

What's News

Business & Finance

Ryanair, Boeing's biggest customer outside of the U.S., said it is walking away from talks with the U.S. jet maker over a potential new order for the 737 MAX in a dispute over pricing. **A1**

◆ **Deliveries of Boeing's 787 Dreamliner** will likely remain halted until at least late October as the company has been unable to persuade the FAA to approve its inspection proposal. **B3**

◆ **Companies** are delaying sending employees back on the road this fall amid another surge in coronavirus cases, causing airlines' and hotels' hopes for one of their most-lucrative business segments to fade. **A1**

◆ **JD.com** named its first president, paving the way for founder and CEO Richard Liu to step back from daily business to focus on longer-term strategy. **B1**

◆ **Aluminum prices** rose to their highest level in 10 years after a military coup in mineral-rich Guinea threatened to snarl the metal's supply chain. **B1**

◆ **Disney's "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings"** broke records for the highest-grossing movie for the four-day Labor Day weekend. **B1**

◆ **Goldman's Petershill** said it plans to list an investment vehicle on the London Stock Exchange, taking advantage of a sizzling market for private equity. **B3**

World-Wide

◆ **The Taliban** claimed to have overcome the last pocket of resistance in Afghanistan, releasing images they said showed the conquest of the provincial capital of Panjshir, a region that has held out against the group's takeover of the country. **A1, A7**

◆ **The Justice Department** won't tolerate violence or threats against people seeking abortions in Texas, Garland said, as the Biden administration considers ways to challenge a new state law banning most abortions. **A4**

◆ **Parts of Louisiana** and the Northeast were still grappling with Ida's deadly aftermath, as thousands remained without power in New Orleans just as a heat wave continued to threaten elderly residents. **A3**

◆ **Editors of 220** leading medical, nursing and public-health journals from around the world called for urgent action on climate change. **A3**

◆ **A faction of Guinea's** military tightened its grip on the mineral-rich West African country, after officers staged a coup d'état. **A8**

◆ **Nearly a quarter** of highly educated women in their mid-30s had their first babies outside marriage, according to new research. **A3**

◆ **Israeli forces** launched a search for a Palestinian militant leader and five other inmates who escaped from a high-security prison. **A7**

◆ **Died: Jean-Paul Belmondo**, 88, New Wave film star. **A8**

JOURNAL REPORT

Investing in Funds: How much college debt is too much? **R1-8**

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London's Metal Trading Floor Squawks Back to Life



HANDS UP: Traders returned to the London Metal Exchange's storied ring on Monday, 18 months after Covid-19 swept through London and the 144-year-old LME closed the open-outcry ring for the first time since World War II. **B9**

Rebound in Business Travel Stalls as Covid-19 Cases Rise

By ALISON SIDER AND CHIP CUTLER

Companies are delaying sending employees back on the road this fall amid another surge in coronavirus cases.

Airlines and hotels had hoped that business travel—one of the most lucrative pillars of their business—would start to bounce back in the coming months. Those hopes are fading as the busy summer travel season peters out and

the spread of the Delta variant of Covid-19 postpones some companies' plans to return to office and resume in-person meetings and events.

"I'd say it's a pause, as compared to continued growth. That said, we understand why it's paused," Delta Air Lines Inc. Chief Executive Officer Ed Bastian said in an interview last week.

Delta said U.S. corporate travel returned to about 40% of pre-pandemic levels this summer, and the airline was predicting it would climb to 60% by September. "We won't be at 60%," Mr. Bastian said.

About 60% of the more than 400 business travelers who responded to a survey by Morning Consult for the American Hotel & Lodging Association said they would postpone coming trips.

Clarke Smith, an instructor for a company that provides training and consulting services for tech businesses, was set to take his first work trip last

month, a few weeks after his company had started visiting clients in person again.

"Right about the time I started to get a little bit nervous is when they called and said, 'Let's pull the plug on this,'" he said.

Most of the tech companies Mr. Smith works with have delayed their return to office, he said.

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Big Boeing Customer Abandons MAX Deal

By BENJAMIN KATZ

LONDON—Ryanair Holdings PLC, Boeing Co.'s biggest customer outside of the U.S., said it is walking away from talks with the U.S. jet maker over a potential new order for the 737 MAX in a dispute over pricing.

Boeing has pushed to catch up with rival Airbus SE on jet orders from airlines and lessors, after falling far behind in the crucial single-aisle category. The 737 MAX competes with Airbus's A320 at that market, and Airbus capitalized on the MAX's nearly two-year grounding to boost its market share.

Ryanair, a Dublin-based discount airline that is Europe's largest carrier by passengers, has been a big buyer of the 737 MAX, buying 75 of the aircraft last year. That order was seen as a vote of confidence in the future of the jet, despite the grounding.

More recently, Ryanair has been in talks with Boeing over the past 10 months for a fresh order of 737 MAX 10s, Boeing's newest and biggest variant of the single-aisle workhorse. Analysts and executives were watching that order as another bellwether for how quickly Boeing can recover its order backlog in the wake of the model's crisis.

Ryanair said Monday that those talks were now over. "Last week it became clear that the pricing gap between the partners could not be closed and accordingly, both sides have agreed to waste no more time on these negotiations," the airline said.

Boeing and Airbus are racing to sign up customers as air

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◆ Boeing faces Dreamliner setback..... B3

Guinea Coup Hits Aluminum

Aluminum prices rose to their highest level in 10 years after a coup in Guinea. **A8, B1**

Three-month aluminum futures on the London Metal Exchange



'I Just Feel Lost.' Young Men Abandon College

The higher education gap between men and women hits record levels

By DOUGLAS BELKIN

Men are abandoning higher education in such numbers that they now trail female college students by record levels.

At the close of the 2020-21 academic year, women made up 59.5% of college students, an all-time high, and men 40.5%, according to enrollment data from the National Student Clearinghouse, a nonprofit research group. U.S. colleges and universities had 1.5 million fewer students compared with five years ago, and men accounted for 71% of the decline.

This education gap, which holds at both two- and four-year colleges, has been slowly widening for 40 years. The divergence increases at graduation: After six years of college, 65% of women in the U.S. who started a four-year university in 2012 received diplomas

by 2018 compared with 59% of men during the same period, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

In the next few years, two women will earn a college degree for every man, if the trend continues, said Douglas Shapiro, executive director of the research center at the National Student Clearinghouse.

No reversal is in sight. Women increased their lead over men in college applications for the 2021-22 school year—3,805,978 to 2,815,810—by nearly a percentage point compared with the previous academic year, according to Common Application, a nonprofit that transmits applications to more than 900 schools. Women make up 49% of the college-age population in the U.S., according to the Census Bureau.

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Some Movie Fans Are the Kind Who Like to Rewind

For those who can't let go of VHS tapes, 'Free Blockbuster' helps with a tricky hobby

By ANNEMARIE DOOLING

When Nicole Wiegand wants to relax, she reaches back to 1987.

Most evenings, Ms. Wiegand, a 37-year-old owner of an art store in Philadelphia, browses her extensive video collection, pops one into a VCR and waits for the hum of white noise. She's even set up a box outside her shop where people can pick up or drop off tapes.

"I loved the video store, loved it," she says. "I'd pick a movie off the cover art alone...and that opened me up to so many things."

While the pandemic super-charged streaming, a few people decided to swim against

the current and go back to the familiar format of VHS. It isn't the easiest of hobbies. VCR players haven't been in production within the last five years, and using the player on a current smart TV requires an expensive customized setup of several devices. Looking for a recent film on VHS format? It's likely you'll only find films from the 1980s and 90s, direct-to-VHS specials and home videos.

That hasn't stopped diehards. A small community of VHS fanatics has sprung up around the country, trading tapes and tips on how to watch. Much of it is organized around small boxes where people can drop off or pick up tapes.



Nostalgic for late fees?

Please turn to page A2

DELL Technologies

Protection in the age of ransomware.

Assess your resiliency. Build a plan. Act now.

Join Michael Dell on September 9 at Events.DellTechnologies.com/Ransomware.

Flying low

Airlines' carbon offset prices are not high enough — INSIDE BUSINESS, PAGE 6

Shades of Mao

Does Xi's crackdown herald a second cultural revolution? — FT SERIES, PAGE 15



Working from jail

Using prisoners to fill labour gaps is a short-term fix — SARAH O'CONNOR, PAGE 17

Guinea coup Aluminium at 10-year high

Residents of Conakry, Guinea's capital, cheer on soldiers yesterday after 83-year-old president Alpha Condé was overthrown in a military coup.

The junta has urged mining groups in the country to continue operations as he insisted that a unity government would be established. Guinea supplies a quarter of the world's bauxite, the main ingredient in aluminium, mostly to China and Russia. Aluminium's price hit the highest level in a decade yesterday.

Global powers have condemned the coup, with the US saying it "could limit the ability" of Guinea's international partners "to support the country".

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Markets page 10
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Souleymane Camara/Reuters

Germany blames Russia for wave of cyber attacks in election run-up

◆ Berlin cites 'phishing' emails ◆ Protests passed to Moscow ◆ Tight race to succeed Merkel

GUY CHAZAN — BERLIN

Germany has accused Russia of launching a spate of cyber attacks on politicians amid suspicions that Moscow is interfering in this month's election to decide who succeeds Angela Merkel.

Germany's foreign ministry said that it held Russia responsible for illegally targeting a number of national and regional politicians with "phishing" emails to gain access to personal details.

These "unacceptable actions" posed a "risk to Germany's security and its democratic decision-making processes, and [placed] a heavy burden on the bilateral relationship [with Russia]", said Andrea Sasse, a spokeswoman for the German foreign ministry.

Miguel Berger, state secretary, had

passed Germany's protest directly to Vladimir Titov, Russia's deputy foreign minister, at a meeting of the two countries' security policy working group last week, Sasse said.

The warning comes ahead of what appears to be the most open election in recent German history, with polls pointing to an inconclusive outcome that could usher in months of uncertainty in Europe's most powerful country. It will bring down the curtain on Merkel's 16-year reign as chancellor.

Some polls point to a victory for the left-of-centre Social Democrats and their candidate for chancellor, finance minister Olaf Scholz. An INSA poll published yesterday put the SPD on 26 per cent, the CDU/CSU on 20.5 per cent and the opposition Greens on 15.5 per cent and

the pro-business Free Democrats on 12.5 per cent.

It is unclear which party Moscow would like to see win the election. Both Scholz and Armin Laschet, the CDU/CSU's candidate for chancellor, have struck emotive tones on Russia.

However, Annalena Baerbock, candidate for the Greens, is highly critical of the Kremlin and opposes the Nord Stream 2 pipeline across the Baltic Sea that brings Russian gas directly to Europe, bypassing Ukraine. Critics say that it will increase Europe's dependence on Russian energy exports.

Concern has been growing in Berlin that Russia could attempt a reprise of its interference in the US election in 2016.

Thomas Haldenwang, head of Germany's domestic intelligence agency,



Germany has previously said that Russia was behind a hack of the Bundestag in 2015 that also targeted her own email. The two countries also clashed over the killing of an exiled Chechen rebel leader in a park in Berlin in 2019, which Germany said was carried out on the orders of the Kremlin.

The Kremlin and Russia's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Additional reporting by Max Seddon in Moscow

the BfV, said in July that foreign intelligence agencies saw the Bundestag election as a "significant target" and were exploring ways to affect the outcome.

Germany has long accused Moscow of seeking to access the digital networks of its political institutions. Merkel said last year that there was "hard evidence" that Russian forces were behind a huge hack of the Bundestag in 2015 that also targeted her own email. The two countries also clashed over the killing of an exiled Chechen rebel leader in a park in Berlin in 2019, which Germany said was carried out on the orders of the Kremlin.

The Kremlin and Russia's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Additional reporting by Max Seddon in Moscow

Briefing

► **Belarus activists handed 10-year terms**
A court in Minsk sentenced two opposition activists to decade-long prison sentences for leading a protest movement against Alexander Lukashenko, who has been Belarus's president since 1994. — PAGE 2

► **Maersk cites cause of shipping crisis**
One of the world's key port operators has warned that the shipping and supply-chain crisis that has left shelves empty on the high street can be resolved only by a slowdown in consumer demand. — PAGE 6

► **French cinema icon Belmondo dies**

Jean-Paul Belmondo, the actor who made his name in Jean-Luc Godard's New Wave of cinema and became a beloved star of comedy and action films, has died at the age of 88. — PAGE 4



► **Taliban takes last area of resistance**

The Taliban has declared victory over Afghanistan's last opposition stronghold after resistance fighters in Panjshir said an attack had inflicted big casualties on its leadership. — PAGE 4; NOTEBOOK & LETTERS, PAGE 16

► **Indian stocks buoyed by foreign buying**

A rally for Indian equities has put the country's market on course for its strongest performance since 2017, as foreign buying returned on signs of green shoots after rampant Covid-19 outbreaks. — PAGE 10

► **Cao Cao profits from pressure on Didi**

Chinese state-owned funds are piling into Cao Cao, a rival to Didi, which is facing regulatory heat. Cao Cao said it had raised Rmb3.8bn (\$588m) from a group of state-owned funds in the city of Suzhou. — PAGE 6

► **Iconic UK metals trading forum reopens**

The LME reopened its iconic trading floor after an 18-month hiatus because of the pandemic, although questions remain about the long-term viability of Europe's largest open-outcry pit. — PAGE 9

Datawatch

Fewer suicides

Related deaths per 100,000 in England and Wales, April to June

Source: ONS

Suicide rates from April to June last year, during England's and Wales's first lockdown were lower than in the equivalent period of the previous three years. The decline was most significant among younger age groups.



El Salvador takes punt by making bitcoin legal tender

El Salvador today becomes the first country to accept bitcoin as legal tender. Under the plan, people will be able to shop, pay taxes and buy land in the volatile cryptocurrency. Supporters say it will cut the fees that Salvadorans pay to send home remittances, which represent a quarter of the country's GDP, and boost financial inclusion. But critics say the rushed plan could hit poorer people when the price falls and provide a shield for money launderers.

Crypto laboratory ► PAGE 3

Goldman taps into private equity boom with IPO for \$5bn Petershill division

HARRIET AGNEW AND STEPHEN MORRIS LONDON

Goldman Sachs plans to cash in on the global boom for private equity by listing Petershill Partners, which buys stakes in alternative asset managers, in a deal that could value the portfolio at more than \$5bn.

Petershill Partners, which owns minority stakes in 19 alternative asset companies with a combined \$187bn of assets under management, yesterday said it was considering an initial public offering on the London Stock Exchange.

A flotation would make it the largest listed alternatives business in London.

If it goes ahead, the IPO plans to raise \$750m by issuing new ordinary shares, giving Petershill more firepower to make acquisitions. Separately, it will sell existing ordinary shares to achieve a

free float of 25 per cent, meaning it can be included on the FTSE index.

The listing is set to value the entire business at more than \$5bn and would probably take place in a month, according to people familiar with the situation.

When Petershill was set up by the Wall Street bank in 2007, it was the first of a series of groups created to take stakes in private equity and alternative investment managers, seeking to benefit from the recurring revenue streams of management and performance fees that they generate. Competitors include Dyal Capital, Blackstone's Strategic Capital Holdings and Alpminvest Partners.

The planned Petershill IPO is further evidence of Goldman chief executive David Solomon's determination to expand the US bank in areas that earn regular fees, such as asset and wealth management, while reducing its reli-

ance on volatile businesses including equities and bond trading. Last month it bought the asset management arm of Dutch insurer NN Group for €1.6bn.

Investors have been increasing their exposure to private equity and private debt in a search for returns in an environment of low interest rates. Assets in the alternatives industry are set to grow at a compound annual rate of 9.8 per cent, from \$10.7tn in 2020 to \$17.2tn by 2025, according to data provider Preqin.

Petershill's earnings distributable to partners have more than doubled from \$108m in 2018 to \$243m in 2020, and reached \$310m in the year to June 30, according to the company.

Petershill's holdings include Caxton Associates, one of the oldest hedge funds; Ross Turner's Pelham Capital; and technology buyout firm Accel-KKR.

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World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES						
	Sept 6	prev	%chg		Sept 6	prev			Sept 6	prev				
S&P 500	4535.43	4536.95	-0.03	\$ per €	1.188	1.188	€ per \$	0.721	0.721	1.188	US Gov 10 yr	148.86	1.32	0.00
Nasdaq Composite	15393.52	15331.18	0.21	£ per \$	1.387	1.387	¥ per €	1.166	1.166	1.166	UK Gov 10 yr	0.80	-0.02	0.00
Dow Jones Ind	35369.09	35443.82	-0.21	¥ per €	0.057	0.057	¥ per \$	130.293	130.293	130.293	Ger Gov 10 yr	-0.37	-0.01	0.00
FTSE100	1029.93	1016.61	0.73	₹ per \$	109.665	109.665	₹ per €	81.825	81.887	81.887	Japan Gov 10 yr	115.95	0.04	0.00
Euro Stoxx 50	4245.35	4201.98	1.03	₹ per \$	152.127	152.127	SFR per €	1.267	1.267	1.267	US Gov 30 yr	115.46	1.94	0.00
FTSE M-Share	7187.18	7136.35	0.68	SFR per €	1.085	1.085					Ger Gov 2 yr	105.43	-0.72	0.00
FTSE All-Share	4144.51	4120.51	0.58	€ per \$	0.842	0.842								
CAC 40	6743.50	6669.99	0.90											
Xetra Dax	15932.12	15781.20	0.96											
Nikkei	29959.89	29728.11	1.83											
Hang Seng	26163.63	25961.99	1.01											
MSCI World \$	3183.99	3161.46	0.68	Oil WTI \$	69.60	69.29	-0.71		Fed Funds Eff	0.10	0.08	-0.02		
MSCI EM \$	1315.91	1311.91	0.31	Oil Brent \$	72.09	72.61	-0.72		US 3m Bill	0.05	0.05	0.00		
MSCI ACWI \$	746.46	745.67	0.11	Gold \$	1823.70	1812.55	0.62		Euro Liber 3m	-0.56	-0.56	0.00		
									UK 3m	0.06	0.06	0.00		

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President Biden's speedy relaxing of immigration strictures was followed by an immediate wave of people at the Southwest border.

DANIELLE VOULPE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Xi Eyes Richest In Bid to Build A Middle Class

This article is by Chris Buckley, Alexandra Stevenson and Cao Li.

Four decades ago, Deng Xiaoping declared that China would "let some people get rich first" in its race for growth. Now, Xi Jinping has put China's tycoons on notice that it is time for them to share more wealth with the rest of the country.

Mr. Xi says the Communist Party will pursue "common prosperity," pressing businesses and entrepreneurs to help narrow the stubborn wealth gap that could hold back the country's rise and erode public confidence in the leadership. Supporters say China's next phase of growth demands the shift.

"A powerful China should also be a fair and just China," Yao Yang, a professor of economics at Peking University who endorses the shift in priorities, said by email. "China is one of the worst countries in terms of redistribution, despite being a socialist country. Public spending is overly concentrated in cities, elite schools and so on."

Officials are pledging to make schooling, housing and health care less costly and more evenly available outside big cities, and to lift incomes for workers, helping more people secure a place in the middle class. The "common prosperity" campaign has converged with a crackdown on the country's tech giants to curb their dominance. Facing scrutiny, some of China's biggest billionaires, like Jack Ma, have lined up to pledge billions of dollars to charity.

The pledges hold out the prospect, endorsed by Mr. Xi in a meeting last month, that China is now affluent enough to shift closer to the Communist Party's longstanding ideal of wealth sharing.

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Court Hands Biden Relief From a Migrant Surge

By NATALIE KITROEFF

MATAMOROS, Mexico — When the Supreme Court effectively revived a cornerstone of Trump-era migration policy late last month, it looked like a major defeat for President Biden.

After all, Mr. Biden had condemned the policy — which requires asylum seekers to wait in Mexico — as "inhumane" and suspended it on his first day in office, part of an aggressive push to dismantle former President Donald J. Trump's harshest migration policies.

But among some Biden officials, the Supreme Court's order was quietly greeted with something other than dismay, current and former officials said: It brought some measure of relief.

Revival of Trump Policy Puts Asylum Seekers in Mexico Limbo

Before that ruling, Mr. Biden's steps to begin loosening the reins on migration had been quickly followed by a surge of people heading north, overwhelming the Southwest border of the United States. Apprehensions of migrants hit a two-decade high in July, a trend officials fear will continue into the fall.

Concern had already been building inside the Biden administration that the speed of its immigration changes may have encouraged migrants to stream toward the United States, current and former officials said.

In fact, some Biden officials were already talking about reviving Mr. Trump's policy in a limited way to deter migration, said the officials, who have worked on immigration policy but were not authorized to speak publicly about the administration's internal debates on the issue.

Then the Supreme Court order came, providing the Biden administration with the political cover to adopt the policy in some form without provoking as much ire from Democrats who reviled Mr. Trump's border policies.

Now, the officials say, they have an opportunity to take a step back, come up with a more humane version of Mr. Trump's policy and, they hope, reduce the enormous

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MAX WHITTAKER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Unsung Heroes of Lake Tahoe

As the Caldor Fire rages nearby, hotel workers from the resort town play an essential role. Page A12.

California Moves to Put Amazon Workers' Needs Over Algorithms

By NOAM SCHEIBER

Among the pandemic's biggest economic winners is Amazon, which nearly doubled its annual profit last year to \$21 billion and is on pace to far exceed that total this year.

The profits flowed from the millions of Americans who value the convenience of quick home deliv-

ery, but critics complain that the arrangement comes at a large cost to workers, whom they say the company pushes to physical extremes.

That labor model could begin to change under a California bill that would require warehouse employers like Amazon to disclose productivity quotas for workers, whose progress they often track

Scrutinizing Bathroom Breaks and Quotas

using algorithms. "The supervisory function is being taken over by computers," said Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, the bill's author. "But

they're not taking into account the human factor."

The bill, which the Assembly passed in May and the State Senate is expected to vote on this week, would prohibit any quota that prevents workers from taking state-mandated breaks or using the bathroom when needed, or that keeps employers from com-

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Democrats' Vision for Aid: From Cradle to the Grave

If Party Is to Pass \$3.5 Trillion Bill, It Needs Nearly Every Vote It Has in Congress

By JONATHAN WEISMAN

WASHINGTON — When congressional committees meet this week to begin formally drafting Democrats' ambitious social policy plan, they will be undertaking the most significant expansion of the nation's safety net since the war on poverty in the 1960s, devising legislation that would touch virtually every American's life, from conception to aged infirmity.

Passage of the bill, which could spend as much as \$3.5 trillion over the next decade, is anything but certain. President Biden, who has staked much of his domestic legacy on the measure's enactment, will need the vote of every single Democrat in the Senate, and virtually every one in the House, to secure it. And with two Democratic senators, Joe Manchin III of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona, saying they would not accept such a costly plan, it will challenge Democratic unity like nothing has since the Affordable Care Act.

That is largely because the proposed legislation would be so transformative — a cradle-to-grave reweaving of a social safety net frayed by decades of expanding income inequality, stagnating wealth and depleted governmental resources, capped by the worst public health crisis in a century.

The pandemic loosened the reins on federal spending, prompting members of both parties to support showering the economy with aid. It also uncorked decades-old policy desires — like expanding Medicare coverage or paid family and medical leave — that Democrats contend have proved to be necessities as

the country has lived through the coronavirus crisis.

"Polls have shown for a very long time that these issues to support American families were important, and were popular, but all of a sudden they became not a 'nice to have' but a 'must have,'" said Heather Boushey, a member of Mr. Biden's Council of Economic Advisers who has been developing such policies for decades.

Democrats say they will finance their spending with proposed tax increases on corporations — which has already incited a multifaceted, big-budget effort by business groups working to kill the idea — and by possibly taxing wealth in ways that the United States has never tried before.

"We're talking about free or affordable child care where no one pays more than 7 percent of their income; we're talking about universal pre-K programs with two years of formal instruction; we're talking about two years of post-secondary education," said Representative Jamaal Bowman of New York, a former teacher and principal who is vice chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee. "This is how you build a strong nation."

To Republicans, who are readying a counteroffensive, the Democratic plans are nothing short of socialism. They say they are concerned that the plan is financially unsustainable and would under-

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LAPSE Enhanced jobless benefits expired without objection from the Biden administration. PAGE A14

Frayed Nerves For the Teachers Of the Maskless

By ANEMONA HARTOCOLLIS

Matthew Boedy, an associate professor of rhetoric and composition, sent out a raw emotional appeal to his students at the University of North Georgia just before classes began: The Covid-19 Delta variant was rampaging through the state, filling up hospital beds. He would teach class in the equivalent of full body armor — vaccinated and masked.

So he was stunned in late August when more than two-thirds of the first-year students in his writing class did not take the hint and showed up unmasked.

It was impossible to tell who was vaccinated and who was not. "It isn't a visual landscape, like hospitals; it's more of an emotional landscape," Dr. Boedy said.

North Georgia is not requiring its students to be vaccinated or masked this fall. And as in-person classes return at almost every university in the country, after almost a year and a half of emergency pivoting to online learning, many professors are finding teaching a nerve-racking experience.

The American College Health Association recommends vaccination requirements for all on-campus higher education students for the fall semester. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends face coverings, regardless of vaccine status, for indoor public spaces in areas where the rate of infection is high.

But this is not how it has worked out on more than a few campuses. More than 1,000 colleges and universities have adopted vaccination requirements for at least

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MICHAEL K. WILLIAMS 1966-2021



DEMETRIUS FREEMAN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

'The Wire' Star Who Embodied Edgy Charisma

This article is by Julia Jacobs, Annie Correal and Jeremy Egner.

Michael K. Williams, the actor who brought a hard-edge charisma to his portrayal of Omar Little, the sawed-off-shotgun-wielding stickup man on the pioneering HBO series "The Wire," was found dead on Monday in his home in the Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn, the police said. He was 54.

His longtime representative, Marianna Shafra, confirmed the death in a statement and said the family was grappling with "deep sorrow" at "this insurmountable loss."

Mr. Williams was found at about 2 p.m., according to the New York Police Department. The death is being investigated as a possible drug overdose, and the city's medical examiner will determine the cause.

As Omar Little on "The Wire," David Simon's five-season epic on HBO that explored the gritty underworld of corruption, drugs and the police in Baltimore, Mr.

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OBITUARIES A17-20

A Magnetic French Actor

Jean-Paul Belmondo was compared to Humphrey Bogart, Marlon Brando and James Dean. He was 88. PAGE A20

Author of Amorous Novel

Stephen Vizinczey's best-known work, "In Praise of Older Women," treated sex frankly. He was 88. PAGE A17

NATIONAL A11-16

Securing Texas Abortion Access

The Justice Department said it would enforce a federal law making it illegal to threaten or obstruct someone who is seeking to enter a clinic. PAGE A14

Devastation in a Fragile Spot

Hurricane Ida pummeled Grand Isle, La., a tiny barrier island already endangered by sea level rise. PAGE A11

INTERNATIONAL A4-10

'Miracle' Evacuation in Korea

Survivors remember how the U.S. military ferried 91,000 people out of a North Korean port in 1950. PAGE A4

BUSINESS B1-6

Buying In on Paying Later

Installment payment services are everywhere thanks to deals with Amazon and Square. It's a simple idea that can get complicated for users. PAGE B1

A Conservative Smartphone

A 22-year-old Bitcoin millionaire wants Republicans to ditch their iPhones for low-end handset. PAGE B1

SPORTS B7-12

Calling the Shots, Off the Field

Inspired by stars in other sports, N.F.L. quarterbacks are pushing to be heard on organizational issues. PAGE B7



ARTS C1-6

Nick Cave, Digging Deep

In the artist's new installation, dozens of figures made of vibrant glass dance along the subway walls. PAGE C1

A She Said, She Said Situation

The mini-series "Impeachment" sees the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal through the eyes of the women involved. PAGE C1

SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

Chronicle Nania's Return

DNA testing, and a bit of luck, could be enough to reunite a 4-year-old elephant with her family in Burkina Faso. PAGE D1

Lawsuits Over Food Labels

Advocacy groups are taking on what they say is a rise in deceptive marketing by industry giants. PAGE D1

OPINION A18-19

Maya Guzdar

PAGE A19



ANALYSIS

A tricky new role with the Taliban

The White House must figure out how to deal politically with a group long viewed in the U.S. as terrorists.

By TRACY WILKINSON

DOHA, Qatar — As the newly-in-power Taliban prepares to announce a government in Afghanistan, the Biden administration is being forced to abruptly recalibrate its approach to a group long viewed in the U.S. as terrorists.

Saying they now want to “lead with diplomacy” after ending two decades of military warfare against the Taliban, U.S. officials face tricky choices.

Whom do they talk to? Can they avoid Taliban leaders who are on “specially designated terrorist” lists? Officials hope to leverage the Taliban’s need for money, but what will that look like? It’s all going to be messy and fraught.

Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken, who arrived here in Doha on Monday night, has described in broad strokes the kind of Taliban-led government the U.S. is prepared to work with.

Speaking ahead of the [See Taliban, A4]

Militants say they seized last holdout

Panishir province has long been the heart of the resistance. **WORLD, A3**



TALIBAN fighters pray alongside Afghan civilians in Kabul last week. U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken says the U.S. and other countries are attempting to apply pressure to influence Taliban behavior.

Where COVID fuels racism

In Orange County, attacks from anti-mask and anti-vaccine adherents increasingly single out officials of Asian heritage

By HANNAH FRY AND ANH DO

At an Orange County Board of Supervisors meeting, some speakers called the COVID-19 vaccine a “bioweapon.” They suggested that if they refused the shot, public officials would prohibit them from buying food and water.

As Andrew Do, the board chairman, celebrated a milestone of 1.2 million doses in the arms of residents, they hissed and booed.

Strident anti-mask, anti-vaccine rhetoric has become increasingly routine at public meetings nationwide during the pandemic.

But at the July 27 meeting in Orange County, a man in a gray beanie and dark sunglasses crossed a different line.

“You come to my country, and you act like one of these communist parasites. I ask you to go the f— back to Vietnam,” he yelled at Do, who is Vietnamese American.

Several attendees cheered. Between anti-lockdown rallies, pushback against mask mandates and a restaurant catering to the unvaccinated, Orange County has seized the spotlight as a nexus of aggressive COVID-19 denialism.

The ratcheting up of incivility and racism comes at a time when pandemic fatigue is worsening and concerns about the Delta variant of the coronavirus have prompted a return to mask wearing, as well as discussions about vaccination requirements.

Month after month, the protesters have gathered outside the O.C. supervisors’ chambers, chanting, waving signs evoking Holocaust imagery and calling for the firing of the top public health official, Clayton Chau. They have also protested outside public officials’ homes.

For them, former President Trump’s statements demonizing immigrants and blaming China for unleashing the coronavirus are a backdrop and an inspiration.

[See Orange County, A7]

CALIFORNIA RECALL ELECTION

Recall hopefuls pitch from the pulpit

In the campaign’s final weeks, candidates are courting California’s religious voters.

By FAITH E. PINHO

ROCKLIN, Calif. — It started as a traditional Sunday service.

The worship rose and fell in emotional chorus. People shook hands with their neighbors in the pews.

But then, in lieu of a sermon, Destiny Christian Church Pastor Greg Fairington welcomed onstage Republican gubernatorial candidate Larry Elder.

“People of faith, in my opinion, have stood on the sidelines for far too long. We need to get involved. And that is why I’m running,” Elder told the 5,000 people who packed the sprawling Rocklin church campus to watch his 30-minute conversations with the pastor at each of the three Sunday morning services. An additional 25,000 watched online.

“I’m doing it because I feel that I have a patriotic, a moral, and a spiritual obligation to fix this state to the extent I can.”

More than 400 miles south, after another pastor prayed and a choir sang, a different Christian congregation was applauding the man Elder hopes to replace should he be recalled: Gov. Gavin Newsom.

“The Bible teaches us we are many parts but one body. And when one part suffers, we all suffer. This notion of a web of mutuality — that we’re all in this together,” the governor said in a five-minute appearance at the Youngnak Church of LA Sunday morning.

As candidates crisscross California ahead of the recall election on Sept. 14, faith communities have become a central place for proselytizing to potential voters. The role of religion on the campaign trail has been amplified in recent weeks by lingering anger over California’s COVID-19 restrictions that severely limited in-person worship as well as [See Churches, A7]

Anti-recall fight starts at home

Newsom’s campaign is mostly a California effort. **PERSPECTIVES, A2**

Candidates sprint toward the finish

Newsom events feature prominent Democratic leaders. **CALIFORNIA, B3**

Mu variant in L.A. County

A coronavirus “variant of interest” has been found in 167 residents over the summer, officials say. **CALIFORNIA, B3**

Pujols enjoys his role on Dodgers

The future Hall of Fame member has given the team a big lift on and off the field. **SPORTS, B10**

Weather: Sunshine, L.A. Basin: 85/65. **B6**



‘You keep Fluffy. We don’t want Fluffy’



DOZENS of dogs are housed at L.A. County Animal Care and Control shelters. Staffers can help a pet stay with its owner by providing a range of options.

Animal shelters try new approach: appointment and assessment

By JACLYN COSGROVE

Ulysses Sandoval was desperate to save his dog.

Chia needed surgery to remove a large stone in her bladder, but Sandoval had lost his job during the COVID-19 pandemic. He had asked family members for help and was ready to take out a loan and sell his car to come up with the \$2,200.

Frantically calling rescue groups, he dialed the L.A. County animal care center in Downey. A staff member said he might be eligible for a \$500 voucher.

Giving up Chia “would have been my last, last option,” said Sandoval, 25. He suffers from anxiety attacks,

and Chia — a 10-pound poodle mix — calms him.

The voucher, which Sandoval obtained this past spring, is part of an approach called “managed intake” now being used at the seven animal shelters run by Los Angeles County.

People who want to relinquish their dogs or cats must have an appointment rather than just stopping by during business hours. Shelter workers then assess whether they can help the pet stay with its owner by providing assistance with veterinary bills, food, supplies, boarding or training for behavioral issues.

If those options won’t work, owners are advised to [See Shelters, A12]

As El Salvador adopts bitcoin, president attacks democracy

By KATE LINTHICUM

MEXICO CITY — On Tuesday, El Salvador becomes the first country to accept bitcoin as legal tender — a controversial move pushed by its young, headstrong and exceptionally popular president, Nayib Bukele.

But the rollout of cryptocurrency has been upstaged by a more urgent concern: a series of withering attacks by Bukele and his ruling party on El Salvador’s three-

decade-old democracy. In recent days, Bukele loyalists on the Supreme Court systematically cleared the way for him to seek reelection in 2024, despite a constitutional ban on consecutive presidential terms.

Meanwhile, his supporters in the Assembly passed a law to remove one-third of the nation’s judges and prosecutors — an apparent response to Bukele’s public calls for a “purge” of the judicial branch.

Local and international critics have decried the ac-

tions as part of a broader power grab that began in May, when Bukele’s party violated El Salvador’s Constitution by ousting the attorney general and several members of the Supreme Court.

Bukele, 40, who has been hailed as a visionary by bitcoin backers around the world, is now simultaneously an international pariah.

As small protests were held Sunday in the capital, San Salvador, U.S. State Dept. [See El Salvador, A4]



MICHAEL K. WILLIAMS DIES
Emmy-nominated “The Wire” and “Lovecraft Country” actor began as a dancer. **CALENDAR, E1**

1933-2021

Jean-Paul Belmondo.

Adiós al feo más seductor

—espectáculos

Una de las máximas estrellas del cine francés, talentoso actor y galán incorregible, será recordado por films como *Sin aliento* y *El profesional*.



LA EMBLEMÁTICA CALLE DE RECOLETA QUE BUSCA RECUPERAR SU ESPLENDOR

—buenos aires

En Presidente Ortiz solo había quedado el bar La Biela; tras cinco años de ocaso, abrieron cervecerías y una *trattoria*, y construyen una torre de lujo. Página 22



LA NACION

MARTES 7 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

El Gobierno apuesta a polarizar con Macri en el tramo final de la campaña

PASO. Fernández y Máximo Kirchner criticaron al expresidente; buscan evitar la fuga de votos

Con el objetivo de consolidar el voto propio y evitar la fuga hacia terceras fuerzas, el Gobierno encaró la última semana antes de las elecciones primarias con una apuesta enfocada en polarizar con Juntos por el Cambio y lanzar duras críticas al expresidente Mauricio Macri.

Preocupados por la apatía generalizada y el desencanto, el presidente Alberto Fernández y Máximo Kirchner confirmaron ayer la estrategia oficialista con una sucesión de cuestionamientos a Macri.

Ayer, el Presidente dijo que en la "esencia" de su antecesor no está

"valorar la democracia", y Kirchner volvió a aventurar que Macri hubiera manejado peor la pandemia. El Gobierno apostó nuevamente a la grieta luego de la caída de su imagen por el escándalo de la fiesta de cumpleaños de Fabiola Yañez en la quinta de Olivos, en plena cuarentena. Página 6

Manes redobla sus críticas a Larreta
Página 8

El centro de estudiantes de Axel Kicillof
Luciana Vázquez Página 9

Los talibanes restituyen la segregación en las aulas

el mundo—KABUL (DPA).—Mientras mantienen la represión de mujeres que se manifiestan por sus derechos, los talibanes restituyeron ayer la segregación en las universidades de Afganistán, al separar a hombres y mujeres con cortinas colgadas en las aulas. Página 5



TWITTER

Brasil sube el tono de la denuncia a la selección nacional

ESCÁNDALO. El gobierno justificó la suspensión del partido y apuntó al plantel

El escándalo continúa. El gobierno de Brasil levantó el tono de las acusaciones contra el seleccionado argentino de fútbol para justificar la suspensión intempestiva del partido del domingo en San Pablo. La Agencia de Vigilancia Sanitaria denunció que el plantel argentino violó leyes, falsificó los formularios de ingreso al país de cuatro jugadores que se desempeñan en Gran Bretaña y desoyó las advertencias de que no debía alistarse en el partido. Promete presentar hoy documentación para acreditarlo. No explicó, en cambio, por qué esperó al inicio del juego para intervenir. La AFA niega todo. La FIFA recibió los informes y se tomará tiempo para resolver el conflicto. Deportes

La Argentina acusa a Chile de "vocación expansiva"

TENSIÓN. La Cancillería formalizó ayer una protesta ante Chile, por el decreto del presidente Sebastián Piñera que incorporó 5000 kilómetros cuadrados de plataforma continental que la Argentina reclama como propios. Con un fuerte tono crítico, el gobierno argentino cuestionó la "vocación expansiva" de Chile. Página 10

Otro duro reclamo de las líneas aéreas: "El país pierde conectividad con el mundo"

COVID. Volvieron a cuestionar el criterio oficial y calificaron los cupos de "draconianos"

La Asociación Internacional de Transporte Aéreo (IATA, por sus siglas en inglés) le reclamó ayer al Gobierno que elimine los cupos diarios para el ingreso de pasajeros desde el exterior, al advertir que son "medidas

draconianas" que afectan la conectividad del país con el mundo. "Desconocemos en qué criterio científico se ha basado el Gobierno hasta ahora para determinar los cupos diarios de pasajeros", destacó la entidad,

que subrayó que esa medida no se aplica en ningún otro país. "Pero el número cada vez mayor de viajeros vacunados y las buenas condiciones sanitarias permiten restaurar la operación aérea", señaló. Página 20

El certificado de vacunación se cargará en el celular

Figurará en la aplicación Mi Argentina y servirá de constancia a los que puedan viajar. Página 20

Asesinaron a un testigo protegido en Rosario

SIN CUSTODIA. Había declarado como arrepentido contra un jefe narco. Página 28



Bolsonaristas invadem Esplanada

Apoiadores furam bloqueio para promover manifestações pró-presidente, que, isolado, joga suas fichas em 7/9 golpista

EDITORIAL

Bolsonaro é o perdedor

Nenhuma imagem de hoje mudará o apoio da imensa maioria do país à democracia

Paira no ar um frisson, de certa forma compartilhado por bolsonaristas e antibolsonaristas, sobre qual será a imagem de maior impacto no período de 7 a 12 de setembro —vale dizer, a foto com mais manifestantes, como se isso retratasse a maioria dos brasileiros. Trata-se de um equívoco flagrante.

A ciência da pesquisa, como no levantamento conduzido pelo Datafolha em junho de 2020, mostra que a maioria esmagadora de 75% dos brasileiros é favorável à democracia —e que para 78% o regime militar foi uma ditadura da qual não há saudades.

Não importa o quão fanaticamente os bolsonaristas apoiem seu chefe e o quanto os opositores estejam menos mobilizados ainda em respeito à crise sanitária; nada muda o fato de que Jair Bolsonaro erra, mais uma vez, ao apoiar atos golpistas repudiados pela imensa maioria que não irá às ruas.

Repudiados também pelos setores organizados da sociedade que, a despeito de preferências e interesses heterogêneos, compreendem que só o ambiente de livre manifestação do pensamento e respeito ao Estado de Direito permite a apresentação de demandas e a busca por justiça e prosperidade.

Tal entendimento se espelha na representação política. Entre governadores, prefeitos e parlamentares inexiste massa crítica a encorajar ensaios de ruptura. A sustentação fisiológica ao governo no Congresso não faz mais do que levar adiante projetos econômicos e evitar o impeachment.

As instituições, ainda que imperfeitas, se encontram amadurecidas por mais de três décadas de democracia —o período mais longo de normalidade na história republicana— e consolidação dos freios e contrapesos a serem respeitados por todos os Poderes.

Está claro para todos que o alarido provocado por Bolsonaro deriva de sua incapacidade de governar e da perspectiva de ser mandado para casa pelos brasileiros em uma eleição livre e justa, como têm sido todos os pleitos realizados no país.

O mandatário usa a data nacional para uma demonstração de suposta força. Conta, não é novidade, com o apoio de parcela minoritária, mas ainda expressiva, do eleitorado. Mas só aprofundará seu fracasso ao insistir na arruaça e na truculência golpista.



Bolsonaristas chegam em ponto de bloqueio na Praça dos Três Poderes. Pedro Ladeira/Folhapress

AMEAÇA AUTORITÁRIA

Apoiadores de Jair Bolsonaro furaram o bloqueio de segurança no Distrito Federal e invadiram a Esplanada dos Ministérios na noite de ontem, véspera dos atos em apoio ao mandatário que, cada vez mais isolado politicamente, tem acirrado seu discurso golpista.

A região estava fechada para carros, mas após pressão dos manifestantes a PM liberou o bloqueio, permitindo aos veículos descer rumo ao prédio do Supremo Tribunal Federal, foco frequente dos ataques verbais do presidente.

Em vídeos publicados em redes sociais, ouve-se um homem gritar: "A polícia não deu conta de segurar o povo". E completa: "Nós vamos invadir o STF amanhã".

Com uma sucessão de notícias negativas que minam seu projeto de reeleição em 2022, como a alta da inflação e a crise energética, Bolsonaro incitou as manifestações de hoje para mostrar sua capacidade de mobilizar as ruas. Aliados dizem que os atos serão um "tudo ou nada".

Um comparecimento aquém do desejado reforçaria a percepção de que Bolsonaro tem cada vez menos condições de viabilizar sua campanha no ano que vem, o que impulsionaria a oposição. Se for bem sucedido em mobilizar a população, ganha fôlego para sair das cordas.

Nos últimos dias, o presidente e seus apoiadores têm alternado o discurso antidemocrático ao de defesa da liberdade. Poder A4

Feriado em SP terá reforço no metrô e revista em protestos A8

Ilustrada C3

Belmondo morre aos 88

Astro da nouvelle vague e ator-fetche de Godard virou mito



Jean-Paul Belmondo, astro de 80 filmes, em 1973. AFP

Esporte B6

Em campo com veto

Saúde negou aval para argentinos a 51 minutos do jogo

Pelé retira tumor no cólon em SP e se recupera em UTI

Esporte B6

Caravana para atos tem hinos, ódio a Moraes e desdém a vírus

"Bom dia. Lembrando que é preciso máscara, mas para as paradas, viu? No ônibus, podem ficar à vontade", recomendou Lucinha Ramiro, 60, aos 90 militantes da caravana que seguiria de São Paulo a Brasília para os atos do 7 de Setembro.

A trupe era um resumo do atual bolsonarismo: evangélicos, ex-esquerdistas, empresários vociferando contra corrupção, defensores do tratamento precoce para Covid e saudosistas da ditadura, relatam Fábio Zanini e Vinicius Martins. Poder A12

Filme de 1968 é alegoria de atual crise democrática

As ameaças autoritárias do presidente Jair Bolsonaro conferem vitalidade a "Hitler 3º Mundo", de José Agripino de Paula. Filme foi rodado em pleno AI-5 como alegoria do nazifascismo submerso na sociedade brasileira. Ilustrada C1

Para auxiliares de Guedes, Planalto entrava retomada

Integrantes do Ministério da Economia avaliam que a beligerância do presidente Jair Bolsonaro tem criado obstáculos para a agenda econômica e a eventual retomada ao pôr em dúvida o funcionamento das instituições. Mercado A15

Vera Iaconelli

O medo do pai e outros fantasmas

Neste 7 de setembro, testemunharemos os efeitos deletérios da recusa em encarar fantasmas de sexualidade, amor e agressividade. Eles desfilarão pelas ruas provando que a alienação não é só questão individual. Cotidiano B3

ENTREVISTA

Marcos Nobre

Não haverá golpe, mas preparação

O presidente do Centro Brasileiro de Análise e Planejamento diz que Jair Bolsonaro não dará um golpe neste 7 de setembro, mas vê atos como preparatórios da ruptura. Poder A10

MP dificulta excluir perfil ou post de rede social

Jair Bolsonaro assinou ontem medida provisória que limita o poder de provedores de tirar publicações ou perfis do ar, alterando o Marco Civil da Internet.

Algumas publicações do presidente e de seus apoiadores foram excluídas das redes sociais durante a pandemia da Covid-19 por desinformarem sobre a doença. Poder A6

Fabio Wajngarten

Presidente não se abate nem vacila sobre ideias A3

Governo deve queimar R\$ 243 mi em vacinas e remédios vencidos

Cotidiano B1



ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



EDITORIAIS A2

Brasil, 199

Sobre momento difícil na data da Independência.

Vexame em campo

Acerca de polêmica na partida contra a Argentina.