

What's News

Business & Finance

Sackler family members who own Purdue Pharma agreed to pay up to \$6 billion to settle lawsuits accusing them of helping fuel the opioid crisis, earning the unanimous support of state attorneys general to resolve the family's liability and end Purdue's bankruptcy case. **A1**

◆ **The freeze that Western** sanctions put on Russian bond markets is starting to thaw despite the looming risk of the country's first potential default in more than two decades. **A12**

◆ **The Fed's Powell said** that Russia's invasion of Ukraine was likely to push up inflation, a setback to the central bank's expectations that price pressures would diminish in the coming months. **A2**

◆ **U.S. stocks fell**, with the S&P 500, Dow and Nasdaq retreating 0.5%, 0.3% and 1.6%, respectively. U.S. crude-oil prices settled lower at \$107.67 a barrel. **B1**

◆ **A Tokyo judge** lashed out at fugitive car executive Ghosn, calling him a greedy and malicious criminal. Ghosn said the statements proved why he couldn't have received a fair trial in Japan. **B1**

◆ **Tesla's Musk said** he was open to the UAW holding a vote about organizing labor at the company, after long resisting such a move. **B1**

◆ **Amazon has given** the FTC a fast-approaching deadline to deliver a verdict on its proposed MGM deal. **B2**

◆ **Rivian is walking back** a price increase for its electric trucks and SUVs that was put into effect earlier this week. **B4**

World-Wide

◆ **Moscow deepened** its military offensive in southern Ukraine, penetrating the city of Kherson and pushing toward Zaporizhzhia before Russian forces shelled a large nuclear power plant, prompting concern from the international community about the risk of nuclear disaster. Russian and Ukrainian negotiators agreed to establish "humanitarian corridors" to allow civilians to leave besieged cities. **A1, A8-12**

◆ **The U.S. and Iran** were closing in on an agreement to restore the 2015 nuclear deal, although officials from both countries warned that final issues still needed to be nailed down. **A13**

◆ **The Supreme Court** blocked Guantanamo detainee Abu Zubaydah's request to obtain evidence from former CIA contractors who allegedly tortured him at a "black site" in Poland. **A3**

◆ **The Jan. 6 panel** has subpoenaed records and testimony from Kimberly Guilfoyle, a top fundraising official on the 2020 Trump campaign and the fiancée of Donald Trump Jr. **A4**

◆ **A Kentucky jury** acquitted former Louisville police detective Brett Hankison on three counts of wanton endangerment related to a 2020 raid during which Breonna Taylor was fatally shot. **A3**

◆ **The IRS's watchdog** is examining how the agency guards against favoring large businesses and global companies in compliance matters as part of a broad audit. **A4**

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Russia Escalates Ukraine Assault



A residential building shown Thursday in Borodyanka, Ukraine, in the Kyiv region was destroyed by Russian shelling.

Refugee Exodus Tops a Million In First Week

By DREW HINSHAW AND NATALIA OJEWSKA

MEDYKA, Poland—Within days of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the line of cars carrying people fleeing to the country's border with Poland was 55 miles long.

In wet snow and cold rain, mothers began abandoning their cars to walk for hours, prodding exhausted children as they dragged their strollers and suitcases along the road. Near them, jam-packed se-

dans running low on gas inched up to a modest checkpoint that ordinarily serves a half-dozen people at a time, often day-trippers crossing into the duty-free zone to buy cigarettes.

Inside the checkpoint, two Ukrainian immigration officers have been frantically trying to keep up with one of the fastest exoduses from any country in modern history.

In a week since the war with Russia began, more than one million refugees have left Ukraine, the United Nations re-

Ukrainian arrivals in bordering countries



*An additional 96,000 people moved to Russia from the Donetsk and Luhansk regions Feb. 18-23. Note: Approximate figures as of March 2. An additional 88,147 people have crossed to other European countries. Source: UNHCR compilation of government reports

ugee agency said. Most headed west into Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Moldova. At the current pace, by the weekend, more asylum seekers will have entered the European

Union in a matter of days than in all of 2015, when 1.3 million people crossed from the Middle East and Africa into the bloc. That would make the

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Putin Relationship Gives China Second Thoughts

By LINGLING WEI

In the months leading up to Xi Jinping making common cause with Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Chinese leader was focused on one country, and it wasn't Ukraine.

His ambitions for alignment with Mr. Putin had one main purpose: presenting a united front against the U.S. The result, according to Chinese officials, foreign-policy advisers to Beijing and an analysis of

public statements, was the Feb. 4 China-Russia declaration that the countries' friendship had "no limits."

Russia's subsequent invasion of its neighbor is forcing Beijing into adjusting its foreign policy in a way that risks damaging relations with the U.S.-led West and undoing years of efforts to paint itself as a responsible world leader. In Beijing, the ripple effects of a move that may cost China dearly are now sinking in, say

the officials and advisers. Some officials say they are fearful of the consequences of getting so close to Russia at the expense of other relationships—especially when Russian aggression against Ukraine is isolating Moscow in much of the world.

Already, many politicians from Washington to Brussels have grouped Beijing together with Moscow as a new "axis"—a term giving Western allies more reason to disengage from

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Airport Battle Denied Moscow Quick Victory

By JAMES MARSON

Machine-gun fire tore past Anatoliy Kharchenko and cut down several fellow Ukrainian paratroopers as they fought their way through the darkness toward Hostomel Airport.

The crack Ukrainian unit was trying to thwart Vladimir Putin's plan for a rapid takeover of Kyiv some 20 miles away. But their mission was going badly. Elite Russian airborne troops had landed in helicopters hours earlier on the first day of Russia's war against Ukraine. If they

could hold the airfield, Russia would be able to fly in hundreds of soldiers and move rapidly to seize the Ukrainian capital, part of Mr. Putin's plan to force a quick capitulation.

The Russians, protected by a concrete barrier topped with barbed wire, were directing withering fire at Lt. Kharchenko's unit. Another Ukrainian force speeded to join the fight was delayed.

The paratroopers pressed on. "We knew what was at stake," Lt. Kharchenko said.

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A Global Hunt for Russian Oligarchs' Yachts Begins

By Nick Kostov, Alistair Macdonald and Betsy McKay

Russia's richest men are on the run amid a global dragnet Western governments have cast to ensnare their yachts, villas, jets and bank accounts.

In recent days, French authorities detained a handful of ships subject to new sanctions, including a 280-foot yacht, the Amore Vero, "True Love" in Ital-

ian. They said it is owned by Igor Sechin, the sanctioned chief executive of Russian oil producer Rosneft and close ally of President Vladimir Putin of Rus-

sia. They swooped in during the night as the vessel was making what they described as preparations to leave port in a hurry.

Mikhail Fridman, a former Russian banker who wound up on the European Union's sanctions list, was locked out this week of the private-equity fund he co-founded. Luxembourg-

based LetterOne Holdings SA froze his stake and is holding back dividends and prohibiting him from contacting anyone at the fund. Alexey Mordashov, the largest shareholder of German tourism group TUI AG, and one of Russia's wealthiest people, resigned from its supervisory board after being put

on the EU's list.

The sanctions on individuals are one part of a multi-front effort to hit Moscow economically after Mr. Putin's invasion of Ukraine. Western capitals sanctioned banks and companies, and targeted Russia's central bank.

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Arms from abroad bolster Kyiv forces **A8**

Western companies offer assistance to Ukraine **A11**

Auto makers' supply woes are worsening **A11**

Trading in Russian bonds defrosts a bit **A12**

Stocks retreat, and crude settles lower **B1**

INSIDE



SPORTS
Kentucky Coach John Calipari pivots with upperclassmen primed for March Madness. **A16**



BUSINESS & FINANCE
Musk says Tesla is open to the UAW holding a vote about organizing labor. **B1**

Sacklers Settle Opioid Suits for \$6 Billion

By JONATHAN RANDLES

Members of the Sackler family who own Purdue Pharma LP and grew wealthy from sales of OxyContin agreed to pay up to \$6 billion to settle lawsuits accusing them of helping fuel the opioid-addiction epidemic, earning the unanimous support of state attorneys general to resolve the family's liability and end the drugmaker's bankruptcy case.

The new settlement unveiled Thursday marks an increase

from the \$4.5 billion previously offered by the Sacklers, whose wealth has been estimated at about \$11 billion. For the first time, the proposed deal has the support of a key group of state attorneys general who had opposed Purdue's earlier efforts to resolve opioid-related liability, saying the Sacklers weren't paying enough to fight opioid addiction and deter corporate wrongdoing.

The dispute between the family and California, Connecticut, the District of Columbia

and other states has kept Purdue stuck in bankruptcy and has delayed the distribution of billions of dollars from the Sacklers to fund opioid abatement programs and combat a national addiction crisis that the company's flagship painkiller helped to fuel.

The family didn't admit liability in the new settlement but agreed to pay a minimum of \$5.5 billion and a maximum of \$6 billion while ceding control of Purdue, which pleaded guilty

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Sanctions will set off unpredictable financial aftershocks — GILLIAN TETT, PAGE 19

'They're trying to wipe this city off the face of the Earth'

► Mariupol subjected to relentless bombardment by Russian missiles

► Putin warns Macron that Moscow will win the war 'whatever happens'



GUY CHAZAN — LIVIV
ROMAN OLEARCHYK — KYIV
DEMETRI SEVASTOPULO — WASHINGTON

Russia subjected the Ukrainian cities of Mariupol, Chernihiv and Kharkiv to relentless missile bombardment yesterday as civilians bore the brunt of a war that Vladimir Putin declared would be won "whatever happens".

The indiscriminate and brutal attacks on residential areas came as Russian forces tightened their grip on south-east Ukraine. Moscow claimed to have taken control of the Black Sea city of Kherson.

At least 22 people were killed in a strike on Chernihiv, north of Kyiv, with Russian cluster munitions hitting apartment blocks. As rockets rained down,

Vladimir Putin held a moment of silence for Russia's casualties, blaming civilian deaths in Ukraine on "neo-Nazis" he claimed were using people as "human shields".

It was the first time Putin had addressed the human cost of the war. Russia admitted this week that 498 of its soldiers had been killed and more than 1,500 wounded; Ukraine claims Russia has suffered more than 5,500 casualties.

In a video address to his security council, Putin said he would "never give up my conviction that Russians and Ukrainians are one people". He said families of fallen Russian soldiers would receive up to R\$74m (\$65,000).

A second round of talks between Rus-

sian and Ukrainian delegations concluded with an agreement to create humanitarian corridors for those fleeing besieged cities. But Kyiv said no further progress was made in the talks.

A US defence official said Russia had fired 480 missiles in the invasion, 230 from mobile launchers. As the civilian death toll climbs, UN officials said more than 1m refugees were fleeing to neighbouring countries.

Putin also spoke to French president Emmanuel Macron, telling him Russia's operations were "going according to plan", according to a French official.

"Our analysis of military operations is that Russia's ambition is indeed to take control of all of Ukraine," the official

said, adding that expectations were that the "worst was yet to come".

The Russian president also told Macron he would engage in ceasefire talks only if Ukrainians laid down their arms. The Kremlin said Putin told Macron the "objectives of [Russia's] special operation will be achieved whatever happens".

In Mariupol, Pyotr Andriushchenko, an aide to the mayor, said the city was facing a humanitarian catastrophe. "This isn't a military operation —

they're trying to wipe this city off the face of the earth," he said by phone. "We have been shelled constantly for the past 20 hours."

Artillery and rocket fire had injured more than 150 people, he added.

President Volodymyr Zelensky said Ukrainians had lived through two world wars, the Holodomor — Stalin's man-made famine during the 1930s — the Holocaust, Soviet terror, the Chernobyl nuclear disaster as well as Russia's annexation of Crimea and its intervention in support of the rebels in Donetsk and Luhansk. "We don't have the biggest territory. But we do have our people. We do have our land... This is what we are fighting for."

Main developments

- The UK said it would shut Russian companies out of its insurance market, in a move that hits space and aviation
- The IEA set out a plan to slash EU imports of Russian gas, urging it to sign no new contracts with Gazprom
- The Pentagon called off a missile test in an effort to cut the chances of it being 'misconstrued' by Moscow
- London Stock Exchange suspended 27 groups with Russia ties, hours after MSCI ejected the country's listings
- Georgia and Moldova applied formally to join the EU, piggybacking on a Kyiv bid for fast-tracked entry
- UK satellite internet group OneWeb cancelled launches from Russia's cosmodrome in Kazakhstan

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Western brands' 30-year Russian affair faces end

The invasion of Ukraine has prompted an exodus of western companies from Russia that is as sudden as their entry 30 years ago, when queues at the new McDonald's in Moscow were longer than for Lenin's tomb. Big names are pulling out, cutting back services or halting deliveries. But some groups, eyeing a much bigger Chinese market, are considering the risks of setting a precedent. If this were China, it would be very different, says one adviser.

Starting to flee — PAGE 9

Paris and Berlin detain superyachts of Putin's favourites as sanctions bite

VICTOR MALLET — PARIS
ERIKA SOLOMON — BERLIN

France and Germany are detaining their ports superyachts belonging to close associates of Russian president Vladimir Putin as western governments start enforcing sanctions against the country's businesses and billionaires following the invasion of Ukraine.

The EU, along with the UK, US and other allies, is targeting the assets of oligarchs, including luxury homes and cars as part of a package of financial, commercial, cultural and sporting sanctions against Russia. Some 510 people and entities are on the EU sanctions list, according to France's finance ministry.

The French department said yesterday that the \$116m superyacht Amore Vero was being held in the Mediterranean port of La Ciotat. It belongs to a

company of which Igor Sechin — the boss of Russian oil group Rosneft who has been targeted by sanctions — had been identified as the main shareholder.

Germany has also detained the world's biggest superyacht — the \$600m, 156-metre vessel Dilbar — belonging to billionaire Alisher Usmanov as it underwent a refit at a shipyard in Hamburg, according to Forbes. The yacht features helipads, a large swimming pool and gym. The Der Spiegel newspaper, citing the city's economics senator, said the yacht was banned from leaving the port.

The Hamburg economics authority, which is the senator's office, declined to confirm or deny Der Spiegel's report, saying only: "[Yachts] may not leave the port if they are not allowed to."

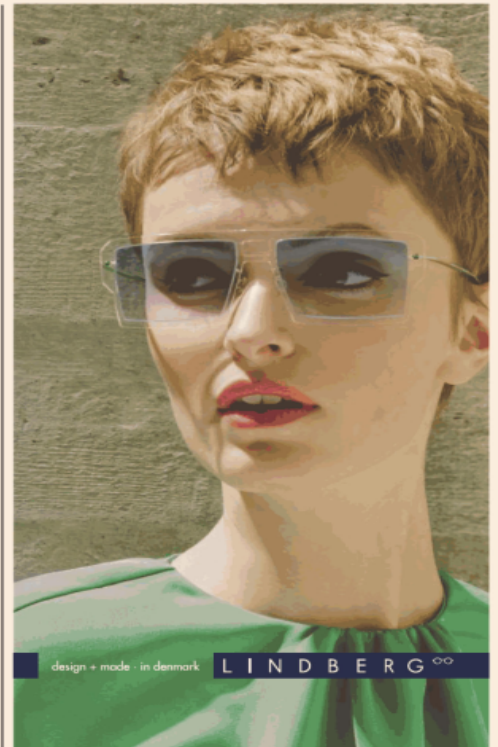
Usmanov's spokesman and the German government declined to comment. Blohm + Voss, the yard, said only that

the contracts it was working on were "treated in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations".

Sechin was described by the EU as one of Putin's "most trusted and closest advisers, as well as his personal friend" who received financial gains and "important assignments in return for subordination and loyalty".

The EU said Uzbekistan-born Usmanov, once Russia's richest man and another target of EU sanctions, was among Putin's "favourite oligarchs". He controls MegaFon, Russia's second-largest phone network, and metals group Metalloinvest. He was previously one of Facebook's biggest investors.

France said the 86-metre yacht linked to Sechin was supposed to remain in a yard for repairs until April 1 but had been preparing "for an urgent departure without the work being finished".



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World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Mar 3	prev	%chg		Mar 3	prev	%chg		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4389.60	4386.54	+0.39	\$ per £	1.106	1.107	-0.09	US Gov 10 yr	148.25	1.94	0.00
Nasdaq Composite	13616.57	13752.02	-0.98	\$ per €	1.334	1.331	+0.26	UK Gov 10 yr	130.00	1.30	0.04
Dow Jones Ind	33786.40	33881.35	-0.30	€ per €	0.829	0.831	-0.24	Ger Gov 10 yr	102.00	0.02	-0.01
FTSEurofirst 300	1713.80	1713.80	0.00	¥ per \$	115.835	115.980	-0.13	Japan Gov 10 yr	111.34	0.16	0.04
Euro Stoxx 50	3741.64	3820.58	-2.07	₹ per €	154.262	153.877	+0.25	US Gov 30 yr	111.02	2.21	0.03
FTSE 100	7236.95	7236.95	0.00	Sfr per €	1.018	1.021	-0.29	Ger Gov 2 yr	104.01	-0.64	-0.02
FTSE All Share	4022.90	4022.90	0.00	€ per \$	0.904	0.904	0.00				
CAC 40	6378.37	6408.02	-0.46								
Xetra Dax	13686.40	14000.11	-2.16								
Nikkei	2857.27	2830.03	+0.70								
Hang Seng	22487.34	22343.92	+0.65								
MSCI World \$	2864.24	2930.76	-1.14								
MSCI EM \$	1188.41	1176.43	+0.99								
MSCI ACWI \$	694.98	688.59	+0.93								

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RUSSIANS PUSH TO TIGHTEN GRIP IN SOUTH



LYNSEY ADDARIO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Moscow and Kyiv Agree to Corridors to Allow Civilians to Evacuate

By MICHAEL SCHWIRTZ and RICHARD PÉREZ-PEÑA

ODESSA, Ukraine — Russian forces advanced deeper into southern Ukraine on Thursday, appearing intent on seizing the country's entire Black Sea coast, as the number of people fleeing Ukraine reached one million just a week into Russia's invasion and bombardment of cities and towns.

Defiant Ukrainians, bolstered by a huge influx of weapons from NATO countries, have put up surprisingly effective resistance, while Moscow's forces have run into a host of logistical problems, according to Western military and intelligence assessments.

But the Russians, with numerical and technological superiority, have been slowed, not stopped, and the Kremlin insisted in a statement that the war was "going according to plan."

Russian forces surging out of Crimea cut off Mariupol, a port city to the east, while to the west, where they seized the city of Kherson on Wednesday, they advanced on the port of Mykolaiv, leaving them just 60 miles from Odessa, a vital shipping center and the largest city in the south.

In a second round of talks held in Belarus, Russia and Ukraine agreed to establish "humanitarian corridors," with possible cease-fires in them, for civilians to evacuate the most dangerous areas, and to allow food and medicine to reach those places. But there was no sign of progress on resolving the overall conflict.

A fire broke out early Friday at a complex in southern Ukraine that is home to Europe's largest nuclear power plant, after Russian troops fired on the area, Ukraine's foreign minister said. Security camera footage filmed early on Friday and verified by The Times showed a building ablaze inside the power complex near a line of military vehicles. The videos appeared to show people in the vehicles firing at buildings in the power plant, but it was unclear if the vehicles were Russian or Ukrainian. [Page A11.]

President Biden spoke with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Ukraine about the fire on Thursday night, and urged Russia to "cease its military activities in the area and allow firefighters and emergency responders to access the site," according to a White House description of the call.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said on Twitter that it had been informed by Ukrainian regulators that there had been no reported change in radiation levels at the plant, and that the fire had not affected "essential equipment."

For eight years, President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia has been building what amounts to a massive military staging area in Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula he invaded and annexed from Ukraine in 2014, and forces stay.

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Russia Hushes Last Remnants Of a Free Press

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI and VALERIYA SAFRONOVA

As President Vladimir V. Putin wages war against Ukraine, he is fighting a parallel battle on the home front, dismantling the last vestiges of a Russian free press.

On Thursday, the pillars of Russia's independent broadcast media collapsed under pressure from the state. Echo of Moscow, the free-wheeling radio station founded by Soviet dissidents in 1990 and that symbolized Russia's new freedoms, was "liquidated" by its board. TV Rain, the youthful independent television station that calls itself "the optimistic channel," said it would suspend operations indefinitely.

And Dmitri Muratov, the journalist who shared the Nobel Peace Prize last year, said that his newspaper Novaya Gazeta, which survived the murders of six of its journalists, could be on the verge of shutting down as well.

"Everything that's not propaganda is being eliminated," Mr. Muratov said.

Precipitating the outlets' demise were plans by the Russian Parliament to take up legislation on Friday that would make news considered "fakes" about Russia's war in Ukraine punishable by years in prison terms. The Russian authorities have already made it clear that the very act of calling it a "war" — the Kremlin prefers the term "special military operation" — is considered disinformation.

"We're going to punish those who spread panic using fakes by up to 15 years," a lawmaker, Sholban Kara-ool, said on Thursday. During World War II, he said, such people "were shot on the spot."

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LYNSEY ADDARIO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A Ukrainian guard in Maidan Square in Kyiv on Wednesday.

Preparedness Aided Ukraine In Stalling Foe

This article is by Eric Schmitt, Helen Cooper and Julian E. Barnes.

WASHINGTON — Ukraine's soldiers have blown up bridges to halt advancing Russian ground troops. Its pilots and air defenses have prevented Russian fighter jets from conquering the skies. And a band of savvy Ukrainian cyberwarriors are so far beating Moscow in an information war, inspiring support at home and abroad.

To the surprise of many military analysts, Ukrainian troops are mounting a stiffer-than-expected resistance to Russian forces up and down battle lines across a country the size of Texas, fighting with a resourcefulness and creativity that U.S. analysts said could trip up Russian troops for weeks or months to come.

The Ukrainians are also exploiting a bungled beginning to Russia's all-out assault. Armed with shoulder-fired anti-tank weapons, they have attacked a mile-long Russian armored convoy bearing down on Kyiv, the capital, helping

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ROMAN ZAROVNYI/REUTERS

As Russia attacked Ukrainian residential areas, including a building in Chernihiv, above, in the north, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Ukraine, top, hosted a news conference on Thursday in Kyiv. "We have a special people, an extraordinary people," he said. Page A7.

On the Slow Exodus West, Ukrainians Find Hardship and Dread

By VALERIE HOPKINS

VIITIVTSI, Ukraine — The families staggered in, bleary-eyed, to a two-room kindergarten around 1 a.m., exhausted after a long journey from their home in Cherkasy, about 300 miles away. Fearful of the threat from the Russian invasion, they had decided it was time to leave and make their way along with tens of thousands of others to the safer regions of western Ukraine.

It was slow going. The roads were jammed with Ukrainians making a similar exodus. As they settled in for a few hours of sleep on a set of cots sized for 4-year-

olds, air raid sirens blared from the administrative building next door.

The next morning, as snow fell outside, 11-year-old Karolyina Tupytska and her younger sister Albina brushed their teeth, played with a small Terrier and braced themselves for another long day of travel. They were headed to Poland with their mother, Lyuba.

"My grandparents and my dad are still in Cherkasy," Karolyina said. She said she was sad to leave behind her white hamster, Pearl.

In Ukraine, everyone who has the means is on the move, displaced by a war that seemed impossible to imagine, but has fi-

Sleeping in Classrooms and Halls of Hotels in Flight to Unknown

nally arrived. They are fleeing physical danger, of course — artillery attacks that ravaged hospitals, public squares and apartment buildings — but also the desperation of wartime conditions evident in food shortages, loss of work and a dearth of medical supplies.

In the past week, more than one million Ukrainians have fled to

neighboring countries, according to the United Nations. A million more are internally displaced. Aid groups have described it as one of the biggest humanitarian crises in recent memory. The European Union said Thursday that it would offer Ukrainians temporary legal protection to live and work in the bloc for up to three years, and the United States also said it would give them temporary protected status.

At the kindergarten, Iryna Boicharenko, a 19-year-old also from Cherkasy, was sleeping in a room with her extended family. The walls were painted with Sovi-

Continued on Page A8

Sacklers Strike New Deal to Settle Opioid Suits

By JAN HOFFMAN

Members of the billionaire Sackler family and their company, Purdue Pharma, have reached a deal with a group of states that had long resisted the company's bankruptcy plan — a crucial step toward funneling billions of dollars from the family's fortune to addiction treatment programs nationwide, according to a court filing on Thursday.

If Judge Robert Drain, who has

To End Cases, at Least an Extra Billion

presided over Purdue's bankruptcy proceedings in White Plains, N.Y., approves the agreement, the Sacklers would pay as much as \$6 billion to help communities address the damage from the opioid crisis. In return, Sackler family members would get the

prize they insisted upon for nearly three years: an end to all current and future civil claims against them over the company's prescription opioid business.

The deal still faces potential hurdles in the courts, but it is the first time in three years of negotiations that all states have accepted a settlement agreement with Pur-

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Trump Ignored Pleas on Election Lies, Panel Says

By LUKE BROADWATER and ALAN FEUER

WASHINGTON — Shortly after the 2020 election, as ballots were still being counted, the top data expert in President Donald J. Trump's re-election campaign told him bluntly that he was going to lose.

In the weeks that followed, as Mr. Trump continued to insist that he had won, a senior Justice Department official told him repeat-

Details of Relentless Bid and Possible Crime

edly that his claims of widespread voting fraud were meritless, ultimately warning him that they would "hurt the country."

Those concerns were echoed by the top White House lawyer, who told the president that he would be entering into a "murder-suicide

pact" if he continued to pursue extreme plans to try to invalidate the results of the 2020 election.

Yet Mr. Trump — time and again — discounted the facts, the data and many of his own advisers as he continued to promote the lie of a stolen election, according to hundreds of pages of exhibits, interview transcripts and email correspondence assembled by the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack for a legal filing

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NATIONAL A15-21, 24

Ex-Officer Acquitted Over Raid

A jury found Brett Hankison, the only officer charged over the 2020 police raid that killed Breonna Taylor, not guilty of wanton endangerment. PAGE A20

BUSINESS B1-6

Hot Meals, Sizzling Comebacks

Food companies founded by women of Asian descent are finding creative ways to disarm the internet trolls that can be a part of doing business online. PAGE B1

SPORTS B7-10

No Russia or Belarus at Games

Paralympics organizers in Beijing reversed course and barred the nations, citing tension among athletes and fears about boycotts and violence. PAGE B7

WEEKEND ARTS C1-22

Mining Her Own Jazz Archive

In a new album, the vocalist Cécile McLorin Salvant applies her daring-to-go-there ethic to herself, writing songs that look within and don't blink. PAGE C1

OPINION A22-23

Sherrilyn A. Ifill

PAGE A23



Biden expands blacklist of Putin cronies

As the U.S. sanctions more oligarchs, there is pressure to go after Russia's energy sector.

BY ELI STOKOLS AND JENNIFER HABERKORN

WASHINGTON — President Biden announced new sanctions Thursday on more than a dozen Russian oligarchs and their families, as pressure continued to build on Capitol Hill for an even tougher response to Moscow a week after it invaded Ukraine, particularly banning imports of Russian energy.

The White House imposed sanctions on 19 wealthy Russian individuals and 47 of their family members and close associates, including President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, and Alisher Usmanov, one of the wealthiest men in Russia.

Unwilling to engage Russia's military directly, the U.S. and Europe have also increased their shipments of weapons and other materiel to Ukraine in recent days, as television coverage of Russia's unprovoked aggression and social media posts from Ukraine have galvanized the West.

Biden, outlining the new sanctions at the start of a Cabinet meeting Thursday, said prior actions to cut Russia off from the global financial system have had a "profound effect" already.

"The goal was to maximize the impact on Putin and Russia and minimize the harm on us and our allies and friends around the world," he continued. "Our interest is in maintaining the strongest unified economic impact campaign on Putin in all history, and I think we're well on the way to doing that."

The U.S. restrictions will prohibit those sanctioned from traveling to the United States. By targeting the elites' family members, the administration is aiming [See Sanctions, A4]

China denies it held up invasion

Beijing denies a report that it asked Russia to wait until after the Olympics. **WORLD, A6**



A MAN cries over his son's lifeless body at a maternity hospital converted into a medical ward in Mariupol, Ukraine, on Wednesday. Hundreds were feared dead in attacks on the strategic southeastern city. **EVGENIY MALOLETKA Associated Press**

Russia hits nuclear plant, pounds southern coast

Fire erupts in reactor. Assault on seaports may ravage Ukraine's shipping, economy.

BY NABIH BULOS, LAURA KING AND DAVID PIERSON

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian forces shelled a nuclear power plant as they bombarded and besieged a swath of southern Ukrainian cities, seeking to sever access to the country's crucial seacoasts even as the invaders appeared stalled in a bid to knock out Ukraine's leadership by capturing or subduing the capital, Kyiv.

During an attack early Friday on the city of Enerhodol, [See Ukraine, A6]



A WOMAN sits in a train in Kyiv, Ukraine, bound for Lviv, near the Polish border. The U.N. says the number of displaced people could grow to 10 million. **VADIM GHIRDA Associated Press**

LGBTQ Ukrainians fear worst

They worry about harsh laws under Russian occupation

BY KATE LINTHICUM

Zi Faámelu wants to escape the war in Ukraine, but her identity will not let her.

The 31-year-old singer, who is transgender, has a passport that says she is male, the sex assigned to her at birth, and Ukraine has prohibited men of fighting age from leaving the country.

That paradox has left Faámelu

hunkered inside her Kyiv apartment as missiles soar around her. She is considering following other transgender women who have crossed into Poland illegally through the woods in the week since Russia invaded.

"Already we were fighting for our lives," she said. "And now we're actually in war." Faámelu is anxious to leave now. She knows that under a Russian occupation, life could deteriorate quickly for LGBTQ people like her.

"It is a very bleak situation for trans people in Ukraine," Faámelu said. "But in Russia, it's even worse."

Over the last two decades, Russian President Vladimir Putin has waged an all-out assault on the LGBTQ community, framing it as part of a larger campaign to protect Russia's "traditional culture" from what he describes as an onslaught of modern values promoted by the West.

Putin has called gender fluidity "a [See LGBTQ, A4]

COUNTY LIFTS INDOOR MASKING ORDER

Vaccination proof will no longer be needed in many businesses. City rules remain.

BY RONG-GONG LIN II AND LUKE MONEY

Los Angeles County has officially exited the high coronavirus community level, as calculated by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, meaning it will lift its indoor mask order Friday.

L.A. County was determined to be in a low coronavirus community level, according to CDC data published Thursday afternoon.

Local health officials had been waiting for the CDC's update before acting. Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer confirmed Thursday that the county will issue a new health order — effective Friday — that will lift the indoor mask order, regardless of vaccination status, in places such as bars, stores, offices, restaurants, gyms and movie theaters.

Businesses can choose to retain their mask requirement for both customers and employees. And residents can still choose to wear a mask in any public place.

The revised order, to be issued by county health officer Dr. Muntu Davis, also will relax some of the local vaccination verification rules.

Ferrer said vaccination verification no longer will be required at outdoor mega-events — such as at theme parks, SoFi and Dodger stadiums, the L.A. Memorial Coliseum and the Hollywood Bowl — and no longer will be required in indoor portions of bars, lounges, nightclubs, distilleries, wineries and breweries.

The county still strongly recommends vaccination verification for outdoor mega-events and indoor bars and similar venues.

But vaccination verification or a recent negative test still will be required at indoor mega-events — those with more than 1,000 people, such as NBA games at Crypto.com Arena (formerly Staples Center) — which remains a statewide requirement. Vaccination verification [See Masks, A11]

State steps up its efforts to address mental health

Under Newsom plan, courts could mandate treatment for drug and psychiatric issues.

BY HANNAH WILEY

As California cities struggle to address a homelessness and mental health crisis on their streets, Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration on Thursday unveiled a proposal to push more people with severe psychiatric disorders and addiction issues into court-ordered care that includes medication and housing.

The proposal, which Newsom is calling the Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment Court, is the state's latest effort to address one of California's greatest struggles. [See Mental health, A14]



A HOMELESS person in L.A. Gov. Gavin Newsom says the state is taking a new approach to the crisis. **JAPANESE NEWS Los Angeles Times**

Proposal offers new path forward

Newsom's plan gives hope to families of those with mental illness, Anita Chabria writes. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Guilty plea in killing of Avant

Aariel Maynor, 30, admits to shooting prominent philanthropist in break-in at her Beverly Hills home. **CALIFORNIA, B3**

Ex-cop cleared in botched raid Kentucky jury acquits fired officer of endangering neighbors the night Breonna Taylor was killed. **NATION, A8**

Bill may expand abortion access

Legislation would let nurse practitioners in state perform services independently of doctors. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather Cool with showers. L.A. Basin: 62/49. **B6**

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UC Berkeley cap upheld by court

Ruling on enrollment size will force campus to offer online and deferred admission.

BY TERESA WATANABE

The California Supreme Court on Thursday declined to lift an enrollment cap on UC Berkeley, forcing one of the nation's most popular campuses to scramble for ways to avoid what it initially feared could be cuts as large as one-third of its incoming fall class, or 3,050 seats, just weeks before it was set to release admission decisions.

A university spokesman said the campus would meet the court-ordered cap by offering at least 1,500 incoming first-year and transfer students online enrollment for fall or deferred admission next January for the spring semester. In addition, some

students plan to be away from campus on study programs abroad or in other cities, which would help Berkeley meet the enrollment cap. And many students graduate each winter, freeing up seats for spring.

As a result, Berkeley may only need to cut its incoming 2022-23 class by a few hundred students rather than thousands as initially feared.

The high court rejected the University of California's appeal to stay a lower court ruling issued in August that froze enrollment at Berkeley until the campus more thoroughly examined the impact of its burgeoning growth on housing, homelessness and noise. The court left intact a ruling by Alameda County Superior Court Judge Brad Seltman, who capped the enrollment of students on the physics campus while the lawsuit filed by Save [See UC Berkeley, A14]

The Washington Post

Papers may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington

Partly sunny 48/26 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny, warmer 62/54 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2022 • B2

Russia sends full might into Ukraine

As U.S. looks to tighten vise, oil-import ban is on table

BY TONY ROMM, RACHEL SIEGEL AND MAXINE JOSELOW

Roughly a week after Russian forces first entered Ukraine, the White House joined lawmakers Thursday in pursuing another round of steep punishments — hoping to strike deeper at the heart of the Kremlin and Russia's now-embattled economy.

Even with historic, wide-ranging sanctions securely in place, Washington policymakers signaled they were far from finished in their task to leverage the global financial system and pressure Russia into abandoning its war. The Biden administration expanded the list of wealthy, Kremlin-aligned oligarchs now subject to asset freezes, for example, while members of Congress began to discuss a halt to Russian oil imports, cutting at the heart of one of Russia's most lucrative industries.

The flurry of economic penalties — those levied and those perhaps on the horizon — have not curtailed Russia's continued advance. The humanitarian situation has worsened, with the United Nations' refugee agency estimating that 1 million people have fled the destruction. Russian President

SEE OIL ON A15

Posts of dead, held Russians a risky tactic

BY DREW HARWELL AND MARY ILYUSHINA

A besieged Ukraine has adopted a gruesome tactic in hopes of stoking anti-government rage inside Russia: posting photos and videos of captured and killed Russian soldiers on the Web for anyone to see.

On Telegram, Twitter and YouTube, Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs since Sunday has posted a constant stream of extremely graphic images showcasing the horrors of war and inviting Russians to examine them to determine whether the images feature a missing loved one.

In many of the images, soldiers' corpses can be seen burned, ripped apart, mangled in wreckage or abandoned in snow; in some, their faces are featured in bloody close-ups, frozen in pain.

In others, prisoners are interrogated by captors about the invasion as they shake with emotion.

SEE PHOTOS ON A14



EFREM LUKATSKY/ASSOCIATED PRESS



EFREM LUKATSKY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOP: A Ukrainian service member walks as fire and smoke rise over a building following shelling in Kyiv, Ukraine, on Thursday.

ABOVE: Ambulance paramedics move a wounded civilian onto a stretcher to a maternity hospital converted into a medical ward in Mariupol on Wednesday. The city's mayor said a Russian siege and hours of shelling had cut off water, power and food supplies.

Sanctions: With eye to China, key Asian nations join in. A10

Mariupol: City's mayor warns, "We are being destroyed." A13

Nuclear plant: Shelling sparks a fire; officials warn of disaster. A16

The Critique: Zelensky delivers an Everyman's finest hour. C1

Limited halts in fighting discussed to aid civilians

BY DAVID L. STERN, ALEX HORTON, LOVEDAY MORRIS AND CATE CADELL

MUKACHEVO, UKRAINE — Russia has sent nearly all its assembled combat power into Ukraine and on Thursday unleashed some of the most intense fighting since the invasion began, with local officials pleading for help as ground troops seized or encircled strategically important southern cities.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said Moscow's mission was "going according to plan and in full compliance with the timetable," despite widespread agreement among Western military analysts that the invasion had been slowed by unexpectedly fierce Ukrainian resistance.

Amid an ongoing exodus of people across the country, Ukraine and Russia said they had agreed to temporary local cease-fires to create "humanitarian corridors" so civilians can be evacuated and food and medicine can be delivered. But the cease-fires would not apply everywhere, Ukrainian presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak said — and logistical details remained unclear.

Kherson, among the first Ukrainian cities to be encircled upon

SEE UKRAINE ON A11

For refugees, Moldova offers a respite

BY CHICO HARLAN

ON THE UKRAINE-MOLDOVA BORDER — Her body was shaking as she crossed the border, a mix of cold and fear and everything she was running from. She had scarcely slept in six days. She hadn't eaten in two. But now, amid the snow and chaos of volunteers, Ira Ivanitskaia and her son were safe.

They could be counted among the 1 million people who had fled Ukraine into neighboring countries in the span of a week.

"Tatiana? Tatiana?" Ira kept saying, repeating a code word as she walked through the late afternoon crowd, looking for somebody she didn't know, in a country she'd never been to, with who-knows-what lying ahead.

She had spent the previous seven days focused on escaping the war, on getting away from the rockets she'd heard howling at night. But the cost of the conflict

SEE MOLDOVA ON A12

Cities are ditching vaccine mandates. Did they work?

BY FENIT NIRAPFIL

PHILADELPHIA — Sherrell Byers figured she'd have to miss New Edition's concert. She'd never been vaccinated against the coronavirus, and, with the omicron variant running rampant, the city had imposed a rule that only people who'd received a shot could eat in restaurants, watch a movie or attend a concert.

But just in time, city officials

ended that requirement, allowing her to buy a ticket for the performance headed by Bobby Brown. No longer shunned, Byers donned a fuzzy orange coat and a disposable yellow mask on a chilly night as she walked into Wells Fargo Center, where the 76ers and Flyers play.

"I was excited we could go out and be normal people," the 44-year-old Philadelphia resident said. "I'll mask because I want to

protect other people. ... But we should be able to live our lives without being told what to do."

Mandates requiring vaccination to enter public places gained momentum in large U.S. cities with the rise of omicron, following similar policies in France and Italy last summer. Officials embraced the prohibition as a way to keep the unvaccinated out of high-risk settings — and to pres-

SEE MANDATES ON A7

Filing argues Trump was told vote claims were false

BY ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN, JACQUELINE ALEMANY, JOSH DAWE AND TOM HAMBURGER

A data expert for former president Donald Trump's campaign told him bluntly not long after polls closed in November 2020 that he was definitely going to lose his campaign for reelection.

In the weeks that followed, multiple top officials at the Jus-

tice Department informed Trump that they had closely examined allegations of fraud that were being circulated by Trump's close allies — and had found them simply untrue.

And in the days leading up to the joint session of Congress on Jan. 6, 2021, even Trump's loyal vice president, Mike Pence, repeatedly conveyed to Trump that he did not believe the Constitution gave him the power to over-

turn the election as he presided over the counting of electoral college votes giving the presidency to Joe Biden.

These and other new details were included in a legal brief filed late Wednesday by lawyers for the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol as they began to build a case that Trump was knowingly misleading his followers about

SEE TRUMP ON A4

IN THE NEWS



BONNIE JO MOUNT/THE WASHINGTON POST

Blast levels apartments Ten people were injured in an explosion in Silver Spring, Md., that displaced at least 100. B1

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A jury found a former Louisville police officer not guilty of endangering a neighboring apartment in the 2020 raid that killed Breonna Taylor. A7

THE WORLD

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French President Emmanuel Macron announced that he will run for a second term as the war in Ukraine upends the campaign. A9

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