

What's News

Business & Finance

GM's net profit declined 40% in the second quarter, hurt by a loss in China and supply-chain troubles that left the company with tens of thousands of unfinished vehicles it couldn't sell during the period. **A1**

◆ **Credit Suisse** is set to announce the departure of CEO Gottstein, according to people familiar with the bank, part of an effort to turn around the lender's fortunes. **A1**

◆ **Google parent Alphabet** reported the slowest quarterly sales growth in two years, as macroeconomic pressures weigh on the market for digital ads. **B1**

◆ **Microsoft** posted its slowest earnings growth in two years, hurt by a deceleration in its cloud business, declining videogame sales and the effects of the strong dollar. **B1**

◆ **Major U.S. stock indexes** declined, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow industrials losing 1.2%, 1.9% and 0.7%, respectively. **B13**

◆ **GE's revenue** rose in the latest quarter on a rebound in its jet-engine business, but the company lowered its forecast for 2022 free cash flow. **B1**

◆ **Activist investor Elliott Management** has a stake in PayPal, according to people familiar with the matter. **B1**

◆ **Shopify is laying off** roughly 1,000 workers, or 10% of the e-commerce firm's global workforce, according to an internal memo. **B1**

◆ **Twitter scheduled** a shareholder vote on Musk's takeover proposal, weeks after he stated his intention to walk away from the deal. **B4**

World-Wide

◆ **China tried** to build a network of informants inside the Federal Reserve system, at one point threatening to imprison a Fed economist during a trip to Shanghai unless he agreed to provide nonpublic economic data, a congressional investigation found. **A1**

◆ **Teva said** it reached a national settlement agreement worth up to \$4.25 billion to resolve thousands of lawsuits over its alleged role in the opioid crisis. **A3**

◆ **European countries** agreed to sweeping cuts to natural-gas consumption, prompted by the threat of a Russian supply cutoff. **A8**

◆ **Russia plans** to pull out of the International Space Station, the leader of the country's space agency said. **A18**

◆ **The Senate voted** 64-32 to advance a package of subsidies and research funding to boost U.S. competitiveness in semiconductors and advanced technology. **A6**

◆ **The Treasury is softening** its limits on foreign tax credits, responding to corporations that have been warning about double taxation. **A6**

◆ **A majority of Tunisians** who voted on a new draft constitution were in favor of adopting it, the nation's election commission said, paving the way for Saïed to consolidate his grip on power. **A18**

◆ **The U.S. has talked** about 3,600 confirmed or suspected monkeypox cases while nearing the top of the list of countries with the most known infections since the onset of the global health emergency. **A3**

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Pence, Trump Deliver Dueling Speeches in Washington



ON STAGE: Mike Pence and Donald Trump returned to Washington to give competing speeches at separate events on Tuesday. The appearances previewed a potential 2024 battle between the former vice president and former president. **A4**



Major Brands Keep Raising Prices as Their Costs Grow

By CONNOR HART

Consumers looking for relief from higher prices might have to wait a while.

The makers of Coca-Cola beverages, Dove shampoo, Huggies diapers and Big Macs have been raising prices as their costs increase on everything from wood pulp to wages. The executives behind these global brands on Tuesday said they would keep passing along those

costs to shoppers, for now. Consumers continue to buy even as inflation takes a toll on household, these executives said.

However, some companies are already warning of a consumer pullback. Walmart Inc. and the makers of Whirlpool Corp. appliances and Weber Inc. grills reported this week weakening demand for key products. The announcement from Walmart, which also cut its profit outlook, sparked a selloff in re-

tail stocks and revealed cracks in the strong spending that has powered the U.S. economy through the pandemic.

"We continue to see resilience and a lot of demand not just in the U.S. but across the world," John Murphy, Coca-Cola Co.'s finance chief, said in an interview. Some consumers are willing, Coca-Cola said, to spend now after missing out on restaurant dining and entertainment during the pandemic.

Unilever PLC, whose products include Dove shampoo and Ben & Jerry's ice cream, said prices rose 11.2% across its portfolio. Kimberly-Clark Corp., which makes Huggies and Cottonelle toilet paper, said its net selling prices rose 9%.

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◆ **Coke posts** higher sales, lifts outlook..... **B3**
◆ **Higher menu** prices boost McDonald's U.S. sales..... **B3**

Beijing Spy Campaign Targeted The Fed, Probe Says

By KATE O'KEEFE
AND NICK TIMBRAS

China tried to build a network of informants inside the Federal Reserve system, at one point threatening to imprison a Fed economist during a trip to Shanghai unless he agreed to provide nonpublic economic data, a congressional investigation found.

The investigation by Republican staff members of the Senate's Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs found that Fed employees were offered contracts with Chinese talent-recruitment programs, which often include cash payments, and asked to provide information on the U.S. economy, interest-rate changes and policies, according to a report of the findings released Tuesday.

In the case of the economist, the report said, Chinese officials in 2019 detained and tried to coerce him to share data and information on U.S. government policies, including on tariffs while the U.S. and China were in a trade war.

The report doesn't say whether any sensitive information was compromised in what it said has been a decade-long effort that began around 2013. Access to such information could provide valuable insights given the Fed's extensive analysis of U.S. economic activity, its oversight of the U.S. financial system, and the setting of interest-rate policy.

The Republican-led investigation said the Fed failed to mount an adequate response. The report's findings show "a sustained effort by China, over more than a decade, to gain influence over the Federal Reserve."

◆ **Markets will** look to Powell for guidance on rates..... **A2**



PERSONAL JOURNAL
Flight prices usually drop in the fall, but this year's decline is steeper than usual. **A12**

INSIDE



WORLD NEWS
Europe agrees to cut natural-gas consumption as Russia reduces supply. **A8**

Drought Remakes California Lawns

'Water cops' check for overuse, offer tips to move away from green grass

By JIM CARLTON

CALABASAS, Calif.—This wealthy Los Angeles suburb is famed for its celebrity residents and meticulously landscaped homes. After a crack-down on water use, it is now gaining renown for having some of the brownest lawns in America.

"My kids are asking me, what is going wrong with this grass?" said Siran Galstian, whose once verdant lawn is dying. "I have tears in my eyes, because I love the grass and they like playing in it."

Green lawns have been a mainstay of Southern California since water was first piped in from distant mountains over a century ago and transformed the semiarid region into an oasis.

Popularized in TV shows from "The Beverly Hillbillies" to "Keeping Up With the Kardashians," lush lawns are so ubiquitous that the smell of freshly mowed grass and fizzing sound of sprinklers are as familiar as the endless sun.

After two serious droughts in the past decade, the classic

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Inflation's Byproducts: Bacon Soap or Dairy Vodka, Anyone?

Consumers respond 'Eww, we don't want that,' or 'Oh, that's really cool'

By HARRIET TORRY

OCEAN CITY, Md.—Kristie Williams sells Bumble Soap at her health-food store in this beach town. Its unusual main ingredient, she said, is hard to detect—unless you're a dog.

"I can't smell the bacon in

the soap," she said. "My dogs can. Whenever I bring one home, they go crazy."

The yucky-sounding soap bars are being cooked up less than 4 miles away from Ocean City Organics at Sunrise Diner, which also serves bacon the

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GM Profit Falls 40% On China Loss and Shortages

Car maker curbs some hiring, but expects demand to stay strong, production to step up

By MIKE COLIAS

General Motors Co.'s net profit declined 40% in the second quarter, hurt by a loss in China and supply-chain troubles that left the company with tens of thousands of unfinished vehicles it couldn't sell during the period.

GM executives reaffirmed the auto maker's full-year profit outlook, saying they expect production to increase sharply in the second half as the computer-chip shortage eases, and that consumers continue to pay top dollar for new vehicles.

Still, the nation's largest auto maker by sales on Tuesday missed analysts' profit projections, after warning earlier this month that a drop in North American factory output would hit quarterly results.

Chief Executive Mary Barra said GM is taking precautions to guard against weakening economic conditions, including curtailing some hiring. Executives said layoffs weren't in the plans for now, but said

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◆ **Alphabet** revenue growth slowest since 2020..... **B1**
◆ **Microsoft** profit gains hurt by cloud business slowdown..... **B1**

Credit Suisse CEO Is Expected to Exit Following Scandals

Credit Suisse Group AG is set to announce the departure of Chief Executive Thomas Gottstein, according to people familiar with the bank, part of an effort to turn around the struggling fortunes of the Swiss bank.

By Julie Steinberg,
Rachel Louise Ensign
and Margot Patrick

The timing of his departure couldn't be determined, but an announcement could come as soon as Wednesday, when the bank is set to release quarterly results, the people said. Credit Suisse flagged in June that it would report its third quarterly loss in a row.

Mr. Gottstein has headed the bank since the start of the pandemic and presided over a se-

ries of costly mishaps, including the implosions of clients Greensill Capital and Archegos Capital Management in early 2021. He was tasked with leading the bank's cleanup, but has struggled to convince investors that Credit Suisse is on solid footing.

Some on the Credit Suisse board have grown frustrated at the lack of progress in restructuring the investment bank, according to one of the people familiar with the bank.

Investment banking head Christian Meissner is also slated to leave, the people familiar with the bank said. His departure isn't expected to come right away.

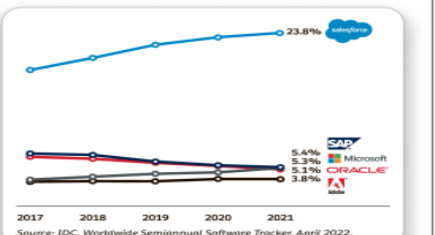
It couldn't be determined who would succeed Mr. Gottstein.

A Credit Suisse spokesman

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Salesforce. #1 CRM.

Ranked #1 for CRM Applications based on IDC 2021 Revenue Market Share Worldwide.



salesforce.com/number1CRM

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Amelia and Antonio Castillo at a bus stop with no roof in San Antonio, where working-class and poor areas have fewer trees.

Poor in Texas, And Helpless Against Heat

By EDGAR SANDOVAL

SAN ANTONIO — One day last week, Juanita Cruz-Perez poked her head out the back door of her two-bedroom home in San Antonio and shook her head no. It was not quite noon yet, and the heat was already unbearable.

She opened the front and back doors, praying for any kind of breeze, and turned on a plastic fan that sputtered hot air. She resisted the temptation to turn on the power-guzzling air-conditioner.

"The A.C. only goes on at night, no matter how hot it gets," she said.

Ms. Cruz-Perez has several health problems that are exacerbated by the stifling heat, including diabetes and high blood pressure, but her \$800-a-month budget leaves little room for what she would consider a luxury.

In San Antonio, weathering the second week of a heat wave that has been ferocious even by Texas standards, lower-income residents like Ms. Cruz-Perez are sometimes left with few options to relieve the misery. Not only can she not afford air-conditioning during the hottest part of the day, she lives in the Westside, one of several parts of San Antonio — nearly all of them working-class or poor neighborhoods — where there are few trees to provide shade.

Simple things like venturing into the backyard, walking to the store or waiting for a bus can be perilous.

"When you are poor, the sun finds you faster," Ms. Cruz-Perez said.

San Antonio has had at least 46 days of 100-plus-degree weather this year, according to the National Weather Service. Through Monday, measurements taken at

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Biden Labors to Ease Voter Fears of a Recession

By JIM TANKERSLEY

After a virtual meeting with tech manufacturing executives on Monday, President Biden was asked about his latest economic headache: How worried should Americans be that the country might be in a recession?

"We're not going to be in a recession," he replied.

The president's aides have spent much of the past several days making that case publicly, ahead of critical economic data set for release on Thursday that could, at least informally, signal the start of a recession by a common shorthand definition.

Despite Contradictory Signals, Economy Is Strong, He Says

It is the latest chapter in a challenge that Mr. Biden has faced since taking office: trying, largely unsuccessfully, to persuade Americans that the economic recovery is stronger than people perceive.

After more than a year of attempting to soothe consumer anxieties over soaring inflation, Biden administration officials

have segued into a sustained public campaign to extinguish fears that the nation's economy has dipped back into recession. Officials have leaned heavily on the strength of the job market and referred frequently to the criteria used by the economic research committee that formally declares when recessions start and end.

The campaign has been complicated by the Federal Reserve, which has tried to slow the economy in seeking to wrestle inflation under control. On Wednesday, the Fed was expected to make another supersized interest rate increase, likely lifting rates by three

Continued on Page A15



LAURA BOGGS/PAK FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Stepping Out Again in Kyiv

Nightlife is slowly returning to Ukraine's capital, but not without some guilty feelings. Page A4.

Possible 'Death Blow' as Conservative Network Loses TV Carriers

By JEREMY W. PETERS and BENJAMIN MULLIN

The future of One America News, which established itself as a powerful voice in conservative media by promoting some of the most outlandish falsehoods about the 2020 election, is in serious doubt as major carriers drop it from their lineups and defamation

lawsuits threaten to drain its finances.

By the end of this week, the cable network will have lost its presence in some 20 million homes this year. The most recent blow came from Verizon, which will stop carrying OAN on its Fios television service starting Saturday. That will starve the network of a major stream of revenue: the fees it collects from Verizon, which counts

OAN Amplified the Lies on the 2020 Election

roughly 3.5 million cable subscribers. In April, OAN was dropped by AT&T's DirecTV, which has about 15 million subscribers.

OAN's remaining audience will

be small. The network will soon be available only to a few hundred thousand people who subscribe to smaller cable providers, such as Frontier and GCI Liberty, said Scott Robson, a senior research analyst at S&P Global Market Intelligence. OAN also sells its programming directly to users through its OAN Live and KlowdTV streaming platforms.

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Advisers Knew Trump Electors Would Be Fake

Emails Illuminate Plot Tied to Campaign

By MAGGIE HABERMAN and LUKE BROADWATER

Previously undisclosed emails provide an inside look at the increasingly desperate and often slapdash efforts by advisers to President Donald J. Trump to reverse his election defeat in the weeks before the Jan. 6 attack, including acknowledgments that a key element of their plan was of dubious legality and lived up to its billing as "fake."

The dozens of emails among people connected to the Trump campaign, outside advisers and close associates of Mr. Trump show a particular focus on assembling lists of people who would claim — with no basis — to be Electoral College electors on his behalf in battleground states that he had lost.

In emails reviewed by The New York Times and authenticated by people who had worked with the Trump campaign at the time, one lawyer involved in the detailed discussions repeatedly used the word "fake" to refer to the so-called electors, who were intended to provide Vice President Mike Pence and Mr. Trump's allies in Congress a rationale for derailing the congressional process of certifying the outcome. And lawyers working on the proposal made clear they knew that the pro-Trump electors they were putting forward might not hold up to legal scrutiny.

"We would just be sending in 'fake' electoral votes to Pence so that 'someone' in Congress can make an objection when they start counting votes, and start arguing that the 'fake' votes should be counted," Jack Wilenshik, a Phoenix-based lawyer who helped organize the pro-Trump electors in Arizona, wrote in a Dec. 8, 2020, email to Boris Epshteyn, a staffer adviser for the Trump campaign.

In a follow-up email, Mr. Wilenshik wrote that "alternative" votes is probably a better term than "fake" votes, adding a smiley face emoji.

The emails provide new details

Continued on Page A13

Russia to Leave Space Station, Clouding Future of Exploration

By KENNETH CHANG and IVAN NICHEPURENKO

As the race to the moon receded, American and Soviet astronauts met and shook hands in space for the first time in 1975. The United States and Russia continued to work together in outer space, looking beyond their hostilities on Earth, culminating in the 1990s with the two nations jointly building and operating a laboratory in space.

The future of that cooperation grew uncertain on Tuesday as the new head of Russia's space agency announced that Russia would leave the International Space Station after its current commitment expired at the end of 2024.

"The decision to leave the station after 2024 has been made," said Yuri Borisov, who was appointed this month to run Roscosmos, a state-controlled corporation in charge of the country's space program.

The announcement came during a meeting between Mr. Borisov and President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia. Mr. Borisov told Mr. Putin that Russia would fulfill its commitments through 2024 and turn its focus to an unbuild independent space station. "I think that, by this time, we will begin to

Late Edition
Today, sunshine and clouds, more humid in the afternoon, high 85. Tonight, cloudy, low 74. Tomorrow, some sunshine and thunderstorms, high 89. Weather map, Page A20.

U.S. PROSECUTORS PURSUING DETAILS ON TRUMP'S ROLE

JAN. 6 INVESTIGATION

Witnesses Questioned on President's Efforts to Reverse Election

By MAGGIE HABERMAN and GLENN THRUSH

Federal prosecutors have directly asked witnesses in recent days about former President Donald J. Trump's involvement in efforts to reverse his election loss, a person familiar with the testimony said on Tuesday, suggesting that the Justice Department's criminal investigation has moved into a more aggressive and politically fraught phase.

Mr. Trump's personal role in elements of the push to overturn his loss in 2020 to Joseph R. Biden Jr. has long been established, both through his public actions and statements and evidence gathered by the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack.

But the Justice Department has been largely silent about how and even whether it would weigh pursuing potential charges against Mr. Trump, and reluctant even to concede that his role was discussed in senior leadership meetings at the department.

Asking questions about Mr. Trump in connection with the electors plot or the attack on the Capitol does not mean the Justice Department has opened a criminal investigation into him, a decision that would have immense political and legal ramifications.

The department's investigation into a central element of the push to keep Mr. Trump in office — the plan to name slates of electors pledged to Mr. Trump in battleground states won by Mr. Biden — now appears to be accelerating as prosecutors with the U.S. attorney's office in Washington ask witnesses about Mr. Trump and members of his inner circle, including the White House chief of staff, Mark Meadows, the person familiar with the testimony said.

In April, before the committee convened its series of public hearings, Justice Department investi-

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The International Space Station, photographed in 2018.

form the Russian orbital station," he said.

Mr. Putin's response: "Good." With tensions between Washington and Moscow rising after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February, Russian space officials including Dmitry Rogozin, Mr. Borisov's predecessor, had made declarations in recent months that Russia was planning to leave. But they all left ambiguity about when it would happen or whether a final decision had been made.

If Russia follows through, it could accelerate the end of a project that NASA has spent about \$100 billion on over the last quarter-century and set off a

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INTERNATIONAL A4-11

Tunisians Back One-Man Rule

They threw off a dictator in the Arab Spring a decade ago, but many were disappointed by democracy. PAGE A8

China's Surveillance State

Beijing's collection of digital data from ordinary citizens is more invasive than previously known. PAGE A9

NATIONAL A12-17, 20

Tentative Opioid Settlement

The \$4.25 billion deal with Teva Pharmaceuticals, one of the largest U.S. manufacturers of generic opioids, would end thousands of lawsuits. PAGE A17

The Trump-Pence Divide

Trailed by Jan. 6 fallout and 2024 speculation, the two erstwhile partners gave dueling speeches that revealed a Republican schism. PAGE A14

Flash Floods Swamp St. Louis

One person died after being pulled from a flooded vehicle, and property damage was "very significant" in some areas, the city's fire chief said. PAGE A16

BUSINESS B1-6

Small Shops Are Still Straining

Without the scale to weather new and persistent disruptions, business owners have taken a pessimistic turn. PAGE B1

The Cost to See the Boss

When Bruce Springsteen tickets sold for as much as \$5,000, fans took aim at Ticketmaster. Your Money. PAGE B1

SPORTS B7-8

It Just Might Be the Shoes

Thanks to advances in training, techniques and sneakers, world records have been falling in what is regarded as a golden age for running. PAGE B7



FOOD D1-8

Where Hot Dogs Are a Salad

"Dragged through the garden" is how Chicagoans refer to this street treat. Just don't ask for ketchup. PAGE D1

A Cooler That Lets You Chill

What's the best shape for containers? How do you keep things cold all day? Tips for a perfect beach picnic. PAGE D6

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They're Nameless No More

The anonymous Black subjects of Glyn Philpot's early-1900s portraits are identified in a British exhibition. PAGE C6

Ranking the Best of Beyoncé

"Sasha Fierce"? Or "Lemonade"? Our writers put a ring on the superstar's most quintessential album(s). PAGE C1

OPINION A18-19

Thomas L. Friedman

PAGE A19



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QUENTIN CAFE, which is popular with Americans and remote workers, in the Condessa neighborhood.

Photographs by CELIA TALBOT TOBIN For The Times

Mexico City to expats: *Mi casa no es su casa*

By KATE LINTHICUM

MEXICO CITY — Fernando Bustos Gorozpe was sitting with friends in a cafe here when he realized that — once again — they were outnumbered.

"We're the only brown people," said Bustos, a 38-year-old writer and university professor. "We're the only people speaking Spanish except the waiters."

Mexico has long been the top foreign travel destination for Americans, its beautiful beaches and picturesque pueblos luring tens of millions of U.S. visitors annually. But in recent years, a growing number of tourists and remote workers — hailing from Brooklyn, N.Y., Silicon Valley and points in between — have flooded the nation's capital and left a scent of new-wave imperialism.

Americans are gentrifying some of the capital's most treasured neighborhoods, and the backlash is growing



ONE AMERICAN expat likens the city to a "more friendly, more clean at times, Brooklyn."

The influx, which has accelerated since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and is likely to continue as inflation rises, is transforming some of the city's most treasured neighborhoods into expat enclaves.

In leafy, walkable quarters such as Roma, Condessa, Centro and Juarez, rents are soaring as Americans and other foreigners snap up houses and landlords trade long-term renters for travelers willing to pay more on Airbnb. Taquerias, corner stores and fondas — small, family-run lunch spots — are being replaced by Pilates studios, co-working spaces and sleek cafes advertising oat-milk lattes and avocado toast.

And English — well, it's everywhere: ringing out at supermarkets, natural wine bars and fitness classes in the park.

[See Mexico City, A4]

Declining virus cases may spare L.A. County from mask order

Improvements in some COVID metrics might merit a delay, health officials say.

By LUKE MONEY AND RONG-GONG LIN II

Recent declines in cases and coronavirus-positive hospitalizations could pull Los Angeles County back from the brink of a new universal public indoor mask mandate.

Although a decision on whether to impose the long-looming order won't come until later this week, health officials noted Tuesday that improvements in some COVID-19 metrics might merit a delay.

Such a pause would mark a major turnaround for the nation's most populous county. A mask mandate appeared likely as of the end of last week, much to the chagrin of some residents, business groups and elected leaders who characterized it as an unnecessary and ineffectual overreach.

Although it's too soon to say whether this latest wave has peaked — especially as the ultra-contagious BA.5 Omicron subvariant is still widespread — there are some hopeful signs.

On July 20, 1,329 coronavirus-positive patients were hospitalized countywide. That total plunged to 1,200

Laissez faire in Beverly Hills

The City Council votes not to enforce indoor mask rule if L.A. County issues one. CALIFORNIA, B3

by Friday before creeping up again over the weekend, to 1,286 as of Monday.

As of Tuesday afternoon, L.A. County was averaging about 6,000 coronavirus cases a day over the previous week, down 1% from the prior week's average of 6,700 cases a day. On a per-capita basis, the latest rate is 417 cases a week for every 100,000 residents. A case rate of 100 or more is considered high.

A flattening of coronavirus cases in L.A. County began to be detected in the middle of last week, and on Friday, L.A. County started to record week-over-week declines.

Cases are also falling statewide. California reported an average of 17,000 a day over the last week, down 17% from the prior week.

It's important to note that we had seen instances earlier this spring and summer where we saw dips in cases that were followed shortly by increases. "Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer told the county Board of Supervisors on Tuesday. "So it's important for us to continue to be cautious and

[See COVID-19, A11]

After Roe, religious liberty seen at risk

Jews, Muslims, others say reversal interferes with their beliefs, which allow abortion.

By DEBORAH NETBURN

For 25 years Rabbi Barry Silver has served as the spiritual leader of L'Dor Va-Dor, a progressive synagogue in Boynton Beach, Fla. Like most congregational rabbis, he offers a Jewish perspective on major life events, giving weekly sermons, performing weddings, funerals and baby namings, and occasionally counseling congregants wrestling with whether to have an abortion.

Silver tells his congregation that contrary to Roman Catholic and evangelical teachings, which state that life begins at conception, traditional Jewish law, known as Halakha, says life begins at birth: when the

baby draws its first breath. Before then, the mother's physical and emotional well-being is paramount.

In some extreme cases — such as when the mother's life is at stake — an abortion is not just permitted by Jewish law, but required.

"Right in the beginning of the Torah, Genesis states that God formed the human, Adam, from the dust of the Earth, like you create a work of pottery. Then he breathed the breath of life in him and he lived," Silver said. "We equate breathing with living."

For decades, antiabortion Catholic and evangelical Christian perspectives have dominated the religious conversation around abortion. But people of faith hold a variety of views on the issue, rooted in their own traditions, teachings and laws.

Muslim teachings hold that the soul is breathed into [See Abortion, A9]

Campus misconduct kept under wraps

Cal State San Marcos found that two professors had sexually harassed students. Both received generous settlements and were able to resign.

By ALEXIS TIMKO

After a few alcoholic drinks at a pizza joint near campus, a professor in the psychology department at Cal State San Marcos allegedly insinuated to a female student that he was turned on and started kissing her neck.

In the chemistry department, a professor pinned a female student's arms to her side, lowered his hands to her back and pressed his groin against her hips, she said.

Both professors denied the claims, but investiga-

tions conducted by the campus Title IX office concluded the professors had engaged in egregious sexual harassment and misconduct in violation of university policy. The professors' accounts of the events were found to be not credible.

Instead of pursuing disciplinary action, however, the university agreed to generous settlements with the professors, Roger Morrisette and David Bwambok, which included voluntary resignations, paid administrative leave and, in one case, expunging records of disciplinary action from his

personnel file, according to university reports obtained by The Times that detail the investigations and settlements.

In both cases, the university agreed to confirm the professors' position and dates of employment only if contacted by prospective employers and would not volunteer any additional information.

One works at a community college not far from San Marcos; the school was unaware of the allegations against the professor, a spokesperson said. The other works at an out-of-

state university, which declined to comment.

A Cal State San Marcos spokeswoman said the settlements were reached after consideration of several factors, including the prospect the professors could maintain their employment contracts through arbitration.

"The university's priority was protecting its student and employee community, and the quickest and, more importantly, most assured route to these individuals no longer working for the campus was via settlements," said Margaret Chantung. [See San Marcos, A8]

Jan. 6 committee has much left to reveal in the next round

By SARAH D. WIRE

WASHINGTON — The House Jan. 6 committee has so far presented a detailed narrative, including several bombshells, of efforts by former President Trump and his allies to overturn the 2020 election. But an influx of new witnesses and evidence shows there is a lot left for the panel to say when televised hearings resume in September.

The monthlong break will give the committee time to process the new information and draw connections between evidence un-

Inquiry reportedly targets Trump

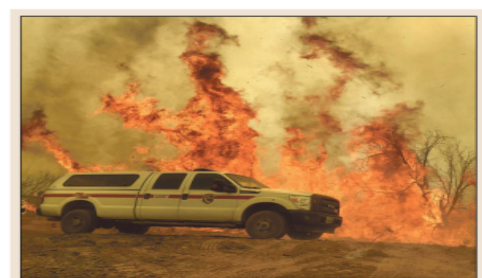
Justice Department is investigating his actions related to Jan. 6, a news report says. NATION, A5

ered in the more than 1,000 depositions and tens of thousands of documents it has collected in a nearly yearlong investigation. Ongoing legal actions indicate the committee isn't giving up on getting more testimony and records from former White House employees, those who advised

Trump and some of the people involved in the riot, as the panel rushes to complete its work before the end of the year.

"The one thing we can be certain [of] is that the committee knows more than we do.... You have that sense that we are seeing only a small portion of sort of the proverbial tip of the iceberg," said Lara Brown, director of the George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management.

Committee members say the eight hearings so far led new witnesses to come [See Jan. 6, A7]



NEAL WATERS Anadolu Agency/Getty Images

A CONTROLLED burn near Jerseydale, Calif.

Militia shows up at Oak fire

As firefighters make headway against the blaze, the presence of men in camouflage and surplus military vehicles alarms some evacuees. CALIFORNIA, B1

Bigger and Bigger Ten?

USC and UCLA joining the conference is the beginning of what's to come, commissioner indicates. SPORTS, B10

N.Y. galleries' L.A. outposts

What it means for Los Angeles' art scene that 11 New York galleries are rolling into town. CALENDAR, E1

Weather

Turning sunny. L.A. Basin: 82/63. B6

Printed with soy inks on partially recycled paper.



The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington



T-storm 87/76 • Tomorrow: T-storm 90/76 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 • B2

Biden now poised for big wins in Congress

Bills on semiconductors, drug prices and more could deliver political lift

BY YASMEEN ABUTALEB
AND MIKE DEBONIS

The first major prescription drug legislation in nearly 20 years. More than \$50 billion to subsidize computer chip manufacturing and research. A bill that would enshrine protection for same-sex marriage.

After a turbulent stretch in which much of President Biden's legislative agenda seemed to be foundering, the president and his party may be on the cusp of significant wins in Congress that the White House hopes will provide at least a modest political boost.

Most politically resonant is a bill to let Medicare negotiate drug prices, a hugely popular idea that Democrats have been pursuing for more than 20 years. Even before that — possibly within days — Congress is likely to pass a bill providing \$52 billion to the U.S. semiconductor industry, intended to bolster the U.S. economy and cut China's influence. "We're close, so let's get it done," Biden said of the bill on Monday. "So much depends on it."

Democrats hope these measures earn a bigger political payoff than, say, Biden's infrastructure law, which seemed to make little impression on voters.

"Democrats now seem to be hitting a stride where they're about to rattle off three meaningful victories in a short amount of time, and for really the first time have an open field to politically gain from that," said Kurt Bardella, a former Republican who now consults for Democrats. "On the health-care bill, this is stuff everybody generally understands. This is not a complex, nuanced policy."

SEE BIDEN ON A6

Back in D.C. — but as possible rivals



JABIN BOTSFOORD/THE WASHINGTON POST



CRAG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Former president Donald Trump and former vice president Mike Pence, who are possibly eyeing 2024 presidential runs, made appearances in Washington on Tuesday, speaking at the America First Agenda Summit and the National Conservative Student Conference, respectively. The trip was Trump's first to D.C. since leaving office. Think tanks, Trump allies and other Republican organizers are already working on a government in waiting if he wins a second term. **Story, A8**

Criminal probe by DOJ now looks at Trump actions

FOCUS ON HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO ADVISERS

Phone records of top aides have been seized

BY CAROL D. LEONNIG,
DEVLIN BARRETT,
JOSH DAWSEY
AND SPENCER S. HSU

The Justice Department is investigating President Donald Trump's actions as part of its criminal probe of efforts to overturn the 2020 election results, according to four people familiar with the matter.

Prosecutors who are questioning witnesses before a grand jury — including two top aides to Vice President Mike Pence — have asked in recent days about conversations with Trump, his lawyers and others in his inner circle who sought to substitute Trump allies for certified electors from

some states Joe Biden won, according to two people familiar with the matter. Both spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation.

The prosecutors have asked hours of detailed questions about meetings Trump led in December 2020 and January 2021; his pressure campaign on Pence to overturn the election; and what instructions Trump gave his lawyers and advisers about fake electors and sending electors back to the states, the people said. Some of the questions focused directly on the extent of Trump's involvement

SEE TRUMP ON A5

Jan. 6: D.C. man who assaulted officers is given 63 months. **B1**

Russia says it will leave space station after 2024

Withdrawal would end decades of post-Cold War cooperation with U.S.

BY MARY ILYUSHINA
AND CHRISTIAN DAVENPORT

Russia on Tuesday announced it will withdraw from the International Space Station (ISS) project after 2024, signaling an end of an era in one of the last remaining areas of cooperation between Russia and the United States.

Russia's newly appointed head of space agency Roscosmos announced the decision in a meet-

ing with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday, saying that the agency will instead focus on building its own orbital station.

"We will fulfill all our obligations to our partners, but the decision to leave this station after 2024 has been made," the space agency chief Yuri Borisov said.

Russian officials have discussed leaving the project since at least 2021, citing aging equipment and growing safety risks. The countries involved in the ISS agreed to use the station until 2024 and NASA plans to use the station until 2030.

But the ongoing rift between Moscow and Washington over the Russian invasion of Ukraine and

SEE SPACE STATION ON A11

School-prayer fight blurs church-and-state line

Activists push for more worship in public education after Supreme Court's ruling on religious freedom

BY HANNAH NATANSON

A Michigan superintendent is pondering whether coaches should lead students in pregame prayer. A school board member in Florida wants her district to teach students about prayer and offer religious studies. In Hawaii, the leader of a faith- and family-focused activism group sees a path to altering a state policy that says public-school employees cannot initiate prayer on campus.

A month has passed since the Supreme Court ruled in favor of a Washington state football coach who knelt at midfield to pray and was joined by student-athletes. The court wrote, in a 6-3 decision, that Bremerton High School as-

sistant coach Joseph Kennedy's prayers were protected by the Constitution's guarantees of free speech and religious exercise, and that the district was wrong to discipline him for what the majority saw as a private act.

In response, families, teachers and activists are preparing to push religious worship into public schools nationwide — working to blur the line dividing prayer and pedagogy, and promising emotional, spiritual and educational benefits for students. Some school officials are listening: In at least three states, Illinois, Alabama and Oregon, school personnel have said they are reviewing their policies on employee prayer.

SEE SCHOOL PRAYER ON A22



NICK OXFORD FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Kristi and Kyle Robertson, seen with their daughter Aurora in Yukon, Okla., are atheists. Aurora's mother says her child discovered God and Christianity via her third-grade public-school teacher.

GOP opinion on marriage bill: Nothing to speak of

BY MIKE DEBONIS

The Respect for Marriage Act, a bill that would enshrine the right to same-sex and interracial marriage in federal law, is only four short pages long. Yet in the week since the House passed the measure on a bipartisan vote and Democratic leaders indicated they planned to put it on the Senate floor, few Republican senators have found time to read it — or so they said Tuesday.

"Haven't read it," said Sen. John Neely Kennedy (R-La.).

"We're still looking at it," said Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.).

"I'm not going to comment on it in terms of how I'm going to vote until I see the bill — if it does get a vote," said Sen. Mike Braun (R-Ind.).

SEE MARRIAGE ON A6

IN THE NEWS



DAVID CARSON/ST. LOUIS POST-Dispatch/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Record rainfall Flash flooding in St. Louis killed at least one person and left others stranded at home and in their vehicles. **A3**

Post-Roe logistics TriNet, an HR and payroll services firm, is helping smaller businesses reimburse out-of-state travel for abortion. **A18**

THE NATION The Biden administration moved to reinstate protections for LGBTQ groups that were weakened by President Donald Trump. **A4**
Nearly \$7 billion may be needed to mount a federal response to the monkeypox outbreak, the Biden administration privately estimated to Congress. **A4**
In newly published papers, scientists hone the argument that the coronavirus pandemic began in viral spillovers from a Wuhan market. **A7**
A Pentagon official warned of an unprec-

edented spike in "direct, aggressive, unsafe" behavior by China in the skies above the South China Sea. **A9**

THE WORLD Both contenders to replace Boris Johnson as British premier, Rishi Sunak and Liz Truss, are channeling Margaret Thatcher in appeals to voters. **A10**
The European Union agreed to a watered-down plan to reduce natural gas consumption as shortages loom. **A12**
Lawyers for WNBA star Brittney Griner continued to present their

case in her trial on drug charges in Moscow. **A13**
A Russian attack on the port of Odessa has left farmers, exporters and others uncertain about the fate of a newly signed deal to export grain from Ukraine. **A14**

THE ECONOMY Take a quiz to understand how inflation, gas prices and other economic forces will affect your life. **A16**
The Chinese government waged a decade-long campaign to undermine the U.S. Federal Reserve, a Senate report found. **A18**

THE REGION Maryland continued to count mail-in primary ballots, as lawmakers contemplated legislation to quicken future elections. **B1**
A Maryland man who police said was shot by his wife after being accused of molesting children at her day-care facility has been charged with sexual abuse. **B1**
People with disabilities say they will be disproportionately affected by the loss of federal abortion protections and are being overlooked. **B1**

OBITUARIES Paul Sorvino, 83, starred as the menacing mob boss Paulie Cicero in the 1990 hit film "Goodfellas." **B6**

INSIDE



FOOD Summer's bounty How to make the most of your haul of tomatoes, corn and peaches. **E1**

STYLE A blockbuster With the World War II-era novel "Mercury Pictures Presents," Anthony Marra captures the intricate cruelties of political and social collapse. **C1**

BUSINESS NEWS.....A16
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OBITUARIES.....B6
TELEVISION.....B4
WORLD NEWS.....A10

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deportes

VAR escandaloso

El club de los Tapia fue favorecido otra vez

Barracas Central se benefició con los fallos del árbitro Balifo, que le anuló dos goles a Patronato.



VENECIA, UN FESTIVAL QUE TENDRÁ FUERTE PRESENCIA ARGENTINA

—espectáculos

Argentina, 1985, de Santiago Mitre, sobre el juicio a las juntas militares, con Ricardo Darín, competirá por el premio mayor; se exhibirá un corto de Lucrecia Martel.

MISTERIOSO HALLAZGO DE EXPLOSIVOS EN EL PARTIDO DE EZEIZA

—seguridad

Los 134 cohetes y granadas hallados en los alrededores de un camping habrían sido robados de la Fábrica Militar Fray Luis Beltrán, cercana a Rosario. Página 26

LA NACION

MIÉRCOLES 27 DE JULIO DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

El BCRA ofrece un dólar soja para incentivar a que el campo venda su cosecha

RESERVAS. Permitirán acceso al solidario para el 30% de la venta; dudas de productores

En medio de la escasez de divisas en las reservas internacionales y tras las críticas del presidente Alberto Fernández al campo, el Banco Central (BCRA) aprobó anoche un mecanismo que busca incentivar a productores a que vendan su cosecha de soja. El régimen especial estará disponible hasta el 31 de agosto próximo.

El instrumento crea un dólar soja, porque ofrece a productores, exportadores y acopiadores de esa oleaginosa un acceso privilegiado al mercado cambiario para que el 30% de su venta pueda ser convertida al

llamado "dólar solidario" (\$226). Por otra parte, ante la expectativa de devaluación, el otro 70% podrá ser depositado en un banco con una cobertura especial atada a la depreciación del peso, según precisó la entidad que dirige Miguel Pesce.

Productores consultados por LA NACION afirmaron que esa posibilidad solo mejoraría la actual brecha cambiaria en un 15%, por lo que desconfían que no tendrá un impacto significativo a la hora de empujar más ventas de la oleaginosa que actualmente está retenida. Página 16

EL ANÁLISIS

Una incitación a la violencia

Joaquín Morales Solá

—LA NACION—

Los piqueteros y los productores rurales podrían cruzarse fieramente el sábado, cuando se realizará la inauguración de la exposición de la Sociedad Rural. Movimientos

sociales como Barrios de Pie y la Corriente Clasista y Combativa anticiparon su marcha a la sede ruralista, pero podrían agregarse organizaciones trotskistas. Continúa en la página 18

Batakis dijo que tiene apoyo para aplicar el ajuste fiscal

En el cierre de su misión en EE.UU., la ministra ratificó que cumplirá las metas con el FMI

WASHINGTON (De nuestro corresponsal) — Al cierre de su primera visita a Washington, la ministra Silvina Batakis ratificó que cumplirá las metas establecidas en el acuerdo con el FMI y ratificó que tiene el apoyo político de la coalición de gobierno —incluido el de Cristina Kirchner, que se mantiene en un sugestivo silencio— para hacer el ajuste. Por su parte, el Fondo indicó que la situación en la Argentina es "muy preocupante" y pidió contener la inflación. Página 8

En medio de los rumores, una imagen para mostrar respaldo

El Presidente se hizo acompañar por la mayor parte del gabinete para un acto en Chapadmalal; intentó así dar una señal de apoyo en medio de las versiones de que habría un replanteo de su gabinete

Página 14



Alberto Fernández con ministros y legisladores cercanos; una postal para enfrentar el clima de incertidumbre

PRESIDENCIA

Santa Fe. Buscan que todos los chicos pasen de año a pesar de las previas

SANTA FE. — "Tenemos que diseñar otra escuela, que les permita a los chicos sentirse convocados, permanecer, y aprender más y mejor". Así presentó la ministra de Educación de la provincia de San

ta Fe, Adriana Cantero, el proyecto oficial para que ningún estudiante del nivel secundario tenga que repetir el año más allá de las materias que adeuda. El esquema, que llamó "de avance continuo", está en análisis y podría empezar a aplicarse

en 2023. Los chicos recuperarán las asignaturas mientras cursan el año siguiente. Según expertos, esta medida no es suficiente si se toma de manera aislada. Página 22

EL ESCENARIO

Otro aplazo para la UBA

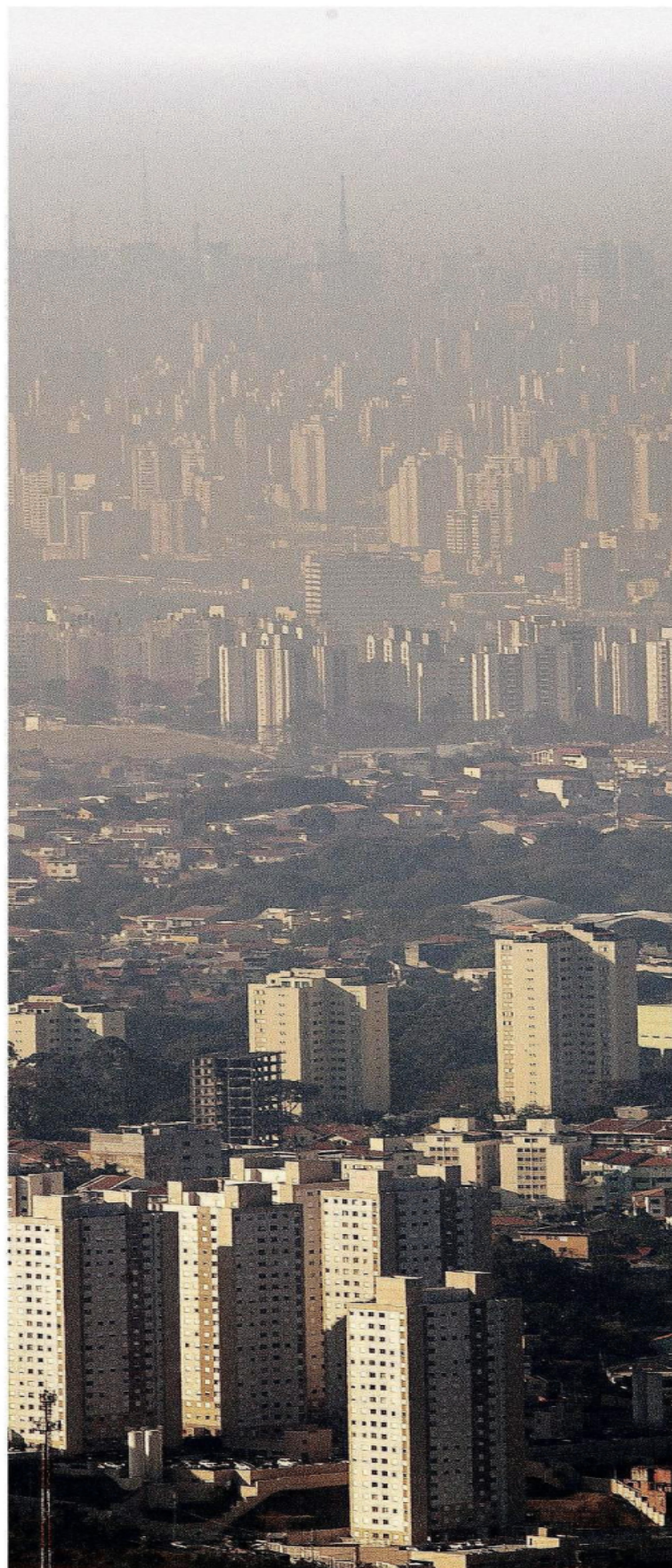
Luciano Román

—LA NACION—

Página 29

Iraníes. Cómo viven hoy los tripulantes del avión

Llegaron hace 50 días, junto con 14 venezolanos; shopping, comidas y discreción. Página 20



Eduardo Knapp/Folhapress

46 DIAS SEM ELA

São Paulo vista do Pico do Jaraguá; em seu julho mais quente, capital está sem chuvas desde 10 de junho e deve ficar assim até sexta (29), dificultando a dispersão de poluição. Cotidiano B2

Fiesp diz que vai apoiar qualquer ato a favor da democracia

Entidade adere a manifesto em defesa do Estado de Direito; texto é o segundo a responder ameaças de golpe

A Fiesp (Federação das Indústrias do Estado de São Paulo) confirmou que vai integrar um manifesto pela democracia assinado por entidades, sindicatos e associações empresariais, a ser lançado em 11 de agosto. Empresários, economistas, banqueiros, artistas e outras figuras públicas divulgaram carta de teor similar ontem.

Ambos os documentos — o das entidades e o dos indivíduos — serão lidos em sequência na Faculdade de Direito da USP no dia 11. O primeiro ainda está na fase de coleta de assinaturas, enquanto o segundo foi publicado e contava 3.069 signatários, incluindo 259 magistrados e 9 ex-integrantes do Supremo Tribunal Federal.

As manifestações se dão em resposta às ameaças golpistas do presidente Jair Bolsonaro (PL). Mercado A14

Ministro da Defesa diz a pares respeitar pacto democrático regional A8

No Brasil, Secretário dos EUA defende controle civil de militares A11

Superávit em 2022 depende de manobras do governo

O Ministério da Economia reduziu a projeção de déficit nas contas públicas e considera possível encerrar o ano com leve superávit (que exclui a conta com juros). Porém o primeiro saldo positivo após oito anos depende da ajuda de manobras e de receitas temporárias, entre as quais mudanças em precatórios e ganhos atípicos, como o vindo da privatização da Eletrobras. Mercado A13

Padrinho de Flávio Bolsonaro visita Rio com verba pública

Padrinho de casamento do filho do presidente e indicado ao cargo por essa relação, o secretário nacional do Esporte, Marcelo Reis Magalhães, fez quase cem viagens com verba do governo, a maioria sem agenda pública. Política A6

PGR enterra CPI e blinda Bolsonaro para eleições

O arquivamento das principais frentes de investigação resultantes da CPI da Covid por Lindora Araújo, vice-procuradora-geral da República, deve livrar o presidente Jair Bolsonaro (PL) das acusações centrais da comissão. Política A4

Gregorio Duvivier Cockerinha de esperança

Tenho visto gente espirando otimismo, em outros consigo enxergar a ansiedade pingando do nariz feito coriza. Pode ser delírio. Deve ter a ver com o fato de estar me informando muito pouco, ou de forma muito seletiva. Ilustrada C7

Denúncia de trabalho escravo dobra com podcast

Levantamento do Ministério Público do Trabalho mostra salto de 123% nas denúncias de trabalho doméstico análogo a escravo desde a estreia do podcast A Mulher da Casa Abandonada, da Folha. Foram 24 em 48 dias. Mercado A16

União Europeia adota meta para reduzir uso de gás

Mundo A12

Concorrente diz que Empiricus fez vídeo contra ela

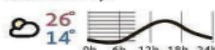
Mercado A15

Condenações por aborto seguem processos falhos

Análise da USP de 167 decisões mostra que mulheres que abortaram são condenadas com base em provas frágeis ou ilegais e processos preconceituosos. B1

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



A atriz Beatrice Sayd em ensaio de 'F.E.T.O.' de Gerald Thomas. Karine Xavier/Folhapress

Ensino a distância Expansão do EAD

Com pandemia, graduação remota supera a presencial em ingressantes

Equilíbrio B5

Saiba por que é difícil diagnosticar a endometriose, doença de Anitta

Ilustrada C1

Bolsonaro é vingativo, diz Gerald Thomas, que estreia peça 'F.E.T.O.' em São Paulo

EDITORIAIS A2

Inquéritos na gaveta
Sobre arquivamento de denúncias da CPI da Covid.

Máscara no chão
Acerca dos objetivos da Rússia na guerra com a Ucrânia.

Tercera suspensión al hilo del proceso a titular de la FGE en la Cámara Baja

Juicio a Sandra: Obligarán a los indecisos a dar la cara

- Presentan proyecto para que la sesión sea presencial y así embretar a dudosos
- Intenso debate sobre el atraco al PLRA y muerte de Rodrigo Quintana
- Manifestantes acusan persecución y trato desigual desde la Fiscalía
- No imputará a HC "sin elementos suficientes", dijo Legal a la 1080
- La CBI sobre lavado convoca a Cartes para el próximo martes

PÁGINAS 2, 3, 4 y 6

Buses del interior, camioneros y otros
Gremios del transporte están en paro por el precio de combustibles

PÁGINA 12

Los héroes de la primera Libertadores de Olimpia en nuevo podcast de Última Hora

PÁGINA 27

Natalia Fúster, cuestionada y partidizada fiscal, en reunión clave con DEA y FBI

PÁGINA 49

Director políticamente afín al abdismo
Bataglia no renuncia al IPS y los asegurados explotan por mal trato

PÁGINA 21



Sospecha. Fiscalía investiga supuesto ingreso al país de José Instrán (der.) por Migraciones de Falcón. Prófugo en el caso A Ultranza Py desde febrero pasado sigue imperceptible para las autoridades.

Narcopastor obró el milagro de hacerse invisible

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LE FIGARO

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

L'ÉTÉ
DU FIGARO

**LE TOUR DE FRANCE
DES VIGNOBLES DE
THOMAS JEFFERSON
AU PAYS
DU BLÉ, DU VIN,
DE L'HUILE
ET DU SOLEIL**

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**LES CHEFS QUI FONT
VIVRE LEUR VILLAGE**
CYRIL
ATTRAZIC,
AMBASSADEUR
HYPERACTIF
DE L'AUBRAC
LOZERIAN

PAGE 20

JEUX D'ÉTÉ

PAGE 16

UKRAINE

À Dnipro, les pleurs
racontent la dureté
de la guerre

PAGES 4 ET 5

DROITE

Présidence LR : Éric
Ciotti ouvre le bal
des candidats

PAGE 7

SÉCURITÉ

ROUTIÈRE
Cacophonie
autour du contrôle
technique pour
les deux-roues
motorisés

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EHPAD

Le business opaque
des « dames de
compagnie »

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SANTÉ

Pourquoi la pilule
anti-Covid est-elle
si peu utilisée ?

PAGE 11

CHAMPS
LIBRES

• La chronique
de Bertille Bayart
• Un entretien
avec Pierre-André
Taguieff

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FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NON

**Réponses à la question
de mardi :**
Souhaitez-vous
que le port de la cravate
à l'Assemblée nationale
soit rendu obligatoire ?

OUI

67%

NON

33%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 179 633

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

Faut-il limiter l'usage
de la climatisation dans
les bureaux pour faire
des économies d'énergie ?

ONEWER - ULLSTEIN BILD / ROGER-
VIOLETTE - BERTRAND GUIVY/AFP

ÉCRIVAINS ET INTELLECTUELS
DANS LA GUERRE

ANDRÉ MALRAUX
AU SECOURS DE
LA RÉPUBLIQUE ESPAGNOLE

PAGE 18

SATELLITE

EUTELSAT DÉFIE
LES AMBITIONS SPATIALES
D'ELON MUSK

PAGE 22

Gaz : l'Europe à la peine
face au chantage de Poutine

Le plan énergétique élaboré par la Commission européenne, dont plusieurs États
entendent s'affranchir, sera insuffisant pour affronter un hiver rigoureux. PAGES 2 À 5 ET L'EDITORIAL

Le FMI alerte
sur un risque
de récession mondiale

Inflation, guerre en Ukraine,
ralentissement de la Chine...
Les menaces sur la croissance
mondiale sont nombreuses.
Dans ce contexte, le Fonds
monétaire international

n'exclut pas un nouveau
plongeon en récession en fin
d'année ou l'an prochain si
l'activité économique se
contracte plus fort que pré-
vu. PAGE 23

Pourquoi l'exécutif
repousse la rentrée
parlementaire

Dans une Assemblée où il ne
dispose plus de la majorité abso-
lue, le gouvernement veut met-
tre en œuvre une méthode dite
de « compromis ». Ministres et
parlementaires se donnent le

mois de septembre pour tra-
vailler les textes en amont. Une
petite révolution au Parlement,
où une session extraordinaire
est traditionnellement convo-
quée à la rentrée. PAGES 6 ET 7

ÉDITORIAL par Patrick Saint-Paul psaintpaul@lefigaro.fr

L'hiver vient

Au moment où ils étouffent dans la
chaleur caniculaire de leurs ap-
partements, c'est le dernier des
souds des Parisiens, des Berli-
nois ou des Londoniens. Pour-
tant, les dirigeants européens s'inquiètent
déjà de l'hiver qui vient. À juste raison : il sera
rude ! Comme dans la série *Game of Thrones*,
la devise « *Winter is coming* » n'annonce rien
de bon. Le « Marcheur blanc » des Européens
s'appelle Vladimir Poutine et il les défie de
l'autre côté d'un mur invisible, le nouveau
rideau de fer qu'il a érigé entre les démocraties
occidentales et son monde autocratique.
Avec sa guerre du gaz, le maître du Kremlin
attise la menace d'une récession en Europe.
Comme avec la crise de l'euro et la vague mi-
gratoire, le choc énergétique de l'hiver 2022
mettra son unité à l'épreuve.

Poutine exerce son chantage au gaz sur l'UE
en réponse aux sanctions infligées à la Russie,
qui frappent notamment des exportations de
pétrole cruciales pour son économie. Son
calcul est simple : les exports de gaz ne repré-
sentent que 2% du PIB russe, alors que l'Eu-
rope en est largement dépendante. En fer-
mant ses pipelines, il pense infliger plus de
souffrances aux Européens qu'à son propre

pays, affaiblir le soutien à l'Ukraine et les dis-
suaider de voter de nouvelles sanctions.

Les consommateurs européens, qui utilisent
le gaz directement pour se chauffer et cuisiner
et indirectement pour leur électricité, n'ont eu
qu'un avant-goût de ce qui les attend : ils
bénéficient jusqu'à présent de tarifs protégés.
Le plan européen de rationnement du gaz
entraînera mécaniquement une hausse

Le chantage
au gaz
est indolore
pour
Poutine

de des prix et des éco-
nomies d'énergie. Il
aura une incidence
sur l'inflation et ris-
que de provoquer de
nouvelles fissures so-
ciales. Certains sec-
teurs, jugés non es-
sentiels, souffriront éga-
lement. C'est un
moindre mal par rapport à la récession que
provoqueraient des pénuries de gaz dévasta-
trices pour l'Allemagne, première économie
de la zone euro. Et pourtant, déjà, l'Europe se
divise, entre le Sud, qui n'a pas oublié les hu-
miliations de la crise de l'euro, et une Alle-
magne qui vit sous perfusion de gaz russe.
S'ils veulent tenir face à Poutine, les Euro-
péens doivent serrer les rangs et afficher une
détermination sans faille. ■

BDL Capital Management, société de gestion française et indépendante

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tensions géopolitiquesQUELLE SOLUTION POUR
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clés pour l'investisseur disponible sur www.bdlcm.com/rempart avant de prendre toute
décision finale d'investissement. L'investissement promu concerne l'acquisition de parts
ou d'actions d'un fonds, et non d'un actif sous-jacent donné, tel que les actions d'une
société, étant donné que ceux-ci sont uniquement des actifs sous-jacents détenus par le
fonds. La décision d'investir dans BDL Rempart doit tenir compte de toutes les caracté-
ristiques et de tous les objectifs du fonds promu, tels que décrits dans son prospectus
ou dans les informations à communiquer aux investisseurs conformément à l'article 25
de la directive 2011/61/UE, à l'article 13 du règlement (UE) n°549/2013 et à l'article 14 du
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Mena Suvari

on acting, sexual abuse and American Beauty

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England 4 Sweden 0 Stunning win sends Lionesses into final

Jonathan Liew



It was rampant, it was dominant, it was refined and frankly - to anyone remotely conversant in the argot of English football - it was just a little bit weird. England, the host nation, have swept into the final of Euro 2022, schooling and subduing the world's No 2-ranked nation Sweden in a 4-0 rout at Bramall Lane. No angst, no stage fright, no bitter heartache. Just fluid, expressive one-touch football and the sort of goals you score in your dreams. Quick, check their passports.

England expects: for so long this inflated expectation has felt like a lead weight on this team, freighting their every



▲ Fran Kirby celebrates with team mates after scoring the fourth goal in the Euro 2022 semi-final against Sweden last night PHOTOGRAPH: JONATHAN MOSCROP/GETTY

Ministers' 'fast and loose' Covid deals condemned

Rob Evans
David Pegg
Felicity Lawrence

Ministers and government officials played "fast and loose" when awarding £777m in Covid contracts to a healthcare firm that employed the Conservative MP Owen Paterson as a lobbyist, the head of parliament's spending watchdog has said.

In a damning report, the House of Commons public accounts

committee (PAC) concluded that the government made a series of failures, making it impossible to know if the contracts had been awarded properly to Randox.

The Department of Health and Social Care did little to deal with potential conflicts of interests despite "clear concerns" about Randox's political connections, the cross-party committee of MPs found.

It added that officials were aware Paterson had been in direct contact with Matt Hancock, who was then

the health secretary, while promoting Randox. The MPs found that Randox made "substantial" profits after it was given the contracts to carry out Covid testing during the pandemic.

The firm's profits in the year to June 2021 were "more than 100 times greater" than the previous year, according to the PAC, which questioned whether they were excessive.

In its latest accounts, Randox reported a profit of £177m for the year to 30 June 2021. The MPs said this compared with a profit of £1.2m that

Randox reported for the 18 months to 30 June 2020.

A Randox spokesperson accused the PAC report of being "deeply flawed and wrong in assumptions it makes and the conclusions it draws", and added the firm had issued a legal complaint. He said: "At no stage, either during its deliberations or in its preparation of this report, did the PAC make any contact whatsoever with Randox. Consequently many elements of its report relating to Randox are false, based as they are on wrong and unchecked assumptions about the company."

A spokesperson for the company has previously said Randox contracts were awarded in full compliance with government procedures and protocols in place at a time of the emerging pandemic.

The PAC also concluded that the health department did not

keep proper records of why it gave contracts to Randox, nor of what happened when ministers met the company. The department was approached for comment.

The publication of the report comes after Randox and Paterson were accused of cronyism in parliamentary debates. Randox paid Paterson, at the time MP for North Shropshire, £100,000 a year.

The former cabinet minister was forced to resign from parliament last November after he wrongly used his parliamentary position to lobby for his clients, including Randox. Evidence of his



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