

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

**Amgen** is in advanced talks to buy drug company Horizon Therapeutics, according to people familiar with the matter, in a takeover likely to be valued at well over \$20 billion. **A1**

◆ **Customers are on the hook** to repay billions of dollars of weather-related utilities debt issued by states and power companies facing heavy storm-recovery costs. **A1**

◆ **The financial squeeze** that started about six months ago for nontraditional lenders is getting worse, contrasting sharply with recent rallies in stocks and corporate bonds. **B1**

◆ **Some of the world's** most influential institutions are selling shares of Asia's tech giants after owning them for years, a troubling sign for investors after what has already been a painful market selloff. **B1**

◆ **Investors appear** increasingly confident that the Fed will be able to cool inflation while avoiding the "hard landing" of a deep and prolonged economic downturn. **B1**

◆ **Finance recently** made a commitment to transparency, but has a long way to go before it discloses enough meaningful information to give investors confidence in its future, accounting and financial specialists say. **B1**

◆ **Gaming in the cloud** is a key piece of the FTC's lawsuit to block Microsoft's purchase of Activision. **B1**

## World-Wide

◆ **Kyiv's military** destroyed a hotel complex hosting dozens of Russian military personnel with U.S.-supplied long-range artillery, while more Russian drone strikes continued to degrade Ukraine's electricity grid. **A1, A6**

◆ **Congressional leaders** were set to return to the Capitol under pressure to negotiate a spending bill that would fund the federal government's operations beyond Friday. **A1**

◆ **The alleged bomb-maker** in the 1988 attack that destroyed a jetliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, is in U.S. custody and will face federal charges. **A8**

◆ **A powerful storm** pounded California and parts of the West Coast with rain, snow and gusting winds that triggered flash-flood warnings and highway closures. **A5**

◆ **Republican Kari Lake**, who last month lost her bid to be Arizona's governor, filed a lawsuit alleging that the results of the midterm elections are false and she should be declared the winner. **A5**

◆ **Florida lawmakers** were set to begin a special legislative session Monday to address the state's deepening property-insurance crisis. **A3**

◆ **A Hong Kong court** sentenced pro-democracy activist Jimmy Lai to more than five years in prison on a fraud conviction. **A18**

◆ **Dorothy Pittman Hughes**, 84, Black feminist. **A2**

## JOURNAL REPORT

C-Suite Strategies: The best-managed companies. **R1-16**

## CONTENTS

Outlook.....A2  
Arts in Review.....A13  
Business & Finance.....A13-17  
Technology.....A14  
Crossword.....A14  
U.S. News.....A2-5  
World News.....A6-39



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A U.S.-made Ukrainian vehicle on Sunday in Lyman, Donetsk province. Fierce fighting goes on in Bakhmut in that province.

## Ukraine Strike Levels Hotel Used to House Russian Troops

By IAN LOVETT  
AND ALAN CULLISON

KHERSON, Ukraine—Kyiv's military demolished a hotel complex hosting dozens of Russian military personnel overnight with U.S.-supplied long-range artillery, while more Russian drone strikes continued to degrade Ukraine's electricity grid.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said 1.5 million people in Ukraine's southern Odessa region were left without power after strikes late Saturday. Only critical infrastruc-

ture was connected to the power grid, he said, adding that restoring service could take longer than after previous attacks.

Air-raid sirens continued to sound in Ukraine on Sunday as Russia launched more strikes.

Footage of the Ukrainian artillery strike against a hotel in the Russian-occupied city of Melitopol showed burning buildings as well as dead and wounded Russian soldiers among the wreckage. Russian and Ukrainian social-media channels said there were dozens of casualties but gave

varying death tolls.

The exiled Ukrainian mayor of Melitopol, Ivan Fedorov, wrote on his Telegram channel that as many as 300 Russian troops were "roasted" in the strike. The Russian-installed governor of the region said dozens were wounded and two killed.

Ukraine has been using U.S.-supplied long-range artillery, or HIMARS, to try to break up Russian troop concentrations behind the front lines so that Moscow can't maneuver its forces for an attack. The strike on the hotel complex in

Melitopol, in southeastern Ukraine about 50 miles from the Sea of Azov, appeared to be at the limit of the range of the HIMARS munitions supplied by the U.S.

But Ukraine has so far been able to mount only a limited defense against Moscow's campaign of missile and drone attacks.

Missile strikes late Saturday.

Please turn to page A6

◆ **Allies gauge costs of a Ukraine win.....** A6  
◆ **Western weapons given to Kyiv need repairs.....** A6

## U.S. Builds Firewall to Stop Spread of Militant Islamists

Troops join allies in Niger to block al Qaeda and Islamic State

By MICHAEL M. PHILLIPS

OUALLAM, Niger—The front lines in the war between the West and militant Islamists have shifted to Africa, from Somalia on the continent's eastern tip to the West African Sahel, a semidesert strip south of the Sahara.

In the Sahel, the U.S. and its allies are betting that Niger, the worst-off country in the world by a U.N. measure, offers the best hope of stopping the seemingly inexorable spread of al Qaeda and Islamic State.

In the heart of the region, the nations of Mali and Burkina Faso are losing ground,

roiled by militant attacks and military coups. In contrast, the elected civilian government in neighboring Niger is making slow headway against insurgents with the help of Western forces, U.S. and Nigerien officials said. Mali's ruling junta has hired Kremlin-linked mercenaries to provide security, while Niger has shunned Russian intervention and welcomed U.S. and French forces.

"We've invested a lot with the Nigeriens, and we're seeing a payoff from that," said Lt. Col. Chris Couch, commander of U.S. special-operations troops in West Africa. Niger, he said, is emerging as a cornerstone of re-

Please turn to page A10

## Storm Costs Hit Utility Customers

By JENNIFER HILLER

After powerful storms wreaked havoc on America's utility system in recent years, bills to cover recovery costs are coming due for customers.

Electric and gas utilities are increasingly turning to lower-interest, ratepayer-backed bonds to finance

mounting investments to fix and bolster their systems or cover extraordinary energy costs following hurricanes, wildfires and winter freezes. Customers are on the hook for repaying the loans, and the payback period could stretch for as long as 30 years.

In the past year, around \$12.4 billion of weather-re-

lated utilities debt that customers will have to pay has been issued in the U.S., according to advisory firm Suber Partners LLC, up from around \$7 billion in long-term recovery bonds that states

Please turn to page A2

◆ **Florida addresses property-insurance crisis.....** A3

## INSIDE



## SPORTS

France finds its way back to the World Cup semifinals by defying soccer orthodoxy. **A14**

## Now Driving You Mad at the Car Lot: Not Enough Title Paper

Auto industry vexed by shortage of mundane paper used to show ownership

By NORA ECKERT

Supply-chain snarls have now hit one of the most boring documents in anyone's filing cabinet—the car title. "When I first heard of this, I said, 'What?'" says Bob Wheat, general manager at Village Ford car dealership in Dearborn, Mich. "It was just a total surprise to me."

Already, the auto industry

has dealt with crimps in supplies of chips, batteries and even the oval blue badges that Ford Motor Co. puts on trucks.

Now, some states are warning that the specialized paper used to print vehicle titles has gotten hard to find. Government agencies are rationing stashes and extending wait times for flummoxed dealers and car owners.

Please turn to page A10

## Amgen Nears Year's Top Deal In Health

Biotech giant is in advanced talks to buy Horizon Therapeutics for at least \$20 billion

Amgen Inc. is in advanced talks to buy drug company Horizon Therapeutics PLC, according to people familiar with the matter, in a takeover likely to be valued at well over \$20 billion and mark the largest healthcare merger of the year.

By Ben Dummelt,  
Dana Cimilluca  
and Laura Cooper

The U.S. biotechnology company was the last of three suitors standing in an auction for Horizon, the people said, after French drugmaker Sanofi SA said Sunday it was out of the running.

A deal could be finalized by Monday assuming the talks with Amgen don't fall apart, the people said.

Horizon develops medicines to treat rare autoimmune and severe inflammatory diseases that are currently sold mostly in the U.S. Its biggest drug, Tepezza, is used to treat thyroid eye disease, an affliction characterized by progressive inflammation and damage to tissues around the eyes.

The company is Nasdaq-listed but based in Ireland and has operations in Dublin, Deerfield, Ill., and a new facility in Rockville, Md.

Horizon said last month it

Please turn to page A4

## NASA's Orion Returns to Earth



NASA's Orion spacecraft splashed down in the Pacific Ocean on Sunday, concluding a nearly monthlong test mission that sent it around the moon. **A3**

## Friday Deadline For Funding Deal Tests Lawmakers

By KATY STECH PEREK

WASHINGTON—Congressional leaders are set to return to the Capitol on Monday under pressure to negotiate a spending bill that would fund the federal government's operations beyond Friday.

Negotiators have days to reach a deal on a full-year spending bill or pass a short-term measure delaying the deadline to avoid a partial government shutdown. To reach a longer-term deal, they will have to break the partisan deadlock between Republicans and Democrats, who are split over \$26 billion in nondefense spending in talks to craft an omnibus bill.

Republicans say that Democrats want big increases for entities such as the Internal Revenue Service that they say are already flush with cash. Democrats say their funding priorities, such as funding veterans'

healthcare, are critical.

Democrats in the Senate need to convince at least 10 Republicans to agree to advance a spending bill with the 60 votes needed. In the House, a spending bill can be passed with a simple majority.

Complicating talks is the coming GOP takeover of the House, with some Republicans calling to throw the negotiations into the next Congress in order to push for more control over spending, by passing a so-called continuing resolution into January.

"Let's pass a CR that will allow a Republican House to pass a more fiscally responsible spending bill early next year," tweeted Sen. Ron Johnson (R., Wis.) on Friday.

The GOP's narrow majority and open divisions could make any deal hard to reach then, and Democrats have rejected the idea of punting talks to

Please turn to page A4





## Europe succumbs to migrant fatigue

BIG READ, PAGE 19

## Decoupling exposes some unpleasant truths

RANA FOROOGHAR, PAGE 21

## Storm chasing Bright outlook for forecasters

A stag grazes on frozen grass in Richmond Park in London yesterday as a band of cold weather grips Europe.

A new generation of European weather satellites is due to launch tomorrow. Meteosat Third Generation — a collaboration between the European Space Agency and Eumetsat — will provide 50 times more data than the current vehicles and increase the accuracy of warnings on imminent storms.

"Local detail of storms is incredibly hard to predict even with the best computer modelling," said Simon Keogh of the UK Met Office. Forecasting across very short timescales and distances depends mainly on the quality of rainfall radar and satellite observations.

MTG will deliver better warnings of severe weather, with economic benefits running to billions of dollars on top of saving lives, Keogh said.

Satellites set to launch page 3



Alan Lamb, LNP

### Briefing

► **Biden adviser criticises shale groups over supplies**  
The refusal of US shale groups to increase drilling amid Ukraine war disruption has been labelled "un-American" by the White House chief energy adviser. — PAGE 2

► **EY junks holiday bonuses**  
EY has become the latest major financial services firm to signal a darkening economic outlook globally by scrapping the holiday bonuses of its US staff. — PAGE 6

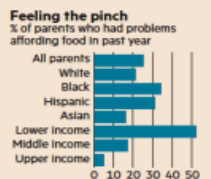
► **Beijing eases freight curbs**  
China has taken another step to ease its economically damaging zero-Covid policy after lifting curbs on transport workers that had slowed freight traffic. — PAGE 4

► **Eon calls for grid support**  
A significant jump in investment in the electricity grid is needed to avoid a "big mistake" in Europe's renewable power push, the chief executive of Eon warned. — PAGE 2

► **Surge in bitcoin outflows**  
The failure of Sam Bankman-Fried's FTX triggered investors to pull record levels of bitcoin worth \$1.5bn from crypto exchanges last month in a flight to safety. — PAGE 4

► **Japan warns on chip bans**  
China's progress in artificial intelligence and super computers is unlikely to be stalled by US sanctions, Japanese executives at Sony and NEC cautioned. — PAGE 9

### Datwatch



One in four American parents say there have been times in the past year when they could not afford food for their families or to pay their rent or mortgage. Among lower income parents, the share rises to 52 per cent

# Two MEPs held as Qatari corruption scandal shakes European parliament

◆ Belgian judge charges four people ◆ €600,000 in cash seized ◆ Doha denies influence peddling

VALENTINA POP AND ANDY BOUNDS — BRUSSELS  
SILVIA SCIORILLI BORRELLI — MILAN  
SIMEON KERR — DUBAI

The European parliament is at the centre of a spreading corruption scandal after Belgian police seized €600,000 in cash and detained two MEPs as part of an international investigation into claims that World Cup host Qatar sought to buy influence.

A Belgian judge charged four unnamed people yesterday with "participation in a criminal organisation, money laundering and corruption" following multiple arrests and house searches over the weekend, including the homes of two MEPs and a former MEP's family in Italy.

The charges against the MEPs have

already triggered resignations and the suspension of a parliamentary vote on granting Qatari nationals visa-free travel to the bloc, due next week.

Parliamentarians have voiced shock at the arrests of the four people — and of the related detention of family members of a former Italian MEP — who were allegedly offered a holiday worth €100,000 by the Qataris.

Campaigners have lambasted the parliament's "culture of impunity".

"They were hoping to improve the country's reputation... in the run-up to the World Cup"

The allegations come as Qatar is the centre of world attention, with the World Cup semi-finals and final to be played over the next week. The matches are the culmination of a tournament the Gulf state had long sought but which has brought unprecedented scrutiny of its stance on gay rights, treatment of migrant workers and the use of its wealth to bolster its role in the world.

Belgium's federal prosecutors office said it suspected "that third parties in political and/or strategic positions within the European parliament were paid large sums of money or offered substantial gifts to influence parliament's decision".

Prosecutors had previously said Belgian police investigators suspected a "Gulf country" of seeking to sway the

parliament. An official familiar with the investigation confirmed that the country in question was Qatar.

Doha has rejected any allegations of misconduct. "Any association of the Qatari government with the reported claims is baseless and gravely misinformed," an official said.

While Belgian authorities have not named the suspects, Eva Kalll, a vice-president of the European parliament, has been stripped of her duties in the legislature as well as her membership in Pasok, the Greek socialist party.

Kalll, a former television news presenter, defended Qatar's human rights record last month in the parliament, hailing the country as "a frontrunner in labour rights" for its decision to scrap a migrant workers sponsorship system.

She alleged that other MEPs were seeking to discriminate against Qatar.

Italian prosecutors added that Antonio Panzeri, president of a Brussels-based non-governmental organisation and a former MEP, had been detained in the Belgian capital, while his wife and daughter had been held in Bergamo on the basis of a European arrest warrant.

Both women deny the allegations, according to their lawyer. Panzeri did not respond to a request for comment.

Italian MEP Dino Giarrusso said he and many other lawmakers in Brussels had been approached by Qatari officials numerous times since 2019. "They were hoping to improve the country's reputation, especially in the run-up to the FIFA World Cup," said Giarrusso.

Additional reporting by Eleni Vavritsoti



## Credit Suisse's Greensill loan spotlights risk failures

Greensill, the supply chain finance firm that counted former British prime minister David Cameron as a senior adviser, was provided with an emergency \$140m loan by Credit Suisse based partly on invoices to companies that deny ever doing the business stated on the documents. The apparent failure to spot that suspicious invoices had been pledged as collateral casts a new light on risk management failures at the Swiss bank.

Suspicious collateral — PAGE 6

## US scientists boost clean power hopes with breakthrough in fusion energy

TOM WILSON — LONDON

US government scientists have made a breakthrough in the pursuit of limitless, zero-carbon power by achieving net energy gain in a fusion reaction for the first time, according to three people with knowledge of preliminary results from a recent experiment.

Physicists have since the 1950s sought to harness the fusion reaction that powers the sun but no fusion had been able to produce more energy from the reaction than it consumes — a milestone known as net energy gain or target gain. Reaching it would help prove the process could provide a reliable, abundant alternative to fossil fuels and conventional nuclear energy.

The federal Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California,

which uses a process called inertial confinement fusion that involves bombarding a tiny pellet of hydrogen plasma with the world's biggest laser, has achieved net energy gain in a fusion experiment in the past two weeks, the people said.

Although many scientists believe fusion power stations are still decades away, the technology's potential is hard to ignore. Fusion reactions emit no carbon and produce no long-lived radioactive waste. A small cup of the hydrogen fuel could theoretically power a house for hundreds of years.

The fusion reaction at the US government facility produced around 2.5 megajoules of energy, which was about 120 per cent of the 2.1 megajoules of energy in the lasers, the people with knowledge of the results said.

The US Department of Energy has

said energy secretary Jennifer Granholm and under-secretary for nuclear security Jill Hruby would announce "a major scientific breakthrough" at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory tomorrow.

The laboratory confirmed that a successful experiment had recently taken place at its National Ignition Facility but said analysis of the data was continuing. "Two of the people with knowledge of the results said the energy output had been greater than expected, which had damaged some diagnostic equipment, complicating the analysis. The breakthrough was already being widely discussed by scientists, the people added.

"If this is confirmed, we are witnessing a moment of history," said Dr Arthur Turrell, a plasma physicist.

Additional reporting by David Sheppard and Derek Brower

### World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				GOVERNMENT BONDS					
	Dec 9	Prev	%Chg		Dec 9	Dec 2			Dec 9	Dec 2	Chg		
S&P 500	3914.81	3963.51	-0.29	\$/£	1.054	1.047	6/8	0.949	0.955	US 2 yr	4.32	4.27	0.04
Nasdaq Composite	11130.73	11082.00	0.44	\$/¥	1.229	1.222	6/8	0.814	0.819	US 10 yr	3.54	3.47	0.07
Dow Jones Ind	33628.94	33391.48	0.73	£/¥	0.857	0.857	4/5	1.186	1.186	US 30 yr	3.52	3.44	0.08
FTSEurofirst 300	1735.38	1721.34	0.82	\$/₹	136.595	136.475	N/A	143.970	141.880	UK 2 yr	3.45	3.35	0.11
Euro Stoxx 50	3609.22	3601.27	0.46	€/₹	167.917	165.496	E index	79.486	78.669	UK 10 yr	3.18	3.09	0.09
FTSE 100	7478.63	7472.17	0.06	\$/₹	0.983	0.986	3/8	1.147	1.150	UK 30 yr	3.57	3.51	0.06
FTSE AEX Share	4287.39	4282.24	0.12	Crypto						JPN 2 yr	4.02	4.01	0.01
CAC 40	6677.64	6647.31	0.46							JPN 10 yr	0.25	0.25	0.00
Xetra Dax	14326.17	14284.56	0.50	Bitcoin \$	12277.59	12277.83				JPN 30 yr	1.40	1.44	-0.04
Nikkei	27980.01	27524.43	1.18	Ethereum	1277.59	1280.07	-0.19			GER 2 yr	2.14	2.04	0.11
Dow Jones Ind	19460.07	19460.23	0.00	COMMODITIES						GER 10 yr	1.93	1.81	0.12
MSCI World \$	2635.27	2654.34	-0.68							GER 30 yr	1.74	1.63	0.11
MSCI EM \$	989.21	988.77	1.09	CX WTI \$	72.12	81.39	-11.39						
MSCI ACWI \$	625.25	618.22	0.65	FT Wilshire 2500	5140.49	5131.53	0.78	Oil Brent \$	78.45	84.86	-11.50		
FT Wilshire 2500	5140.49	5131.53	0.78	FT Wilshire 5000	40136.10	39833.97	0.76						
FT Wilshire 5000	40136.10	39833.97	0.76										

Prices are subject to change.  
Data provided by MarketWatch

CRYPTO				COMMODITIES			
	Dec 9	Prev	%Chg		Dec 9	Dec 2	%Wkst
Bitcoin (\$)	17180.84	17227.83	-0.27	Oil WTI \$	72.12	81.39	-11.39
Ethereum	1277.59	1280.07	-0.19	Oil Brent \$	76.95	86.94	-11.59
				Gold \$	1790.15	1803.15	-0.72

Prices are latest for addition  
Data provided by Bloomberg

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## Deemed Free, Some Remain Behind Bars

### Louisiana Dawdles at Releasing Inmates

By GLENN THRUSH

NEW ORLEANS — The judge told Johnny Trawek he had served his time, seven months, for hitting someone with a saucerpan in a drunken fight, then suggested he could be released from the Orleans Parish prison by midnight.

Mr. Trawek began giving away his jailhouse comforts — a blanket, two orange sweatshirts, ramen, soda. Then he waited out the final hours of May 2, 2018, his last legal day behind bars.

Midnight came, midnight went. Around 4 a.m., Mr. Trawek was lying in bed, eyes open, when the staff summoned inmates for pre-dawn breakfast. He would repeat that routine, including the sleepless nights, 19 more days because the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections did not process his paperwork in a timely manner.

"It's a bad, bad feeling," said Mr. Trawek, now 70. "Every day, I'm getting up and thinking I'm going to get out. And it doesn't happen. I knew I wasn't in there for any charge, and still I have to sit there."

Mr. Trawek's case was neither atypical nor the worst of its kind: Roughly 200 inmates are held beyond their legal release dates on any given month in Louisiana, amounting to 2,000 to 2,500 of the 12,000 to 16,000 prisoners freed each year. The average length of additional time was around 44 days in 2019, according to internal state corrections data obtained by lawyers for inmates — and until recently, the department's public notice warned families that the wait could be as long as 90 days.

In most other states and cities, prisoners and parolees marked for immediate release are typically processed within hours — not days — although those times can vary, particularly if officials must make arrangements required to release registered sex offenders. But in Louisiana, the problem known as "overdetention" is endemic, often occurring without explanation, apology or compensation — an overlooked crisis in a state that imprisons a higher percentage of its residents than any other in most years.

The practice is also wasteful. It costs Louisiana taxpayers about \$2.8 million a year in housing costs alone, according to department estimates.

"The state has not made liberty, or taxpayer money, a priority in how they run their prisons," said William B. Most, a lawyer based in

Continued on Page A13



A job fair in Beijing. An education was supposed to lead to a well-paying job. "That is no longer materializing," one economist said.

## Griner Story Points to Risks For Detainers

Brittney Griner's release, nearly a year after Russian authorities detained her, is once more forcing a difficult question in Washington and other capitals.

What is the least bad option in dealing with hostage diplomacy?

THE INTERPRETER  
MAX FISHER

The practice, which has grown somewhat more common in recent years, involves imprisoning a foreigner, usually on spurious or exaggerated charges, for the purpose of extracting concessions from that person's government.

For the victim's government, giving in risks encouraging hostile states to take more hostages. But holding out prolongs the hostage's suffering, as well as sending the message that citizens abroad cannot count on their governments' doing whatever it takes to protect them.

And both options invite domestic backlash, either from hawks furious at the appearance of acquiescing to a foreign adversary or citizens angered at seeing one of their own, in Ms.

Continued on Page A7

## In Moldova, Paid Protests and Russian Pressure

By ANDREW HIGGINS

ORHEI, Moldova — Starved of natural gas from Russia and electricity from Ukraine's missile-battered power grid, Moldova has been so unsettled by skyrocketing utility bills and occasional blackouts that, according to the mayor of a small city in the north, residents can barely contain their anger.

"They stop me on the street and ask: 'When can we go to another protest?'" said the mayor, Pavel Verejani, of Orhei, describing what he called public fury at the pro-Western central government and its failure to secure a deal with Russia for a steady supply of cheap energy.

But there is another reason people are so eager to protest: They are paid to join the noisy weekly rallies that have been held since September in the capital,

### Gas Limits by Moscow Stir Anger Against Pro-West Leader

Chisinau, calling for the removal of Moldova's president, Maia Sandu, a former World Bank official pushing Europe's poorest country out of Moscow's orbit.

The paid protests against the president and her westward tilt are organized by the mayor's political party, a vociferously pro-Russian force led by his predecessor, Ilan M. Shor, a convicted fraudster and fugitive who, officials say, is working to turn an energy crisis into a political crisis that threatens the government.

Anger at high energy prices has been bubbling across Europe for months, offering Moscow what it

sees as its best hope of eroding public support for Ukraine and pressuring Western governments to back away from their condemnations of Russia's invasion.

Russia-friendly activists on the far left and far right have helped mobilize protests over high energy prices in the Czech Republic, Germany and other European countries. But those demonstrations have been less frequent and far less well-funded than the weekly rallies and often daily flash mob protests in Moldova, a country that is particularly vulnerable because of its longstanding political, economic and linguistic cleavages.

Russia has not only created public discontent in Moldova through a squeeze on energy supplies, but, working through local allies like Mr. Shor, has also pushed this discontent onto the

Continued on Page A6



An anti-government rally last month in Chisinau, Moldova. A pro-Russia party pays protesters.

## A Coup Plot, a Prince and the Far Right in a German Spa Town

By ERIKA SOLOMON  
and KATRIN BENNHOLD

BAD LOBENSTEIN, Germany — The crenelated hunting lodge of Prince Heinrich XIII of Reuss sits atop a steep hill, looking out over a landscape with snow and Christmas lights in Bad Lobenstein. Popular with the local mayor and many nearby villagers, the prince spent his weekends in the

spa town, giving an aristocratic flair to this sleepy corner of rural eastern Germany.

But there was a darker side to his idyll. Heinrich XIII, prosecutors and intelligence officials say, also used his lodge to host meetings where he and a band of far-right co-conspirators plotted to overthrow the German government and execute the chancellor. In the basement,

### Royal's Lodge Is One of 150 Targets Raided

the group stored weapons and explosives. In the forest then sloped beneath the lodge, they sometimes held target practice.

Last week the Waidmannsheil lodge, a three-hour drive south of

Berlin in the state of Thuringia, was one of 150 targets raided by security forces in one of postwar Germany's biggest counterterrorism operations. By Friday, 23 members of the cell had been detained across 11 German states and 31 others placed under investigation. The police discovered troves of arms and military equipment as well as a list of 18 politicians and

Continued on Page A5

## Divorce Can Lock Some Children Into Inadequate Hasidic Schools

By ELIZA SHAPIRO

Beatrice Weber wakes up most mornings afraid that her son's Hasidic Jewish school is setting him up to fail.

Her 10-year-old, Aaron, brims with curiosity, and has told his mother that he wants to work for

NASA. But his school, like other Hasidic boys' schools in New York, teaches only cursory English and math and little science or social studies. It focuses instead on imparting the values of the fervently religious Hasidic community, which speaks Yiddish rather than English and places the study of Jewish law and prayer above all else. Recently, Ms. Weber said, Aaron's teacher told him that the planets revolve around the Earth.

But when Ms. Weber, a divorced mother of 10, tried to withdraw Aaron from his religious school, called a yeshiva, and enroll him in another one with stronger secular studies, she found that she could not do it. She had signed away that right in a divorce agreement drawn up by Hasidic leaders.

Continued on Page A14



Beatrice Weber seeks stronger education for her youngest son.

### OBITUARIES A16-17

**Defensive Force for Celtics**  
Paul Silas, 79, played 16 seasons in the N.B.A., winning three titles in all, and later coached LeBron James. PAGE A17

**Life's Little Moments, in Ink**  
Lee Lorenz drew hundreds of cartoons for The New Yorker during his 40 years at the magazine. He was 90. PAGE A16



### BUSINESS B1-9

**Green Goals Lose Out to Coal**  
"I will not compromise on the availability of power," India's energy minister has declared in defense of heavily subsidized fossil fuel use. PAGE B1

**Chatbots, the New Tutors**  
Your child's homework, among many things, will never be the same. But beware misinformation. PAGE B1

### SPORTS D1-8

**Eagles Clinch a Playoff Spot**  
A 48-22 win came against a Giants team that struggled badly, calling its postseason hopes into question. PAGE D1



### INTERNATIONAL A4-9

**Golf, Money and Respect**  
Documents suggest the Saudi LIV tour is far off-track for success. Experts say it was never just about profits. PAGE A4

**Libyan Arrested in 1988 Case**  
Abu Agila Mohammad Mas'ud is accused of building the device used in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103. PAGE A7

### NATIONAL A10-15

**No Pause in Voting Rights Fight**  
Voters in the recent midterms rebuffed the most aggressive efforts to weaken democracy, but battles over election districts and ballot restrictions for 2024 have already resumed. PAGE A10

**Moon Mission Called a Success**  
The splashdown of the unmanned Orion capsule in the Pacific started NASA's Artemis program, which will rely on Elon Musk's rocket company to build a moon lander for astronauts. PAGE A12

### OPINION A18-19

**Charles M. Blow** PAGE A19

### ARTS C1-8

**Making a Gender Comedy Sing**  
A musical version of "Some Like It Hot" finds ways to make Billy Wilder's classic crackle. Below foreground, Christian Borle and J. Harrison Ghee. PAGE C1







"L.A. MAGIC is still here," Mayor Karen Bass said during her inaugural address Sunday at downtown's Microsoft Theater. The mood was jubilant as she was sworn in by Vice President Kamala Harris, below.

'I call on our city to not just dream of the L.A. we want but to participate in making the dream come true.'

— MAYOR KAREN BASS



MYUNG J. CHUN Los Angeles Times

## Karen Bass is sworn in as mayor of Los Angeles

First woman to hold the office says she'll get straight to work Monday on homelessness

BY JULIA WICK, BENJAMIN ORESKES AND DAKOTA SMITH

After 24 years, the nation's second-largest city has its first female mayor.

The mood was jubilant Sunday afternoon as thousands of Angelenos danced to a surprise Stevie Wonder performance and cheered while Karen Bass was sworn in by Vice President Kamala Harris as Los Angeles' 43rd mayor.

The crowds inside downtown's Microsoft Theater exploded into applause after Harris said the words "Madam mayor" and remained on their feet as Bass walked to the podium.

Bass used her history-making moment to emphasize her place within a constellation of barrier-breaking California women.

The first Black woman elected mayor of Los Angeles was joined by the first female vice president, the first woman to lead the California Senate and California's first female lieutenant governor.

Harris is the first Black or Asian American vice president, and Senate President Pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins is the first openly LGBTQ person to lead the statehouse's upper chamber.

Bass honored Harris, Atkins and Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis as she began her remarks, saying, "Making history with each of you today is a monumental moment in my life and in Los Angeles. The four of us — Californians, leaders, women."

"And let's not forget our all-female county Board of Supervisors! We are all going to make so much history together," Bass said.

Bass' remarks described the moment as an "inflection point" in the history of a city battered by the COVID-19 pandemic, a rapidly changing economy and high cost of living, climate

[See Bass, A12]

### L.A. poet speaks of a 'new dawn'

At another inauguration, Amanda Gorman wows the crowd at Microsoft Theater. NATION, A12

## As a first, she faces increased pressure

Taking the stage, Bass seems to shoulder the reality of all that she hopes to accomplish.

ERIKA D. SMITH

No mayor comes into office without expectations. Especially the mayor of a city where residents are as desperate and as hopeful for change as so many in Los Angeles are right now.

But there are special, additional expectations that come with being a first, as Mayor Karen Bass is as the first Black woman to lead Los Angeles. Some of those expectations are good. Some are unreasonable. All are understandable, particularly for people who long felt disenfranchised.

And so on Sunday, Bass, who often shied away from the ceiling-shattering possibilities of her candidacy on the campaign trail, seemed to shoulder the reality of all she is expected to accomplish as she strode across the stage of a packed Microsoft Theater — impossible to miss in her royal blue suit.

She absorbed the recurring chants of "Karen! Karen! Karen!" that cut through the nondescript but deliberately "Black Panther"-esque Afrobeats piped through the speakers

[See Smith, A12]

## STATE HAS LED WAY ON SAME-SEX UNIONS

Newsom, Harris were at vanguard in pushing for marriage equality, soon to be U.S. law.

BY LAUREL ROSENHALL AND HAILEY BRANSON-POTTS

SACRAMENTO — More than 18 years after Gavin Newsom defied federal law by issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples as San Francisco mayor, President Biden is on the cusp of signing legislation that ensures gay marriages are recognized by the federal government and in every state in the nation.

When he signs the historic bill this week, another Californian will probably be standing beside him: Vice President Kamala Harris, who played a key role in the long fight for marriage equality as state attorney general.

The moment will mark a powerful, if imperfect, validation of early political risk-taking by Newsom and Harris — two of California's most prominent Democrats, who were at the vanguard of what became an overwhelming shift in how Americans think about civil rights, family and love.

"What this bill signing indicates is that the country has caught up with California," said Melissa Michelson, a political science professor at Menlo College who specializes in LGBTQ politics.

[See Vanguard, A8]

## The continuing saga over sale of Malibu mansion

Estate is focus of an asset seizure, a spurned bidder and accusations of self-dealing by a celebrity broker

BY LAURENCE DARMIENTO

For as long as he could remember, there was always that mansion on the bluff, its white stucco walls and clay tile roof visible above the ridgeline, peering down on Malibu's famous coast.

From his perspective on Pacific Coast Highway, where his family owned commercial property, Sam Hakim was curious. What was it like up there? And who would own a house like that?

When a friend invited him along to a party thrown by the owner, a wealthy African government official and exotic car buff, he was

blown away: 16.5 acres, a three-hole golf course and views from mountains to sea.

Several years later, in 2015, Hakim heard the estate was on the market. His immediate response: "We've got to get this house," he recalled telling his broker.

He bid \$32 million for the Spanish hacienda-style home in the Serra Retreat neighborhood, upped his offer and — he says — let it be known he would pay even more. When he couldn't work out a deal, he shrugged it off as just another lost opportunity.

[See Mansion, A6]

### COLUMN ONE

## Possibly the most hated mayor in Ukraine

He surrendered his city without a fight, but Russians still brutalized it

BY DAVID PHINNEY REPORTING FROM KUPIANSK, UKRAINE

Missiles and artillery began pounding the city of Kharkiv in late February. Air-aid sirens filled the air and ambulances screamed through the streets.

The pummeling left rows of high-rise apartment buildings beyond repair as thousands flooded the streets and plowed through traffic jams to the railroad station to escape Vladimir Putin's furious blitzkrieg.

But about 70 miles to the southeast, in the much smaller town of Kupiansk, there was no sudden bombardment, no violent mayhem. On Feb. 27, the city's mayor, politically friendly with Russia, spoke to a Russian commander over the phone. And then simply

[See Ukraine, A4]



CARL COURT Getty Images

PEOPLE cross a damaged bridge in the Ukrainian city of Kupiansk, where scores of residents defied the Russians, despite torture and jail.

### Pan Am 103 suspect held

The Libyan accused of making the suitcase bomb that killed 270 in Lockerbie is in American custody. WORLD, A3

### Rapper to testify in '20 shooting

Megan Thee Stallion to speak against fellow artist Tory Lanez at his trial this week in L.A. CALIFORNIA, B1

### Emotional win for Chargers

A 23-17 victory over the Miami Dolphins puts the team back in playoff position in the AFC. SPORTS, D1

### Weather

Rain, a thunderstorm. L.A. Basin: 55/42. B6

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# The Washington Post

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Partly sunny 47/31 • Tomorrow: Mostly sunny 47/28 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022 • B3

## Once freed, it's about 'surviving survival'

After Griner's release, other ex-detainees share advice for the days ahead

BY KARIN BRULLIARD,  
JOANNA SLATER  
AND ALEX HORTON

Jessica Buchanan was on the elliptical at her gym when television began alerting news that nearly bowled her over with "vicarious relief." Brittney Griner, the American basketball star imprisoned in Russia, was being freed in a prisoner swap.

Buchanan does not know Griner. But the former aid worker, held hostage by pirates in Somalia for 93 days a decade ago, is among the few who knew what Griner would be facing: Joyous and overwhelming reunions with loved ones. An onslaught of interview requests. A dawning understanding of the great efforts people back home made to secure her freedom. And, eventually, the lonely realization that captivity leaves an imprint that never fades.

"When you're watching these things play out and time drags on, you know exactly how that feels," said Buchanan, 45, who lives in Alexandria, Va. After a person's release, she added, "what happens is everyone thinks that everything's going to be fine from now on, because you got through it; you survived. It's the honeymoon phase. What sets in is what I call 'surviving survival.'"

The experience of Griner, a  
SEE GRINER ON A4

## Fierce claims to Crimea make chance of a deal slim

BY FRANCESCA EBEL

After nine months of death and destruction, the key to Russia's war against Ukraine lies in the craggy, sea-swept peninsula of Crimea — with its limestone plateaus and rows of poplar trees — which Russia illegally annexed in 2014.

It was in Crimea in February 2014, not February 2022, that Russia's invasion and occupation of Ukraine began. And Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy insists that only by retaking Crimea will the war end, with Ukraine defeating its Russian invaders.

"Its return will mean the restoration of true peace," Zelenskyy declared in October. "The Russian potential for aggression will be completely destroyed when the Ukrainian flag will be back in its rightful place — in the cities and villages of Crimea."

But for Russian President Vladimir Putin, the annexation of Crimea has become a pillar of his legacy, which would crumble if he loses the peninsula. Putin has  
SEE CRIMEA ON A16



A coal-fired power plant being built by billionaire developer Gautam Adani rises in Godda, in India's Jharkhand state, in August.

For years, nothing could stop the massive coal-fired power plant from rising over paddies and palm groves here in eastern India.

Not objections from local farmers, environmental impact review boards, even state officials. Not pledges by India's leaders to shift toward renewable energy.

Not the fact that the project, ultimately, will benefit few Indians. When the plant comes online, now scheduled for the middle of this month, all of the electricity it generates is due to be sold at a premium to neighboring Bangladesh, a heavily indebted country that has excess power capacity and doesn't

## In Modi's India, an empire built on coal

Billionaire's power plant shows how political will bends in favor of the dirty fuel

BY GERRY SHIH, NIHA MASHI AND ANANT GUPTA  
IN GODDA, INDIA

need more, documents show.

The project, however, will benefit its builder, Gautam Adani, an Indian billionaire who according to Global Energy Monitor is the largest private developer of coal power plants and coal mines in the world. When his companies' stock peaked in September, the Bloomberg Billionaires Index ranked Adani as the second-richest person on the planet, behind Elon Musk.

For decades, Indian officials have rebuffed Western pleas to phase out coal, a reliable but dirty energy source that produces a fifth of all planet-warming carbon emissions. India's fast-developing economy — it is the  
SEE INDIA ON A12

## In youth sports, talent helps, money rules

Growing economic divide has led to fewer opportunities for marginalized children

BY ROMAN STUBBS  
IN WYOMING, MICH.

Kamiya Vasquez gathered with her seventh-grade basketball team before they tipped off a youth league game in a dimly lit gym. She nervously ran her hands through her red hair. Some of her teammates had never played the sport, and they tugged on their black jerseys. Kamiya looked over to the opposing huddle, an eighth-grade team stocked with some of the best players in Grand Rapids. Some had walked in with customized, matching backpacks and sporting uniforms that featured the logo of one of the area's top travel teams.

"Don't be scared — just go play," Kamiya's father and coach, Joaquin Vasquez, said before she took the floor.

Kamiya drove the lane once the game started, determined to prove she belonged. But she was quickly swarmed by two taller defenders and lost her footing and the ball. The other team cruised down the court for an  
SEE YOUTH SPORTS ON A5



From left: Tija Gayles, 11, and Kamiya Vasquez, 12, practice dribbling in Wyoming, Mich. Vasquez wants to try out for local travel teams, some of which charge more than \$1,200 just for registration.

## Libyan detained in 1988 bombing

270 KILLED IN BLAST OVER LOCKERBIE

First of those charged in case to be tried in U.S.

BY BRITTANY SHAMMAS,  
TIM SHERES,  
MARISA LATI  
AND MAHAM JAVADI

A former Libyan intelligence officer accused of building the bomb that destroyed an American passenger plane over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988 has been taken into U.S. custody and will face prosecution in Washington for the act of terrorism, authorities said.

The apprehension of Abu Agela Mas'ud Khair al-Marimi, confirmed Sunday by the Justice Department, comes after an international, 34-year pursuit of those responsible for one of the deadliest terrorist attacks against Americans. Pan Am Flight 103 was 38 minutes into its route from London to New York on Dec. 21, 1988, when it "exploded into pieces," federal officials said. All 259 people on board were killed, along with 11 on the ground.

Among the dead were 190 Americans, including 35 Syracuse University students returning home for the holidays after a semester studying abroad. Before 9/11, the bombing of the Boeing 747 was the largest terrorist attack against U.S. civilians in history.  
SEE LOCKERBIE ON A11

## GOP divided on approach to Trump's legal issues

BY JACQUELINE ALEMANY,  
ISAAC ARNSDORF  
AND JOSH DAWSEY

Republicans in Congress are splintering over how aggressively to run interference for former president Donald Trump as he faces potential criminal prosecution, with only his closest allies planning to directly attack the Justice Department investigations now under the purview of special counsel Jack Smith.

The chasm between lawmakers who have continued to vehemently defend the newly announced presidential candidate and those who have started to quietly inch away from the former president widened last week as top GOP leaders laid out the party's investigative priorities. The emerging split raises another sign of Trump's uncertain position in the party after a month in which he was widely blamed for disappointing midterm and drew criticism for controversial statements.

Sen. Lindsey O. Graham (S.C.), who is one of Trump's staunchest  
SEE INVESTIGATIONS ON A6

## IN THE NEWS



JOSE ROMERO/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

**Mission accomplished** The Orion spacecraft splashed down in the Pacific Ocean, a step toward returning astronauts to the moon. A5

**Weathering 'crypto winter'** In Miami, there's little sign that officials and local investors are rethinking an embrace of digital currency. A2

**THE NATION**  
**Karen Bass**, the first woman elected to lead Los Angeles, is set to take office with audacious promises to fulfill and multiple crises to confront. A3

**THE WORLD**  
**A painter** from China now living in Italy has become a crucial clearinghouse for updates on the protest movement in his country of origin. A10

**THE ECONOMY**  
**As technology** outpaces ethics and laws, anything you share online could become fuel for AI software. The Help Desk's

Shira Ovide writes. A17

**THE REGION**  
**Tenants** in Bladensburg, Md., launched a rent strike to protest rising costs, health and safety issues at Quincy Village complex. B1  
**Fairfax County** officials hope a youth program will help county police surmount what they say is a three-figure shortage of officers. B1  
**In an appeal** of a lawsuit targeting an anti-bias initiative in Loudoun County schools, plaintiffs insisted White conservatives are being treated unfairly. B1

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**MONDAY**  
**Secretary of State** Antony Blinken holds a U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit event about investing in partnerships. **The Supreme Court** issues orders and convenes for a public non-argument session.

**TUESDAY**  
**Vice President Harris** delivers remarks at the African and Diaspora Young Leaders Forum. **Blinken** meets with Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and later with Angolan President Joao Lourenco. **Argentina and Croatia** face off in the World Cup

semifinals.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**President Biden** speaks at the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit. **Blinken** meets with the leaders of Namibia, Zambia, Tunisia, Ghana, Egypt and Mozambique, as well as the foreign minister of South Africa. **France plays Morocco** in the World Cup semifinals.

**THURSDAY**  
**Jobless claims** for the week ended Dec. 10 are expected at 230,000, the same as the week before.

**FRIDAY**  
**The U.S. Institute of Peace** holds a discussion on democracy in Nigeria.

## INSIDE



## STYLE

**A viral spiral**  
An onslaught of covid-19, RSV and the flu has left parents feeling frantic and fatigued. C1

## SPORTS

**Navy coach out**  
In a stunning shake-up, Ken Niumatalolo will not return as head of the Midshipmen football team next year after 15 seasons. D2

BUSINESS NEWS.....A17  
COMICS.....C6  
OPINION PAGES.....A18  
LOTTERIES.....B3  
OBITUARIES.....B4  
TELEVISION.....C4  
WORLD NEWS.....A10

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## Expired foods get new life from budget shoppers

Amid inflation, people stretch their dollars by buying outdated items, but is it safe? **In Money**

## Jonathan Bennett talks 'Holiday Sitter' chemistry

Hearts are aflutter, sparks fly in Hallmark's first holiday movie with leading gay couple. **In Life**



PROVIDED BY SUZANNE TENNANT/NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

## 90-year-old grad teaches lesson in persistence

Joyce DeFauw graduates from Northern Illinois University as part of the 2022 class. Her advice: "Keep learning," writes Rex Huppke. **In Opinion**

# USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022



A Caltrans camera shows conditions Saturday on California SR-89 in Shasta-Trinity National Forest. AP

## Powerful storm could make travel 'impossible'

Rains slam Calif.; snow set to roll into Midwest

John Bacon  
USA TODAY

A powerful winter storm crashing across the West on Sunday slammed parts of Southern California with more than 7 inches of rain and promised to snarl travel with feet of snow in some areas from the mountains of the Golden State through the Midwest.

The storm will continue across the West while "developing into a possible blizzard" in coming days, the National Weather Service warned. The system was forecast to sweep across a wide swath of the nation from Colorado to Minnesota on Monday through Wednesday, with driving snow, high winds and freezing rain.

"Heavy snow will bring major impacts to many areas across the country," the weather service warned. "Travel could become impossible."

A stretch of California Highway 89 was closed because of heavy snow in the Lake Tahoe area, the highway patrol said. Parts of the Sierra Nevada could see 5 feet of snow and whiteout conditions into Monday, the weather service said. Parts of I-80 and other roads also saw periods of closure.

As the storm rolls east, AccuWeather said parts of I-90 and I-94, the major highways of the Upper Midwest, could be forced to close as snow piles higher.

In Southern California, parts of Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties were under siege from more than 7 inches of rain, the weather service reported. More than 4 inches swamped some areas of Los Angeles County, and localized rainfall rates of up to an inch an hour were drenching parts of southwestern California, with total rainfall reaching 3 inches in some areas. Flash flooding and debris flow were a concern, particularly in and near recent areas burned by wildfires in the drought-stricken region.

The National Weather Service was warning of possible severe weather Tuesday and Wednesday in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. Severe thunderstorms will be capable of producing tornadoes, damaging winds and hail, the weather service said.

"A major snowstorm is in the cards from Colorado to Minnesota into mid-week," AccuWeather meteorologist Thomas Geiger said. The worst of the storm could hit late Tuesday into Wednesday, with snowfall rates as high as several inches per hour in some locations. Wind gusts could reach 60 mph, Geiger said.

Wilderness therapy was supposed to help 'troubled teens'

## It traumatized them instead



Katelyn Haruko Schmisser was 16 and struggling with bulimia when she was sent to a wilderness therapy program. Years since her release, she says the program didn't help. MEG OLIPHANT FOR USA TODAY

Sara M. Moniuszko USA TODAY

The bathroom consisted of a tarp tied between two trees. • When Katelyn Haruko Schmisser used it, she made eye contact with a staff member. She squatted, they stared. A requirement of her wilderness therapy program, they told her. • Because of her eating disorder, a staff member was with her at all times almost the entire length of her stay in the Utah desert. • A bucket lined with a biohazard bag acted as a receptacle for solid waste. As the weather got warmer, the smell got stronger. The flies were incessant. • With only one roll of toilet paper a week to be split among 10 people, Katelyn would resort to cleaning herself with sticks and leaves. **See THERAPY, Page 3A**



Katelyn's mother, Tessie Schmisser, says she later learned the conditions were horrible. PROVIDED BY KATELYN HARUKO SCHMISSEUR

## Prisoner swaps are occurring more often

Griner exchange latest in a long history for US

Chris Kenning  
USA TODAY

After the two prisoners walked past each other on the airport tarmac in Abu Dhabi – American basketball star Brittney Griner and Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout, nicknamed the "Merchant of Death" – this week's high-stakes exchange between the U.S. and Russia was finally complete.

That tense moment came just eight months after the Biden Administration swapped Konstantin Yaroshenko, a Russian pilot and drug smuggler, for ex-U.S. Marine Trevor Reed, who had been held in Russia on espionage charges since 2018.



Brittney Griner sits in a Russian plane on her way to the United Arab Emirates for a prisoner exchange. RUSSIAN FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE VIA AP

Both became part of a history of delicate and difficult prisoner swaps with Russia, Iran and other adversarial nations. Such swaps, including the one for Griner, have been deeply controversial, yet the tradition in the modern era stretches back to the return of a downed U-2 spy plane pilot in 1962.

Experts say each case is unique and often requires intricate negotiations and difficult choices.

"Often, the price we pay for bringing our fellow Americans home to their families is unseemly, but it is the right thing to do," Bill Richardson, a former United Nations ambassador who has helped secure the release of U.S. detainees in Cuba, North Korea and elsewhere, said in a statement.

**See GRINER, Page 5A**



"This was the deal we could get. Now is the moment we could get it," John Kirby said. KEVIN DIETSCH/GETTY IMAGES

### IN NEWS

#### Nobody is 'doing backflips'

White House pushes back on criticism after swap with arms dealer. **4A**

### IN SPORTS

#### Hurdles ahead for Griner

Experts say Griner will need time to work through trauma. **1C**



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## Cada vez más cerca de regresar a la Luna

La cápsula Orion amerizó ayer en el Pacífico; fue la primera misión del programa Artemis, que busca volver a poner a un astronauta en el satélite en los próximos años. **Página 4**



## SANCIONES A EDENOR Y EDESUR POR LOS CORTES DEL FIN DE SEMANA

—economía

Hubo por lo menos 570.000 afectados, muchos de ellos en pleno partido de la selección; habría bonificaciones para algunos usuarios. **Página 17**

## SIGUEN SUBIENDO LOS CASOS DETECTADOS DE COVID EN EL PAÍS

—sociedad

Los casos informados llegaron a 27.000, más del doble que la semana anterior; el AMBA sigue siendo el principal foco de los nuevos contagios. **Página 24**

# LA NACION

LUNES 12 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

## Planes sociales: la Justicia investiga a intermediarios y exige una auditoría urgente

**PIQUETEROS.** El Gobierno tiene hasta el 15 de enero para verificar la identidad de los beneficiarios

La Justicia Federal investiga a presuntos intermediarios en el otorgamiento de planes sociales que retienen las tarjetas de los beneficiarios reales y cobraban en su nombre.

El juez federal Ariel Lijo, a cargo de la causa, emplazó al Ministerio de Desarrollo Social a que realice a más tardar al 15 de enero una audi-

toria biométrica o, de lo contrario, deben darse de baja.

Desde la Justicia anticiparon a LA NACION que un estudio más detallado puede llevar a que se caigan unos 150.000 planes por irregularidades. Ahora se debe corroborar cómo fueron entregados y si quienes cobraban la tarjeta eran los ti-

tulares o no. Se sospecha que algunos planes fueron otorgados a personas que se encontraban en estado de necesidad, pero que hubo intermediarios que les retuvieron las tarjetas para cobrarlos. En la mira aparecen las principales organizaciones piqueteras, en su mayoría vinculadas al oficialismo. **Página 10**

### Amenazas de ruptura y gestos de distensión

Maia Jastreblansky  
**Página 11**

### Fernández aún cree posible una candidatura de Cristina

**Página 14**

## Crece las protestas en Perú y hubo dos muertos

**MALESTAR.** Castillo dijo haber sido víctima de un "plan maquavelico"

Ramiro Pellet Lastra  
ENVIADO ESPECIAL

LIMA.—Cinco días después del intento de golpe que desestabilizó al país, el clima social seguía ayer revuelto de extremo a extremo en Perú, donde se registraron las primeras dos muertes en las protestas. Y justo cuando la flamante presidenta Dina Boluarte busca poner paños fríos, su antecesor rompió el silencio desde el calabozo y dijo haber sido víctima de un "plan maquavelico". **Continúa en la página 2**

### EL PULSO DEL CONSUMO

## El fútbol ya cumplió

Guillermo Oliveto  
—PARA LA NACION—

El deseo masivo, y genuino, es que aún pueda superarse, pero su prestación está más que cubierta. El fútbol ya cumplió. Le ha dado a una sociedad atribulada la mayor alegría colectiva y transversal en años. Al menos por este mes, la grieta ha quedado solapada, pausada o mitigada, y eso permite disfrutar sin dobles lecturas ni sentimientos encontrados. **Continúa en la página 18**

### QATAR 2022

## Messi y Otamendi, los mejores de la selección

DOHA (De nuestros enviados especiales).—Lionel Messi y Nicolás Otamendi son, hasta ahora, los "sobresalientes" del boletín del seleccionado, que mañana enfrentará a Croacia por las semifinales. Entre los destacados están Dibu Martínez, Julián Álvarez, Enzo Fernández y Nahuel Molina. **Deportes Mundial**

## José López, condena y peregrinación



**política**—RÍO GALLEGOS.—El exsecretario de Obras Públicas José López, condenado el martes en el juicio Vialidad, resolvió radicarse en Río Gallegos, Santa Cruz, la ciudad donde conoció a los Kirchner. En una inusual imagen, se lo vio el jueves pasado participando, en soledad, de la peregrinación a la Virgen de Güer Aike. Fue descubierto en 2016 con bolsos con más de US\$9 millones y liberado en 2021 tras pagar una fianza. **Página 14**

### EL ESCENARIO

## Opositores obligados a recalcular

Claudio Jacquelin  
—LA NACION—

El escenario ya no es el mismo y la revisión de estrategias y análisis de posibles efectos empezaron en la principal fuerza opositora. Aunque la mayoría de los dirigentes de Juntos por el Cambio digan en público que la condena a Cristina Kirchner y su posterior renunciamento a cualquier candidatura en 2023 no modifican sus planes. Es tiempo de recalculación. **Continúa en la página 13**

## El proyecto de blanqueo va camino al Congreso

**ACUERDO.** Massa quiere una ley rápida y la enviará a Diputados antes de fin de año. **Página 16**

CADENA 3



## ENTREVISTA DA 2ª Ailton Krenak Não quero salvar índios, mas evitar extinção

"Estou dando um toque de que, se a gente não se cuidar, vamos todos para a metástase", diz o escritor e líder indígena. Cotado para o prometido Ministério dos Povos Originários, ele encerra, com "Futuro Ancestral", sua trilogia de livros com ideias para adiar o fim do mundo. **A14**

## Ilustrada C1

### Além do arrasta-pé

Xand Avião comemora 20 anos de carreira iniciada com os Aviões do Forró, grupo que revolucionou não só o gênero mas as formas de promoção na indústria musical do país.

## Ciência B5

Orion, cápsula da Nasa, conclui missão preparatória para nova viagem à Lua

# Fila para o Auxílio Brasil ressurge depois da eleição

128 mil famílias entraram na lista; pasta da Cidadania não explica pendências

Encerrado o segundo turno da eleição presidencial, o programa social Auxílio Brasil — criado pelo governo Jair Bolsonaro (PL) como versão ampliada do Bolsa Família — voltou a registrar fila de espera, algo que não ocorria desde agosto, quando a campanha ganhou mais força.

Segundo dados obtidos pela Folha, 128 mil famílias entraram na lista em novembro. Elas já tiveram seu cadastro aprovado pelo Ministério da Cidadania, responsável pelo programa, mas ainda não foram atendidas. A pasta não informou os motivos do represamento.

A fila começou zerada neste ano, mas, por falta de verbas, cresceu até atingir em julho a marca de 1,569 milhão de famílias. Mirando a reeleição, Bolsonaro se empenhou em elevar o orçamento do Auxílio Brasil e conseguiu manter o pleno atendimento entre agosto e outubro.

O número de beneficiários superou os 21 milhões, recorde que se repetiu neste mês. No formato atual, o programa já representa um gasto de R\$ 13 bilhões mensais para os cofres públicos, o que reduz o espaço para eliminar a fila ou impedir que ela aumente. **Mercado A15**



Cápsula Orion se aproxima da Terra ao retornar da Lua ontem; viagem é parte da missão Artemis, que levará homem de volta ao satélite **Jose Romero/Nasa TV/AFP**

## PEC elevará recursos para saúde e MEC no Orçamento

O relator do Orçamento de 2023, senador Marcelo Castro (MDB-PI), disse que o espaço de R\$ 105 bilhões aberto com a PEC da Transição permitirá principalmente mais gastos em educação e saúde.

O parlamentar também mencionou outras áreas que serão contempladas, como o programa Minha Casa, Minha Vida e o DNIT (Departamento Nacional de Infraestrutura de Transportes). **Mercado A16**

## Transição atrela diálogo com Aras à saída da vice-PGR

Pessoas próximas ao presidente eleito Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT) veem a saída de Lindora Araújo, ligada ao bolsonarismo, como condição para diálogo entre o novo governo e o procurador-geral da República, Augusto Aras, que tem mandato até setembro de 2023. **Política A4**

## copa 2022

### Nas semis, França enfrentará retranca, e Messi, inteligência

Na tentativa de retornar ao confronto final, a França, defensora do título, e a Croácia, atual vice-campeã, terão pela frente, respectivamente, Marrocos e Argentina. Marroquinos e croatas tentam surpreender os favoritos. **p.1**

### Eliminação do time de Tite causa debandada de brasileiros no Qatar **p.3**

**Luís Curro**  
Ataque ineficaz foi falha principal da seleção **p.5**

Semifinal	Final	Semifinal
AMANHÃ • 16h*, GLOBO	DOM 18 • 12h*	QUA 14 • 16h*
ARGENTINA		FRANÇA
CROÁCIA		MARROCOS

\*Horário de Brasília

**Ao menos dois morrem  
em protestos no Peru**  
Dois jovens morreram ontem durante os atos contra o novo governo que tomam país desde quarta (7), após golpe abortado. **Mundo A12**

**Busca por renda esvazia  
comunidade quilombola**  
Vila Santo Isidoro (MG) fica deserta entre abril e novembro, quando cerca de 40% de seus 750 moradores migram. **Cotidiano B1**

**Republicano radicaliza  
em disputa por liderar  
Câmara dos EUA **A10****

**Com expansão do EAD,  
escolas ocupam prédios  
vazios de faculdades **B2****



Gabriela Bilo/Folhapress

## DEPOIS DO FUTEBOL, QATAR TERÁ COPA DE FALCOARIA

Tratador cuida de falcão em hospital especializado antes do Marmi Festival, evento que anualmente atrai a Doha milhares de pessoas; clínicas recebem treinadores preocupados com a saúde das aves de caça, que podem alcançar valor milionário e são símbolo do país. **p.6**

## Bancos perdem 1º lugar na formação do índice da Bolsa

As instituições bancárias perderam em novembro o posto de segmento com maior participação na composição do Ibovespa, no qual se mantinham desde 2013, segundo levantamento do TradeMap. Os papéis ligados à mineração pularam para o primeiro lugar. **Mercado A19**

## EDITORIAIS A2

**Mais ICMS e preços**  
Sobre tributação de combustíveis e eletricidade.

**Paraisópolis, 3 anos**  
Acerca de impunidade em operação policial trágica.

## ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje







Diócesis de Caacupé emitió un mensaje a falta de días para las internas

## Iglesia llama a votar porque Paraguay necesita renacer

Exhorta a elegir a quien quiera servir sin importar el color. Afirma que el país requiere de un nuevo nacimiento, de su Navidad, y que se debe participar para consolidar la democracia.

PÁGINA 15

Condenado por hechos de corrupción  
Concejal, hijo de OGD,  
sigue impune porque caso  
está parado en la Corte

PÁGINA 36

Congreso se  
autoexcluye de  
ley para pagar  
a operadores

PÁGINA 11

Encarnación  
vivió noche de  
caos por culpa  
de inadaptados

PÁGINA 18

Premio Gallo de Oro 2022

UH entrega mayor  
distinción de la  
publicidad gráfica

PÁGINA 22



ESPACIO PUBLICITARIO



## FGE: Presidente acelera elección

PÁGINA 2



Gustavo Santander

Se deben fortalecer las unidades fiscales de lucha contra el crimen organizado y narcotráfico, son el buque insignia.



Cecilia Pérez

Es necesario un proyecto de ley de delación premiada para los casos de anticorrupción y crimen organizado y fortalecer estas unidades.



Emiliano Rolón

Contra el narcotráfico, la corrupción y la trata de personas es imposible luchar solos como llaneros solitarios.

## Están en la mira tres prestanombres por el blanqueo de la fortuna del clan Fretes

PÁGINA 8

### HILUX

MANTENIMIENTO INCLUIDO  
HASTA 100.000 KM  
CONSULTE PLANES DE FINANCIACIÓN

SRV D/C MEC.  
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**\$ 44.010**  
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LE FIGARO

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



**REPORTAGE**  
DANS L'EST DE L'UKRAINE,  
AVEC LES ENTERRÉS  
D'AVDIIVKA PAGE 10

**LE FIGARO ÉTUDIANT**  
LE PALMARÈS DES MEILLEURES  
ÉCOLES D'INGÉNIEURS  
NOTRE SUPPLÉMENT



**LE FIGARO SANTÉ**

Pour les fêtes, n'invitez pas virus et bactéries dans vos assiettes!

CAHIER SPÉCIAL

**ENSEIGNEMENT**  
À Sciences Po, la danse fait polémique  
PAGE 18

**ÉCONOMIE**  
Investissements industriels : la ruée vers les États-Unis  
PAGES 28 ET 29

**CHAMPS LIBRES**

- Le fragile réveil de la Casamance
- Amérique latine : que signifie le retour de la gauche au pouvoir ?
- Un grand entretien avec Henri Guaino
- La chronique de Nicolas Baverez
- La tribune d'Eric Descheemaeker

PAGES 20 À 23

**FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON**

**Réponses à la question de samedi :**  
Le choix d'un nouveau président peut-il relancer LR ?

**OUI 34% NON 66%**

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 132 044

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

Football : l'équipe de France se qualifiera-t-elle pour la finale de la Coupe du monde ?

ALBERT LORES

# Covid : l'hôpital sous tension malgré une vague limitée

Le Covid s'étend mais ne sature pas le système de soins. Pourtant, en l'absence de réformes structurelles, celui-ci, qui doit faire face à la bronchiolite et à la grippe, menace d'être débordé.

Avec 60 000 nouveaux cas quotidiens et une centaine d'admissions à l'hôpital, la 9<sup>e</sup> vague de Covid-19 est bien là. Pas de quoi emboliser le système cependant,

contrairement à ce que l'on a pu voir à plusieurs reprises ces trois dernières années. Mais cet hiver, deux autres épidémies s'ajoutent au Covid pour former un cocktail

redouté : la bronchiolite, qui touche les nourrissons dans des proportions jamais atteintes depuis des années alors que la pédiatrie hospitalière est à bout de souffle,

et la grippe, qui frappe les mêmes cibles que le Covid. Les fêtes de Noël entraînent-elles une explosion des contaminations ? Pour l'éviter, les autorités invitent les

Français à se faire vacciner et à renouer avec le masque dans les lieux publics. Mais elles se refusent à les y contraindre... alors qu'ils y seraient plutôt favorables.

→ LES FRANÇAIS FAVORABLES AU RETOUR DU MASQUE DANS L'ESPACE PUBLIC → L'ÉPIDÉMIE DE BRONCHIOLITE, UN COUP DE GRÂCE POUR LA PÉDIATRIE ? → AUX URGENCES D'ARCACHON, « NOUS SOMMES SUBMERGÉS » PAGES 2 ET 4



## France-Maroc : une demi-finale inédite pour des Bleus au mental d'acier

Victorieuse de l'Angleterre 2-1, l'équipe de Didier Deschamps rencontrera mercredi l'inattendu Maroc pour une place en finale de la Coupe du monde. Pour les Bleus, le match de tous les espoirs. PAGES 16, 17 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

**ÉDITORIAL** par Yves Thérard ythérard@lefigaro.fr

## Vivement mercredi !

Cette Coupe du monde de football continue de se distinguer. Non seulement parce qu'elle a lieu à l'approche de Noël dans un micro-pays dénué de toute tradition sportive, mais aussi parce qu'elle offre un spectacle de qualité. On a connu des éditions beaucoup plus ennuyeuses. N'en déplaie aux professeurs de morale, le Mondial du Qatar est un bon cru, plein de surprises. Il captive les téléspectateurs. Et il restera dans les annales comme celui de « toutes les premières fois ». Ainsi, l'Afrique sera-t-elle, pour la première fois, représentée dans le dernier carré de la compétition. Grâce au Maroc, qui réalise un parcours remarquable, balayant sur son passage plusieurs favoris pour le titre, dont l'Espagne et le Portugal. Une demi-finale France-Maroc, c'est évidemment un événement lourd de symboles. Entre l'ex-puissance coloniale, où vivent des centaines de milliers de binationaux, et son ancien protectorat, vibre une histoire commune. Il suffit d'observer et d'écouter les foules qui se déchangent dans les rues les soirs de victoire marocaine pour constater que se manifeste

souvent autre chose que de la joie... Alors qu'en sera-t-il mercredi soir prochain contre les Bleus de Deschamps ? L'espoir des Lions de l'Atlas porte certes l'espoir d'un peuple, sans doute d'un continent et peut-être, au-delà, du monde arabe. Cette fierté est compréhensible, mais elle est beaucoup moins sympathique quand elle exprime chez les supporters un sentiment de revanche. L'esprit sportif perd sa noblesse si domine l'instinct guerrier. Il ne faut pas prêter plus d'importance au résultat d'un match de football qu'il n'en a.

### Une rencontre lourde de symboles

France-Maroc, l'affiche est magnifique compte tenu du talent des deux formations et des joueurs. Vivement mercredi ! La rencontre s'annonce d'une très haute intensité car son issue enverra l'une ou l'autre des équipes en finale. Hors du terrain, elle est à hauts risques. Les autorités, chez nous, sont prévenues : tout débordement serait condamnable. Le scandale du Stade de France au printemps dernier aura-t-il servi de leçon ? ■

## Éric Ciotti remporte la présidence des Républicains

Depuis dimanche soir, Les Républicains ont un chef. Ils ont élu Éric Ciotti au poste de président du parti avec 53,7 % des suffrages. De son côté, Bruno Retailleau a récolté 46,3 % des voix. Si la fin de la campagne s'est tendue, Bruno Retailleau voyant en Éric Ciotti le « candidat du statu quo », tous ont aussi conscience que le parti ne peut plus se permettre le luxe de luttes fratricides. Ainsi hier soir, les deux finalistes se sont retrouvés au siège de LR pour une photo d'unité.

PAGES 6 ET 7





**'It's so much more than villainy'**

**Ruth Wilson**  
on *His Dark Materials*

→ G2



**'A modern image of the hell of war'**  
Clive Myrie's snapshot of 2022 → Journal

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# Tories under fire over plans for military to act as 'strike breakers'

**Peter Walker**  
**Dan Sabbagh**

Plans for military staff to cover for striking workers are to be discussed at a Cabinet Office Cobra meeting, amid warnings that overstretched troops are being used repeatedly to bail out ministers unable to solve disputes.

With about 1,000 personnel due to miss Christmas breaks as they fill in for ambulance crews and border staff, military sources and retired senior

officers warned about the potential impact on morale for troops who have also seen declining real-terms pay.

Ministers from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) will take part in a pair of scheduled meetings of the government's Cobra emergencies planning committee, billed as a chance to finalise contingencies to cope with an upcoming wave of public sector strikes.

Nurses are due become the latest to stage a walkout on Thursday, after the government refused an

offer by unions to pause the action if ministers agreed to talks over a possible pay deal.

James Cleverly, the foreign secretary, said on yesterday that while the health secretary, Steve Barclay, would talk to the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) and the Unison union, he would not discuss any deviation from a pay award decided over the summer by the official NHS pay review body.

Thousands of ambulance workers and other NHS staff across England

and Wales are also due to strike on 21 December over pay, while Border Force staff at airports and ports will strike from 23 December to Boxing Day, and from 28 December to New Year's Eve. Rail workers are also scheduled to hold more strikes over Christmas, as are Royal Mail staff.

The first Cobra meeting will be headed by Oliver Dowden, who, as chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, is the most senior minister in the Cabinet Office, which is in charge of planning for the strikes. As well as the

MoD, ministers from the Department for Transport, Department of Health and Social Care and the Home Office will take part, with a second meeting planned for Wednesday.

The 1,000 military personnel will be joined by the same number of civil servants and volunteers in being trained to carry out duties such as checking people at borders and staffing ambulances, with 600 of the troops filling in for Border Force workers.

While one government 10 →

## Painful exit Message to fans: 'Stick with us'

**Sean Ingle**



As England's footballers shuffled sleeplessly away from their training base at Al-Wakrah yesterday, the team's youngest player was asked whether he had a message for supporters. "Stick with us," said Jude Bellingham.

The 19-year-old's tone was defiant, even optimistic. And it reflected a wider message from the camp: that when it comes to England's World Cup postmortem, there is no need for a scalpel.

The players want Gareth Southgate to stay as manager. Judging by the relative lack of bile and calls for blood that followed England's 2-1 defeat against France, most of the public do, too.

There was also little anger directed towards

14 →



▲ England manager Gareth Southgate leaves the team hotel yesterday after defeat to France PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN RICKET/PA

## Fall into icy lake leaves four children critical

**Nadeem Badshah**

Four children were taken to hospital in cardiac arrest after falling through the ice on a lake in Solihull, emergency services said yesterday.

West Midlands police said specialist teams would continue an operation overnight at Babbs Mill Park in the Kingshurst area of the town amid reports that two further children may be missing.

At a press conference in Birmingham, the West Midlands fire service area commander, Richard Stanton, said reports from the scene and social media indicated that "a number of children had

4 →



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