



Can the
Technology
Behind
Covid
Vaccines
Cure Other
Diseases?
REVIEW

WSJ

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEEKEND



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Faster Than New
OFF DUTY

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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 - 6, 2022 - VOL. CCLXXIX NO. 29

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What's News

World-Wide

Russia's Putin and China's Xi turned their partnership to more directly confront the U.S., opposing America's global network of alliances and seeking to nudge it aside as the sole superpower. **A1**

◆ **Pence** forcefully rejected Trump's claims that the former vice president could have overturned the 2020 election outcome during the session of Congress that was interrupted by pro-Trump rioters. **A4**

◆ **North Carolina's** Supreme Court struck down the voting maps enacted by the Republican-controlled state legislature, saying they violated the state's constitution. **A4**

◆ **The Biden administration** is waiving sanctions on some of Iran's civilian nuclear activities as it seeks to close a deal with Iran on returning to the 2015 nuclear pact. **A7**

◆ **The House approved** a \$350 billion initiative to boost U.S. competitiveness with China and other rivals, but differences with the Senate and emerging partisan divides signaled struggles ahead. **A4**

◆ **U.S. Border Patrol** agents made about 1.9 million arrests in 2021, a record reflecting an upsurge in attempted crossings at the Mexican border. **A3**

◆ **Michael Avenatti** was convicted of stealing nearly \$300,000 from former client Stormy Daniels. **A3**

Business & Finance

◆ **U.S. employers** hired at a rapid pace late last year and in January, bolstering the economy in the face of the Omicron wave of Covid-19 and staffing shortages. **A1**

◆ **Government bond** yields surged world-wide after the jobs report boosted expectations that central banks will begin steadily raising rates. **B1**

◆ **The S&P 500 and Nasdaq** posted gains of 0.5% and 1.6%, respectively, while the Dow slipped 0.1%. **B11**

◆ **Amazon** notched the largest one-day gain in market value for a U.S. company, just a day after Facebook parent Meta Platforms suffered the largest loss. **A1**

◆ **Saudi Arabia** has restarted plans to list more shares of Aramco, with an ambition to sell as much as a \$50 billion stake. **A1**

◆ **Peloton** is drawing interest from potential suitors including Amazon, as its stock slumps and an activist urges it to explore a sale. **B1**

◆ **Kohl's** rejected a \$9 billion takeover offer by an activist group for being too low, but said it would review other expressions of interest. **B3**

◆ **News Corp.** was the target of a hack that accessed emails and documents of journalists and others, an incursion believed to be linked to China. **B3**

OPINION

Long Live Ukraine,
Taiwan and
The Nation-State **A13**

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Hiring Shows Surprising Strength

U.S. payrolls expanded by 467,000 in January, prior months revised; wages climbed 5.7%

By SARAH CHANEY CAMBON
AND GABRIEL T. RUBIN

U.S. employers hired at a rapid pace late last year and in January, bolstering the economy in the face of the Omicron wave of Covid-19 and staffing shortages.

The U.S. economy added 467,000 jobs in January, the Labor Department said Friday. Job growth in November and

December combined was about 700,000 higher than previously reported. Overall, the robust job gains this winter signal that hiring demand continued to be high as Delta and Omicron cases surged.

"We're seeing a more resilient, more prepared U.S. labor market than we've seen in the past," said Becky Frankiewicz, president of ManpowerGroup North America.

U.S. stocks were generally higher and government bond yields rose sharply after the better-than-expected report.

January payrolls might have been stronger if not for the surge in Omicron cases.

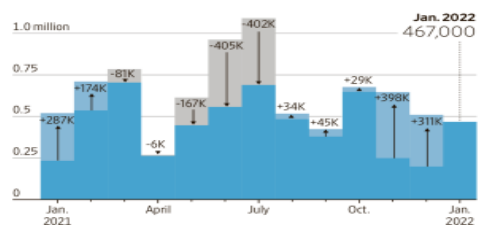
The Labor Department said nearly two million workers were prevented from looking for a job last month because of the pandemic. And the number of Americans who said they were unable to work because their employer closed or lost business due to the pandemic nearly doubled in January from December.

The unemployment rate rose slightly in January to 4% from 3.9% in December, with more

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◆ **Greg Ip:** The mystery of low U.S. labor participation..... **A2**
◆ **Heard on the Street:** Omicron no match for job market... **B12**

U.S. nonfarm payrolls, 1-month net change with revisions



Note: Seasonally adjusted. December and January are preliminary.
Source: Labor Department

Beijing Games Open Against Backdrop of Global Tensions



SPECTACLE: Fireworks representing the Olympic rings go off over the National Stadium, known as the Bird's Nest, in Beijing during the opening ceremony of the 2022 Winter Games on Friday. Coverage on page A12. Follow the Games at WSJ.com.

Putin, Xi Unite in Challenge to U.S.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese leader Xi Jinping turned their partnership to more directly confront the U.S., opposing America's global network of alliances

By **Chao Deng,**
Ann M. Simmons,
Evan Gershtovich
and **William Mauldin**

and seeking to nudge it aside as the sole superpower.

With Friday's opening of the Beijing Winter Olympics and Russia's military buildup near Ukraine as a backdrop, the two leaders conferred at a summit, struck deals on oil and gas and then pledged in a

broad-ranging joint statement to provide new leadership at a time, it said, that power is shifting in the world.

Pointedly, in a break with the indirect pronouncements of past summits, their statement criticized the U.S. by name six times, taking issue with its alliances with Australia and others in Asia, and its arms-control and other policies. It also opposed any expansion by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization—a central demand from Russia in its standoff with the West over Ukraine.

The opposition to NATO marked China's most explicit support to date of Russia in the confrontation and, interna-

tional-affairs specialists said, showed Beijing's ambition to have a say in European security and its closest alignment with Russia since the early years of the Communist bloc's Cold War with the West.

"The world should get ready for a further significant deepening of the China-Russia security and economic relationship," said Kevin Rudd, president of the Asia Society, a New York-based think tank, and former prime minister of Australia.

Mr. Rudd said not since the bitter Communist bloc split between the Soviet Union and China in the late 1950s has

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Bleak Horizon



The Russian-controlled areas within Ukraine's Luhansk and Donetsk regions have turned into impoverished, depopulated enclaves. **A8**

Used Teslas Defy Logic Of Car Buying

Market's turn
creates dilemma
for drivers

By REBECCA ELLIOTT
AND MEGHAN BOBROWSKY

The Tesla Pimp has never seen such demand.

Alli Heniche makes his living buying luxury vehicles in Europe and flipping them to dealers to be resold. Pre-pandemic, Tesla owners were happy to take what they could get for their cars.

Now, Mr. Heniche, who is based in Milan, Italy, says demand is so charged he regu-

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EXCHANGE



GAME ON
Inside Microsoft's
\$75 billion bet
on the videogame
business.

B1

Saudis Plan \$50 Billion Stock Sale In Oil Giant

Saudi Arabia has restarted plans to list more shares of Aramco, the world's most valuable oil company, according to people familiar with the company's strategy, with an ambition to sell as much as a

By **Summer Said**
in **Dubai**
and **Julie Steinberg**
in **London**

\$50 billion stake, which at current valuations would be 2.5% of the company.

Executives at state-owned Saudi Arabian Oil Co., as Aramco is known, have held

Please turn to page A6

Spotify's Stumble Was a Wake-Up Call

The audio giant is struggling to adapt
as it produces more of its own content

By **ANNE STEELE**
AND **JOHN JURGENSEN**

Rocker Neil Young came across an NPR report on the morning of Jan. 24 that seemed like a fit for his Times-Contrarian online newspaper, which is housed on his website, the Neil Young Archives.

It detailed an open letter to Spotify Technology SA, published earlier in January, from teachers, scientists and medical professionals urging the streaming giant to address what they deemed

false information about Covid-19 vaccines on Joe Rogan's podcast.

Mr. Young would typically just repeat such a story, said a person familiar with his site. Instead, the singer decided to pen his own letter about Spotify. "They can have Rogan or Young. Not both," the 76-year-old activist wrote to both his management and his record label, asking they remove his music immediately.

Two days later, Mr. Young's label told Spotify to take

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◆ **S&P 500 and Nasdaq** gain; Dow edges lower..... **B11**

Please turn to page A6

In recent days, investors have shown more faith in the tech companies whose services are seen as staples than in those whose offerings are more elective, said John Lynch, chief investment officer at Comerica Wealth Management, which manages \$175 billion.

"Within tech we're starting to see a delineation be-

By **KAREN LANGLEY**
AND **JOE WALLACE**

Amazon Shares Jump, a Day After Meta Fall

Investors in big technology stocks have a serious case of whiplash.

Amazon.com Inc. on Friday notched the largest-ever one-day gain in market value for a U.S. company—just a day after Facebook parent Meta Platforms Inc. suffered the largest-ever loss.

The dramatic moves suggest investors are moving quickly to draw distinctions among the growth prospects of some of the biggest U.S. companies as they reassess their valuations in anticipation of higher interest rates.

Both stocks have surged so far, so fast in recent years that any big move can rattle the broader market and set various records.

Amazon is the fourth-biggest company in the U.S. by market value, behind Apple Inc., Microsoft Corp. and Alphabet Inc., with a market capitalization of about \$1.6 trillion, while Meta is No. 7, even after Thursday's declines.

Amazon.com Inc. on Friday notched the largest-ever one-day gain in market value for a U.S. company, just a day after Facebook parent Meta Platforms suffered the largest loss.

A paradise of freedom

How Miami became the most important city in America

LIFE & ARTS

Xi backs Putin's opposition to Nato expansion in Beijing talks

Meeting held as Olympics opens Big shift in Chinese outlook Gas supply deal agreed

EDWARD WHITE — SEOUL
KATHRIN HILLE — TAIPEI
NASTASSIA ASTRASHEUSKAYA — MOSCOW

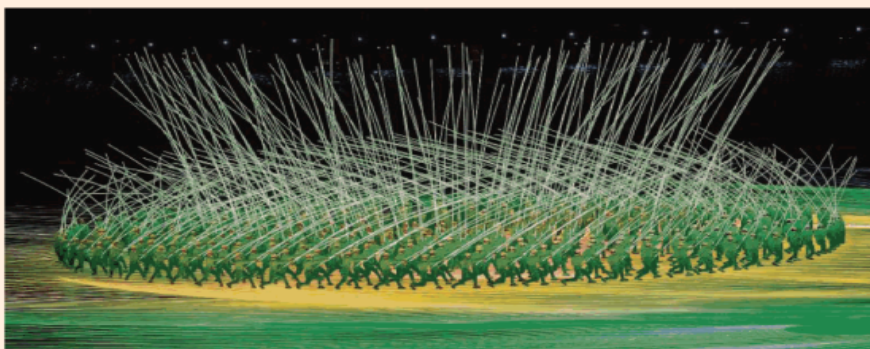
China has joined Russia in opposing further expansion of Nato, a significant step up in Beijing's backing for Moscow as the countries' leaders agreed to deepen co-operation across security and economic areas.

Presidents Xi Jinping of China and Vladimir Putin of Russia said they "oppose further enlargement of Nato", in a joint statement released by the Kremlin after the pair met in Beijing yesterday.

With the west opposing Russia's military build-up on the Ukraine border and China's treatment of Uyghurs in Xinjiang, Putin and Xi presented a united front in talks just hours before the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics. They also cemented bilateral ties with a smattering of agreements, including a new gas supply deal.

While China had signalled its backing for Russia in its stand-off with the US and Nato in recent days, the joint statement goes much further. "This is the first time Beijing has explicitly opposed Nato enlargement," said Alexander Gabuev, an expert in Russia-China relations at the Carnegie Moscow Center, an offshoot of the US think-tank.

Xi said China and Russia would support each other's sovereignty and interests, while also dealing with external interferences and regional security threats, according to Chinese state media. The more than 5,000-word



The Winter Olympics opens in the absence of many western leaders who refused to send officials over China's alleged human rights abuses
Gerrit Anwar/AP

statement criticised "certain states' attempts to impose their own 'democratic standards' on other countries".

The two countries said they were "seriously concerned" over the Aukus security pact reached between Australia, the UK and US last year.

Russia's Gazprom also signed a deal with China's CNPC to supply gas via a new route with deliveries of 10bn cubic metres a year over 25 years.

The affirmation of stronger Sino-Russian ties comes against a backdrop of alarm over Russia's aggressive pos-

ture towards Ukraine. Moscow has moved more than 100,000 troops to its border with the country in what the US has warned is a prelude to an invasion.

Despite the demonstration of unity, Putin and Xi carefully sidestepped areas where their interests are not fully aligned. The two leaders' statement made no mention of Ukraine, the South China Sea or China's border with India.

Ukraine is a difficult issue for China because territorial integrity is a principle of Beijing's foreign policy.

Putin was among a group of foreign

leaders attending the Games' opening ceremony, which included Saudi crown prince Mohammed bin Salman and Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan.

Many western countries have refused to send officials to the games over China's alleged rights abuses in Xinjiang and Beijing's policies in Hong Kong.

Additional reporting by William Langley in Hong Kong
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Man in the News page 7
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How To Spend It Portrait of a modern royal

SEPARATE MAGAZINE



'Marx is neither saint nor enemy' Lea Ypi has lunch with the FT

LIFE & ARTS



Trump's back

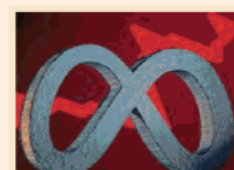
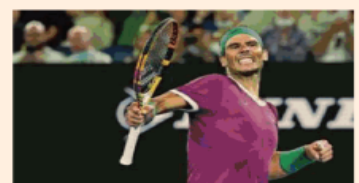
Will he weaken Republicans?

BIG READ



Rafa and me Love, set and match

LIFE & ARTS



Big Tech's house intact after earnings storm

Stock volatility and the gloom outlook from Meta that dented its value by \$230bn have rung alarm bells for tech investors but the cloud has a silver lining: the cloud. As the blizzard of results clears, the picture across the sector becomes less threatening. Demand for the systems that support the digital economy has held up.

FT View > PAGE 6
Silver lining > PAGE 10
Traders struggle > PAGE 13
The Long View > PAGE 18

Biden declares recovery stronger than ever as US 'job machine' beats forecast

JAMES POLITI — WASHINGTON
COLBY SMITH AND
KATE DUGUID — NEW YORK

Joe Biden seized on an unexpected surge in employment last month to tout the resilience of the US recovery and reboot flagging public confidence in his handling of the economy.

"America's job machine is going stronger than ever," the US president said yesterday after data showed the US economy added 467,000 jobs last month despite the surge of Omicron. "It's fuelling a strong recovery and opportunity for hardworking women and men all across this great country. America is back to work."

The surprise increase in payrolls defied predictions by economists, who had projected job gains of 150,000.

In addition to the jump in payrolls in

January, there were large upward revisions to data from previous months, with the Bureau of Labor Statistics undercounting the number of jobs created by roughly 700,000 in November and December.

The strong data, which also showed wage growth rising by more than predicted, will come as a relief for a White House that had warned jobs growth might be hit by the jump in Covid-19 infections. It will fuel expectations that the Federal Reserve will move more aggressively than planned to tighten monetary policy to stamp out inflation.

The unemployment rate climbed to 4 per cent despite the strong gains, from 3.9 per cent previously.

US government bonds sold off sharply after the jobs report, pushing Treasury yields to their highest level since the start of the pandemic. The decline in the

price of the debt, which moves inversely to yields, reflects concerns that further signs of strength in the labour market will bolster the Fed's resolve to tighten monetary policy.

The data released by the labour statistics office were collected during the worst of the Omicron surge, which fuelled a record number of Covid-19 cases, hospital admissions and fatalities.

Before the winter wave of infections, employers were struggling to fill posts, as concerns about catching the virus and childcare issues deterred people from joining the workforce. The number of job openings has swelled as a result, with more than 10mn reported in the final month of 2021. That translates to 1.7 job openings for every unemployed worker, the highest since the US began collecting data two decades ago.

On Wall Street page 13

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Feb 4	prev	%chg		Feb 4	prev	%chg		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4491.94	4477.44	0.32	\$ per €	1.144	1.142	0.2%	US Gov 10 yr	142.72	1.92	0.10
Nasdaq Composite	14090.43	13870.82	0.86	\$ per £	1.353	1.351	0.2%	UK Gov 10 yr	1.34	0.05	0.05
Dow Jones Ind	34996.54	35111.16	-0.33	€ per ¥	0.004	0.003	0.3%	Ger Gov 10 yr	0.20	0.06	0.02
FTSEurofirst 300	1806.49	1827.82	-1.17	¥ per \$	115.265	114.895	0.3%	Japan Gov 10 yr	111.03	0.20	0.02
Euro Stoxx 50	4083.14	4141.82	-1.40	£ per \$	155.870	156.384	-0.3%	US Gov 30 yr	107.07	2.22	0.07
FTSE 100	7576.40	7526.84	0.67	SFr per €	1.050	1.049	0.1%	Ger Gov 2 yr	103.82	-0.26	0.14
FTSE All-Share	4208.61	4222.74	-0.33								
CAC 40	6951.38	7005.63	-0.77								
Nikkei	15099.56	15369.47	-1.75								
Hong Kong	27439.39	27241.31	0.72								
MSCI World \$	24073.23	23860.26	0.94								
MSCI EM \$	12162.27	12133.23	0.24								
MSCI ACWI \$	716.16	729.06	-1.77								

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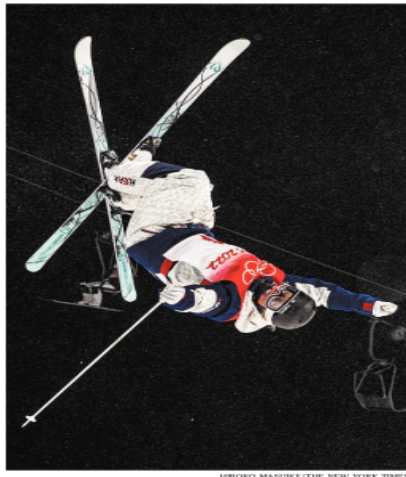
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No: 40931

Printed in London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin,
Frankfurt, Milan, Madrid, New York, Chicago, San
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Dubai

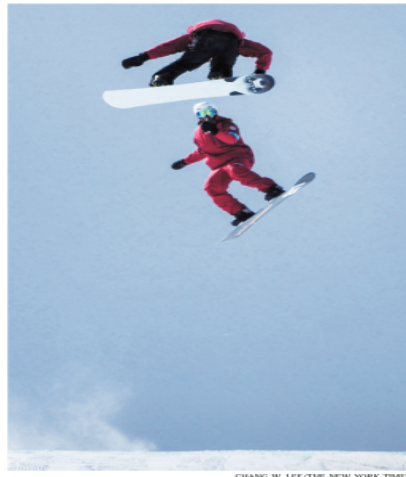


A Nikkei Company

Late Edition
Today, mostly sunny, still fairly cold, less brisk, high 31. Tonight, clear, low 28. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, milder, more seasonable, high 41. Weather map appears on Page 26.



HERO MASURKE/THE NEW YORK TIMES



CHANG W. LEE/THE NEW YORK TIMES



DOUG MELLA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Always Flirting With Disaster

The New York Times asked Winter Olympians what role fear plays in their sport. Their answers covered a broad spectrum — the fear of missing the Olympics, of regret, of disappointing family and friends, of losing control of where their story goes or how their career ends. But the No. 1 answer was a feeling that is visceral, tangible and common in these sports: the fear of getting hurt. Sports, Page 1.

Huge Casualties Feared if Russia Seizes Ukraine

By HELENE COOPER and DAVID E. SANGER

WASHINGTON — Senior Biden administration officials told lawmakers this past week that they believed the Russian military had assembled 70 percent of the forces it would need to mount a full invasion of Ukraine, painting the most ominous picture yet of the options that Russia's president, Vladimir V. Putin, has created for himself in recent weeks.

During six hours of closed meetings with House and Senate lawmakers on Thursday, the officials warned that if Mr. Putin chose the most aggressive of his options, he could quickly surround or capture Kyiv, the capital, and remove the country's democratically elected president, Volodymyr Zelensky. They also warned that the invasion could prompt an enormous refugee crisis on the European continent, sending millions fleeing.

The officials stressed that U.S. intelligence analysts still did not assess that Mr. Putin had made a final decision to invade. But satellite imagery, communications among Russian forces and images of Russian equipment on the move show that he has assembled everything he would need to undertake what the officials said would constitute the largest military operation on land in Europe since 1945.

They also warned of enormous possible human costs if Mr. Putin went ahead with a full invasion, including the potential deaths of 25,000 to 50,000 civilians, 5,000 to 25,000 members of the Ukrainian military and 3,000 to 10,000 members of the Russian military. The invasion, they said, could also result in one million to five million refugees, with many of them pouring into Poland.

Should Mr. Putin decide to invade, American officials believe he is not likely to move until the second half of February. By that point, more ground will have frozen, making it easier to move heavy vehicles and equipment, and the Winter Olympics in Beijing.

Continued on Page 13

A Fatal Shove on the Subway and a Broken Mental Health System

This article is by Andy Newman, Nate Schweber and Chelsea Rose Marcus.

To the homeless men lined up outside Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen in Manhattan, Martial Simon was a familiar figure: often incoherent, usually angry about something.

But over the course of Mr. Simon's endless circuit of hospitals and jails, outpatient psychiatric programs and the streets, Larry Williamson grew friendly with him.

The frequent targets of Mr. Simon's ire, Mr. Williamson said, were doctors and the medical establishment. He was upset that

hospitals were discharging him before he believed he was well enough to live on his own.

Mr. Simon's ragged journey continued until 9:37 a.m. on Jan. 15, when, according to what the police said was his confession, he shoved Michelle Alyssa Go, a 40-year-old stranger, in front of a train at the Times Square subway station. She died instantly.

Mr. Simon, 61, a former caddy and parking-lot manager who immigrated from Haiti at 13 and started showing symptoms of schizophrenia in his 30s, will probably spend the rest of his life locked away.

But his decades adrift in New York, where his lawyer estimates he was hospitalized at least 20

Revolving Door From Treatment to Streets

times, illustrate a broken system of care for some of society's most severely ill members, a failing writ large every few years when another person with a history of psychiatric hospitalization commits an awful act of violence, mental health experts and homeless advocates say.

The revolving door for those with chronic mental illness has accelerated lately as long-term trends like the reduction of inpatient psychiatric beds have shifted

the burden of treating such patients to hospital emergency rooms stretched thin by the pandemic.

The system is not intended to work this way. When someone experiencing psychosis is brought to a hospital, the patient is supposed to be evaluated, admitted to an inpatient ward if necessary, treated until considered stable and then released in coordination with outside care providers.

But those basic steps are often not followed, according to several social-service providers who said that some hospitals in the city were refusing to even admit patients they find too disruptive, or

Continued on Page 21



MOSHA AB ELISABETH/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Death of a Child Unites Morocco in Grief

A four-day rescue operation failed to save a boy who plunged down a 100-foot well. Page 14.

Exotic Butterflies and a Wild Conspiracy Theory

By J. DAVID GOODMAN

MISSION, Texas — For nearly two decades, the National Butterfly Center has provided a place of wonder along the banks of the Rio Grande, attracting curious visitors and nature enthusiasts from around the country to watch delicate creatures like the xami hairstreak float over flowers and alight on logs.

Among those who trade in outlandish right-wing conspiracies online, though, the center is said to be something else: a cover for human smuggling, sex trafficking and the exploitation of children. The lies have spread so widely in recent years that the center is now receiving visitors with no interest in butterflies at all.

Last month, a Republican congressional candidate from Virgin-

ia came to the center looking for a site of human smugglers and had a physical altercation with its director. Days later, a man from an upstart media organization associated with Steve Bannon recorded a video outside the center's gates, claiming "credible threats of the cartels trafficking children through the butterfly center." To make his point, he held

Continued on Page 16

New York's Hospitals Emerge, Resilient, From Omicron Wave

By SHARON OTTERMAN and JOSEPH GOLDSTEIN

More than 60,000 New York City residents tested positive for the coronavirus in a single day. Testing lines stretched for hours, and a quarantine hotel program doubled in size. Packed emergency rooms had too few nurses. Hospital morgues became so full that about 200 bodies had to be relocated by the city.

Like a tsunami, the Omicron variant of the virus swept through New York City from December to January, swamping defenses that had been built over the past two years. Some epidemiologists estimate that 40 percent or more of residents were infected. More than one in 10 public school students and about one in four school staff members had confirmed infections in the wave, according to state statistics.

The extraordinary surge exposed understaffing problems at the city's hospitals, particularly among nurses, to a degree unseen earlier in the pandemic. For several weeks, tens of thousands of patients were treated by health care teams severely depleted by illness and burnout.

Yet now, with Omicron receding rapidly and virus cases plummet-



VICTOR J. BLUE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

St. Barnabas, an independent hospital in the Bronx, treats predominantly poor patients.

ing more than 90 percent from their recent peak, health officials are also reaching an encouraging assessment: The city's hospital system, although critically stretched, did not break. Experienced health care workers treated patients more effectively, and deaths were limited to a small fraction of the number recorded during the virus's first wave in 2020.

This was partly because Omicron proved to be less deadly than previous variants, with far fewer patients ending up in intensive

Continued on Page 19

METROPOLITAN

Mystery Deepens With Time

Almost four years after an Episcopal priest's murder, more questions than answers remain, including whether he was a pedophile. PAGE 1

SUNDAY STYLES

Skating's Popularity Problem

As mountains become more crowded, skiers and resort owners are asking the question: If not everyone can fit, who should be here? PAGE 1

ARTS & LEISURE

Shouldn't Doomsday Be Scary?

Pop culture has a lot to say about the climate crisis. But it can seem as if the warnings are delivered with little real urgency. PAGE 13

SUNDAY BUSINESS

A Big Idea Is on Trial

Modern Monetary Theory got a tryout during the pandemic, and now inflation is testing the limits of this popular economic thesis. PAGE 1

SUNDAY REVIEW

David Brooks

PAGE 4



PROUD OUTFITTER OF TEAM USA



Photographs by LUIS SINCO Los Angeles Times

A HOMELESS woman sits along the Venice boardwalk, where camps were removed last summer.

'Sound of people in need hasn't stopped' in Venice

Encampments are gone, but residents say it's no solution

By DOUG SMITH

From his home across the street from a homeless shelter in Venice, Shawn Stern sometimes turns on his video camera to document a disturbance that has grabbed his attention.

On Nov. 6, he recorded a gray-haired woman walking down Main Street, screaming and gesturing at passing cars.

Ten days later, another woman sat on the sidewalk, surrounded by three outreach workers, screaming at them that she did not want their help. Later, she too was walking down the middle of the street.

His most poignant video, made on the night of Nov. 30, caught a woman, naked from the waist down and with just one shoe on, mumbling incoherently.

"It's like this on a regular basis down here," the 61-year-old [See Venice Beach, A16]



SEREN HKSE lives, temporarily she says, in a small compound of tents just off the boardwalk. She sells paintings to passersby.

Shaping a City Council race

Memories of a raucous 2018 town hall on homelessness linger in Venice as candidates line up to replace Mike Bonin. CALIFORNIA, B1

Online pastors, form letters and vax exemptions

A cottage industry is helping workers avoid vaccine mandates on religious grounds.

By LAURA J. NELSON AND CONNOR SHEETS

The request arrived at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in early September.

Written on letterhead with a gold seal, it warned the city agency that forcing an employee to wear a mask, get tested or be vaccinated against COVID-19 would be an "affront to a Christian" and a violation of federal laws that ban religious discrimination.

The document looked and sounded official. It was signed by the pastor of True Hope Ministry in San Clemente.

It can be purchased online for \$195 as part of a vaccine exemption "concierge program."

That letter, and others like it, have become go-to tools for California employees seeking exemptions from workplace vaccine mandates. They raise questions about what constitutes a deeply held religious belief, how those beliefs should be expressed and what employers can do about a request that may not be sincere.

Through public records requests, The Times amassed more than 2,200 pages of emails, letters and other records related to religious waivers from vaccine rules. The documents, from four public employers, show just how complicated it can be to review vaccine exemption requests. They also reveal a cottage industry that has sprung up to help people justify decisions to refuse vaccination.

Some employees at the DWP, the Orange County Sheriff's Department and two Southern California school districts cited Scripture and described their relationships with their faith. But the majority of exemption requests reviewed by The Times were copied from letters posted on websites of evangelical churches, conservative legal groups and fee-based organizations such as True Hope Ministry.

Several letters reviewed by The Times included statements identical to those on the website of Defending the Republic, a Texas organization led by Sidney Powell, a conspiracy theorist and lawyer connected to former President Trump. Others lifted language from [See Exemptions, A10]

MORE COVERAGE

Private schools snub inspectors

County health officers who enforce pandemic requirements are denied access. CALIFORNIA, B1

Medical workers are 'exhausted'

Surge hasn't eased at one rural hospital, where half of residents are not vaccinated. CALIFORNIA, B1

COVERING KAMALA HARRIS

Under scrutiny, a fresh strategy

Vice president hopes to turn things around by finding roles more suited to her skill set.

By NOAH BIEMAN

WASHINGTON — As lawmakers negotiated a criminal justice bill last year, Vice President Kamala Harris seemed like a natural person to go to for guidance and leadership. She'd served as the top prosecutor in San Francisco and as the attorney general of California. As a senator, she had co-written the George Floyd policing bill.

Yet she remained an afterthought to the lead Democratic negotiator in the House.

"She was the attorney general of California. We needed the attorney general of the United States," said Rep. Karen Bass, a Los Angeles Democrat.

Bass' dismissive comment and Harris' minor role on an issue that seemed tailor-made for the vice president underscore how hard it has been for her to find the sweet spot in the White House.

She holds an amorphous job and has taken on intractable assignments — record-setting migration from Central America and Republican efforts to restrict voting. As the first [See Harris, A12]

BEIJING OLYMPICS



HANS BEZARD Agency Zoom/Getty Images
JACKIE WILES of the U.S. grimaces in pain after wiping out in the Bavarian Alps in 2018. Wiles will compete in the super-G and downhill events in Beijing.

COLUMN ONE

Skiers endure falls, crashes on path to Olympic glory

By Nathan Fenno
REPORTING FROM BEIJING

In the Bavarian Alps a famed ski course plunges two miles down the side of a mountain through a treacherous section with a steep drop nicknamed Hell.

When Jackie Wiles neared the spot during the downhill on a dark afternoon four years ago, the veteran U.S. Alpine skier pushed harder.

She had reached the podium in the

downhill two weeks earlier for the second time in her career and wasn't about to let up in her final World Cup race, held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, before flying to the Winter Olympics in South Korea.

Forty-seven seconds into the run, Wiles skidded outside the blue dye lines that mark the optimal path down the mountain. She recovered [See Injuries, A4]

Rich town wants a big cat as a buffer

Silicon Valley suburb tries to block housing law by declaring itself mountain-lion habitat.

By LIAM DILLON

The well-heeled Silicon Valley suburb of Woodside has come up with a novel way to block plans that would potentially bring in more affordable housing: Declare itself Cougar Town.

Officials in the enclave of 5,500 people recently announced that all of Woodside was exempt from a new state housing law that allows for duplex development on single-family home lots.

The reason? The entire town is habitat for potentially endangered mountain lions.

Woodside's decision drew quick scorn as a brazen attempt to evade even minimally denser development in one of California's most exclusive locales. The bucolic, wooded town near Stanford University and the heart of Silicon Valley has a median home value of \$4.5 million. Among its residents [See Buffer, A15]

Nine accused of gang killings

The men are charged in the shooting deaths of six people in South L.A. CALIFORNIA, B1

Boy, 5, trapped in well for days dies

Frantic rescue efforts in a Moroccan village captured the world's attention. WORLD, A3

The fight against Islamic State

Kurds who defeated the militants in a prison attack in Syria say they need help. WORLD, A6

Weather

Sunny and warmer. L.A. Basin: 79/54. B10



CÉSAR CANSICO For The Times

SUPER BOWL RETURNS TO ITS ROOTS

The NFL and Los Angeles are ideal partners for putting on a spectacle. SPECIAL SECTION

ax time Don't
call the IRS on
Wednesdays, and
other key tips for
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Trump reveals all
One of his biggest
lies yet came after
Jan. 6 insurrection
SUNDAY TAKE, PAGE A2



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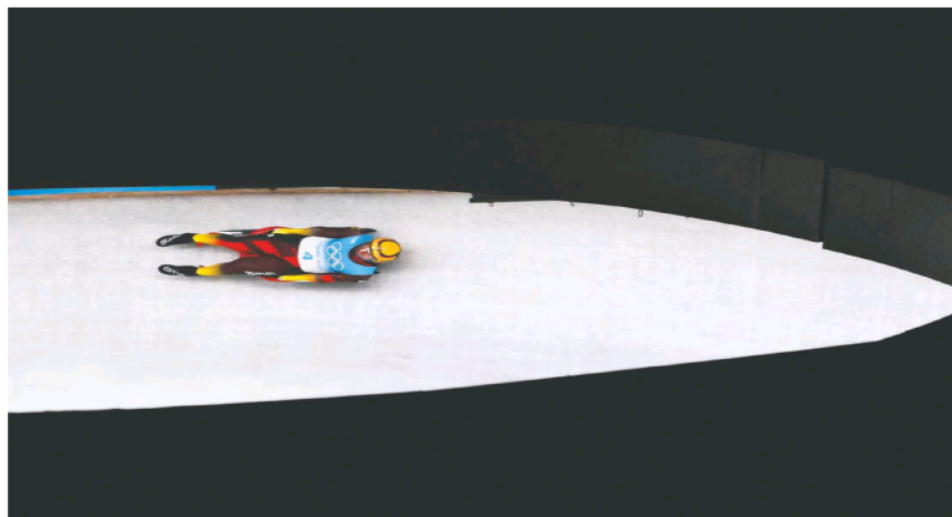
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EDGAR SU/REUTERS

Back to the wall in Beijing, a medal in sight

Germany's Johannes Ludwig takes on a high bank on the second of his two luge runs at Yanqing's National Sliding Centre on Saturday at the Beijing Olympics. Ludwig, this season's World Cup champion, leads the competition with two runs to come Sunday. For real-time Olympics updates and analysis, visit [postsports.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2022/02/05/olympics-live-updates/).

A flash point one day, an ordinary skier the next

BY ADAM KILGORE
AND CHRISTIAN SHEPHERD
IN ZHANGJIAKOU, CHINA

Her ethnicity and the stage her nation chose for her had made Dinigeer Yilamujiang an international flash point the night before, a symbol of China's galling hubris to some and of its ambition to cleanse its global reputation to others. Saturday evening at the finish line at Zhangjiakou National Cross-Country Centre, as she made two last powerful strides, bent at the waist and heaving for air, Yilamujiang was simply a skier depleted by the demands of her sport, entrant No. 29 in the women's skiatlon.

Beijing 2022 organizers selected Yilamujiang, a 20-year-old ethnic Uyghur from Xinjiang, as one of two athletes who lit the Olympic cauldron at Friday



LINTAO ZHANG/GETTY IMAGES

Dinigeer Yilamujiang, a 20-year-old ethnic Uyghur, was a torchbearer for China during the Opening Ceremonies.

night's Opening Ceremonies. The global community responded with astonishment that China had chosen a representative from a population its government has been accused of committing genocide against. Security forces in recent years have detained at least a million Uyghurs and other Muslims in Xinjiang, the area in the country's northwest where most Uyghurs live.

A day after her appearance at National Stadium, Yilamujiang lined up next to the world's best cross-country skiers. She finished 43rd in a 65-woman field, about six minutes behind Norwegian gold medalist Therese Johaug in a race totaling 15 kilometers, skied 7.5 kilometers at a time in different disciplines with a pit stop to change skis in between. Yilamujiang produced a performance in

SEE OLYMPICS ON A24

First in a generation

Mexican skater's 'dream' comes true. **D1**

That kind of Knight

Veteran helps U.S. women roll in hockey. **D1**

A cold truth

How these Games' snow is made. **D8**

Trump's habit of destroying paper was widespread, 'unprecedented'

BY ASHLEY PARKER,
JOSH DAWSEY,
TOM HAMBURGER
AND JACQUELINE ALEMANY

President Donald Trump tore up briefings and schedules, articles and letters, memos both sensitive and mundane.

He ripped paper into quarters with two big, clean strokes — or occasionally more vigorously, into smaller scraps.

He left the detritus on his desk in the Oval Office, in the trash can of his private West Wing study and on the floor aboard Air Force One, among many other places.

And he did it all in violation of the Presidential Records Act, despite being urged by at least two chiefs of staff and the White House counsel to follow the law

SEE TRUMP ON A10

Family business: Trumps move to reestablish branding empire. **A11**

A father was charged with murder based on the word of a medical examiner. Would it be enough for a conviction?

The weight of one doctor's opinion

BY KEVIN SULLIVAN
AND MARY JORDAN
IN CINCINNATI

The body of Jayce Jamison Fitzhugh, 7 months old, 17 pounds, two days dead, lay on a steel table.

Dorothy Dean, a forensic pathologist in the local coroner's office, began her autopsy. She noted that the boy's body was well developed and nourished. Light brown hair, thin and short. Blue eyes. Nose and ears: perfectly normal.

Then she looked inside his head and saw a thin skull fracture.

As she examined it, she concluded that someone had assaulted the baby; it was a homicide. She told detectives the injury occurred shortly before the baby stopped breathing, so they quickly focused on Joshua Mounts, the boy's father, who had called 911. Mounts was the only person caring for his son in the hours before the ambulance arrived.

On the strength of one doctor's medical opinion, police arrested Mounts in March 2018, accusing him of murder.

A Hamilton County judge set bail at \$1 mil-



FAMILY PHOTO

Jayce Fitzhugh was 7 months old when he died in 2018. His skull was fractured shortly before he stopped breathing, a coroner said.

lion, an impossible sum for the 27-year-old part-time landscaper. Mounts sat in jail for 3½ years before his trial began in October.

"The entire case is built upon one person's opinion," said Kip Guinan, his defense attorney. Doctors who investigate violent and suspicious deaths for local governments have

SEE EXAMINERS ON A14

Islamic State showcases resilience despite losses

Group's goal with prison blitz was to 'renew' itself, opposing general says

BY LOUISA LOVELUCK

HASAKAH, SYRIA — The truck rumbling past Ghwaryan prison didn't look like much to worry about at first. It drove along as expected, but then abruptly veered rightward. It hit the prison's exterior wall near the main gate, and a fireball lit up the night sky.

Several miles away, in his operations room, Gen. Mazloum Kobane Abdi, commander of the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces, received reports of the blast within moments, he later recalled. He had spent the past three years warning foreign allies, Washington notable among them, that this night might come. Within 30 minutes, he was

sure of it: The nightmare they had predicted was unfolding.

The Islamic State's assault on Ghwaryan prison in the north-eastern Syrian town of Hasakah on Jan. 20 was the group's most dramatic attack in years and triggered the longest and deadliest battle with ISIS since its so-called caliphate in Syria and Iraq was defeated nearly three years ago. The goal, officials believe, was to break free of IS leaders, who were imprisoned there among more than 3,000 suspected militants.

By the time the SDF recaptured the prison after a 10-day battle, American and British forces had joined the fight, carrying out days of airstrikes and dispatching elite forces on the ground. More than 500 people died, about three-quarters of them ISIS members, or men or boys imprisoned among them, according to the SDF. Scores, if not hundreds, of suspected militants remain unaccounted for.

SEE ISIS ON A22

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WORLD NEWS A10

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La reina Isabel cumple 70 años en el trono británico

La monarca de Inglaterra, de 95 años, inició ayer las celebraciones de su reinado, con una reunión con ciudadanos ingleses en su residencia Sandringham. **Página 10**



LOS ESFUERZOS NO ALCANZARON PARA SALVAR A RAYAN

—el mundo

El niño marroquí de 5 años, que había caído el martes en un pozo de 32 metros de profundidad, fue rescatado sin vida tras un operativo gigantesco. **Página 9**

“SIENTO QUE EL CINE NOS VA A ACOMPAÑAR POR MUCHO TIEMPO”

—revista

Habitué en la alfombra roja de los Oscar, Axel Kuschevatzky explica desde Los Ángeles por qué, a pesar del streaming, la pantalla grande seguirá dando pelea.

LA NACION

DOMINGO 6 DE FEBRERO DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

FMI: el Gobierno se juega a ratificar el acuerdo aunque todavía no tiene los votos

CONGRESO. El Presidente lo presentará el 1º de marzo; deberán sancionarlo en tres semanas

Santiago Dapelo
LA NACION

El presidente Alberto Fernández está decidido a presentar el proyecto del acuerdo con el Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI) el 1º de marzo, ante la Asamblea Legislativa, a pesar de que no tiene garantizados

los votos necesarios para aprobarlo y de que deberá lograr una sanción definitiva en apenas tres semanas, antes del vencimiento del 22 de ese mes. En ese escenario, con todos los diputados y senadores frente a él, buscará comprometerlos para resolver un problema que ya lleva más de dos años sin una definición.

¿Qué harán Máximo Kirchner, La Cábora y los legisladores que se mostraron en contra del entendimiento con el Fondo? A priori, la decisión, pese a las quejas públicas y privadas, es acompañar. Pero el último antecedente no es auspicioso: el presupuesto fracasó a fin de año. Continúa en la página 14

EL ESCENARIO

El máximo dilema de La Cábora

Jorge Liotti
Página 38

Cómo se vive en la villa de donde salió la droga letal

LOYOLA. El negocio lo manejaba el Paisa Aquino, el presunto proveedor

En la villa Loyola, situada a 30 cuadras de la avenida General Paz, en el partido de San Martín, los vecinos viven entre tiroteos y transas que venden estupefacientes en las puertas de sus casas. Desde allí habría salido la droga que provocó las muertes de 24 personas en búnkeres del barrio Puerta 8 y por la que fue acusado Joaquín “el Paisa” Aquino. En el asentamiento, el Estado está ausente y, en algunos casos, la policía es cómplice de los narcos. La compleja realidad se completa con una guerra entre bandas que se agudizó hace casi cinco años con el homicidio de un policía. **Página 30**

Región. La nueva izquierda toma distancia de Maduro

Como lo hizo Boric, Petro y Castillo también se muestran críticos del chavismo. **Página 3**



Del Potro y su retiro: “Más que vuelta, esto es una despedida”

—deportes

Habló de “pesadilla” por las lesiones y el martes jugaría uno de sus últimos partidos.

Sebastián Torok
LA NACION

Fernández anuncia que se suma a la Ruta de la Seda china

GIRA. El pacto se cerraba anoche en Pekín; involucraría inversiones por US\$23.700 millones

En el punto más alto de la gira del presidente Alberto Fernández, el Gobierno anunció que se sumará a la nueva Ruta de la Seda que impulsa China como su principal apuesta global. Según fuentes oficiales, el acuerdo involucraría inversiones por 23.700 millones de dólares y formaría parte de los entendimientos que a la madrugada argentina tenían programado firmar el presidente Alberto Fernández y su par chino, Xi Jinping, en Pekín. También anticiparon que se incluirían un pedido de DEG y la ampliación del swap para reforzar las reservas. **Página 12**

EL ANÁLISIS

La dura respuesta de Washington

Joaquín Morales Solá

—LA NACION—

Nadie había imaginado a Alberto Fernández como un émulo sudamericano de Donald Trump, quien también se abrazó a Rusia y despreció a los aliados tradicionales de su país. Pero hay una diferencia fundamental: Estados Unidos no necesita de Estados Unidos. Washington, en cambio, le hizo hace pocos días un gran favor a la Argentina para que esta llegara a un principio de acuerdo con el Fondo Monetario. “Escupió la mano que le dimos”, describió un alto diplomático norteamericano de carrera, con larga experiencia en América Latina y en el Departamento de Estado. Continúa en la página 39

Plástico, el principal residuo costero

Página 24

ilustração

Ruy Castro explica por que Semana de 22 viria verdade incontestável a partir de 1972 **c4**

MÔNICA BERGAMO
Nunca imaginei tantos gostando do que faço, afirma Casimiro **c2**

A pandemia em 5.fev

Dados das 20h

POPULAÇÃO VACINADA

No Brasil

Ao menos uma dose (dose única ou 1ª dose)

79,9%

1º ciclo vacinal completo (dose única ou 2ª dose)

70,3%

Dose de reforço

23,5%

Nos estados

Ao menos uma dose 1º ciclo completo Dose de reforço

SP 88,7% 79,6% 36,7%

PI 87,0% 77,2% 19,0%

MG 81,3% 74,0% 24,3%

ESTÁGIO DA DOENÇA

Óbitos

Média móvel

747 ↑ 165,0%*

Em 24 h

800

Total

631.869

Casos ↑ +24,3%* (acelerado)

Casos nos estados

Média móvel (variação 7%)

Ritmo

MG 26.006 (+29,7%) acelerado

PR 19.682 (+26,0%) acelerado

RS 15.621 (+0,6%) acelerado

Mundo A12

Rainha platinada

Elizabeth 2ª completa 70 anos no trono do Reino Unido hoje, em meio a crises na família. As festividades pelo Jubileu de Platina da mais longa monarca britânica serão em junho.

Mercado A18

TV em cores faz 50 anos no Brasil e ganha sobrevida com streaming

Esporte B6

Torcida única nos clássicos paulistas chega ao 6º ano, mas violência continua

Defesa dribla cortes no Orçamento e eleva investimentos

Ministério tem reserva de R\$ 8,7 bilhões neste ano, o que supera a soma do montante para a Saúde e a Educação

Enquanto o espaço para investimentos no Orçamento do governo federal encolhe ano a ano, o Ministério da Defesa tem conseguido driblar os cortes e até elevar sua fatia nessas despesas. Em 2022, a pasta conta com uma reserva de R\$ 8,7 bilhões para investir, o equivalente a 20,7% dos R\$ 42,3 bilhões autorizados para este ano.

Essa fatia era de 14,2% em 2015 e vem crescendo desde então. O valor atual supera a soma das dotações para a Saúde (R\$ 4,6 bilhões) e a Educação (R\$ 3,45 bilhões), que tiveram ambas queda real de cerca de 3% em relação ao ano passado. Também é maior que o montante direcionado à Infraestrutura (R\$ 6,5 bilhões).

Especialistas criticam a preferência aos militares na distribuição desses recursos, sobretudo no momento em que o país ainda se recupera dos efeitos da pandemia e deveria canalizar esforços em áreas mais sobrecarregadas pela crise. Procurada, a Defesa não se manifestou até a conclusão desta edição. **Mercado A15**


Mathilde Missionheiro/Folhapress

CIDADES TÊM MANIFESTAÇÕES CONTRA O ASSASSINATO DE MOÏSE

Manifestantes se reúnem na avenida Paulista para protestar contra o racismo e o assassinato do congolês Moïse Kabagambe no Rio, onde sua mãe discursou pedindo justiça **Cotidiano B3**

Ana Paula Vescovi

O que mexe com os juros no país?

Não há garantias de queda estrutural da taxa de juros. Quando a política fiscal não ajuda, o BC perde graus de liberdade para manejar expectativas e rema contra a maré: mais gastos públicos, mais inflação, mais juros. **Política A21**

Economista-chefe do Santander Brasil, passa a escrever mensalmente

Mirando eleição,

Bolsonaro cria 200 diretrizes

O governo lançará agenda com 200 diretrizes para políticas na reta final do mandato de Jair Bolsonaro (PL), às vésperas da eleição. O documento, obtido pela Folha em versão prévia, traz o discurso da gestão e pontos que divergem do presidente, como o ambiente. **Política A4**

Marqueteiro de Moro quer ex-juiz mais informal

Política A8

Preconceito banalizado

Sobre declarações boçais de Bolsonaro e auxiliares.

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje


Bombeiros colocam o corpo do garoto Rayan em ambulância no Marrocos **Fadel Senna/APP**

Resgate falha, e garoto morre em um poço no Marrocos

Equipes de resgate retiraram neste sábado (5) o corpo de Rayan Awran, 5, que estava havia cinco dias dentro de um poço de 32 metros de profundidade no norte do Marrocos.

O país parou para acompanhar o drama da família e a operação de resgate do menino preso desde terça (1º) no túnel abandonado e sob risco de colapso durante o socorro. **Mundo A14**

Hospitais infantis de SP têm alta de casos por Covid

Cândido Fontoura e Sabará, maiores instituições pediátricas pública e privada, registram explosão de infecções de Covid, que subiram, respectivamente, de 4 para 39 e de 77 para 534, em relação a janeiro de 2021. A internação triplicou no Sabará. **Saúde B1**

Empresas nos EUA dão até US\$ 10 mil para ter empregado

Mercado A16

EDITORIAIS A2

Combustível eleitoral
Acerca de propostas para desonerar combustíveis.


ISSN 1413-5723 33912 9 771414 572018

Ministerio Público ignoró denuncias en contra de Cartes, acusa legislador

En el Gobierno cobra fuerza juicio político a fiscal general

En entorno de Abdo creen que es la mejor oportunidad para enjuiciar a Sandra Quiñónez. Se sienten fortalecidos por el apoyo parlamentario a Giuzzio, tras la dura acusación a HC.

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El origen de la violencia
En Paraguay el
narcotráfico se
consolidó con la
complicidad de
los poderosos

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El sicariato tiene
un "crecimiento
espectacular"
en nuestro país

PÁGINA 11

Gran falta de transparencia
Nenecho acumula
un centenar de
solicitudes de
informaciones
sin responder

PÁGINA 16

Emotivo reclamo de justicia para Vita

FERNANDO CALISTRO



¡Basta ya! Una multitud se congregó cerca de Mburuvicha Róga para pedir se esclarezca la muerte de Cristina Aranda.

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Preveían 200 muertes al día
Lucha anti-Covid:
Vacunación evitó
mayor letalidad
de ómicron

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DOMINGO

Sepa cómo puede
convencer a los
que siguen sin
querer inmunizarse

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Copa América de
futsal: La Albirroja
ganó y jugará hoy la
final ante Argentina

PÁGINA 59



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LE FIGARO

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



GASTRONOMIE
LA CUISINE AU CAFÉ,
DERNIÈRE TOCADE
DES GRANDS CHEFS PAGES 30 ET 31

JEUX OLYMPIQUES
JEAN-CLAUDE KILLY :
« LES FRANÇAIS ONT TOUS
LES ATOUTS EN MAIN » >> CAHIER SPÉCIAL



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Les sujets de
défense s'inventent
dans la campagne
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Dans les Ardennes,
Valérie Pécresse
joue la proximité
PAGE 8

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L'État reprend
la main sur l'islam
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Un XV de France
sous haute
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Rebond inédit de
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Année record
en vue dans
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**FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NON**

**Réponses à la question
de vendredi :**
Fallait-il organiser
les Jeux olympiques
d'hiver à Pékin ?

OUI 17% NON 83%
TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 153 550

**Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr**
Crise ukrainienne :
la médiation
d'Emmanuel Macron
peut-elle être efficace ?

ROMEO BALANCOURT;
SPUTNIK/VIA REUTERS

Elizabeth II, 70 ans au service du Royaume-Uni



C'est au Kenya, le 6 février 1952, qu'Elizabeth apprend le décès de son père, George VI. Devenue reine à 25 ans, elle sera le premier souverain britannique à atteindre soixante-dix ans de règne ce dimanche. La « mère de la nation » ne fêtera toutefois son jubilé de platine que début juin, avec quatre jours de célébrations dans tout le pays. PAGE 9 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

ÉDITORIAL par Étienne de Montety edemontety@lefigaro.fr

Reine pour l'unité

Quand Elizabeth II accéda au trône, en 1952, le premier ministre du Royaume-Uni s'appelait Winston Churchill. Et, en France, le président de la République, Vincent Auriol. On mesure à ces noms qui appartiennent à l'histoire combien la reine, par la durée de son règne, traverse largement le dernier demi-siècle, à la tête d'un pays qui a connu tant d'évolutions et de crises : décolonisation, question de l'Irlande du Nord, accession à l'Union européenne, conflit des Malouines, et encore récemment Brexit. Évidemment, conformément à son statut, la souveraine n'a pas pris part directement à la gestion de ces événements ; il n'empêche, l'ombre du commandeur Elizabeth ne cesse de surplomber la vie du pays. L'histoire française est différente. En 1793, la mort violente du roi Louis XVI a coupé le lien historique entre la France et le principe monarchique. Pourtant, les fondateurs de la III^e République avaient instauré un mandat de sept ans pour le président, ayant compris que le « temps long » était précieux à un chef d'État - et de Gaulle reprit cette intuition en 1958. Depuis, le pragmatisme politi-

que, ajouté à un certain esprit de calcul, a réduit la durée du mandat à cinq ans. Très vite après une élection, la perspective du terme, et donc du renouvellement, se profile à l'horizon.

On conçoit qu'à l'ère numérique un gouvernement des hommes a probablement besoin de souplesse et de réactivité, mais justement la reine d'Angleterre ne gouverne pas. Son rôle est autre, symbolique, ce qui ne veut pas dire insignifiant. Dans un pays soumis à des tensions centrifuges (aujourd'hui encore l'Écosse), elle garantit l'unité (à l'instar des monarchies belge et espagnole, dans des configurations analogues). Sa parole est rare, ce qui en fait le poids.

Et notre époque, hypnotisée par le jeunisme et le changement comme valeurs en soi, de regarder avec stupéfaction - et peut-être une admiration secrète ? - une élégante vieille dame de 95 ans jouer sa partition, depuis tant d'années, dans un mélange unique de discrétion et de popularité. ■

Le Pen et Zemmour, le combat frontal

Sur fond de ralliements de membres du RN au mouvement Reconquête !, l'opposition devient de plus en plus virulente entre les deux candidats nationalistes, qui tiendront chacun un meeting ce samedi.

À la veille de meetings importants pour les deux rivaux nationalistes, le duel entre Marine Le Pen et Éric Zemmour s'intensifie un peu plus chaque jour. Ce samedi, la candidate du Rassemblement national fera son premier meeting à Reims, dans la Marne, tandis qu'Éric Zemmour tiendra, le même jour, une grande réu-

nion publique à Lille. L'enjeu est de taille pour les deux concurrents. Les ralliements de plusieurs figures du Rassemblement national, parmi lesquelles Gilbert Collard et l'eurodéputé Jérôme Rivière, mais aussi le député LR Guillaume Peltier, à Éric Zemmour ont, selon notre sondage Odoxa, fragilisé la candidature

de Marine Le Pen. Pas moins de 55 % des Français, 59 % des sympathisants de la droite radicale en sont convaincus. Pour autant, la chef de file du RN demeure en position de force face au candidat nationaliste. En tout, 32 % de Français ont une bonne opinion de Marine Le Pen contre seulement 22 % pour Éric Zemmour.

→ RENFORCÉ PAR LES RALLIEMENTS, ZEMMOUR NE PREND PAS L'ASCENDANT SUR LE PEN
→ LE CONTRE-POINT DE GUILLAUME TABARD
→ LA RÉPLIQUE DE VALÉRIE PÉCRESSE ET DE SES SOUTIENS PAGES 4 ET 5



Face aux Américains, Xi Jinping et Poutine jouent l'entente cordiale

Les présidents chinois et russe, qui se sont retrouvés vendredi pour l'ouverture des JO de Pékin, serrent les rangs face à Washington. Ils souhaitent amorcer une « nouvelle ère » pour les relations internationa-

les, avec un vaste programme de coopération bilatérale. Leur déclaration commune stigmatise le rôle « déstabilisateur » des États-Unis, dans un contexte de tensions en Ukraine et à Taiwan. PAGES 10 ET 11

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