

What's News

Business & Finance

Ford and GM are looking to get into the semiconductor business after a year of computer-chip shortages that snarled their global factory output. **A1**

◆ **CVS Health** said it would close 900 stores over the next three years, nearly 10% of its U.S. locations, while adding more health services at remaining locations. **B1**

◆ **Macy's** said it hired consulting firm AlixPartners to evaluate whether it makes sense to spin off its e-commerce operations. **B1**

◆ **Saule Omarova**, Biden's choice to become the Comptroller of the Currency, faced criticism at a hearing from moderate Democrats who hold the key to her nomination. **A4**

◆ **A federal judge** dismissed a lawsuit accusing Robinhood of colluding with Citadel Securities to stop investors from buying GameStop and other meme stocks in January. **B1**

◆ **Evergrande** said it would sell its entire stake in a company that provides online video-streaming and Internet home services for the equivalent of \$273 million. **B1**

◆ **The S&P 500** and **Nasdaq** notched gains of 0.3% and 0.5%, respectively, to close at records. The Dow Industrials slipped 0.2%. **B10**

◆ **Sweetgreen** shares jumped 77% in their market debut, the latest new offering to surge on its first day of trading. **B3**

◆ **Alibaba** slashed its growth forecast for this fiscal year, as Chinese consumers spend less in a competitive e-commerce market. **B3**

World-Wide

◆ **A bipartisan coalition** of state attorneys general said it is investigating how Instagram attracts and affects young people, amping up the pressure on parent company Meta Platforms Inc. over potential harms to its users. **A1**

◆ **A currency crisis** is shaking Turkey's economy, imperiling Erdogan's nearly two-decade-long grip on power and upending living standards in a country that had enjoyed years of growth. **A1**

◆ **The House** was poised to pass a roughly \$2 trillion education, healthcare and climate package early Friday, with Democrats looking to corral their slim majority to send the centerpiece of Biden's economic agenda to the Senate. **A4**

◆ **A paper by an evolutionary biologist** published in *Science* concludes that a wholesale seafood market in Wuhan, China, where live mammals were sold is very likely to be the site of the origin of the Covid-19 pandemic. **A6**

◆ **Biden met** with Canada's Trudeau and Mexico's López Obrador at the White House in the first trilateral summit between leaders of the countries since 2016. **A4**

◆ **U.S. authorities** accused two Iranian nationals of engaging in voter intimidation and election interference ahead of last year's U.S. presidential election. **A3**

◆ **Two men** were exonerated in the 1995 murder of Black civil-rights leader Malcolm X after a judge vacated their convictions at the request of the Manhattan district attorney. **A3**

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Migrants Lured by Belarus Face Efforts to Turn Them Back



ON HOLD: The Senty family, now living in a room in a hostel, came to Minsk from Iraq's Kurdistan region, lured by stories of migrants entering Europe through Belarus. The family tried to cross the border into Poland but was turned away. **A9**

States Investigate Instagram Over How It Affects Children

By JEFF HORWITZ
AND GEORGIA WELLS

A bipartisan coalition of state attorneys general said it is investigating how Instagram attracts and affects young people, amping up the pressure on parent company Meta Platforms Inc. over potential harms to its users.

Led by eight states, including Massachusetts and Nebraska, the coalition is focused on "the techniques used by Meta to increase the frequency and duration of engagement

by young users and the resulting harms caused by such extended engagement."

The attorneys general said Thursday they are investigating whether the company, formerly known as Facebook, violated consumer protection laws and put the public at risk.

"When social-media platforms treat our children as mere commodities to manipulate for longer screen time engagement and data extraction, it becomes imperative for state attorneys general to engage our investigation authority under

our consumer protection laws," said Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson, a Republican.

Other attorneys general involved in coordinating the effort include those from California, Florida, Kentucky, New Jersey, Tennessee and Vermont. The full list of states that are joining the probe isn't yet public but a spokeswoman for Massachusetts said it was broad and nationwide.

A Meta spokesman said the investigation was premised on a misunderstanding of issues that also affect other social-

media platforms.

The investigation comes after scrutiny of the psychological effects of social media, and Instagram in particular, on teenagers. The Wall Street Journal reported in September that Instagram's internal research had determined that its product can engender "negative social comparison" in a swath of users and can exacerbate body-image issues among those struggling with the issue, especially young women. Instagram's photo-heavy de-

Please turn to page A4

Turkish Lira's Fall Threatens Erdogan

By JARED MALINS
AND ANNA HIRSTENSTEIN

ISTANBUL—A currency crisis is shaking Turkey's economy, imperiling President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's nearly two-decade-long grip on power and upending living standards in a country that had enjoyed years of growth. The Turkish lira hit a record low against the dollar on Thursday after the Central Bank cut a key rate by 1 percentage point. The currency has lost more than a third of its value since March and is the worst-performing major emerging-market currency this year so far.

The depreciating lira is a self-inflicted wound for Mr. Erdogan, who has pushed for lower interest rates as part of an unconventional economic strategy that he argues will encourage growth. Thursday's rate cut was the third in three months and came after the president fired a series of senior officials who opposed his unorthodox economic vision. "It's just crazy, there's zero justification for this move as there's been zero justification for the rate cuts we've seen so far this year," said Timothy Ash, an emerging-markets strategist at BlueBay Asset Management. "Erdogan is running monetary policy on his own."

Mr. Erdogan, who rose to power championing Turkey's middle class, is now facing one of the most serious challenges to his rule since he first became prime minister in 2003. Pressure on wages and the rising cost of basic goods like food, medicine and energy have eroded support for Mr. Erdogan. Please turn to page A10

INSIDE



MANSION

The NFL linebacker known for flipping quarterbacks—and houses. **M1**

WORLD NEWS

Lockdowns return as rise in cases threatens to overwhelm Europe's hospitals. **A10**

Plumbing, Sudoku, Noisy Keyboards Challenge Theranos Judge

Hiccups in Elizabeth Holmes fraud trial include broken AC, technology glitches

By SARA RANDAZZO
AND HEATHER SOMERVILLE

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Keeping Silicon Valley's highest-profile criminal trial on track was challenging enough for U.S. District Judge Edward Davila. Then a water main broke.

"There's a hole down on the corner of San Fernando and First Street, with a lot of men with yellow jackets staring down the hole, so that suggests something," Judge Davila said on a recent Wednesday. He closed the courtroom because of inoperable bathrooms, losing a day of testimony in the fraud trial of Theranos Inc. founder Elizabeth Holmes.

All kinds of interruptions can plague big court cases, but an unusual string of mishaps has strained Judge Davila's stewardship of the monthslong trial. While keeping the complicated case moving forward, the 69-year-old judge has managed bickering spectators, a Sudoku-playing juror, the incessant clatter of journalists' keyboards and recurring technical difficulties. He's kept a calm presence that has become a signature of his 20-year judicial career, often lightening the mood with dry humor and sports references even when imposing discipline.

Eye Surgery Chain Put Profit Over Care, Some Doctors Say

They tell of push for volume at LasikPlus. Firm says care is paramount.

By MARK MAREMONT

Since the laser surgery that can fix nearsightedness was approved in the 1990s, one firm, called LasikPlus, has grown into the U.S. industry's dominant force by using low prices as a draw and vacuuming up rival players.

Along with its growth, LasikPlus has accumulated critics, including some of its own doctors, current and former, who alleged in lawsuits and interviews that they were pressured by corporate management to follow practices that they felt put the company's profits over patient care.

Some said they were expected to perform so many procedures each day they worried

they couldn't keep up. "It felt like we were in a war zone all the time," said Therese Alban, who quit LasikPlus two years ago after 15 years there, part of an exodus of about 20% of the chain's then 40 or so doctors to a rival firm or private practice.

Dr. Alban said she was comfortable operating on 28 patients a day but was pushed to do 40 to 50. She would agree to boost her volume, she said, only if sometimes find an extra four or five patients added to her schedule without her permission. Some days, she operated from early morning until 9 p.m., she said.

More than a dozen former and current LasikPlus doctors and employees echoed

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Rifts, Reversals Tangle Biden's Border Policy

By MICHELLE HACKMAN
AND TARINI PARTI

WASHINGTON—The Biden administration's immigration policy has been muddled by high-profile reversals and splits within the senior ranks, leaving the government struggling to counter a record number of migrants at the border and reliant on some Trump administration policies that President Biden pledged during his campaign to unwind.

Underlying much of the lack of cohesion is a rift at the highest levels of the administration over the broad direction immigration policy should take, said dozens of current and former administration officials, lawmakers and outside groups familiar with the government's considerations.

On one side are officials who helped shape Mr. Biden's campaign message and now

occupy several top immigration-policy jobs at the White House, the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department. Those officials said policies aimed at deterring migrants from crossing the border don't work and support overhauling the immigration system to resolve requests for asylum faster, give asylum seekers the ability to apply from their home countries and create more legal immigration pathways.

They are backed by members of the Democrats' progressive wing in Congress and immigration advocacy groups influential in the administration and the party.

On the other side are some senior advisers to the president and career border-enforcement officials who in an effort to manage record border apprehensions favor deter-

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Fusion's moment

Time to invest in the cleaner nuclear option — JOHN THORNHILL, PAGE 17

Christmas truce

Home-front woes force Johnson to hold back in EU battle — BIG READ, PAGE 15



Presidential presence

Barnier's stature puts him in the reckoning to take on Macron — PAGE 2

Chilling effect Putin warns over Ukraine

Vladimir Putin speaks to an audience of foreign policy officials yesterday where he warned that Russia would react "appropriately" to what he described as "provocative" activity by the west in Ukraine.

Russia's president said that a recent build-up of Russian troops on the border had been "noticed" by the west and was "having an effect".

But Putin added that Moscow did "not need a conflict" and was "open to contacts, an exchange of opinions, and a constructive dialogue".

Washington warned last week of an increased possibility of military intervention in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region.

Full story page 2



Spencer Platt/Getty Images

Fresh Turkey rate cut sends lira to new low and stokes inflation fears

◆ Currency down 30% this year ◆ Price growth already 20% ◆ Move mystifies economists

ADAM SAMSON — LONDON
LAURA PITEL — ANKARA

Turkey cut interest rates again yesterday, sending the lira tumbling to a record low and amplifying concerns that President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's fixation on low borrowing costs would fuel already acute inflation.

The central bank cut its one-week repo rate by 1 percentage point to 15 per cent, marking the third straight reduction in interest rates under governor Salih Kavcıoğlu from 19 per cent at the start of September. The bank said many factors behind surging consumer prices were "beyond monetary policy's control" and that it would "consider" ending its cycle of rate cuts this December.

The lira fell as much as 6 per cent, hitting 11 against the US dollar for the first

time. The currency has fallen more than 30 per cent this year as economists fret that lower interest rates will worsen inflation, with consumer price growth having already reached an annual pace of almost 20 per cent in October.

Turkey's loosening of monetary policy leaves the country as an outlier while many other emerging markets are raising rates. South Africa and Hungary yesterday raised rates. The US Federal Reserve is also reducing stimulus measures, which has placed emerging markets under more pressure to raise interest rates to attract investment.

"It's mystifying why [Turkey] would do this," said Paul McNamara, an emerging markets investor at GAM in London. He said that many of the fundamentals underlying Turkey's economy

looked appealing as it recovered from the pandemic. "The only driver for a weak lira is the policy outlook."

The Turkish central bank has been under pressure from Erdogan to loosen monetary policy despite high inflation. Lower rates — and a weaker currency — tend to increase inflation because they lift the price of imported goods.

Erdogan, who holds the unorthodox view that high interest rates cause, rather than tame, inflation, has renewed his pledge to free Turkey from the "scourge" of high rates.

"I'm sorry to our friends [from the ruling party] who defend [high] interest but I cannot and will not walk the same path as them," he said.

The central bank laid blame for elevated inflation on "transitory effects of



Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Turkey's president, holds the unorthodox view that high interest rates cause, rather than tame, inflation

supply-side factors", including high global food and energy prices, which it expected to last into the first half of next year. It said many advanced economies continued to pursue monetary policy stimulus, partially on expectations that the surge in global inflation would prove to be fleeting in the longer term.

Analysts at Barclays said Turkey had entered "uncharted waters", calling the recent rate cuts "counter-productive". Erdogan has faced mounting calls from the opposition and business to set aside his obsession with rate cuts to tame inflation and stabilise the lira.

"Now STOP, Erdogan!" Kemal Kilicdaroglu, leader of the largest opposition party, said in a tweet in response to yesterday's decision.

Day in markets page 11

Briefing

► **CVC in €4.5bn deal for Unilever tea unit**
The European buyout group has agreed to buy the business that is home to the PG Tips, Lipton and Brooke Bond brands after fending off rival private equity groups Advent and Carlyle. — PAGE 6

► **Belarus moves migrants from border**
Authorities have moved migrants away from a camp on the border with Poland in a move that could help ease a crisis that has sent relations between the EU and Minsk to historic lows. — PAGE 2

► **Brussels widens attack on Big Tech**
Legislators have reached agreement on the rules for targeting anti-competitive practices in the digital economy, which will draw more companies than thought into its Digital Markets Act. — PAGE 3

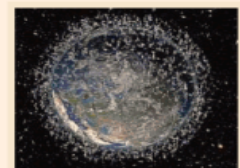
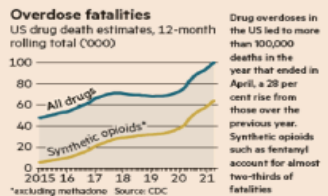
► **US 'course correction' on Asia trade**
Trade representative Katherine Tai has told the US needs to repair regional ties following its withdrawal from a Pacific trade pact under Donald Trump's presidency. — PAGE 4

► **Ex-F1 boss is third Playtech contender**
The gambling technology group has received a third approach, from a group controlled by Eddie Jordan, who is up against Playtech's second-biggest investor Gopher and Australia's Aristocrat. — PAGE 8

► **Carlyle retreat on UK 'challenger' bank**
The private equity group has pulled out of talks to buy Metro Bank, the latest blow to a lender once hailed as a challenger to the handful of lenders that dominate Britain's retail market. — PAGE 4

► **Chinese tennis star cannot be located**
Tennis bodies have said they cannot find Peng Shuai weeks after she made sexual assault claims against an ex-government official, despite publication of a message purporting to come from her. — PAGE 4

Datawatch



Russian missile test blows hole in the new space race

A Russian test of an anti-satellite missile will have repercussions for the growing space economy for years to come, experts warn. The explosion is predicted to add 1,500 pieces of large space debris and thousands of smaller bits that could still shatter a satellite. Commercial satellites will now have to track the new debris continuously and change course to avoid it. The Kremlin set off a bomb in the middle of the new space race, one observer says.

Debris cloud ► PAGE 3

Paytm's share price plunges 27% on trading debut after India's biggest IPO

BENJAMIN PARKIN — NEW DELHI
HUDSON LOCKETT — HONG KONG

Shares in Indian financial technology company Paytm fell more than a quarter on its stock market debut, wiping \$5bn off its valuation in a rout that underscored investor unease about India's largest initial public offering.

Paytm raised \$2.5bn in its IPO, giving it a valuation of \$20bn, with its largest investors Ant Group and SoftBank selling shares in the company, along with founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma.

The 11-year-old company has sold itself as India's equivalent to Chinese financial groups such as Ant, with businesses in everything from mobile payments to stock trading.

But the IPO attracted tepid investor interest, with domestic institutions including mutual funds sceptical about

its path to profitability and ability to compete with rivals such as Google.

The IPO is the most important in a string of listings by loss-making, richly valued internet start-ups in India. Shares in Zomato, the food delivery company, beauty e-commerce group Nykaa and insurance aggregator PolicyBazaar all rose from their issue price.

Paytm's performance over the coming weeks will be watched as a gauge of how far public-market investors will go to back cash-burning tech businesses on the promise of future riches. Its shares closed down 27 per cent yesterday.

Paytm was an early mover in mobile payments but has lost market share to competitors including Google and Flipkart, the Indian e-commerce company owned by Walmart.

Supporters of Paytm, which has 50m active monthly users, say the company

is well positioned to grow as fintech services become more widely adopted among Indian consumers, thanks to rising incomes and internet penetration.

But critics say it has little competitive edge. Brokerage Macquarie Research said that Paytm had "too many fingers in too many pies". It added that Paytm did not have the necessary licences to start lending, which was the most lucrative business for fintech groups.

Vasudev Jagannath, head of sales at brokerage IIFL Securities, said: "The addressable landscape is huge. The problem with fintech is that the competitive environment is becoming that much more intense."

After Paytm, a number of other companies are set to list in India in the coming months including SoftBank-backed hotel group Oyo.

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World Markets										
STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES		
	Nov 18	prev	%chg		Nov 18	prev		Nov 18	prev	
S&P 500	4598.99	4598.87	0.21	\$ per £	1.135	1.131	£ per \$	0.742	0.743	
Nasdaq Composite	15680.94	15621.57	0.37	\$ per €	1.348	1.347	€ per \$	1.198	1.191	
Dow Jones Ind	35641.99	35591.05	-0.25	¥ per €	0.842	0.840	¥ per \$	129.859	129.527	
FTSEurofirst 300	1887.71	1887.12	-0.30	₩ per \$	114.285	114.545	₹ index	82.088	81.632	
Euro Stoxx 50	4263.91	4400.81	-0.38	₹ per €	154.027	154.230	Sfr per €	1.248	1.252	
FTSE 100	7255.96	7291.20	-0.48	Sfr per \$	1.051	1.051				
FTSE All Share	4152.80	4184.77	-0.29	€ per \$	0.891	0.884				
CAC 40	7141.99	7156.95	-0.21	COMMODITIES						
Xinhua Shix	16221.73	16251.13	-0.18		Nov 18	prev	%chg		Nov 18	prev
Nikkei	25668.66	25668.33	-0.30	Oil WTI \$	79.33	77.55	1.01			
Hong Kong	25319.72	25650.08	-1.29	Oil Brent \$	81.03	80.28	0.93			
MSCI World \$	3221.03	3231.95	-0.34	Gold \$	1890.3	1884.9	-0.01			
MSCI EM \$	1289.87	1290.55	-0.29							
FTSE ACWI \$	716.35	716.86	-0.33							
								price	prev	%chg
US Gov 10 yr								149.58	1.58	-0.04
UK Gov 10 yr								0.94	-0.04	
Ger Gov 10 yr								-0.23	-0.03	
Jpn Gov 10 yr								115.26	0.98	-0.01
US Gov 30 yr								121.74	1.97	0.05
Ger Gov 2 yr								104.84	-0.75	-0.01

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Make an impact

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Belarus Clears Migrant Camp Next to Poland

**Move Eases a Standoff
That Rattled Europe**

By ANDREW HIGGINS
BRUZGI, Belarus — Belarusian authorities on Thursday cleared the encampments at the main border crossing into Poland where thousands of migrants had been living in frigid and increasingly squalid conditions, removing for the moment a major flash point that has raised tensions across Europe.

The patch of land nicknamed "the jungle" by migrants — only days ago the site of violent clashes between asylum-seekers trying to push through the razor wire and Polish security forces blasting them with water cannons — quickly became a wasteland of garbage, abandoned tents and smoldering fires.

The clearing of the camps eased the immediate suffering of the migrants who had been living in the open air in miserable conditions, as they were moved by Belarusian authorities into a giant warehouse. And it took pressure off a border that the European Union had been watching with growing alarm, fearing that it would be breached by a new wave of migrants, even if Western leaders — and Poland — are skeptical that the volatile standoff is drawing to a close.

The situation also left the Belarusian president, Aleksandr G. Lukashenko, with a troubling dilemma: what to do with all the people he lured to Belarus but who, blocked from entering Europe, are fast becoming a heavy burden on his own country?

Zana Ahmed, a 26-year-old Iraqi Kurd who spent around \$5,000 to get to the border with Poland, just yards from making it into the European Union, welcomed to stay in Belarus "until I die" unless he somehow gained entry to Europe.

Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany has taken the lead in trying to find a diplomatic way out of the crisis, talking with Mr. Lukashenko, but has given no hint that she would repeat the welcome offer she made to migrants in 2015, when more than a million people poured into Germany.

On Thursday, escorted by Belarusian guards wearing black balaclavas and carrying Kalashnikov rifles, a bedraggled procession of migrants trudged away from the

Continued on Page A8



JAMES HILL FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Migrants leaving an increasingly squalid border encampment in Belarus on Thursday for shelter in a giant warehouse nearby.

Wuhan Vendor Is Suspected as First Covid Case

This article is by Carl Zimmer, Benjamin Mueller and Chris Buckley.

A scientist who has pored over public accounts of early Covid-19 cases in China reported on Thursday that an influential World Health Organization inquiry had most likely gotten the early chronology of the pandemic wrong. The new analysis suggests that the first known patient sickened with the coronavirus was a vendor in a large Wuhan animal market, not an accountant who lived many miles from it.

The report, published on Thursday in the prestigious journal Science, will revive, though certainly not settle, the debate over whether the pandemic started with a spillover from wildlife sold at the market, a leak from a Wuhan virology lab or some other way. The search for the origins of the greatest public health catastrophe in a century has fueled geopolitical battles, with few new facts emerging in recent months to resolve the question.

The scientist, Michael Worobey of the University of Arizona, a leading expert in tracing the evolution of viruses, came upon time-

A Scientist's Detective Work Doesn't Quiet the Origin Debate

line discrepancies by combing through what had already been made public in medical journals, as well as video interviews in a Chinese news outlet with people believed to have the first two documented infections.

Dr. Worobey argues that the vendor's ties to the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, as well as a new analysis of the earliest hospitalized patients' connections to the market, strongly suggest that the pandemic began there.

"In this city of 11 million people, half of the early cases are linked to a place that's the size of a soccer field," Dr. Worobey said. "It becomes very difficult to explain that pattern if the outbreak didn't start at the market."

Several experts, including one of the pandemic investigators

chosen by the W.H.O., said that Dr. Worobey's detective work was sound and that the first known case of Covid was most likely a seafood vendor.

But some of them also said the evidence was still insufficient to decisively settle the larger question of how the pandemic began. They suggested that the virus probably infected a "patient zero" sometime before the vendor's case and then reached critical mass to spread widely at the market. Studies of changes in the virus's genome — including one done by Dr. Worobey himself — have suggested that the first infection happened in roughly mid-November 2019, weeks before the vendor got sick.

"I don't disagree with the analysis," said Jesse Bloom, a virologist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. "But I don't agree that any of the data are strong enough or complete enough to say anything very confidently, other than that the Huanan Seafood Market was clearly a super-spreading event."

Dr. Bloom also noted that this was not the first time the W.H.O.

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In Oklahoma, Execution Stay After an Outcry

This article is by Michael Levenson, Maria Cramer and Simon Romero.

Gov. Kevin Stitt of Oklahoma called off the execution of a death-row inmate just hours before the man was scheduled to die by lethal injection on Thursday, culminating an extraordinary campaign for clemency that drew in celebrities, his fellow conservatives and Christian leaders.

Mr. Stitt, a Republican and death-penalty supporter, announced that, after "prayerful consideration," he had reduced the death sentence for the inmate, Julius Jones, 41, who was convicted of first-degree murder in 2002, to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Mr. Jones and his supporters insisted he was not guilty, and a state board voted twice to recommend that he be made eligible for parole.

The case had become a flashpoint in the broader debate over the death penalty. Mr. Jones was scheduled to be executed less than a month after another death-row inmate in Oklahoma, John Marion Grant, vomited and shook for several minutes as he died by lethal injection on Oct. 28.

That execution, the state's first since a halt was called in 2015, fueled criticism that its methods amounted to unconstitutional cruelty. Mr. Grant was put to death a few hours after the United States

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BUDGET ANALYSTS SEE SPENDING BILL ADDING TO DEFICIT

DEMOCRATS PRESSING ON

Forecast Contrasts With
President's Pledge on
Safety Net Plan

This article is by Jim Tankersley, Alan Rappeport and Emily Cochrane.

WASHINGTON — The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said on Thursday that President Biden's sprawling climate change and social policy package would increase the federal budget deficit by \$160 billion over the next 10 years.

That determination was at odds with Mr. Biden's pledge to fully pay for the \$1.85 trillion legislation but was unlikely to stop House Democrats from approving the bill.

The budget office's analysis found that the bill's tax cuts and spending programs were almost — but not entirely — offset by new revenue and spending cuts. The package would be largely paid for with tax increases on high earners and corporations, which were estimated to bring in nearly \$1.5 trillion over 10 years. Savings in government spending on prescription



SARAHETHA KANEY/THE NEW YORK TIMES
Speaker Nancy Pelosi pushed for passage on Thursday.

drugs were estimated to bring in another \$260 billion.

The fact that the bill could slightly add to the federal deficit over the next 10 years was unlikely to dissuade House lawmakers from proceeding to vote for the bill, in part because the analysis boiled down to a dispute over a single line item: how much the Internal Revenue Service would collect by cracking down on people and companies that dodge large tax bills.

The budget office predicted that the total impact on the federal deficit from the bill would be \$367 billion over 10 years. But that estimate did not include the \$207 billion in additional revenues the office estimates the I.R.S. would ultimately collect from tax cheats. Those revenues would shrink the projected deficit to \$160 billion over 10 years.

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Exonerations in Malcolm X's Death Are Official but 'Bittersweet'

This article is by Jonah E. Bromwich, Ashley Southall and Troy Closson.

Muhammad A. Aziz stood up in a New York City courtroom on Thursday, 55 years after he and two other men were found guilty of murdering Malcolm X, and began to speak.

Minutes later, he would walk out of the courtroom an innocent man in the eyes of the law, his conviction in the assassination of one of the most influential Black leaders of the civil rights era overturned by a judge. But first he addressed a silent room.

"I do not need this court, these prosecutors or a piece of paper to tell me I am innocent," he said in a stern voice that did not shake or falter. "I am an 83-year-old man who was victimized by the criminal justice system."

Mr. Aziz and his co-defendant, Khalil Islam, were exonerated on Thursday after a review initiated by the Manhattan district attorney, Cyrus R. Vance Jr., found that they had not received a fair trial. The investigation found that evidence pointing toward their innocence had been withheld by some of the country's most prominent law enforcement agencies, and



TOOD HESLER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Muhammad A. Aziz, walking out of the courthouse, said he had suffered "immeasurable harm."

that at least some information was suppressed on the order of the longtime director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, J. Edgar Hoover.

But Mr. Aziz, his lawyers and

two of Mr. Islam's sons made it clear on Thursday that they did not think it was a day for celebration, but a moment that reflected a profound injustice administered a half-century earlier in the same

courthouse.

"I hope the same system that was responsible for this travesty of justice also takes responsibility for the immeasurable harm it

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Chinese Tennis Star Vanishes, And World Demands Answers

By ALEXANDRA STEVENSON and STEVEN LEE MYERS

First came the shocking #MeToo accusation by a famous tennis player against one of China's top leaders. Then came the accuser's disappearance from public view, one so thorough that questions swirled about her health and personal safety.

The authorities in China had hoped the apparatus of a repressive state could simply make the whole thing go away. Instead, the accusation by the tennis player, Peng Shuai, that she was sexually assaulted by a former vice premier, Zhang Gaoli, continues to confront the political establish-

ment as few things have.

The latest pushback on China's effort to squelch the accusation came early on Thursday after Chinese state media tried to refute it, while saying Ms. Peng was safe and sound. It published an email purportedly written by Ms. Peng, saying the sexual assault accusations were not true and asking for officials who run women's tennis to stop meddling.

The response by the Women's Tennis Association was unequivocal, suggesting that the email was very likely a crude fraud. "I have a

Continued on Page A11



INTERNATIONAL A4-11

The Hat That Started a Quest
An Australian's journey to Central Asia to explore her Uyghur roots all began with an embroidered skullcap. PAGE A11

North Americans Play Nice

The leaders of the U.S., Canada and Mexico avoided thorny issues at the first summit after a five-year hiatus. PAGE A9

NATIONAL A12-20

Term Limits for the Court

The president's Supreme Court commission shows more interest in having term limits imposed for justices than in expanding the court. PAGE A20

New Search for Hoffa's Body

F.B.I. agents surveyed a Jersey City landfill, prompted by the deathbed statement of a man who said he had buried the ex-Teamsters chief. PAGE A19

Florida Enacts Virus Rollbacks

At the request of Gov. Ron DeSantis, lawmakers curtailed mask and vaccine mandates, as part of the G.O.P.'s push to curb public health measures. PAGE A13

BUSINESS B1-6

Going the Way of Sweatpants

"Stay at home" stocks like Peloton and Zoom were Wall Street darlings at the height of the pandemic. Now comes the reckoning from investors. PAGE B1

Judge Curbs Times Coverage

An order restricting the publication of materials tied to Project Veritas raised First Amendment concerns. PAGE B3

OBITUARIES A21, B12

Maestro of Saturday Mornings

Dave Frishberg, 88, a pianist and witty songwriter, reached his largest audience on "Schoolhouse Rock!" PAGE A21

WEEKEND ARTS C1-20

Adele Explores Deep Emotions

The singer's sometimes theatrical fourth album deals with divorce, drinking, guilt and moving on. A review. PAGE C1

'King Richard' Holds Court

Will Smith and Aunjanue Ellis play the parents of Venus and Serena Williams in a dramatic new sports film. PAGE C6

SPORTS B8-11

Suiting Up for a Broken Nation

Afghanistan played Indonesia this week in a soccer match that was a show of resilience and national pride. PAGE B8

Quiet Octobers for the M.V.P.s

Neither Shobeh Ohtani nor Bryce Harper reached the playoffs, but they were still at the top of their game. PAGE B10

OPINION A22-23

Linda Greenhouse

PAGE A23



UC ends its use of exams for entry

The system adopts test-free admission after finding no unbiased alternative to the SAT.

By TERESA WATANABE

The University of California has slammed the door on using any standardized test for admissions decisions, announcing Thursday that faculty could find no alternative exam that would avoid the biased results that led leaders to scrap the SAT last year.

UC Provost Michael Brown declared the end of testing for admissions decisions at a Board of Regents meeting, putting a conclusive end to more than three years of research and debate in the nation's premier public university system on whether standardized testing does more harm than good when assessing applicants for admission.

"UC will continue to practice test-free admissions now and into the future," Brown said to the regents, during a discussion about a possible alternative to the SAT and ACT tests.

Testing supporters argue that standardized assessments provide a uniform measure to predict the college performance of students from varied schools and backgrounds. But UC ultimately embraced opposing arguments that high school grades are a better tool without the biases based on race, income and parent education levels found in tests.

Given UC's size and influence, the prolonged debate was closely followed nationally as a harbinger of the future of standardized testing in admissions. Its decision [See Testing, A7]



TERRELL TILFORD owns Band of Vices, an art gallery in the South L.A. neighborhood of West Adams.

Art gallery backlash

A Black man opened Band of Vices in West Adams to support visual artists. Vandals branded him as a gentrifier.

By DONOVAN X. RAMSEY

Terrell Tilford likes strolling the streets around his art gallery, Band of Vices. As West Adams rapidly changes, walking lets him check in on his neighbors.

He'll exchange waves with the guys at Tak Collision, the autobody shop across the street, or rap for a while with the staff at Delicious Pizza one block over. He'll hit up Vees Cafe for its breakfast burritos and browse the selection at Adams Wine Shop.

Last month, Tilford, 52, was headed back from a quick stroll for milk when he stopped dead in his tracks. On one side of Band of Vices' bright pink building, someone had spray-painted — in big black letters: "What's all this white people s—!!!"

The paint hadn't even dried yet. Seen by some activists as van- [See Gallery, A9]



WHEN FRUSTRATED vandals targeted Tilford's gallery, "I just couldn't believe it," he says. "It felt like an immediate assault."

House poised to pass Biden package

McCarthy speaks for hours to delay a vote on major climate and social spending bill.

By JENNIFER HABERKORN

WASHINGTON — House Democrats plan to approve their sweeping measure Friday to strengthen the nation's social safety net programs and begin to respond to the climate crisis, a sorely needed show of progress for President Biden's legislative agenda even as it faces more hurdles.

Their attempt to pass the bill late Thursday was foiled by House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield), who held control of the House floor for more than three hours before Democratic leaders rescheduled voting for Friday morning.

Democrats appeared to have enough support to pass the package once the House is able to vote, leaving little suspense as to the outcome.

McCarthy used his speech to attack the bill, previewing his party's midterm election messaging.

"For the first time in the country," he said, "this generation doesn't believe they'll be better off than the generation before them. This bill almost guarantees it. They're guaranteed they're going to have to pay more and get less."

McCarthy began his speech around 8:30 p.m. As a congressional leader, he was able to hold the floor so long as he kept speaking continuously. He was still speaking at 1:30 a.m. Friday.

A senior Democratic aide [See House, A12]



PENG SHUAI, shown in 2020, accused a powerful Communist official of sexual assault. She has faced retribution that has many questioning her whereabouts.

Chinese #MeToo moment deepens into a mystery

Questions grow about state power and human rights after tennis star accuses official of sex assault.

By ALICE SU

BEIJING — What began as a confrontation between feminism and authoritarianism within China has evolved into a wider sports and human rights showdown as the tennis world takes a stand for Peng Shuai, a Chinese player who

accused a Communist Party leader of sexual abuse and has since vanished from public view.

It is a case that touches on the most sensitive topic in China: abuse of power by Communist Party leaders. It also comes as Beijing prepares to host the Winter Olympics in February amid international calls for a boycott over China's human rights violations.

Peng, 35 — a former world No. 1 player in doubles, with Wimbledon and French Open titles to her credit — accused former Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli, 75, of pressuring her into sex 10

years ago when he was the party chief of Tianjin, a port city near Beijing, and then again three years ago after he had retired. Zhang forced himself on her on that occasion in his bedroom while his wife stood guard outside. Peng wrote in a Weibo post Nov. 2 that was deleted by censors within half an hour.

"I did not consent at first. ... I cried the whole time. ... I said yes because I was scared," Peng wrote. She had no proof of Zhang's assault, because his power was overwhelming — "the world is a plaything to you," she said — and he had prevented [See China, A4]

As Thanksgiving air travel surges, will virus follow?

By HAYLEY SMITH AND ALEJANDRA REYES-VELARDE

The sea of Thanksgiving travelers was already beginning to swell at Los Angeles International Airport on Thursday, as crowds of people snaked through check-in lines, waited for bags and piled along the curb.

Airport staff made periodic announcements about COVID-19 guidelines, at times calling out travelers who weren't wearing masks: "You're almost there, all the way up, nose, mouth and chin," one said over the loud-speaker.

Thanksgiving is shaping up to be the busiest travel moment since the beginning of the pandemic as people try to reconnect with friends and loved ones. This holiday, an estimated 2 million people are expected to travel through LAX, double the number from last year but still a million fewer than in 2019, according to Heath Montgomery, spokesman for LAX.

But the growing crowds also bring new coronavirus dangers. Although cases in California are trending down, officials remain worried about a potential winter surge as cold weather sends more people indoors and

holiday travel rebounds.

"This virus, this disease, is not taking the winter off," Gov. Gavin Newsom said this week, noting that people should anticipate an increase in COVID-19 cases due to "an increase in potential stress on our system."

"I don't say that to alarm people. I don't say that for [See Travel, A7]

14 children get a double dose

Experts see no lasting harm after vaccine mix-up discomforts kids and parents. CALIFORNIA, B1

Malcolm X case revisited

A New York City judge has exonerated two of the men found guilty in the 1965 assassination of the civil rights icon. NATION, A6

Sobering statistic amid pandemic

California hits 5 million coronavirus cases, but there are signs of progress. CALIFORNIA, B1

Weather Partly sunny, cool. L.A. Basin: 70/53. B6



JAYNE KAMIN-ONCEA Getty Images

UNANIMOUS MVP

Angels pitcher-designated hitter Shohei Ohtani wins American League's top award. SPORTS, B10

BUSINESS INSIDE: Wells Fargo found another way to nickel-and-dime, Lazarus writes. A8

The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

SU V1 V2 V3 V4

Mostly sunny 49/32 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny 50/37 BS

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2021 • \$2



Supporters of Julius Jones rejoice after Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt commuted his death sentence to life in prison. Jones has maintained his innocence for two decades, and his case garnered support from athlete Baker Mayfield and celebrity Kim Kardashian West.

NICK OXFORD/REUTERS

With just hours left, a life spared

Amid a widespread outcry, Oklahoma governor halts the execution of Julius Jones in 1999 murder

BY KIM BELLWARE

Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt (R) stepped in Thursday just hours before the scheduled execution of Julius Jones, a 41-year-old who had maintained his innocence for two decades in the murder of a suburban businessman. Stitt commuted the death sentence to life in prison in a case that had drawn widespread interest from celebrities, politicians and advocates.

"After prayerful consideration and reviewing materials presented by all sides of this case, I have determined to commute

Julius Jones's sentence to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole," Stitt said in a statement.

Jones's supporters erupted in cheers inside the Oklahoma Capitol and outside the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester when Stitt's clemency decision emerged just after midday. Jones's sister, Antoinette, was outside the prison where she cried and exchanged hugs with people as they absorbed the news.

Jones's parents remained at home where they watched the news and waited for word. When they saw Jones's sentence had been

commuted, his mother, Madeline, broke into a "praise dance," according to Jimmy Lawson, Jones's best friend from childhood.

"If you could see a boulder lift off someone's shoulders, that's what it looked like for Mama Jones," Lawson told The Washington Post. "For today, it was life or death. This is amazing."

Jones's claims that a former friend committed the murder and implicated him were featured in the 2018 ABC documentary "The Last Defense." The series broadened awareness of the case and drew high-profile

SEE CLEMENCY ON A10

Vote nears on \$2 trillion Biden spending plan

MCCARTHY'S SPEECH DELAYS HOUSE TALLY

Passage still would leave tough road in Senate

BY TONY ROMM

House Democrats late Thursday appeared on track to adopt a sprawling, more than \$2 trillion package to overhaul the country's health care, education, climate, immigration and tax laws, even as Republicans sought to delay the vote on a central piece of President Biden's economic agenda.

The push by Democrats marked a stark turn for their party after months of intense internal wrangling, reflecting the growing sense of accord among

liberals and moderates over the once-contentious spending bill. The bill's passage would notch another major milestone for Biden just days after he signed into law a separate effort to invest \$1.2 trillion in the nation's infrastructure.

Democrats initially hoped to adopt the measure swiftly. But House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) took to the floor in the evening to deliver a marathon speech that had the effect of delaying the vote. McCarthy used the address to attack Democrats over a broad range of issues, including border security and Afghanistan policy — prompting jeers from Democrats, some of whom left as he spoke.

"Why don't we pass a bill to honor our Border Patrol agents?" McCarthy railed at one point as

SEE SPENDING ON A18

Hundreds of Iraqis are sent home from Belarus

BY ISABELLE KHURSHUDYAN

MOSCOW — More than 400 Iraqis were flown home Thursday from Belarus after unsuccessful attempts to enter the European Union at the border with Poland, where thousands of migrants have been stranded in perilous conditions.

The special repatriation flight marked a first step in possibly easing Belarus's pressure campaign against the E.U. by opening routes for migrants from the Middle East and elsewhere as retaliation

for E.U. sanctions. The government of President Alexander Lukashenko has cleared many migrants from the border with E.U. member Poland but is now struggling over what to do with them next.

About 7,000 migrants remain in Belarus, 2,000 of whom were at a camp on the border, Natalia Eismont, a spokeswoman for Lukashenko, said in a video published on a pro-government Telegram channel.

Lukashenko has proposed to

SEE BELARUS ON A13

At Unite the Right trial, jurors parse slang of hate

Jokey 'insider' rhetoric is designed to obfuscate darker intent, experts say

BY ELLIE SILVERMAN

CHARLOTTESVILLE — The jury in a federal courtroom listened as a longtime researcher of far-right movements parsed the style guide of the infamous neo-Nazi website the Daily Stormer.

"The tone of the site should be light. Most people are not comfortable with material that comes across as vitriolic, raging, non-ironic hatred. The unindoctrinated should not be able to tell if we are joking or not," according to a guide section titled "Lulz" — which stands for "laugh out loud." Continuing with a derogatory term for Jews, it read, "This is obviously a play and I actually do

SEE CHARLOTTESVILLE ON A22

She moved out of her own home to escape her unvaccinated daughter. Then they had to confront an unexpected loss.

A family torn apart by the vaccine divide faces a new crisis

BY PETER JAMISON



MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Tensions have been high between Laurel Haught, left, and daughter Sam Haught, who refuses to get vaccinated. Laurel moved out after failing to persuade her to get the shot.

LAKE CHAWEVA, W.Va. — Her text messages with links to medical research had gone unanswered. Her halting pleas at the kitchen table had failed. And by the time Laurel Haught pulled into her driveway to find her daughter Sam's car newly adorned with an Infowars bumper sticker, she could only conclude that her campaign to persuade her child to get the coronavirus vaccine was going nowhere.

Laurel was vaccinated. Sam was not. They lived together, along with Laurel's vaccinated husband and Sam's unvaccinated boyfriend, in a tumbledown chalet above an artificial lake outside Charleston. It was a home with creaking floorboards, bulging photo albums and a fireplace that had burned through three decades of Thanksgiving nights and Christmas mornings. It was a home the Haughts had always cherished, and it was about to

SEE FAMILY ON A8

Article on virus origin boosts focus on market

BY JOEL ACHENBACH

The location of early coronavirus infections in late 2019 in Wuhan, China, suggests the virus probably spread to humans from a market where wild and domesticated farmed animals were sold and butchered, according to a peer-reviewed article published Thursday in the journal Science.

The article, by University of Arizona evolutionary virologist Michael Worobey — a specialist in the origins of viral epidemics — does not purport to answer all questions about the pandemic's origins, nor is it likely to quell speculation that the virus might have emerged somehow from risky laboratory research.

Worobey has been open to the theory of a lab leak. He was one of the 18 scientists who wrote a much-publicized letter to Science

SEE VIRUS ON A6

IN THE NEWS



SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

Names are cleared A judge dismissed the murder convictions of two men who served years in prison in Malcolm X's slaying. A3

Digital Black history The National Museum of African American History and Culture has launched an interactive online display. B1

THE NATION

Donald Trump backed Rep. Paul A. Gosar (R-Ariz.) for reelection after the congressman's censure over a violent animated video. A2

The former commanding general of the D.C. National Guard said a report that Army leaders had to tell him twice to send troops during the Jan. 6 riot is false. A3

The man who shot and killed Ahmaud Arbery wrapped up his testimony claiming self-defense, with closing arguments next week. A4

The judge in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial

banned MSNBC from the courthouse after a report that a journalist was following the jury transport van. A4

President Biden met with the leaders of Mexico and Canada to rebuild relations, but major points of contention remain. A22

THE WORLD

A decision by a French dictionary to recognize the gender-neutral pronoun "iel" has some politicians crying "Sacré bleu!" A11

Recent outreach to Syria from its Arab neighbors has furthered

the sense that the country's isolation could be coming to an end. A12

THE ECONOMY

High-speed rail projects are struggling to get off the ground despite their allure and large investments in transit infrastructure. A14

Amid the global semiconductor chip shortage and decreased auto production, Ford Motor Co. has partnered with a New York state-based firm to create more. A16

Two Iranian men accused of a hacking and disinformation campaign ahead of the 2020 presidential election were indicted by the Justice Department. A17

THE REGION

Closing arguments concluded in the civil case seeking millions in damages from organizers of 2017's deadly Unite the Right rally. B1

A new order in Virginia requires agencies to consult with Indian tribes before making decisions that affect land, waterways and other natural sites. B1

Maryland motorists will have new tolls after officials approved final rates for express lanes on the Capital Beltway and Interstate 270. B1

A resident of Maryland tested positive for monkeypox, a viral illness, after a visit to Nigeria, health officials said. B4

INSIDE



WEEKEND

A birria breakout The Mexican dish was an Instagram darling during the pandemic, but these D.C. restaurants show it's more than a passing fad.

STYLE

A covid grand slam This couple fell in love, moved in, had a child and got engaged — all during a year of pandemic tumult. C1

BUSINESS NEWS	A14
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LOTTERIES	B3
OBITUARIES	B6
TELEVISION	C6
WORLD NEWS	A11

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Abuso: tienen 85 y 18 años y lograron romper el silencio

En el Día para la Prevención del Abuso en la Infancia y Adolescencia, Sofía Rubino (18) y Vera Iuguenburg (85) buscan visibilizar un problema más frecuente de lo que se cree. Comunidad, página 23



KLEMM Y NUREYEV, UNIDOS POR UNA EXCÉNTRICA PIEZA

—cultura

El artista plástico había comprado en una subasta varios objetos del genial bailarín, como un traje de piel de pitón; se exponen en la Fundación Klemm. Página 24

PROMETE SER UN ÉXITO EN LA COSTA EL ÚLTIMO FIN DE SEMANA LARGO

—coronavirus

Las reservas llegan hasta el 90% en Mar del Plata y Pinamar, y a poco menos en Cariló; podría crecer con los arribos espontáneos; esperan altas temperaturas. Página 20

LA NACION

VIERNES 19 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

Admiten que el impuesto a los envases tendrá un fuerte impacto en la inflación

CONGRESO. La tasa impulsada por el Frente de Todos sumaría 3 puntos al índice de precios

El proyecto de ley de envases, impulsado por el Frente de Todos—que incluye una nueva tasa que pagarán las empresas—, recibió ayer un fuerte rechazo de parte del sector privado, mientras que analistas, cámaras empresarias e incluso en el mismo Gobierno admitieron que tendrá un impacto en la inflación.

En la Coordinadora de las Industrias de Productos Alimenticios (Copal), que ayer rechazó la propuesta de crear una tasa, sugirieron que podría sumar hasta 3 puntos al nivel de precios. En el bloque del Frente de Todos en Diputados estimaban que ese impacto sería menor al 0,8% de la canasta básica. Por otra parte,

fuentes privadas indicaron que la recaudación por el futuro tributo podría llegar hasta \$300.000 millones, cifra rechazada por el Gobierno.

La Cámara de Comercio de Estados Unidos (AmCham) calificó el proyecto de “anacrónico” y alertó sobre la mayor presión impositiva. Página 14

SUBE LA CARNE

Los carniceros advierten que el aumento de la media res llega al 25% y se trasladará al mostrador. Página 15

La Corte Suprema condenó y multó a Santa Cruz

FALLO. Rechazó una ley de la gobernación de Néstor Kirchner

La Corte Suprema declaró inconstitucional una ley ambiental dictada en Santa Cruz cuando Néstor Kirchner era gobernador. Lo hizo con los votos de Horacio Rosatti, Carlos Rosenkrantz y Juan Carlos Maqueda, y la abstención de Ricardo Lorenzetti. La provincia fue condenada a pagarles una indemnización a los demandantes, dueños de terrenos en Lago Argentino. Página 13

Espionaje ilegal: la Cámara de Mar del Plata ratificó al juez Bava

Página 12

EL ESCENARIO

Claudio Jacquelin

El peligroso juego de Fernández

Página 7

Capitanich pidió regular la actividad de los medios

LEY. Tras la derrota a nivel nacional del oficialismo, el gobernador de Chaco, el kirchnerista Jorge Capitanich, pidió “regular a los medios” porque “la gente piensa lo que los periodistas proponen”. Capitanich dijo que están “permeando” a los votantes oficialistas y, por eso, pidió limitarlos. Página 9

Covid: habrían identificado al paciente cero

REVISIÓN. Un científico apunta a una puestera de un mercado chino

Página 21



Amigos y familiares de Lucas González, al recibir ayer la noticia de su muerte en el Hospital El Cruce, en Florencia Varela

FABIÁN MARELLI

Investigan a tres policías porteños por la muerte del joven futbolista de Barracas

SOSPECHAS. Lucas González tenía 17 años y sus familiares aseguran que se trató de un caso de “gatillo fácil”

La Justicia investiga la actuación de tres policías porteños tras la muerte de Lucas González, el joven de 17 años que formaba parte de las divisiones juveniles de Barracas Central. El adolescente falleció ayer en el Hospital El Cruce, en Florencia Varela, tras recibir un día antes dos disparos en la cabeza cuando agen-

tes de una brigada de prevención de la Policía de la Ciudad, que se movilizaban en un vehículo sin identificación y que no portaban uniforme, buscaron identificar a cuatro jóvenes en el barrio de Barracas, donde ayer hubo una manifestación.

Los familiares de la víctima afirmaron que se trató de un caso de “ga-

tillo fácil”. El Ministerio de Justicia y Seguridad porteño pasó a disponibilidad a los efectivos involucrados en el hecho. El caso tuvo fuertes repercusiones políticas y tanto el presidente Alberto Fernández como el jefe de gobierno porteño, Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, criticaron la actuación de los policías. Página 26

EL ESCENARIO

El miedo al delito, abusos y armas

Fernando Rodríguez

Página 28

Reajuste a servidor deve ser barrado, dizem aliados

A avaliação de líderes aliados do presidente Jair Bolsonaro é que o Congresso deverá atuar contra um amplo reajuste salarial a servidores federais —principalmente se a medida exigir uma redução ainda maior no valor a ser destinado a emendas parlamentares e a despesas na área social no ano eleitoral de 2022. Mercado A15

Pequena indústria espera melhora, mas sob incertezas

Mercado A16

Aproximação de Lula incomoda círculo de Alckmin

A aproximação proposta por PT e PSB a Geraldo Alckmin —sugerindo que o tucano poderia ser vice do ex-presidente Lula na eleição de 2022— tem gerado insatisfação entre aliados potenciais do ex-governador paulista. Poder A4

Campanha terá calça apertada, afirma Dória

À Folha o governador paulista (PSDB) minimiza rejeição e diz que sua campanha terá "calça apertada, coxinha e pastel". A6

PAINEL

PF intima Olavo de Carvalho, que sai do país à francesa

Guru do bolsonarismo, Olavo de Carvalho deixou o Brasil após a PF intimá-lo, no dia 9, a depor sobre uma milícia digital voltada contra a democracia. Em vídeo na terça (16), já nos EUA, disse ter saído "de forma repentina". PAINEL A4

Esporte B6

Pâmela Rosa reaviva sonho de medalha olímpica após bi no Mundial de skate

Ilustrada C6

Margaret Atwood, Alice Walker e Conceição Evaristo estarão no Flip 2021

Ilustrada C1

Ante intolerância, religiões de matriz africana inspiram livros de fantasia

Guia C12

Veja restaurantes em São Paulo com pratos marcados pela cultura africana



Zanone Fraissat/Folhapress

GRANDE SP TEM OPERAÇÃO DE GUERRA CONTRA A DENGUE

Agente da Secretaria Municipal da Saúde paulistana combate larvas do mosquito em pátio de carros abandonados no Jaçanã (zona norte); capital registra alta da doença Cotidiano B2

Covid elevou registros de mortes no Brasil em 15%

Salto se refere a 2020, quando ao menos 194.976 pessoas morreram devido à doença; nascimentos caíram

Impulsionado pela pandemia de Covid, o total de mortes registradas no Brasil cresceu 14,9% em 2020, um salto de quase 196 mil óbitos em relação ao ano anterior, quando o aumento fora de 2,6%, mostra a pesquisa anual Estatística de Registros Cíveis 2020, divulgada ontem pelo IBGE com base em dados de cartórios, tabelionatos e varas.

Segundo o consórcio de veículos de imprensa, do qual a Folha faz parte e que compila os números das secretarias estaduais da Saúde, ao menos 194.976 pessoas morreram no país no ano passado em decorrência do novo coronavírus.

A alta se deu em todas as faixas etárias, exceto naquela de 0 a 14 anos.

No grupo de crianças e adolescentes até essa idade, houve recuo de 15%, segundo o IBGE. Em parte, a queda ocorreu porque o total de nascimentos encolheu 4,7% no ano, o que afeta o índice de mortalidade infantil.

O documento nota, contudo, que o período de quarentena na pandemia pode ter inibido novos pais de registrarem seus bebês imediatamente. As mesmas regras de confinamento, que impediram aglomerações, também levaram os casamentos a despencarem 26% em relação a 2019. O instituto não divulgou ainda o número de divórcios. Saúde B1

Anvisa questiona Saúde sobre reforço a todos os adultos e Janssen B2

A pandemia em 18.nov Dados das 20h

POPULAÇÃO VACINADA

No Brasil	
Ao menos uma dose (dose única ou 1ª dose)	76,0%
1ª ciclo vacinal completo (dose única ou 2ª dose)	59,7%
Dose de reforço	6,2%

ESTÁGIO DA DOENÇA

Óbitos	
Média móvel	Em 24h 279
265	16,6%*
Casos	↓ -4,8%* (desacelerado)
	*Variação em relação a 14 dias
Total	612.177

Diplomatas negros veem mais diversidade, mas racismo velado

Funcionários negros do Itamaraty relatam avanço na tentativa de diminuir a desproporção de brancos, mas ainda observam práticas decorrentes de racismo estrutural. Ministério diz condenar qualquer discriminação. Mundo A14

Influenciadoras fazem sucesso ao debater questões raciais A22

PAINEL S.A.

Criticada, XP vai lançar programa de trainee voltado a pessoas negras

Mercado A16

EDITORIAIS A2

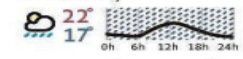
Mais saneamento
Acerca de sinais de investimentos após novo marco.
Europa em teste
Sobre conflitos do mundo ocidental com a Rússia.

Djamila Ribeiro Invisibilizados pela história no Brasil

A ancestralidade negra que construiu este país, junto à indígena, deve ser sempre saudada. Livros que as honram são a prevalência da justiça neste país de memórias a partir de uma historiografia branca. Ilustrada C10

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



	Hoje	Amanhã
Rio	21 26	20 24
Brasília	19 26	19 27
Ribeirão	20 24	19 27

Fonte: www.climatempo.com.br



Brasileira e senegalesa, Fatou Ndiaye, 16, faz conteúdo digital sobre diversidade Tércio Teixeira/Folhapress



Operación fue tras compra simulada de investigadores privados de la UIP

Desbaratan red que distribuía contrabando de puerta en puerta

- Allanan transportadora en Ciudad del Este y Encarnación
- Los productos en cuestión serían también falsificados
- Están en la mira venta de calzados y prendas de vestir

Procedimientos. Investigadores realizaron ayer allanamientos en CDE y Encarnación sobre un esquema que vendía y entregaba a domicilio productos brasileños. **PÁGINA 14**



DANIELA MORALES

Black Friday 2021
Faltan 7 DÍAS

El primer anillo de Giuzzio genera tensión con la Policía

PÁGINA 50

Pacientes del Ineram son todos no vacunados

PÁGINA 4

Una Expo para fanáticos de motos



Novedosa. La Expo Motos se inició ayer en el Shopping Mariscal. Irá hasta el domingo. Organizan Última Hora y la Cadam. **PÁGINA 18**

DANIELA MORALES

CON ESTA EDICIÓN

CURSO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y
PONTIFICADO DE ASES
SOCIALIZADO 10



COMPRA OPCIONAL



MOTOS DE
COMPTON?
G. 40.000

Junta aprobó adenda para el 2022
Nenecho dispondrá de G. 25.000 millones para repartir en salarios

PÁGINA 21

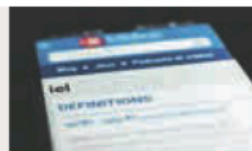
UNA INDESTRUCTIBLE SIEMPRE DESPIERTA TU LADO INDESTRUCTIBLE

TOYOTA
TOYOTA
TOYOTA



ADELE
LE GRAND RETOUR
DE LA STAR BRITANNIQUE
DE LA CHANSON **PAGE 34**

LANGUE FRANÇAISE
LE « PRONOM IEL », NOUVEAU
COMBAT DES MILITANTS
DE L'ÉCRITURE INCLUSIVE **PAGE 21**



ESPIONNAGE
« Wagnergate » :
comment Kiev
a piégé et tenté
d'arrêter
33 mercenaires
russe **PAGE 10**

ALLEMAGNE
Première crise pour
le futur chancelier
Olaf Scholz
PAGE 12

SÉCURITÉ
La Cour
des comptes
épingle la police
PAGE 17

FINANCE
2021, l'année
de tous les records
pour le capital-
investissement
PAGE 26

INDUSTRIE
L'aciérie Ascoval
au cœur d'une
nouvelle bataille
politique
PAGE 29

MARCHÉ DE L'ART
La surenchère
des ventes
aux enchères
à New York
PAGE 35

CHAMPS LIBRES
• Les tribunes
de Franz-
Olivier
Giesbert,
de Pierre
Steinmetz et
du professeur
Emmanuel
Sapin
• Le bloc-notes
d'Ivan Rioufol
PAGES 22 ET 23

**FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NON**

**Réponses à la question
de jeudi :**
Craignez-vous un retour
durable de l'inflation ?

OUI 78 % NON 22 %

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 26707

**Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr**

Approuvez-vous
l'introduction
du pronom « iel »
dans le dictionnaire ?

FERRARI / STARFACE : ADRIEN FILLON /
HANS LUCAS VIA REUTERS CONNECT ;
ARNE IMMANUEL BANSCH/DPA
PICTURE-ALLIANCE VIA AFP

Présidentielle: la droite recommence à y croire

Selon notre sondage Odoxa-Backbone Consulting, 75 % des sympathisants LR estiment que le candidat investi à l'issue du congrès pourrait remporter l'élection présidentielle.

PAGES 2, 4, 6 ET L'EDITORIAL

Pourquoi les décisions de justice sont-elles si souvent inappliquées ?

En France, l'inexécution de très nombreux jugements nuit à l'efficacité et à la crédibilité de la justice auprès des citoyens. Juges, procureurs, avocats et huissiers

expliquent les pesanteurs du système. Les États généraux de la justice comptent se saisir de ce mal endémique afin de trouver des remèdes.

PAGES 14 ET 15



Enquête sur la Cour de Luxembourg, contestée par une partie de l'Europe

Au cœur du conflit entre primauté du droit européen et souveraineté des États, la Cour de justice de l'UE est considérée comme un moteur de l'intégration communautaire. Ses

détracteurs l'accusent d'aller au-delà des traités, avec une jurisprudence taxée d'activisme politique. Une remise en cause qui ne passe pas inaperçue à la CJUE. **PAGE 8**

ÉDITORIAL par Vincent Trémolet de Villers vtremolet@lefigaro.fr

Jours de droite

David Lisnard n'est pas candidat à la primaire (il le fut presque), mais sa très nette victoire à la tête de l'Association des maires de France est riche d'enseignements. Première leçon : le chemin le plus sûr, quand on est de droite, c'est d'être fier de l'être. C'est-à-dire refuser absolument la classification établie par Jean Cau (pour s'en moquer) dans son célèbre portrait de Pierre Mauroy : « La gauche ? Le Bien. La droite ? Une maladie. »

Deuxième leçon : retrouver la force irrésistible du verbe (le premier discours de Lisnard face à Emmanuel Macron ne manquait pas d'allure). Préférer les charmes de la spontanéité, les variations naturelles qu'offre la sincérité, aux tics de langage, formules de communicants, langue volontairement appauvrie et standardisée.

Troisième leçon : chercher à réconcilier par le travail doctrinal, l'esprit pratique, le pragmatisme les contradictions apparentes que transporte toute vision : la sécurité et la liberté, l'autorité et l'équité, la tradition et le progrès, le mérite et la solidarité. Avec comme point d'équilibre cette chose décriée,

méprisée, oubliée que l'on appelle le bon sens. Ni facilité tribunitienne, ni morgue technicienne.

En deux débats de bonne facture, les cinq prétendants de la droite ont fait la preuve, malgré quelques nuances, d'une véritable unité d'intention sur la fiscalité, l'immigration, l'énergie, l'éducation, la politique familiale. Le parti du déni leur a reproché d'avoir abordé longuement et sans œillères

Ni facilité tribunitienne, ni morgue technicienne

l'angoisse existentielle qui traverse le pays. En vérité, s'ils l'avaient fait plus tôt et quand ils étaient au pouvoir, Éric Zemmour serait en train de travailler sur son prochain livre, Marine Le Pen tournerait autour de 10 %...

Dans les quelques jours qui nous séparent du vote décisif, plus que les propositions, c'est la personnalité qui influencera les électeurs. Qui aura le tempérament, l'énergie, le courage, le charme, la constance pour faire mentir les pronostics et incarner la promesse d'une victoire ? ■

46 avenue Montaigne, Paris

LOEWE

Noël 2021
Photographie par Tyler Mitchell



Who you gonna call?

The father and son team resurrecting Ghostbusters

Film & Music G2



Adele's 30 'The defining voice of heartbreak' ★★★



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The Guardian

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'Betrayal of the north': fury over delayed and downgraded rail plan

Gwyn Topham
Aubrey Allegretti
Helen Pidd

Senior Tory MPs, regional leaders and industry figures have accused ministers of betraying the north with a delayed and downgraded rail plan.

Ministers insisted money-saving changes - including axing the eastern

leg of HS2 and omitting a promised high-speed line across northern England - would bring faster train journeys to more communities up to 10 years earlier than planned.

But experts poured doubt on the idea of rapid progress, warning of disruption for passengers after long-standing plans were ripped up. Boris Johnson was accused of reneging on commitments to level up. Andy

Burnham, the mayor of Greater Manchester, said the plans could hold the north back for another 100 years.

The £96bn Integrated Rail Plan, published yesterday, set out a scaling back of the Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) project and the axing of the planned east Midlands-Leeds high-speed line, with HS2 trains instead running on existing upgraded routes. Announcing the changes in the

'The Bradford district has been, in my view, completely shortchanged'

Robbie Moore
Tory MP for Keighley

Commons, the transport secretary, Grant Shapps, said the Oakervee review of the HS2 line and a National Infrastructure Commission report had shown a rethink was needed and "strengthening regional rail would be most economically beneficial". Investment in local services, including a new mass transit system around Leeds, would "fire up economies" in the shorter term, 4 ➔

Serena Williams adds voice to fears for Peng Shuai

Vincent Ni
Tumaini Carayol

Serena Williams joined a chorus of concern last night over the wellbeing and whereabouts of the Chinese tennis player Peng Shuai, amid doubts over the veracity of an email supposedly written by her retracting allegations of sexual assault against a senior politician.

Williams, a former world No 1 and the winner of 23 grand slam singles titles, joined other sports stars by tweeting under the hashtag #WhereIsPengShuai.

"I am devastated and shocked to hear about the news of my peer, Peng Shuai," Williams said. "I hope she is safe and found as soon as possible. This must be investigated and we must not stay silent. Sending love to her and her family during this incredibly difficult time."

She followed others including the Swiss tennis player Stan Wawrinka and the Spanish footballer Gerard Piqué. Piqué is the founder and president of the investment group Kosmos, which runs 10 ➔



▲ Peng Shuai alleged she was harassed and sexually assaulted by a former vice-premier of China PHOTOGRAPH: AFP/GETTY

Police stop and search up by 24% in one year

Vikram Dodd
Police and crime correspondent

The number of stop and searches carried out by police has risen by 24% to almost 700,000 in a single year, with officers using the tactic on the equivalent of one in five male minority ethnic teenagers, statistics show.

Use of the power increased starkly over the lockdowns, to 695,009 instances, according to figures from the Home Office. Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) males aged 15-19 were searched 208 times for every 1,000 people. Of these stops, for which officers require reasonable suspicion, the proportion resulting in an arrest fell from 13% to 11%.

The data, covering England and Wales to year ending March 2021, also shows that one in 50 stops resulted in the seizure of an offensive weapon - 15,800 in total - and the tactic led to 79,000 arrests. Black people were seven times 2 ➔

