

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

**Archegos's founder and its finance chief were indicted on securities fraud and racketeering charges for what prosecutors said was a fraud and manipulation scheme that nearly jeopardized the U.S. financial system. A1, A6**

◆ **Facebook parent Meta** added more users than expected in the latest quarter but posted its slowest revenue growth since going public. **A1**

◆ **Boeing reported** a quarterly loss of \$1.24 billion amid more setbacks for the company's jetliner and military programs. **A1, A10**

◆ **Samsung Electronics** posted record quarterly revenue and saw its net profit jump by 59%. **B1**

◆ **The S&P 500 and Dow** both closed 0.2% higher in a choppy session, while the Nasdaq slipped 1.81 points. **B1**

◆ **Some big pharmacies** have blocked or delayed prescriptions over the last year from clinicians working for telehealth startups that have sprung up to treat ADHD. **B1**

◆ **Musk, whose takeover bid** for Twitter was accepted days ago, continued to use the site to criticize executives there. **B4**

◆ **A Delaware judge** cleared Musk of unlawful activity in Tesla's roughly \$2.1 billion takeover of SolarCity. **B3**

◆ **An SEC proposal** intended to make Treasury markets more resilient has sparked a backlash from cryptocurrency companies. **B1**

◆ **Ford swung** to a first-quarter loss of \$3.1 billion, largely driven by a steep loss in valuation of its stake in Rivian. **B3**

## World-Wide

◆ **The EU vowed** to phase out Russian natural-gas purchases and speed up the switch to renewable energy in response to Moscow's decision to stop sending gas to Poland and Bulgaria because of their military support for Ukraine. **A1, A7-9**

◆ **Trevor Reed**, a U.S. citizen and retired Marine who had been detained in Russia since 2019, was released in a prisoner swap, a move lauded by Washington. **A8**

◆ **Democrats began** a last-ditch effort to cobble together a narrower version of Biden's once-sweeping economic agenda that could win the critical support of Sen. Manchin. **A4**

◆ **Republicans said** they remain firmly behind McCarthy as they fight to win back control of the House, with many brushing off recordings that showed him wavering in his support of Trump after the Capitol riot. **A4**

◆ **New York's top court** ruled that proposed districts for the U.S. House of Representatives and state Senate were invalid, and ordered that a special master prepare a set of new maps. **A3**

◆ **Federal judges and Supreme Court justices** must make more timely and accessible disclosures of their financial holdings and potential conflicts of interest under legislation headed to Biden's desk. **A5**

◆ **A Myanmar court** sentenced ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi to five years in prison after finding her guilty of corruption. **A18**

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Bill Hwang, founder of Archegos Capital Management, was charged with fraud Wednesday in New York City.

## Archegos Founder and CFO Are Indicted on Fraud Charges

The founder and chief financial officer of Archegos Capital Management were indicted on securities fraud and racketeering charges Wednesday for what prosecutors al-

By Corinne Ramey,  
Susan Pulliam  
and Juliet Chung

leged was a massive fraud and manipulation scheme that nearly jeopardized the U.S. financial system.

The family office of founder Bill Hwang collapsed in March 2021, leaving banks with more

than \$10 billion in losses and sparking calls for more regulatory oversight. More than \$100 billion in stock-market value vanished in a matter of days.

Damian Williams, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, described the alleged scheme as historic in scope, alleging the defendants and their co-conspirators lied to banks to obtain billions of dollars in loans, which they then used to inflate the stock price of publicly traded companies.

"The lies fed the inflation and the inflation fed more lies," Mr. Williams said at a

news conference. "Last year, the music stopped. The bubble burst. The prices dropped. And when they did, billions of dollars evaporated overnight."

Mr. Hwang and CFO Patrick Halligan, who were arrested Wednesday morning, face securities fraud, wire fraud, racketeering conspiracy and other charges. They pleaded not guilty in federal court in Manhattan Wednesday afternoon. A federal judge released Mr. Hwang on a \$100 million bond and Mr. Halligan on a \$1 million bond.

Mr. Hwang's lawyer, Law-

rence Lustberg, said in a statement his client is "entirely innocent" and there is "no evidence whatsoever that he committed any kind of crime." "A prosecution of this type, for open-market transactions, is unprecedented and threatens all investors," Mr. Lustberg said. A lawyer for Mr. Halligan, Mary Mulligan, said her client is "innocent and will be exonerated."

Two other former Archegos employees, William Tomita, Please turn to page A6

◆ Archegos's word was good enough for banks..... A6

### Brazil Tackles High Rates

Brazil's central bank is taking a new approach to rein in spiraling borrowing costs, which can reach over 300% a year for credit-card holders. The latest strategy, known as open finance or open banking, is meant to make it easier for consumers to compare costs. **A18**

Average annual interest rate on consumer credit cards in Brazil



Source: Brazil's central bank

## Meta Investors Cheer Result That Isn't as Bad as Feared

By SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ

Facebook parent Meta Platforms Inc. added more users than expected but posted its slowest revenue growth since going public a decade ago, as the company navigates growing competition and privacy headwinds for its advertising business.

The user numbers were a surprise for the tech giant. In the wake of poor earnings results from other digital-ad rivals earlier this week, investors had feared the worst, and on Wednesday they pushed

Meta shares up more than 18% after results were announced. The company cited the war in Ukraine as a contributor to the revenue slowdown, among other factors.

Meta's stock price was battered in February when it posted quarterly results that showed a sharper-than-expected decline in profits, a gloomy revenue outlook and a dip in its daily active users.

Before Wednesday, Meta shares had fallen nearly 44% and the company had lost nearly \$400 billion in market value.

Meta executives including Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg cited on Wednesday several efforts to reverse those trends. To combat rival TikTok, which Mr. Zuckerberg has described as a rising threat, the company said it would more actively use artificial intelligence to recommend content to users from around the social network, as opposed to populating their feeds mostly with posts from friends and family. That in effect means Facebook will function more like TikTok's For You Page. Please turn to page A2

The Wall Street Journal @WSJ • Apr 28

### Some personal news: Elon Musk's Twitter deal has everyone atwitter about all things Twitter on Twitter

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2

0

By JOSEPH PISANI  
AND OMAR ABDEL-BAQI

Now trending on Twitter:

Twitter users have a lot to say about Twitter selling itself to Elon Musk for \$44 billion. And they're using Twitter to say it.

Many people are going on Twitter to swear that they won't use Twitter. Others are threatening to quit Twitter, while another camp is betting that they won't. Still others are making fun of those exiting the website known as part public square, part digital hellscape.

The often insular and usually self-referential community that is Twitter now comprises mostly people tweeting about their Twitter habits, to their Twitter followers. The hashtag #LeavingTwitter trended Tues-

day. Discourse popped up in the niche Twitter worlds of #freedomtwitter, #climategtwitter, #higheredtwitter, #blacktwitter, #biketwitter—between the usual posts about Wordle, cute dogs and "GM" messages for crypto enthusiasts.

Twitter got its start in 2006 as a site that invited users to answer the question: "What are you doing?" Tech-savvy folks posted about their meals and other mundane things. Soon it went mainstream, attracting celebrities, politicians and even the pope.

Twitter has become embedded in the culture, a forum where media personalities. Please turn to page A10

◆ Christopher Mims: Past is clue to Twitter's future..... B1  
◆ Musk mucks legal chief at Twitter..... B4

## Boeing Couldn't Stop Finding Flaws

Scrutiny of its manufacturing, under FAA pressure, led to string of Dreamliner delays

By ANDREW TANGEL

For years, Boeing Co. and the Federal Aviation Administration handled 787 Dreamliner deliveries as though the perfect was the enemy of the good.

The FAA allowed the plane maker to deliver the wide-body jets with some minor flaws, so long as there was no immediate threat to safety. The expectation was that Boeing would fix such defects after the planes began carrying passengers, according to government officials and current and former Boeing executives.

That approach doesn't fly anymore. Two deadly crashes of a different Boeing airplane, the 737 MAX, ushered in a new era of intense scrutiny of everything rolling out

of Boeing's factories.

The result has been a string of Dreamliner delays that have become headaches for both Boeing and the airlines waiting for delivery of scores of 787s worth more than \$25 billion. Production snafus have popped up one after the other. Some of the latest involve titanium parts, glue and fasteners, people familiar with the matter said.

Boeing said it had submitted a plan to the FAA for resolving production problems, a key step in restarting Dreamliner deliveries. Those could resume this summer if regulators approve the proposal, people familiar with the matter. Please turn to page A10

◆ Boeing posts a quarterly loss amid jet setbacks..... A10

### INSIDE



#### SPORTS

A former receiver for the Vienna Vikings may now be a first-round NFL draft pick. **A14**



#### BUSINESS NEWS

Ford swung to a net loss of \$3.1 billion in the first quarter as revenue fell 5%. **B3**



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## The tax test

Amazon tussle puts ESG investors on the spot — HELEN THOMAS, PAGE 15

## Battlefields

How war has wrecked Ukraine's agricultural exports — BIG READ, PAGE 13



## Disunited front

Splits in France's right stand in way of alliance — LEILA ABOUD, PAGE 14

# Gas price soars as Russia turns off taps to Poland and Bulgaria

10% rise in Europe • Kremlin accused of blackmail • Gazprom wants rouble payment

NASTASSIA ASTRASHEUSKAYA — RIGA  
SAM FLINCH — BRUSSELS  
NEIL HUME AND  
ROBERT WRIGHT — LONDON

EU leaders yesterday accused Moscow of "blackmail" over gas exports after Russia's state-owned Gazprom suspended supplies to Poland and Bulgaria, sending prices up to 20 per cent higher.

The two nations are the first EU states to have gas supplies from Russia cut off since Moscow last month threatened to withhold exports unless it was paid in roubles. Russia made the demand after the west imposed sanctions on the Kremlin for its war in Ukraine.

In Russia's starkest move yet to target the EU's reliance on its fossil fuels since invading Ukraine, the interruption rippled into markets, with the euro falling to a five-year low against the dollar. Futures contracts tracking Europe's wholesale gas price gained about 20 per cent, before paring gains to trade 10 per cent higher at €108.5 per megawatt hour. Prices are more than six times higher than a year ago.

"Gazprom has completely suspended gas supplies to Bulgargaz (Bulgaria) and PGNiG (Poland) due to non-payment in roubles," Gazprom said.

Ursula von der Leyen, European Commission president, accused Russia of attempting to use gas as "an instrument of blackmail", saying its actions were "unjustified and unacceptable".

She said the EU had been working to ensure alternative deliveries and the "best possible" gas storage levels.

Von der Leyen added that Poland and Bulgaria had received gas supplies from other EU countries and that the bloc had shown "immense solidarity".

Germany, Europe's largest economy, which depends heavily on Russian gas, said its supplies were flowing as normal. "We are doing everything we can to ensure it remains that way," said Robert Habeck, Germany's economy minister.

Germany and Italy, the continent's two biggest importers of Russian gas,



Ursula von der Leyen said Russia's actions were "unacceptable" (Olivier Huet/AFP)

have said that their payment deadlines are near the end of May.

Germany has indicated that a sanctions-compliant payment method is possible. "Germany will make its payments in euros and not in roubles, and then it's up to Gazprom how it converts

the money. We have agreed on this approach with the EU and we will continue to go down this route," Habeck said.

Hungary has struck a deal to pay into a euro-denominated account with Gazprombank, which will deposit the amount in roubles to Gazprom Export, Peter Szijarto, foreign minister, said in a video on Facebook. He added that Slovakia had reached the same deal.

Timm Kehler, head of Zukunft Gas, a German trade body, said gas supplies had "become a plaything of Russia's political calculus".

Mateusz Morawiecki, Poland's prime minister, accused Russia of "gas imper-

alism" but said that the nation, which imported 45 per cent of its gas from Russia in 2020, could cope without Russian hydrocarbons. "We will cope with this blackmail, with this gun to our head, in such a way that Poles will not feel it."

Vladimir Putin, Russia's president, has said that Gazprom gas exported to so-called unfriendly nations, including EU members, would be sold only for roubles. But multiple European buyers refused to pay in the Russian currency, saying that it would be a way to bypass sanctions on the Russian central bank.

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A face-saving compromise is needed. The alternative would be mutually assured debilitation of Russia and the European economies dependent on its gas

## Archegos founder Hwang arrested in US on fraud and racketeering charges

ERIC PLATT — NEW YORK  
OLIVER RALPH — LONDON

Bill Hwang, founder of collapsed family office Archegos Capital Management, has been arrested by US authorities and charged alongside his former finance chief with racketeering, securities fraud, wire fraud and market manipulation.

The indictment unsealed yesterday accused Hwang and ex-chief financial officer Patrick Halligan of using Archegos as an "instrument of market manipulation and fraud" with "far-reaching consequences for other participants in the United States securities markets".

The case, brought by federal prosecutors in Manhattan, marks the first criminal charges against Hwang, one of the so-called Tiger Cub veterans of Julian Robertson's Tiger Management fund

whose little-known investment vehicle rattled some of Wall Street's biggest banks when it imploded a year ago.

"The scale of the trading was stunning," said Damian Williams, US attorney for the southern district of New York.

While Archegos was a relatively obscure family office, it attracted many big lenders. Its capital swelled from \$1.5bn in March 2020 to \$35bn a year later, with the group's positions ballooning to as much as \$160bn.

Archegos's collapse created billions of dollars of losses for investment banks including Credit Suisse, UBS, Nomura and Morgan Stanley after it defaulted on margin calls, with more than \$100bn wiped from the valuations of nearly a dozen companies as Archegos's positions were unwound.

The group used borrowed money

from the banks to amass multibillion-dollar positions in US-listed companies such as ViacomCBS — now Paramount — and online retailer Shopify and Parftech. By using derivatives, where the bank it traded with bought or sold stock on Archegos's behalf, the firm left no visible footprint of its activity to the investing public.

"This scheme was historic in scope," said Williams. "The lies fed the [stock price] inflation and the inflation fed more lies. Round and round it went. But last year the music stopped, the bubble burst, the prices dropped, and when they did, billions of dollars nearly evaporated overnight."

An attorney for Hwang said he was "entirely innocent of any wrongdoing" and the allegations were "overblown".

An attorney for Halligan said he was innocent and "will be exonerated".



## Lagarde's rate reluctance meets market momentum

Christine Lagarde's insistence as recently as December that eurozone interest rates were "very unlikely" to rise this year is set to be confounded. Markets are pricing in, as soon as July, the possibility of the European Central Bank's first upward move for a decade. While the ECB chief cites uncertainty related to the Ukraine war as reason for caution in tackling inflation, analysts point to surveys suggesting Europe has fared better than expected. Door open for rate rise — PAGE 3

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World Markets											
STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Apr 27	prev	%chg	Pair	Apr 27	Prev			price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4298.90	4175.20	0.8%	\$ per £	1.052	1.055	\$ per \$	0.981	0.939		
Nasdaq Composite	12557.43	12490.74	0.5%	\$ per €	1.251	1.262	€ per \$	0.800	0.792		
Dow Jones Ind	33530.54	33240.18	0.8%	€ per £	0.841	0.844	£ per €	1.199	1.185		
FTSE Eurofirst 300	1738.52	1725.44	0.7%	¥ per \$	120.325	127.170	¥ per €	134.965	135.443		
Euro Stoxx 50	3725.83	3721.36	0.1%	¥ per £	160.454	160.495	£ index	80.384	80.731		
FTSE 100	7425.61	7386.19	0.5%	S¥ per €	1.020	1.022	S¥ per £	1.213	1.212		
FTSE All-Share	4121.70	4105.76	0.3%								
CAC 40	6445.26	6414.57	0.4%								
Korea Kospi	13703.94	13756.40	0.2%								
Nikkei	26386.63	26160.11	0.9%								
Hang Seng	19846.36	19804.71	0.2%								
MSCI World	2811.00	2807.70	0.1%								
MSCI EM	1049.39	1048.04	0.1%								
MSCI ACWI	656.01	648.61	1.1%								
FT Wilshire 2500	5444.33	5408.25	0.5%								
FT Wilshire 5000	42520.00	42375.54	0.4%								

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Demydiv, Ukraine, remained waterlogged on Sunday after it was flooded on Feb. 25, Day 2 of the war, to thwart a Russian advance.

## To Foil Invaders' Tanks, Ukrainians Flooded Their Own Village

By ANDREW E. KRAMER

DEMYDIV, Ukraine — They pull up soggy linoleum from their floors, and fish potatoes and jars of pickles from submerged cellars. They hang out waterlogged rugs to dry in the pale spring sunshine. All around Demydiv, a village north of Kyiv, residents have been grappling with the aftermath of a severe flood, which under ordinary circumstances would have been yet another misfortune for a people under attack by Russia.

This time, though, it was a tacti-

cal victory. The Ukrainians flooded the village intentionally, along with a vast expanse of fields and bogs around it, creating a quagmire that thwarted a Russian tank assault on Kyiv and bought Ukraine's army precious time to prepare defenses.

The residents of Demydiv paid the price in the rivers of dank green floodwater that engulfed many of their homes. And they couldn't be more pleased.

"Everybody understands and nobody regrets it for a moment," said Antonina Kostuchenko, a re-

### Taking Pride in Halting Assault on Kyiv

three, whose living room is now a musty space with waterlines a foot or so up the walls.

"We saved Kyiv!" she said with pride. What happened in Demydiv was not an outlier. Since the war's early days, Ukraine has been swift and effective in wreaking havoc on its own territory, often

by destroying infrastructure, as a way to foil a Russian army with superior numbers and weaponry. Demydiv was flooded when troops opened a nearby dam and sent water surging into the countryside. Elsewhere in Ukraine, the military has, without hesitation, blown up bridges, bombed roads and disabled rail lines and airports. The goal has been to slow Russian advances, channel enemy troops into traps and force tank columns onto less favorable terrain.

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## New York Map By Democrats Rejected Again

By NICHOLAS FANDOS

New York's highest court ruled on Wednesday that Democratic leaders had violated the State Constitution when they took it upon themselves to draw new congressional and State Senate districts, and ordered that a court-appointed special master draft replacement lines for this year's critical midterm elections.

In a sweeping 32-page ruling, a divided New York State Court of Appeals chided Democrats for ignoring a constitutional amendment adopted by voters in 2014 to curb political influence in the redistricting process. The amendment also created a new outside commission to guide the process.

The judges found that the congressional districts designed by Democrats violated an explicit state ban on partisan gerrymandering, undercutting the party's national campaign to brand itself as the champion of voting rights.

Writing for the four-judge majority, Chief Judge Janet DiFiore said that Democratic lawmakers created congressional and State Senate maps in a way that was "procedurally unconstitutional," and that the congressional map in particular was "drawn with impermissible partisan purpose."

The ruling, which is not subject to appeal, was expected to delay the June 28 party primaries for the congressional and State Senate districts until August, to allow time for new maps to be drawn and for candidates to collect petitions to qualify for the ballot.

The verdict delivered a stinging defeat to Democrats in Albany and in Washington and cast this

Continued on Page A21

## License Plate Mismatch Ends in a Fatal Shooting

This article is by Kim Barker, Steve Eder and Julie Tate.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Patrick Lyoya never quite found his footing. His family fled conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and he spent nearly half his life in a refugee camp in Malawi. He dreamed of coming to America, but after arriving here, he struggled to find his place, bouncing among homes, low-wage jobs and jail.

Christopher Schurr was tenacious. He stuck with the pole vault, winning a national title. He stayed with his high-school sweetheart, later marrying her on a Christian

### Paths of an Officer and an African Immigrant Collide in Michigan

mission to Kenya. And he landed a job as a police officer in Grand Rapids, where he remains.

The two men — the Black driver and the white officer — crossed paths on a rainy morning this month. Officer Schurr, 31, spotted Mr. Lyoya, 26, at the wheel of a silver sedan and followed in his cruiser, pulling the car over on a residential street. Mr. Lyoya, un-

armed, stepped out of the vehicle. "What did I do wrong?" he asked.

"The plate doesn't belong on this car," Officer Schurr replied.

Over the next three minutes, a deadly encounter unfolded, captured in videos from a passenger riding with Mr. Lyoya, a home surveillance system and the officer's dashboard and body-worn cameras. After a foot chase, Officer Schurr pulls out his Taser, firing it unsuccessfully twice.

The officer then manages to get a wriggling Mr. Lyoya face down on the ground and sits on his back. Two seconds after shouting for the

Continued on Page A18



### A Tribute to Albright

Officials gathered on Wednesday to remember Madeleine K. Albright, the first woman to serve as the U.S. secretary of state. "Freedom had no greater champion," President Biden said. Page A14.

## RUSSIA THREATENS MORE RETALIATION OVER UKRAINE AID

NEWS ANALYSIS

### Fear That War Will Spill Over Borders

By DAVID E. SANGER and STEVEN ERLANGER

WASHINGTON — For nine weeks, President Biden and the Western allies have emphasized the need to keep the war for Ukraine inside Ukraine.

Now, the fear in Washington and European capitals is that the conflict may soon escalate into a wider war — spreading to neighboring states, to cyberspace and to NATO countries suddenly facing a Russian cutoff of gas.

Over the long term, such an expansion could evolve into a more direct conflict between Washington and Moscow reminiscent of the Cold War, as each seeks to sap the other's power.

In the past three days, the American secretary of defense has called for an effort to degrade the capability of the Russian military, so that it could not invade another country for years to come.

The Russians have cut off gas shipments to Poland and Bulgaria, which joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization after the collapse of the Soviet Union; Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the European Commission, immediately denounced the move as an "instrument of blackmail." Explosions have rocked a disputed area of Moldova, a natural next target for the Russians, and gas depots and even a missile factory in Russia have mysteriously caught fire or come under direct attack from Ukrainian forces.

And with increasing frequency, the Russians are reminding the world of the size and power of their nuclear arsenal, an unsettling warning that if President Vladimir V. Putin's conventional forces face any more humiliating losses, he has other options.

American and European officials say they see no evidence that Russians are mobilizing their battlefield nuclear forces, but behind the scenes, the officials are already gaging out how they might react to a Russian nuclear test, or demonstration explosion, over the Black Sea or on Ukrainian territory.

"Nobody wants to see this war escalate any more than it already has," John Kirby, the Pentagon spokesman, said on Wednesday when asked about Russia's nuclear threats. "Certainly nobody

Continued on Page A8

### Poland and Bulgaria Gas Cuts Criticized as 'Blackmail'

This article is by *Matina Stevis-Gridneff*, *Neil MacFarquhar*, *Shashank Bengali* and *Megan Specia*.

BRUSSELS — Reverberations from the Ukraine war widened on Wednesday, jolting energy markets and spilling across borders, as Russia responded to the West's escalating arms shipments and economic penalties by halting gas supplies to two European nations and threatening further unspecified retaliation.

The European Union's top official described as "blackmail" the announcement that Russia was suspending shipments of natural gas to Poland and Bulgaria. Though the immediate impact was likely to be limited, the cutoff was the Kremlin's toughest retaliation yet against a U.S.-led alli-



**PRISONER SWAP** Trevor Reed, a former Marine held by Moscow, was freed in exchange for a Russian pilot. Page A7.

ance that President Vladimir V. Putin has accused of waging a proxy war aimed at weakening Russia.

Even as news of a U.S.-Russia prisoner exchange offered a glimmer of hope for diplomatic engagement, Mr. Putin warned that he would order more "counterstrikes" against any adversaries that "create threats of a strategic nature unacceptable to Russia."

At the same time, a series of explosions across Ukraine's borders stoked fears that the war, now in its third month, might spread. Blasts were reported in three Russian districts on Wednesday morning, and suspicion fell on Ukrainian forces, which are benefiting from increasingly sophisticated weapons and intelligence from the United States and its allies.

Those blasts came a day after

Continued on Page A6

## A Woman Disappears in Mexico. She Is One of Many Thousands.

By OSCAR LOPEZ

MONTERREY, Mexico — On the 13th day of searching for his missing daughter, Mario Escobar stood outside a gas station in the choking heat, clutching fliers with her photo and the vestiges of a desperate, lingering hope.

Hours later, in a wash of red and blue police lights, that hope was destroyed.

Debanhi Escobar's body was found last Thursday night in an abandoned underground water tank on the grounds of a motel in northern Mexico that the authorities had already searched four different times.

"I'm shattered," Mr. Escobar said of his daughter's disappearance. "My life has changed completely."

The case of Ms. Escobar, an 18-year-old law student who disap-

### Case Rekindles Outrage Over Official Inaction

peared on April 9, has sparked outrage and protests over a phenomenon that is now chillingly common in Mexico: The disappearance of women and girls all over the country.

In just the last month, at least nine other women and girls have gone missing in the greater metropolitan area of Monterrey, one of the wealthiest cities in the country. Nationwide, more than 24,000 women are missing, according to government figures, and last year, 2,800 women were reported missing, an increase of nearly 40 percent compared with 2017.

The rising rate of disappear-

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### ARTS C1-8

#### Reimagining a Classic

Musicians at a Brooklyn festival are taking on Ornette Coleman's 1959 album "The Shape of Jazz to Come." PAGE C4

#### Unanswered Dreams

In 1970, Michael James Brody Jr. said he'd give his fortune to anyone who asked. Disappointment ensued. PAGE C1



### INTERNATIONAL A4-12

#### China's Propaganda Test

Public anger and grief over the lockdown in Shanghai are creating a credibility crisis for President Xi Jinping and his zero-Covid policies. PAGE A4

#### Extinction Risks for Reptiles

A global analysis points to a human-caused biodiversity crisis that is taking away reptiles' habitats. PAGE A9

### SPORTS B7-10

#### N.F.L.'s Sin City Showcase

This week's draft in Las Vegas was unthinkable just a few years ago. But times have changed for the league. PAGE B7

### NATIONAL A13-21, 24

#### New York Shootings Take Toll

At least 40 children and teenagers have been shot this year, exacting a heavy price on not just those who have taken bullets but those in their orbit who have watched the aftermath. PAGE A13

#### Police Discrimination Found

Minnesota's Department of Human Rights found regular use of slurs for women and Black people by Minneapolis officers, as well as discrimination in arrests and use of force. PAGE A19

### OPINION A22-23

#### Ezra Klein

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### THURSDAY STYLES D1-6

#### Pandemic as Birth Control

Parenting has been hard in the Covid era, and that has made couples reconsider plans for having children. PAGE D1

#### A Marketer for the Ages

Martha Stewart, 80, is promoting a prestige beauty line to Gen Zers, and it seems to be working fine so far. PAGE D5



### BUSINESS B1-6

#### Biden's Student Debt Deadline

Some supporters of debt relief believe President Biden's repeated extensions of the repayment pause, which is now set to end on Aug. 31, could force his hand on loan forgiveness. PAGE B1

#### Russia Tests Europe's Tolerance

Gazprom has cut off natural gas to Poland and Bulgaria, but that alone shouldn't do much damage to Europe's broader energy outlook. PAGE B1





## MOSCOW CUTS OFF GAS TO 2 ALLIES OF KYIV

EU calls the move 'blackmail.' Russia renews bombardment of eastern Ukraine.

BY NABIH BULOS AND LAURA KING

KHARKIV, Ukraine — Moscow on Wednesday turned off the natural-gas spigot to the front-line Eastern European states of Poland and Bulgaria, signaling its willingness to take sharp economic aim at those who aid Ukraine.

Russian forces, meanwhile, rained shells on eastern Ukraine as they pressed ahead with their devastating 2-month-old invasion.

Addressing the first such supply disruption since the war's start, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov strongly hinted that other European economies may be next. He told reporters Wednesday that if some customers "decline to pay under the new system" Russia has instituted — meaning in rubles instead of dollars or euros — they "of course" could face the same treatment.

Along a 300-mile battlefront in Ukraine's Donbas region, Russian forces managed to capture a small town, Zarichne, the Ukrainian military said in an early morning operational report. The giant Azovstal steelworks in the battered southern port city of Mariupol, which has become a symbol of Ukrainian resistance, also came under new bombardment, the military said.

Russia has been trying since the start of the war to capture Mariupol, and the city's last-ditch defenders and some civilians are holed up inside the sprawling Soviet-era steel complex laced with tunnels and bunkers. Even though fighting continues, Russian President Vladimir Putin has claimed victory in the siege of the city, which Ukraine has not acknowledged.

The northeastern city of Kharkiv, partially hemmed [See Russia, A4]



FELIPE DANA Associated Press

**RESIDENTS HELP** an emergency worker transport a man to an ambulance after Russian bombardment in Kharkiv, Ukraine. The city, hemmed in by Russian forces, was rocked by explosions after midnight.

### An unexpected prisoner swap

Russia trades a U.S. ex-Marine for a convicted drug trafficker despite tensions over Ukraine. **WORLD, A3**

### Germany a reluctant arms supplier

Analysis: The country agrees to aid Ukraine, but it doesn't want to get tougher on Russia. **WORLD, A3**

## With less water, Southland will see a browner landscape

Officials are imposing limits that could get even more strict

BY HAYLEY SMITH, IAN JAMES AND JAIMIE DING

Millions of Southern California residents are bracing for less water and many brown lawns as drought and climate change leave a large swath of the region with a growing water shortage.

In a remarkable indication of drought severity, officials with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California have declared a first-of-its-kind action limiting outdoor water use to one day a week for nearly 6 million residents.

Much remains to be determined about how daily life will change as people adjust to a drier normal. But officials are warning the situation is dire and could lead to even more severe limits later [See Limits, A9]



ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times

**A HOUSING TRACT** in Rancho Cucamonga that depends on the State Water Project, in which outdoor watering will be limited to one day a week.

## Sticker shock sends Californians inland

As Los Angeles and the Bay Area lose people, counties to the east see gains.

BY SARAH PARVINI AND HAYLEY SMITH

Moving to Lake Arrowhead wasn't always part of Natalie Camunas' plan.

When the 35-year-old and her partner purchased a small cabin in the mountains two years ago, they intended to use it as an investment property that they would rent out to vacationers looking for a forest escape. The couple bought the 670-square-foot home for \$189,000, Camunas said, when housing prices in Southern California were climbing, but before they smashed records and hit an all-time high.

But after quarantining in their apartment in Los Angeles' Fairfax district as the COVID-19 pandemic spread, discovering dead rats in their home and dealing with a bug infestation, they decided to make their move to San Bernardino County official in the fall of 2020.

"We were paying all this money to be at the center of things, but everything was shut down and there was no

center anymore," Camunas, an actor, said. "Looking at homes in L.A., it was ridiculous. Even if we could afford a \$900,000 home, we didn't want that. We didn't want a mortgage that was \$5,000."

Across the state, Californians in search of more open space, a sense of community and affordable housing are trading city life in major urban centers such as the Bay Area or Los Angeles for suburban and rural communities. A growing number of families have moved inland over the last few years, data show, but the migratory shift grew even more pronounced amid the pandemic as the barriers to moving dropped for many in large cities, spurred by a newfound ability to work remotely.

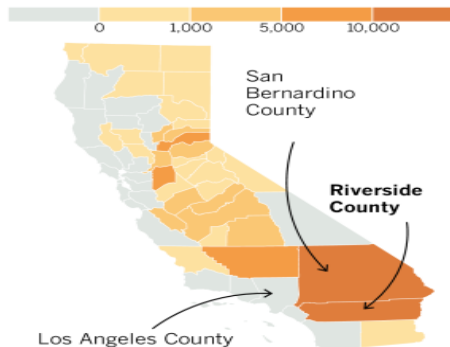
Both Los Angeles and San Francisco saw sizable declines in population during the first year of the pandemic, census data show, underscoring how California's housing crisis and other demographic forces are reshaping two of its largest cities. But as those cities shrank, several adjacent counties saw population gains, including Riverside, San Bernardino, San Joaquin and Kern.

Many who move to inland cities say they are drawn by [See Population, A12]

### State's population shrinks, but Riverside County's grew

California overall lost nearly 262,000 residents between July 1, 2020, and July 1, 2021, but some counties saw population gains during that period. Riverside County had the largest increase: 35,631 residents.

Change in population



Change includes population without demographic data. U.S. Census Bureau

SALMA LOUM Los Angeles Times

## Attorney general faces election fight

Bonta, appointed to the state office, has four rivals in his bid to win a four-year term.

BY HANNAH WILEY

SACRAMENTO — The most contentious and closely watched California election in 2022 is likely to be the race for attorney general, one in which voters will choose in June from the liberal incumbent who was appointed to the job last year, three unheralded challeng-

ers and an openly gay career prosecutor whose campaign could hinge on the public's new fears about crime.

For state Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta, the timing of his first statewide campaign could be challenging. The race coincides with increased scrutiny of recent criminal justice reform efforts, a juxtaposition that his opponents see as an opportunity to pin the blame for rising crime on Democrats. They believe that new leadership at the California Department of Justice will strengthen law and order [See Election, A12]

### Biden bid to end border policy halted

Judge raises doubts about plans to phase out pandemic-related limits on seeking asylum. **NATION, A6**

### L.A. is reining in plastic food ware

Aiming to be a "zero waste" city, council cracks down on disposables. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

### Weather

Fog early, then sunshine. L.A. Basin: 68/51. **B6**

### Audit sees bias in law enforcement

Officers' prejudice and far-right sympathies are detailed in a state survey. **CALIFORNIA, B1**



**BUSINESS INSIDE:** Disney Resort is planning 'tens of millions of dollars' in upgrades. **A8**



# The Washington Post

Papers may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington

50 11 12 13 14



Mostly sunny 62/41 • Tomorrow: Sunny and cool 66/42 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022 • B2

## Retracing a diplomat's journey



President Biden, along with Barack Obama and Bill and Hillary Clinton, bids farewell to Madeleine Albright during her funeral in Washington. The former secretary of state was hailed for her years of public service. Her signature pins and brooches will be remembered as well with a State Department display. **Stories, A3 and C1**

## Musk boosts criticism of 2 executives at Twitter

Billionaire elevates conservative tweets, leading to online attacks

BY CAT ZAKREWSKI, ELIZABETH DWOSKIN AND FAIZ SIDDIQUI

Two days after striking a deal to purchase Twitter, Elon Musk used his powerful Twitter account to elevate conservative criticism of two executives at the social media company, rolling a workforce already uneasy about how he will balance his abrasive social media style and embrace of free speech with his stewardship of the company.

On Wednesday, he tweeted a meme to his more than 86 million followers with the face of Twitter's top lawyer, Vijaya Gadde, that appeared to suggest the company's decisions are affected by a "left wing bias." The tweet came hours after he criticized a 2020 policy decision Gadde made and was in response to an earlier tweet from a political podcast host calling her the company's "top censorship advocate."

Twitter users quickly piled on — calling on Musk to fire Gadde or using racist language to describe her. Gadde was born in India and immigrated to the United States as a child.

SEE MUSK ON A18

**Biden impasse:** White House plan to rein in Big Tech stalls. **A16**



David Perdue, a former U.S. senator and now a Republican candidate for governor of Georgia, waves to Trump supporters after speaking at a rally on March 26 in Commerce, Ga.

## Focus on fraud falls flat for GOP

Trump allies in Ga. hold on to 2020 claims. Voters just want to move on.

BY MATTHEW BROWN, AMY GARDNER AND JOSH DAWSEY

WATKINSVILLE, Ga. — David Perdue's quest to unseat a longtime friend and fellow Republican, Gov. Brian Kemp, drew some cheers Monday evening at a gathering of about 50 Republicans around a pickup truck in this deeply conservative town about 70 miles east of Atlanta. The former U.S. senator spent most of his nine-minute stump speech embracing unproven claims that fraud tainted the 2020 election — and accusing Kemp of doing nothing about it.

In theory, it's the sort of message that should appeal to Don McGeeary, a retired banker and

supporter of former president Donald Trump who believes the fraud claims. But McGeeary, 71, was not impressed.

"We can't do anything about it," McGeeary said about the 2020 result, adding that he intends to vote for Kemp. "It's water over the dam, under the bridge, however you want to refer to it. Let's get over it and get on with our lives."

Unfortunately for Perdue — and for Trump — many Republican voters in Georgia appear to agree. Trump handpicked the former senator to challenge and defeat Kemp after the governor

SEE GEORGIA ON A8

**Jan. 6 panel:** Talk of martial law draws scrutiny. **A6**  
**Leaked audio:** McCarthy does damage control. **A7**

## In flex of power, Russia cuts off gas to 2 nations

E.U. STEPS IN TO HELP POLAND AND BULGARIA

Putin warns against interference in Ukraine war

BRUSSELS — Russia's state-controlled gas company shut off the supply of natural gas to Poland and Bulgaria on Wednesday, and the Kremlin warned that other countries could face the same fate, escalating tensions between Russia and Europe over the war in Ukraine.

Although both Poland and Bulgaria secured enough natural gas from other European Union countries to keep the lights on for now, it is not clear how the bloc would manage additional cutoffs or avoid dramatic price increases, especially if Russia stopped sending gas to Germany and Italy.

The action by Russia's Gazprom came on the same day the United States and Russia conducted a prisoner exchange, releasing a former Marine detained by Moscow and a Russian pilot convicted by a U.S. court on drug smuggling charges.

The gas cutoff was the first supply disruption since Russian President Vladimir Putin threatened that "unfriendly countries" would have to pay for natural gas in rubles — a requirement that appeared designed to stabilize the economy against punishing Western sanctions and pressure E.U. countries into breaking ranks and violating their sanctions regime.

This article is by Emily Ravshin, Lovelady Morris, Jeff Stein, Bryan Pietsch, Reis Thebault and Shane Harris.

In a speech to Russia's Council of Legislators, Putin warned other nations not to interfere in the conflict, which is expected to involve grueling combat in eastern Ukraine in coming weeks. On a day when volunteers raced across the Donbas region to evacuate men and women from their homes within earshot of heavy shelling, Putin said that if Russia perceived a threat of a "strategic" nature, the result will be "lightning fast" counterstrikes.

Putin did not explicitly threaten to use nuclear weapons. But U.S. and European officials have warned that the possibility cannot be dismissed, particularly if Putin felt his conventional military options were limited.

"We have all the tools for this," Putin said. "Those that no one else right now can boast of having. And we will not brag about them. We will use them if necessary. I want

SEE RUSSIA ON A12

**Russian setbacks:** Mysterious explosions hinder war effort. **A11**

**Prisoner swap:** A former Marine and a Russian pilot are freed. **A15**

## Reprisal hastens Polish pivot from Moscow

BY JEANNE WHALEN

WARSAW — Poland's energy czar has spent much of his adult life preparing to break the country's dependence on Russian natural gas. The coming weeks will bring a sudden and dramatic test of his efforts.

Piotr Naimski and his colleagues in Poland's Energy Ministry had been racing to fully cut Russian gas imports into this year after Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. But Russia's abrupt decision to stop deliveries this week is forcing Poland to go it alone

months ahead of schedule. Poland's success or failure in coping without Russian gas will help guide other European nations that are facing similar issues with Russian energy, either by their own choice or the Kremlin's.

"We are prepared," Naimski said in a Polish radio interview Wednesday morning, hours after Russia informed Poland that it was ceasing deliveries. "We have the ability to bring enough gas to Poland, so that there is enough for everyone. We can remain calm."

Poland and a handful of its neighbors, including Lithuania, are well ahead of other European countries in preparing for life

SEE POLAND ON A12

## Tanks' remains are now a grisly roadside draw

BY ALEX HORTON

DMYTRIVKA, UKRAINE — In his first look at a destroyed Russian tank earlier this month, Serhii Grishin peered at the clumps of flesh in the armored tomb and noted what he didn't see.

Grief already poured from him over dead Ukrainians, and he couldn't spare any more for a soldier in an invading force. Instead, the rusted-out vehicle and what was in it — the inevitable end product of the failed assault on nearby Kyiv — made his spirit soar, he said.

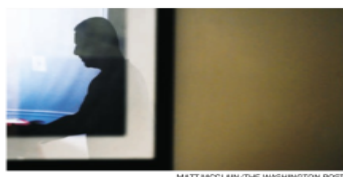
This time, he brought friends to record the moment.

"I'm happy to see that they did not advance farther down the road," Grishin said Tuesday, as his friends took photos of a ghostly personnel carrier, also destroyed by Ukrainian forces. "I hope there are more places with destroyed Russian equipment."

Ukrainians who fled intense fighting around the capital have packed highways to return to their homes after the Russians withdrew to redeploy in the east, creating traffic bottlenecks worsened by checkpoints and destroyed bridges. Adding to the logjam are the newest roadside attractions awaiting the returnees: columns of sliced-open and

SEE UKRAINE ON A14

## IN THE NEWS



MATT MCCLELLAN/THE WASHINGTON POST

**'The bills keep coming'** Afghan evacuees in the D.C. area are struggling to pay rent after running out of government aid. **B1**

**'Transitional phase'** Anthony S. Fauci clarified his remarks about covid, saying the nation is moving to a "control" stage. **A4**

**THE NATION**  
**School districts** that operated in person last year were far more likely to recoup enrollment lost to the pandemic than those that operated virtually, data shows. **A2**  
**President Biden's** pick for the influential federal appeals court in D.C., J. Michelle Childs, received a rare bipartisan reception from the Senate Judiciary Committee considering her nomination. **A2**  
**A water supplier** in California implemented "emergency" conservation measures for the first time, which will affect

6.6 million people. **A8**  
**The Supreme Court** heard a case that would allow Oklahoma to prosecute non-Indians for crimes against Native Americans in "Indian Country." **A9**  
**A state investigation** found that the Minneapolis Police Department engaged in "discriminatory, race-based policing." **A22**  
**The Justice Department** unveiled an online portal and resource center that aims to improve policing by providing access to reports, training, research and experts. **A22**

**THE WORLD**  
**Indian leaders** are deploying bulldozers to raze properties in Muslim neighborhoods after religious clashes. **A10**  
**Singapore** executed an intellectually disabled man for drug trafficking despite an international outcry. **A11**

**THE ECONOMY**  
**Archegos owner** Bill Hwang and his former chief financial officer were charged with securities fraud in connection with the private equity firm's collapse. **A16**  
**Trump officials** overruled Pentagon staff to approve pandemic aid for a politically connected trucking firm, files

released by House Democrats show. **A17**

**THE REGION**  
**Three candidates** for D.C. attorney general jockeyed over what it takes to be suited for the post. **B1**  
**Virginia's** General Assembly let stand all 26 of Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin's vetoes, but the session turned ugly over a Loudoun schools bill. **B1**  
**House Democrats** in Virginia ousted Del. Eileen Miller-Corn as their party's leader. **B1**  
**A former student** at Liberty University says in a lawsuit that the school mishandled her rape allegation. **B4**

## INSIDE



**LOCAL LIVING**  
**Edible perennials**  
Seven vegetables and fruits that need little maintenance and will fill your garden and your table for years to come.

**STYLE**  
**Wearing the pants**  
Maria Grazia Chiuri isn't flashy, but Dior's first female creative director designs clothes to make a feminist statement. **C1**

**BUSINESS NEWS**.....A16  
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**WASHINGTON**.....C3  
**WORLD NEWS**.....A10

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## deportes

**River, a paso firme**  
Un gran triunfo para avanzar en la Copa

Le ganó 2 a 1 a Colo Colo en Chile con goles de Matías Suárez y Esequiel Barco; se encamina a la clasificación.

**SALTA: INTERVINO EL VATICANO POR LA GRIETA RELIGIOSA**

—sociedad

En un documento de la Santa Sede, les imponen restricciones a las carmelitas descalzas que denunciaron al arzobispo; conflicto por la Virgen del Cerro. **Página 21**

**TRES MUERTOS POR EL INCENDIO EN UN HOGAR GERIÁTRICO**

—seguridad

Ocurrió anoche en Villa Urquiza; varios heridos fueron trasladados a centros asistenciales; se desplegó un fuerte operativo de evacuación. **Página 28**

# LA NACION

JUEVES 28 DE ABRIL DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

## La oposición se une para impulsar la boleta única en las próximas elecciones

**DIPUTADOS.** Convocó a una sesión especial, ante la resistencia oficialista para tratar la propuesta

**Laura Serra**  
LA NACION

En lo que constituye un fuerte acto político en común que desafía al oficialismo, la mayoría de los bloques de la oposición en la Cámara de Diputados convocaron para el próximo jueves al mediodía a una

sesión especial para discutir una ley que instrumente la boleta única de papel a partir de las próximas elecciones.

Se descuenta que la sesión, convocada por el diputado Florencio Randazzo, del interbloque Federal, alcanzará el *quorum*: cuenta con el respaldo de su bancada, así como

con el de Juntos por el Cambio, el bloque opositor más numeroso en la Cámara baja.

La propuesta, que es la continuidad de un largo reclamo de sectores políticos y sociales, apunta a transparentar la votación de los próximos comicios presidenciales. **Continúa en la página 10**

**Juntos por el Cambio le cerró el camino a una alianza con Milei**

Matías Moreno  
**Página 10**

**Un narco y un símbolo de la violencia en Rosario**

**seguridad**— En una ciudad desbordada por la criminalidad, el arresto del fundador de Los Monos aportó ayer una imagen simbólica: Máximo Cantero fue detenido frente a un póster de la película *Scarface*; además, echaron al secretario de Seguridad provincial. **Página 26**



Máximo Cantero (en el centro), fundador de Los Monos, al ser detenido en su casa; detrás, el póster de la película *Scarface* **POLICÍA DE SANTA FE**

**EL ESCENARIO****Cristina no juega para triunfar, sino para resistir**

**Carlos Pagni**  
—LA NACION—

“No hablen más de unidad”. Varios dirigentes del círculo íntimo de Cristina Kirchner recibieron esa instrucción en las últimas semanas. Con un gobierno declinante, al que desde el kirchnerismo reprochan falta de sensibilidad social, como hizo anteayer Andrés “Cuervo” Larroque, la unidad se ha vuelto tóxica. No facilita el acceso al poder. Al revés, lo dificulta. La vicepresidenta mueve las piezas para reconstruir Unidad Ciudadana. Fue el vehículo político al que recurrió en 2017. No fue un instrumento pensado para triunfar, sino para resistir. **Continúa en la página 13**

**El Consejo excluyó de un concurso a un juez procesado**

**CORRUPCIÓN.** En su primera medida, el nuevo Consejo de la Magistratura excluyó del examen para ascender a la Cámara de Casación al juez federal de Mendoza Walter Bento, procesado por corrupción. La resolución fue compartida por los 18 miembros del cuerpo, presidido ahora por el titular de la Corte, Horacio Rosatti. **Página 15**

**Aerolíneas recibió en subsidios \$200 millones por día**

**GASTO 2021.** Aerolíneas Argentinas recibió asistencia financiera del Estado por \$72.797,7 millones (\$200 millones por día) y tuvo una pérdida neta de \$44.552,9 millones el año pasado, según los estados contables analizados por la Auditoría General de la Nación (AGN). El organismo dio luz verde a esos números, pero con “salvedades”. **Página 17**

LA GUERRA EN UCRANIA — DÍA 63

**Rusia les cortó el gas a dos países y amenazó a la UE**

**MOSCÚ (AP).**— En una decisión que la Unión Europea tildó de “chantaje” y que el Kremlin calificó como una respuesta a las sanciones que le impusieron los aliados

por la invasión de Ucrania, Rusia les cortó el suministro de gas a Polonia y a Bulgaria por no pagar en rublos, una medida que amenazó con extender al bloque. **Página 2**

**OPINIÓN****Macron, un alivio universal**

**Antonio Caño**  
—PARA LA NACION—

La noche de su gran triunfo electoral, Emmanuel Macron apareció junto a su esposa, Brigitte Trogneux, ambos rodeados por un grupo de niños y adolescentes que los escol-

taron, entre las notas del himno de Europa y bajo el reflejo de la Torre Eiffel, hasta el podio en el que pronunció el sobrio y conciso discurso de la victoria. **Continúa en la página 29**



## Em ato contra STF, Bolsonaro cobra militares em apuração

Jair Bolsonaro (PL) promoveu ontem um evento oficial no Palácio do Planalto liderado por deputados das bancadas da bala e evangélica, no qual reforçou ataques ao STF e cobrou a participação de militares na apuração dos votos pelo TSE nas eleições deste ano. **Política A4 e A5**

**Presidente se reúne com WhatsApp, que mantém espera por megagrupo** **A8**

## Ilustrada C1

De crise hídrica a conflito agrário, temática ambiental guia peças de teatro

## Guia C7

Capital paulista tem 10 cinemas gratuitos para assistir a filmes sem mexer no bolso

## Turismo C8

Dubai esbanja superlativos, luxos e atrações feitas para impressionar

# Contratadas em emergência, térmicas estão atrasadas

Usinas para garantir energia na seca deveriam passar a operar neste domingo

Nenhuma das 14 usinas térmicas a gás planejadas para garantir o abastecimento de energia neste ano caso o país seja novamente afetado por seca entrará em operação na data planejada, 1º de maio. Contratada no leilão emergencial de energia de outubro de 2021, a construção de todas elas está atrasada.

Levantamento da Abrace, entidade que reúne grandes consumidores de energia, com dados da Aneel, a reguladora do setor, aponta que 7 das térmicas não devem cumprir nem mesmo o prazo de 8º de agosto, limite de tolerância a atrasos previsto no negócio — 4 delas não definiram local de instalação.

A Abrace pede que não haja maior flexibilização de prazos. A estimativa é que sejam cobrados dos consumidores R\$ 11 bilhões por ano, o que levaria o custo ao fim do período previsto para funcionamento das térmicas para perto de R\$ 40 bilhões, onerando a conta de luz, que já está elevada.

A modelagem do leilão emergencial foi questionada na Justiça, mas o governo conseguiu manter o certame. Na época, os reservatórios operavam a 20% de sua capacidade de armazenamento; hoje estão a 70%. Procurada, a Aneel disse que acompanha o andamento das obras. **Mercado A14**



Xu Chang/Xinhua

## PEQUIM REPETE XANGAI COM ISOLAMENTOS E DISPARA PREOCUPAÇÃO COM SURTOS DE COVID NA CHINA

Mulher recebe teste antigêno, na província de Jilin, noroeste da China; regime tem isolado áreas em cidades com registros de contaminados para tentar manter política de 'Covid zero' **Mundo A13**

## A pandemia em 27.abr

Dados das 20h

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

**Óbitos**  
Média móvel **99** ↓ -25,1%\*  
Em 24 h 224  
Total 663.165

\*Variação em relação a 14 dias

## Estudo vê impacto de pobreza no desenvolvimento

Pesquisa da UFPel com dados de 95 países indica que a pobreza na infância traz impactos negativos para o desenvolvimento intelectual, além de acarretar mais riscos de desnutrição crônica e mortalidade infantil. **cotidiano B8**

## Uso de opioides em alta no país acende alerta para vício

A prescrição inadequada de analgésicos opioides para o controle da dor e o aumento de pacientes dependentes desses narcóticos preocupa médicos no Brasil. Há o temor de que o país enfrente uma "epidemia" de abuso dessas substâncias.

Em 2019, pesquisa da Fiocruz mostrou que 4,4 milhões de brasileiros já fizeram uso sem prescrição médica de algum opiáceo — 2,9% da população. Em seis anos, a venda prescrita de analgésicos à base de ópio cresceu 465%. **Saúde B1**

## Consulado paga fiança de argentino acusado de racismo

Acusado de racismo contra torcedores corintianos, o comerciante argentino Leonardo Ponzo, 43, não pagou a fiança de R\$ 3 mil imposta pela Justiça brasileira. O valor foi quitado pelo consulado argentino em São Paulo. **Esporte B11**

## Thiago Amparo A bala perdida do ex-ministro pastor

Não há metáfora mais verossímil para o que está em jogo nas eleições do que a da arma disparada, com imperícia e desrespeito às regras, por Milton Ribeiro. A junção bala-bíblia-bonachão define a receita distópica para 2022. **Opinião A2**

**Síndrome respiratória em criança lota hospitais**  
Na capital paulista, alta de casos de síndrome respiratória aguda grave em crianças tem lotado hospitais. Cenário é tido como normal para o outono. **B2**

## EDITORIAIS A2

**Cuba desumana**  
Sobre condenações por protestos contra o regime.

**Faroeste sonoro**  
A respeito de abusos com caixas de som nas praias.

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Saiba mais na página **A11**

## SABATINA FOLHA/UOL

## Caciquismo político sequestrou a 3ª via, diz Felipe d'Ávila

Pré-candidato à Presidência pelo Novo, Luiz Felipe d'Ávila afirmou em sabatina Folha/UOL que a terceira via foi "sequestrada pelo caciquismo político". De acordo com ele, seu partido se retirou das conversas com MDB, União Brasil, PSDB e Cidadania por esse motivo. **Política A9**

## ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje

**32°**  
**18°**

0h 6h 12h 18h 24h





**Tres personas fueron detenidas por ejecución ocurrida en barrio Obrero**

## Alarmante: Asunción y Central crecen como zonas de sicarios

En los últimos 16 meses hubo 20 asesinatos por encargo, según datos de Interior. En este cuatrimestre se dieron siete ataques. De 2017 a 2020 habían ocurrido apenas ocho casos.

PÁGINAS 56 y 57

Norma elimina intermediarios para petrolera  
**Sancionan ley de Petropar,**  
pero la baja de naftas puede  
darse recién en 40 o 50 días

PÁGINA 9

El Cones dará  
última chance  
a carreras de  
salud para que  
se regularicen

PÁGINA 15

Mil alumnos  
se quedan sin  
el almuerzo en  
Itá y presionan  
al Municipio

PÁGINA 17

Ayuda en CM a ex senador ya fue insostenible  
**Ancho Ramírez renunció a su**  
postulación y se destraba la  
elección de miembro del TSJE

PÁGINA 3

El sábado ÚH lanza  
imperdible colección  
*Grandes Ideas de*  
*las Matemáticas*

PÁGINA 30



## ¡Inalcanzable!



**Libertadores.** Cerro Porteño ganó 1-0 a Peñarol con gol de Cardozo Lucena. Ninguno le apela en la punta. Hoy juega Olimpia ante Colón.

PÁGINAS 63 y 64

**ETIOS** MÁS POR  
DESCUBRIR

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**145 USD**

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VERBATILIDAD  
Y ECONOMÍA

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**SÉCURITÉ**  
LES EX-CHEFS DU GIGN  
ET DU RAID LIVRENT  
LEURS SECRETS **PAGE 13**

**MODE**  
LA JEUNESSE SE RÉAPPROPRIE  
LE COSTUME DE MARIÉ  
**PAGE 32**



**LÉGISLATIVES**  
Le président lance  
sa campagne  
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**FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NON**

**Réponses à la question de mercredi :**  
Les Républicains (LR) doivent-ils s'allier à Emmanuel Macron ?

**OUI 40% NON 60%**

TOTAL DE VOTANTS: 203 426

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

Les Occidentaux ont-ils raison d'augmenter leurs livraisons d'armes à l'Ukraine ?

ALI COBANOGILU / STOCK.ADOBE.COM;  
FRANÇOIS BOUCHON / LE FIGARO;  
ILLUSTRATION FABIEN CLAIREFOND

# Mélenchon tente une OPA sur les partis de gauche

Fort de sa performance présidentielle, le leader de LFI veut réunir PS et écologistes sous une bannière commune aux législatives. Des négociations inédites qui se mènent dans la douleur.

Une image historique. Pour la première fois depuis le schisme de 2008, mélenchonistes et socialistes se sont retrouvés ce mercredi autour d'une table pour entamer des négociations

en vue des élections législatives. L'heure de la revanche pour le leader des Insoumis, qui mise sur la puissance de son score au premier tour de la présidentielle (22%) pour ras-

sembler la gauche sous son égide. Si les discussions avec le PS semblent bien engagées malgré de fortes tensions internes, elles restent au point mort avec les écologistes. Les

divergences idéologiques restent fortes entre les trois partis de gauche: sur le nucléaire, les traités européens ou les retraites, difficile de dégager un consensus. Les négociations

achoppent également sur la répartition des circonscriptions. Les différentes parties prenantes se laissent jusqu'à la fin de la semaine pour conclure un accord.

→ OLIVIER FAURE : « JE NE CRAINS RIEN D'UN RASSEMBLEMENT POPULAIRE » → À GAUCHE, DES PROGRAMMES TRÈS DIVERGENTS → L'OPPOSITION INTERNE AU PS HÉSITE SUR LA CONDUITE À TENIR FACE AUX MENACES → LES SOCIAUX-DÉMOCRATES CONVOITÉS PAR LA MAJORITÉ PAGES 2 À 4 ET L'ÉDITORIAL



Louis-Ferdinand Destouches, en 1915-1916.

## «Guerre», le trésor retrouvé de Louis-Ferdinand Céline

Après la découverte rocambolesque des manuscrits volés en 1944, Gallimard publie la semaine prochaine le roman inédit du célèbre écrivain.

Un livre exceptionnel lu et décrypté par deux éminents céliniens.

LE FIGARO LITTÉRAIRE

## Bruxelles engage un bras de fer avec la Hongrie de Viktor Orban

La Commission a activé mercredi le mécanisme de conditionnalité sur l'État de droit, susceptible de priver la Hongrie de milliards d'euros de fonds européens. Il ne s'agit que de la première étape d'une longue procédure, qui met en cause Budapest sur la corruption des marchés publics et l'indépendance de la justice, entre autres. C'est une mauvaise nouvelle pour le premier ministre Viktor Orban, de plus en plus isolé en Europe. **PAGES 8 ET 9**

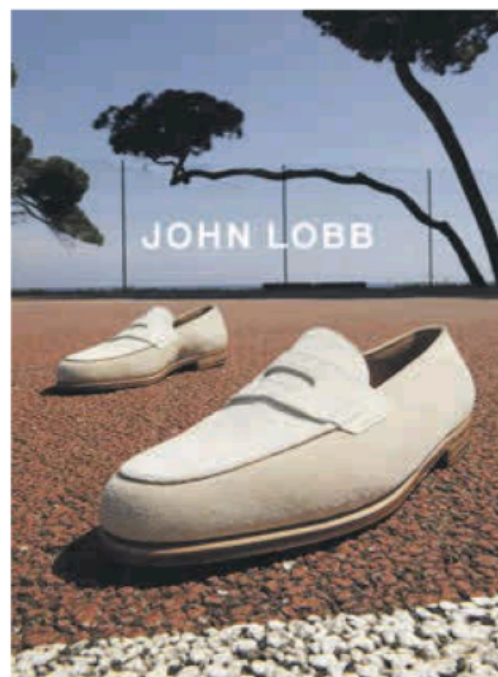
**ÉDITORIAL** par Vincent Trémolet de Villers vtremolet@lefigaro.fr

## Mélenchon sans barrage

« La République, c'est lui ! », « La gauche, c'est lui ! », « Le premier ministre, c'est déjà lui ! » Devant le considérable Jean-Luc Mélenchon, le chœur des Insoumis somme Emmanuel Macron et ses modestes 58% de s'incliner. Le troisième homme est le maître incontesté du « qui perd gagne ». Non content d'avoir couvert de son ombre l'entre-deux-tours, il veut, avant le mois de juin, devenir le pivot de l'opposition au président de la République. Pour ce faire, notre Zapata national peut compter sur une étonnante indulgence médiatique. Lui qui a cédé aux vertiges complottistes au sujet des attentats de Mohamed Merah, hurlé sur les forces de l'ordre, défilé contre l'« islamophobie » dans de troubles cortèges; lui qui s'apprête à investir Taha Bouhafs, un militant islamo-gauchiste spécialisé dans la menace et l'insulte, aux élections législatives. Par un curieux mystère, les constructeurs de digues, les dévideurs de cordons sanitaires sont introuvables. Les Insoumis, c'est permis : transgression chic. Contre l'extrême gauche, la patrouille des castors ne fait pas barrage. Il faut croire qu'ils n'écourent pas les discours

du tribun. Ils ont tort. D'abord, Mélenchon connaît toutes les ressources de l'éloquence, et sa langue se distingue du français boiteux de la plupart de ses concurrents. Ensuite, ils trouveraient des considérations qui feraient passer Éric Zemmour pour un incurable optimiste. C'était place de la République, au mois de mars, Mélenchon décrivait, du fait du réchauffement climatique, une véritable apocalypse migratoire : « Dans dix ans, lança-t-il, par millions, par centaines de millions, peut-être par milliards (...), des êtres humains se mettront en route, réalisant à ce moment que les frontières n'existent que sur le tracé de papier. »

Planification, créolisation, pression fiscale, c'est autour de ce triptyque que la gauche essaye de se réunir. On aurait tort de se moquer de l'instinct de survie de ces partis déclinants. Lors des élections municipales, ils ont montré, de Marseille à Lyon et de Strasbourg à Bordeaux, qu'une gauche abîmée mais unie pouvait l'emporter sur des forces supérieures en nombre mais divisées. ■





# Bernardine Evaristo

## on the triumph of the older Black female artist



G2

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# Fear of energy price crisis as Russia cuts gas supply

EU condemns Kremlin 'provocation' against Poland and Bulgaria

Daniel Boffey Brussels  
Philip Oltermann Berlin  
Rob Davies

Europe appeared yesterday to be on the brink of a major energy crisis that could further drive up household bills, after Russia halted gas supplies

to two EU countries and threatened others, in a move condemned by European leaders as blackmail.

A 20% rise in the wholesale gas price was the immediate consequence of Gazprom's decision to stop supplying Poland and Bulgaria while warning other nations opposed to Russia's war in Ukraine that they could soon be hit.

The move, described by Poland's prime minister, Mateusz Morawiecki, as a "direct attack" on his country, was justified by the Kremlin as a response to a failure of the two

countries to comply with demands for payments to be made in roubles.

It led, however, to a dangerous standoff as Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the European Commission, warned that any EU country giving in to Russia by paying for gas in roubles would be in breach of the bloc's sanctions regime, with which the UK and others have acted in lock-step.

"Gazprom's announcement that it is unilaterally stopping gas delivery to certain EU member states is another provocation from the Kremlin," Von

der Leyen said. "But it comes as no surprise that the Kremlin uses fossil fuels to try to blackmail us."

While the initial rise on the wholesale market pared down to 8% later yesterday, the price of gas remains nearly seven times higher than a year ago, and experts warned of potential further pain for consumers should the supply crisis escalate.

Britain has reduced the supply of gas from Russian gasfields to below 5%, but the privatisation of UK supplies in the North Sea ties consumers to international

## Tory MP 'watched porn in Commons'

Rowena Mason  
Aubrey Allegretti  
Jessica Elgot

The Conservatives have been hit by yet another House of Commons sex scandal after a female minister reported seeing a male colleague watching porn on a mobile phone in parliament.

A string of female Tory MPs complained to the whips about sexism and misogyny within its ranks in a heated meeting on Tuesday night.

It comes just days after the whips said they would try to find out which Tory MPs had falsely accused Labour's deputy leader, Angela Rayner, in an article in the Mail on Sunday of a "Basic Instinct" ploy to distract Boris Johnson by crossing and uncrossing her legs in parliament.

Female MPs are also "on the brink of mutiny", according to one senior Tory, over a report at the weekend that three cabinet ministers are among 56 MPs against whom complaints of sexual harassment have been made to the independent complaints system.

The female junior minister complained about the pornography viewing to the chief whip, Chris Heaton-Harris, at a meeting of a new group for female MPs and peers – known as the 2022 – on Tuesday night. A second senior female MP also raised similar concerns about the same male MP. A

## Westwood quits radio show after allegations

Alexandra Topping

The DJ Tim Westwood has "stepped down from his show" on Capital Xtra until further notice, according to the station's parent company, following allegations of sexual misconduct made about him by multiple women.

It came a little more than 24 hours after the former BBC Radio 1 DJ was accused by seven women of misusing his position in the music industry to take advantage of them, following a joint investigation by the Guardian and BBC News.

At least three venues cancelled appearances by the DJ in the wake of the allegations, while the head of the BBC called the claims "shocking and appalling" and urged anyone with evidence of wrongdoing to come forward, promising that any complaints would be taken seriously.

One of the women who told her story to the Guardian and the BBC said she was relieved. "Finally people's allegations are



## Friends no more Ukraine pulls down Russian statues

News Pages 16-17 →

## Special report Identifying a killer

How academics went undercover to find the Syrian behind a massacre

News Pages 28-30 →