**

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MAY 26



AUGUST 15



In May, patrons felt secure enough to enjoy a Kabul café. As the U.S. pulled out troops, though, the Taliban advanced. Afghan President Ghani told parliament Aug. 2 that he had a plan to counter Taliban gains, but 13 days later the insurgents seized control of the capital. The ensuing chaos left President Biden to defend the U.S. response for a second time this week on Friday.

## Calm, Then Panic, as Taliban Gained

With insurgents closing in, there was little urgency in Washington and Kabul

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, a former World Bank technocrat and author of the book "Fixing Failed States," gathered officials on Saturday, Aug. 7, for a conference on improving relations be-

By **Yaroslav Trofimov,**  
**Vivian Salama**  
and **Dion Nissenbaum**

tween the attorney general's office and local officials. He spent much of the rest of the day on the emerald-green lawn of the presidential palace, reading a book, according to a palace official. By then, the Afghan state was col-

lapsing. The number of local districts under Kabul's control was diminishing almost by the hour. Kunduz, the biggest city in the northeast, fell the following night. Within 24 hours, other provincial capitals followed, many without a fight. Taliban fighters seized bases full of U.S.-supplied arms and turned them on a demoralized Afghan army unable to resupply troops with weapons, food or water. President Biden was at his home in Wilmington, Del., where he played a round of golf at the Fieldstone Golf Club and then held a virtual meeting with Team USA to congratulate them on their performance at the Tokyo Olym-

pics. The White House said he was briefed on Afghanistan in between.

The U.S. Embassy on Sunday, Aug. 8, said Americans should leave Afghanistan on the first available flight. Afghans who knew they would be hunted down in a Taliban takeover talked of fleeing. Yet plenty of spaces remained on outbound flights.

The thinking was that the insurgents wouldn't attack Kabul before the U.S. military withdrawal slated for Aug. 31.

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◆ More coverage of the Afghanistan crisis appears on pages A7 and A8.

### New 'Jeopardy!' Host Quits



Mike Richards stepped down after a wave of controversies, just nine days after being named as a successor to Alex Trebek. **B1**

## Topps Co. Loses Its Grip On Card Market—and SPAC

For more than 70 years, Topps Co. handled every curveball that came its way in maintaining control of the baseball-

By **Miriam Gottfried,**  
**Andrew Beaton**  
and **Juliet Chung**

card market by relying on its deep historical relationships with Major League Baseball and its players.

But with one industry-rattling deal this week, Topps has

suddenly lost its grip on the business it long dominated—and on Friday was forced to cancel imminent plans to go public via a special-purpose acquisition company.

A breakdown in the baseball relationships that were central to Topps's longtime success was at the heart of the abrupt change of fortune.

Topps on Thursday was blindsided as its longtime business partners—MLB and the Major League Baseball

Players Association—struck exclusive trading-card agreements with a new company controlled by online sports-merchandise retailer Fanatics Inc., people familiar with the matter said. The NBA and unions representing players in the National Basketball Association and the National Football League were also part of

Please turn to page A2

◆ Ackman plans to return funds to SPAC investors. **B11**

## Crackdown Sinks China Shares

By **CHONG KOH PING**

Chinese stocks were hit by a fresh wave of selling Friday, wrapping up a tumultuous week that saw regulators step up scrutiny of internet-technology companies, showing again that Beijing's corporate crackdown is far from over.

Several state-media commentaries and articles also suggested regulators plan to get tough on more industries, sparking selloffs in online pharmacy operators and companies that make expensive liquor.

The Hong Kong-listed shares of e-commerce behemoth Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. fell 2.6% Friday to post a decline of 14% for the week, ending well below the price they debuted at in November 2019. The sell-off took the market capitalization of the company founded by billionaire Jack Ma to about \$440 billion, around half its peak roughly 10 months ago.

Shares of Meituan, a food-delivery giant that is also one of China's most valuable companies, dropped 4.5%, finishing the week down 17%.

Hong Kong's flagship Hang Seng Index fell 1.8% Friday to end the week down nearly 6%. In mainland China, the CSI 300 Index, made up of the largest stocks listed in Shanghai and Shenzhen, did slightly better, losing 3.6% for the week.

Investors have struggled to digest a flurry of draft regulations, comments from Chinese officials and commentaries in state media in recent days. Taken together, they paint a cloudy outlook for the companies that are likely to be af-

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### Latest Duck-Hunting Flap Is Over Artwork

Government proposal about waterfowl depictions on licenses ruffles feathers

By **KATY STECH FEREK**

WASHINGTON—There are people who love ducks. And people who love to hunt ducks. Both groups are waterfowl fans, but sometimes agendas clash. Feathers are ruffled. This time, it's over artistic differences.

Waterfowl hunters and others who buy hunting licenses known as Federal Duck Stamps

are arguing about their imagery. The stamps are collected by non-hunters, often conservationists, bird watchers and wildlife photographers who like the duck-themed artwork.

A rule instituted during the Trump administration requires the new hunting stamps to show waterfowl and depict hunting. Some say the rule

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## The last days of the 'New Afghanistan'

LIFE & ARTS

## Biden's foreign policy fiasco

BIG READ

## Taliban leader Abdul Ghani Baradar

PERSON IN THE NEWS

An Afghan woman on a truck at the border with Iran seeks entry to the country after fleeing when the Taliban took over — AFP Photo/MC/Anwar Red Crescent

# Kabul chaos thwarts evacuation as Washington blame game starts

● Violence at Taliban's airport checkpoints ● Biden pledges to get 'every American home'

ANDREW ENGLAND AND HELEN WARRELL — LONDON  
KATRINA MANSON — WASHINGTON  
STEPHANIE FINDLAY — NEW DELHI

President Joe Biden said the US was working with the Taliban to ensure safe passage for those fleeing Afghanistan as efforts yesterday by the US and Nato to evacuate thousands of Afghans from Kabul airport were being thwarted by violence around the Islamist militant group's checkpoints.

A blame game meanwhile erupted in Washington over who was responsible for the chaos. The White House, US intelligence officials, diplomats and the Pentagon have pointed fingers at each

other, in public and via damaging leaks, following inaccurate assessments of the prospects of a rapid Taliban takeover.

Evacuating vulnerable Afghans is the priority but the US and Nato allies have struggled to get people into Kabul airport. "The paradox is we have more planes than passengers," said Jens Stoltenberg, Nato secretary-general. A person briefed on the operations said Qatar had been co-ordinating between Nato, the UN, the UK, and in some cases the US, and the Taliban to move Afghans who worked for western militaries and organisations through checkpoints manned by the Islamists.

But Qatari officials halted their opera-

tions yesterday because of safety fears, the person said, adding that it took one convoy almost 12 hours to reach the airport the previous day amid gunfire. "No one can get into the airport," the person said, adding it was almost impossible for Afghans to get through airport checkpoints without a diplomatic escort.

UK officials admitted that it was taking people 24-48 hours to get through Taliban checkpoints within Kabul and to reach the airport hotel being used as a processing centre for evacuees.

British special forces have been travelling outside the airport into Kabul to collect UK nationals and Afghans, according to two people briefed on the

### Inside

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operation. But US officials have said the Biden administration had not prepared for an evacuation of citizens with Kabul under Taliban control and many are frustrated over the lack of planning.

Biden said the US was "in constant contact" with the Taliban to assure safe passage for evacuees. He said 13,000 people had been flown out since August 14. "To any American who wants to come home, we will get you home," he said in a TV address.

He said he had spoken to Boris Johnson, Emmanuel Macron and Angela Merkel in recent days and agreed to convene the G7 next week "to co-ordinate a united approach on Afghanistan".

## Running costs

The £15,000 ultra-marathon  
LIFE & ARTS



## Senior movers

Decluttering for downsizers  
HOUSE & HOME



Belarusian Olympic defector has lunch with the FT  
LIFE & ARTS



Basque beauty The attraction of Biarritz's wild coast  
HOUSE & HOME



## Pandemic brings curtain down on the IPO roadshow

The globe-spanning IPO roadshow will never be the same again. Coronavirus has put an end to the hefty lunches, marketing gimmicks and \$1m jet bills. Even a no-frills tour could rack up hundreds of thousands of dollars and bankers say it is quicker as well as cheaper to do deals on video. While some would prefer to press the flesh of a management team before handing them large sums of money, 'no one wants to go back', says one banker.

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# Nvidia's snoop for Arm raises 'serious concerns', says UK antitrust watchdog

KATE BEIOLEY — LONDON

The UK competition watchdog has recommended an in-depth investigation into Nvidia's planned \$54bn takeover of British chip designer Arm, saying it had "serious competition concerns" over the deal.

The Competition and Markets Authority yesterday published the findings of a report to the government in which it said the deal could "stifle innovation across a number of markets".

Nvidia, the US chipmaker, struck a deal with SoftBank, the Japanese investment conglomerate, to buy Arm last September for \$40bn in shares and cash. The deal is now worth \$54.3bn after a rise in Nvidia's share price.

But the deal faces regulatory hurdles across the world and Nvidia has recently admitted it will not complete the deal

within its original 18-month timeframe. Jensen Huang, Nvidia chief executive, has said he remained "confident" it would close by the end of 2022.

The UK has already referred the deal for a national security review and the EU is likely to open an in-depth investigation shortly, said people with knowledge of the matter.

Nvidia has only recently begun to seek clearance in China, where Arm remains locked in a dispute with the head of its Arm China joint venture.

The CMA said it had received submissions from Nvidia customers and competitors complaining over the proposed deal.

It concluded that since Arm's designs are widely licensed to other chipmakers, the deal could give Nvidia the ability to hurt rivals by restricting access to Arm technology. Nvidia denies that.

Nvidia offered a "set of behavioural remedies" to appease the regulator, but the CMA said it did not believe any such measure would "address the competition concerns" it had identified. It said innovation could suffer in a wide range of areas, including data centres, gaming, the "internet of things" and autonomous vehicles.

Oliver Dowden, the UK culture secretary, must now decide whether to open an in-depth probe based on national security and competition concerns, or hand back control to the competition watchdog to take it forward as a normal "phase two" merger investigation.

Nvidia said it looked forward to addressing the CMA's views and resolving government concerns. "We remain confident that this transaction will be beneficial to Arm, its licensees, competition and the UK," it added.

## World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Aug 20	prev	%chg		Aug 20	prev	%chg		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4621.56	4606.30	0.36	\$ per £	1.168	1.168	0.00	US Gov 10 yr	149.57	1.25	0.01
Nasdaq Composite	14641.25	14541.39	0.68	£ per \$	1.362	1.365	-0.02	UK Gov 10 yr	152.52	0.52	-0.02
Dow Jones Ind	35036.86	34884.12	0.59	€ per \$	0.958	0.955	0.00	Ger Gov 10 yr	117.32	0.01	0.00
FTSE 100	1807.45	1801.17	0.35	¥ per \$	109.805	109.725	0.00	Japan Gov 10 yr	117.32	0.01	0.00
Euro Stoxx 50	4144.21	4124.71	0.47	₹ per \$	149.500	149.896	-0.03	US Gov 30 yr	116.34	1.87	0.00
FTSE 100	7057.90	7056.86	0.01	SFR per €	1.072	1.073	-0.01	Ger Gov 2 yr	105.80	-0.76	0.00
FTSE All-Share	4092.53	4084.14	0.45	₹ per \$	0.096	0.096	0.00				
CAC 40	6626.11	6605.89	0.31								
Xetra Dax	15800.04	15765.81	0.22								
Nikkei	27013.29	27281.17	-0.98								
Hang Seng	26489.72	25316.33	-4.64								
MSCI World \$	3903.22	3819.01	-2.18	Oil WTI \$	62.83	63.50	-1.17	Fed Funds Eff	0.10	0.08	0.02
MSCI EM \$	1232.41	1281.88	-4.65	Oil Brent \$	85.63	86.46	-1.23	US 3m Bills	0.08	0.07	-0.01
MSCI ACWI \$	719.89	724.93	-0.70	Gold \$	1782.05	1783.45	-0.08	Euro Libor 3m	-0.98	-0.96	0.02
								UK 3m	0.07	0.07	0.00

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Khalil Haqqani, who leads a powerful Taliban faction and is on the U.S. terrorist list, is playing a major role in the new government.

## Benefit Cutoffs Failing to Ease Labor Shortfall

By BEN CASSELMAN

The cutoff of federal unemployment benefits in much of the country was meant to bring a flood of workers back to the job market. So far, that flood looks more like a trickle.

A total of 26 states, all but one with Republican governors, have moved to end some or all of the expanded unemployment benefits that have been in place since the pandemic began. The governors, along with many business owners, have argued that the benefits discourage returning to work when many employers are struggling to hire.

Several recent studies, however, have concluded that the extra payments have played only a small role in this year's labor shortages. And they found that at most a modest increase in employment in states that abandoned the programs — most of them in June — even as millions of jobless workers have had to cut spending, potentially hurting local economies. "The idea was that there were lots of jobs — it was just that people weren't looking. That was the narrative," said Arindrajit Dube, a University of Massachusetts economist who was an author of one of the studies. "I don't think that story holds up."

Data released Friday by the Labor Department provided the latest evidence. It showed that the states that cut benefits have experienced job growth similar to — and perhaps slightly slower than — growth in states that retained the benefits. That was true even in the leisure and hospitality sector, where businesses have been particularly vocal in their complaints about the benefits.

Overall, the U.S. labor market has come a long way since last

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## Bad Bet Hurts Efforts to Expand Covid Screening

By SHERI FINK

For weeks in June and July, workers at a Maine factory making one of America's most popular rapid tests for Covid-19 were given a task that shocked them: take apart millions of the products they had worked so hard to create and stuff them into garbage bags.

Soon afterward, Andy Wilkinson, a site manager for Abbott Laboratories, the manufacturer, stood before rows of employees to announce layoffs. The company canceled contracts with suppliers and shuttered the only other plant making the test, in Illinois, dismissing a work force of 2,000. "The numbers are going down," he told the workers of the demand for testing, saying it wasn't their fault. "This is all about money."

### Company Destroyed Its Test Supplies Just as U.S. Cases Soared

As virus cases in the U.S. plummeted this spring, so did Abbott's Covid-testing sales. But now, amid a new surge in infections, steps the company took to eliminate stock and wind down manufacturing are proving untimely — hobbling efforts to expand screening as the highly contagious Delta variant rages across the country.

Demand for the 15-minute antigen test, BinaxNOW, is soaring again as people return to schools and offices. Yet Abbott has reportedly told thousands of newly in-

terested companies that it cannot equip their testing programs in the near future. CVS, Rite Aid and Walgreens locations have been selling out of the at-home version, and Amazon shows shipping delays of up to three weeks. Abbott is scrambling to hire back hundreds of workers.

America was notoriously slow in rolling out testing in the early days of the pandemic, and the story of the Abbott tests is a microcosm of the larger challenges of ensuring that the private sector can deliver the tools needed to fight public health crises, both before they happen and during the twists and turns of an actual event.

"Businesses crave certainty, and pandemics don't lend certainty to demand," said Stephen S.

Continued on Page A11

## DESPAIR IN KABUL UNDERCUTS BIDEN ON RESCUE EFFORT

President Goes on Defensive as Criticism of U.S. Evacuation Grows Louder

By MARK LANDLER

LONDON — The desperate scenes at the Kabul airport reverberated around the world on Friday, forcing President Biden to defend his handling of the chaotic evacuation and fueling recrimination from American allies that are struggling to get their own citizens out of Taliban-controlled Afghanistan.

Mr. Biden insisted the American-led operation made "significant progress" after a rocky start, with nearly 6,000 American troops evacuating 5,700 Americans, Afghans, and others on Thursday. Flights were suspended for several hours on Friday to process the crush of people at the airport, but they were resuming, he said.

"We're acting with dispatch," Mr. Biden said at the White House. "Any American who wants to come home, we will get you home."

The president's reassuring words, however, conflicted jarringly with the grim reality in Kabul, where panic reigned and the Taliban encircled the airport in a ring of terror. While Mr. Biden pledged not to abandon American citizens or Afghans who helped the United States, he left untold others in a dangerous limbo, conceding, "I cannot promise what the final outcome will be."

Thousands of Afghans continued to besiege the airport gates, begging to get on planes as Taliban militants menaced them with sticks and rifle blasts. Anxious crowds were pressed up against blast walls, with women and children twisted into the arms of American troops on the other side.

In one harrowing image, a Marine leaned over razor wire to grasp a walling baby from outstretched hands. The Pentagon

said the baby was sick, received treatment and was later returned to his father.

Many more people were simply turned away, repulsed by reddish clouds of tear gas and volleys of rifle fire above their heads. A Taliban fighter put a gun to the head of one man and warned him, "Go back to your home or I will shoot you," according to a person who witnessed the encounter.

While the south side of the airfield — the site of anguished scenes earlier in the week — was calmer on Friday, a witness reported that the gate at the north side, where American troops are in control, was mobbed. American-trained Afghan special forces units pushed back the crowds, some shooting in the air. The staccato pops of gunfire mixed with the roar of planes taking off.

On the airport's eastern perimeter, hundreds of Afghans jostled with British soldiers as they tried to get into a British-controlled compound. In video posted to social media by the BBC, troops ordered people away from the en-

Continued on Page A6



Taliban troops escorting Mr. Haqqani in Kabul on Friday.

## Taliban Employ Tweets to Push Distorted View

By PAUL MOZUR  
and ZIA UR-REHMAN

In one video, a Taliban official reassured female health workers that they could keep their jobs. In another, militants told Sikhs, a minority religious group, that they were free and protected. Still others suggested a new lawfulness in Kabul, with Taliban fighters holding looters and thieves at gunpoint.

The Taliban, who banned the internet the first time they controlled Afghanistan, have turned social media into a powerful tool to tame opposition and broadcast their messages. Now firmly in control of the country, they are using thousands of Twitter accounts — some official and others anonymous — to placate Afghanistan's terrified but increasingly tech-savvy urban base.

The images of peace and stability projected by the Taliban contrast sharply with the scenes broadcast around the world of the chaotic American evacuation from the Kabul airport or footage of protesters being beaten and shot at. They demonstrate the digital powers the militants have honed over years of insurgency, offering a glimpse of how the Taliban could use those tools to rule Afghanistan, even as they cling to their fundamentalist religious tenets and violent proclivities.

Afghan social media may be a poor indicator of public sentiment. Many of the Taliban's critics and

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## A Presidency And Its Values Put to the Test

By PETER BAKER

For most of the last week, in the fires of the worst foreign policy crisis of his young administration, the president who won the White House on a promise of competence and compassion has had trouble demonstrating much of either.

The chaos in Kabul and his own conflicting messages have left President Biden struggling to assert command over world events and seemingly more intent on washing his hands of Afghanistan than expressing concern over the humanitarian tragedy unfolding on the ground.

Mr. Biden's team argues that it will not matter in the long run because Americans agree with his decision to pull out after 20 years of war and do not care what happens in Afghanistan as long as their fellow citizens are extracted safely. Afghanistan is America's longest war, stretching through four presidencies, and none of those presidents found a way to disengage successfully.

But the tumultuous endgame of Mr. Biden's withdrawal has nonetheless undercut some of the most fundamental premises of Mr. Biden's presidency that unlike his erratic, self-absorbed predecessor, he brought foreign policy seasoning, adults-in-the-room judgment and a surfeit of

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## New 'Jeopardy!' Host Leaves, Putting a TV Institution in Chaos

This article is by Michael M. Grynbbaum, Nicole Sperling and Julia Jacobs.

Mike Richards's first and, as it turned out, last day of filming as the host of "Jeopardy!" began with a gathering that executives with the long-running quiz show hoped would symbolize a fresh start.

In a taped ceremony on Thurs-

day at the Sony Pictures lot in Culver City, Calif., Sony revealed that the "Jeopardy!" studio would be renamed for Alex Trebek, the beloved host who died last year. Mr. Richards smiled as cameras rolled and Mr. Trebek's widow and children looked on.

Less than 24 hours later, Mr. Richards had quit his hosting role, "Jeopardy!" production was placed on hold, and the show's fans were struggling to under-

### Offensive Observations on Podcast Resurface

stand how a television institution and staple of the American living room could have botched a succession plan after 37 years of stability and success.

Mr. Richards stepped down on

Friday after revelations of offensive and sexist comments he made on a podcast several years ago, nine days after Sony announced his new role with great fanfare. He wrote in a staff memo that "moving forward as host would be too much of a distraction for our fans and not the right move for the show."

"Jeopardy!", which first aired in

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### Above the Arctic Circle, Rain

The showers are another troubling sign of a changing Greenland, which is warming at a speedy rate. PAGE A9

### Quiet Opposition in Belarus

Thousands of activists are working clandestinely to spread dissent and undermine the government. PAGE A4

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### Request on Asylum Program

The Justice Department asked the Supreme Court to halt a Trump-era program that makes asylum-seekers wait out their cases in Mexico. PAGE A12

### East Under Hurricane Warning

Tropical Storm Henri strengthened as it moved toward New England, triggering a warning for parts of Long Island and the Connecticut coast. PAGE A13

### Pfizer Shot Nears Full Approval

The Food and Drug Administration is working toward giving full approval to Pfizer-BioNTech's two-dose Covid-19 vaccine as soon as Monday. PAGE A11

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### A Staycation, U.K.-Style

For the British, Mediterranean vacations have been replaced by a trip to the shores of England. PAGE B1

### Gig Worker Law Shot Down

A California law that made workers like Uber drivers independent contractors was deemed unconstitutional. PAGE B3

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### A Shape-Shifting Musician

Livingston Matthews, who performs as Pink Siifu, is a prolific rapper and producer. He's returned this month with "Gumbo!" a hat tip to the soulful Southern rap that inspired him. PAGE C1

### Chuck Close's Legacy

The artist was equally admired by the cognoscenti and the public, before absconding himself from the art world. Will his paintings regain visibility? Our critic discusses. PAGE C1

OPINION A18-19

### Thomas L. Friedman

PAGE A19



SPORTS B8-10

### A Homegrown Yankee

Andrew Velazquez, a Bronx native, had a wonderful vantage point for the Yankees' three-game sweep of Boston this week: shortstop. PAGE B8



## LAPD accused of bias in handling protests

Some say police have been slower to rein in right-wing groups than those on the left.

By Kevin Rector and James Queally

The anti-vaccination demonstrators, Proud Boys and black-clad counter-protesters bobbed around in the street outside Los Angeles police headquarters last weekend as if it were a boxing ring, talking trash and raising their fists to fight.

Within seconds a brawl erupted, with people pulling out weapons and throwing punches. By the time LAPD officers in riot gear separated the two sides, several people had been injured and two stabbed — an anti-vaccination activist who suffered a lacerated heart and punctured lung, and a counter-protester whose protective gear likely shielded him from more serious wounds, witnesses say.

The violence in the heart of downtown Los Angeles sparked widespread anger along with questions about why authorities have repeatedly struggled to deal with such fights at recent protests around COVID-19 restrictions and national politics. The continued unrest has prompted some to question why the LAPD isn't cracking down more on the right-wing activists who have engaged in the brawls.

On Jan. 6, as right-wing extremists stormed the U.S. Capitol in Washington, fights broke out at a rally for former President Trump in the same downtown location as the Aug. 14 brawl. A Black woman was assaulted and doused with pepper spray when she inadvertently walked past a rally of Trump supporters, some of whom face possible battery charges.

In recent weeks, fights have broken out at an anti-transgender rights protest at a Westlake spa, an anti-mask protest outside a West Hollywood cancer center and an anti-vaccination protest at a West Hollywood restaurant. Across all three events, two people were stabbed, a cancer patient was assaulted and journalists were attacked.

Police say they have been caught in the middle of the opposing parties, trying to [See LAPD, A7]



MARCUS YAM Los Angeles Times

**WORSHIPERS CLAMOR** to greet Khalil Rahman Haqqani, center, after his sermon at Friday noon prayers at a Kabul mosque. Considered a terrorist by the U.S., he is a leader of the Haqqani network, a Taliban offshoot.

## Taliban takeover colors Friday prayers

By Marcus Yam

KABUL, Afghanistan — Friday prayer days are the inflection point of the Muslim week, and this week's was the first of them in the newly Taliban-conquered Kabul. In one landmark mosque, a hush fell over the congregation as the preacher revealed himself.

It was Khalil Rahman Haqqani, a senior member of the Haqqani network, a Taliban splinter group considered a terrorist organization by the United States — and one of the fiercest foes that American forces spent two decades trying to vanquish.

Flanked by armed guards, Haqqani cradled a rifle: an American-made M-4 carbine. From the pulpit, he delivered a message that was by turns reassuring and menacing: Life under the Taliban would be different than under the deposed national rulers he derided as weak and corrupt.

"We have freed Afghanistan from Western imperialism and the infidels. Afghanistan will now be a peaceful and prosperous [See Friday, A4]



CAROLYN COLE Los Angeles Times

**AFGHAN MEN** gather for prayer Wednesday at a park in Sacramento, which has one of the largest Afghan communities in the United States.

## In California, refugees fear for those stuck in kill zone

By Anita Chabria and Sarah Parviri

SACRAMENTO — The Afghan American men spiked their volleyball shots with an anxious intensity as twilight fell on the fourth night of the Taliban's takeover of their home country.

Between games, they stared stone-faced at their phones, where urgent messages from family members pinged relentlessly, supplications for help from those now trapped in enemy territory.

The nightly gathering, once a means of holding on to what they had lost, since fleeing Afghanistan in recent years, had morphed into a bitter reminder of the difficult trade they made in migrating to California: safety for family.

Here in Arden Arcade, a Sacramento neighborhood known for low rents in run-down apartments, Afghan refugees stressed that the United States' obligations to help those who furthered the U.S. mission should not end when migrants land on American soil — as many felt it had for them.

From there begins a long journey often filled with hardship, from the red tape of receiving a Social Security number, signing up for social services and finding housing, to the disillusionment for many educated professionals of suddenly finding themselves at the bottom of the economic and social ladder, isolated by language and culture and often surrounded by crime, prejudice and need.

Even before the current crisis, some [See Refugees, A2]

## PANIC MOUNTS AMID KABUL AIRLIFT

Thousands frantically seek exit. Biden vows to help Americans and eligible Afghans.

By Marcus Yam and Nabih Bulos

KABUL, Afghanistan — Faced with mounting criticism of a chaotic exit from Afghanistan, the U.S. and its allies Friday stepped up evacuation efforts from Kabul, where thousands of desperate people ringed the airport even as a semblance of normalcy returned to other parts of the capital.

With bedlam at the airport a daily event since the Taliban's takeover of Kabul on Sunday, even those with permission to leave have faced a gantlet of crushing crowds and Taliban fighters using truncheons, sticks, whips, rifle butts and bullets to disperse people around the airport's environs.

The U.S. administration is weathering intense disapproval, both internationally and domestically, for failing to organize the departure of U.S. citizens and vulnerable Afghans well before the planned exit of American troops by the end of this month.

In Washington, President Biden promised that any American in Afghanistan who wants to depart will be helped, pledging: "We will get you home."

He said the U.S. was "making the same commitment" to Afghans eligible to leave — an assertion that was immediately called into question by those who have observed the scope of the disorder and panic outside the gates of the airport, the only bit of U.S.-held territory remaining in the country.

Illustrating the difficulty and complexity of the U.S. effort, evacuation flights stopped for several hours before the president spoke due to a bottleneck at a U.S. air base in Qatar that is being used as a transit point. [See Evacuations, A4]

## U.S. forces are making 'progress'

President Biden's upbeat message is followed by news of violence against Americans. **NATION, A6**

## How a pro-Trump governor could win the Golden State

By Julia Wick

With a historic gubernatorial recall election just weeks away, California voters will soon decide whether they want to remove Gov. Gavin Newsom and, if so, who should succeed him as governor.

Despite no longer being in office, former President Trump has loomed large over the race. Newsom has fought to tie the effort to Trump, who is widely unpopular in the state, while the Republican candidates have had to navigate a party remade by the specter of the former president.

California prided itself as being the center of the "resistance" to Trump. But Trump also received more votes in California in November than in any other state.

It's a quirk of California's

hulking size that such a Democratic stronghold — President Biden overwhelmingly won the state with 63.5% of the vote — could also be home to more Trump voters than anywhere else.

This central paradox of modern California politics — an incongruity usually obscured by the sheer number of registered Democrats in the state — could define the outcome of the recall election.

Having successfully dented any prominent Democratic politician from running, Newsom and the state Democratic Party are urging voters to leave the second question on the ballot blank. That means if voters recall the Democratic governor from office next month, his replacement is likely to come from a group of top Republican candi-

dates — almost all of whom have publicly supported Trump.

And if California's overwhelming Democratic majority doesn't weigh in on the second question, Newsom's successor could be chosen by a GOP electorate that's much further to the right than it was the last time a Republican won statewide office in California. Polls show far-right Republicans leading if Newsom is replaced, and the winner could be elected with only a fraction of the total vote.

## How California got to this place

California is now all but synonymous with the Democratic Party, but for decades it leaned to the right. Republicans won the state in all but one presidential election since 1964. [See Recall, A8]



GINA FERRAZZI Los Angeles Times

## MASKS RETURN TO CHAVEZ RAVINE

Fans walk through Dodger Stadium at the first game under a new county mask mandate for large outdoor events: a 3-2 win over the Mets. **SPORTS, B12**

## Compton official urged to resign

Councilman Isaac Galvan faces protests after his election fraud charges. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Kamala Harris heads to Vietnam

Parallels between chaos in Afghanistan and the fall of Saigon surround her trip. **WORLD, A3**

**Weather**  
Turning sunny; cool.  
L.A. Basin: 77/63. **B8**



**BUSINESSINSIDE:** Judge invalidates Prop. 22, dealing a blow to gig economy giants. **A10**



## Health-care facilities using crisis as a shield

Liability exemptions in N.C. tested by suits vs. assisted-living clinics

BY CHRISTOPHER ROWLAND

Amanda Garrett recalls her first thought upon learning her father-in-law was violently attacked: "That doesn't make any sense at all." Garland Garrett Jr., 80, a former North Carolina state transportation secretary and one-time political figure in Wilmington, was an ailing man with dementia, known as "The Mayor" among staff in the secure memory unit of a local assisted-living facility.

Garrett died on Sept. 12, 2020, from what the county medical examiner ruled to be blunt force trauma, including two fractures to his neck. Another resident with dementia and a history of violent outbursts aimed at staff and other residents assaulted Garrett early in the morning six days earlier, while Garrett lay in his bed, according to court records. A joint inspection by state and county licensing authorities cited the assisted-living facility, Spring Arbor of Wilmington, with the state's highest level violation for failing to properly supervise care.

But after the Garrett family filed a lawsuit in a bid to hold Spring Arbor accountable, the facility contended in a court filing that it is exempt from legal liability under a temporary North Carolina pandemic immunity law for health providers passed by the state legislature last year.

The state adopted the broadly worded provision in May 2020 to protect companies and staff from malpractice and negligence lawsuits arising during the pandemic. The provision will stay in effect as long as Democratic Gov. Roy

SEE LAWSUITS ON A6

**Boosters:** Biden tries to get ahead of virus, and maybe science. **A5**

**Vaccination:** Mandates set in Fairfax County, Alexandria. **B1**

# Biden vows to evacuate all Americans



Barbed wire separates U.S. troops from crowds near the airport in Kabul, where more than 10,000 people massed in hopes of leaving Afghanistan. The Biden administration worked Friday to expand its capacity to evacuate Afghans fleeing the Taliban.

WAKIL KOHSAI/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

DISPATCH FROM KABUL

## Checkpoints, Taliban, a beating: A treacherous journey to escape

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE

Two days after the Taliban's sudden takeover of Kabul, we were given a chance to escape: seats on a chartered plane to Qatar set to take off from the city's airport within hours.

Security around the airport was crumbling, and the future of my Afghan colleagues was increasingly uncertain. They had received Taliban threats in the past, and both have young families for whom they fear the most.

Reaching the airport would be the most difficult part, and it was something we decided we

had to do together.

We hadn't seen each other since the Taliban took over the capital, and the reunion — after so much anxiety, fear and change — was emotional. On a dusty gravel road lined by concrete barriers outside the airport, we embraced. It was one of the first moments of joy and relief in a long time. Everyone was in tears.

Next, we had to make a run for the military side of the airport, a part of the city quickly becoming the most dangerous. The night before, Taliban

SEE DISPATCH ON A11

## Anti-Taliban fighters retake some turf in latest act of defiance

BY EZZATULLAH MEHRDAD AND SUDARSAN RAGHAVAN

KABUL — Groups of armed Afghans attacked the Taliban on Friday, driving Afghanistan's new rulers out of three northern districts, the first assault against the Islamist militants since they swept into Kabul last week and seized control of the government.

Local anti-Taliban commanders claimed in interviews they had killed as many as 30 of the group's fighters and captured 20 in the takeover of the districts in Baghlan province, just over 100 miles north of the capital. Former Afghan service members

were joined in the fight, they said, by local civilians. Images shared online showed celebrations as the red, green and black Afghan national flag — rather than the white flag of the Taliban — was raised over government buildings.

"We have ignited something that is historic in Afghanistan," said Sediqullah Shuja, 28, a former Afghan soldier who took part in Friday's uprising. "Taliban fighters had armored vehicles, but people threw stones at Taliban fighters and drove them out."

"As long as we are alive," he said, "we do not accept the

SEE AFGHANISTAN ON A11

## SAYS CRITICISM OF EXIT MUST WAIT

Conditions worsen for those trying to escape

BY MATT VISER AND DAN LAMOTHE

President Biden promised Friday to bring all Americans home from Afghanistan and portrayed the evacuation effort as one that has made significant progress, despite clear evidence on the ground that the situation was continuing to deteriorate as flights were temporarily delayed and a chaotic scene played out at the gates to the Kabul airport.

During remarks in the East Room of the White House, Biden continued to defend his decision — without acknowledging any errors in the execution of the withdrawal he ordered as he urged Americans to save any criticism for later.

"There will be plenty of time to criticize and second-guess when this operation is over," Biden said. "But now — now — I'm focused on getting this done."

The president vowed in his strongest terms yet that no American would be left behind, and he made the same commitment to Afghans who have aided the U.S. effort over the last two decades.

"Let me be clear: Any American who wants to come home, we will get you home," he said, before offering significant caveats — saying he didn't know how many Americans were left or whether they could be brought home safely.

"Make no mistake, this evacuation mission is dangerous. It involves risks to our armed forces,"

SEE BIDEN ON A9

## Americans open their arms

Volunteers are lining up to help thousands of Afghan refugees. **A10**

## Withholding recognition

U.S. allies and foes defer accepting Afghanistan's new rulers. **A13**

## Exit strategy

Biden built a bond with veterans, some of whom now feel torn. **A14**

## Media challenges

As journalists flee the new dangers, a scramble to report the news. **A14**

## Free, effective covid therapy remains elusive for many

Millions are eligible for monoclonal antibodies, but lack awareness

BY LENNY BERNSTEIN AND LAURIE MCGINLEY

When Mike Burton came down with a breakthrough case of covid-19 earlier this month, the infection posed a double threat to his family. At 73, the retired surgeon faced elevated risk of serious illness. His wife, Linda, has a suppressed immune system, the result of drugs she takes after two liver transplants that put her in greater danger of life-threatening illness.

The Burtons, both vaccinated, moved to separate parts of their Mount Sterling, Ky., home, masked up and hoped for the

best.

Then a friend called and insisted they ask their doctors about monoclonal antibodies — an effective, widely available covid-19 therapy that few people are receiving.

The drugs often prevent severe disease, keeping people like Mike Burton out of the hospital if taken within seven to 10 days after symptoms begin. And since last month, they can be given prophylactically to millions of people like Linda Burton who have been exposed to the coronavirus and are at high risk of serious consequences.

"That was all news [to me], when my friend Rita called," said Linda Burton, a retired nurse. "I want everybody to know about this. I'm telling people that I know that are older. I'm saying, 'If you get exposed, you need to talk to your doctor about it.'"

SEE ANTIBODIES ON A4

## Seeking equity jackpot with Black-owned casino

Planned resort aims to enrich Richmond's neglected Southside, but skeptics say gaming is not a cure

BY JUSTIN WM. MOYER



JULIA RENDLEMAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

People gamble Aug. 11 at Rosie's Gaming Emporium in Richmond, where a Black-owned media company could build a casino in the Southside area if approved by a referendum.

RICHMOND — Standing in the former capital of the Confederacy on an industrial site he wants to turn into the nation's only Black-owned casino, Alfred C. Liggins III doesn't talk about revenue or market share. He talks about race and equity.

"We always thought we were in the business of serving the African American community," he said. "A big part of lifting up a community . . . is about business opportunities. We viewed gaming for many, many years as one of those opportunities."

Liggins, the 56-year-old CEO of Silver Spring-based media conglomerate Urban One, plans to build One Casino and Resort with a 250-room hotel, a live theater, 1,800 slot machines and 100 table games off Interstate 95 in Richmond's long-neglected, majority-Black Southside. In November, the city will hold a referendum on the project after Urban One beat other contenders to bring gaming to River City.

Gambling and equity make strange bedfellows. Though casinos have proved eco-

SEE CASINO ON A2

## IN SUNDAY'S POST



THE WASHINGTON POST

**<< Dear Earthlings:** Please stop obsessing about UFOs. Even respectable voices have been indulging the fantasy that aliens may have visited. Sorry to disappoint. There's zero evidence. **Magazine**

**Old World, new rules** Navigating the constantly changing coronavirus restrictions in Europe requires new skills. **Travel**



G. LASKOW & FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

**<< Still more to say** Actor-director Sean Penn talks about his new movie — "Flag Day," which opened Friday — his passion for activism, and the muscle car that activist Greta Thunberg would hate. **Arts & Style**

**--- \$116 SUNDAY'S COUPONS**

## INSIDE

### REAL ESTATE

**Rising to the challenge** Evolving design preferences during the pandemic are being studied to create a home for the future.

### STYLE

**'Jeopardy!' host bows out** Mike Richards made disparaging comments made about women, Jewish people and Haiti. **C1**

### THE NATION

**Time's Up removes muzzle** Workers are free to speak out after the group's leaders advised New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo (D). **A3**

### THE DISTRICT

**Charges in bomb scare** Floyd Ray Roseberry is accused of threatening to use a weapon of mass destruction. **B1**

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**deportes****Quieren hinchas en las canchas el mes próximo**

En Deportes trabajan para que haya 30% de concurrencia; los clubes proponen un protocolo.

**COSTANTINI INVIRTIÓ US\$25 MILLONES EN ARTE DE LA REGIÓN**

—cultura

El fundador del Malba compró 21 obras, incluidas dos de Wifredo Lam y Remedios Varo; las prestará para muestras. **Página 32**

**¿VUELVE LA SIESTA? EN LA CUARENTENA SE RETOMÓ EL HÁBITO**

—sábado

Con la flexibilidad del teletrabajo y un formato de no más de 20 minutos, mucha gente reintrodujo el descanso después del almuerzo.

# LA NACION

SÁBADO 21 DE AGOSTO DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

## El Gobierno analiza otorgar 100.000 pasajes aéreos gratis a turistas extranjeros

**PANDEMIA.** Para reactivar el turismo receptivo se ofrecerían vuelos de Aerolíneas Argentinas a interesados de Brasil, Chile y Uruguay; deben acreditar al menos cuatro noches en el país

Con el objetivo de incentivar el turismo receptivo, deprimido por la pandemia de coronavirus, el Gobierno analiza bonificar totalmente una primera tanda de 100.000 pasajes a turistas extranjeros, principalmente de Brasil, Uruguay y Chile.

El borrador de la iniciativa se trabaja en el Ministerio de Turismo y Deportes, que conduce Matías La-

mmens, y estipula la utilización de fondos del Instituto Nacional de Promoción Turística (Inprotur) para adquirir esos tickets a Aerolíneas Argentinas y otorgarlos 100% bonificados a los turistas. "Este plan, si efectivamente lo hiciéramos, sería para octubre", dijo Lammens anoche en LN+.

Para acceder al beneficio, los visi-

tantes deberán acreditar por lo menos cuatro noches en el país. "Por cada dólar [que se gaste en el país], pagaremos 34 pesos", dijeron fuentes de Turismo.

Para implementarse, se deberán levantar la prohibición para la llegada de turistas y el requerimiento de la cuarentena al ingreso al país.

**Página 20**

**VACUNACIÓN**

Nueve de cada 10 porteños mayores de 18 años ya recibieron al menos una dosis de las vacunas disponibles contra el Covid-19, según la Ciudad. **Página 26**

## Fernández busca frenar la crisis por el festejo en Olivos

**GABINETE.** Reunió a sus ministros y les pidió que se involucren en la campaña electoral

Por primera vez en lo que va de su gestión, Alberto Fernández reunió a todo su gabinete y arengó a los ministros a sumarse a la campaña electoral y a defender al Gobierno. "Salgamos de la actitud defensiva y pasemos a la ofensiva", reclamó, sin hacer mención al escándalo por el festejo de cumpleaños en Olivos de la primera dama cuando regía el aislamiento estricto por el coronavirus. Así, el Presidente intenta dejar atrás la polémica y alinear a su equipo para la pulserada electoral. **Página 12**

## Moyano no rompe, pero hace equilibrio entre Alberto y Cristina

Nicolás Ballinotti. **Página 18**

## Aumenta la demanda de cuentas en el exterior

**DÓLAR.** El nuevo cepo establecido por el Banco Central provocó una mayor demanda de clientes y sociedades de bolsa para abrir cuentas en el exterior y así poder enviar dólares adquiridos a través de la operación contado con liquidación (CCL). Los dólares financieros cerraron ayer sin variaciones y el blue, en cambio, subió 50 centavos, y se ubicó en \$182. **Página 21**

## Fuerte desafío del jefe de Los Monos a la Justicia

**Página 36**

## La imagen que desnuda el caos de Afganistán

**TENSIÓN.** Una familia entregó a su bebé para ser atendido

KABUL (AFP).— Una conmovedora imagen captó la atención mundial en medio de las caóticas escenas de evacuación en el aeropuerto de Kabul tras la toma del poder de los talibanes: la de una familia afgana entregando a su bebé a marines norteamericanos por encima de una pared cubierta de alambre de púa.

El vocero del Pentágono, John Kirby, explicó a los periodistas que "el padre les pidió a los marines que cuidaran al bebé porque el bebé estaba enfermo". Tras ser atendido devolvieron al niño a su familia. "Fue un acto de compasión", agregó. **Página 9**

**EL ESCENARIO**

Un punto de inflexión para EEUU.

Ishaan Tharoor

**Página 8**



Gabriel Cabral-9.ago.21/Folhapress

## PRÁTICA DE YOGA ONLINE PARA MULHERES NEGRAS ATRAI ADEPTAS PELO PAÍS

Integrantes da Ubuntu Yoga Brasil no Ibirapuera, em São Paulo; ideia surgida na pandemia leva aulas via internet para participantes de Florianópolis a Manaus, com preços acessíveis saúde B3

### Total da população vacinada

	ao menos uma dose*	totalmente vacinada*
Brasil	59,2 %	25,5 %
MS	70,3 %	40,4 %
RS	65,0 %	31,6 %
SP	72,1 %	31,3 %

### Totalmente vacinada



### Números da pandemia

	Casos	Óbitos
Total	20,5 mil	573,7 mil
Méd. móvel	30,0 mil	821
Variação***	-8,3 %	-9,7 %
Em 24 h	34,0 mil	925



Brasil  
Desacelerado  
Dados das 20h de 20 ago  
\* Tomou dose única ou 1ª dose  
\*\* Tomou dose única ou 2ª dose  
\*\*\* Em relação a 14 dias

### Em SP, retomada de ônibus reflete desigualdade

Os ônibus da capital paulista recuperaram boa parte dos passageiros, ainda que não tenham alcançado níveis pré-Covid. Mas a lotação de certas linhas reflete a desigualdade da retomada, com veículos cheios na periferia e vazios em bairro rico. Saúde B1

## Guedes diz preferir não fazer reforma tributária

Após três adiamentos da votação na Câmara da proposta para mudar o Imposto de Renda, Paulo Guedes (Economia) disse preferir não prosseguir com uma reforma que pioraria o sistema atual, alimentando incertezas sobre o rumo de projetos sobre o tema. O recuo desagradou aliados e o presidente da Câmara, Arthur Lira (PP-AL), que quer o projeto aprovado. Mercado A17

## Governo monitora greve de servidor e indica corte de ponto automático

Mercado A20

### ANÁLISE Marcos Mendes Subordinar Economia à política traz risco

O projeto do IR saiu ruim do Executivo, piorou no Congresso e não atende a requisitos de uma boa reforma: progressividade, equidade e segurança jurídica. Mercado A19

# Bolsonaro efetiva pedido de impeachment de Moraes

Horas antes, PF cumpriu mandados contra aliados do presidente; STF repudia

O presidente Jair Bolsonaro ignorou apelos de aliados por moderação e ingressou ontem com um pedido de impeachment do ministro Alexandre de Moraes, do Supremo Tribunal Federal. É a primeira vez na democracia que o chefe do Executivo pede abertura do processo contra um integrante do STF.

Anunciada dia 14, a intenção do pedido incluía o presidente do Tribunal Superior Eleitoral, Luís Roberto Barroso — um possível próximo passo. A formalização se deu no dia em que a Polícia Federal cumpriu mandado de busca e apreensão contra aliados do governo como o cantor Sérgio Reis.

A ordem é a mais recente a mirar o presidente vinda de Moraes, que pedira a prisão do ex-deputado Roberto Jefferson por ameaçar a democracia e incluiu Bolsonaro no inquérito das fake news. O gesto do Planalto foi amplamente lido como retaliação. O STF o repudiou e reiterou confiar no ministro.

O presidente afirma que as ações de Moraes "transbordam os limites republicanos aceitáveis" e lhe falta imparcialidade para julgar o chefe do Executivo. Poder A4

**PAINEL**  
Gesto inviabiliza André Mendonça para o STF, dizem políticos A4



Zanone Fraissat/Folhapress

## CÃES RECEBEM ATÉ INALAÇÃO PARA ENFRENTAR AR SECO

A cadela Agnes, da raça pug, que costuma ficar gripada no tempo frio; mudanças climáticas podem causar pneumonia e outros problemas respiratórios nesses animais Cotidiano B5

## Planalto pagou cachê para ao menos 32 comunicadores

Ao menos 32 apresentadores e influenciadores receberam para atuar em campanhas da gestão Jair Bolsonaro, segundo planilhas da pasta da Comunicação entregues à CPI da Covid. Lideram a lista nomes da RedeTV! e da Record, emissoras alinhadas a Bolsonaro. Os apresentadores abordaram "cuidado precoce" e agenda positiva, entre outros. Procurados, governo e emissoras não se manifestaram. Poder A6

**Taxa de morte por câncer infantil é 2 vezes a dos EUA**  
Falta de diagnóstico precoce e acesso a tratamento faz Brasil manter índice estagnado há 20 anos. B4

## Jogos Paraolímpicos têm estreia de duas modalidades

Parabadminton e parataekwondo farão sua estreia em Tóquio, com quatro brasileiros nas disputas. Esporte B6

### EDITORIAIS A2

**Preço do desgoverno**  
Sobre deterioração de expectativas econômicas.

**Vacina para o mundo**  
Acerca de desigualdades na imunização global.

### PAINEL S.A.

**Promessa de volta de eventos ainda engatinha**

A volta de eventos corporativos enfrenta gargalos. Duas grandes feiras para outubro, Eletrolar Show e a Apas Show (supermercado), foram canceladas por dificuldades na montagem e pela variante delta. A18

### Poder A10 e A11

**Um leitor voraz**

Morto há 3 anos, Otavio Frias Filho devorava livros com curiosidade, atenção e método

**Ilustrada C1**  
Disfarçados de podcasts, audiolivros piratas viralizam nos streamings

**Folhinha C6**  
Malala ajuda a entender por que todo mundo fala do Afeganistão agora

**semináriosfolha**  
vida cultural na pandemia e no pós-pandemia

**Cultura na tela**

Experiências online durante a pandemia crescem, mudam hábitos, ampliam interesses e criam um público novo para a cultura, indica pesquisa. p.1

**Talibã põe grupo terrorista para fazer segurança**

O Talibã pôs a segurança de Cabul sob responsabilidade da rede Haqqani, um dos mais perigosos grupos ligados ao movimento que retomou o controle do Afeganistão. Eles cometeram alguns dos piores ataques durante a ocupação ocidental do país. Mundo A12



**Dan media sanción a ley para multar y aplicar otros castigos a abstencionistas**

## La desprestigiada clase política quiere obligar a que se les vote

Legislador sostiene que la medida que impulsó la mayoría de los senadores es retroceder 500 años en el Derecho, pues ya no se castiga el incumplimiento de un deber.

PÁGINA 6

Informe Macro Latam

**Itaú proyecta que el crecimiento del PIB será del 5% este 2021**

PÁGINA 14

En entrevista con Monumental 1080 AM  
**Titular de Anticorrupción dice que hay elementos para imputar a Hugo Javier**

PÁGINA 7

CON ESTA EDICIÓN	COMPRA OPCIONAL 1	COMPRA OPCIONAL 2
SIEMPRE BELLA Y SONA 11	NEURORCIENCIA Y PSICOLOGÍA 25	LIBRO FOLIORE DEL PORAGUAT
	Libro: G. 40.000	G. 90.000

**Vacunas son la clave para superar ola de Covid-19**

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

**Procesan a empresarios por apuestas clandestinas**

PÁGINA 51



- Ganaderos piden asistencia para controlar incendios
- Reportan focos de fuego a lo largo y ancho el país

**Precaución.** Una intensa humareda cubre Asunción y Central, debido a los incendios generados en el Chaco y otros puntos. Hay que evitar exponerse a ella. PÁGINAS 12, 19, 22 y 23

**TU EQUIPO IDEAL DE TRABAJO**



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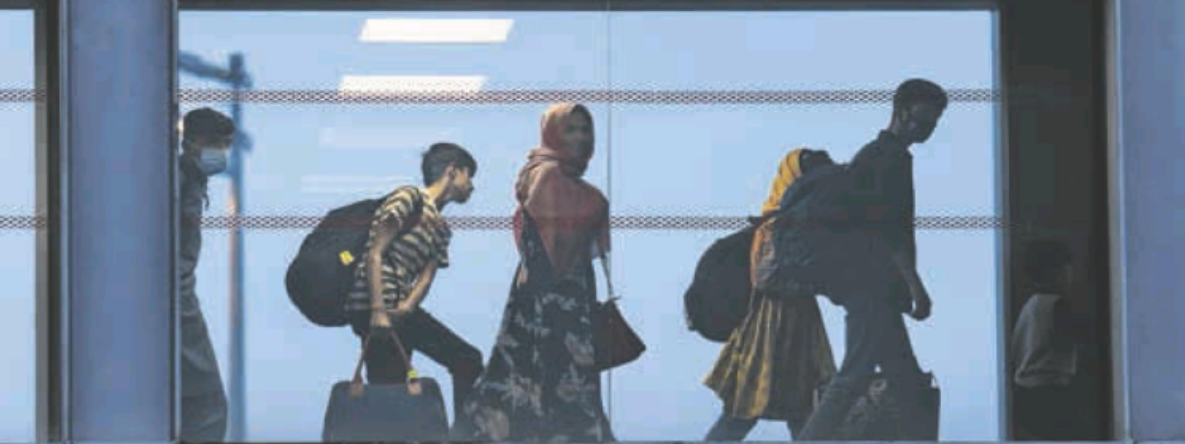
« Sans la liberté de blâmer, il n'est point d'éloge flatteur » Beaumarchais

L'ÉTÉ  
DU FIGAROL'ÉTÉ AVANT  
LA PRÉSIDENTIELLE  
1987 : LA BATAILLE  
CHIRAC-BARRE  
SE PROFILE PAGE 20LES DÉTROITS STRATÉGIQUES  
À GIBRALTAR,  
DES COLONNES  
D'HERCULE TOUJOURS  
STRATÉGIQUES PAGE 18LES BOUCLES  
DU TEMPS  
RUÉE VERS  
L'OS DANS  
LE « JURASSIC  
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CANADIEN  
PAGE 13LES FEMMES  
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PAGE 25JEUX D'ÉTÉ  
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à la grogne PAGE 5DIPLOMATIE  
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LIBRES• La chronique  
de Mathieu  
Bock-Côté  
• La tribune  
de Rémi Brague  
PAGE 19FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NONRéponses à la question  
de vendredi :  
Pensez-vous que  
la multiplication des feux  
de forêt est aggravée  
par le réchauffement  
climatique ?NON  
42% OUI  
58%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 170 676

Votez aujourd'hui  
sur lefigaro.fr  
Approuvez-vous  
les maires qui s'engagent  
à accueillir des réfugiés  
afghans dans leur ville ?BERTRAND RINDOFF PETROFF/GETTY  
IMAGES - SOPA IMAGES/SIPA -  
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# Réfugiés afghans : la France tente de s'organiser



Depuis la prise de Kaboul par les talibans, plusieurs ressortissants afghans sont arrivés dans notre pays, où 10 000 d'entre eux demandent déjà, tous les ans, le droit d'asile. PAGES 2 À 4 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

## Après deux ans de crise, le transport aérien retrouve des couleurs

Longtemps cloués au sol par les mesures sanitaires, les avions reprennent lentement mais sûrement du service. En Europe, le trafic a doublé par rapport au mois de mai et at-

teint désormais 70 % de son niveau d'avant-crise, en 2019. Les vols long-courriers en direction de l'Asie et de l'Amérique tournent en revanche toujours au ralenti. PAGE 22



## À Hongkong, la résistance au régime chinois s'active dans l'ombre

Subissant depuis plus d'un an la répression brutale de Pékin, les défenseurs de la démocratie sur l'île poursuivent leur mobilisation via des réseaux souterrains, comme le « cercle

jaune ». Le soutien aux artistes locaux lance aussi un défi à la culture officielle chinoise. L'inventivité domine, même si quelques-uns semblent tentés par la violence. PAGES 6 ET 7

ÉDITORIAL par Yves Thureau ythureau@lefigaro.fr

## Une polémique biaisée

Les bons sentiments font rarement une bonne politique. La gauche n'a pas le monopole du cœur. Trop souvent, son émotion débordante flirte avec la démagogie et l'irresponsabilité. L'Afghanistan est sous la coupe des talibans, et nombre d'Afghans cherchent à fuir leur pays. Emmanuel Macron a tendu la main aux plus menacés d'entre eux et à ceux qui ont servi nos intérêts, mais il aurait eu le grand tort d'ajouter qu'il voulait protéger la France des flux migratoires clandestins. Immédiatement, les critiques ont fusé : indignité et déshonneur au pays des droits de l'homme. La ritournelle est connue.

Les belles âmes ont feint d'oublier que la France, depuis quelques années, est l'un des pays d'Europe qui accordent le plus volontiers l'asile aux Afghans : à environ 9 000 ressortissants par an. La Grande-Bretagne, qui dit aujourd'hui vouloir en accueillir 20 000 « à long terme » et qui s'est toujours opposée à l'entrée chez elle des migrants afghans en transit à Calais, n'a aucune leçon à donner. Pas plus que l'Allemagne, qui, refroidie par le précédent syrien de 2015, évoque le chiffre de 10 000 arrivées en plusieurs étapes.

La polémique est donc biaisée. Elle n'a pas lieu d'être. Plus juste serait de condamner l'incapacité des membres de l'Union européenne à s'entendre pour faire face à l'immigration irrégulière. Mais, comme cela semble décidément impossible, il serait plus que jamais nécessaire - et urgent - de ne pas dévoyer le droit d'asile en France. À force de recours administratifs et judiciaires multiples et variés, les procédures traînent en longueur. Résultat, les demandeurs inéligibles ou déboutés, soutenus par des associations militantes qui leur obtiennent droits sociaux et médicaux, finissent par être inexpulsables.

Cette politique a des effets désastreux dans l'opinion et pour les « vrais » réfugiés. Elle est bien plus le signe d'une impuissance publique, d'un manque de courage que d'une générosité assumée. Or, quand surgit une tragédie migratoire comme celle que vit à présent le peuple afghan, mieux vaut faire preuve d'une charité bien ordonnée pour éviter les désillusions de tous ordres. ■

## La France accorde volontiers l'asile aux Afghans

DU  
LON

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# Jesy Nelson

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# 'We should all hang our heads in shame'

Emma Graham-Harrison



Kabul's airport gates were a path not to escape but to hospital for one Afghan human rights activist.

A relative was shot in the head in the melee of people trying to leave, and so she spent the evening going to a market to buy alcohol and gauze for his wounds. The hospital had run out.

Every day, people are shot, beaten and choked with tear gas as they gather outside the concrete barricades that shutter off the last tiny sliver of western-held territory in Afghanistan, and the last hopes of escaping the Taliban regime.

While the US and UK say their evacuations are gathering pace, there seems to be little sign of that on the ground in Kabul, where many Afghans are stuck outside the airport or beyond checkpoints that seem impossible to cross.

Still the crowds are gathering in their thousands, willing to risk their lives and their children's lives, for fear of what lies ahead at home now. At least 12 people have died trying to reach the airport this week, from gunshots or in stampedes.

Almost none are getting out. Flights are leaving empty, or carrying mostly foreign citizens. There are some Afghans



**A chance at survival**  
Desperate Afghans get their babies out of Kabul - and away from the Taliban

PHOTOGRAPH: OMAR HADARI/REUTERS

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**Exclusive**  
**Schools should teach incel risk, say ministers**

Teachers can help counteract the dangers of misogyny with lessons on respect for women and healthy relationships, ministers believe. A government source said that Gavin Williamson, the education secretary, expected teachers to discuss incel risk in class. **News Page 2** →