

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

**Musk** said he has lined up \$46.5 billion to fund his bid for Twitter, answering the biggest question that had loomed over his takeover offer for the social-media platform. **A1**

◆ **CNN is shutting down** its streaming service CNN+ about a month after it launched, a sign of its new owners' lack of faith in the viability of a subscription-based stand-alone news platform. **A1**

◆ **Fed chief Powell** signaled that the central bank was likely to raise interest rates by a half percentage point at its meeting next month. **A2**

◆ **U.S. stocks fell**, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow losing 1.5%, 2.1% and 1%, respectively, after a sell-off in Treasuries picked up steam. **B1**

◆ **Toshiba** put itself up for auction after pressure from foreign shareholders and said it would solicit bids from investors including those who want to take it private. **B1**

◆ **Meta's Sandberg** is facing internal scrutiny over two occasions in which she pressed a U.K. tabloid to shelve a potential article about her then-boyfriend, Activision CEO Kotick, according to people close to the executives. **B1**

◆ **American Airlines** said that its sales hit a record in March, the first month since the pandemic began in which the carrier's total revenue surpassed 2019 levels. **B1**

◆ **French prosecutors** issued international arrest warrants for Ghosn as well as four individuals who are alleged to have helped the fallen auto titan funnel millions of euros from Renault. **B2**

## World-Wide

◆ **Russia** said it had taken control of Mariupol, presenting it as one of its first victories in the conflict after weeks of setbacks, though Ukrainian forces on Thursday were still blockaded inside a vast steel plant in the city and said they were continuing to launch attacks on Russian positions. **A1, A7-9**

◆ **Florida lawmakers** gave final approval to a bill that would end a special tax district that allows Disney to govern the land housing its theme parks, escalating a dispute with the company. **A1**

◆ **The American Petroleum Institute** has drafted a proposal urging Congress to adopt a carbon tax, which would put a surcharge on gasoline and other fossil fuels to discourage greenhouse-gas emissions. **A4**

◆ **State governments** will be able to spend \$6.4 billion on cleaner transport projects under new Biden administration guidelines for use of federal infrastructure money aimed at cutting carbon emissions. **A4**

◆ **A federal judge** temporarily halted enforcement of a new Kentucky abortion law that local clinics said had forced them to stop performing the procedure. **A6**

◆ **The Supreme Court**, in an 8-1 ruling, upheld Congress's authority to deny some federal benefits to residents of Puerto Rico. **A4**

◆ **Public-health authorities** in the U.S., the U.K. and elsewhere in Europe are investigating dozens of mysterious cases of severe hepatitis among young children. **A6**

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A woman from Mariupol arrived Thursday at a refugee center in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine, as residents fled the Russian attack.

## Russia Claims Mariupol Victory As Ukrainian Troops Hold Out

By THOMAS GROVE  
AND MATTHEW LUXMOORE

KYIV, Ukraine—Russia said it had taken control of Mariupol, presenting it as one of its first victories in the conflict after weeks of setbacks, though Ukrainian forces on Thursday were still blockaded inside a vast steel plant in the city and said they were continuing to launch attacks on Russian positions.

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu of Russia said in a meeting at the Kremlin with President Vladimir Putin that Rus-

sian troops were in control of the strategic port city and that the Azovstal plant in the south where Ukrainian forces were holed up had been blocked off.

A spokesman for President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine said that almost all of Mariupol was under Russian control, but a fight for the plant continued.

As Washington and its allies race to resupply outgunned Ukrainian troops, President Biden said Thursday that the U.S. would send another \$800 million in military assistance, including heavy artillery, and \$500 million in economic aid

to Kyiv.

Mr. Biden also said that the U.S. would ban Russian-affiliated ships from its ports and launch a new refugee-sponsorship program to take in up to 100,000 Ukrainians who fled their country after Russia's invasion.

Russia has tightened its grip on Mariupol since the first weeks of the invasion, pushing out pockets of resistance in residential areas. In recent weeks, it has focused on the remaining Ukrainian troops still fighting from the steel plant. There were conflicting reports around how

many Ukrainian troops remained at the plant, with Russia saying some 2,000 were there.

In a nod to the heavy losses Russian armed forces sustained in the first weeks of the conflict, Mr. Putin dismissed a suggestion by Mr. Shoigu to storm the plant, saying it would unnecessarily endanger

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◆ U.S. adds \$800 million in military aid..... A7

◆ Russian oil flows under the radar..... A7

◆ A harrowing escape out of Mariupol..... A8

## Florida Bill Ending Disney's Tax District Goes to Governor

By ARIAN CAMPO-FLORES  
AND ROBBIE WHELAN

Florida lawmakers gave final approval to a bill that would end a special tax district that allows Walt Disney Co. to govern the land housing its theme parks, escalating a weekslong dispute with the company over its public opposition to a separate bill that limits classroom instruction on gender and sexuality.

The tax-district measure now goes to Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Republican who has

made clear he would sign it.

The GOP-led House passed the bill 70-38 on Thursday, a day after the Republican-controlled Senate approved it 23-16. Mr. DeSantis called for lawmakers to take up the measure in a special session he convened this week, after sparring with Disney for weeks over the classroom-instruction bill, which Mr. DeSantis signed into law last month.

Stripping Disney of a key operating advantage represents one of the more high-profile

backlashes in recent memory against a company for a political stance. Companies have increasingly faced pressure by employees and others to stake positions on hot-button social and political issues, but have rarely, if ever, faced such pointed censure for doing so.

The move also reflects a growing populist, anti-company strain, particularly around cultural issues, in the GOP, tradition.

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◆ Florida's new political map gives GOP more power..... A3

## Fed Signals Half-Point Increase



Fed Chairman Jerome Powell indicated the central bank was likely to raise interest rates by a half percentage point at its meeting next month, sending stocks lower. **A2 and B1**

## CNN Shuts New Streaming Service

By JOE FLINT

CNN is shutting down its streaming service CNN+ about a month after it launched, a sign of its new owners' lack of faith in the viability of a subscription-based stand-alone news platform.

The decision to pull the plug on CNN+, which was off to an underwhelming start, came less than two weeks af-

ter CNN ownership shifted from AT&T Inc. to a newly created company called Warner Bros. Discovery Inc., the result of a merger of the entertainment and news assets of the telecom giant and Discovery.

Addressing CNN employees during an at-times emotional town hall meeting Thursday, CNN Chairman and Chief Executive Chris Licht—who hasn't even officially assumed his

role yet—said the decision to shut down CNN+ so soon after its March 29 launch created a uniquely bad situation, according to an attendee. Mr. Licht and others at Warner Bros. Discovery pointed fingers at AT&T and its former entertainment unit WarnerMedia

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◆ AT&T posts strong growth in wireless business..... B3

## Stunned Netflix Vows to Curb Profligate Spending

Streaming giant will add fewer titles, revamp production deals as growth slows

By JOE FLINT

For Netflix Inc., the era of carefree spending is over. The streaming giant ran up a huge bill over the past several years as it expanded across the globe and produced a mountain of programming, prioritizing growth over cost efficiency. Now the company is imposing more financial discipline, according to senior executives.

The shift comes as competition from an array of streaming rivals begins to take a toll, a new reality that was evident in first-quarter results announced Tuesday. The company lost subscribers for the first time in over a decade, and revenue grew at its slowest pace in years. Shares plunged 35%, the stock's second-worst one-day

decline ever, erasing \$54 billion in market value. "Well, it's a bitch," Netflix Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Reed Hastings said of the results while addressing employees in a town hall on Wednesday afternoon, according to people familiar with his remarks.

After churning out over 500 original programs last year, Netflix is looking to add fewer new titles, with a greater emphasis on quality, people familiar with the company's strategy said. It is revamping production deals to limit its risk, and prioritizing programs with the biggest return, not the greatest reach, the people said. A key internal metric: the ratio of a program's viewership to its budget.

"We should right-size

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## INSIDE



**MANSSION**  
Superyachts are gaining in popularity during the pandemic. **M1**

## Filmmaker Plunders History to Recast 10th-Century Pillage Life

Viking experts help Robert Eggers re-create hazy past of 'The Northman'

By JOHN JURGENSEN

Filmmaker Robert Eggers wants everybody talking about Vikings ahead of Friday's premiere of "The Northman," a violent revenge tale distilled from Viking legends. He didn't, though, want anybody saying "Vikings" in the movie itself.

It turns out it isn't that simple for a filmmaker to plunder history for a movie. The term Viking wasn't used

to describe what was a varied group of people until well after the heyday of the Scandinavian raiders, whose voyaging and pillaging spanned the eighth through 11th centuries. Some referred to themselves as Northmen, hence the movie title.

Mr. Eggers, the movie's director, Please turn to page A2

◆ Review: 'The Northman' has good lore, gore galore..... A12



## Baby blues

How small demographic changes have big effects — CHRIS GILES, PAGE 3

## Gaslighting Berlin

Is it really impossible to stop Russian energy supplies? — BIG READ, PAGE 13



## Gazillionaires rule

The shift in power to the world's mega-rich — GILLIAN TETT, PAGE 15

Mariupol exit  
Putin closes  
escape routes

Evacuees fleeing Mariupol meet relatives after travelling across a humanitarian corridor from Ukraine's southern port city to Zaporizhzhia yesterday.

Kyiv has rejected claims by Vladimir Putin that Moscow has conquered Mariupol, saying Ukrainian fighters are still holding out in underground passages at the Azovstal steelworks with about 1,000 civilians. The Russian president yesterday told his defence minister, Sergei Shoigu, not to storm the plant but to "block it off so that a fly can't get in".

Kyiv has said Mariupol is all but destroyed and that at least 20,000 civilians have been killed during Russia's two-month siege.

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Dennis Smyth page 15



Ed Jones/AP/Getty Images

## Musk lines up \$46bn financing package to drive bid for Twitter

• Tesla chief arranges \$25bn in debt • Tender offer expected • \$21bn of own equity pledged

ANTOINETTE GARA, ERIC PLATT AND JAMES FONTANELLA-KHAN — NEW YORK

Elon Musk has revealed a \$46.5bn financing package to fund his takeover bid for Twitter as he pushes ahead with a deal that would be one of the largest leveraged buyouts in history.

The billionaire chief executive of Tesla has lined up \$25.5bn in debt — including a margin loan of \$12.5bn against his shares in the electric-vehicle maker — from a group of banks led by Morgan Stanley, his financial adviser.

Separately, he said that he would provide \$21bn of equity for the deal, according to paperwork filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission yesterday, although he did not provide further details of where that portion of the financing would come from.

The offer in effect puts Musk on the hook for \$33.5bn — or more than 70 per cent — of the financing package, although he could bring in co-investors to finance the equity portion of the deal.

Securing the financing is a crucial milestone for the maverick entrepreneur who made a \$43bn hostile offer to take Twitter private last week.

Completing a deal would turn Musk into a social media baron with the power to control what he has defined as the world's "de facto public town square".

The San Francisco-based social media group acknowledged receiving Musk's "updated, non-binding proposal" but gave no formal response other than to say that its board was "committed to conducting a careful, comprehensive and deliberate review" of the offer. The

Twitter board has already raised its defences against Musk, however.

Last Friday, it launched a "poison pill" that would frustrate a hostile takeover by making it highly uneconomical for anyone to buy more than 15 per cent of Twitter stock in the open market.

Musk is expected to launch a tender offer to all Twitter shareholders in the coming days, a move that will put pressure on the social media company's board to negotiate with him.

Musk has lined up a dozen lenders, including Bank of America, Barclays, MUFG and Credit Suisse, to provide debt and the margin loan secured against \$62.5bn worth of his Tesla shares.

The debt package includes a \$6.5bn senior bank loan, a \$500mn revolving



Success in his pursuit of Twitter would turn Elon Musk into a social media baron with power over the world's 'de facto public town square'

credit facility and \$6bn split across secured and unsecured bridge loans from seven of the banks. Twitter has hired JPMorgan Chase and Goldman Sachs to advise it on the hostile bid.

Now that Musk has assembled a financing package, private equity investors will decide whether to try to participate, either as holders of the debt or as equity partners.

Lenders in the private credit market told the Financial Times that they expected it could absorb more than \$10bn in debt and billions more in preferred equity commitments.

Given the risk of \$13bn of debt used to fund the deal, many of the banks are expected to try quickly to sell on that debt to third-party investors.

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## Briefing

## ► Blackstone expects dealmaking decline

The world's biggest asset manager predicted less dealmaking this year, after last year's record \$5.8tn of M&A activity, owing to high inflation, rising interest rates and geopolitical uncertainty. — PAGE 5

## ► Brussels tackles Big Tech over content

The EU is to reveal a law that will force Big Tech to police their platforms more aggressively over illegal content — the latest regulatory move to curb the power of large technology groups. — PAGE 2

## ► Goldman alerted HK body to M Stanley

Goldman Sachs alerted Hong Kong's financial regulator three years ago over block trades by rival Wall Street lender Morgan Stanley, say people familiar with the matter. — PAGE 5

## ► Carlsberg books \$1.4bn writedown

The Denmark-based brewer has warned of a \$1.4bn writedown from the sale of its Russian unit as part of the exodus of western companies following Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. — PAGE 6



## ► Warner shuts newly launched CNN Plus

Warner Bros Discovery is to shut down CNN Plus, the \$350mn digital-streaming venture that was championed by former chief Jeff Zucker, barely a month after it launched. — PAGE 7

## ► UAE freezes Kinahan gang's assets

The Gulf state has frozen the assets of Ireland's Kinahan drug-trafficking gang, heaping pressure on an organisation that has deep ties with boxing promoters at the highest levels of the sport. — PAGE 2

## ► Nestlé increases prices of products

The largest food group raised its prices by more than 5 per cent in the first quarter, the latest sign of steep commodity inflation feeding through to consumer prices for branded goods. — PAGE 4, LEX, PAGE 16

## Datawatch

## Combating climate change

% who agree if government does not act now, it will be failing its people



A poll has found that 68 per cent of respondents say governments that do not tackle climate change now are failing their citizens. It also found that only 39 per cent think that their country has a clear plan to fight climate change.



## Macron loses favour with Muslims after shift to right

Many of France's Muslims who backed Emmanuel Macron's electoral push in 2017 now criticise him for his shift to the political right and for his perceived failure to improve conditions in poor suburbs, where many immigrants live. Macron's support among Muslims in the first round of voting fell 10 points from 2017. Opinion polls suggest that Macron is likely to win against far-right candidate Marine Le Pen on Sunday, but more narrowly than five years ago.

Faith in Macron lost — PAGE 3

## Sporting stars Hamilton and Williams join Broughton's bid to buy Chelsea FC

SAMUEL AGINI — LONDON

Lewis Hamilton and Serena Williams have joined one of three shortlisted bids for Chelsea Football Club as the auction for the English Premier League side enters its final stages.

The British Formula One driver and the US tennis star are backing the bid led by City grandee Martin Broughton and private equity billionaires Josh Harris and David Blitz, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

Hamilton and Williams have joined the bidding to acquire Chelsea from sanctions-hit Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich, who is selling the club as a result of Russia's war against Ukraine. The club has a global profile as one of the best-known teams in the Premier League, and its sale is attracting some of the world's richest investors.

It is unclear how much capital Hamilton and Williams are willing to stump up, however. Sky News reported they had pledged to invest roughly £10mn each in the bid. A spokesperson for Hamilton confirmed he had joined Broughton's consortium but said the figure on his investment was wrong, although she declined to correct it.

Williams, who has won 23 grand slam titles, has earned \$94mn in prize money in her near three-decade-long career. In March, her company Serena Ventures said it had raised a new \$111mn fund for investments. Representatives for Williams did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

US financier Todd Boehly is leading a rival offer for Chelsea backed by Clearlake Capital, while sports moguls Stephen Pagliuca and Larry Tanenbaum also submitted an offer last week.

A fourth group, backed by Chicago's Ricketts family, hedge fund billionaire Ken Griffin, and Cleveland Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert, dropped out of the auction last week.

Merchant bankers at Raine Group are handling the sale, with an announcement on a preferred bidder expected as soon as next week. The winner requires approval from the UK government and the Premier League.

The involvement of Hamilton and Williams in an offer for Chelsea comes as diversity became an issue in the auction after Ricketts drew criticism from Chelsea supporters over Islamophobic comments made previously by the family patriarch in leaked emails.

A person close to Hamilton pointed to his experience in sport and advancing diversity and inclusion as a potential benefit for Chelsea.

## World Markets

STOCK MARKETS					CURRENCIES					INTEREST RATES				
	Apr 21	prev	%chg		Pair	Apr 21	Prev				price	yield	chg	
S&P 500	4450.85	4459.45	-0.2		\$ per £	1.084	1.087	£ per \$	0.922	0.920	US Gov 10 yr	91.80	2.83	0.01
Nasdaq Composite	13407.29	13453.07	-0.34		\$ per €	1.303	1.305	€ per \$	0.767	0.768	US Gov 10 yr	121.40	2.01	0.10
Dow Jones Ind	35232.85	35190.79	0.20		€ per £	0.832	0.833	£ per €	1.202	1.201	Ger Gov 10 yr	92.02	0.95	0.10
FTSEurofirst 3000	1803.99	1800.40	0.18		¥ per \$	128.505	127.895	¥ per €	139.357	139.748	Japan Gov 10 yr	99.52	0.25	0.00
Euro Stoxx 50	3833.90	3899.81	-0.16		¥ per €	167.455	168.610	€ index	81.818	81.807	US Gov 30 yr	87.48	2.97	0.05
FTSE 100	7627.95	7629.22	-0.02		\$/¥	1.032	1.028	\$/¥	1.240	1.235	Ger Gov 2 yr	99.83	0.20	0.18
FTSE All-Share	4238.12	4236.24	0.04											
CAC 40	6715.10	6824.91	-1.36											
Korea Daxi	14502.41	14362.03	0.98											
Nikkei	27653.38	27217.85	1.73											
Hang Seng	20862.22	20944.67	-1.25											
MSCI World	2984.64	2984.70	0.33											
MSCI EM	1095.63	1099.00	-0.03											
MSCI ACWI	186.27	184.23	0.29											
FT Wilshire 2500	5622.26	5625.19	-0.12											
FT Wilshire 5000	4547.42	4527.88	-0.11											

COMMODITIES					INTEREST RATES				
	Apr 21	prev	%chg			price	yield	chg	
Oil WTI	104.25	102.19	2.02		Feed Funds Eff	0.20	0.08	0.12	
Oil Brent	108.57	106.80	1.68		US 3m Bills	0.02	0.01	0.01	
Gold	1948.55	1964.00	-0.74		Euro Libor 3m	-0.58	-0.58	0.00	
					UK 3m	1.15	1.16	0.00	

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Passengers arrived in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine, on Thursday after fleeing Mariupol and riding all night through Russian-held territory. LYNSEY ADDARIO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Sinking of Ship Presents Threat To Moscow's Propaganda Blitz

By NEIL MacFARQUHAR  
and ALINA LOBZINA

Families whose sons were listed as missing after the Russian flagship in the Black Sea sank a week ago are demanding answers in increasing numbers as the Ministry of Defense and top government officials stay silent about the fate of the crew.

At least 10 families have come forward publicly, on social media or to news organizations, to voice their frustration that they have been told by different officers or others that their sons were either alive, missing or dead. Yet there still has been no official update to the initial announcement that the more than 500 crew members on the cruiser, the Moskva, were all rescued.

"They don't want to talk to us,"

## Families Seek Answers on Fate of the Crew

Maksim Savin, 32, said in an interview about his search for his youngest brother Leonid, 20, a conscript who served on the Moskva. "We are grieving. They drafted our little brother and most likely will never give him back."

The official silence on the fate of the Moskva's crew is part of a larger campaign by the Kremlin to suppress bad news about the war and control the narrative that Russians receive on its progress. Many of the missing crew were conscripts, which has been a sensitive subject in Russia since the war in Chechnya, when young soldiers

Continued on Page A9

## U.S. Sees Next Month of War As Pivotal and Sends More Aid

This article is by Helene Cooper,  
Eric Schmitt and David E. Sanger.

WASHINGTON — Senior Biden administration officials say they believe that the next four weeks will shape the eventual outcome of Russia's war in Ukraine, with long-lasting ramifications that will influence the drawing of the map of Europe for decades to come.

While the officials still expect the war to be long and grinding, they say that it is imperative to rush Ukraine as many new weapons as possible — especially long-range artillery and anti-aircraft radar — to push back Russia's new advance in the eastern Donbas region.

Reflecting the renewed sense of urgency, President Biden announced on Thursday that the

## \$800 Million to Speed Weapons to Ukraine

United States would send Ukraine an additional \$800 million in military aid, the second such package in just over a week.

Mr. Biden said the latest aid package sent "an unmistakable message" to President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia: "He will never succeed in dominating and occupying all of Ukraine."

In remarks at the White House, Mr. Biden said that while the United States would announce many details of the arms it is shipping to Ukraine, some of the weaponry would be kept secret. The president borrowed, and modified

Continued on Page A8

## PUTIN PROCLAIMS FALL OF MARIUPOL, YET FIGHT GOES ON

He Calls Off Attack on Steel Plant Where  
Ukrainians Refuse to Give In

This article is by Anton  
Troianovski, Ivan Nechepurenko  
and Richard Pérez-Peña.

President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia claimed victory in Mariupol on Thursday despite persistent fighting there, publicly calling off an assault on the final Ukrainian stronghold in the devastated city in a stark display of the Kremlin's desire to present a success to the Russian public.

Mr. Putin ordered his defense minister, Sergei K. Shoigu, in a choreographed meeting shown on Russian television, not to storm the sprawling, fortress-like Azovstal steel mill complex where 2,000 Ukrainian fighters were said to be holed up, and instead to blockade the plant "so that a fly can't get through." That avoids, for now, a bloody battle in the strategic port city that would add to Russia's mounting casualty toll and tie down troops who could be deployed to the broader battle for eastern Ukraine.

"Of course, getting control of such an important center in the south as Mariupol is a success," Mr. Putin was shown telling Mr. Shoigu, though the city is not yet fully under Russian control. "Congratulations."

The fight for Mariupol carries enormous significance for both sides. It is the last pocket of serious resistance in the land bridge the Kremlin has created between territory it already holds in the Donbas region in the east and the Crimean Peninsula in the south. It is also home to much of Ukraine's Azov Battalion, filled with far-right fighters who give a sheen of respectability to Mr. Putin's false claim that Ukraine is run by Nazis and that he is "denazifying" the country.

The battle for the city also illustrates both the brutality of the

Russian invasion and its struggles — truths that have galvanized much of the world but that Moscow has worked hard to conceal from its own people. Mariupol has been under siege for more than a month, much of it lies in ruins, and satellite images show a growing mass grave on the city's outskirts. Roughly three-quarters of the residents have fled and, according to Ukrainian officials, about 20,000 civilians there have been killed — yet it is still not fully conquered.

Russia is shifting the focus of the war to gaining territory and wiping out Ukrainian forces in Donbas, where Moscow-backed separatists have been fighting Ukraine since 2014. Britain's Defense Ministry said Thursday in an intelligence assessment that the Kremlin is eager to make swift gains that it can trumpet on May 9, at the annual celebrations of victory over Nazi Germany in 1945.

At the White House, President Biden said the fight for Donbas was "going to be more limited in terms of geography but not in terms of brutality," compared to the early phase of the war. But, he added, Russia will "never succeed in dominating and occupying all of Ukraine."

Mr. Biden announced another \$800 million package of weapons for Ukraine, including dozens of heavy howitzers, 144,000 shells for them, and tactical drones, bringing total military aid this year to well above \$3 billion. The weapons supplied by NATO nations are becoming increasingly heavy and sophisticated, reflecting an expected shift in the nature of combat as the war pivots to Donbas, but the president said some of armaments will remain secret.

"We won't always be able to ad-

Continued on Page A10

**PRAYING FOR RESCUE** From deep inside the besieged Mariupol steel mill, a Ukrainian sergeant says supplies are dangerously low. PAGE A9

## CNN's Venture Into Streaming Ends Abruptly

This article is by Michael M. Grynbau,  
John Koblin and Benjamin Mullin.

At sunset on the last Monday of March, CNN stars gathered for a gala on the 101st floor of a Midtown Manhattan skyscraper to celebrate the launch of CNN+, the streaming service that was supposed to take the network into the digital future.

Ethan Hawke, who directed a film for CNN+, mingled with Anderson Cooper and Carl Bernstein as guests nibbled on miniature lobster rolls and gawked at the dizzying views of the New York City skyline.

It took three weeks for CNN's new owners to bring them down to earth.

In a move that stunned the media and tech worlds, Warner Bros. Discovery said on Thursday that it will abruptly shut down CNN+ on April 30. "While today's decision is incredibly difficult, it is the right one for the long-term success of CNN," Chris Licht, the network's incoming president, told staff.

The shutdown is an ignominious end to an operation into which CNN sank tens of millions of dollars from a nationwide marketing campaign to hundreds of

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GABRIEL JONES FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

## A New Crop in the Garden State

A cannabis shop in Maplewood, N.J., on Thursday, the state's first day of legal pot sales. Page A19.

## After Jan. 6, G.O.P. Leaders' Anger Faded Fast

By ALEXANDER BURNS  
and JONATHAN MARTIN

In the days after the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol building, the two top Republicans in Congress, Representative Kevin McCarthy and Senator Mitch McConnell, told associates they believed President Donald J. Trump was

responsible for inciting the deadly riot and vowed to drive him from politics.

Mr. McCarthy went so far as to say he would push Mr. Trump to resign immediately. "I've had it with this guy," he told a group of Republican leaders, according to an audio recording of the conversation obtained by The New York

Times.

But within weeks both men backed off an all-out fight with Mr. Trump because they feared retribution from him and his political movement. Their drive to act faded fast as it became clear it would mean difficult votes that would put them at odds with most

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## Crime-Fighting Nonprofit Group Takes Turn to the Right in Texas

By DAVID A. FAHRENTHOLD  
and KERI BLAKINGER

HOUSTON — "Anyone with information is urged to call Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS." That message, along with the promise of a reward, has appeared for decades at the end of news reports about shootings, stabbings or criminal mayhem in the nation's fourth-largest city.

But recently, Crime Stoppers of Houston has been blasting out a different, more political message: Activist judges are letting "dangerous criminals" out of jail to threaten the safety of law-abiding residents. On television, Twitter and videos, the traditionally nonpartisan nonprofit organization has been condemning more than a dozen elected judges all Democrats, four of whom lost primaries last month — while praising the crime policies of Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas, a Republican.

"What we're seeing is an assault against the community" by the judges, Rania Mankarious, the organization's chief executive, said this year in a national Fox News broadcast.

The group's aggressive posture on the issue followed shifts in Houston's approach to prosecuting low-level crimes and setting bail. The changes helped prompt a political backlash fed in part by the Crime Stoppers campaign and a rising murder rate.



CALLAGHAN OTTAWA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES  
Crime Stoppers of Houston has become reliant on state grants.

But an investigation by The New York Times and The Marshall Project found that the stance embraced by Crime Stoppers also intersects with the organization's financial interests.

Financial documents and government records, along with dozens of interviews, show that the organization, with an annual budget of about \$2.4 million, has in recent years become reliant on state grants backed by Mr. Abbott. Those grants included \$4 million in 2017 that was never publicized by Mr. Abbott or Crime Stoppers, which had previously trumpeted smaller donations from other government entities. In the past five years, the Texas government un-

Continued on Page A16



NATIONAL A13-23

## Climate vs. Cars in Portland

A battle over highway expansion is brewing in Portland, Ore., a city famous for its efforts to fight pollution. PAGE A22

## Why Those Maps Are Wacky

The 2020 census used sweeping means to ensure privacy for respondents, like relocating some underwater. PAGE A13

## INTERNATIONAL A4-12

### 11 Bookstores in a Tiny Village

Urueña, a place in northwestern Spain with about 100 full-time residents, has fought depopulation by reinventing itself as a literary hub. PAGE A4

### Israel Hits Back After Attack

The Israeli Air Force struck two military sites in Gaza after militants fired several rockets toward Israel. PAGE A6

## SPORTS B9-11

### Where's Kevin Durant?

The brilliant Nets superstar has so far fallen short in the N.B.A. playoffs against the Boston Celtics. PAGE B9



BUSINESS B1-7

## Picked, Hulled, Undelivered

California almond farmers can't supply their buyers as global shippers focus on the most lucrative routes. PAGE B6

## Florida Ends Disney Tax Status

Lawmakers voted to revoke a special district after the company criticized a new education law. PAGE B1

## OBITUARIES A24-25

### Two-Time Tony Winner

Robert Morse, 90, dazzled as a charming corporate schemer in "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." He also played the memorable role of Bertram Cooper on "Mad Men." PAGE A24

### Hard-Throwing Quarterback

Known as the Mad Bomber for his powerful arm, Daryle Lamonica led Oakland to the Super Bowl and was one of football's top passers in the late 1960s and early '70s. He was 80. PAGE A25

## OPINION A26-27

### David Brooks

PAGE A26



## WEEKEND ARTS C1-20

### Vengeance in Mind

Alexander Skarsgård stars in "The Northman," a Viking tale that mines a dark pagan past for images and effects. A.O. Scott has the review. PAGE C10







PHOTOGRAPHS BY GARY CORONADO, Los Angeles Times  
SABRINA DOLAN, 28, has complained to her landlord about the black spots in her unit at Chesapeake Apartments, but she says nothing has been done: "They don't come and fix anything at all."

## 'Horrible' has a home at South L.A. apartments

Mold and sewage complaints ignored, tenants say

BY LIAM DILLON

Sabrina Dolan is convinced that her apartment is poisoning her. Black, mold-like spots dot the windowsill in her living room. They appear on her bedroom windows along with signs of termites. The spots also cover a corner of her bathroom, and no amount of scrubbing can make them go away. Recently, she's been coughing up chunks of thick, dark mucus. And no matter how many times she complains to her landlord at the South Los Angeles apartment she shares with her fiancé, she says, nothing ever gets repaired. "We've been telling them about the mold," said Dolan, 28. "They don't come and fix it. The plumbing. They don't come and fix it. They don't come and fix anything at all. We've been getting sick." In the last four months, tenants



LIAM PONCE, 5, son of Martha Martinez, on their cracked kitchen floor. She said she's worried about her family's health.

COLUMN ONE

## The party police are watching you

Armed with decibel readers, officers keep short-term renters in check in Palm Springs.

BY HUGO MARTÍN  
REPORTING FROM  
PALM SPRINGS

MITCH Nabhan had been patrolling the streets of Palm Springs for six hours when the call came in about a house on Calle De Maria.

A native of the desert town, he didn't need to look up the address. Nabhan turned the wheel on his city-issued Chevy Volt and sped off, hoping to keep his response time under his goal of 25 minutes.

"I know practically where all of these addresses are," he said, zipping past low-slung Midcentury Modern homes, adorned with ocotillo, agave and palo verde trees.

As Nabhan drove, a police co-worker back at the police station, adjacent to Palm Springs International Airport, looked up the address and confirmed the three-bedroom property was a short-term rental. That meant the tenants had to abide by some of the nation's toughest rental compliance rules.

Nabhan, a 6-foot-2-inch former high school football



CHRISTINA HOUSE, Los Angeles Times  
FANS ENJOY a show at the Coachella festival in Indio on Sunday. Short-term rentals in nearby Palm Springs face stiff fines for loud music or too many cars.

## A swift end for CNN+ streaming service

BY STEPHEN BATTAGLIO

The streaming video business is going through a correction, and CNN+ has become a major casualty. Just nine days after the completion of the merger that created Warner Bros. Discovery, new management announced Thursday it is pulling the plug on CNN's \$5.99-a-month streaming service.

CNN staffers were informed that CNN+, which launched March 29, will be shut down April 30, according to a memo from incoming CNN President Chris Licht obtained by The Times. "This decision is in line with WBD's broader direct-to-consumer strategy," Licht said. "In a complex streaming market, consumers want simplicity and an all-in service, which provides a better experience and more value than stand-alone offerings."

The decision to cut bait on CNN+ so quickly comes on the heels of the disastrous quarterly results for streaming behemoth Netflix. The company has lost billions in stock value after failing to meet expectations for subscriber growth. The decline of Netflix subscribers in the first quarter highlighted the limit on

## Russia claims win in rubble of Mariupol

Ukrainians refuse to cede city. Official says photos show 'direct proof' of crimes.

BY NABIH BULOS,  
JAWEED KALEEM  
AND KURTIS LEE

SVIATOHIRSK, Ukraine — Russian President Vladimir Putin claimed victory in the battle for the southern Ukrainian port of Mariupol on Thursday as newly released satellite images from just outside the city revealed an apparent burial site where a local official said Russian troops were depositing dead civilians. Ukrainian leaders refused to surrender the battered city, a key target in Russia's war strategy. But the end appeared imminent, with the city's last holdouts sheltering in a sprawling steel mill. Putin announced in a

televised meeting with his defense minister that he had ordered his forces not to attack the Azovstal steel plant but to blockade the compound so tightly that "not even a fly comes through."

Those trapped include soldiers, children and the elderly, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky told a French television station Thursday.

"It is not more like a war, but a terrorist operation by Russia against Mariupol and the people of this city," he said.

After weeks of fighting, the once-thriving city of nearly 500,000 people is now a sea of rubble, three-fourths of its population displaced or dead.

The satellite images from Maxar Technologies, a U.S. space technology company, showed rows of graves stretching from an existing cemetery in the town of Marhush, 12 miles west of Mariupol.

"We finally found where [See Ukraine, A4]



MAXIMILIAN CLARKE, SODA Images/LightRocket  
A RUSSIAN soldier stands atop a damaged tank Monday in Ukraine's coastal city of Mariupol.

## Florida targets Disney's self-rule

LGBTQ rights clash prompts passage of a bill to dissolve resort's long-standing deal.

BY RYAN FAUGHNDER

For more than half a century, Walt Disney World has effectively operated as its own municipal government in central Florida.

A 1967 state law established the Reedy Creek Improvement District, giving the Walt Disney Co. extraordinary powers in an area encompassing the 25,000 acres near Orlando where the sprawling themed resort sits.

This special designation has now become the center of an unprecedented political fight.

The Florida House of Representatives approved a bill Thursday that would end Walt Disney World's system of self-rule.

The action came a day

after the Florida Senate passed the bill to dissolve all independent special districts established before 1988, by Republican Rep. Randy Fine, who sponsored the bill, tweeted on Tuesday. "Today, we remind them."

"Disney is a guest in Florida," Republican Rep. Randy Fine, who sponsored the bill, tweeted on Tuesday. "Today, we remind them."

The Florida Legislature's action is the latest salvo in the political right's war, led by GOP Gov. Ron DeSantis and other prominent conservatives, against Disney

[See Disney, A7]

## French vote has global weight

Sunday's presidential election is a fraught moment for the West and the war in Ukraine. WORLD, A3

## Win in bid for Nazi-looted art

Supreme Court rules for California family seeking Pissarro work that was displayed in Spain. NATION, A5

## County transit mask rule stays

Despite federal shift, L.A. will keep its mandate at airports and on public transportation. CALIFORNIA, B1

## Weather

Cool, turning sunny. L.A. Basin: 67/50. B6



**BUSINESS INSIDE:** Reluctant to fly without mask rule? You could get a refund, maybe. A8



# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

Partly sunny 75/55 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny 72/57 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022 • \$2

## Ties fray between GOP, big business

Clash between DeSantis, Disney is stark chapter in years-long slide

BY TODD C. FRANKEL

Six years ago, then-Indiana Gov. Mike Pence scrambled to change a "religious freedom" bill he had just signed into law because corporate America objected.

Apple and Salesforce opposed the bill, which seemed to allow businesses to discriminate against gay men and lesbians. Eli Lilly, a big employer in the state, called it "bad for Indiana and for business." Indiana's Chamber of Commerce said the law was "entirely unnecessary."

Legislators listened. The Republican-controlled statehouse quickly revised the bill to clarify that it could not be used to deny service based on sexual orientation. Pence signed it. And a fight between two longtime allies — companies and Republicans — was over.

But Pence's capitulation can feel like a postcard from a distant era as growing numbers of state and federal Republican leaders today seem eager to clash with the country's biggest corporations.

SEE GOP ON A18

**Disney battle:** Florida passes bill to undo park's special tax status. A18

## Media giant pulls plug on CNN Plus after just a month

BY JEREMY BARR AND PAUL FARHI

CNN's new parent company abruptly pulled the plug on the network's \$100 million venture into online streaming — a spectacular reversal that stunned employees barely three weeks after the launch of the service, known as CNN Plus.

After months of planning and hiring and a huge promotional campaign, CNN Plus drew modest subscription sign-ups and faced uncertain long-term prospects. But insiders and analysts viewed its demise as a result of the brutal calculus of a new corporate owner rather than a comment on its viability.

Notably, the service was conceived and developed under CNN's former owner, WarnerMedia, but was launched just days before Discovery Inc.'s long-gestating acquisition of the company was finalized. Discovery executives are now in charge of the merged company, called Warner Bros. Discovery, and made the decision to end CNN Plus at the end of the month.

CNN Plus was the cable-news giant's bet on digital streaming.

SEE CNN PLUS ON A13

## U.S. reinforces aid to Ukraine



PHOTOS BY HEIDI LEVINE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

### Exhausted Mariupol survivors describe horrors they endured

BY LOUISA LOVELACE AND DAVID L. STERN

ZAPORIZHZHIA, UKRAINE — As the buses from Mariupol arrived one by one, the shellshocked passengers inside looked exhausted. Barely any of them spoke when the doors opened.

Their escape from the shattered Ukrainian city over which Russian President Vladimir Putin declared victory Thursday, even as his advisers acknowledged that thousands of Ukrainian fighters were still holding out there, felt like "a miracle," one woman said.

"They destroyed everything," another nodded softly. "Glory to Ukraine," a teenager shouted.

The convoy of vehicles, the first to be granted safe passage by Russia in almost two weeks, was meant to include scores of vehicles. As it was, only four buses arrived in the southeastern town of Zaporizhzhia, 140 miles north of Mariupol, the rest held up as night fell by Russian checkpoints along the route, officials said.

A trickle of private cars had also made it through.

"Everything that you see dur-

SEE MARIUPOL ON A8



Ukrainians fleeing Mariupol and the surrounding area — including Tanya and her daughter Ula, top — arrive Thursday in the southeast city of Zaporizhzhia. The standoff in the city continues, even as Russia's president declared victory there.

**Man of 'steel':** Zelensky's home city rallies around him. A6

**Nonstop bodies:** A coroner in Kyiv struggles to keep up. A7

## Prayers on the 50-yard line

Court to weigh rights of public employees vs. student protections

BY ROBERT BARNES



LARRY STEAGALL/NTSAP SUN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Joseph Kennedy in 2015 at Bremerton Memorial Stadium in Washington. The former coach's postgame praying is at the heart of a case going before the Supreme Court on Monday.

**Puerto Ricans:** High court okays exclusions from aid program. B2

BREMERTON, WASH. — Almost everyone agrees it should not require two trips to the U.S. Supreme Court to settle the case of a high school football coach who wants to pray at the 50-yard line. Maybe former Bremerton High School assistant coach Joseph Kennedy could have conceded that his postgame prayer of gratitude could take place somewhere other than midfield, or discouraged what one judge called a "spectacle" of stampeding supporters and politicians who rushed after one game to kneel beside him on the gridiron.

Maybe the school district could have offered an accommodation that didn't require Kennedy to climb to the stadium press box, or retreat to a janitor's office in the

SEE COACH ON A22

## How a single judge's ruling upended U.S. covid policy

Decision ending transit mask mandates caught White House off-guard

BY YASMEEN ABUTALEB, HANNAH SAMPSON AND ANN E. MARIMOW

For more than a year, a little-known group called the Health Freedom Defense Fund has been working to roll back vaccine and mask mandates all over the country, often filing lawsuits one community at a time — from a tiny town in Idaho to the Los Angeles Unified School District and beyond.

The group, created last year by a former Wall Street executive turned anti-vaccine activist to advocate for "bodily autonomy," saw mixed results, with some local

officials bending under the pressure and others winning efforts to dismiss lawsuits they viewed as coming from a fringe organization.

Until this week.

The decision Monday by a federal judge in Florida to invalidate the government-imposed mask mandate on public transportation handed the group a major legal victory, instantly upending national policy and setting off a cascade of reactions that reflected the impact on millions of Americans.

Within hours of the decision, airline passengers were flooding social media with videos of joyous maskless travelers, surprised government officials were offering conflicting guidance, and businesses and other members of

SEE RULING ON A17

**Unruly flights:** Airlines consider a return of banned passengers. A14

## IN THE NEWS



JONATHAN NEWTON/THE WASHINGTON POST

**Capitol confusion** The Army says it notified the FAA before a flight over Nationals Park that triggered an evacuation on the Hill. B1

**Border-wall scheme** An Air Force veteran pleaded guilty to defrauding donors to an effort that involved Stephen K. Bannon. A4

### THE NATION

**The fatal shooting** of a Black man has returned protesters to city streets and renewed long-simmering concerns about policing in Grand Rapids, Mich. A3

**President Biden** will sign an executive order to inventory and identify any threats to U.S. old-growth forests. A4

**The CDC** reported a drop in enrollment of kindergartners, stirring fears that vaccination rates could drop. A16

**Tina Flournoy**, chief of staff to Vice President Harris, is preparing to leave the post, the latest

of several aides opting to depart Harris's office in recent months. A22

### THE WORLD

**Gaza militants** and Israel engaged in rocket attacks and airstrikes amid simmering holiday tensions. A12

**British lawmakers** approved an inquiry into whether Prime Minister Boris Johnson intentionally misled them about parties that broke lockdown rules. A12

**A former president** of Honduras was extradited to the United States to face drug and weapons charges. A12

### THE ECONOMY

**Elon Musk** said he has secured \$46.5 billion in financing to acquire Twitter, signaling serious intent to buy the company. A14

### THE REGION

**The number** of unhoused people in D.C. hit a 17-year low, falling 47 percent since the city announced a plan to combat homelessness in 2015, the mayor said. B1

**Virginia Gov.** Glenn Youngkin plans to travel the country promoting Republican candidates through two new political organizations. B1

**D.C. mayoral** candidate Robert C. White Jr. proposed a job guaran-

tee for every resident, which he said would add 10,000 people to the city's payroll. B1

**In Virginia's** 7th Congressional District primary, GOP contenders race to gain an edge in fundraising, including large personal loans. B4

### OBITUARIES

**Robert Morse**, a Tony-winning comic actor who also played an eccentric adman on TV's "Mad Men," was 90. B6

### STYLE

**At Johnny Depp's** defamation trial against his ex-wife, Amber Heard's lawyers questioned the truthfulness of the actor's testimony. C1

## INSIDE



### WEEKEND

**Fests roar back** Outdoor music festivals emerge from the pandemic over the next three weekends at the RFK grounds in D.C.

### STYLE

**Aldean's dual lean** The country star has been playing to the political right, but on his new double album he sings to the center. C1

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## La reina Isabel celebró sus 96 años, recluida y alejada de homenajes

Con problemas de salud, la monarca británica se trasladó a la residencia en Sandringham, donde acompañó a su marido en sus últimos días. **Página 8**



## BATTAGLIA SIGUE EN BOCA, AUNQUE LA RELACIÓN ESTÁ ROTA

—deportes

Juan Román Riquelme, ahora en su papel de vicepresidente, le dio la última oportunidad al DT, que dice sentirse con "fuerza" para revertir los flojos resultados.

## MICROTEATRO: UNA EXPERIENCIA ÍNTIMA QUE YA ES UN ÉXITO

—espectáculos

El formato, nacido en España, se convirtió en un acontecimiento que agrupa arte y gastronomía, en una propuesta a la medida de cada espectador.

# LA NACION

VIERNES 22 DE ABRIL DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

LA NACION CON EL PAPA

## Francisco. “¿De qué serviría que fuera a Kiev si la guerra continuara al día siguiente?”

“Haré todo para frenar la guerra”, afirmó el Pontífice; aclaró su postura sobre el periodismo

Joaquín Morales Solá

—LA NACION—

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO.—Solo basta nombrar a Ucrania para que el papa Francisco exclame una frase categórica: “Estoy dispuesto a hacer todo para frenar la guerra. Todo”. Sus palabras y sus gestos

delatan que no hay otro problema, fuera o dentro de la Iglesia, que ahora lo preocupe más que la invasión de Rusia a Ucrania.

“Las guerras son anacrónicas en este mundo y a esta altura de

la civilización”, dice, también tajante. Tiene el mismo rostro lozano de hace nueve años, cuando lo eligieron papa, pero un desgarró en el ligamento de la rodilla complica sus posibilidades de

caminar y lo obliga a renguear.

“Pasará”, se resigna, aunque no acepta que lo infiltren. Prefiere ponerse hielo en la zona afectada y tomar algunos analgésicos. **Continúa en la página 2**

## Cristina redobla la pelea con la Corte y busca ampliarla

**JUSTICIA.** El proyecto oficialista plantea pasar de cinco a nueve miembros

Tras la maniobra para arrebatar un lugar en el Consejo de la Magistratura, el kirchnerismo decidió iniciar la semana próxima en el Senado el debate sobre la ampliación de la Corte Suprema y profundizar así el enfrentamiento entre Cristina Kirchner y el máximo tribunal.

El tema comenzará a discutirse el miércoles en la Comisión de Asuntos Constitucionales de la Cámara alta, donde el oficialismo es mayoría. Desde 2006, el tribunal está compuesto por cinco miembros. El proyecto propone ampliarlo a nueve integrantes. **Página 15**

## Brutal ataque a una policía en el corazón de Palermo

**seguridad**—Un hombre que se había escapado en marzo pasado del Hospital Borda golpeó ayer con un hierro a una oficial de la Policía de la Ciudad y le provocó una fractura de cráneo; el agresor había sido internado en febrero tras atacar a otras mujeres. **Página 26**



La oficial Victoria Ponce, de 25 años, patrullaba en bicicleta cuando fue atacada en el cruce de Salguero y Castex, a las 6.40

TÉLAM

## La “bestia negra” de Malvinas

La historia del militar argentino que todavía despierta terror en las islas

Hugo Alconada Mon  
ENVIADO ESPECIAL

PUERTO ARGENTINO.—Hay un militar argentino cuyo apellido todavía causa escalofríos en las Islas

Malvinas. A 40 años de la guerra, su sola mención afecta a los hombres, las mujeres y los niños isleños que lidiaron con él. Algunos aún sufren de estrés postraumático por sus acciones, que remiten a

las peores prácticas de la dictadura. Es la “bestia negra” de las islas. Ese militar figura en los legajos de la Conadep y en al menos dos causas de lesa humanidad. **Continúa en la página 16**

## La depresión posparto también afecta a los hombres

**SALUD.** Nuevos estudios revelan que la sufre uno de cada 10 varones. **Página 24**

## El rebrote de la inflación amenaza con sumar pobres

**PRECIOS.** La canasta básica subió 7% en marzo y asciende a \$86.690. **Página 18**



## Bolsonaro anuncia perdão a Silveira

Presidente cita liberdade de expressão e comoção da sociedade para dar benefício a deputado, condenado pelo STF

O presidente Jair Bolsonaro (PL) concedeu ontem perdão ao deputado Daniel Silveira (PTB-RJ), condenado pelo Supremo Tribunal Federal a 8 anos e 9 meses de prisão em regime fechado por ter atacado verbalmente e ameaçado os ministros da corte.

O indulto extingue a pena. Para justificar, evocou a liberdade de expressão, "pilar essencial da sociedade", e suposta comoção pela condenação de seu aliado, por 10 votos a 1, na véspera, quando o Supremo ainda pediu a cassação e multou o deputado.

A defesa diz que o julgamento de Silveira foi político. A condenação do deputado e o indulto são o lance mais recente do embate entre o Supremo e o presidente, que chegou a mobilizar atos golpistas em setembro de 2021 tendo a corte como alvo mor.

Ministros do STF criticaram a decisão e disseram à Folha que haverá questionamento judicial — em tese, porém, o indulto é um instrumento blindado a recursos dos magistrados. A medida presidencial não altera a inelegibilidade de Silveira.

Bolsonaro disse a membros do governo que não vai abdicar do confronto com o Judiciário. Antes disso, o presidente da Câmara e aliado do Planalto Arthur Lira (PP-AL) reivindicou para os deputados a decisão sobre a cassação do parlamentar.

O decreto de perdão foi criticado por políticos da oposição e por pré-candidatos à Presidência da República. Ciro Gomes (PDT) chamou a decisão de "ato espúrio" e o senador Renan Calheiros (MDB-AL) a definiu como "golpista". **Política A4**

**Parlamento vai investigar Boris por festa sob Covid**  
Mundo A10

**Ilustrada C1**  
**Uma nova Julia Roberts**

Em 'Gaslit' como a mulher que detonou Watergate, atriz abandona heroínas

**Guia C8**  
Para o Dia do Churrasco, veja 5 restaurantes que fazem embutidos



Corpo de Bombeiros ES/Divulgação

### PRÉDIO PEQUENO DESABA E MATA 2 NO ESPÍRITO SANTO

Bombeiros tentam remover entulho de um edifício de três andares que desabou ontem na cidade de Vila Velha; havia duas pessoas desaparecidas ainda sob escombros **Cotidiano B6**

### Inédito, indulto a deputado tem efeito incerto

O indulto de Jair Bolsonaro a Daniel Silveira tem efeito automático. Mas a medida tomada menos de 24 horas após a condenação traz dois elementos raros que dificultam prognóstico: dirige-se a uma pessoa em particular e não visa aliviar a pena de alguém que já esteja cumprindo sentença. **Política A5**

### Reinaldo Azevedo: Decreto ilegal, imoral e golpista

O presidente da República decidiu fazer a maior afronta ao STF desde o início do seu mandato. Ainda que isto possa deixar Bolsonaro chocado, ele não é um monarca absolutista, e a faculdade de conceder indulto não o torna uma instância revisora do Judiciário. **Política A6**

### Cronograma de privatização da Eletrobras esbarra em eleição

Governo federal e Eletrobras estão refazendo o cronograma de privatização da estatal após o Tribunal de Contas da União pedir mais 20 dias para analisar o processo.

Embora a meta seja fechar a operação neste ano e não haja trava legal para fazê-lo perto da eleição, esta é vista como obstáculo dada a tensão do mercado. **Mercado A13**

alalaô



Foliá do bloco Saia de Chita, da zona oeste de SP, em um dos quatro cortejos que saíram às ruas da capital paulista nesta quinta-feira (21), em meio ao medo de repressão **Daniilo Verpa/Folhpress**

### Política e racismo vão às ruas no Carnaval da pandemia B1

**Menina tem perna amputada após acidente em carro alegórico B4**

**Saiba onde e como ver os desfiles das escolas de samba em SP e Rio B1**

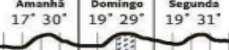
**Krishna Mahon**  
Estava com saudade de cheiro dos outros B4

**MÔNICA BERGAMO**  
'Psicóloga pra quê?', diz Zeca Pagodinho B2

### ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje

Fonte: www.climatempo.com.br



### EDITORIAIS A2

**Desastres no MEC**  
Sobre entra e sai de ministros na pasta da Educação.

**Covid acima de zero**  
A respeito de agruras da política sanitária chinesa.

### A pandemia em 21.abr

Dados das 20h

**População vacinada no Brasil**  
1º ciclo vacinal completo (dose única ou 2ª dose) **76,0%**





Por Monumental 1080 AM se emitirán hoy más audios de los implicados

## Enviaban toneladas de droga de forma exprés y sin control

Estructura narco de Juan José Dubini conseguía el canal verde de Aduanas, de trámite rápido y simplificado, para traficar grandes cargas de cocaína como azúcar orgánica.

PÁGINA 49

Discutido plan que exonera aranceles  
**Senado posterga por un mes el tratamiento del régimen comercial de frontera**

PÁGINA 15

No se analizó proyecto sobre Petropar  
**Los camioneros amenazan con medidas más drásticas tras revés en el Congreso**

PÁGINA 10

Plantean frenar subas y cortar cupos de nafta  
**Ver para creer: Cámara Alta y Ejecutivo buscan austeridad en plena época electoral**

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

Hernández se expone a cadena perpetua  
**Ex presidente de Honduras fue extraditado a los EEUU acusado de narcotráfico**

PÁGINA 45

Perdió Cerro y Libertad es único puntero



## ¡Decepcionante!

**Apertura.** El Ciclón cayó sorpresivamente 2-0 ante Tacuary. El Azulgrana mostró un muy bajo nivel de juego y se bajó de la cima del torneo. **PÁGINAS 54 y 56**

**ETIOS**

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**REPORTAGE**  
SLOVIANSK, LE VERROU UKRAINIEN  
QUI BLOQUE LES RUSSES  
DANS LE DONBASS **PAGES 6 ET 7**



**PORTRAIT**  
LE MAGICIEN GÉRARD MAJAX  
RESSORT DU CHAPEAU **PAGE 34**

## UKRAINE

• La communauté grecque d'Odessa affiche sa solidarité avec Kiev

PAGE 5

• Avec le Sarmat, Poutine essaie une démonstration de puissance nucléaire **PAGE 7**

## PRÉSIDENTIELLE

Les ressorts étonnants du vote en prison **PAGE 9**

## DÉLINQUANCE

Le quartier de la tour Eiffel miné par l'insécurité **PAGE 10**

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FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NON

**Réponses à la question de jeudi :**  
Débat d'entre-deux-tours: qui vous a le plus convaincu?

**E. MACRON 61%** **M. LE PEN 39%**  
TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 286 951

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

**Présidentielle:**  
pensez-vous que le débat va modifier le rapport de force entre les deux finalistes?

CAPMAN VINCENT/SIPA; LUCIEN LUNG/RIVA-PRESS; THOMAS COEX/AFP; YVES HERMAN/REUTERS

Jacques Perrin  
au paradis du cinéma

Le grand comédien est mort hier à 80 ans. Consacré dès 26 ans avec *Les Démonelles* de Rochefort de Jacques Demy, il fera un parcours sans faute, marqué par *Le Crabe-Tambour* de Schoendoerffer, *Z* de Costa-Gavras ou encore *Cinéma Paradiso* de Tornatore. Sa carrière de producteur de documentaires à succès lui permettra de porter tôt et haut ses engagements pour l'environnement. **PAGE 28**

LAURENCE SUDRE/BRIDGEMAN IMAGES

Covid: le repli de  
la Chine menace  
l'économie  
mondiale

Le confinement strict imposé par le régime dans 45 villes chinoises, dont Shanghai, ralentit la croissance et inquiète les grandes entreprises présentes dans le pays.

Fidèle à sa stratégie «zéro Covid», le pouvoir chinois impose depuis quelques semaines un confinement drastique dans une partie du pays, représentant un quart de sa population. Compte tenu de ce coup d'arrêt brutal de l'activité, le FMI a revu à la baisse ses prévisions de

croissance pour la Chine et estime que ce renfermement fait partie des grands risques économiques mondiaux actuels. D'ores et déjà, il perturbe de nombreuses chaînes de production et d'approvisionnement, ainsi que le commerce international. Les grandes entreprises présen-

tes dans l'empire du Milieu s'organisent tant bien que mal pour faire face à la situation, mais ne cachent pas leur inquiétude pour les semaines à venir. De nombreux expatriés souhaitent quitter un pays aux conditions de vie de plus en plus difficiles.

→ LE FRET DÉSORGANISÉ PAR LE CONFINEMENT DE SHANGHAI → LA GRANDE FUITE DES «EXPATS»  
→ FRANÇOIS GODEMENT: «LA CHINE EST DEVENUE UNE DESTINATION MOINS SÛRE» **PAGES 20 ET 21**

Le Pen et Macron jettent  
leurs dernières forces  
dans la bataille

Un relais routier dans la Somme pour la candidate du RN, une visite à Saint-Denis pour son adversaire: au lendemain de leur confrontation télévisuelle, les deux finalistes de la présidentielle sont retournés

sur le terrain, au contact de la France populaire. Objectif: mobiliser leur électorat et tenter de convaincre les indécis dans la dernière ligne droite avant le scrutin.

PAGES 2 A 4, 14, 16, 17 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

## ÉDITORIAL par Yves Thureau ythureau@lefigaro.fr

## Avec ou sans Majax

Jamais un débat de l'entre-deux-tours de la présidentielle n'avait attiré aussi peu de téléspectateurs. Ils n'étaient que 15,6 millions devant leur poste mercredi soir, toutes chaînes confondues, soit deux fois moins qu'en 1981. L'écart est spectaculaire alors que la France compte aujourd'hui douze millions d'habitants supplémentaires. Certes, les audiences de l'univers numérique - inexistant il y a quarante ans - ne sont pas prises en compte, mais elles ne combleraient pas la différence, très loin s'en faut. Comme pour l'abstention, cette désertion tient à l'indifférence d'une partie grandissante des Français, qui ne croient plus du tout aux promesses des discours politiques. Elle traduit aussi le rejet de l'affiche proposée cette année, entre deux personnalités qui suscitent, l'une et l'autre, fort peu d'enthousiasme. Notamment parmi les orphelins de ce second tour. Enfin, fallait-il vraiment s'attendre à une quelconque surprise dans ce «remake» de 2017? Si le face-à-face s'annonçait différent - plus apaisé - dans la forme, tous les instituts de sondage affirmaient que le président-candidat, par sa plus grande maîtrise des dossiers, conserverait son avantage. Ce qu'il a fait. Rien à voir avec le match retour de 1981, à

l'issue d'une campagne qui avait vu François Mitterrand doubler Valéry Giscard d'Estaing sur le fil. Rien de comparable, non plus, avec le duel inédit de 2007 entre Nicolas Sarkozy et Ségolène Royal, édition marquée par un renouvellement de génération et la qualification pour la première fois d'une femme en finale. Plus de 20 millions de téléspectateurs étaient au rendez-vous, contre 16 millions douze ans

auparavant, pour le soporifique débat, sans grand suspense, entre Jacques Chirac et Lionel Jospin. Ce n'est pas un tour de magie de Gérard Majax, redevenu la star d'un soir par la grâce présidentielle, qui réveillera l'intérêt des téléspectateurs pour le débat de l'entre-deux-tours. L'analyse de la courbe d'audience conduit à penser qu'il conviendrait peut-être de raccourcir la durée de l'exercice. Elle montre surtout que le prochain président élu aura fort à faire s'il veut réconcilier les Français et la politique. ■

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# The return of drum'n'bass

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## MPs back 'lies' inquiry on day of humiliation for PM

Jessica Elgot  
Heather Stewart Ahmedabad

Boris Johnson suffered humiliating blows to his authority yesterday when MPs backed a formal inquiry into whether he lied to parliament and senior Conservative figures called again for him to resign.

The prime minister now faces an investigation by a Commons

committee over claims he misled MPs about lockdown parties – a potential resigning matter under the ministerial code. The government had tried to delay the inquiry, only to stage a U-turn hours later amid widespread anger among Conservatives.

Speaking during a Commons debate following chaotic scenes in Westminster, the former Brexit minister Steve Baker, an influential figure among Conservatives, said he was

appalled by Johnson's private attitude to the fine he had received for breaches of Covid rules and the prime minister "now should be long gone".

Others made clear that they had told Tory whips they would not block or delay a new Partygate inquiry.

▼ Boris Johnson posing in front of a temple in Ahmedabad yesterday while MPs were discussing his fate  
PHOTOGRAPH: BEN STANSALL/PA MEDIA

The Guardian can reveal that the former health secretary Jeremy Hunt told constituents he had warned whips he would not support moves to delay the inquiry.

Hunt said in an email to constituents that he found the fines issued to Johnson and the chancellor, Rishi Sunak, "shocking and disappointing". "We will also now see the privileges committee investigate whether

## McCann case: formal suspect identified

Nadeem Badshah

A German man has been formally identified as a suspect in the disappearance of the British toddler Madeleine McCann 15 years ago, Portuguese prosecutors have said.

Christian Brueckner, a convicted rapist, has been made an "arguido", translated as "named suspect", which means he will be treated by Portuguese police as more than a witness, but has not been arrested or charged. The German's lawyer said his client has not been charged.

Prosecutors in the southern Portuguese town of Faro did not publicly name the man but said in a statement he was identified as a suspect by German authorities at their request.

The timing of the move could be related to the country's 15-year statute of limitations for crimes with a maximum prison sentence of 10 years or more. Madeleine disappeared on 3 May 2007, while on holiday with her parents in Praia da Luz, in Portugal.

It is the first time that Portuguese prosecutors have identified an official suspect in the case since Kate and Gerry McCann, Madeleine's parents, were named suspects in 2007. They were later cleared.

Prosecutors said the investigation has been carried out with cooperation from British and German authorities.

The development could allow Brueckner to be extradited to Portugal for formal questioning. The German newspaper Bild reported that his lawyer, Friedrich Fuelscher, said the Portuguese decision appeared to be a "procedural trick".

German police said in June 2020 that Madeleine was assumed dead and that Brueckner, 44, was likely responsible for her death.

However, they have not revealed details to support the assertion that Madeleine is dead. British officers continue to treat



## Mariupol civilians 'buried in mass graves by Russians'

Mayor says Putin's troops using mass burials to cover up evidence of their "barbaric" war crimes in city at focal point of Ukraine conflict [Page 16](#) ➔

## Salvation Army 'exposed tenants to unsafe housing'

One of Britain's best known charities accused of "acting like a rogue landlord" after tenants were exposed to "serious" hazards [Page 28](#) ➔



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