

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

Powell provided a clear signal that the Fed is on track to increase interest rates by half a percentage point at its next meeting, stepping down from an unprecedented series of four 0.75-point rate rises. **A1**

◆ **Third-quarter U.S. growth** was stronger than previously estimated and demand for workers remained elevated in October, signs a tight labor market and resilient consumer demand are propelling up the economy. **A6**

◆ **U.S. stocks rallied** after the Fed chairman's remarks, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow gaining 3.1%, 4.4% and 2.2%, respectively. **B1**

◆ **The annual rate of inflation** in the eurozone fell in November for the first time since mid-2021, but the slowdown is unlikely to deter the ECB from raising interest rates further, economists said. **A1**

◆ **Years before Bankman-Fried's crypto empire collapsed**, a group of employees quit in a power struggle—after becoming concerned about what they say was his cavalier approach to risk, compliance and accounting. **A1, A4**

◆ **Salesforce said co-CEO Taylor** is leaving a year after he was elevated to run the software provider alongside Chairman Benioff. **B1**

◆ **A potential battle** between Apple and Twitter appears to have been averted after a meeting between Musk and Cook. **B1**

◆ **DoorDash said it is laying off** around 1,250 people just weeks after offering a bullish outlook for its food-delivery business. **B1**

## World-Wide

◆ **The House approved** a measure to end a long-running railroad labor dispute while also backing a proposal to impose seven days of paid sick leave, as the president urged lawmakers to work quickly to head off a possible strike. **A3**

◆ **Russia is sending** hundreds of paramilitary troops to fight in Bakhmut, an eastern Ukrainian city that is fast becoming the focal point of the next phase of the Kremlin's invasion, a senior Ukrainian official said. **A12**

◆ **Blinken said** that Western countries would step up support for Ukraine's power sector and remain united against Putin's efforts to divide Europe over energy supplies. **A12**

◆ **The Biden administration** finds itself caught between its domestic policy goals and some of its closest allies as it races against the clock to set the ground rules for new electric-vehicle subsidies. **A3**

◆ **The Treasury Department** said it has complied with a Supreme Court order that allows the administration to make Trump's tax returns available to the House Ways and Means Committee. **A4**

◆ **Antigovernment protests** in China are stirring sympathetic activity near Chinese diplomatic missions and on university campuses around the world, adding an international dimension to a sensitive political moment. **A9**

◆ **Died: Jiang Zemin, 96**, former Chinese leader. **A8**

◆ **Christine McVie, 79**, Fleetwood Mac musician. **A6**

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## House Democrats Choose Jeffries as Their Next Leader



**NEW GENERATION:** Rep. Hakeem Jeffries was elected by acclamation to succeed Rep. Nancy Pelosi. He is the first Black person to lead a major party in Congress. Reps. Katherine Clark and Pete Aguilar will serve in the No. 2 and 3 posts, respectively. **A4**

## Early Staffers of FTX Founder Say They Quit Over Risky Bets

By GREGORY ZUCKERMAN

Years before Sam Bankman-Fried's crypto empire collapsed, a group of employees quit in a power struggle—after becoming concerned about what they say was his cavalier approach to risk, compliance and accounting. The employees worked at his trading firm, Alameda Research, and were some of his earliest colleagues, including Alameda's co-founder, Tara MacAulay. They left in 2018, well before the crypto exchange FTX grew out of Alameda. Both FTX

and Alameda are now bankrupt.

Mr. Bankman-Fried placed huge bets on crypto assets but paid little heed to the risk of those bets, brushing off the staffers' concerns, according to people familiar with the matter. The firm commingled trading capital with operating cash and had poor record-keeping that left its profits and losses unclear, they said.

"He didn't want to feel constrained," said Naia Bouscal, a former software engineer at Alameda who left with Ms. MacAulay and the others. "But as a

result we ended up not really knowing how much money we even had."

Mr. Bankman-Fried told The Wall Street Journal that the staffers left the firm because of personal disputes and their lack of productivity, and that Alameda addressed the accounting, risk and other issues they raised. "Right now, I'm focusing on doing what I can to do right by FTX customers," Mr. Bankman-Fried said.

Some of the issues identified by the group of former employees are similar to those identi-

fied recently by FTX's new chief executive brought on to manage the firm through bankruptcy, people familiar with the matter said.

"I and a group of others all quit, in part because of concerns over risk management and business ethics," Ms. MacAulay tweeted Nov. 16. "My heart goes out to all of the victims whose trust was betrayed, savings lost, and livelihoods destroyed."

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◆ Bankman-Fried denies knowing scale of Alameda bets..... A4

## Storms and Tornadoes Batter Parts of the South



**Eutaw, Ala., Police Chief Tommy Johnson surveys damage after severe storms swept across the South from Tuesday into Wednesday morning, killing at least two people in Alabama. A6**

## When Taylor Met Taylor

Couples with the same name can run into confusion

By LANE FLORSHEIM

When "Twilight" heartthrob Taylor Lautner got married on Nov. 11, he and his wife took the concept of two becoming one a step further than most: In addition to their legal union, Mr. Lautner and the registered nurse formerly known as Taylor Dome also unified their names.

"We're literally going to be the same person," the actor said in an interview on "The Kelly Clarkson Show" ahead of the wedding. "How narcissistic." After the ceremony, he posted a photo gallery on Instagram with the caption "Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Lautner."

Though their same-name Please turn to page A7

## How a Fire Triggered China's Covid Protest

After deadly blaze took a long time to snuff, many blamed the rigid pandemic restrictions

By AUSTIN RAMSEY AND WENXIN FAN

As smoke crept through the 21-story apartment building in far western China, panicked messages filled the residents' chat group. "On the 16th floor, we don't have enough oxygen," a woman gasped in an audio message. "Soon our children won't be OK."

Another resident added a plea about the people in apartment 1901: "They wouldn't be able to open the door. Can you break into it and take a look? There are many children inside."

Many who heard the reports were shocked, not by a tragedy in the remote city of Urumqi, but because it had taken firefighters three hours to control the fire.

People across the country believed the delays happened in part because of the pandemic restrictions that have been a running source of discontent throughout the country. The impact has reached into the heart of Chinese politics.

Excerpts of residents' panicked conversation began to circulate on social media, along with videos of the emergency response. They showed fire crews struggling to get around barriers to approach the building. Videos showed fire crews' water streams falling short of the fire as its flames slithered toward the top of the apartment tower.

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◆ Greg Ip: China stumbles on Covid; U.S. shakes it off..... A2

## Powell Signals Fed Will Slow Rate Increases

Blue chips exit bear market as chairman indicates half-point rise likely this month

By NICK TIMIRAGOS

WASHINGTON—Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell provided a clear signal that the central bank is on track to increase interest rates by half a percentage point at its next meeting, stepping down from an unprecedented series of four 0.75-point rate rises aimed at combating high inflation.

Investors have been eager for evidence that the central bank would slow its pace of rate rises and markets rallied after Mr. Powell's remarks. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 2.2%, or about 735 points, enough to put the index back in a bull market, defined as a 20% rise from a recent low. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note declined to 3.699% Wednesday from 3.746% Tuesday.

Mr. Powell in a speech Wednesday said that an overheated labor market needs to cool more for the Fed to be confident that inflation would decline toward its 2% goal.

Because the Fed has raised rates rapidly and it takes time for those moves to influence the economy, it would make sense for officials to slow rate

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## Bill on Rail Dispute Passes

House approves a measure aimed at averting a strike by railroad workers..... A3

## Eurozone Inflation Declines, but ECB Remains on Guard

By PAUL HANNON

The annual rate of inflation in the eurozone fell in November for the first time since mid-2021 as energy prices dropped.

However, the slowdown isn't likely to stop the European Central Bank from increasing interest rates further, economists warned. Consumer-price inflation across the 19 countries that share the euro has increased since Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the Kremlin's decision to weaponize the country's vast stores of energy to undermine European support for Kyiv.

As a result of rising energy prices, the eurozone's inflation rate had continued to rise even as U.S. inflation eased for four straight months from July, prompting the ECB to raise its key interest rate more sharply than at any time in its history. Wednesday's data from the

European Union's statistics agency showed consumer prices in November were 10% higher than a year earlier, down from the 10.6% annual inflation rate recorded in October as energy prices fell. Economists surveyed last week by The Wall Street Journal had expected to see a decline to 10.4%.

This means that while prices continue to rise rapidly, they are no longer doing so at a faster rate every month. This is a long way from inflation being under control or prices stabilizing, and it doesn't guarantee that the inflation rate won't pick up again.

The inflation rate last fell in June 2021, but that proved to be a brief interruption in its long climb. ECB President Christine Lagarde said the

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◆ Chinese economic activity slows again..... A8

## INSIDE



**OBITUARY**  
 Jiang Zemin, Chinese leader who presided over market-oriented changes, dies at 96. **A8**



**PERSONAL JOURNAL**  
 In a tough housing landscape, some renters renovate like they own the place. **A13**



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## The rise of team-fluid World Cup fans

JOSH NOBLE, PAGE 16

## Speaking softly has served the US well

EDWARD LUCE, PAGE 17

# Brussels and Yellen turn up heat on Musk over Twitter

- EU insists on strict moderation rules
- US weighs foreign ownership review

JAVIER ESPINOZA — BRUSSELS  
JAMES POLITI — WASHINGTON  
CRISTINA CRIDDLE — LONDON  
HANNAN MURPHY — SAN FRANCISCO

Elon Musk is under new pressure from the US and EU over his ownership of Twitter, as regulators clamp down on the billionaire's push to transform the social network into a free-wheeling haven of free speech.

The European Commission threatened him yesterday with a ban unless Twitter abides by strict content moderation rules, while US Treasury secretary Janet Yellen indicated Washington was reviewing his purchase of the social media platform.

The warning from Brussels came in a video call between Musk and Thierry Breton, the EU's commissioner in charge of implementing the bloc's digital rules, according to people with knowledge of the conversation.

Breton told Musk that Twitter must adhere to a checklist of rules, including ditching an "arbitrary" approach to reinstating banned users, pursuing disinformation "aggressively" and agreeing to an "extensive independent audit" of the platform by next year.

Musk was warned that unless he stuck to those rules Twitter was at risk of infringing the EU's Digital Services Act, a new law that sets the global standard on how Big Tech must police content on the internet. Breton reiterated that Twitter could face a Europe-wide ban or fines of up to 6 per cent of global turnover if it breached the law.

Twitter's owner said repeatedly that he thought the DSA was "very sensible", according to people briefed on the conversation, adding that he had read the

legislation and thought it should be applied all round the world.

Among the EU's demands is that Musk provides clear criteria on which users are at risk of being banned. Musk has reinstated Donald Trump's account after holding a poll of users on whether the former US president should be allowed to return to the site.

In a blog post, Twitter said that none of its policies had changed and that its trust and safety team remained "strong and well resourced". But it added: "Our approach to policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-amplification of violative content: freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach."

EU officials have expressed concern over whether Twitter has the staff to comply with the rules after Musk fired more than half of its 7,500 workforce.

In the US, scrutiny of Twitter appears to be focused on foreign ownership of the platform. When asked about Twitter at a New York Times conference, Yellen mentioned the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.

The Treasury secretary added: "We don't comment on work that's in progress. But if there are such risks, it would be appropriate for CFIUS to have a look."

Securities filings show that Prince Alwaleed bin Talal of Saudi Arabia rolled over 35mm shares, or 3.5 per cent of the total in the public Twitter, into the new private company as part of Musk's \$44bn buyout. Kingdom Holding Co, an investment fund controlled by the prince, owns stakes in US companies including Citigroup, Uber and Lyft, according to its website.

Additional reporting by Ian Johnston  
Lex page 18

## Jiang Zemin dies Business friendly ruler who let capitalists into China's Communist party



A photograph of Chinese former president Jiang Zemin is broadcast on a screen above a mall in Beijing during the evening news bulletin announcing his death yesterday.

Jiang served as general secretary of the Chinese Communist party from 1989 to 2002 and led efforts to stabilise China in the decade after the Tiananmen Square massacre.

His death at the age of 96, from leu-

kaemia and multiple organ failure, was reported by Chinese state media.

In comparison with strongman ruler Xi Jinping, Jiang is remembered as a colourful and relatively liberal leader. Jiang helped entrench the sweeping market-orientated reforms of Deng Xiaoping and placed China on a firmer international footing.

A factory manager typical of a new cohort of technocrats favoured by

Deng, Jiang was plucked from his role as party boss in Shanghai days before the Tiananmen Square massacre and anointed to replace Zhao Ziyang.

Despite being viewed as an unlikely candidate, he oversaw radical changes including China's accession to the World Trade Organization, allowing capitalists into the CCP and reform of the banking and state-owned sectors. **Obituary page 3**

### Briefing

► **Adidas executive warned over remarks on diversity**  
A top executive at the sportswear group received a "final warning" last year over "inappropriate and unacceptable" comments, insiders have revealed. — PAGE 6

► **Nato talks on China threat**  
The alliance has discussed economic moves to contain the "challenge" from Beijing, as the US steps up pressure on allies to take a tougher line. — PAGE 3

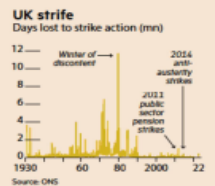
► **EU bid to rebuild Ukraine**  
Brussels has proposed deploying the frozen assets of the Russian central bank to generate profits that could be used to rebuild Ukraine's infrastructure. — PAGE 4

► **Doubt on EU crypto rules**  
Policy makers have cast doubt on whether new EU regulations on cryptocurrencies are sufficiently tough to prevent a repeat of the collapse of FTX. — PAGE 8

► **Hungary graft penalty**  
The European Commission has said Budapest faces delays to EU payments worth €13.5bn after failing to live up to its pledges to tackle corruption. — PAGE 4

► **Eni in talks for Neptune**  
The Italian energy major has entered talks to buy the group in a deal that could be valued at \$6bn, one of the biggest recent energy deals. — PAGE 6

### Datawatch



The UK lost 561,000 days to labour disputes in August and September. But that action barely registers compared with the 'winter of discontent' of 1978-79. That may change this month when nurses, rail and postal workers strike

## Slowdown in eurozone price rises fans hope that global inflation has peaked

MARTIN ARNOLD — FRANKFURT

Inflation in the eurozone has fallen for the first time in 17 months, raising hopes that the biggest global price surge for a generation has peaked and easing pressure on central banks to continue increasing rates aggressively.

A slowdown in energy and services prices helped inflation in the single currency bloc to fall more than expected to 10 per cent in the year to November, down from a record 10.6 per cent in October, according to data from the EU's statistics agency.

Economists had forecast a smaller slowdown to 10.4 per cent and anticipate that the European Central Bank might shift to smaller interest rate rises next month.

The fall comes amid signs that global inflationary pressures have peaked,

with significant falls in wholesale energy and food costs beginning to have an impact on consumer prices.

US inflation has been falling for several months after surging to a multi-decade high. However, Federal Reserve chair Jay Powell signalled yesterday that the US central bank would continue to raise rates, even as he backed slowing their pace soon. "I will simply say that we have more ground to cover," he told the Brookings Institution, adding that the Fed was still committed to getting inflation back to its 2 per cent target.

Huw Pill, the Bank of England's chief economist, also said yesterday that he expected price growth in the UK to start falling in the coming months.

Economists think the slowing rate of eurozone inflation makes it likely the ECB will raise rates by 0.5 percentage points when its governing council meets

on December 15, following two consecutive 0.75 point rises.

Frederik Ducrocq, head of macroeconomic research at Pictet Wealth Management, said the "obvious compromise for the ECB" was to "move down a gear".

The biggest drag on eurozone inflation in November was a drop in energy price growth to 34.9 per cent, down from 41.5 per cent in October. That outweighed a slight rise in food, alcohol and tobacco inflation to 13.6 per cent.

"Pipeline pressures are easing quite dramatically," said Sandra Philipp, chief economist at ARN Amro.

However, inflation across the bloc remains far above the ECB's 2 per cent target and some policymakers have argued it needs to continue raising rates. **Additional reporting by Valentina Romei in London and Colby Smith in Washington Powell dashes rate cut hopes page 2**

### World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				GOVERNMENT BONDS			
	Nov 30	Prev	%Chg	Pair	Nov 30	Prev	%Chg	Yield (%)	Nov 30	Prev	%Chg
S&P 500	3954.74	3957.83	-0.07	\$/£	1.030	1.036	-0.57	US 2 yr	4.53	4.48	0.06
Nasdaq Composite	11019.20	10982.78	0.32	\$/€	1.191	1.200	-0.83	US 10 yr	3.77	3.72	0.05
Dow Jones Ind	33704.03	33652.53	0.14	£/¥	0.895	0.893	0.22	US 30 yr	3.81	3.76	0.04
FTSEurofirst 300	1741.56	1728.34	0.76	¥/¥	129.540	128.325	0.94	UK 2 yr	3.31	3.27	0.04
Euro Stoxx 50	3965.57	3954.44	0.82	¥/¥	166.179	165.991	0.11	UK 10 yr	3.15	3.09	0.06
FTSE 100	7573.06	7512.00	0.81	S\$/¥	0.981	0.985	-0.41	UK 30 yr	3.43	3.35	0.07
FTSE All-Share	4139.65	4112.30	0.67	CRYPTO				JPN 2 yr	-0.04	-0.04	0.00
CAC 40	4738.55	4668.97	1.54	Bitcoin (\$)	16880.25	16432.99	2.78	JPN 10 yr	0.25	0.25	0.00
Hang Seng	14307.04	14355.45	-0.39	Ethereum	1271.50	1215.78	4.58	JPN 30 yr	1.51	1.52	-0.01
Nikkei	27989.99	28027.94	-0.21					GER 2 yr	2.11	2.08	0.02
Hong Kong	18997.23	18094.68	5.16					GER 10 yr	1.93	1.92	0.01
MSCI World \$	2863.25	2868.44	-0.19	COMMODITIES				GER 30 yr	1.82	1.82	0.00
MSCI EM \$	852.84	850.77	2.38								
MSCI ACWI \$	617.64	617.15	0.08	Oil WTI \$	80.39	79.20	2.80				
FT Wilshire 2500	5141.03	5146.28	-0.10	Oil Brent \$	86.69	84.25	2.90				
FT Wilshire 5000	40147.30	40185.42	-0.09	Gold \$	1752.70	1746.55	0.35				

Prices are latest for edition  
Data provided by Morningstar

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### Amazon's tech teams bear the brunt as job cuts begin

The jobs axe at Amazon has started to fall, with the first of 10,000 headcount reductions hitting tech positions rather than the warehouses that account for most of its 1.5m staff. But with Wall Street seeking higher profitability and looking with concern on a workforce that doubled in the pandemic, it is not clear who is in the line of fire. It's not surprising that's where they decided to start, said a Kindle team member. "What isn't clear is if it ends there."

Role eliminations — PAGE 9

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L.U.C. TIME TRAVELER ONE

Chopard

THE ARTISAN OF EMOTIONS - SINCE 1860





DAVID GUTENFELDER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A shop during a blackout Tuesday in Kyiv, Ukraine, which has also faced shortages of water and internet service in recent weeks.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

### Xi's Challenge: How to Mourn A Predecessor

By CHRIS BUCKLEY

The deaths of Chinese Communist leaders are always fraught moments of political theater, and especially so now with the passing of Jiang Zemin soon after a wave of public defiance on a scale unseen since Mr. Jiang came to power in 1989.

China's sternly autocratic current leader, Xi Jinping, must preside over the mourning for Mr. Jiang, who died on Wednesday at 96, while he also grapples with widespread protests against China's exceptionally stringent Covid-19 restrictions. The demonstrations have at times also boldly called for China to return to the path of political liberalization that seemed at least thinkable, even openly discussable, under Mr. Jiang during the 1990s.

How Mr. Xi orchestrates that feat — paying tribute to Mr. Jiang while preventing him from becoming a symbolic cudgel against Mr. Xi's politics — will be another challenge for him in the coming weeks, as China tries to manage rising coronavirus cases and an economic slowdown.

"We mourn Comrade Jiang Zemin with a heavy heart, and will turn our grief into strength," Mr. Xi said on Wednesday, according to an official summary of his comments to a visiting Laotian leader. The front page of People's Daily, the party's newspaper, was in mournful black and white on Thursday, entirely dominated by articles about Mr. Jiang's death and a large portrait of him.

How they mourn his death may potentially provoke more anger, even though Jiang Zemin never enjoyed the popularity Hu Yaobang did, said Lynette H. Ong, a political scientist at the University of Toronto who studies China, referring to the leader whose sudden death in 1989 ignited the Tiananmen Square protest movement. "At the very least, it will give the people a legitimate reason to congregate and mourn."

Almost instantly, the announcement of Mr. Jiang's passing brought a torrent of online tributes from Chinese people. Quite a few made thinly veiled, Continued on Page A7

### In Blacked-Out Kyiv, Life Goes On, by Flashlight

By MARC SANTORA

KYIV, Ukraine — Elevators across Ukraine's capital are stocked with emergency supplies in case the power fails. Banks have sent messages to customers to assure them their money is safe in the event of prolonged blackouts. The National Philharmonic played on Tuesday night on a stage lit by battery-powered lanterns, and doctors last week performed surgeries by flashlight.

This is Kyiv, a modern, thriving European capital of 3.3 million people, and now a war-torn city struggling with shortages of electricity, running water, cellphone service, central heating and the internet.

One popular cafe has created two menus — one featuring heated food like homemade pasta

### Russia's Airstrikes on Grid Force a Weary City to Improvise

for when it has power, a second offering cold dishes like Greek yogurt with granola and applesauce when it doesn't. At another restaurant, a chef cooked on a sidewalk grill and as the coals burned red, two young men warmed their hands. The sun sets early, before the school day is done, so children hold flashlights while waiting for their parents to arrive in total darkness to pick them up.

Generators of all sizes rattle and roar across the city, where municipal officials estimate that 1.5 million people are still without

power for more than 12 hours a day.

Every week for nearly two months, Russia has sent waves of missiles targeting Ukraine's energy grid. Those targets include Kyiv, which had been relatively unscathed since last spring.

After nine months of war, nothing is so new as to be shocking but the attacks on power have left residents of Kyiv exasperated and exhausted. With temperatures in the city often below freezing, extended power outages are also potentially deadly, threatening health care services, raising the risk of people suffering hypothermia and leading to a rise in accidents.

Even as crews work around the clock to repair damage from the latest barrage — one last week Continued on Page A12



GREGG VIGLIOTTI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

New York City police officers speaking with a homeless woman in the Bronx on Tuesday night.

### On City Streets and in Subway, Fear and Hope

By SARAH MASLIN NIR

It was after dark in Washington Square Park in Manhattan, when Meeka Brown, 48, learned of Mayor Eric Adams's new citywide push for authorities to remove people with severe, untreated mental illness from New York's streets and subways — even against their will, and even if they are not a threat to others.

"I'm one," said Ms. Brown, who

### Caution Over Adams's Policy on Mentally Ill

said she is schizophrenic and also suffers from another psychotic disorder. "My mental state is being taken care of because it's well-medicated; I try to keep it in control and don't let it control me." She was seated on a park bench on

Tuesday night, a few hours after Mr. Adams's announcement. As she spoke, a man passed by her in the dark, gesticulating wildly.

Ms. Brown was torn as she digested the mayor's new policy. Officials in New York said it would require the involuntary hospitalization of people deemed too mentally ill to care for themselves.

Where she to spiral, Ms. Brown said she feared the city's new Continued on Page A20

## House Passes Bill to Force Rail Deal and Avert Strike

### Labor Contract Would Expand Paid Leave — Measure Faces Senate Resistance

By EMILY COCHRANE

WASHINGTON — The House on Wednesday resoundingly approved legislation that would avert a nationwide rail strike by imposing a labor agreement between rail companies and their workers, as lawmakers rushed to shield the economy from the threat of a holiday-season work stoppage that would disrupt shipping across the country.

But the bill faced a rocky path in the Senate, where Republicans were resisting the idea of injecting the government into a contract negotiation and leaders in both parties were scrounging for the votes they would need to get it to President Biden's desk.

Acting quickly the day after Mr. Biden made a personal appeal at the White House, a bipartisan coalition in the House voted 290 to 137 to approve a measure that would force the rail companies and employees to abide by a tentative agreement that the Biden administration had helped broker earlier this year, which increased pay and set more flexible schedules for workers.

"This overwhelming bipartisan vote in the House of Representatives makes clear that Democrats and Republicans agree that a rail

shutdown would be devastating to our economy and families across the country," Mr. Biden said in a statement. "The Senate must now act urgently."

With liberal Democrats threatening to withhold their votes unless the legislation granted additional paid leave, a key demand of workers, the House also approved a separate measure to add seven days of compensated sick time to the compact. That measure passed largely on party lines, 221 to 207, with all but three Republicans opposed.

Multiple unions have balked at the tentative agreement because of the paucity of paid family or medical leave; it includes one additional compensated day of personal leave. With passage of the bill, the House took the first step to compel all 12 unions to accept the deal anyway.

It was the first time since the 1990s that Congress had used its power under the Constitution's commerce clause, which allows it to regulate interstate commerce, to intervene in a national rail labor dispute. Leaders in both parties said they were reluctant to do so, and some lawmakers — particu-

Continued on Page A16



HAIYUN JIANG/THE NEW YORK TIMES

### Change in the House

Democrats made Hakeem Jeffries the minority leader. Page A14.

### When Luxury Is Not Enough At World Cup

By SARAH LYALL  
and CHRISTINA GOLDBAUM

AL KHOR, Qatar — With its haughty aura of exclusivity, the red-carpeted, velvet-roped V.I.P. entrance at Al Bayt Stadium seems designed to inspire maximal awe and envy. As regular fans were herded through their gates at the England-United States game on Friday, the V.I.P. guests were welcomed by an exotic figure dressed as some sort of antelope, covered head to toe in shimmering golden scales.

But this is the Qatar World Cup, where there is something even better than the V.I.P. entrance: the V.V.I.P. entrance.

Not that it is available, or even fully visible, to you. Flanked by barriers and cut off from the normal road system, Al Bayt's V.V.I.P. entrance is a sweeping thoroughfare on which the most important fans, starting with Qatar's emir, who arrives by helicopter with his entourage and then hops into a Mercedes, are chauffeured directly into their special enclave in the stadium. That way, they are never required to interact with, or even occupy the same general Continued on Page A9

### Walker's Pause In Final Stretch Worries G.O.P.

By MAYA KING

ATLANTA — Herschel Walker was being swamped by negative television ads. His Democratic opponents were preparing to flood the polls for early voting as soon as doors opened. After being hit by fresh allegations of carpetbagging, he was left with just over a week to make his final appeals to voters in the runoff for Georgia's Senate seat.

But for five days, Mr. Walker was off the campaign trail.

The decision to skip campaigning over the crucial Thanksgiving holiday weekend has Mr. Walker's Republican allies airing frustrations and concerns about his campaign strategy in the final stretch of the overtime election against Senator Raphael Warnock.

Democrats, they point out, have gotten a head start on Republicans in their early-voting push and are drowning out the G.O.P. on the airwaves — outspending them two to one. With less than a week to go, time is running out fast for Mr. Walker to make inroads with the moderate conservatives who did not support him during the general election.

"We almost need a little bit more time for Herschel's campaign to get everything off the ground," said Jason Shepherd, the Continued on Page A14



## SPORTS B8-13

### Wild Day at World Cup

Argentina beat Poland, and both advanced. Mexico won and was eliminated (but almost wasn't). PAGE B8

### U.S. Star Says He's Playing

Christian Pulisic is nursing a pelvic contusion but said he would be ready for the Netherlands on Saturday. PAGE B11

## NATIONAL A13-21

### Abortion Clinic Divides Town

After Roe fell, a sleepy college town in Southern Illinois became a crucial destination for abortion access. Not all of its residents are happy. PAGE A18

### Insulin on Ballot in Georgia

The cost of insulin has become a major issue in the Senate runoff race in Georgia, a state with an unusually high rate of diabetes. PAGE A13

### 3 Little Words in Trump Trial

What jurors make of the phrase "in behalf of" could decide whether the former president's namesake company is guilty of tax fraud. PAGE A15

## INTERNATIONAL A4-12

### Clashes Rock Guangzhou

Frustrated migrant workers in a center of China's garment industry continued to protest Covid lockdowns. PAGE A4

### Buckingham Palace Aide Quits

The aide had skeptically interrogated a British-born Black guest about her background at a reception. PAGE A8

## BUSINESS B1-7

### FTX Founder Denies Fraud

The ex-billionaire Sam Bankman-Fried insisted in an interview that he didn't know the extent of what was going on within his crypto businesses. PAGE B1



## OBITUARIES B14-15

### Fleetwood Mac Hitmaker

As a singer, songwriter and keyboardist, Christine McVie was a prolific force behind one of the most popular rock bands in history. She was 79. PAGE B14

## OPINION A22-23

### Nicholas Kristof

PAGE A23

## THURSDAY STYLES D1-8

### Overseeing a Legacy

In her first interview, Shannon Abloh, the widow of the fashion designer and artist Virgil Abloh, steps out of the shadows and takes charge. PAGE D7

### The Allure of Shabbat

After pandemic separation and a recent surge in antisemitism, more young people — Jewish and not — seem to be celebrating the Sabbath, and often with their cellphones put away. PAGE D1



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## BILL TO END RAIL DISPUTE GOES TO SENATE

House approves legislation to avert strike, and also votes for paid sick leave.

By JOSH FUNK

The U.S. House moved urgently Wednesday to head off the looming nationwide rail strike, passing a bill that would bind companies and workers to a proposed settlement that was reached in September but rejected by some of the 12 unions involved.

The measure passed by a vote of 290 to 137 and now heads to the Senate. If approved there, it will be signed by President Biden, who has urged the Senate to act swiftly.

"Without the certainty of a final vote to avoid a shutdown this week, railroads will begin to halt the movement of critical materials like chemicals to clean our drinking water as soon as this weekend," Biden said. "Let me say that again: Without action this week, disruptions to our auto supply chains, our ability to move food to tables, and our ability to remove hazardous waste from gasoline refineries will begin."

Business groups including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the American Farm Bureau Federation warned that halting rail service would cause a \$2-billion-per-day hit to the economy.

The bill would impose a compromise labor agreement brokered by the Biden administration. [See Railroads, A8]



WALLY SEALIJ Los Angeles Times

### STANDING WITH CHINESE PROTESTERS

Lijian Jie yells during a vigil at USC on Tuesday in support of victims of China's "zero-COVID" policy. Chinese people in the U.S. expressed concern for relatives back home. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Lifting 'zero COVID' in China now would risk health disaster

By STEPHANIE YANG AND MELISSA HEALY

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Nearly three years into a pandemic that has killed more than 6.6 million people worldwide, the official death toll in mainland China stands at 5,233 — a stunningly low number for the world's most populous nation.

While most countries long ago stopped trying to eliminate the coronavirus and decided to live with it instead, China has gone to extreme lengths to prevent it from spreading. The government relentlessly tracks its citizens, mandates constant testing, shutters workers inside factories and locks down entire cities under a plan that has come to be known as "zero COVID."

Now, with its economy in steep decline and protesters taking to the streets, China is considering lifting the policy. [See China, A4]



KEVIN FRAYER Getty Images

IN BEIJING, those leaving areas with communities in lockdown undergo coronavirus testing under China's "zero-COVID" policy.

## Efforts to save water remain crucial

Nearly 20% of state agencies could see shortages if drought persists, report says.

By HAYLEY SMITH

Most of California's urban water agencies believe they have enough supplies to last through another seven months of drought, but nearly 20% of them — including many in Southern California — say they could be facing significant shortages, according to a new state report.

The California Department of Water Resources' first annual water supply and demand assessment surveyed the state's urban water agencies to see how they are managing tight supplies through conservation efforts and improved drought planning. The report, which includes yearly data through July 1, focuses on water agencies that serve at least 3,000 connections, representing about 90% of the population. [See Water, A14]

## Mistrial in rape case of actor

Jury deadlocks on 3 women's accusations against Masterson; retrial is up in the air.

By NOAH GOLDBERG, CHRISTIAN MARTINEZ AND JAMES QUEALY

Danny Masterson's rape trial ended Wednesday in a mistrial after jurors said they were unable to reach a decision on the actor's innocence or guilt.

The Los Angeles jury deadlocked after hearing weeks of testimony, including from the three women who accused Masterson of raping them. In failing to reach a decision, the panel left unresolved the women's claims that the actor, who is best known for his role on the sitcom "That '70s Show," violently assaulted them at his Hollywood Hills home in the early 2000s.

The divisions among jurors were apparent in the final votes they took before telling Los Angeles County [See Masterson, A11]



GINA FERRAZZI Los Angeles Times

## 'Catfishing' cop's mayhem seen as a lesson for parents

'Be aware,' says relative of a girl 'groomed' online

By SUMMER LIN AND GRACE TOOHEY

It was the day after Thanksgiving, and John Winek was in Oregon spending the holiday with his sister.

Then the call came. Back in Southern California, Winek's brother, sister-in-law and niece were dead, their house was on fire. A Virginia cop who had "catfished" his 15-year-old great-niece was behind the rampage and was now on the run with her. "It's incomprehensible," Winek said Wednesday.

"They're here one moment and gone the next. Nobody should have to go through something like this."

Austin Lee Edwards, 28, a Virginia police officer, posed online as a teenager in order to "groom" Winek's great-niece, then drove across the country to her home in Riverside, where he killed the girl's mother and grandparents and set fire to the home before driving off with the girl, according to Riverside police. Authorities initially said that he was killed in a shootout with police after his vehicle was stopped, but the San Bernardino County Sheriff's

Department announced Wednesday that he had died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The girl was not physically harmed and is now in the care of child protective services, officials said. For Winek and other family members, the tragedy comes with a lesson for parents.

"Take care of your kids," Winek said. "Be aware of what's going on. If you're involved, even if they're upset about it, you're doing the right thing."

Detectives with the Riverside Police Department [See Catfishing, A14]

## Jeffries will lead House Democrats

New Yorker becomes first Black lawmaker elected to the top post for either major party.

By NOLAN D. MCCASKILL

WASHINGTON — House Democrats tapped Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) on Wednesday to lead them in the next Congress.

The historic selection of Jeffries as the incoming minority leader means he will replace Rep. James E. Clyburn (D-S.C.) in January as the highest-ranking African American in the House and become the first Black lawmaker to lead either party in the chamber.

Jeffries will be joined in the top tier of Democratic

leadership by Rep. Katherine Clark of Massachusetts as minority whip and California's Rep. Pete Aguilar of Redlands as House Democratic Caucus chair. Another Californian, Rep. Ted Lieu of Torrance, won a contested race for caucus vice chair.

Democrats say their new leadership team is reflective of America's diversity.

Clark will become the second woman in congressional history to serve as whip, which will require her to have a grip on where members stand on legislative issues and, when needed, to pressure them to toe the party line.

Aguilar will follow former Reps. Xavier Becerra of Los Angeles and Robert Menendez of New Jersey to become the third Latino member to [See Jeffries, A8]

## Tornadoes tear through South

Dozens of heat-fueled twisters roll from east Texas across several states. **NATION, A7**

## Fleetwood Mac's McVie dies at 79

Singer and songwriter helped make the band one of the most successful ever. **CALENDAR, E1**

**Weather**  
Cloudy, damp.  
L.A. Basin: 59/52. **B6**

7 85944 00200 5



RICARDO MAZALAN Associated Press

### GOING HOME

Mexico's Cesar Montes reacts as his team wins its World Cup game against Saudi Arabia but fails to advance out of group play. **SPORTS, B12**

**BUSINESS INSIDE:** Crypto empire founder says: 'I didn't ever try to commit fraud.' **A10**



# The Washington Post

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Mostly sunny, windy 46/31 • Tomorrow: Sunny 52/42 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022 • B3

## House votes to force acceptance of rail deal

Goal is to bypass strike as unions push Senate to support paid sick days

BY LAUREN KAORI GURLEY  
AND LIZ GOODWIN

The House voted Wednesday to force a deal between freight rail carriers and unions, blocking a potential strike that threatened travel, supply chains and the busy holiday shopping season.

The legislation heads to the Senate, where its path could be more fraught, but leaders of both parties have vowed to act quickly.

Without a deal, the unions are poised to strike as early as Dec. 9. Four of 12 unions involved had voted down a contract brokered by the White House, that lacked paid sick days or changes to an attendance policy that rail workers say is punitive. A shutdown of the nation's railway systems could cost the economy as much as \$2 billion a day, according to the rail carriers trade group.

The House voted 290-137, with bipartisan support, on the bill that would force the rail deal that was brokered by the White House. But the chamber also narrowly approved a separate version of the rail deal, 221-207, to give rail workers seven paid sick days, a move that liberal Democrats in the House, as well as Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), have pushed for.

"Today we are here to safeguard the financial security of America's families, to protect the American economy as it continues to recover and avert a devastating nationwide rail shutdown," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said at the start of the floor

SEE RAIL DEAL ON A16



JOSE LUIS MAGANA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) walks to the Capitol after being elected leader of the House Democrats, becoming the first Black person to lead a major political party in Congress. His election is a shift for the caucus after being led by Rep. Nancy Pelosi (Calif.) for two decades.

## Time of transition to House minority

DEMOCRATS ELECT JEFFRIES AS LEADER

Changes will test ability to unite without Pelosi

BY MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR  
AND CAMILA DECHALUS

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) was elected Wednesday to lead House Democrats in the next Congress, making history as the first Black person to lead either party in either chamber and taking on the responsibility of keeping the caucus united on policies and messaging as they set their sights on winning back the majority next term.

Jeffries, as well as Minority Whip-elect Katherine M. Clark (D-Mass.) and Caucus Chair-elect Pete Aguilar (D-Calif.), will take on their positions during a moment of transition for the party, which will be fighting to protect two years of legislative victories won under a Democratic president with control of both chambers in Congress. They also will be faced with ensuring the ideological factions within the caucus are heard and represented in key decisions, a desire members have long had after decades of centralized power wielded by Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), who announced in November that she was stepping back from leadership.

While the lack of a singular strong hand can present challenges coalescing the caucus in a majority, being in the minority could allow Democrats to find consensus

SEE DEMOCRATS ON A20

@PKCapitol: Democrats turn to two leaders from the same borough. A2

## Biden to honor tribes by protecting Nevada land

BY DAN MICHALSKI

SEARCHLIGHT, NEV. — From the highway, Spirit Mountain, a 5,642-foot-high peak — appears gray. But, at times, it glows a majestic pink. For the Fort Mojave and 11 other tribes, these mystical rocks are the site from which their ancestors emerged.

"There's a spiritual connection that makes us Mojave people," said Tim Williams, chair of the tribal council. "If it's not protected, our generation will not have done our job."

Two decades ago, Congress preserved the mountain — called Avi

Renewable energy firms raise concerns about widely supported move

Kwa Ame (ah-VEE-kwah-may) in Mojave — and 33,000 acres around it as wilderness. Now the Biden administration is readying a proclamation that could put roughly 450,000 acres — spanning almost the entire triangle at the bottom of the Nevada map — off limits to development under the 1906 Antiquities Act.

When finalized, it will probably rank as the largest act of land conservation that President Biden will undertake this term, in a spot within comfortable driving distance of Las Vegas. And although tribes have often been pressured to make concessions in the past, this marks a rare instance in which they have driven the process — bolstered by the support of environmental groups, lawmakers and the rural business community.

At the White House Tribal Nations Summit on Wednesday, Biden committed to conserving the area and noted that he had invoked the Antiquities Act last year to restore protections to three national monuments. "Look, there's so much more, there's so much more that we're going to do to protect the treasured tribal lands," he told the group of tribal leaders. "When it comes to Spirit Mountain and surrounding ridges and canyons in southern Nevada, I'm committed to protecting this sacred place that is central to the creation story of so many tribes that are here today."

"And I look forward to being able to visit Spirit Mountain and

SEE NEVADA ON A6

## Trump's dinner provides test of GOP reaction to extremism

Republicans are showing increasing willingness to criticize former president

BY ISAAC ARNSDORF,  
JOSH DAWSEY  
AND MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR

Former president Donald Trump's refusal to apologize for or disavow the outspoken antisemitism he dined with last week is setting him increasingly at odds with leaders of his own party, providing the first test of his political endurance since launching his third run for the White House.

The fracas is also testing how Republicans will handle the party's extreme fringe in the months ahead after years of racist, misogynist and antisemitic speech flooding into the political bloodstream during the Trump era.

Trump has been taken back by the backlash and maintained that the controversy over his Mar-a-Lago dinner with white national-

ist Nick Fuentes and the rapper Ye, who has been vocally spouting antisemitic conspiracy theories, would blow over, according to advisers who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss confidential conversations. "I think it's dying down," they recalled Trump saying.

But the wave of denunciations only intensified as lawmakers returned to Washington from the Thanksgiving holiday this week, breaking a well-worn pattern of dodging or shrugging off Trump's controversies during much of his presidency, possibly ushering in a new phase of more vocal criticism of him.

"We have to stop the whispered concerns and veiled statements, and we have to stand up for the principles and the beliefs that our country and party were founded on," former New Jersey governor Chris Christie, the first potential 2024 candidate to condemn Trump on the dinner, said on Wednesday. "There is no place for antisemitism or white supremacists in the Republican Party and

SEE TRUMP ON A4

## Poison pill: How fentanyl killed a 17-year-old

Unsuspecting victims are duped by fake medication, often peddled on social media

BY DEVLIN BARRETT



MARLENA BLOSS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Laura and Chris Didier, parents of Zach Didier, who died at age 17 after taking a fake prescription pill that contained fentanyl, hold one of his senior photographs at a bench installed in his memory.

When his father opened the door to Zach Didier's bedroom, the boy seemed asleep at his desk, still wearing plaid pajama bottoms and a yellow T-shirt. His head rested in the crook of his left arm, near his soccer trophies and the computer where he played Minecraft with friends.

But Chris Didier sensed something was terribly wrong.

"As I got within two feet of him, I didn't feel what I would normally feel," he said. "When you approach a dead body, there is a void there, and I'd never sensed that before, and that's when my world was destroyed."

Pulling Zach away from Chris, Chris began performing CPR, screaming for his other son to call 911.

Once paramedics arrived at their home in Rocklin, Calif., they told the frantic father it was too late to save Zach, a high school senior who had no history of using drugs. Chris, an Air Force veteran who now works as

SEE FENTANYL ON A8

## IN THE NEWS



POOL/REUTERS

**Jiang Zemin dies at 96** The post-Tiananmen Square leader oversaw China in a period of extraordinary economic growth. A12

**Same-sex marriage** Bipartisan Senate support for protecting the right reflects a rapid shift in public opinion on the issue. A5

**THE NATION** The CDC said it is expanding wastewater testing for the polio virus to Philadelphia and the Detroit metropolitan area. A2  
**A lawsuit** accused Yale University of discriminating against students with mental health problems and pressuring them to withdraw from school. A3  
**The Justice Department** will "work tirelessly" to hold accountable those who played a role in the attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland said. A4

**THE WORLD** Former Soviet republics in Central Asia are moving away from an increasingly isolated Russia. A9  
**Chinese authorities** are trying to stamp out recent demonstrations and vigils by questioning and detaining participants. A10  
**Ukraine** has pressed NATO on membership, but the alliance has given the country no guarantees. A11  
**President Biden** will welcome French President Emmanuel Macron amid turbulence and tension in the Western

alliance. A13

**THE ECONOMY** Jerome H. Powell, chair of the Federal Reserve, said the central bank is preparing to slow the rapid pace of its interest rate hikes as it battles inflation. A15  
**An experimental** Alzheimer's drug shows promise but needs more study because of safety concerns, researchers said. A16  
**U.S. gas prices** are falling, with the nationwide average down to \$3.50 a gallon, per AAA. A16

**THE REGION** A Maryland judge dropped murder charges against a woman who

has been in a maximum-security psychiatric hospital since being accused of killing two of her children in 2014. B1  
**A driver** described the fatal crash of moped rider Karon Hilton-Brown at the trial of two D.C. officers who took part in a police chase. B1  
**The Maryland attorney general's office** reported that it investigated 23 fatal encounters involving police in the span of a year. B1  
**Montgomery County** rescue team members described how they pulled two people from a plane wedged into an electrical tower 100 feet off the ground. B1

## INSIDE



**LOCAL LIVING** How to practice 'gentle parenting' Does the approach mean no discipline? We asked experts to explain the techniques and benefits.

**STYLE** The Post will end Sunday magazine The final edition of the weekly insert will be Dec. 25, the paper's executive editor told the staff. C1

BUSINESS NEWS.....A15  
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LIFESTYLE.....B3  
OBITUARIES.....B4  
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WORLD NEWS.....A9

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## House passes legislation to avert rail shutdown

Lawmakers reluctant to get involved in labor dispute but said action was necessary. **In Money**

## Columnist: We cannot let Griner fade into memories

Imprisoned WNBA star is our people, in more ways than one, Mike Freeman writes. **In Sports**

# USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022



ANYA TAYLOR-JOY  
BY ERIC ZACHANOWICH/AP

## No shortage of satires roasting the uber rich

TV shows and films this fall targeting the wealthy are everywhere, from "The Menu," left, to "Triangle of Sadness" to "White Lotus." **In Life**

### ELECTION 2024

## Political calendar set for shake-up

### Democrats poised to supplant Iowa as leadoff contest

Brianne Pfannenstiel  
and Francesca Chambers  
USA TODAY

National Democrats are poised to upend decades of political precedent this week as they gather in Washington to vote on a new presidential nominating calendar — one that is expected to, finally, bump Iowa from its first-in-the-nation status.

Members of the Democratic National Committee's Rules and Bylaws Committee are exploring scenarios that could move New Hampshire or Nevada into the leadoff spot and bring a new state such as Michigan or Minnesota into the early voting window.

Though the outcome is far from certain, few expect Iowa, which has kicked off the presidential nominating process since 1972, to hold its coveted position after a disastrous 2020 caucus in which the party was unable to report results for several days amid a tangle of technology and organizational failures.

The collapse fueled Democrats' rising concerns that the state is too white to represent an increasingly diverse party, prompting the committee to open its review of the calendar and which states vote first.

Those positions are highly sought — and closely guarded — because the opening states draw outside attention from presidential contenders who meticulously court their voters' support and bring millions of dollars worth of spending and national media exposure to the state.

See **DEMOCRATS**, Page 3A



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

## House Dems pick Jeffries as leader

New York Rep. Hakeem Jeffries will make history as the first Black lawmaker to lead a major party in Congress. He succeeds Nancy Pelosi, who announced her retirement in November after serving as House speaker since 2019. **2A**



Police Chief Tommy Johnson inspects damage to the Sagewood Apartments complex in Eutaw, Ala., after a tornado struck the town. At least two people in the state were killed in a line of violent storms. GARY COSBY JR./USA TODAY NETWORK

## Deadly storms, tornadoes sweep through Southeast

### Line of violent weather brings high winds, hail

John Bacon, Marty Roney  
and Jorge L. Ortiz  
USA TODAY

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — More than 20 possible tornadoes slashed through the Southeast, killing at least two people and damaging homes as a line of intense weather rolled from Texas to Georgia and as far north as Indiana.

The National Weather Service issued more than 70 tornado warnings

across a swath of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana on Tuesday and Wednesday as storms slammed the region with heavy rains, high winds and large hail.

In Alabama, a possible early-morning tornado just north of Montgomery killed a 39-year-old woman and her 8-year-old son when a tree fell on their mobile home, authorities said. The boy's father was hospitalized.

In the same community, Caroline Bankston said she and Tim Wiseman were watching the news when they realized a tornado was about to hit them, so they moved to a safer spot as part of the roof fell into their sofa.

"Thank God we moved," Bankston said.

In the Greene County town of Eutaw, the storm forced 15 families from their homes in the middle of the night. In Hale County, a suspected tornado damaged numerous homes. "I have seen some really nice mobile homes tied down, but they just don't stand a chance," County Emergency Management Director Weeden told WBRC-TV.

In Louisiana's rural Caldwell Parish, at least two people were hurt when several homes were damaged by a tornado, Sheriff Clay Bennett said. Tornadoes also were confirmed in Mississippi.

Contributing: The Associated Press



Caitlyne Gonzales, 10, of Uvalde, Texas, and Zoe Touray, 18, of Pontiac, Mich., became fast friends. SARAHBETH MANEY/USA TODAY NETWORK

## Kids bonded by tragedy unite in the joy of youth

### Uvalde, Oxford shooting survivors come together

Lily Altavenna  
Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

UVALDE, Texas — The limbo stick has been lowered and it's Gabe Loe's turn.

At first, the 17-year-old high school senior from Oxford, Michigan, looks as if he can clear the stick, but then his feet slide, he falls backward and crashes to the ground with

a smile.

Lourdes "LuLu" Ramirez, a 9-year-old from Uvalde, giggles as she watches Gabe tumble to the ground. On her face, someone has painted pink, blue and purple daisies, connected by a green stem that winds across her eyes and mouth.

Ever since May, after a shooter entered LuLu's school, her dad,

See **SURVIVORS**, Page 6A

## US, France celebrate renewed alliance

### State dinner for Macron a nod to global realities

Francesca Chambers  
and Michael Collins  
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — French President Emmanuel Macron was so furious with the Biden administration last fall over a submarine snub, he ordered his ambassador to the U.S. to return to Paris.

A year later, Macron himself is in Washington to be feted at a pomp-filled state dinner — the first of Joe Biden's presidency and the second such invitation for the French leader. Macron was also the first foreign leader bestowed with the honor during the Trump administration.

Both nations can attribute the détente in large part to Russia's war on

See **FRANCE**, Page 2A



Macron



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## Crisis en el Mercosur por una decisión unilateral de Uruguay

La Argentina, Brasil y Paraguay plantearon una queja formal por la adhesión del gobierno de Luis Lacalle Pou, por fuera del bloque, al Acuerdo Transpacífico. **Página 13**



## POR LA INFLACIÓN, CRECEN LOS CHEQUES RECHAZADOS

—economía

Subió 12% en octubre la cantidad de títulos librados sin fondos suficientes en las cuentas; empresas y comerciantes sufren el impacto del alza de costos. **Página 16**

## LA CORONA BRITÁNICA, SACUDIDA POR UN INCIDENTE RACISTA

—el mundo

Tuvo que renunciar una ayudante de la reina consorte por expresiones discriminatorias hacia una invitada en el Palacio de Buckingham. **Página 6**

# LA NACION

JUEVES 1º DE DICIEMBRE DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

QATAR 2022 **Q22**

## Argentina levanta vuelo

Arrolló a Polonia, ganó el grupo y ahora va por Australia



Julián Álvarez celebra su gol, el 2-0, con Enzo Fernández, que le dio la asistencia; Messi y Paredes corren para sumarse al festejo

TOM WELTER/DPA

Empezó otro Mundial. La selección argentina arrolló a Polonia con un 2-0 que pudo ser una goleada y pasó a octavos de final, donde el sábado va por Australia, un rival de segundo orden que dio la sorpresa al eliminar a Dinamarca. Un gol de Alexis Mac Allister al empezar el segundo tiempo llevó calma a un equipo que había dominado cada minuto del

duelo. Julián Álvarez, titular inesperado en el ataque, anotó el segundo, tras un pase de Enzo Fernández. A Lionel Messi le habían atajado un penal en el primer tiempo. Esta vez no fue el salvador: fue el equipo el que lo rescató a él con una muy buena actuación. Argentina ganó el grupo; Polonia pasó segundo y lo espera Francia. **Deportes Mundial**

### Recuperó la brújula con carácter y confianza

Diego Latorre  
Página 7

### Golpe, desahogo y festejo: la remontada emocional

Federico Águila  
Página 8

### PARTIDOS DE HOY

12 HS.

Croacia Bélgica

Canadá Marruecos

16 HS.

Japón España

Costa Rica Alemania

## Otra maniobra para trabar el Consejo de la Magistratura

**DESAFÍO.** El kirchnerismo bloqueó la jura de los representantes de la Cámara de Diputados

Página 8

## El oficialismo ocultó con escándalo los contratos de las compras de vacunas

**NEGOCIOS.** Los aprobó sin debate y en forma reservada en la Auditoría General

Laura Serra  
LA NACION

En un trámite que rozó el escándalo, la mayoría oficialista que integra la Auditoría General de la Nación (AGN) aprobó sin mayor debate los

diez contratos que el Estado argentino suscribió con distintos laboratorios para la provisión de vacunas contra el Covid-19, en una polémica decisión, dispuso mantener en secreto todas sus actuaciones.

Los auditores de Juntos por el

Cambio, en minoría, presentaron un dictamen de "rechazo total" al informe oficialista y acusaron al oficialismo de "autolimitar" la labor de la AGN para impedir un control más exhaustivo. **Continúa en la página 12**

### EL ESCENARIO

Poder y negocios bajo las gradas de Qatar

Carlos Pagni

—LA NACION—

Página 14



## Investigação sobre gastos derruba chefe do Butantan

O diretor do Instituto Butantan, Dimas Covas, pediu demissão ontem, em meio a desgaste entre o governo paulista e a Fundação Butantan, entidade privada também chefiada por ele e que atua como braço operacional e administrativo do instituto.

A saída de Dimas ocorre após reportagem da Folha revelar gastos da fundação com contratos sem licitação, obras e altos salários. David Uip, secretário de Ciência, disse que Dimas saiu por "motivos pessoais". Por ora, ele segue à frente da fundação. Procurado, não respondeu à reportagem. **Cotidiano B2**



Bombeiros de Santa Catarina/APP

## DESLIZAMENTO NO PR MATA 2 E DEIXA AO MENOS 30 DESAPARECIDOS; PRF CULPA CONCESSIONÁRIA

Equipes trabalham na altura do km 669 da BR-376, em Guaratuba (PR), após lama que desceu de morro soterrar 16 veículos na segunda (28), deixando ao menos 2 mortos e 30 desaparecidos. Polícia diz que Arteris Litoral Sul deveria ter interditado trecho antes; para empresa, é prematuro apontar causas. **B5**

## Para aderir à base de Lula, partidos pedem ministérios

O plano do presidente eleito de formar uma base política com MDB, PSD e União Brasil dependerá da negociação de ministérios. O MDB ambiciona três, um deles para Simone Tebet. O PSD pretende emplacar ao menos dois. **Política A4**

## Guia C9

Comic Con volta presencial a São Paulo com Marvel e atriz de 'Wandinha'

## Desmatamento na Amazônia

Média anual, em km²



\*Afastada do cargo em mai.2016  
Fonte: Prodes/Inpe

# Desmate na Amazônia cai 11%, mas supera 10 mil km²

Taxa de agosto de 2021 a julho de 2022 freia sequência de alta registrada desde 2018

A taxa de desmatamento na Amazônia caiu 11% de agosto de 2021 a julho de 2022 em relação aos 12 meses anteriores, apontam dados do programa Prodes, do Inpe (Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais). A queda interrompe uma sequência de alta registrada desde 2018.

Segundo o Inpe, foram derrubados 11.568 km² de floresta, o equivalente a mais de sete vezes a área do município de São Paulo. Pela quarta vez seguida, o índice excede 10 mil km². Pará, Amazonas, Mato Grosso e Rondônia foram de novo os focos do desmate.

Criticado dentro e fora do Brasil por sua política ambiental, o governo Jair Bolsonaro (PL) tem a maior média anual de desmatamento amazônico (11,3 mil km²) desde a primeira gestão de Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT), que terminou com 21,6 mil km².

Apesar da divulgação só ontem, o Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovações já havia recebido os dados antes da COP27, finda em 20 de novembro. **Ambiente B1**

**Ibama corre risco de paralisação após bloqueio de R\$ 90 milhões** **B1**

## copa 2022

## Argentina passa às oitavas com goloço e pegará Austrália

Em clima de Bombonera, a Argentina bateu a Polônia por 2 a 0, apesar de Messi perder pênalti. Em primeiro no grupo, evitou a França nas oitavas. A Austrália eliminou a Dinamarca. **p.1**

## Tayguara Ribeiro

Bola acañada faz da Holanda incógnita **p.5**

## Luís Curro

Bélgica corre risco sério de ir embora cedo **p.5**

## Modelos matemáticos colocam Brasil como favorito ao título

## Jogos de ontem

TUN x FRA	1 x 0	
AUS x DIN	1 x 0	
POL x ARG	0 x 2	
ARS x MEX	1 x 2	

## Jogos de hoje

CRO x BEL	12h*, GLBO**	
CAN x MAR	12h*, SPORIV**	
JAP x ESP	16h*, SPORIV**	
CRC x ALE	16h*, GLBO**	



Torcida na arena 974 festeja bom futebol e gols de Mac Allister e Julián Álvarez **Odd Andersen/APP**

## Desemprego recua a 8,3%, e vaga sem carteira é recorde

O desemprego recuou a 8,3% no trimestre até outubro — melhor resultado desde 2014 no intervalo, de 8,7% no anterior. Seria um reflexo tardio da melhora da economia no 1º semestre.

Segundo o IBGE (Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística), a população ocupada bateu recorde, aos 99,7 milhões, como os empregados sem carteira: são 13,4 milhões. **Mercado A18**

## Chance de EUA desacelerarem juro baixa dólar para R\$ 5,20

Presidente eleito viajará para ver Biden antes da posse, diz Haddad **A15**

**Droga é eficaz no início do Alzheimer, mas traz riscos**

**DIAS MELHORES**  
Testes com a lecanemab, droga experimental contra Alzheimer, indicam que o tratamento desacelerou um pouco o declínio cognitivo em fases iniciais, mas houve casos de sangramento cerebral. **Saúde B7**

## EDITORIAIS A2

**Ambiente ruim**  
Sobre desmatamento da Amazônia sob Bolsonaro.

**Caldeirão chinês**  
Acerca de protestos contra política de Covid zero.

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# Mudanças climáticas

2ª edição

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**HOJE**  
15h

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**Seprelad recaba información sobre los movimientos financieros de la familia**

## Frete se aferra a su cargo y no presenta renuncia a la CSJ

Los demás integrantes de la máxima instancia judicial le pidieron que dé un paso al costado. La Cámara de Diputados también le exhortó a que dimita como ministro.

PÁGINAS 4 y 5

**Evalúan impacto de subas salariales  
El Poder Ejecutivo no  
descarta la objeción  
parcial al PGN 2023**

PÁGINA 12

**Merienda escolar también está en riesgo  
El MEC perderá G. 2.481  
millones para aulas si  
derogan convenio con UE**

PÁGINA 23

**SENTÍ Qatar** **HOY**

12:00 HS EN VIVO

Croacia vs Bélgica

16:00 HS EN VIVO

Costa Rica vs Alemania

WORLD CUP Qatar 2022

## Senado define veto a antojadiza indemnización con tufo electoral



**Responsables.** Enrique Riera, Abel González, Miguel F. Rodríguez y Tony Apuril impulsaron ley que puede afectar fondos sociales de Itaipú y pretende beneficiar a 16.000 ex obreros de contratistas en detrimento del resto de los paraguayos.

PÁGINA 18

**El proceso ya lleva 4 años  
Con chicana traban de nuevo  
audiencia preliminar de Cucho  
Cabaña y Ulises Quintana**

PÁGINA 48

**La próxima semana definen la terna  
Candidatos a fiscal general  
del Estado dicen que existe  
una crisis institucional**

PÁGINA 10

**Vecinos piden ayuda a la Junta  
Urgen a Nenecho el listado  
de las estaciones de servicio  
ya aprobadas y en estudio**

PÁGINA 22

**HILUX**

MANTENIMIENTO INCLUIDO  
HASTA 100.000 KM  
CONSULTE PLANES DE FINANCIACIÓN

SRV D/C MEC.  
DESDE  
**\$ 44.010**  
ENTREGA  
INMEDIATA



DX D/C MEC.  
DESDE  
**\$ 34.830**  
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INMEDIATA



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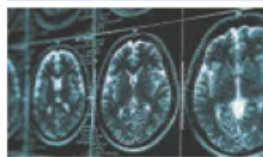
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## LE FIGARO

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



**ALZHEIMER**  
L'ESPOIR D'UN TRAITEMENT  
QUI RALENTIT LA MALADIE  
PAGE 14

**LE FIGARO LITTÉRAIRE**  
BLAISE CENDRARS,  
LA REDÉCOUVERTE D'UNE ŒUVRE  
INCLASSABLE NOTRE SUPPLÉMENT



## DROITE

Les rendez-vous  
des députés LR  
« constructifs »

PAGE 8

## HONGRIE

Bruxelles gèle  
des fonds promis  
à Budapest PAGE 9

## SANTÉ

Les coulisses  
des derniers  
préparatifs avant  
le débat sur  
l'euthanasie PAGE 11

## COUPE

DU MONDE  
Un premier tour  
presque parfait  
pour les Bleus

PAGES 12 ET 13

## DISTRIBUTION

Nouvelle flambée  
des prix en vue  
dans les grandes  
surfaces

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**CHAMPS LIBRES**

- Les dernières énigmes de la tombe de Toutankhamon
- Les chroniques d'Eugénie Bastié et de Luc Ferry
- Le tête à tête de Charles Jaigu
- Un entretien avec Jean-Thomas Lesueur
- La tribune de Xavier Patier
- L'analyse de Paul Suty

PAGES 16 À 19

**FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NON**

Réponses à la question de mercredi : Êtes-vous favorable à un report de l'âge légal de la retraite à 65 ans ?

NON  
58%OUI  
42%

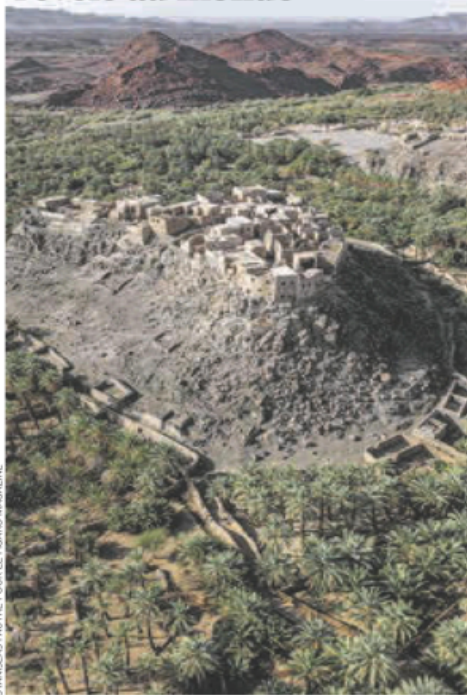
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au rétablissement  
de la double peine  
pour les étrangers  
condamnés en France ?

DIMITRY VOLOCHOK/DEDMITVY -  
STOCKADORE.COM - XOSE BOUZAS /  
HANS LUCAS VIA REUTERS CONNECT

## En Arabie saoudite, l'extraordinaire site archéologique de Khaybar révélé au monde



STANIS FAUTRE POUR LE FIGARO MAGAZINE

Dans le nord-ouest du pays, entre Médine et al-Ula, l'ancien royaume juif d'Arabie recèle les vestiges de 500 000 ans d'occupation humaine. Excepté les populations locales, seuls les archéologues y avaient jusqu'ici accès. *Le Figaro* a pu découvrir en exclusivité, quelques jours avant que les autorités l'ouvrent au public pour la première fois, cette merveille de la nature anthropisée. PAGES 32 ET 33

# La politique « zéro Covid » libère la colère contre Xi Jinping

Les manifestations qui ont éclaté le week-end dernier dans une vingtaine de villes illustrent l'ampleur du ressentiment accumulé contre le pouvoir chinois.

Le régime de Xi Jinping, d'abord pris de court par les manifestations du week-end dans une vingtaine de villes, s'efforce de reprendre la main en déployant ses forces de sécurité. Mais le mouvement, inédit depuis la révolte démocratique sur la place Tiananmen en 1989, témoigne de la colère qui enfle depuis des mois à travers la Chine. Cer-

tes, ces quelques milliers de participants ne sont qu'une goutte d'eau à l'échelle d'une population de 1,4 milliard d'habitants. Mais ce mouvement transcende les classes sociales, rassemble ouvriers, étudiants et jeunes, enjambe les différences géographiques profondes d'un pays mosaïque qui se raidit en réaction à un confinement sans fin.

➔ L'ÉTROITE MARGE DE MANŒUVRE DE XI JINPING  
➔ LE DÉPLACEMENT DE CHARLES MICHEL TOMBE À UN MOMENT « INOCCUPÉ »  
➔ LA CHINE N'A PAS SU SORTIR DU COVIDET SEXPOSE À PLUS DE 1 MILLION DE MORTS  
➔ UN JEUNE SUR CINQ EST AU CHÔMAGE DANS LA DEUXIÈME PUISSANCE ÉCONOMIQUE  
PAGES 2, 4, 5 ET L'ÉDITORIAL



## À l'Assemblée, un climat de plus en plus électrique

L'ambiance se tend dans l'hémicycle du Palais Bourbon. Semaine après semaine, les séances houleuses se succèdent et les députés sont parfois près d'en venir aux mains. Comme jeudi dernier, lors de la niche parlementaire LFI, où plusieurs incidents ont éclaté.

Un climat causé par l'absence de majorité absolue, qui provoque une forte instabilité, et l'activisme des Insoumis. Ce jeudi, c'est au tour des députés LR de disposer d'une niche leur permettant de soumettre au vote plusieurs de leurs textes. PAGE 6

**ÉDITORIAL** par Arnaud de La Grange adelagrang@lefigaro.fr

## « Tuer dans l'œuf »...

Comme un clin d'œil de l'Histoire, l'ancien président Jiang Zemin disparaît au moment où la Chine s'effondre de manière inédite. Échaudé par la fièvre de Tiananmen, Jiang avait plus tard invité à « tuer dans l'œuf » tous les facteurs de contestation. Du haut de son trône rouge, Xi Jinping a sans doute en tête les mots de cet « ancien », par ailleurs bien plus ouvert que lui. Les dirigeants communistes chinois ont beau s'attacher à l'effacer, ils connaissent leur histoire. Ils savent que, dans la grande Chine, tout peut s'emballer et prendre une ampleur non maîtrisable. Que de petites sources rebelles ont parfois fait de grands fleuves révolutionnaires. C'est pourquoi les maîtres du pays tapent aussi fort et vite sur tout citoyen qui bouge. Leur hantise est celle d'une convergence horizontale des luttes. Que la protestation contre un scandale environnemental ou la corruption d'un potentat local - aujourd'hui la folle stratégie « zéro Covid » - ne se répande d'une province à l'autre, que l'on passe du terrain social au champ politique. Le PCC témoigne d'une indéniable habileté dans cette gestion de crise, réprimant d'une main et lâchant une pincée de lest de l'autre.

Il n'hésite pas à mettre aux fers un Prix Nobel de la paix, le malheureux Liu Xiaobo, pourtant auteur d'une charte démocratique fort modérée. Pour paraphraser Jiang Zemin dans un registre plus populaire, « il faut tuer la poule pour effrayer le singe ».

Une fois de plus, la fronde devrait être maîtrisée. Le rouleau compresseur sécuritaire s'est mis en route et la répression se fera sans états d'âme. Mais l'avertissement est sérieux. Des manifestations de cette ampleur, en plusieurs points de l'empire, n'avaient pas été vues depuis quatre décennies. Blasphème insupportable, les slogans s'en prennent au timonier en chef lui-même. Les ouvriers clament leur ras-le-bol, mais la classe moyenne aussi. Or, dans la Chine capitalo-communiste, c'est avec cette dernière que le parti a passé le contrat politique. On assure sa prospérité ; en échange, elle se tait. Aujourd'hui, le pacte se fissure. Pour cimenter de nouveau le dispositif, Xi Jinping dispose du bâton et du dangereux ressort nationaliste. ■

Une fois de plus, la répression se fera sans états d'âme

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**Christine McVie**  
1943-2022 News

Isabella Summers Hollywood is calling for Florence's 'Machine'

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# The Guardian

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## Revealed: 70% of England's water firms in foreign hands

Anna Leach  
Carmen Aguilar García  
Sandra Laville

Foreign investment firms, private equity, pension funds and businesses lodged in tax havens own more than 70% of the water industry in England, according to research by the Guardian.

The complex web of ownership is revealed as the public and some politicians increasingly call for the industry to be held to account for sewage dumping, leaks and water shortages. Six water companies are under investigation for potentially illegal activities as pressure grows on the industry to put more money into replacing and restoring crumbling infrastructure to protect both the environment and public health.

More than three decades after the sector was sold off with a promise to the public they would become individual shareholders or "H-Owners", control of the water industry has become dominated by overseas investment vehicles, the super-rich, companies in tax havens and pension fund investors. The ownership

structure is such that transparency and accountability is limited, according to Dr Kate Bayliss, a research associate with the department of economics at Soas University of London.

International investment funds with large stakes include several household names as well as sovereign wealth funds. For example the Qatar Investment Authority is the third largest shareholder in Severn Trent, with a 4.6% holding, while almost 10% is held by the US investment company BlackRock and its subsidiaries, according to analysis of shareholdings as of October this year.

A subsidiary of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority has a 9.9% stake in Thames Water, while 8.7% is owned by China, the analysis shows.

The Guardian has tracked more than 100 shareholders of the nine main water and sewerage companies and six smaller firms that serve customers in England.

The research reveals at least 72% of the industry is controlled by firms in 17 countries, while UK firms own 10%. Ownership of 82% of the water industry was traced overall. Most water firms in England are now privately owned.

## MoJ requests use of 400 police cells for prisoners

Aletha Adu  
Rajeev Syal

Dominic Raab was accused of a "foolish and unrealistic" prisons policy after his department had to request the emergency use of 400 police cells for the first time in 14 years.

Ministers blamed the recent barristers' strike for an "acute and sudden increase in the prison population" of 800 in two months - a claim challenged by charities, MPs and unions.

The Ministry of Justice wrote to the National Police Chiefs' Council to establish the Operation Safeguard protocol.



Ngozi Fulani was asked where her 'people' came from while at a Buckingham Palace reception  
PHOTOGRAPH: GRAEME ROBERTSON/GUARDIAN

## 'Where are you from?' Royal aide resigns after questioning black guest at palace over origins

Caroline Davies  
Hannah Summers

The late queen's lady-in-waiting has resigned and apologised after a black guest at a reception hosted by the queen consort was left feeling traumatised and violated after she

questioned her repeatedly about where she "really came from".

Ngozi Fulani, the founder of the charity Sistah Space, claimed Susan Hussey moved her hair to reveal her name badge and persistently asked questions about where her "people" came from, despite having been told she was a British national. A

spokesperson for Prince William, who is Lady Hussey's godson, said the comments were unacceptable and that "racism has no place in our society". The encounter on Tuesday at a violence against women and girls reception was witnessed by two other women: Mandu Reid, the leader of the Women's Equality party, who is of mixed heritage, and another black female charity representative.

Hussey, 83, the widow of the former BBC chair Sir Marmaduke Hussey, had recently been appointed one of the ladies of the household. She is a friend of the king. Her daughter, Katherine Brooke, has been appointed as one of