



# WSJ

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEEKEND

Royal  
Treatment  
Travel Clubs  
OFF DUTY



DOW JONES | News Corp. \*\*\*\*\* SATURDAY/SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 - 28, 2021 - VOL. CCLXXVIII NO. 126

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### What's News

#### World-Wide

**The U.S. and other governments moved to restrict travel from countries in southern Africa as the WHO called a fast-spreading new strain of the coronavirus dubbed Omicron a global "variant of concern." A1, A8**

◆ **Merck and Ridgeback** said a final analysis of their experimental Covid-19 pill found the drug less effective than an early look. A6

◆ **The U.S. plans** to use a meeting of NATO foreign ministers to focus on how the alliance should respond to Russian pressure on Ukraine as the Ukrainian president warned of a possible Moscow-backed coup attempt. A9

◆ **A group of Senate Democrats** have privately voiced their opposition to Biden's nomination of Omarosa to lead the OGC, likely scuttling her chances of confirmation. A3

◆ **France and Italy signed** a cooperation treaty that its advocates hope could shift the balance of power in the EU, matching Germany's influence. A9

◆ **Japan's cabinet approved** an increase in defense spending, responding to China's rapid military expansion and U.S. requests for upgrades. A10

◆ **Died: Stephen Sondheim**, 91, songwriter who reshaped American musical theater. A3

#### Business & Finance

◆ **Stocks, oil prices and government-bond yields** slumped amid concerns about the new coronavirus strain. The Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq fell 2.5%, 2.3% and 2.2%, respectively. The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note dropped to 1.484%. U.S. crude oil slid 13%. A1, B1, B12

◆ **The Covid-19 pandemic** prompted retailers to rethink Black Friday, with many rewriting their playbooks for one of the biggest shopping days of the year. A1

◆ **Alibaba's CEO is** devolving power to the heads of the company's business units to become more agile in tackling rising challenges and potentially open the way for spinoffs. A1

◆ **China's tech giants** are feeling the pinch of an economic slowdown, adding financial pressure to an industry beset by a bevy of new regulations this year. B1

◆ **China Evergrande's** founder sold a large chunk of his shares in the cash-strapped property company, raising the equivalent of about \$343 million. B11

◆ **Climate protesters** blockaded 13 Amazon facilities in the U.K., as well as two more in Germany and the Netherlands, snarling trucks in some locales. B3

#### NOONAN

Social Distancing  
Was a Problem  
Before Covid A15

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## Dow Suffers Worst Day of 2021

Broad markets selloff comes as new Covid-19 variant threatens fragile global recovery

By Joe Wallace,  
Quentin Webb  
and Paul Vigna

Stocks, oil prices and government-bond yields slumped after South Africa raised the alarm over a fast-spreading strain of the coronavirus, triggering concern that travel restrictions and other curbs will spoil the global economy's recovery.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 905.04 points, or 2.5%, to 34899.34. It was the Dow's biggest one-day percentage drop since October 2020.

The S&P 500 lost 106.84 points, or 2.3%, to 4594.62 and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 353.57 points, or 2.2%, to 15491.66. It was the worst Black Friday session on record for all three indexes.

Markets closed early because of the holiday.

U.S. crude oil tumbled 13% to \$68.15. Traders fretted that lockdowns could reduce demand for transportation fuels. Bitcoin, following the path of other risk assets, skidded 8% to below \$55,000.

"It's not a great day to wake up on Black Friday and see news about a concerning variant," said Jessica Berner, a

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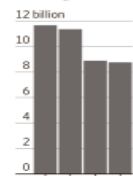
◆ More on the day in markets on pages B1, B12 and B13

#### Index performance this week



\*Total composite volume includes NYSE, Nasdaq, NYSE American and NYSE Arca composite volumes  
Source: FactSet

#### Trading volume\*



Consumers, like these at a Nike Factory Store in El Paso, Texas, were greeted with a changed retail landscape to kick off the holiday shopping season as stores dropped pre-pandemic Black Friday practices, like Thanksgiving hours and doorbuster sales.

## Black Friday Shopping Is Back, But Stores Rewrite the Playbook

By SUZANNE KAPNER

The pandemic didn't just change consumer habits. It also prompted retailers to rethink Black Friday, one of the biggest shopping days of the year.

Many stores stayed closed this Thanksgiving, in a break with a pre-pandemic tradition of opening Thursday evening. Retailers have moved away from doorbusters, the deeply discounted items available for a limited time that drew hordes to stores on Friday morning. Instead, they have been dangling Black Friday deals all month, online and in stores.

Some hosted streaming events on their websites Friday as an alternative to visiting a store.

"Customers are shopping differently this year," said Greg Revelle, Kohl's Corp.'s chief marketing officer. "We had to alter our Black Friday strategy."

Stores are trying to balance what forecasters predict will be record holiday sales with supply constraints that have kept some items hard to come by.

Black Friday shoppers spent \$5.8 billion in the U.S. online as of noon EST, up about 7% compared with the same time last year, said Salesforce.com Inc., a software company that tracks

online shopping. Many consumers were able to save money during the pandemic and are now spending freely despite rising inflation.

The National Retail Federation expects sales during November and December to rise by a record 8.5% to 10.5% to as much as \$859 billion, compared with a year ago. That is in contrast to an average increase of 4.4% over the past five years.

The forecast was made before the World Health Organization called a new strain of the coronavirus, first detected in southern Africa, a global "variant of concern."

The trade group predicts that nearly two million more people, or a total of 158.3 million, will shop over Thanksgiving weekend this year, compared with last year. Still, that is down from the 165.3 million people who shopped over the same weekend in 2019, before the pandemic.

John Rulli, chief administrative officer for mall owner Simon Property Group, said Friday afternoon that foot traffic was exceeding 2019 levels at a

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◆ Climate protesters block Amazon facilities in U.K. B3

## Virus Risk Spurs U.S. To Limit Travel

By GABRIELE STEINHAUSER

JOHANNESBURG—The U.S. and other governments moved to restrict travel from countries in southern Africa as the World Health Organization called a fast-spreading new strain of the coronavirus a global "variant of concern" that may pose a higher risk of people falling ill with Covid-19 for a second time.

WHO said there was also preliminary evidence that the variant, which was first detected in southern Africa and which it named Omicron after the Greek letter, was more transmissible than the Delta variant that is currently dominant world-wide, and other virus strains. Health authorities in Belgium, Israel, Hong Kong and Botswana said they had detected first cases of the variant.

Although scientists were still figuring out the exact effects of the variant's many mutations, its discovery highlights the continued threat posed by an evolving virus to the world's emergence from the pandemic. The travel restrictions imposed by many countries, including the U.S., raised fears that there could be further setbacks to the reopening of economic and social life, including in Western countries with high vaccination rates.

"The news about this new variant should make clearer

Please turn to page A8

#### Variant Fallout

- ◆ Travel curbs mark setback for airlines..... A8
- ◆ Scientists, health officials face challenges..... A8
- ◆ Vaccine disparities pave way for new strains..... A8

### What to Do With a Giant Potato: Name It and Make Vodka

A couple hopes their 16.7-pound spud sets a record before they bottle it

By JENNIFER CALFAS

"Dug," a contender for the world's heaviest potato, might soon become "Done," the vodka.

Colin and Donna Craig-Brown found the tuber underground in August while clearing a plot in their New Zealand garden for new seeds, and the couple submitted it to Guinness World Records.

The unexpected giant awaits the verdict while stewed in the couple's freezer to maintain its weight, which they recently reported as just

over 16.7 pounds. The current Guinness potato record, awarded in 2011, is about 10.9 pounds.

And they have begun a discussion that's familiar to jumbo produce growers everywhere: What's to be the mishapen mass's final fate?

It's too lumpy to cast a replica for posterity, says Mr. Craig-Brown, 62, and there's no way they would preserve it. The amateur distiller has another idea: Turn Dug into vodka.

"We're going to have a

Please turn to page A11



Colin and Donna

### EXCHANGE



**SUPPLY SIDE**  
The sorters, truckers, ship captains and others on the delivery front lines.  
B1

## Alibaba CEO Shifts Power to Unit Heads

By JING YANG

HONG KONG—Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.'s chief executive, Daniel Zhang, is devolving power to the heads of the company's business units to become more agile in tackling rising challenges and potentially open the way for spinoffs, people familiar with the matter said.

Mr. Zhang, also chairman of the internet giant, is delegating more responsibility to presidents at each business line—from location-based services to cloud computing—who now function as "mini-CEOs," the people said. The strategy is intended to speed up decision making so each division can better fend off competition, revitalize flagging sales and reshape its monolithic image in the wake of Beijing's regulatory crackdown

on big platforms. At the same time, Ant Group Co., the financial-technology giant in which Alibaba holds a 33% stake, has started to distance itself from Alibaba, as Ant restructures its businesses to fall in line with regulations following Beijing's cancellation of its initial public offering, the people said.

The management shift, which has been taking shape over the past few months, reverses a centralization drive begun almost three years ago. That drive brought the company's subsidiaries and affiliates into close alignment, the so-called Alibaba Economy conceived by former boss Jack Ma.

In the long run, the changes may pave the way for Alibaba to

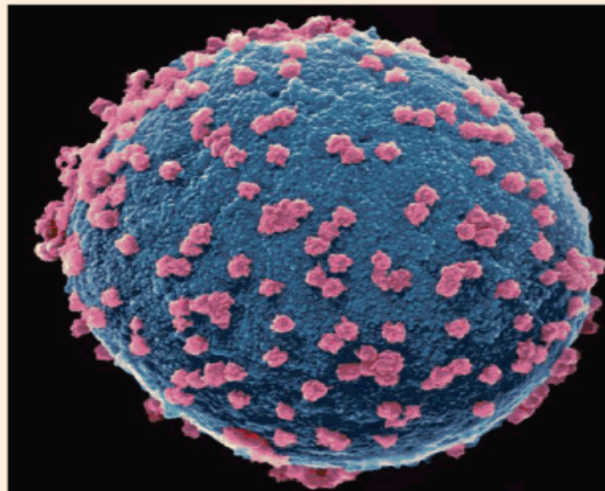
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◆ Economy tests technology giants in China..... B1



## Stocks and oil prices slide in dash to safety from new virus variant

◆ 'Omicron' strain worries WHO ◆ All World index tumbles 2.3% ◆ Travel and aviation hit



ADAM SAMSON AND GEORGE STEER — LONDON  
DEREK BROWER AND JOE RENNISON — NEW YORK  
HUDSON LOCKETT — HONG KONG

Global equities and oil prices were hit by their hardest falls in more than a year yesterday as the discovery of a new coronavirus variant sparked a sell-off in companies most exposed to the pandemic and a dash to havens.

The World Health Organization has designated the new strain a "variant of concern", calling it Omicron. It said preliminary evidence suggested the variant posed "an increased risk of reinfection".

The FTSE All World index shed about 2.3 per cent by the New York close, reflecting declines in the US, Europe and Asia. Crude benchmarks on both sides of the Atlantic tumbled roughly 10 per cent by early afternoon in New York.

"What should have been a quiet Friday trading in both bonds and equities globally has turned into a rout," said Andrew Brenner, head of international fixed income at NatAlliance Securities.

Wall Street's S&P 500 dropped 2.5 per cent, with Europe's Stoxx 600 sliding 3.7 per cent and MSCI's broad Asia-Pacific index falling 1.7 per cent.

Shares in British Airways parent IAG, German carrier Lufthansa and aircraft maker Airbus dropped more than 10 per cent. US airlines United, American and Delta fell by similar margins.

International oil benchmark Brent crude and US marker West Texas Intermediate were each down roughly 10 per cent by afternoon in New York, the biggest falls since April 2020.

Coronavirus vaccine makers rallied, with Moderna soaring 21 per cent and Pfizer gaining 7 per cent. Other pan-

demographic beneficiaries such as meal-kit company HelloFresh, grocery delivery group Ocado and online fashion retailer Zalando were among the small number of gainers in Europe.

The Omicron variant, first identified in Botswana, is believed to be behind a surge of cases in southern Africa over the past week. It has alarmed health officials because of its apparent ability to evade Covid-19 vaccines and spread more quickly than the Delta variant.

The EU and UK moved to impose

An electron micrograph showing part of a cell, blue, infected with Sars-Cov-2 virus particles, shown as pink. Science Photo Library

travel restrictions on a group of southern African nations, while Israel has banned travellers from South Africa.

US bond and stock markets were open for a limited trading session on Black Friday, the beginning of the holiday shopping season. Investors said the shortened US day meant that trading volumes were thin in some markets, which exacerbated price fluctuations.

The jitters were apparent in a broad array of market barometers. The Vix index, a measure of expected volatility in Wall Street stocks over the next month, rose 10 points on Friday to 29, the biggest increase since early 2021.

Government debt rallied as investors turned to lower-risk assets. The yield on the benchmark US 10-year Treasury note fell 0.15 percentage points to 1.497 per cent, its biggest fall since March 2020.

Additional reporting by Tommy Stubbington



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## Franco-British ties take turn for the worse over Channel boat crossings

VICTOR MALLET — PARIS  
SARAH WHITE AND ROBERT WRIGHT  
LONDON

Franco-British relations sank to a post-Brexit low yesterday when Emmanuel Macron criticised Boris Johnson over what he called his failure to act "seriously" to find a solution to the cross-channel border crisis.

Only two days after both governments were shaken by the deaths of 27 people seeking to reach England from France in a small boat, Paris cut London out of an urgent meeting of European ministers in Calais tomorrow because of the UK prime minister's cavalier approach to the problem.

Johnson published a letter he had written to the French president on Thursday night, calling for French and British maritime patrols in each other's

waters and for the thousands of migrants who reach English shores to be returned to France. "If those who reach this country were swiftly returned, the incentive for people to put their lives in the hands of traffickers would be significantly reduced," he wrote.

Macron and his ministers objected both to the content of the letter, which revived proposals already rejected by France, and to the way it was made public to the British media.

Macron said: "You don't communicate from one leader to another on these matters through a tweet and a letter which you make public. We're not whistleblowers."

He added: "Our ministers are going to work seriously to deal with this serious matter with serious people."

Macron's anger is the latest sign that his relations with Johnson are deteriorating despite indications in the days before the tragedy that the two governments were improving co-operation to stop people leaving the French coast.

Since British voters opted to leave the EU in 2016, France and the UK have been embroiled in rancorous disputes over everything from trade and Northern Ireland, to fishing and vaccines.

Macron confirmed that France had withdrawn an invitation to UK home secretary Priti Patel to join European ministers for the meeting on migrants in Calais. "Then we'll see with Britain how we can act efficiently if they decide to be serious," he said.

Downing Street yesterday said Johnson had no regrets over the letter. The prime minister's official spokesman said Johnson and Macron had a "shared recognition" of the situation's urgency. "We believed we would die" page 6

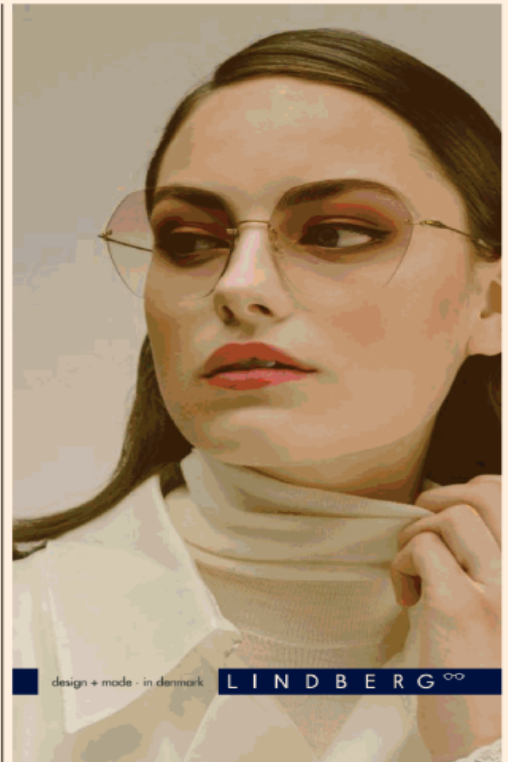


### Tax break 'to millionaires' casts pall over Biden bill

The second-biggest element of Joe Biden's Build Back Better bill is a tax measure that has widened the gap between the Democrats' progressive and moderate wings. The raising of the cap on how much local tax can be deducted from federal levies looks to some as though the Republicans are in charge. The Republicans themselves deride the bill as a concession for wealthy Democratic donors in high-tax states like New York and California.

Bitter taste ▶ **PAGE 4**

World Markets														
STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES						
	Nov 26	prev	%chg		Nov 26	prev		Nov 26	prev		%chg			
S&P 500	4597.85	4701.46	-2.21	\$ per £	1.132	1.121	£ per \$	0.750	0.751	US Gov 10 yr	147.78	1.50	-0.14	
Nasdaq Composite	15519.13	15845.23	-2.06	\$ per €	1.334	1.332	€ per \$	1.179	1.188	UK Gov 10 yr		0.73	-0.15	
Dow Jones Ind	34826.31	35804.36	-2.73	¥ per €	0.049	0.042	¥ per \$	128.035	129.324	Ger Gov 10 yr		-0.34	-0.09	
FTSEurofirst 300	1796.11	1865.33	-3.71	¥ per \$	113.150	115.365	£ index	81.877	82.547	Japan Gov 10 yr	115.17	0.07	-0.01	
Euro Stoxx 50	4089.59	4293.24	-4.74	€ per \$	150.903	153.666	Sfr per €	1.230	1.246	US Gov 30 yr	119.68	1.85	-0.12	
FTSE 100	7044.03	7310.37	-3.64	Sfr per €	1.044	1.049				Ger Gov 2 yr	104.90	-0.77	-0.02	
FTSE All-Share	4026.30	4167.28	-3.53	€ per \$	0.884	0.892								
CAC 40	6738.73	7075.67	-4.75											
Xetra Dax	15257.04	15817.96	-4.15											
Nikkei	28751.82	29495.29	-2.53											
Hang Seng	24980.52	24740.16	-2.87											
MSCI World \$	3202.44	3198.12	0.13	Oil WTI \$	69.09	78.10	-11.55			Fed Funds Eff	0.08	0.08	0.00	
MSCI EM \$	1254.69	1253.15	0.12	Oil Brent \$	73.06	82.22	-10.17			US 3m Bills	0.06	0.06	0.00	
MSCI ACWI \$	756.30	749.30	0.13	Gold \$	1909.0	1788.15	-0.71			Euro Libor 3m	-0.58	-0.59	0.00	
										UK 3m	0.12	0.12	0.00	
										Prices are net for bid/ask			Data provided by Monstreamer	
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## Late Edition

Today, cloudy, rain or snow showers, high 43. Tonight, showers or possible flurries early, cloudy, low 34. Tomorrow, partly sunny skies, high 42. Weather map appears on Page 34.



North Community High in Minneapolis, predominantly Black, was rezoned to include whiter, wealthier neighborhoods.

## Minneapolis Integration Is a Two-Way Street

### A Hard Sell in Black and White Areas

By SARAH MERVOSH

MINNEAPOLIS — When Mauri Frieleben learned that Minneapolis was rolling out a new school integration plan — and that the school she led, a predominantly Black, low-income high school, would soon include white students from some of the wealthiest neighborhoods in town — she looked around and proudly considered all that her school had to offer.

The hallways at North Community High are a tapestry of blue and white, the school colors, and the mascot, a polar bear, seems to roar around every corner. The curriculum had been updated to expand access to advanced placement courses: U.S. history, physics, art and design. The school had a new athletic field, and on the first floor, a radio studio.

But in some phone conversations with



Mauri Frieleben, the principal at North, greeting students at the doors.

potential new families, Ms. Frieleben, the principal, sensed deep skepticism.

Parents peppered her with questions. Exactly how many A.P. courses did her school offer? Was Spanish the only language option? Would their children be safe walking home by bus? Some even wondered how she had gotten their number and asked her not to call again.

Ms. Frieleben, a mixed-race woman who identifies as Black, knew that her school had its challenges, including a history of struggling enrollment and low test scores. But she was working hard to serve the needs of her students and had little interest in adjusting her focus to woo white families.

"At times," she said, "it was demeaning and humiliating."

Minneapolis, among the most segregated school districts in the country, with one of the widest racial academic gaps, is in the midst of a sweeping plan to overhaul and integrate its schools. And unlike previous desegregation efforts, which typically required children of color to travel to white schools, Minneapolis officials are asking white families to help do the integrating — a newer approach being embraced by a small group of urban districts across the country.

"Everyone wants equity as long as it doesn't inconvenience them," said Eric Moore, senior officer for accountability, research and equity for Minneapolis Public

Continued on Page 24

## Israel and Iran Widen Targets In a Cyberwar

### Hackers Begin to Take a Toll on Civilians

By FARNAZ FASSIHI and RONEN BERGMAN

Millions of ordinary people in Iran and Israel recently found themselves caught in the crossfire of a cyberwar between their countries. In Tehran, a dentist drove around for hours in search of gasoline, waiting in long lines at four-gas stations only to come away empty.

In Tel Aviv, a well-known broadcaster panicked as the intimate details of his sex life, and those of hundreds of thousands of others stolen from an L.G.B.T.Q. dating site, were uploaded on social media.

For years, Israel and Iran have engaged in a covert war, by land, sea, air and computer, but the targets have usually been military or government related. Now, the cyberwar has widened to target civilians on a large scale.

In recent weeks, a cyberattack on Iran's nationwide fuel distribution system paralyzed the country's 4,300 gas stations, which took 12 days to have service fully restored.

That attack was attributed to Israel by two U.S. defense officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss confidential intelligence assessments. It was followed days later by cyberattacks in Israel against a major medical facility and a popular L.G.B.T.Q. dating site, attacks Israeli officials have attributed to Iran.

The escalation comes as American authorities have warned of Iranian attempts to hack the computer networks of hospitals and other critical infrastructure in the United States. As hopes fade for a diplomatic resurrection of the Iranian nuclear agreement, such attacks are only likely to proliferate.

Hacks have been seeping into civilian arenas for months. Iran's national railroad was attacked in July, but that relatively unpublicized hack may not have been Israeli. And Iran is accused of making a failed attempt on Israel's water system last year.

The latest attacks are thought to be the first to do widespread harm to large numbers of civilians. Nondefense computer networks are generally less secure than those tied to state security assets.

No one died in these attacks, but if their goal was to create chaos, Continued on Page 13

## AFRICAN NATIONS BITTERLY REBUKE NEW TRAVEL BANS

### ISRAEL SEALS BORDERS

### The West Is Criticized for Hoarding Vaccines in the First Place

By BENJAMIN MUELLER and DECLAN WALSH

Nations in southern Africa protested bitterly on Saturday as more of the world's wealthiest countries cut them off from travel, renewing a debate over border closures from the earliest days of the coronavirus pandemic and compounding the problems facing poorly vaccinated countries.

A new coronavirus variant called Omicron, first detected in Botswana, put governments on edge after South Africa announced a surge of cases this past week, plunging countries into the most uncertain moment of the pandemic since the highly contagious Delta variant took hold this spring.

As in the early days of Delta, political alarm spread quickly across the world, with officials trading blame over how the failures of the global vaccination effort were allowing the virus to mutate, even as researchers warned that the true threat of the new variant was not yet clear.

Bearing a worrying number of mutations that researchers fear could make it spread easily, Omicron was spotted on Saturday in patients in Britain, Germany and Italy, leaving in its wake what scientists estimated to be thousands of cases in southern Africa and tens or hundreds more globally. One country after another shut its doors to southern Africa even as they spurred public health measures that scientists said were far more urgently needed to take on the new variant.

Australia, Thailand and Sri Lanka were among the latest countries on Saturday to join the United States, Britain and the European Union in banning travelers from South Africa and nearby countries.

Israel announced the world's strictest ban to date, sealing its borders to all foreigners for 14 days after the case was confirmed in the country.

"The key here is caution and minimal risks until we know more," Prime Minister Naftali Continued on Page 10

## 'Restauratrice' Brings Her Art To the Museum

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

LOS ANGELES — As the Hammer Museum emerges from last year's pandemic shutdown, it has assembled a lineup of big names that it hopes will draw crowds back to its campus down the street from the University of California, Los Angeles: Cézanne, Manet, Monet, Toulouse-Lautrec. And Waters.

That would be Alice Waters, the restaurateur who founded Chez Panisse in Berkeley 50 years ago and went on to help define modern California cuisine. She is lending her name and reputation to Lulu, a new restaurant she has helped open in the courtyard of the Hammer, the first time she has associated herself so closely with a restaurant since opening Chez Panisse.

"It will bring people who wouldn't be museumgoers to the museum," said Ann Philbin, the executive director of the Hammer, who recruited Ms. Waters for this project. "It is about cross-pollination of audiences."

The Hammer, which is affiliated with U.C.L.A., is the latest in a long line of arts institutions collaborating with big-name chefs in the hopes of expanding their audiences. And Ms. Waters is the latest in a long line of celebrity restaurateurs (for the record, she Continued on Page 23



The production floor at a Century Furniture factory in Hickory, N.C., where demand is soaring.

## Shipping Snarl Energizes a U.S. Furniture Hub

By JEANNA SMIALEK

HICKORY, N.C. — Six months into the coronavirus pandemic, as millions of workers lost their jobs and companies fretted about their economic future, something unexpected happened at Hancock & Moore, a purveyor of custom-upholstered leather couches and chairs in this small North Carolina town.

Orders began pouring in.

Families stuck at home had decided to upgrade their sectionals. Singles tired of looking at their sad futons wanted new and nicer living room furniture. And they were willing to pay up — which turned out to be good, because the cost of every part of producing furniture, from fabric to wood to shipping, was beginning to swiftly increase.

More than a year later, the furniture companies that dot Hickory, N.C., in the foothills of the

Blue Ridge Mountains, have been presented with an unforeseen opportunity: The pandemic and its ensuing supply chain disruptions have dealt a setback to the factories in China and Southeast Asia that decimated American manufacturing in the 1980s and 1990s with cheaper imports. At the same time, demand for furniture is very strong.

In theory, that means they have a shot at building back some of the Continued on Page 16

## A Cure for Severe Diabetes? For an Ohio Patient, It Worked.

By GINA KOLATA

Brian Shelton's life was ruled by Type 1 diabetes.

When his blood sugar plummeted, he would lose consciousness without warning. He crashed his motorcycle into a wall. He passed out in a customer's yard while delivering mail. Following that episode, his supervisor told him to retire, after a quarter century in the Postal Service. He was 57.

His ex-wife, Cindy Shelton, took him into her home in Elyria, Ohio. "I was afraid to leave him alone all day," she said.

Early this year, she spotted a call for people with Type 1 diabetes to participate in a clinical trial by Vertex Pharmaceuticals. The company was testing a treatment developed over decades by a scientist who vowed to find a cure after his baby son and then his teenage daughter got the devastating disease.

Mr. Shelton was the first patient. On June 29, he got an infusion of cells, grown from stem cells but just like the insulin-pro-



Brian Shelton may be the first to be cured of Type 1 diabetes.

ducing pancreas cells his body lacked.

Now his body automatically controls its insulin and blood sugar levels.

Mr. Shelton, now 64, may be the first person cured of the disease with a new treatment that has experts daring to hope that help may Continued on Page 18

## INTERNATIONAL 4-13

### Migrants' Circular Struggle

A Kurdish family twice gave up everything to flee Iraq for Europe, desperate for a better life. Now they are back in Kurdistan. PAGE 4

### Comeback Attempt in Brazil

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, the former president, has beaten back corruption cases and climbed to the front of next year's presidential race. PAGE 8

### A Marriage of Tastes

Two decades ago, Spain was the new France, leading gastronomic innovation. Now, iconic chefs from each country have joined forces in Paris. PAGE 6



## NATIONAL 14-26

### Mourning a Broadway Genius

Lines of fans formed quickly at piano bars and theaters as word spread of Stephen Sondheim's death. PAGE 26

### From a Pretty Tree to a Plague

The Bradford pear, hugely popular when suburbs were developed, kicked off an unstoppable invasion. PAGE 14

## SUNDAY STYLES

### Inedible but 'Joyfully Wacky'

Propelled by the renewed popularity of maximalist home décor, ornamental fake food is in demand again. PAGE 1

### A Medium Wants to Live Small

Carissa Schumacher claims to channel the dead for high-profile clients. She says she doesn't want fame. PAGE 12

## ARTS & LEISURE

### Brotherly Love Abounds

"It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" is about to become the longest-running live-action sitcom in U.S. history. Its creator wonders what's next. PAGE 12



## THE NEW YORK TIMES FOR KIDS

### It's Our Turn

The vaccine is ready for kids ages 5 to 12! And in other news, because of the pandemic, snow days could now be a thing of the past.

## SUNDAY REVIEW

### Farhad Manjoo

## SUNDAY BUSINESS

### The Price Paid by Uber's Spies

Members of the company's intelligence-gathering team were accused of illegal activity. The claims weren't true, but the allegations still follow them. PAGE 1

## METROPOLITAN

### An Anxious Path to Senior Year

One teenager shares what it was like to live through six months of the most disrupted period in the modern history of public education. PAGE 6



0 354 753 6



## Metro riders cite rise in crime

As ridership rebounds, reports of violence, including five killings, are up even from pre-pandemic levels.

BY BRITNEY MEJIA

As she waited for a Metro train in Hollywood, Maritza Mancilla shielded herself behind the escalator bringing passengers down into the fluorescent-lighted underground.

She wanted to see the newcomers before they could see her.

The 55-year-old, who relies on public transportation to get to her job as a house cleaner, has seen fights break out on the train. She's seen a man attempt to open the car doors while they were in motion. At the Hollywood/Western Metro station earlier this year, a man exposed himself to her.

"If I could work from home, I would," she said.

With the pandemic easing and lockdowns lifted, a return to normalcy has come with benefits: Increased economic activity, more people going back to work and school, plus holiday gatherings and social interactions.

But on the Los Angeles public transit system — where ridership has rebounded to about 843,000 weekday daily riders from a pandemic low of about 363,800 — normal has also brought with it a rise in crime.

In 2021, through September, reports of violent crimes were up 25% from the same time last year and 9% from 2019, according to L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation Authority data.

Some crimes, such as aggravated assaults, are exceeding pre-pandemic levels even though bus and rail ridership hasn't fully recovered.

Although still rare, homicides jumped from one in 2019 to three in 2020, the first full year of the pandemic. So far in 2021, five people have been killed in stations or on public transport, including a 28-year-old woman fatally shot on the train while on her way to work.

While most people ride public transit without incident, the issue of crime recently sparked a clash between L.A. County Sheriff [See MTA, A14]



Elaine Conrads

COLUMN ONE

## Falling through a tattered safety net

One man's mental illness takes a toll on him and his siblings, some who work in a system that's failed him

By Doug Smith

The reunion was a replay of so many painful encounters that she could no longer keep them straight in her thoughts.

She had rushed from a lunch engagement still wearing a silky flowered dress. She sat on a curb beside her 45-year-old brother in the trash area of a Pasadena strip mall. She made small talk, easing into the big question: Would he let her take him back to his home?

If he didn't go, he would soon be picked up on a warrant. He was AWOL from his court-supervised diversion program.

Sympathetic social workers had helped Sarah Dusseault find her brother after he left his residential care facility in South Los Angeles and walked back to old haunts in Pasadena.

Dusseault, who is a prominent figure in local government efforts to help the homeless, had pleaded with them to commit him on a 72-hour



MaryRose Courtney

psychiatric hold under the standard of grave disability. They said they were hamstrung because he appeared well clothed and fed.

"The whole thing drips with irony," Dusseault said. "I just went out there and gave him clean clothes and gave him lunch. Are you saying I should make sure I don't give him anything? Is that the better plan?"

She lined up a shelter and came back a couple of days later to pick him up. But he wasn't cooperating. He ignored the question and talked about his fantasy of working with Antonio Banderas. Then his voice stopped while his lips continued to shape words.

"Are you talking to Ben?" she asked. A minute later he was on his feet, marching in a circle while ranting out loud to, or about, his younger brother Ben.

She had failed.

[See Toll, A10]

JOHN MAURER had ambitions of becoming a model, top, before schizophrenia and homelessness took hold. Below, he mugs for the camera as a child.

## Scientologists suing church face hurdle

Rape case turns focus on use of religious tribunals, not courts, in disputes

BY MAURA DOLAN

After Chrissie Bixler told the LAPD that Scientologist and actor Danny Masterson had raped her, strangers showed up at her home, filmed her family and peeped in her windows. Two

of her dogs mysteriously died, one by eating meat laced with rat poison. Her security system was hacked. Someone posted ads in her name on Craigslist soliciting men for anal sex.

Bixler made these allegations in a lawsuit, charging that Scientology waged a

campaign to terrorize her after failing to dissuade her from reporting Masterson to police. Other women joined the lawsuit after telling police that Masterson had sexually assaulted them — which he has denied — saying they too had been stalked and placed under

surveillance.

But some of the women, including Bixler, formerly belonged to Scientology and like other members signed agreements to submit any disputes to binding arbitration before a three-member board of practicing [See Scientology, A14]

## There's more to come, variant shows

Omicron is a 'wake-up call' that mutations will continue amid low vaccination rates.

BY ALEX WIGGLESWORTH, SARAH PARVINT AND RONG-GONG LIN II

A newly identified coronavirus variant that has sparked global restrictions on travel and shaken financial markets could make the holiday season even more perilous in California and across the nation.

Even before the Omicron variant was discovered, health officials were warning of a winter wave of COVID-19 as society regroups for holiday events and travel, and cold weather keep more people indoors. While it's not clear how dangerous the new variant is, it's adding urgency to efforts to get more people vaccinated — and to get booster shots for those with waning immunity — and to follow masking and other safety rules, experts say.

"The new variant adds another reminder" that there are more new variants out there that are potentially incubating," said Dr. Eric Topol, director of the Scripps Research Translational Institute in La Jolla. "So if anything, the silver lining of Omicron is it's a wake-up call for all those people thinking we're at the end of this. No, we're not — not by any stretch, unfortunately."

While no cases of the Omicron variant have been detected in the United States, many experts say it may already be here, given the country's lack of systematic genomic sequencing that would flag it.

The variant, first identified by South Africa amid a spike in infections there, has more mutations than any other that scientists have seen, including some that

[See Omicron, A8]

## Who was that masked man?

The heroes and villains return to Comic-Con, vaccinated or tested. CALIFORNIA, B1

### Russia jails 5 over mine blast

The site's director and others are held pending an investigation into the explosion that killed 51. WORLD, A4

### COVID blamed for U.S. issues

Aides say economy and Biden's standing depend on controlling pandemic. NATION, A6

### Telework laws may backfire

Portugal tries to protect employees, but critics say rules aren't feasible. WORLD, A3

### Weather:

Sunny and warm. L.A. Basin: 80/55. B10

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## They're about to get a taste of vaccine outrage



FRANCINE ORR/Los Angeles Times

PAOLA MORATAYA, right, checks proof of vaccination at Amalia's Restaurant in L.A. "I have to be ... the bodyguard for the city," the restaurant's owner said.

## Restaurants must enforce mandate and cope with defiant customers

BY RUBEN VIVES

Earlier this month, Milbet Del Cid used social media to put customers of her Guatemalan restaurant on alert. Soon, she would have to make sure they were vaccinated to let them in.

Almost immediately, the criticism poured in.

"If you're obligated to ask," one customer wrote in response, "then we won't eat there anymore, so there."

Come Monday, Los Angeles' vaccine mandate will compel Del Cid to ask people for proof of vaccination. She can either enforce the law and deny some people entry into her restaurant or she can violate it, which Del Cid said she wouldn't do.

Either way, it won't be fun.

"If I don't let customers eat," she said, "who's going to lose that business? Me."

But the stakes are too high for Del Cid to back down: Latinos have been infected and killed by the coronavirus in numbers above most any other group. And most of her customers are Latino.

At her Amalia's Restaurant on the edge of Koreatown, Del Cid has repeatedly tried to debunk false claims about the vaccine.

She said one woman told her it contained a microchip, men have said it causes fertility problems, and some religious customers even tried to link it to the mark of [See Restaurants, A12]





# The Washington Post

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MOHAMMED BADRA/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK

## Hope, risk await migrants daring to cross Channel

Attempts from France to England have tripled in a year, at times to deadly effect

BY RICK NOACK AND WILLIAM BOOTH  
IN CALAIS, FRANCE

Sudanese migrants warm their hands near their tents in Calais, France, on Saturday as they wait for a chance to cross the English Channel. Over 30,000 migrants have tried to cross the Channel by sea this year.

If everything goes according to Ashkan Rahmoni's plan, someday soon the 21-year-old Iranian will crawl out of his tent near an abandoned railway track and put on a life jacket.

He will climb across the dunes carrying an inflatable dinghy with dozens of others. They will rush toward the French shores of the English Channel near Dunkirk in the cover of darkness.

If they succeed, the next time they touch land will be in England.

More than 30,000 migrants have attempted to cross the Channel by sea this year, around three times more than in 2020, as authorities have clamped down on other routes, including crossings by train and cargo trucks. Successful crossings have encouraged a growing number of migrants to attempt the journey via the Dover Strait.

But with temperatures now near the freezing point on many nights, Rahmoni and others in migrant encampments along the Channel sense they could be stuck all winter unless they attempt to cross soon.

Rahmoni has spent the last days trying to imagine it — and trying to forget about the two men who slept in his tent before he moved in. On Wednesday morning,

SEE MIGRANTS ON A22

## A long-awaited moment for staunch Roe critic Thomas

In Mississippi case, justice will see apex of his antiabortion battle

BY ROBERT BARNES

Judge Clarence Thomas said at his Supreme Court confirmation hearings in 1991 that he hadn't given that much thought to whether *Roe v. Wade* was correctly decided.

But *Justice* Clarence Thomas took only months to reach a conclusion: The landmark 1973 ruling guaranteeing a woman's right to abortion should be discarded.

"The power of a woman to abort her unborn child" is not a liberty protected by the Constitution, said a dissenting opinion from four members of the court, including Thomas.

Thus began three decades of official Thomas opposition to the notion of a constitutionally protected right to abortion.

It will reach its zenith Wednesday, when Thomas and the most conservative Supreme Court in decades will consider a restrictive Mississippi abortion law that opponents and advocates alike agree is almost impossible to

square with *Roe* and the precedents that have flowed from it.

The review coincides as well with something of a high-water mark for the 73-year-old Thomas, now the court's longest-serving member. He sits on a court with more justices who think like him than at any other point in his career.

These days, his colleagues offer unprecedented deference. After years of not asking questions at oral arguments, Thomas this term has asked the first question in every hearing. That is because no one jumps in until he has finished his low-key inquiries.

His seniority on the court means that he decides who writes the court's opinion when he is in the majority and Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. is on the losing side. That is a bit more commonplace now as the court has grown more conservative.

With five justices to his right, Roberts's vote is no longer always key.

Thomas's influence has grown outside the courtroom as well. His former clerks — there are more than 125 of his "kids," as Thomas calls them — held many

SEE THOMAS ON A7

Tea leaves: How the justices might rule as key abortion case looms. A6

## The sheriffs on the deportation front lines

Trump's ICE aggressively wooed local law enforcement to help detain undocumented immigrants

This article is by  
Debbie Cenziper, Madison Muller,  
Monique Beals, Rebecca Holland  
and Andrew Ba Tran

Frederick County Sheriff Chuck Jenkins had spent years advocating for the removal of undocumented immigrants when he received a prized photo in his inbox in February 2019. It came from a group that has long fought to slash the number of immigrants allowed into the United States.

In the photo, Jenkins and more than three dozen other sheriffs posed under a chandelier in the East Room of the White House with a beaming President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence.

Jenkins, serving his fourth term as sheriff in the western Maryland county, quickly forwarded the photo to an acquaintance. "Check this out," he wrote in an email obtained by *The Washington Post*.

"Pretty important!" she replied moments later. "You all meet to discuss how to get rid of the illegals?"

SEE SHERIFFS ON A12



ROCKY CAROTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

"I believe . . . this is a public safety benefit to the country, to the county and to this community," Frederick County Sheriff Chuck Jenkins has said of the 287(g) federal-local immigration effort.

## Bracing for worst with new variant

CASES WIDEN TO INCLUDE BRITAIN, GERMANY

White House, drug firms moving to stave off omicron

BY DAN DIAMOND,  
JOEL ACHENRACH,  
CHICO HARLAN  
AND LESLEY WROUGHTON

The first inkling of a new, potentially fearsome threat arrived a few days ago. The latest variant of the coronavirus was on the move, the Biden administration was told. And, before long, evidence emerged that the variant — which would be dubbed omicron — carried worrisome mutations.

By Thanksgiving Day, frantic discussions were unfolding in Washington and in capitals around the globe about how to contain the potential menace. Those discussions, which would lead to travel restrictions and other measures, exposed long-simmering tensions about the United States and other nations appear-

ing to punish the developing world and about stark differences in vaccination levels.

On Saturday, covid-19 cases were confirmed or suspected in a widening circle of nations, including Britain and Germany. The pharmaceutical companies whose vaccines had appeared to chart a path out of the pandemic expedited development of new formulations targeting the omicron variant.

"This is the highest level of alert we've ever been on, by far," since devising the initial batch of vaccines last year, said Stephen Hoge, Moderna's president. "What's most scary about this

SEE OMICRON ON A16

Q&A: What we know about the variant — and what we don't. A17

## Global vaccine inequity a weak link versus covid

Disparity between richer, poorer nations will now 'haunt us,' official says

BY LESLEY WROUGHTON

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA — Across a world of vaccine haves and have-nots, the omicron variant sends a warning on how the virus can evolve and spread without more aggressive measures to expand vaccinations, a top South African scientist said Saturday.

"Until we vaccinate enough people we're going to have this happen over and over again," said Glenda Gray, head of the South African Medical Research Council, as global health agencies rushed to understand more about the new

variant just days after it was first identified in South Africa.

Her comments underscored one of the major challenges facing global efforts to curb the pandemic: the contrasts between wealthy nations with plentiful vaccines — and even booster shots — and many poorer regions struggling to get vaccines and unable to fully distribute them.

In an opinion piece in the *Guardian*, former British prime minister Gordon Brown — now an ambassador with the World Health Organization — took aim at the developed world for failing to deliver donated doses it had promised.

"Despite the repeated warnings of health leaders, our failure to put vaccines into the arms of people in the developing world is now coming back to haunt us," Brown wrote.

SEE VACCINE ON A16



1960-2021

## Almudena Grandes

### La novelista de los mosaicos de vida

La popular autora española exploró los deseos femeninos en *Las edades de Lulú* y retrató la España posterior a la Guerra Civil. **Página 30**



Una noticia que nos deja el corazón helado

POR JORGE FERNÁNDEZ DÍAZ  
**Página 30**

## SOÑAR EN VERDE: UNA INMERSIÓN EN LA NATURALEZA

—revista

El paisajismo más silvestre y los espacios al aire libre dan una nueva forma y paleta al diseño; las tendencias en un especial decoración.

# LA NACION

DOMINGO 28 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

## Tras ser sobreseída, Cristina busca derribar las causas de Vialidad y de los cuadernos

**CORUPCIÓN.** Después de despejar el caso Hotesur, sus defensores apuntan a desactivar el juicio oral que ya está en curso por la obra pública y evitar el proceso de las coimas

Después del sobreseimiento firmado a última hora del viernes, la vicepresidenta Cristina Kirchner apunta ahora a desarticular las acusaciones en su contra que todavía siguen en pie. Uno de esos expedientes es el que investiga el direccionamiento de obras públicas a Lázaro Báez, que actualmente está en la etapa de juicio oral. En esa causa falta, alme-

nos, un año para que se conozca una sentencia.

El otro es el caso de los cuadernos de las coimas, que, más allá de las declaraciones de arrepentidos y la prueba documental que hay en la causa, tanto el entorno de Cristina Kirchner como una gran parte de los acusados consideran que será declarado nulo. Pese a que ambos

casos están en manos de los tribunales orales, la Corte Suprema podría tener un rol central sobre el destino de esos procesos. **Página 12**

### Los hoteles hoy, entre cierres y deudas

Mariela Arias  
**Página 14**

### EL ESCENARIO

#### La consagración del país de los sospechados

Diego Cabot  
**Página 13**

### EL ANÁLISIS

#### Una Justicia moralmente quebrada

Joaquín Morales Solá  
—LA NACION—

Los jueces, Daniel Obligado y Adrián Grünberg, tiraron por la ventana el poco prestigio que le quedaba a la Justicia argentina. Un país sin respeto a la Justicia; eso es lo que quedó. Cayeron al vacío muchos jueces y fiscales con sensibilidad moral y profesional. Para desgracia de estos, lo que resalta es el hecho que perpetraron en la avanzada tarde del viernes aquellos dos jueces, el mayor escándalo judicial de los últimos tiempos. Continúa en la página 39

## Rosario. La violencia narco también afecta a la economía

Germán de los Santos  
PARA LA NACION

ROSARIO.— El sonido de las balas provoca miedo. Paraliza a los habitantes de Rosario, castigada por la violencia narco desde hace casi una década, y empieza a afectar la actividad económica.

“El pánico que genera hoy la violencia narco se transformó en un factor clave que condiciona la economía de la ciudad. No solo se transformó en un costo extra importante, por el gasto en seguridad privada, sino en un problema de gestión, porque genera temor en los clientes, empleados y empresarios”, comentó el presidente del Foro Regional Rosario, Carlos Cristini. Continúa en la página 33

## Con o sin Bolsonaro, la ultraderecha pisa fuerte en Brasil

**TENDENCIA.** Para los analistas, el fenómeno político llegó para quedarse. **Página 4**

## Cambiaso, el crack eterno que volvió a brillar en Palermo

**deportes—** La Dolfina no podía volver a perder porque quedaba eliminado y Adolfo Cambiaso construyó otra actuación notable: marcó 11 goles en la victoria por 16-14 ante su archirrival, Ellerstina, y se ilusiona con jugar, a los 46 años, una nueva final en el Abierto de Palermo de polo.



Cambiaso y todo el control: del rival (Ulloa), de la bocha y del partido

RODRIGO NÉSPOLA

### EL ESCENARIO

#### El Gobierno, en las manos del Fondo

Jorge Liotti  
—PARA LA NACION—

“Diciembre siempre es complicado”. La sentencia de uno de los ministros más prudentes de Alberto Fernández no es solo un pronóstico basado en la historia convulsiva del país. Es una síntesis de lo que se percibe dentro del Gobierno: que en las próximas semanas se juegue el rumbo de los dos años que les quedan de gestión. Las luces rojas en el tablero de las reservas marcan que el oxígeno se está terminando. En este contexto, el acuerdo con el FMI no solo representaría una salida temporal para el problema de una deuda impagable. Continúa en la página 18

## La vicepresidenta toma distancia de un acuerdo con el FMI

**CARTA.** “No tengo la lapicera, la tiene el Presidente”, dijo en una misiva pública. **Página 16**



## Reino Unido, Alemanha e Itália têm nova variante

Dois casos da ômicron, nova variante de preocupação da Covid-19, foram registrados no Reino Unido. A Alemanha notificou outros dois e a Itália, um. Na Holanda, 61 pessoas aguardam sequenciamento.

Presidente do Instituto Butantan, Dimas Covas diz que o Brasil vai, "infelizmente", receber a nova cepa. **Mundo A13 e Painel A4**

## Médicos recomendam adiar viagem ao exterior

Especialistas alertam para risco de viagens internacionais com nova variante e aumento de casos nos EUA e na Europa. **Saúde B6**

## A pandemia em 27.nov

Dados das 20h

### POPULAÇÃO VACINADA

#### No Brasil

Ao menos uma dose (dose única ou 1ª dose) **76,5 %**

1º ciclo vacinal completo (dose única ou 2ª dose) **62,2 %**

Dose de reforço **7,4 %**

### ESTÁGIO DA DOENÇA

#### Óbitos

Média móvel **230** Em 24 h **236**

**-12,2 %\*** Total **614.236**

**Casos** **-17,5 %\*** (desacelerado)

\*Variação em relação a 14 dias

Greg Salblian - 12.mar.20/Folhapress



## Arquiteto Ruy Ohtake morre aos 83 em São Paulo

Morreu aos 83 o arquiteto paulistano Ruy Ohtake, que assinou obras como os hotéis Unique e Renaissance. Primogênito da artista Tomie Ohtake, tinha câncer de medula. **Ilustrada B7**

## Anna V. Balloussier

### A vida sexual dos cegos

"Não se engane", aconselha Ju. O mundo dos cegos é promíscuo "como cidadezinha do interior", onde todo mundo se pega e alguns até se convidam para menages à trois. **Corrida B10**

A repórter passa a escrever na coluna Nosso Estranho Amor mensalmente

## EDITORIAIS A2

**Empresas respiram**  
Sobre balanços favoráveis e conjuntura econômica.

**Questão mal resolvida**  
Acerca de interferências de Bolsonaro no Enem.

ISSN 1414-5723 3 384 2  
9 771414 572018



Jogadores do Palmeiras comemoram em Montevidéu o título da Libertadores, conquistado com gol de Deyverson na prorrogação **Juan Mabromata/AFP**

## Esporte B9

### Domínio no continente

Palmeiras supera o Flamengo e leva a Libertadores pelo 2º ano consecutivo

## Ilustrada Ilustríssima C4

Brigas mostram que criar música a partir de outras nunca foi tão pop e perigoso

## Inflação alta nos EUA derruba a popularidade de Joe Biden

A maior inflação dos últimos 31 anos paira sobre Joe Biden e corrói sua popularidade, deixando perspectivas para as eleições legislativas de 2022 mais sombrias. **A14**

# Cota eleva empregabilidade, mas nem sempre o salário

Pesquisas mostram efeito de ações afirmativas quase duas décadas após início

Pessoas beneficiadas por cotas adotadas em universidades públicas brasileiras têm mais chances de encontrar trabalho na área de estudo, mas não necessariamente receberão melhores salários — o que seria crucial para a redução da desigualdade.

Quase duas décadas após a implantação das ações afirmativas, estudos retratam seus efeitos ao observar o destino de estudantes com o mesmo perfil socioeconômico e de notas no vestibular, o que indicaria dedicação e resiliência semelhantes.

As economistas Ana Trinda-de Ribeiro e Fernanda Estevan mostram que um ex-cotista aprovado por pouco em direito na Uerj tem três vezes mais chance que um candidato eliminado por margem mínima e formado em outro lugar de trabalhar na área.

Pesquisa de linha similar dos economistas Andrew Francis-Tan e Maria Tannuri-Planto constata o mesmo. E ambas indicam que os salários dos beneficiários das cotas nem sempre são maiores, sobretudo em cursos menos seletivos. **Cotidiano B1**

## Doria vence Leite nas prévias do PSDB para a Presidência

O governador de SP, João Doria, venceu as prévias presidenciais do PSDB por 53,99% a 44,66% contra o governador do RS, Eduardo Leite. Arthur Virgílio Neto teve 1,35%. **A8**

## Contra rejeição, Bolsonaro prioriza pauta econômica

Para tentar reverter a rejeição de Jair Bolsonaro às vésperas do ano eleitoral de 2022, o Planalto prioriza no Congresso projetos econômicos com apelo popular. Reformas estruturais, como a tributária e a administrativa, caras a Paulo Guedes (Economia), estão de fora. **Mercado A17**

## Filiação de Bolsonaro ao PL passa por apoio à reeleição de Lira A4

## Arminio Fraga Hora de apostar no eleitoral

A campanha já começou. O quadro econômico e social é frágil. Estaremos diante de uma escolha crucial. É bem possível que um candidato que demonstre entender a dura realidade do país e apresente respostas concretas aos desafios seja recompensado nas urnas. É hora de apostar no eleitoral. **Poder A16**

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**Muchas dudas bajo la alfombra de licitaciones para proveer aseo a entes públicos**

## Rosca de empresas acapara jugosos contratos de limpieza

Firmas vinculadas ofertan en mismos llamados. Cevima SA, San Alfredo SRL y Prodpar acumulan millonarios beneficios con Estado. Contrataciones no avanza en investigación.

PÁGINAS 10 y 11

Falsedades sobre Covid son criminales

### Expertos refutan las teorías más ridículas sobre las vacunas

PÁGINA 2

CDE: Terminal opera como un centro de distribución de contrabando

PÁGINAS 20 y 21

Ya se siente el aroma a flor de coco con pesebres de Areguá

PÁGINA 27

Pésimo recurso se repite en PGN 2022

### Cubrir con deudas el salario público es una peligrosa costumbre

PÁGINA 18

**¡O bicampeño!**

**Ganó Palmeiras.** Gustavo Gómez (izq.) conquistó por segunda vez la Libertadores. El equipo paulista batió al Flamengo 2-1 y logró por tercera vez la Copa.

PÁGINA 60

CON ESTA EDICIÓN

- NUESTRA PAZ
- ESTADÍSTICA DE LA PAZ



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LA VICTORIA  
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DOMINGO

Posturas sobre nuevo proyecto de ley del servicio diplomático aprobado en Senado

Lilian Samaniego, senadora

"Una élite de funcionarios privilegiados tiene el control en la Cancillería"

PÁGINA 12



Noelia López, presidenta de la ADEP

"Tendremos una política exterior débil y seremos el hazmerreír de la región"

PÁGINA 13







MICHEL BARNIER

« JE PEUX EMMENER  
LES RÉPUBLICAINS  
À LA VICTOIRE » PAGE 8

ENQUÊTE

AUTOUR DES ANIMAUX  
DE COMPAGNIE, UN BUSINESS  
FLORISSANT PAGES 24 ET 25ROYAUME-UNI  
Entre Paris  
et Londres, la crise  
migratoire vire  
à la mésentente  
cordiale

PAGE 2 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

VATICAN

Après de François,  
Macron rode  
sa présidence  
européenne

PAGE 2

ALLEMAGNE

Berlin fait le pari  
du cannabis  
en vente libre

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TRANSPORTS

Les trains français  
ont encore  
trop de retards

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FOOTBALL

Pourquoi Zinedine  
Zidane a tout  
pour faire rêver  
le Paris  
Saint-Germain

PAGE 16

ART DE VIVRE

S'offrir des fleurs,  
un rituel antistress

PAGE 32

CHAMPS LIBRES

- La chronique  
de Mathieu  
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« somewhere »  
face à la  
France des  
« anywhere »

PAGES 19 À 21

FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NONRéponses à la question  
de vendredi:  
Covid-19 : approuvez-  
vous le conditionnement  
du passe sanitaire à la  
troisième dose de vaccin  
à partir du 15 janvier ?

OUI 49% NON 51%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 185 214

Votez aujourd'hui  
sur lefigaro.frL'Europe doit-elle  
fermer ses frontières  
face au nouveau  
variant du Covid-19 ?FRANÇOIS BOUCHON/LE FIGARO -  
PHOTOCREO BEDNAREK -  
STOCKADORE.COM

# Mobilisation contre Omicron, nouveau variant sud-africain

Cette souche serait potentiellement plus contagieuse que le variant Delta et moins vulnérable face aux vaccins. La France a suspendu les vols avec l'Afrique australe pour 48 heures.

Alors que l'Europe peine à endiguer la nouvelle vague hivernale de Covid, l'annonce de la découverte d'un nouveau variant très inquiétant en Afrique du Sud, où

les cas sont brutalement repartis à la hausse, a fait l'effet d'un électrochoc. Les scientifiques ne peuvent que spéculer pour l'instant sur ses propriétés exactes, mais

il présente un très grand nombre de mutations dont certaines sont connues pour accentuer sa contagiosité et d'autres pour contourner l'action de certains anti-

corps - et donc potentiellement réduire l'efficacité des vaccins. De nombreux pays européens, dont la France, ont fermé les liaisons aériennes avec l'Afrique aus-

trale pour éviter que cette nouvelle souche ne soit introduite sur leur territoire. Des cas ont néanmoins déjà été identifiés en Israël et en Belgique.

→ LES MARCHÉS FINANCIERS S'AFFOIENT → L'EFFORT FRANÇAIS POUR IDENTIFIER LES SOUCHES DU VIRUS A PRIS TROIS MOIS DE RETARD  
→ UNE QUATRIÈME VAGUE FULGURANTE SUBMERGE LA BAVIÈRE → NOUVEAU TOUR DE VIS EN BELGIQUE PAGES 4, 5 ET 6

## La colère des pêcheurs français ne faiblit pas



Pour protester contre la rétention des permis de pêche par l'Angleterre, les pêcheurs français sont passés à l'action : ils ont bloqué les ports de Calais, de Saint-Malo et de Ouistreham, ainsi que l'accès au tunnel sous la Manche. PAGE 18

ÉDITORIAL par Patrick Saint-Paul psaintpaul@lefigaro.fr

## Cambronne !

La mésentente s'installe durablement entre Paris et Londres. Les amabilités furent des deux côtés de la Manche, alors que le poison du Brexit ne cesse d'envenimer la guéguerre entre deux dirigeants dépourvus du moindre atome crochu. Chacun a son intérêt, Macron et Johnson semblent déterminés à rejouer indéfiniment la crise de Fachoda autour des sujets qui fâchent : immigration, pêche, protocole nord-irlandais, alliance Aukus. À bout de patience, le chef de l'État peine visiblement à réprimer le célèbre mot de Cambronne lorsqu'il juge « pas sérieuses » les méthodes du premier ministre britannique. Dans une lettre rendue publique sur Twitter, celui-ci exige de la France qu'elle reprenne les migrants arrivant sur son île... « Logique », puisque Londres accuse Paris de ne pas tenir sa frontière. Ces postures politiques paraissent bien dérisoires au regard de la tragédie de mercredi qui a emporté 27 vies humaines. Dans la « guerre du poison » aussi, la France et le Royaume-Uni se rendent coup pour coup. Dernier épisode, les pêcheurs français ont bloqué le port de Calais et le tunnel sous la Manche, pour pro-

tester contre la non-délivrance des permis de pêche dans les eaux britanniques. Paris et Londres auraient pourtant tout intérêt à coopérer. En matière d'autonomie stratégique, la France ne peut se passer du Royaume-Uni, l'autre puissance nucléaire européenne. Et Johnson ne pourra clore sa renégociation du protocole nord-irlandais qu'avec l'aval de Paris. Mais, côté français, Emmanuel Macron - dépeint par les médias outre-Manche en Napoléon au petit pied, jaloux, « bad cop » de la négociation du Brexit, qui n'aurait de cesse de vouloir punir Londres - est en campagne pour la présidentielle de 2022. Les Britanniques le soupçonnent de vouloir contenir la droite dure sur leur dos. De son côté, Boris Johnson, « menteur invétéré » pour les Français, est accusé de refaire la bataille du divorce européen pour servir ses intérêts de politique intérieure. Il est sous pression : reprendre le contrôle des frontières était une promesse du Brexit... L'entente cordiale n'est pas pour demain ! ■

## Dans la tourmente, l'archevêque de Paris présente sa démission au pape

Le diocèse de Paris a confirmé le 26 novembre une information publiée par *Le Figaro* selon laquelle l'archevêque de Paris a présenté cette semaine au pape François une lettre de « mise à disposition » de sa charge à la suite des révélations de l'hebdomadaire *Le Point* à propos d'une « relation » féminine que le prélat nie formellement.

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MESSIKA  
PARIS