

What's News

Business & Finance

A stock market fixated on the Fed's fight against inflation is about to see how rapidly rising interest rates have affected companies' bottom lines as third-quarter earnings season kicks off in earnest this week. **A1**

◆ **Some economists** fear the Fed, humbled after waiting too long to withdraw its support of a booming economy last year, is risking another blunder by potentially raising interest rates too much to combat high inflation. **A2**

◆ **EV makers** in Asia and their suppliers are rushing to capital markets to raise money, as they try to take advantage of a surge in demand for energy-efficient autos. **B1**

◆ **Demand for hybrids** is reinforcing the view from Toyota and others that the dual approach will play an important role even as the industry races toward fully electric cars. **B1**

◆ **The strengthening dollar** threatens to undermine a rebound in American manufacturing, handing foreign producers an advantage in selling into the U.S., executives and economists said. **B1**

◆ **The IRS** said it would delay enforcement of new rules for taking required withdrawals from some inherited retirement accounts until 2023. **B2**

◆ **A bankruptcy judge** denied a request by creditors of Hale & Hearty to appoint an interim trustee to oversee the property of the defunct lunch purveyor. **B5**

World-Wide

◆ **British arms maker BAE** said it was considering restarting production of the M777 howitzer, as the big gun's performance on Ukrainian battlefields revives interest in the weapon. **A1**

◆ **Russian rockets** slammed into the southeastern Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia overnight, killing at least 17 people and injuring 40 others, the city council's leader said. **A7**

◆ **Three weeks** after anti-government protests erupted across Iran the movement has proved more durable than previous challenges to Tehran's leaders and could pose a continuing threat. **A1**

◆ **Florida officials** began allowing some residents of Fort Myers Beach back to assess their properties after Hurricane Ian severely damaged the island town. **A3**

◆ **Recent economic** developments threaten Biden's efforts to shore up the economy and reduce inflation, introducing fresh vulnerabilities to Democrats' midterm campaign. **A4**

◆ **The leader** of the biotech industry's top lobbying group in Washington is on leave amid dissent within the organization about its direction and concern about its results. **A6**

◆ **North Korean leader** Kim Jong Un oversaw two weeks of military drills that simulated tactical nuclear strikes against the U.S. and South Korea. **A9**

JOURNAL REPORT
Investing Monthly:
The No. 1 Fund
Manager Is... **R1-6**

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Russia Moves to Repair Bridge to Crimea After Attack



REPAIRS: Workers restored railway tracks Sunday on the Kerch bridge linking Crimea to Russia, a day after it was damaged by an explosion that Russia blamed on Ukraine. The damage could hurt Moscow's war effort in southern Ukraine. **A7**

Howitzer's Success in Ukraine Rekindles Demand for Weapon

By ALISTAIR MACDONALD
AND DANIEL MICHAELS

British arms maker BAE Systems PLC said it was considering restarting production of the M777 howitzer, as the big gun's performance on Ukrainian battlefields revives interest in the weapon.

BAE said several countries had expressed an interest in buying M777s, production of which is currently being wound down. The inquiries come after Ukrainian forces have been using the artillery piece to deadly effect against Russian troops in

recent months.

The company said it was now in talks regarding the restart with the U.S. Army, which runs the weapon's program. The U.S. government must approve any foreign sales. The U.S. Army declined to comment, referring queries on the matter to BAE.

The interest comes as a weekend explosion damaged a bridge connecting Russia to Crimea and further complicated Moscow's war effort in southern Ukraine. Russian forces are struggling to hold off a Ukrainian offensive that

has hit a series of Russian logistics centers and ammunition depots.

In response to the bridge explosion, Russian rockets slammed into the southeastern Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia, killing at least 17 people.

The potential resurrection of the M777 howitzer exemplifies how the war in Ukraine could reshape the global armaments industry. High-profile weaponry including the U.S. M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, or HIMARS, and the Anglo-Swedish NLAW portable antitank missile, which

have proved very effective against Russian forces, are likely to win new orders, analysts said. Meanwhile, the poor performance of many Russian arms is expected to dent their sales on global markets.

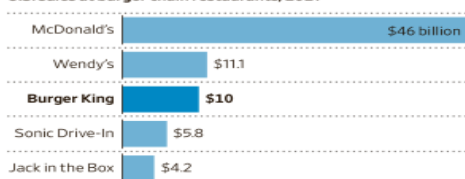
The howitzer, a class of mobile, long-barreled battlefield gun, has long been a cornerstone of modern artillery. However, it has taken on a more prominent role in the war in Ukraine than in other recent conflicts such as the one in Afghanistan or the second war in Iraq.

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Burger King Seeks to Fix Itself

The chain's owner has installed new leadership and revamped everything from restaurant design to burger construction. **B1**

U.S. sales at burger chain restaurants, 2021



Source: Technomic

Dickens Fans Are Hoping for an Elon Musk-Twitter Trial

Litigation is playing out in type of court immortalized in 'Bleak House'

By ELLEN GAMERMAN

What in the Dickens is happening in Twitter, Inc. v. Musk, et al.?

If the parties in one of the country's most closely watched legal dramas fail to reach an agreement, a trial will follow in November—a prospect that is particularly fascinating to a very remote group: fans of Charles Dickens.

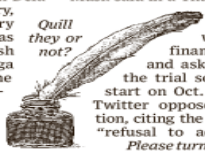
The fight over Elon Musk's disputed deal to buy Twitter has been playing out in Delaware's Court of Chancery, a judicial arm that every Dickens fanatic knows as the villain in the British author's 1853-page saga "Bleak House." In the 1852 novel, an inheritance fight is so prolonged in a slow, expensive and corrupt chancery court that

the only ones who win are the lawyers.

"Keep out of Chancery," Dickens writes. "It's being ground to bits in a slow mill; it's being roasted at a slow fire; it's being stung to death by single bees; it's being drowned by drops; it's going mad by grains."

After months of negotiations and litigation between the world's richest man and the social-media company he sought to buy in April, Mr. Musk said in a Thursday court

filing that he was working to finance a deal and asked to delay the trial scheduled to start on Oct. 17. Though Twitter opposed his motion, citing the defendants' "refusal to accept their



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Iran's Angry Wave of Protests Poses Serious Test for Regime

By SUNE ENGEL RASMUSSEN

Three weeks after antigovernment protests erupted across Iran—sparked by the death of a woman detained for allegedly violating the country's strict Islamic dress code—the movement has proved more durable than previous challenges to Tehran's leaders and could pose a continuing threat.

Students across the country rallied outside universities on Sunday, chanting slogans in-

cluding "death to the dictator," and schoolgirls marched in the streets of Tehran waving their veils in the air, a gesture that has become a central expression of dissent. The governor of Kurdistan province ordered universities to close, likely to avoid more protests. Stores across the country stayed closed as part of a widening strike of shopkeepers.

The demonstrations are unlikely to topple the government, at least in the short term, activists and political

analysts said. But the deep dissatisfaction they represent and the fact that they target a key pillar of the Islamic Republic and its foundational ideology make them a significant test.

Since the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old woman taken into custody by Iran's morality police in September, protesters who initially focused on women's rights have broadened their aims, calling for more freedom in life and

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INSIDE



WORLD NEWS
A town in Thailand mourned victims of a massacre at a day-care center. **A8**



PERSONAL JOURNAL
Gathering for a family dinner is key to kids' health, but it has become harder. **A12**

Paris Cuts Lights To Save Energy

Eiffel Tower and other monuments go dark early for 'energy sobriety.' Will it help?

By NICK KOSTOV

PARIS—The City of Light is going dark.

Luxury shops across the city are turning off their nighttime lights, plunging the Avenue de Montaigne and other areas renowned for evening window shopping into relative darkness. Tourists are showing up to monuments for late-night photos, only to find somber silhouettes. Even the Eiffel Tower, symbol of France's rise as an industrialized nation, is hitting the off switch early.

The measures come in response to French President Emmanuel Macron's call for "energy sobriety." The government has asked municipalities, households and

companies to reduce their energy consumption by 10% over two years to counter Russia's decision to cut the flow of natural gas to Europe.

Others across the continent are making their own adjustments. Italy's government plans to restrict the heating in homes and businesses. The Netherlands is urging residents to shorten their shower times. Finland is encouraging its population to cut the amount of time they spend on digital devices. Monuments in Germany are also going dark.

French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire recently said that he would wear turtle-necks this winter as a way to keep warm and save energy.

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Rethinking farming from the ground up
BIG READ, PAGE 15

Time to slow overvalued, wrecking-ball dollar
RUCHIR SHARMA, PAGE 17

Blow for Putin Kyiv revels in bridge strike

People in Kyiv take selfies in front of an artwork depicting the explosions on Russia's bridge to Crimea this weekend.

The apparent attack on the Kerch Strait crossing has not been officially claimed by Ukraine but officials and citizens gleefully celebrated the latest blow to Russian president Vladimir Putin's struggling invasion.

Built to cement Russia's 2014 annexation of the Crimean peninsula, the smouldering bridge has become a symbol of Russia's struggle to hang on to the Ukrainian territories it invaded this year, as Kyiv's troops advance in the east and south.

In a retaliatory strike yesterday Russian rockets killed at least 20 people in the Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia. Meanwhile, Moscow officials sought to play down damage to the 12-mile bridge, saying it had partially reopened. **Military lifeline damaged** page 2



Vladyslav Mutsaers/Reuters

'Unwise' Opec+ oil production cuts threaten global economy, says Yellen

◆ IMF and World Bank meetings begin ◆ Concerns for poor nations ◆ Reassurance on markets

JAMES POLITI — WASHINGTON

US Treasury secretary Janet Yellen said the move by Opec+ to cut oil production was "unhelpful and unwise" for the global economy, and particularly threatened emerging markets which are already struggling with high energy prices.

The Biden administration has been loudly critical of last week's decision by the oil cartel, backed by Saudi Arabia and Russia in defiance of US pressure to keep down global oil prices.

"Opec's decision is unhelpful and unwise — it's uncertain what impact it will end up having, but certainly, it's something that, to me, did not seem appropriate under the circumstances we face," said Yellen in an interview with

the Financial Times. "We're very worried about developing countries and the problems they face."

Yellen was speaking as global policymakers prepare to gather in Washington this week for the IMF and World Bank's annual meetings, which will be dominated by discussions of how to tackle high inflation and commodity prices, the sharp tightening of monetary policy by central banks and the impact of the war in Ukraine.

'It's something that, to me, did not seem appropriate under the circumstances we face'

"We're going to exchange views on whether our countries are addressing these problems and try to consider whether our collective reaction adds up to something that is sensible, and the best we can do in that difficult environment," Yellen said.

The US and G7 allies are entering the final stretch of talks to set a price cap on Russian oil exports in a bid to deprive Moscow of vital energy revenues while keeping some oil flowing from the country in order to avoid a jump in prices.

"Holding down prices is something that's particularly helpful to developing countries," Yellen said.

But she would not be drawn on what countermeasures the US might deploy in response to the Opec move, after White House officials said they would

launch consultations with Congress about possible reactions. "The president has been focused for a lot of time on exploring all available options to try to bring [oil prices] down," she added.

The US is also hoping to use the meetings to push European countries to deliver economic aid to Ukraine more rapidly, amid growing frustration in Washington that some of its allies are behind in terms of fulfilling their vows to help Kyiv financially.

"A number of countries have pledged significant economic assistance, but simply haven't quite gotten around to dispersing it," Yellen said, noting that the US had delivered \$8.5bn in grants and another \$4.5bn has been approved by Congress.

"We need to see other countries meet

the pledges that they've made," she added.

Yellen is likely to face concern from counterparts around the world about the value of the dollar, which has appreciated strongly against many other currencies in recent months as the Federal Reserve has aggressively increased interest rates. But she said the rise was driven by economic reality. "It's safe haven flows responding to geopolitical tensions and of course different paces of monetary tightening," she said.

Yellen dismissed worries about some of the market turmoil and volatility in recent weeks. "We continue to think that markets are functioning pretty well," she said.

Economic confidence slumps page 4
Rana Foroohar page 17

Briefing

► **MPS eyes funding options**
Monte dei Paschi di Siena is exploring alternative options to a planned €2.5bn capital increase after banks failed to commit to buying shares should investors shun the ailing lender. — PAGE 4

► **EU queries US tax breaks**
The EU says it fears that new US green legislation will discriminate unfairly against electric vehicles produced outside of the US, in a breach of WTO rules. — PAGE 2

► **Beijing on Covid alert**
China is on high alert as Covid-19 cases creep up just days before President Xi Jinping is set to start his third term as leader. — PAGE 4

► **German rail sabotaged**
German police have launched a probe into the act of sabotage that brought rail services across northern Germany to a halt at the weekend. — PAGE 2

► **Hong Kong flight plan**
Cathay Pacific, which has suffered under Hong Kong's pandemic closures, does not expect flights to return to normal levels for two years. — PAGE 9

► **Football scores Saudi win**
Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund has committed more than \$2bn to football sponsorship this year, in a sign of its ambitions in the sport. — PAGE 9

Datawatch

75 years of strikes
Work stoppages per 1,000 US workers



There were 16 major work stoppages in the US in 2021, each involving 1000 workers or more. Service-providing industries — primarily the education and health services sectors — accounted for 76% of idled workers over the year.



Zuckerberg's metaverse venture has a reality check

It has been almost a year since Mark Zuckerberg announced his \$10bn pivot towards virtual reality, declaring: "We're going to be metaverse first, not Facebook first." But the push comes as Meta's market valuation has plummeted from \$11n to less than \$400bn over the past 14 months. Meanwhile, the company is struggling to impress creators who develop social experiences in the metaverse, who say that it is low-quality and full of bugs.

Risky bet — PAGE 8

US Republicans pull more than \$1bn from BlackRock over pro-ESG policies

PATRICK TEMPLE-WEST — NEW YORK

BlackRock has lost more than \$1bn in asset management business in the US from Republican states which are upset with the company's green investing policies.

In an interview with the Financial Times, South Carolina state treasurer Curtis Loftis said he would pull \$200mn from BlackRock by the end of the year. Louisiana treasurer John Schroder said last week he was withdrawing \$794mn from BlackRock. Utah's treasurer Marlo Oaks said he liquidated \$100mn in BlackRock funds, and Arkansas reportedly pulled \$125mn this year.

As the global sustainable investing phenomenon surged — it has increased by \$1tn since 2020 — BlackRock jumped into the action. The company manages five of the top 20 US sustainable funds

by assets, which is more than any other investment manager, according to Morningstar.

Beyond its fund offerings, chief executive Larry Fink has pushed companies to cut their carbon emissions and threatened to drop laggards from actively managed funds — policies that have put a target on BlackRock in Republican states.

Although the withdrawals have become a political problem for BlackRock, they have not so far dented the company's revenues.

Loftis said Fink was "a very smart guy" and that he admired him. But he accused the people pushing sustainable investing of hypocrisy. "So much of it does not help the people it is supposed to help," Loftis said. "That is why I have really gotten my back up."

Loftis said he had previously rejected

BlackRock as a manager for a \$41bn fund his office oversaw because of concerns about its environmental, social and governance (ESG) policies. Instead, he said he picked Federated Hermes to manage the fund.

Pittsburgh-based Federated Hermes also offers ESG funds. But Federated has been a top donor to the State Financial Officers Foundation, an organisation of Republican treasurers including Loftis.

BlackRock declined to comment, but pointed to a letter the company sent in August to state attorneys-general to defend its ESG policies.

The Republicans' race to cut ties with BlackRock had not affected its underlying business, said Gregory Warren, an analyst at Morningstar. The Republicans' ESG backlash was "political posturing" ahead of elections in November, he added.

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World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				GOVERNMENT BONDS			
	Oct 7	Prev	%Chg		Oct 7	Prev	%Chg		Oct 7	Prev	%Chg
S&P 500	3664.15	3744.52	-2.15	\$/€	0.979	0.980	-0.01	US 2 yr	4.30	4.20	0.10
Nasdaq Composite	10728.00	11073.31	-3.02	\$/£	1.113	1.116	-0.28	US 10 yr	3.86	3.81	0.05
Dow Jones Ind	29448.15	29624.94	-1.66	€/£	0.879	0.879	0.00	US 30 yr	3.62	3.77	0.15
FTSE 100	1553.62	1572.27	-1.19	\$/¥	145.140	144.745	0.28	UK 2 yr	4.15	4.08	0.08
Euro Stoxx 50	3378.27	3420.45	-1.61	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	UK 10 yr	4.23	4.16	0.07
FTSE MIB	6991.09	6997.27	-0.09	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	UK 30 yr	4.38	4.30	0.08
FTSE AEX	3814.26	3828.39	-0.32	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	JPY 2 yr	0.07	0.09	0.02
CAC 40	5986.94	5988.42	-0.17	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	JPY 10 yr	0.25	0.24	0.01
Xetra Dax	12272.00	12478.78	-1.58	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	JPY 30 yr	1.36	1.34	0.02
Nikkei	27116.11	27311.30	-0.71	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	GER 2 yr	1.86	1.79	0.08
Hang Seng	17740.06	18012.15	-1.51	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	GER 10 yr	2.19	2.08	0.11
MSCI World	2478.42	2485.08	-0.27	\$/¥	161.562	161.576	-0.01	GER 30 yr	2.14	2.03	0.11
MSCI EM	910.57	909.52	0.12								
MSCI ACWI	576.45	580.85	-0.76								
FT Worldex 2500	4887.39	4934.32	-0.96								
FT Worldex 5000	38173.44	38538.94	-0.94								

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Chopard

THE ARTISAN OF EMOTIONS - SINCE 1860

Costs Soaring As Bullet Train Goes Nowhere

Political Deals Snarled a California Project

By RALPH VARTABEDIAN
LOS ANGELES — Building the nation's first bullet train, which would connect Los Angeles and San Francisco, was always going to be a formidable technical challenge, pushing through the steep mountains and treacherous seismic faults of Southern California with a series of long tunnels and towering viaducts.

But the design for the nation's most ambitious infrastructure project was never based on the easiest or most direct route. Instead, the train's path out of Los Angeles was diverted across a second mountain range to the rapidly growing suburbs of the Mojave Desert — a route whose most salient advantage appeared to be that it ran through the district of a powerful Los Angeles county supervisor.

The dogleg through the desert was only one of several times over the years when the project fell victim to political forces that have added billions of dollars in costs and called into question whether the project can ever be finished.

Now, as the nation embarks on a historic, \$1 trillion infrastructure building spree, the tortured effort to build the country's first high-speed rail system is a case study in how ambitious public works projects can become perilously encumbered by political compromise, unrealistic cost estimates, flawed engineering and a determination to persist on projects that have become, like the crippled financial institutions of 2008, too big to fail.

A review of hundreds of pages of documents, engineering reports, meeting transcripts and interviews with dozens of key political leaders show that the detour through the Mojave Desert was part of a string of decisions that, in hindsight, have seriously impeded the state's ability to deliver on its promise to create a new way of transporting people in an era of climate change.

Political compromises, the records show, produced difficult and costly routes through the state's farm belt. They routed the train across a geologically complex mountain pass in the Bay Area. And they dictated that construction would begin in the center of the state, in the agricultural heartland, not at either of the urban ends where tens of millions of potential riders live.

The pros and cons of these routing choices have been debated for years. Only now, though, is it be-

Continued on Page A15



Andrew Milburn, founder of The Mozart Group, a private military company in Ukraine, with Richie, a rescued mutt turned mascot.

Fear of Reprisal For Bridge Blast Dims Kyiv's Joy

This article is by Megan Specia, Michael Schwartz and Neil MacFarquhar.

KYIV, Ukraine — With some prominent Russians calling for fierce reprisals after an explosion crippled Russia's sole bridge to Crimea, the Kremlin launched a barrage of rockets at Ukrainian civilian areas on Sunday, sending a deadly reminder that for all its battlefield losses, Moscow can still inflict mass misery.

Many had been bracing for a severe Russian response to Saturday's attack on the Kerch Strait Bridge, which analysts described as a significant blow to Moscow, if more symbolic than practical. The blast damaged a span that holds personal importance for President Vladimir V. Putin and is crucial for resupplying Russian forces as they defend against an intensifying Ukrainian counteroffensive along the southern front.

Though Russian officials made a show of reopening the bridge to some automobile and train traffic, the extent of the damage, as well as the timeline for Moscow to resume the transportation of much-needed military equipment and ammunition, remains unclear.

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American Finds in Ukraine the War He Sought

By JEFFREY GETTMAN
SOLEDAR, Ukraine — "Please, come with me."

He was begging. He didn't have much time. The Russians were blasting this town in eastern Ukraine with rockets, airstrikes and thundering artillery. The ground shook.

Andrew Milburn, a retired Marine colonel, could have been hanging out at home, 6,000 miles away in the Florida suburbs, enjoying retirement. Instead he was standing in Soledar, a town under fierce assault, black smoke filling his nostrils, staring at a Ukrainian woman he had never met, pleading with her to evacuate.

"Please," he tried again. "You will die here."

The woman had long gray

A Morally Clear Effort After Tours in Iraq and Afghanistan

braids and a face etched by countless sorrows. When she refused to leave, Mr. Milburn nearly exploded with frustration.

"The next people you're going to see here are going to be Russians," he said.

"Come on!" he yelled to the other men with him.

The three piled into a car, slammed their doors and sped away in a cloud of dust, off to find others willing to be saved.

For Mr. Milburn, the road to Soledar began in Somalia. For

more than 30 years, he served in some of America's biggest foreign policy blunders, sent to fight in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan that he didn't particularly believe in, with partners he didn't trust, in causes that were ultimately losers and from the position of a reviled occupier. With his short gray hair, stocky build and clean shave, Mr. Milburn, 59, still carries himself like a soldier. And just as the conflict in Ukraine has become part of America's journey, it's become part of his personal journey as well.

After showing up in Poland last winter as a freelance journalist, he has built one of the biggest private military companies in Ukraine, The Mozart Group, and as the war has expanded in the past few

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From Working the Dairy Farm To Owning the Best-Seller List

By ALEXANDRA ALTER

Colleen Hoover has sold more books this year than Dr. Seuss. She's sold more books than James Patterson and John Grisham — combined.

To say she's currently the best-selling novelist in the United States, to even compare her to



The author Colleen Hoover.

other successful authors who have landed several books on the best-seller lists, fails to capture the size and loyalty of her audience.

She holds six of the top 10 spots on The New York Times paperback fiction best-seller list, a stunning number of simultaneous best sellers from a single author. She has sold 8.6 million print books this year alone — more copies than the Bible, according to NPD BookScan.

And her success — a shock that she's still processing, she said — has upended the publishing industry's most entrenched assumptions about what sells books.

When she self-published her first young adult novel, "Slammed," in January 2012, Ms. Hoover was making \$9 an hour as

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Nourishing Life, and Threatening It

South Asia's monsoon is growing more violent and erratic because of climate change. Pages A10-12.

In Georgia's Senate Race, Evangelicals Find a Way With Walker

By ELIZABETH DIAS

The time had come for the Christian supporters of Herschel Walker to make a way where there seemed to be no way.

It was the morning after the Republican senate candidate's ex-girlfriend came forward to say he had paid for her to have an abortion, though he supports banning the procedure without exception. Dozens of people gathered in a fluorescent hall of First Baptist

Atlanta, a prominent Southern Baptist church. Pastor Anthony George sat on a platform, with Mr. Walker at his right hand.

The pastor recalled God's protection of King David, the ancient Israelite king, and claimed similar promise for Mr. Walker. The candidate shared a testimony of how Jesus changed his life. The pastor invited people to the front to pray for him.

They surrounded him and extended their hands toward the for-

Supporting Him Despite Abortion Allegations

mer football star.

"This is the fight of his life, holy God," the pastor prayed. "And we call forth your ministering angels to be his defenders." The people clapped and gave shouts of amen.

The scene, a private event revealed in videos shared on social

media, reflected the evangelical language of sin and salvation, persecution and deliverance. It was a ritual of sanctification, the washing away of sin and declaration of a higher call.

The Senate race in Georgia has become an explicit matchup of two increasingly divergent versions of American Christianity. Mr. Walker reflects the way conservative Christianity continues to be defined by its fusion with

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INTERNATIONAL A4-12

Thailand's Tragic Loophole

Acquiring firearms is legally tough for most people but too easy for others, a recipe for trouble. A horrific attack may prompt calls for change. PAGE A4

Jerusalem on Edge

Surging violence claimed the lives of four Palestinians and an Israeli soldier over the weekend, raising tensions on the eve of a Jewish holiday. PAGE A6

Rwanda Open to Migrants

The small African nation has positioned itself as an altruistic partner of wealthier countries seeking to curb migration. But experts say it is no refuge. PAGE A7

NATIONAL A13-19

Sheriffs Question Gun Law

Some in upstate New York have no intention of aggressively enforcing new state regulations. PAGE A18

Black History, Now Ashes

A California community endured despite segregation and economic hardship. Then came the Mill fire. PAGE A13



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Reusable Bags Save a Producer

India's deep-rooted jute industry has struggled for decades as less expensive synthetic substitutes have flooded the market. Now its bags are a sought-after biodegradable alternative. PAGE B1

Struggles Inside the Metaverse

After a bumpy year, employees at Meta expressed skepticism, confusion and frustration over Mark Zuckerberg's push to develop technology involving virtual and augmented reality. PAGE B1

OPINION A20-21

Azadeh Moaveni

PAGE A20

SPORTS D1-10

Embracing a Grueling Test

More college students entered the Ironman triathlon, once thought to be "an old retired dad's game." PAGES D4-5

Mets Run Out of Magic

Stuck in the wild-card round despite 101 wins, the Mets had no answers for the Padres, who ended their season. PAGE D8



ARTS C1-6

The Lomans Are Still Like Us

In the latest revival of Arthur Miller's drama, led by a Black cast, the story of an American dream unfulfilled remains mostly the same, but its words feel newly relevant. PAGE C1

Welcome Back, Geffen Hall

On Saturday, city officials, concertgoers and our critics took in the revamped concert space with its improved acoustics and expanded amenities. PAGE C1





DEAD CHINOOK SALMON are counted by researchers conducting a survey of the Sacramento River. ALLEN J. SCHAREN Los Angeles Times

In state's water allocations, environment pays the price

Farmers and cities cut usage, yet wetlands and wildlife suffer

By HAYLEY SMITH

As California fast approaches what is likely to be a fourth year of punishing drought, residents are being asked to cut water use to historic lows. But while city dwellers are rising to the occasion — including record reductions in Los Angeles in August — urban consumption represents only a small fraction of total water use in the state.

Where the rest of it goes depends on whom you ask. The California Department of Water Resources says 50% of the state's water goes for



WATER is pumped from a well to an irrigation canal on a farm in Yolo County in Northern California. DAVID PAUL MORRIS Bloomberg

environmental purposes, 40% for agriculture and 10% to urban areas.

But experts say that calculation tells only part of the story, because the environment's share tends to shrink dramatically during dry years. Instead, a clearer picture begins to emerge when one considers water designated for domestic and business use: Of that, 80% goes toward agriculture and 20% to urban areas.

While agriculture's share may seem outsize to urban residents being asked to let their lawns go brown, experts say the sector is deal-

[See Water, A12]

AMERICA UNSETTLED

Voters not apathetic, but anxious

Many 18- to 29-year-olds fear they are ill-prepared for weighty choices

By PRISCILLA VEGA

VISALIA, Calif. — At 18, Luis Avila decided not to cast a ballot in the 2020 presidential election.

It wasn't because he thought it was unimportant. Instead, the thought of voting for the first time left him overwhelmed.

"I don't know how to do

this," Avila recalled telling his older brother. "Like, it's a huge step. I don't want to make the wrong decision."

Young voters like Avila are often misperceived as too apathetic or too self-absorbed to care about elections. But rather than being dismissive of politics, some of the country's least experienced voters say they feel unprepared to make such

weighty choices.

"If I can't even get to school on time, or I can't make my bed in the morning ... then why should I be able to go make a big decision at a voter's booth?" said MacIntyre Garbani, who cast his first vote in 2016 only under pressure from his parents. He was uncomfortable with the thought that his choice could affect others, he said,

gesturing toward classmates at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia.

This sense of paralysis is a key, but underappreciated, dynamic among this crucial voting bloc of 18- to 29-year-olds, whom politicians tend to court with cringeworthy social media stunts.

It's a sentiment pollsters pick up time and again. [See Voters, A7]

Racist remarks in leaked audio of politicians spark outrage

L.A. City Council President Martinez apologizes. De León and a labor leader also express regret.

By DAVID ZAHNISER, JULIA WICK, BENJAMIN ORESKES, DAKOTA SMITH AND GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Behind closed doors, Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez made openly racist remarks, decided some of her council colleagues and spoke in unusually crass terms about how the city should be carved up politically.

The conversation remained private for nearly a year, until a leaked recording reverberated explosively Sunday and turned the focus of a sprawling metropolis toward Los Angeles City Hall.

By Sunday evening, three of Martinez's council colleagues had called for her to resign. The leak had quickly become a new and incendiary issue in the Nov. 8 election, with candidates —

some of them endorsed by Martinez — having to stake out positions.

Martinez and the other Latino leaders present during the taped conversation were seemingly unaware they were being recorded as Martinez said a white councilmember handled his young Black son as though he were an "accessory" and described Councilman Mike Bonin's son as "Parece changuito," or "like a monkey."

During the conversation with Councilmembers Gil Cedillo and Kevin de León and Los Angeles County Federation of Labor President [See Council, A8]

Martinez faces calls to step down

The L.A. City Council president's political future is in doubt. As

Latinos as their own worst enemy

A rebuke from Gustavo Arellano. CALIFORNIA, B1

Black Angelenos' fears are realized

Erika D. Smith on the scandal. CALIFORNIA, B1

Weinstein to face accusers in L.A.

Disgraced producer and convicted rapist returns for trial over allegations he sexually assaulted 5 women.

By JAMES QUEALLY

When Harvey Weinstein surrendered in 2018 to face charges of rape and sexual assault, he stood defiant, marching into a downtown Manhattan police precinct carrying a biography of a famed Hollywood figure who had become a pariah in the film industry.

The years since have left Weinstein, 70, a disgraced, debilitated shell of the pugnacious movie titan he once was. Now a convicted rapist, he is serving a 23-year sentence in a New York prison and had to settle a multi-

million-dollar civil suit filed by dozens of his accusers.

The production company that bore Weinstein's name has ceased to exist and his body is failing. He spends most of his time in a wheelchair, and his attorneys have previously described him as "technically blind" and recently said his teeth are rotting.

It is this version of Weinstein who will occupy a courtroom in Los Angeles — the city from which he derived so much of his power — this month for the start of a trial that could put him behind bars for the rest of his life.

Weinstein faces 11 counts of sexual assault stemming from allegations by five women that he abused them in high-end Westside hotels between 2004 and 2013. If convicted, he faces a sentence of up to 15 years to life. [See Weinstein, A7]

Medellin: From homicide capital to tourist draw

The legacy of drug lord Pablo Escobar brings admirers to the Colombian city, now a boomtown.

By PATRICK J. McDONNELL

MEDELLIN, Colombia — Three decades ago, this bustling metropolis was the world's most dangerous city, an epicenter of assassinations, massacres and car bombs linked to the eponymous hometown cartel and its notorious boss, Pablo Escobar.

Even after Escobar's shooting death here on a rooftop in 1993, the culmination of a massive manhunt by Colombian authorities aided by U.S. drug agents, levels of violence akin to open warfare continued to batter neighborhoods such



A MURAL of the late billionaire drug kingpin is one of the stops for visitors in a neighborhood named for him, Barrio Pablo Escobar, in Medellin, Colombia. JORGE CALLE Anadolu Agency

as Comuna 13, where guerrilla bands fought it out with soldiers, paramilitary gunmen and police.

Today, Medellin, home to 2.5 million, is benefiting from a stunning turnaround, drawing record numbers of tourists from the United States and elsewhere. Once atop the global homicide list — the city saw almost 19 slayings daily in 1991, in the heyday of the now-defunct Medellin cartel — the rate of killings has since dropped well below that of many Latin American and U.S. cities.

These days, the city's turbulent past, especially the legacy of Escobar, has emerged as a major tourism draw. A profound international fascination focuses on Medellin's dark side. Articles, books and dramatizations about Colombia's cocaine cartels, notably "Narcos," the popular 2015-16 Netflix series, have amplified the allure of so-called [See Medellin, A4]

Barrage kills 13 in Ukraine

The Russian strikes pound apartment buildings and other targets in Zaporizhzhia. WORLD, A3

Woes may linger in cyberattack

L.A. Unified leaders say hack was largely unsuccessful, but some experts still have concerns. CALIFORNIA, B1

A win and a loss for L.A. teams

The Chargers eke out a 30-28 victory in Cleveland, while the Rams stumble against Dallas 22-10. SPORTS, D1

Weather

Partly sunny. L.A. Basin: 79/63. B6

Printed with soy inks on partially recycled paper.



BUSINESS INSIDE: Scams are increasing on Zelle. Learn how to avoid falling for them. A9

The Washington Post

Papers may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington



Mostly sunny 69/49 • Tomorrow: Mostly sunny 71/52 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

50 11 12 13 14

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2022 • B3

Putin blames Ukraine for attack on key link to Crimea

Kyiv touts bridge blast that sent shock waves to Kremlin as evidence it can prevail

BY MISSY RYAN
AND NATALIA ABBAKUMOVA

KYIV, UKRAINE — President Vladimir Putin accused Ukraine on Sunday of orchestrating the attack on a key Russian link with occupied Crimea, injecting new, heightened stakes into a calamitous episode that Ukrainian leaders touted as proof of their ability to prevail in the war with Russia.

Russian investigators claimed to have swiftly identified suspects in the fireball Saturday that sent concrete spans of the Crimean Bridge, a \$4 billion project symbolizing Russia's ambitions to control Ukraine, buckling into the waters of the Kerch Strait. A day after the incident, which Russia's top law enforcement body deemed a terrorist attack, Putin announced that Ukraine's special services were responsible.

"There is no doubt that the attack was aimed at destroying critical civilian infrastructure of the Russian Federation," Putin said in a video released by the Kremlin. The 12-mile long span, while used by civilians, is also a crucial military logistics route for Russia's armed forces, the only direct road and rail route from mainland Russia to Crimea.

The incident sent shock waves across the region, puncturing Kremlin assurances about the bridge's invincibility and compounding the challenges Russia faces in holding back a Ukrainian counteroffensive that has recovered occupied areas in the country's south and east.

While Russian officials said limited road and rail traffic would continue, substantial damage to the bridge posed a logistics challenge for Moscow's military offensive. Putin personally inaugurated the bridge in 2018, in a step designed to solidify Russia's grip on the peninsula, which it illegally annexed in 2014.

Though the Ukrainian government did not publicly claim responsibility for the incident, officials in Kyiv sought to employ the blast as evidence of its capacity to achieve a battlefield victory against Russia's larger, better-armed military, a prospect dismissed by many Western officials only a few months ago.

A Ukrainian official told The Washington Post on Saturday that Ukraine's special services were behind the explosion, which Russian authorities said took place

SEE UKRAINE ON A16

The corpse collector

A Ukrainian captain recovers Russian bodies to send home as a warning. A13



WLODZIECH GRZEDZINSKI FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Alla and her husband were detained in July in Izyum, Ukraine, by Russian forces seeking information about their son, who works for the nation's internal security service, and their work at a gas company.

Ten barbaric days in Russian hands

Ukrainian woman held by enemy troops recounts torture and rape in Izyum

BY SIOBHAN O'GRADY, ANASTACIA GALOUCHKA AND WHITNEY SHEPTE

IZYUM, UKRAINE — Soon after Russian forces took her prisoner, the 52-year-old woman picked up a nail and carved her name into a brick wall.

A-L-L-A, she wrote.

Below, she scratched how many days she had been held in the shed outside a medical clinic in her hometown. Above, she wrote in simple words what she had endured in captivity: ELECTRICAL SHOCK.

UNDRESS. PAINFUL.

She hoped the markings would one day serve as clues for her son about what she expected to be the final days of her life.

"I thought if my son would look for me, he could find these writings and understand that I was there and died there," she later recalled.

SEE IZYUM ON A14

Vigilante 'predator catchers' are infiltrating the justice system

BY JESSICA CONTRERA

DANVILLE, IND. — The jury was waiting. They'd cringed when they learned what kind of case they'd hear in this Indiana courthouse. *Child solicitation*.

But don't worry, the county prosecutors assured them. There would be no graphic pictures. There would be no testimony from an abused child.

Because in this case, there was no child.

The man charged with the crime — a 37-year-old veteran named Joshua Clark — didn't know the 14-year-old girl he thought he was texting with was actually an adult, prosecutors said.

Law enforcement had been using this tactic for years, investing millions to

train detectives on how to go online, pretend to be teenagers and wait for predators to emerge. Clark knew they conducted sting operations like these; after serving in the Army and working in a prison, he'd been hired as a police officer himself. That was, until he was arrested and fired.

Now on this July morning, the jury was going to meet the person responsible for catching this cop.

The prosecutor stood up. "The state calls Eric Schmutte," she said.

The courtroom doors opened. But no detective walked in.

Instead, there was a man in a polo shirt. His dreadlocks were tucked into a ponytail. After raising his right hand and

SEE VIGILANTES ON A10



ANNA POWELL GENTON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Eric Schmutte and Shanda Nolley of Predator Catchers Indianapolis conduct a Facebook Live chat after the trial of Joshua Clark, seen in the cellphone image.

IN THE NEWS



KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Skid continues A Carson Wentz interception at the goal line in the final seconds saddles the Commanders with a fourth straight defeat. D1

THE NATION

High-interest loans can leave pet buyers on the hook for tens of thousands of dollars. Some states are cracking down. A4

The cotton boll weevil has been eradicated everywhere in the United States — except a "final frontier" in Texas. A7

THE WORLD

Hurricane Julia hit Nicaragua's coast and dumped torrential rains across Central America

before an expected reemergence over the Pacific. A16

THE ECONOMY Help Desk offers advice on how to clean up and optimize an older relative's cellphone. A17

THE REGION As the midterms near, analysts in D.C. are browsing the dark corners of the internet, looking for threats of election-related violence. B1

MONDAY

Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day are observed.

Jury selection begins in the second trial for former film producer Harvey Weinstein in Los Angeles.

TUESDAY

Jury selection begins in the trial of Igor Danchenko, the Russian analyst indicted last year as part of a special counsel investigation.

WEDNESDAY

President Biden travels to Colorado to designate

Camp Hale as a national monument. He is also expected to visit California and Oregon this week.

The Washington Capitals host the Boston Bruins in their season opener.

THURSDAY

Jobless claims are estimated at 225,000.

The House Committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol holds a hearing.

FRIDAY

The Supreme Court meets for a conference.

INSIDE



STYLE

Taking the pulse

Long before social networks, the Q Score measured clout and shaped the culture. C1

An explosive elegy A cracking, revival of "Death of a Salesman" hits Broadway. C1

BUSINESS NEWS.....A17
COMICS.....C6
OPINION PAGES.....A18
LOTTERIES.....A19
OBITUARIES.....B5
TELEVISION.....C2
WORLD NEWS.....A12

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Homebuyers calling shots in reversal as market slows

They are asking for closing costs or repairs, or they'll walk away from contracts. **In Money**

Columns to explore future of conservative movement

This is the first in a series diving into what's ahead for the Republican Party. **In Opinion**

Big buyouts for college football coaches

Even if they're fired for poor performance on field, they're guaranteed more money than ever. **In Sports**

USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2022



GEORGIA COACH KIRBY SMART
BY JEFF BLAKE/USA TODAY SPORTS



Sixteen states and the District of Columbia have outlawed payday lending. ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

High-cost consumer loans stir new fears

'Rent-a-bank' offers can include triple-digit rates

Craig Harris
and Amritpal Kaur Sandhu-Longoria
USA TODAY

Rhiannon Stanger, a single, 31-year-old mom with three daughters, wanted a Chihuahua for her family and found one in a pet store while traveling to Miami.

The price was steep: \$2,700.

Stanger knew she couldn't afford the puppy despite the pleas from her girls. She made \$30,000 a year as a veterinary technician in Pompano Beach, Florida, and was a full-time online college student.

But a store employee told her about an easy installment loan option that would cost her \$158 every two weeks. The offer seemed reasonable, and Stanger said she signed a loan application on a mobile tablet and was approved immediately — even though her income put her just a few thousand dollars above the poverty line.

"They made it really easy for me to get the loan," Stanger said.

See **LOANS**, Page 2A



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ELECTIONS

Poll workers fearful as vengeful threats persist

As midterms near, voting has become a security challenge



Zach Cox, an Ohio elections worker, preps voting booths in Hamilton County. ALBERT CESARE/USA TODAY NETWORK

Kevin Johnson and David Jackson
USA TODAY

PHILADELPHIA — Lisa Deeley was just looking for some fresh air when the local election chief, in the midst of certifying the local 2020 vote, stepped outside the downtown convention center for a simple walk that would turn her life upside down.

Unknowingly, Deeley's path took her headlong into the viewfinder of a camera-wielding Donald Trump supporter who unleashed a torrent of insults, falsely accusing the city commissioner of election fraud and demanding unauthorized access to the vote count.

The video, posted to social media, immediately went viral, prompting a



People outside a ballot-counting area bang on a window and chant "let us in and stop the count" on Nov. 4, 2020, at the TCF Center in Detroit.

ERIC SEALS/USA TODAY NETWORK

wave of threats requiring the appointment of a plainclothes security detail that for weeks accompanied the commissioner everywhere she went — from the restroom to her local Wawa convenience store. The threats got so bad she relocated her mother to a New Jersey beach town to remove her from the line of fire.

"Everybody who's had this position before me has worked in relative anonymity," Deeley said. "Nobody paid any attention to this position before — until 2020."

Deeley's story is not unfamiliar to legions of election workers who are now bracing for the fast-approaching midterms and increasing security concerns

See **ELECTIONS**, Page 4A

WAR IN UKRAINE

Russia retaliates for bridge blast

John Bacon
USA TODAY

Russia launched multiple missile attacks into the Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia overnight, killing at least 13 people and wounding dozens in an apparent reprisal for a truck bomb that damaged a Crimean bridge, authorities said Sunday.

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday blamed Ukraine's special services for the bridge explosion, and he ordered the chairman of his investigative committee, Alexander Bastrykin, to open a criminal case. Bastrykin said some suspects already have been identified.

"There is no doubt this is a terrorist attack aimed at destroying Russia's critically important civilian infrastructure," Putin said. Ukraine officials have hinted involvement in the blast but have not claimed responsibility.

The missile strikes caused one high-rise apartment building to partially collapse and blew out windows



in adjacent buildings. The attacks came hours after the explosion Saturday caused partial collapse of the bridge, an important supply artery for the Kremlin's war effort.

Initially, the city council said 17 had died. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called the attack on civilians "absolute

evil" and the Russians "savages and terrorists."

Russian authorities had warned of reprisals after the attack on the 12-mile, \$3.6 billion Kerch Bridge, a symbol of Moscow's seizure of Crimea eight years ago. The bridge reopened to rail and limited vehicle traffic Sunday.

Biden remark criticized

Pompeo calls comment on nuclear threat "reckless." 6A

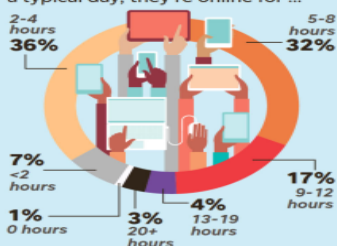
Damage in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine.

MARYNA MOISEYENKO/
AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

USA TODAY SNAPSHOTS

Extremely online

Americans ages 16-40 say in a typical day, they're online for ...



SOURCE: AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research
AMY BARNETTE, BILL CAMPLING/USA TODAY

DAILY DISCOUNTS & SAVINGS ...

Dining Deals
USA

PAGE 2A

deportes

Boca mira de arriba

No brilla ni le sobra nada, pero es el puntero

Después de los serios incidentes en La Plata, el equipo de Ibarra venció 2-1 a Aldosivi, en la Ribera



Dybala, en peligro

Mourinho advirtió que ya no jugará hasta 2023

¿Fuera del Mundial? "La lesión parece muy grave", adelantó el DT de Roma sobre la Joya, que salió con mucho dolor tras convertir un penal. **Página 8**

Verstappen, en el cielo

MadMax no tiene freno: bicampeón de la F.1

El neerlandés, con Red Bull, ganó en Suzuka, Japón, y por segundo año consecutivo se coronó en la máxima categoría del automovilismo. **Página 4**

LA NACION

LUNES 10 DE OCTUBRE DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

Feroz puja interna en el Gobierno para reemplazar a los ministros que se van

GABINETE. Tolosa Paz apunta a encabezar Desarrollo Social; presión sindical por Trabajo

Una feroz puja interna se extendió ayer entre los diferentes sectores del Gobierno en la pelea por definir los reemplazos de los tres ministros que renunciarán: Claudio Moroni, en Trabajo; Juan "Juanchi" Zabaleta, en Desarrollo Social; y Elizabeth Gómez Alcorta, en Mujeres y Géneros. La diputada Victoria Tolosa Paz

apareció anoche como la elegida para asumir en Desarrollo Social, pese a la resistencia de sectores piqueteros. En Trabajo, el kirchnerismo promovía a sus propios candidatos y pulseaba contra los deseos del presidente Alberto Fernández, quien intentaba preservar su influencia en el ministerio. El futuro ministro

deberá contener el aumento de los conflictos sindicales, en un contexto de aceleración de la inflación.

Para reemplazar a Gómez Alcorta, quien pegó un portazo por el desalojo de las tierras ocupadas por los mapuches, aparece la exsenadora María Cristina Perceval. Los tres nombres se conocerán hoy. **Página 10**

Caen las previsiones y las paritarias superan el 100%

Nicolás Balinotti. **Página 11**

Sillas vacías que suman presión a la inflación

Diego Cabot. **Página 14**

EL ESCENARIO

Nueva crisis oficialista: el ocaso de la pax massista

Claudio Jacquelin

—LA NACION—

Las inconsistencias que anidan en el oficialismo vuelven a emerger y obligan a revisar el armisticio que implicó la llegada de Sergio Massa a Economía. La pax massista camina hacia el ocaso. Los ciclos duran cada vez menos. **Continúa en la página 13**

El cambio, la fórmula del éxito de arteba



Escultura de Mariana Telleria en Ruth Benzacar, una de las galerías que más obras repusieron

cultura — En nueva sede y con propuestas dinámicas, que se renovaron cada día gracias a las buenas ventas, la edición de la feria que cerró ayer en el Centro Costa Salguero demostró que la creatividad es la mejor herramienta para superar las crisis. Más de 65.000 personas la visitaron en un fin de semana largo regional; entre ellas, coleccionistas de las provincias y de otros países, y curadores de prestigiosos museos internacionales. **Página 25**

Kicillof respaldó a Berni y culpó a la policía

LA PLATA. Afirmó que la bonaerense "actuó de la peor manera"

"Trabaja con muchísima dedicación". Con esa frase, el gobernador Axel Kicillof respaldó ayer a Sergio Berni como ministro de Seguridad de la provincia después de los graves incidentes con la policía bonaerense el jueves pasado en el partido de Boca y Gimnasia. En sus primeras declaraciones sobre la violencia, dijo que la fuerza de seguridad "actuó de la peor manera" y dijo que no dudará en actuar cuando se termine la investigación. **Página 15**

De Irán a Rusia, las mujeres ganan espacio en la disidencia

REPRESIÓN. En países autoritarios, son protagonistas de la lucha por más libertades. **Página 2**

Hijos y nietos de Los Monos se rebelan y desafían a los líderes históricos del clan

ROSARIO. La "nueva generación" narco está encabezada por Uriel Cantero

El recrudescimiento de los homicidios en las zonas sur y oeste de Rosario deja expuesta la marca de la "nueva generación" del crimen en esa ciudad. Son los hijos menores

los nietos del Viejo Cantero, fundador de la Banda Los Monos. Con la mayoría de los jefes del clan presos desde hace tiempo, las células que seguían órdenes dictadas desde la

cárcel comenzaron a emanciparse y a poner su sangrienta impronta: uno de los nuevos líderes es Uriel Luciano, hijo del Pájaro y nieto del Viejo Cantero. **Página 26**

Alimentación. Equilibrio y variedad, claves para la salud

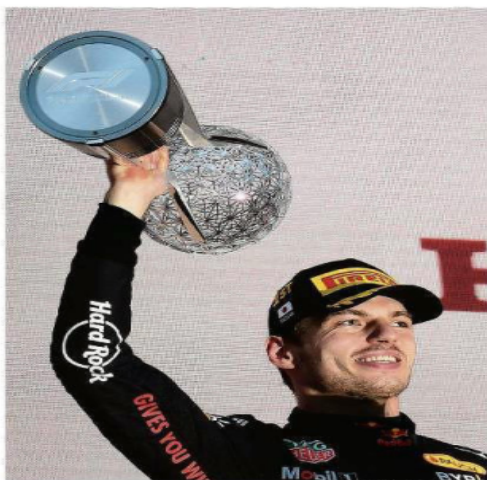
Frente a las modas y las elecciones individuales, los expertos advierten sobre el riesgo de eliminar elementos. **Página 22**

Presidente diz que avaliará 'temperatura' do Supremo

O presidente Jair Bolsonaro (PL) afirmou que deve avaliar a proposta de aumentar o número de ministros do Supremo Tribunal Federal só após a eleição e que a decisão dependerá da atuação da corte. "Se eu for reeleito e o Supremo baixar um pouco a temperatura", disse em entrevista, a ideia pode ser descartada. **Política A6**

Juro alto e investimento geram endividamento

Juros elevados, pandemia e guerra têm se refletido no nível de endividamento das empresas com ações na Bolsa. Planos de investimento contribuem para dívidas. **Folhainvest A21**



VERSTAPPEN É BICAMPEÃO DA F1

Com quatro provas de antecedência, piloto holandês comemora o título mundial após vitória no GP do Japão **Esporte B5**

Cartel do asfalto burlou licitações sob Bolsonaro, diz TCU

Empreiteira Engenfort foi maior beneficiária em operações de R\$ 1 bi da Codevasf; empresas negam irregularidades

Auditoria do TCU (Tribunal de Contas da União) revela indícios de fraudes, cometidas por um cartel de empresas de pavimentação, em licitações da estatal Codevasf que somaram mais de R\$ 1 bilhão no governo do presidente Jair Bolsonaro (PL). Motivada por reportagem da Folha, a investigadora Engenfort como maior beneficiária do suposto esquema.

A empreiteira maranhense dominou as licitações da Codevasf em 2021, usando em parte delas a empresa de fachada Del, o que foi confirmado por técnicos do TCU. O tribunal diz ter encontrado evidências de que as ações do cartel envolveram propostas falsas e rodízio entre as participantes. Houve redução da concorrência e do desconto médio nos certames entre 2019 e 2021.

As situações mais graves foram detectadas no ano passado. Nas 50 licitações que venceu no período, a Engenfort deu em média desconto de apenas 1%, o que foge do padrão de mercados em que há competitividade. Procurada, a Codevasf declarou que os procedimentos licitatórios foram realizados dentro da lei. A Engenfort negou que tenha liderado um cartel. **Política A4**

nem um centímetro demarcado



Laio de Almeida/Folhapress

INDÍGENAS DO SOLIMÕES FAZEM AUTODEMARCAÇÃO E CRIAM GUARDAS FLORESTAIS

Contra a ação de criminosos, membro da guarda mostra inscrição em árvore na região de Porto Praia, próximo a Tefé (AM): Proibida a entrada de pessoas não autorizadas **Política A12 e A13**

EDITORIAIS A2

Disputa renhida
Sobre a corrida presidencial, segundo o Datafolha.

Luta em comum
Acerca de premiados com o Nobel da Paz neste ano.

ATMOSFERA

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9 771414 572025 3 4 1 5 8

munDO A15

Teste após pandemia

Com tarifa zero, Alexandria, nos EUA, recupera usuários do transporte público

ilustrada C1

'Travessia' fala de fake news e usa Jade Picon para atrair público jovem

cotidiano B1

Memória paulistana

Moradores do tradicional Bexiga reagem a avanço do setor imobiliário

saúde B3

Frio fora de época e relaxamento de medidas trazem alta de gripe e Covid

ENTREVISTA DA 2ª

Salesio Nuhs

Brasil tem melhor controle de venda de arma do mundo

Para o presidente da Taurus, Salesio Nuhs, o Brasil continua com o maior e o melhor sistema de controle de venda de armas do mundo. "Todas as nossas armas são rastreadas."

O executivo não vê flexibilização na gestão Bolsonaro, com aumento de 473% no número de pessoas com licenças. A exigência e a burocracia, diz ele, continuam as mesmas. **A16**

Planalto turbinou emprego da máquina para reeleição Mercado A17

PAINEL

PT e aliados terão bancada similar à eleita em 2002

Os partidos da coligação de Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT) repetiram de forma praticamente idêntica o desempenho que tiveram na Câmara dos Deputados na comparação com 2002, quando o petista foi eleito pela primeira vez. **A4**

TSE tira menção a canibalismo de programa de Lula

O Tribunal Superior Eleitoral decidiu, em caráter liminar (provisório), que a campanha do ex-presidente Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT) não pode mais veicular inserções e propagandas na televisão associando o presidente Jair Bolsonaro (PL) a práticas canibalistas. **Política A7**

Déficit podría obligar al futuro gobierno a tener que pedir suba de impuestos

PE y gremios buscarán frenar los descontrolados aumentos

Hoy es la cumbre para analizar las desproporcionadas ampliaciones presupuestarias aprobadas por el Legislativo para este año y que pasarán a ser parte de los gastos rígidos.

PÁGINA 2

Polémico reclamo de compensación UIP insta a aceptar el veto a privilegio para ex obreros de Itaipú

PÁGINA 9

Documentos con firmas dudosas Se confirman malos manejos durante gestión de Godoy en Defensoría

PÁGINA 6

CON ESTA EDICIÓN	COMPRA OPCIONAL 1	COMPRA OPCIONAL 2
FASCÍCULO DECORACIÓN Y SOUTENIRS N° 6	COLECCIÓN VASOS DE CERVEZA N° 10	ESPECIAL EL VINO ROVERO:
		
	G. 35.000	G. 40.000
		<small>Cada libro</small>

Por mes, 28 menores son víctimas de accidentes viales



Irresponsabilidad. La ley que prohíbe que menores de 12 años estén como acompañantes de motociclistas no es respetada y los que sufren son los niños.

PÁGINA 15

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ETIOS MÁS POR DESCUBRIR

CUOTA DESDE 145 USD

2 AÑOS DE GARANTÍA

VERSÁTILIDAD Y ECONOMÍA



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



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**FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NON**

**Réponses à la question
de samedi :**
Pénuries de carburant :
faut-il réquisitionner
le personnel en grève
des raffineries ?

NON 21% OUI 79%
TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 210 256

**Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr**
L'actuelle pénurie
de carburant
vous inquiète-t-elle ?

FABIEN CLAIREFOND-ISSEI KATO/
REUTERS

Pour Macron, un budget sous haute tension

À partir de lundi, les députés examinent le projet de loi de finances, qui devrait faire l'objet d'âpres affrontements. Le gouvernement n'exclut pas le recours au 49-3 en cas de blocage.

L'examen du budget 2023 débute lundi à l'Assemblée nationale. Faute de majorité, le gouvernement s'appuie à user de l'article 49-3 de la Constitution

pour faire adopter la loi de finances sans vote. Dans un contexte économique dégradé, aggravé par les inquiétudes sur la hausse du coût des énergies, les op-

positions, de gauche à droite, critiquent les orientations du gouvernement et excluent de soutenir le projet de loi.

Avec plus de 3 300 amen-

dements déposés, la bataille parlementaire s'annonce rude. Et si le camp présidentiel redoute une motion de rejet, il espère déminer les points sensi-

bles de la discussion en avançant une série de propositions, notamment à l'intention des collectivités territoriales soutenues par la droite.

→ UNE MOTION DE REJET QUI INQUIÈTE LE CAMP MACRON → LES AMENDEMENTS TACTIQUES DE LA MAJORITÉ POUR DÉMINER LE DÉBAT → DETTE, RETRAITES... PHILIPPE TENTE D'OCCUPER LE CRÉNEAU RÉFORMATEUR → LES CALCULS PRÉSIDENTIELS DU PRÉSIDENT D'HORIZONS → LA MUE DIFFICILE D'ATTAL À BERCY **PAGES 2, 4, 5 ET L'ÉDITORIAL**

Explosion du pont de Crimée : l'affront fait à Poutine



Cette attaque spectaculaire, lancée au lendemain de son 70^e anniversaire, fragilise le président russe. Il doit réunir ce lundi son Conseil de sécurité, alors que son armée est malmenée, de la base au sommet, par les offensives ukrainiennes. **PAGE 8**

Carburant : la pénurie continue dans les stations-service

Malgré la proposition du groupe TotalEnergies d'avancer les négociations sur les revalorisations salariales avec les syndicats, les blocages se poursuivent dans les raffineries et dépôts de carburant. Dimanche, la pénurie touchait 30 % des stations-service du pays. Alors que la situation se tend, notamment dans les Hauts-de-France et en Ile-de-France, la première ministre, Élisabeth Borne, promet que la situation va « s'améliorer tout au long de la semaine ». **PAGE 9**

ÉDITORIAL par Vincent Trémolet de Villers vtremolet@lefigaro.fr

2027 dans toutes les têtes

Le réservoir n'est pas encore à sec mais le carburant se fait de plus en plus rare. Depuis les élections législatives, Emmanuel Macron est parvenu par la politique du carnet de chèques à repousser les batailles parlementaires comme à contenir la défiance de l'opinion. Mais, cette semaine, sur fond de files d'attente devant les stations-service, la réalité politique reprend ses droits. Le gouvernement va présenter devant une Assemblée fragmentée un budget qui ne satisfait personne. On sait déjà que le 49-3 mettra fin au débat. La seule interrogation qui subsiste est de savoir quand. À court terme, il s'agit donc d'un épisode parlementaire dont tout le monde connaît déjà l'issue. Mais ce moment de vérité devrait surtout être un révélateur politique et social pour toute la suite du quinquennat. Derrière le budget 2023, c'est bien la présidentielle de 2027 qui est déjà dans toutes les têtes. Elle est dans l'esprit de Jean-Luc Mélenchon, Marine Le Pen, Laurent Wauquiez. Elle l'est aussi, et c'est plus problématique, dans chacune des composantes de la majorité. Édouard Philippe a crevé l'abcès en s'affichant franchement comme

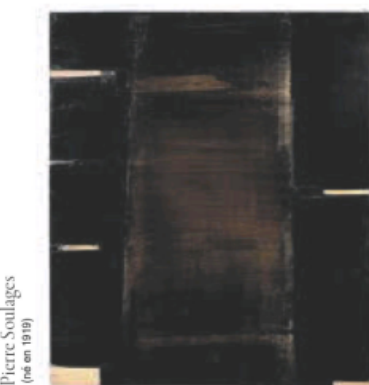
candidat à la succession d'Emmanuel Macron. Héritier de son esprit de réforme, il fait monter les enchères sur les retraites comme il le fit il y a trois ans à Matignon. Si l'âge légal de départ est inférieur à 65 ans, il a son motif de rupture. Bruno Le Maire, lui, est décidé à plier, mais sans rompre. Il essaye d'écrire clair malgré les lignes courbes du chef de l'État pour apparaître comme son dauphin naturel. Gérard Darmanin se donne le temps de voir laquelle des deux stratégies est la plus favorable. François Bayrou, qui n'a renoncé à rien, se rêve en homme du consensus après le temps des fractures... Ces différentes ambitions brouillent un peu plus la geste d'Emmanuel Macron, indéchiffrable depuis sa réélection. S'ajoutent à cette perte d'autorité politique une situation internationale inquiétante, une situation économique préoccupante, une situation sociale abrasive. C'est dans ce mauvais climat que l'obstacle du budget devrait être franchi, sans parvenir à dissiper l'impression d'un pouvoir affaibli qui gère les affaires courantes. ■

La réalité politique reprend ses droits

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Future shock

Why people are still obsessed with Nostradamus

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Viola Davis 'I can change the way Black women are seen'

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Rebels pile on PM over benefits as further 450,000 face poverty

Warnings across party to Truss as research shows impact of real-terms cut

Aubrey Allegretti
Patrick Butler

Liz Truss was teetering close to another major U-turn last night as Tory MPs warned she would lose a vote on delivering a real-terms cut to benefits and new research

showed the move could pitch an extra 450,000 people into poverty.

Despite desperate pleas for party unity from senior ministers after weeks of infighting, the dispute over welfare threatened to overshadow the prime minister's attempt to reassert her authority when the Commons returns from recess tomorrow.

Fresh threats of moves to oust Truss if she digs in were also being discussed by MPs over the weekend, while senior Tories, including the former chancellor George Osborne, warned that the Conservatives ran

the risk of a wipeout at the next election for embarking on a "political experiment".

In their ring-around of colleagues yesterday, whips were warned that dozens of Tory backbenchers would rebel against benefits rising in line with earnings - about 5.5% - rather than September's inflation figure, which stands at about 10%.

While no formal vote is required, it is believed that an amendment would be tabled to the finance bill, forcing all MPs to show their hand.

Unease extends across the whole

party, with some figures in the cabinet thought to be pushing Truss to match the inflation increase. One government source put the number of backbenchers who would rebel at at least 30, while another said No 10 would be "forced to cave".

Truss's U-turn last week on reinstating the top rate of tax after the chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, announced it would be abolished in the mini-budget has given some Tory MPs heart they can force another climbdown. "She gave in on 45p, she'll have to do so again," said one. In

a sign Truss was softening her stance, a No 10 source insisted "nothing is decided" and added: "She will listen."

It came as new analysis by a conservative thinktank, seen exclusively by the Guardian, showed that low-income households with children, or people with a disability, would bear the brunt of any move to uprate universal credit and other working age benefits in line with earnings rather than inflation.

Such a move would swell UK relative poverty rates - 6 → already at their highest

Putin says attack on bridge 'act of terror'

Peter Beaumont
Kyiv

Vladimir Putin has blamed Ukraine for the blast on a vital bridge linking Russia and Crimea, describing the weekend attack as an "act of terror" carried out by "Ukrainian secret services" amid growing expectation that the Kremlin plans an imminent and harsh escalation of its war.

"There is no doubt. This is an act of terrorism aimed at destroying critically important civilian infrastructure," the Russian president said in a video released last night on the Kremlin's Telegram channel of the explosion on the Kerch bridge, which occurred on Saturday.

"This was devised, carried out and ordered by the Ukrainian special services," he added.

Putin spoke after meeting Alexander Bastrykin, the head of Russia's investigative committee, who was presenting findings into the explosion and fire on the bridge. Bastrykin said he had opened a criminal case into an "act



▲ A bombed-out residential building in Zaporizhzhia, targeted after the Kerch bridge blast PHOTOGRAPH: REUTERS

Iran closes schools in bid to curb protests

Patrick Wintour
Deepa Parent

Iranian children were being arrested inside school premises yesterday by security forces arriving in vans without licence plates, according to social media reports emerging from the country as protests against the regime entered their fourth week.

The authorities also shut all schools and higher education institutions in Iranian Kurdistan - a sign that the state remains concerned about dissent after weeks of protests over the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish woman.

Footage showed protests in dozens of cities across Iran early yesterday, with hundreds of high-school girls and university students participating in the face of teargas, clubs and, in many cases, live ammunition by the security forces, rights groups said. Tehran has denied that live bullets have been used.

On Saturday, Iran's main news channel was briefly hacked and interrupted with 20 →