



POLONIA Dos investigaciones señalan a Juan Pablo II por encubrir abusos P.26

ARQUITECTURA Chipperfield, el abogado de lo bien hecho, premio Pritzker P.29



EL 8-M, DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE LA MUJER, MARCADO POR LA DIVISIÓN

La coalición vota enfrentada la reforma del 'solo sí es sí'

La proposición del PSOE, que apoyó el PP, se impone al rechazo de Podemos

La fractura llega al movimiento feminista ante las manifestaciones de hoy

Dos ministras socialistas presentan la ley de paridad sin contar con Igualdad

J. CASQUEIRO / J. MARCOS P. CHOUZA, Madrid
Los socios del Gobierno, PSOE y Podemos, votaron ayer enfrentados la reforma de la ley del solo sí es sí, y se cruzaron reproches en una bronca sesión en el Congreso que deja graves secuelas en la víspera del Día Internacional de la

Mujer. La proposición del PSOE para corregir los defectos de la norma inició su tramitación tras obtener 231 votos (del PP, Cs y algunos aliados, además de los socialistas), por 56 en contra (Podemos, ERC y Bildu) y 58 abstenciones (entre ellas las de Vox). La brecha en la coalición se hizo evidente. Los ministros socialistas dejaron solas en el banco azul a Irene Montero y Ione Belarra, mientras

la vicepresidenta Nadia Calviño presentaba, después del Consejo de Ministros, el anteproyecto de la ley de paridad sin contar con Igualdad. Las manifestaciones convocadas hoy reflejan la división del feminismo por la excarcelación de agresores sexuales y la ley trans.

la vicepresidenta Nadia Calviño presentaba, después del Consejo de Ministros, el anteproyecto de la ley de paridad sin contar con Igualdad. Las manifestaciones convocadas hoy reflejan la división del feminismo por la excarcelación de agresores sexuales y la ley trans. PÁGINAS 14 A 16, 24 Y 25

EDITORIAL Por la unidad del feminismo P.10



Las ministras Ione Belarra e Irene Montero, solas en el banco azul del Congreso, ayer durante el debate sobre el solo sí es sí. / CLAUDIO ÁLVAREZ

Las pistas del sabotaje de Nord Stream apuntan a Ucrania

Los datos de inteligencia de EE UU alejan la hipótesis de la autoría de Moscú

M. VIDAL LIY / E. G. SEVILLANO Washington / Berlín
Dos investigaciones apuntan a que la voladura, en septiembre pasado, del gasoducto Nord Stream bajo el mar Báltico fue obra de un grupo proucraniano. Así lo indican datos de inteligencia de EE UU

que difundió ayer *The New York Times*, aunque no consta que los saboteadores actuaran por orden del Gobierno de Zelenski. Otras fuentes de inteligencia occidentales citadas por *Die Zeit*, *ARD* y *SWR* apuntan también a una autoría ucraniana y no rusa. PÁGINA 2



La Fiscalía denunciará al Barça por corrupción continuada

Bartomeu, acusado de administración desleal por los pagos a Negreira

JESÚS GARCÍA, Barcelona
La Fiscalía está a punto de presentar ante los juzgados una denuncia contra el FC Barcelona por los pagos millonarios al exigente arbitral José María Enriquez Negreira, según confirmaron ayer a EL PAÍS fuentes judiciales. El club azulgrana será acusado de corrupción en los negocios, delito que incluye el fraude en el ámbito deportivo, en su modalidad continuada. La denuncia apunta también al expresidente culé Josep Maria Bartomeu, por administración desleal, y contra el propio Negreira. PÁGINA 33

Una oleada de huelgas y protestas desafía a Macron por las pensiones

MARC BASSETS, París
Los sindicatos franceses desafiaron ayer al presidente Emmanuel Macron con una oleada de huelgas en el metro, los ferrocarriles, las refinerías, la educación y la industria metalúrgica, y más de 300 manifestaciones en todo el país. Sin llegar a paralizar del todo el país, fue una demostración de fuerza en el rechazo a la subida de la edad de jubilación de los 62 a los 64 años. PÁGINA 4

EE UU acelerará las subidas de los tipos ante la persistencia de la inflación

M. Á. SÁNCHEZ-VALLEJO, Nueva York
La Reserva Federal de EE UU prevé nuevas subidas de los tipos de interés —y más agresivas— si la inflación se mantiene en niveles elevados, según dijo ayer el presidente del banco central, Jerome Powell, ante una comisión del Senado. El repunte de los precios y la fortaleza del mercado laboral son factores que empujan a nuevos aumentos. PÁGINA 40

Israël face à la radicalité de l'extrême droite religieuse

► Suprémaciste juif, raciste et homophobe, Bezaïel Smotrich a été chargé de l'administration civile des colonies de Cisjordanie occupée

► Avec son allié Itamar Ben Gvir, le ministre de la sécurité nationale, M. Smotrich impose un véritable rapport de force à Benyamin Nétanyahou

► Visant l'objectif d'un « Grand Israël » de la Méditerranée au Jourdain, l'extrême droite cherche à accélérer l'annexion de pans entiers de la Cisjordanie

► De nombreux réservistes de l'armée israélienne s'opposent à la réforme de la justice du premier ministre Nétanyahou

PAGES 2-3

ÉDITORIAL
LES MENACES S'ACCUMULENT EN CISJORDANIE OCCUPÉE
PAGE 30

Turquie Présidentielle : l'opposition parvient à s'unir face à Erdogan

Le leader du Parti républicain du peuple, Kemal Kılıçdaroglu, a été désigné par une large coalition de six mouvements. Il défiera l'actuel président, au pouvoir depuis vingt ans, lors du scrutin du 14 mai

PAGE 4

Ukraine L'enseignement de l'histoire, enjeu de sécurité nationale

Kiev a mis sur pied un groupe de travail pour modifier les programmes scolaires et lutter contre la propagande russe

PAGE 5

SÉCHERESSE LE GOUVERNEMENT RÉITÈRE SES MESSAGES D'ALERTE

► L'usage de l'eau est d'ores et déjà restreint dans 12 départements
► Reportage à Coucouron, un village ardéchois sans eau potable depuis l'été P. 7 ET IDÉES P. 28



Le réservoir du barrage de Naussac (Lozère), jeudi 2 mars, n'est rempli qu'au tiers de sa capacité.

SAMUEL BOLLER/AGENCE UPPOUR/LE MONDE

Retraites Appels à des grèves reconductibles

UNANIMEMENT OPPOSÉS à la réforme des retraites proposée par le gouvernement, les huit principaux syndicats de salariés et cinq organisations de défense de la jeunesse ont décidé, mardi 7 mars, de « passer à la vitesse supérieure ». Au-delà des manifestations qui s'annonçaient, un peu partout en France, de grande ampleur, le mouvement devrait se prolonger, dès le 8 mars, par des grèves reconductibles au sein de plusieurs secteurs-clés comme l'énergie ou les transports. Interrogés par *Le Monde*, les responsables syndicaux font le pari qu'en dépit des blocages, une grande majorité des Français continuera à soutenir les opposants à la réforme. « Dans l'hypothèse d'un blocage persistant, l'opinion publique peut davantage se retourner contre le gouvernement, car ce sera à lui de trouver des solutions pour débloquer » estime Brice Teinturier, le directeur général délégué d'Ipsos.

Pendant ce temps, la discussion du projet de loi se poursuit au Sénat. Contre l'avis du gouvernement, un amendement créant un « CDI senior » a été adopté lundi 6 mars.

PAGES 8-9 ET IDÉES PAGE 27

Education Les enseignants dans le maquis de l'orientation des lycéens

PAGE 10

Emploi Le secteur du nucléaire au défi de recruter des milliers de salariés

PAGE 13

Agriculture L'égalité des droits, conquête inachevée des agricultrices

PAGE 12

Fashion Week Lorsque des femmes créent pour des femmes

Chloé, Victoria Beckham, Hermès, Isabel Marant, Alexander McQueen, Ester Manas : toutes ces grandes marques sont incarnées par des créatrices. À Paris, lors des défilés, elles ont célébré la féminité à sa juste valeur

PAGES 22-23

VU PAR CHAPPATTE (SUISSE)

CARTOONING FOR PEACE



À NOS LECTEURS

En raison d'un mouvement de grève contre la réforme des retraites, cette édition du « Monde », datée du mercredi 8 mars, n'est pas imprimée. Elle n'est disponible qu'en numérique. Merci pour votre compréhension.

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That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

LATE EDITION
Today, windy, clouds and sunshine, high 46. Tonight, partly cloudy, wind diminishing, low 32. Tomorrow, sunshine mixing with a few clouds, high 48. Weather map is on Page B10.

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Clues Emerge In Bid to Solve Pipeline Attack

U.S. Suggests a Link to a Pro-Ukraine Group

This article is by Adam Entous, Jason E. Barnes and Adam Goldmann.

WASHINGTON — New intelligence reviewed by U.S. officials suggests that a pro-Ukrainian group carried out the attack on the Nord Stream pipelines last year, a step toward determining responsibility for an act of sabotage that has confounded investigators on both sides of the Atlantic for months.

U.S. officials said that they had no evidence President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine or his top lieutenants were involved in the operation, or that the perpetrators were acting at the direction of any Ukrainian government officials.

The brazen attack on the natural gas pipelines, which link Russia to Western Europe, fueled public speculation about who was to blame, from Moscow to Kyiv and London to Washington, and it has remained one of the most consequential unsolved mysteries of Russia's year-old war in Ukraine.

Ukraine and its allies have been seen by some officials as having the most logical potential motive to attack the pipelines. They have opposed the project for years, calling it a national security threat because it would allow Russia to sell gas more easily to Europe.

Ukrainian government and military intelligence officials say they had no role in the attack and do not know who carried it out. After this article was published online, Mykhailo Podolyak, a senior adviser to Mr. Zelensky, posted on Twitter that Ukraine "has nothing to do with the Baltic Sea mishap." He added that he had no information about pro-Ukrainian "sabotage groups."

U.S. officials said there was much they did not know about the perpetrators and their affiliations. The review of newly collected intelligence suggests they were opponents of President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia, but does not specify the members of the group, or who directed or paid for the operation.

U.S. officials declined to disclose the nature of the intelligence, how it was obtained or any details of the strength of the evidence it contains. They have said that there are no firm conclusions about it, leaving open the possibility that the operation might have been conducted off the books by a proxy force with connections to the Ukrainian government or its security services.

Some initial U.S. and European speculation centered on possible Russian culpability, especially given its prowess in undersea operations, though it is unclear what motivation the Kremlin would have in sabotaging the pipelines given that they have been an important source of revenue and a means for Moscow to exert influence over Europe. One estimate put the cost of repairing the pipe-

Continued on Page A11



TO THE BARRICADES A protest over a French government plan to raise the retirement age was met with tear gas in Nantes. Page A6.

A Clash on Pensions, and What It Is to Be French

By CATHERINE PORTER

GRANVILLE, France — Monday is line dancing; Tuesday scrapbooking with friends; Wednesday caring for her two grandchildren.

Martine Mirville's itinerary is an advertisement for retirement in France.

After decades of working, much of it as a secretary, she packed up her desk for the last time, bought an apartment in this seaside town in Normandy where her daughter lives, and started the coveted next stage of her life.

Proposal to Add 2 Years to Retirement Age Hits a Nerve

"I wake up every morning and say how lucky am I to be here," Ms. Mirville, 67, said during a break from her Thursday morning gym class. Then, she used a favored French expression that has been echoing across the country in protests this year: "This is the time to enjoy life."

Since President Emmanuel Macron's government introduced plans to push the retirement age to 64 from 62, France has been convulsed by regular strikes and protests that have drawn millions into the streets, not only in the capital, but in towns and villages across the country.

On Tuesday, workers walked out of schools, refineries, power plants, airports and transportation systems in the biggest mobilization yet, trying to all but turn out the lights in the country in protest.

Continued on Page A6

Fed Sees Rates Pushing Higher Than Expected

By JEANNA SMIALEK

Jerome H. Powell, the Federal Reserve chair, made clear on Tuesday that the central bank is prepared to react to recent signs of economic strength by raising interest rates higher than previously expected and, if incoming data remain hot, potentially returning to a quicker pace of rate increases.

Mr. Powell, in remarks before the Senate Banking Committee, also noted that the Fed's fight against inflation was "very likely" to come at some cost to the labor market.

His comments were the clearest acknowledgment yet that recent reports showing inflation remains stubborn and the job market remains resilient are likely to shake up the policy trajectory for America's central bank.

The Fed raised interest rates last year at the fastest pace since the 1980s, pushing borrowing costs above 4.5 percent, from near zero. That initially seemed to be slowing consumer and business demand and helping inflation to moderate.

But a number of recent economic reports have suggested that inflation did not weaken as much as expected last year and remained faster than expected in January, while other data showed hiring remains strong and consumer spending picked up at the start of the year.

While some of that momentum could have owed to mild January

Continued on Page A18

BIDEN WILL SEEK INCREASE IN TAX AS MEDICARE FIX

ON PAY ABOVE \$400,000

Part of Effort to Prevent Program From Being Insolvent in 2028

By JIM TANKERSLEY
and MARGOT SANGER-KATZ

WASHINGTON — President Biden, as part of his budget set for release on Thursday, will propose raising and expanding a tax on Americans earning more than \$400,000 as part of a series of efforts to extend the solvency of Medicare by a quarter-century.

In spotlighting his Medicare plans, Mr. Biden is seeking to sharpen a contrast with Republicans and cast himself as a protector of cherished retirement programs — for his likely re-election campaign and for a looming congressional battle with House conservatives who are demanding steep cuts in federal spending in order to raise the nation's borrowing limit.

The early release of the Medicare proposals, detailed in a White House fact sheet on Tuesday, also underscored the degree to which Mr. Biden has fully embraced the political upside of taxing high earners. That is the case even though administration officials have conceded there is little



PETE MARASOVICH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES
President Biden aims to sharpen a contrast with Republicans.

chance those tax increases will pass Congress.

The proposals would affect the so-called net investment income tax, which was enacted to help offset the cost of former President Barack Obama's signature health care law. They would increase the tax rate to 5 percent from 3.8 percent for people earning above \$400,000 a year and expand the income subject to it.

Independent estimates from the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget suggest the changes could raise at least \$350 billion, and possibly as much as \$600 billion over the course of a decade. White House estimates are even higher: \$700 billion in net new revenue over a decade, all from high earners.

Mr. Biden is also proposing new cost savings for the government

Continued on Page A14



Defiant in Donetsk

Dykky, a musician, near Toretsk, where Ukraine made modest gains. More war coverage, Page A10.

TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Spying by Mexico Raises Fears of 'Military State'

By NATALIE KITROEFF
and RONEN BERGMAN

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's armed forces spied on a human rights defender and journalists who were investigating allegations that soldiers had gunned down innocent people, documents show, providing clear evidence of the military's illegal use of surveillance tools against civilians.

Trail of Evidence Shows Army Targeted Critics

The government has been embroiled in scandal for years over the use of sophisticated spyware against a wide range of people who stand up to Mexico's leaders. But surveillance experts say this

is the first time a paper trail has emerged to prove definitively that the Mexican military spied on citizens who were trying to expose its misdeeds.

Documents and interviews show how the spying that tarnished the previous government has continued under President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, who vowed that his administration

Continued on Page A9

Pitching Debt Limit as Leverage in Culture Fight

By CATIE EDMONDSON

OKMULGEE, Okla. — Representative Josh Brecheen, a first-term Republican, begins each town hall meeting in his sprawling district in eastern Oklahoma the same way: with a blistering, roughly half-hour broadside about the crisis posed by the nation's debt and the lengths to which he is prepared to go to force deep

G.O.P. Freshman Aims at 'Woke' Spending

spending cuts. "For the last 40 years, we inherited prosperity from our parents and our grandparents, and we are borrowing — and I would say stealing — prosperity from our

kids and our grandkids," Mr. Brecheen told Oklahoma's students at a local college's student center on a recent Monday morning.

But, he argued, the coming debt-limit negotiations with the Biden administration would be a chance to right those decades of wrongs.

"A debt ceiling can be very useful."

Continued on Page A16

INTERNATIONAL A4-11

Two Found Alive in Mexico

U.S. and Mexican authorities had been searching for four Americans abducted after they crossed into the country from Texas for a medical procedure. PAGE A9

NATIONAL A12-19

Oklahoma Pot Vote Falls

Though the state has embraced medical marijuana, it proved still too conservative for recreational use by voting down an initiative Tuesday. PAGE A16

BUSINESS B1-5

Inside a Debate at Fox News

Newly released messages offer some of the clearest evidence yet of the misgivings many inside the network had over claims of 2020 election fraud. PAGE B1

ARTS C1-6

On the Rise in Hollywood

Craig Mazin was once known as a writer of mediocre comedies. But "Chernobyl" and "The Last of Us" have made him one of TV's hottest showrunners. PAGE C1

OPINION A20-21

Thomas L. Friedman PAGE A21



0 554 613 9

LIMITED ENGAGEMENT ON BROADWAY AT STUDIO 54 THRU APRIL 30

"NATHAN LANE IS MIRACULOUS."
-The New York Times

"A RICH PLAY ABOUT THE MARVELS AND MYSTERIES OF AN AMERICAN FAMILY."
-New York Theatre Guide

**NATHAN LANE
DANNY BURSTEIN
ZOE WANAMAKER**

PICTURES FROM HOME

TODAY AT 2PM AND 8PM

PICTURESFROMHOMEBROADWAY.COM

'There are many toys' Venture capital firms cast sceptical eye on rush of enthusiasm for generative artificial intelligence **▶** PAGE 8

Companies & Markets

N26 founders were warned over 'culture of fear' at fintech

- ◆ Top staff railed against 'lack of trust'
- ◆ Group claims improved governance

OLAF STORBECK — FRANKFURT

N26's top executives accused the co-founders of one of Europe's most highly valued fintechs of promoting a "culture of fear" that threatened to drive the group into a "downward spiral".

In a memo sent last year, N26's six most senior staff warned Max Tayenthal and Valentin Stalf their "relationship and ways of working" with executives at the German company were "quite dysfunctional in several dimensions".

The internal "discussion document" was sent in February 2022 by Thomas Grosse, chief risk officer until he quit last week. It was co-authored by Jan Kemper, chief financial officer, Eva Glanzer, interim HR head, Gilles Bian-

The co-founders had a habit of 'rewriting history' and a tendency to 'shoot the messenger'

Rosa, chief product officer, Gino Cordt, chief technology officer, and Alex Weber, chief growth officer.

Glanzer and Kemper have also since left N26, which was founded in 2013 to disrupt Germany's banking industry. The company, which counts Peter Thiel, the Silicon Valley billionaire, and Li Ka-shing, the Hong Kong tycoon, among its backers, was valued at more than €7.7bn in a fundraising in October 2021.

But N26, with 8mn retail customers in Germany and more than 20 other countries, has suffered growing pains and was ordered by Germany's financial regulator to upgrade its internal controls.

In October 2021, BaFin imposed a draconian cap on N26's client growth after the regulator became concerned with organisational flaws.

The memo, sent months after N26's

fundraising, warned Tayenthal and Stalf the leadership team "is not functioning in a productive (or even merely adequate) way". This had resulted in a level of "churn as well as continuous organisational dysfunctions".

The co-founders were accused of a "lack of trust in executives" that was resulting in "confusion". Tayenthal and Stalf were also said to have a habit of "rewriting history" and a tendency to "shoot the messenger" if decisions turned out wrong.

"Of particular concern is the establishment of a culture of 'fear' and blaming, fostered by many of the behavioural problems we want to address," the memo notes.

N26 declined to comment on "any internal conversations, emails or other internal information" but said it had made "significant investments into governance and leadership" over the past 18 months. "We take that seriously at all levels of the company, including at senior leadership level. Feedback is an essential part of this."

The memo was first reported by Germany's Manager Magazin.

N26 overhauled its governance last November when it established a supervisory board that oversees and appoints the executive board.

Tayenthal told the FT that building N26 into a "leading digital bank" had been a "steep learning curve". Stalf said an "open feedback culture is central to this collaboration".

However, the problems described in the memo remain, according to people familiar with discussions at N26.

Over the past 12 months N26 has lost some of its top managers, Grosse most recently. N26 attributed his departure to his "personal circumstances", but Grosse told the FT the "reasons for my decision are complex". He declined to comment further.

Deadlocked Abu Dhabi oil group's talks with trader Gunvor reach impasse over size of deal



A Gunvor refinery in Rotterdam. The group's founder is loath to cede control to Adnoc — Dean Moutaropoulos/Getty Images

TOM WILSON, DAVID SHEPPARD AND LESLIE HOOK — LONDON

Abu Dhabi National Oil Company's potential acquisition of Gunvor, the energy trading house, has reached an impasse because of a disagreement over the size of the deal.

While Adnoc had hoped to acquire all of Gunvor, or a majority stake, the trader's chief executive Torbjörn Törnqvist is not willing to give up control of the group he co-founded in 2000, two people involved in the discussions said.

Instead Törnqvist, who controls almost 90 per cent of Gunvor, has told Adnoc he is only willing to sell a minority stake as a way to raise funds to drive growth. Such a deal is of less interest to state-owned Adnoc, which was seeking control of the company as a way to significantly boost its trading ambitions, one of the people said.

Adnoc established its own trading

arm two years ago and chief executive Sultan Ahmed al-Jaber has frequently stated a desire to improve profit margins through investments in refining and trading capacity.

The deal would have been the biggest move by a Middle Eastern company into commodity trading. Although several Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia, have large national oil companies, unlike European rivals Shell and BP they do not have big trading divisions.

Trading has been highly profitable in recent years because of the volatility created in energy markets first by the coronavirus pandemic then Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Adnoc and Gunvor have been in talks since last summer and extended an exclusivity clause until the end of March in an attempt to get a deal over the line. Adnoc and Gunvor declined to comment.

People close to the talks gave differ-

ent accounts of whether further discussions were possible, with one suggesting a smaller deal could still be done. Others said Adnoc was effectively withdrawing from the discussions. But they agreed a larger deal for a controlling stake in the company was now highly unlikely.

Gunvor, headquartered in Geneva and domiciled in Cyprus, is among the world's largest independent energy traders, moving about 240mn tonnes of commodities including oil, gas and coal in 2021. Founded by Törnqvist alongside Russian businessman Genady Timchenko, the company was initially known for its close ties to Russian energy producers.

In 2014, shortly before he came under US sanctions for his ties to Russian president Vladimir Putin, Timchenko sold his shares to Törnqvist. The company has reduced its volumes of Russian-originated commodities in recent years.

KPMG and PwC trail rivals in big audits run by women

STEPHEN FOLEY — NEW YORK

PwC and KPMG are falling behind rivals EY and Deloitte in promoting women to run the most prestigious audits in corporate America, new data shows.

Women still only account for 20 per cent of the lead engagement partners on audits of S&P 500 companies, according to a study published yesterday by the CFA Institute, the professional body for the investment industry.

The figure, covering audits from 2021, represented an improvement from 15 per cent four years earlier but showed the need for faster progress at some firms in particular, said Sandy Peters, head of global advocacy at the institute.

"Half of those entering the accounting profession are women," Peters wrote in the study. "The issue in Big Four firms is leakage from the pipeline. Within 10 to 15 years — the time it takes to become a partner — the near-majority of women in accounting turns into a minority."

Women ran more big audits at each of the firms than they did four years earlier, and the number of S&P 500 companies with female lead engagement partners rose from 73 to 102, the CFA Institute found.

Deloitte led the Big Four with women making up 27 per cent of its S&P 500 lead engagement partners. Meanwhile, EY showed the largest increase — from 13 per cent in 2017 to 22 per cent in 2021.

KPMG remained in fourth place with 13 per cent of its S&P 500 engagement partners. The pace of growth was slowest at PwC, which slipped to third place with 19 per cent.

KPMG said it had mentorship and development programmes specifically to help women advance to lead engagement partner, and the CFA Institute study ignored its broader progress.

"This one metric obscures our progress in advancing women in leadership across our business," KPMG said.

PwC said it was working to increase the diversity of partners running significant client relationships, in audit and elsewhere in the firm. "While we are not where we want to be, we are proud of the progress we've made," the firm said.

Peters, herself a former audit partner at KPMG, said the Big Four offered "a good training ground" for future company chief financial officers, controllers and audit committee members, so improvements there could help gender progress in the boardroom.

Singapore MP's tech job puts spotlight on politicians' interests

INSIDE BUSINESS

ASIA

Mercedes Ruehl



public policy for Grab. As chair of the Parliamentary Committee for Communications and Information, she is potentially privy to information that may benefit Grab as well as influence regulatory affairs. Grab is facing regulation that would affect its business, for instance around the rights of gig economy workers.

There is no suggestion that Tin or Grab intended the company to reap benefits it might not have had otherwise. And taking a second job as an MP is permitted under Singapore law. The problem was the potential for conflicts of interest.

The group acknowledges such risks. "Much thought and care was given to address any potential conflict of interest that may arise when Pei Ling was hired," Grab said when, in response to a public outcry, it moved

Tin to a different role at the tech company in business development.

"The discourse has led us to pause and reflect on how we can create an environment where Pei Ling can serve effectively in both her roles as an MP as well as representing Grab.

"We acknowledge that this is difficult if the intent behind every action or position she takes in the future is doubted or called into question."

Tin's salary was not disclosed. That is not unusual in Singapore. Finding such information — even the roles MPs hold — can be challenging. Unlike in the UK or US, there is no list of politicians' financial interests. MPs are only required to disclose to the prime minister in confidence their business and professional interests and any other fees they receive.

Thanks to Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore was built on a philosophy of cleanliness, from the streets to politics.

For the latter, Lee believed in paying politicians well. The idea was to secure their commitment while protecting MPs from influence-peddling by the private sector.

Singapore's prime minister, Lee Hsien Loong — Lee's son — receives S\$2.2mn (\$1.6mn) annually, four times the US president's salary. The benchmark level of a minister's annual income is S\$1.1mn, according to government data, much higher than politicians earn in countries such as the UK.

But their state salary is only part of Singaporean MPs' incomes. Many have outside roles, including "full-time" executive jobs at companies.

Fresh questions over the transparency of such roles have been raised after one of the country's biggest technology companies appointed an MP to an influential position, before backtracking.

New York-listed Grab is a ride-hailing, food delivery, and financial services business that has grown rapidly to have a dominant presence in the city-state through its "super app". Its signature green-and-white logo is everywhere in the Lion City.

Tin Pei Ling from the ruling People's Action party was appointed head of

'One of the extraordinary things about Singapore politicians is how thoroughly they keep their interests under wraps'

Such an approach seems an anomaly in transparency to some.

Michael Barr, an associate professor in international relations at Flinders University, says: "One of the most extraordinary things about Singapore politicians is how thoroughly they manage to keep their business interests under wraps."

Mak Yuen Teen at the National University of Singapore believes there is an unhealthy blurring of the lines between government and business in the city-state. As such, a public register of financial interests for MPs would be a "good idea".

Singapore has a strong reputation in governance. While not immune to corruption or scandals, it ranks highly as a clean place for business. Last year it scored 83 out of 100 on a corruption index by Transparency International, beaten only by Denmark, Finland, New Zealand, and Norway.

The next review of Singapore's public sector salaries, held every five years, is set for this year. At a time of soaring costs for citizens, the salaries of MPs and their roles in the private sector may draw more attention than they have in the past.

New leadership and elections are also on the horizon, and the PAP is facing declining popularity, especially among younger voters.

In such an environment, some argue that more transparency on MPs and their outside pay might build confidence.

"I'm not sure that statements like 'the ultimate safeguard is still MPs' own conscience and judgment' really cut it any more," says David Black, the founder of Blackbox, a Singapore research firm.

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'AS PESSOAS NÃO NOS VIAM COMO JUÍZAS'; RACISMO VELADO MARCA TRAJETÓRIA DE MAGISTRADAS NEGRAS NO BRASIL
Gabriela da Conceição Rodrigues, juíza do TJ-SP, e colegas de profissão relatam situações em que foram barradas em fóruns, interrompidas em audiências e tiveram autoridade questionada **A7**

Diretora de ensino defende debate de gênero e raça na PF

Luciana Amaral Alonso Martins, à frente da Diretoria de Ensino da PF, quer ampliar total de mulheres e criar condições para que elas sejam respeitadas no órgão. Ela defende debate de gênero e raça na formação de policiais. **Política A8**



Luciana Martins é diretora de Ensino da PF *Gabriela Bilió/Folhapress*

PAINEL

Paulistas estudam mais que homens, mas ganham menos

Política A4

TENDÊNCIAS / DEBATES A3

Sueli Carneiro, Theo Dias e Gabriel Sampaio

STF precisa frear abordagens policiais racistas

Cida Gonçalves

Exigimos direitos iguais no mundo do trabalho

Berço de ideias feministas, França vê sexismo persistir

Mundo A13

Mortes pós-parto deixam rastro de luto em famílias
Região Norte concentra casos de mortalidade materna, cuja taxa nacional dobrou em 2021. Fenômeno desestrutura famílias e expõe assistência falha no auge da pandemia. **B1**

ilustrada C6

Britânico leva Pritzker

David Chipperfield une contemporâneo e clássico para vencer prêmio da arquitetura

esporte B7

Torcida aplaude e apoia jogadoras do Ceará após derrota por 14 a 0 em SP

equilíbrio B4

Negras relatam pressão sobre imagem e voltam a alisar os cabelos

EDITORIAIS A2

Lira, Lula e Juscelino
Sobre base do governo e permanência de ministro.

Pró-vida das mulheres
A respeito do direito ao aborto na América Latina.

Cúpula da República só teve 4 mulheres no pós-ditadura

Proporção no comando dos três Poderes em relação aos homens é de 1 para 16,5

Em quase 40 anos de redemocratização no Brasil, a cúpula da República contou com 66 homens e só 4 mulheres — uma proporção de 16,5 para 1 — e continua preenchida majoritariamente por representantes do sexo masculino. Mesmo em cargos inferiores, a sub-representatividade se mantém.

Nesse período, apenas Dilma Rousseff (PT) foi eleita presidente, enquanto sete homens passaram pelo comando do Poder Executivo. O Legislativo nunca teve, no pós-ditadura, uma mulher à frente da Câmara ou do Senado — foram 18 e 15 ocupantes do posto, respectivamente, nesse período.

No Judiciário, três mulheres — ante 26 homens — se tornaram ministras do Supremo Tribunal Federal: Ellen Gracie, Cármen Lúcia e Rosa Weber. As nomeações ocorreram de 2001 a 2011. Cármen e Rosa ainda estão no STF, e esta atualmente preside a corte, formada por 11 ministros.

Para a juíza e ex-presidente da AMB (Associação dos Magistrados Brasileiros) Renata Gil, chegar ao STF ou ao STJ (Superior Tribunal de Justiça) é ainda mais difícil para as mulheres porque elas já costumam estar excluídas do ambiente político onde os nomes dos indicados são costurados. **Política A4**



Governo do Estado de São Paulo/Divulgação

MOGI-BERTIOGA É REABERTA APÓS DUAS SEMANAS

Trecho no km 82 da rodovia, liberada antecipadamente pelo Governo de São Paulo; ainda há obras na estrada, que sofreu erosão devido às fortes chuvas no litoral paulista **Cotidiano B3**

Alta de juros deve ser maior e mais rápida nos EUA

O presidente do Fed (banco central americano), Jerome Powell, indicou que o órgão pode precisar elevar os juros acima do planejado 0,25 ponto e em ritmo mais rápido, diante de "dados econômicos mais fortes do que o esperado" e alta da inflação. **Mercado A17**

Valor de joias da Arábia supera usual e eleva suspeitas

O valor das joias apresentadas a Jair e Michelle Bolsonaro (R\$ 5,15 mi na apreensão e R\$ 16,5 mi em avaliação posterior) chama a atenção de diplomatas com experiência em protocolos por superar o usual de agradecimentos de sauditas a outros líderes mundiais. **Política A10**





CHINA DAILY

WEDNESDAY, March 8, 2023

中國日報

chinadaily.com.cn RMB ¥2

'Strategic competition' seen as 'reckless gamble'

By CAO DESHENG caodesheng@chinadaily.com.cn

Foreign Minister Qin Gang said on Tuesday that the United States defining its relations with China as "strategic competition" is a reckless gamble with the stakes being the fundamental interests of the two peoples and the future of humanity...

Speaking at a news conference in Beijing on the sidelines of the ongoing first session of the 14th National People's Congress, China's top legislature, Qin said this so-called competition aims to contain and suppress China in all respects...

He urged the US government to get rid of its strategic anxiety of "threat inflation", abandon the zero-sum Cold War mentality, refuse to be hijacked by "political correctness", honor its commitments and work with China to explore the right way to get along with each other.

"If the United States does not hit the brake but continues to speed down the wrong path, no amount of guardrails can prevent demagoguing and there will surely be conflict and confrontation," he said.

Qin's remarks came as China-US relationship is now mired in an abnormal climate and faces increasing challenges due to Washington's consistent attempts to suppress China in the economic and technological fields, and undermine the nation's sovereignty, security and development interests.

On March 1, the US House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs Committee voted to give US President Joe Biden the power to ban TikTok, a Chinese-owned short video platform. Recently, the US Department of Commerce has added new Chinese entities to its trade blacklist...

Qin reiterated China's position on the Ukraine crisis, saying that China chooses peace over war, dialogue over sanctions and cooling down the situation over fueling the fire.

He said that China is not a party to the crisis and has not provided weapons to either side. The core of China's position on the Ukraine crisis is to facilitate peace talks, he said.

Noting that conflict, sanctions and pressure will not solve the problem, Qin called for calmness, reason and dialogue to resolve the crisis.

"The process of peace talks should begin as soon as possible. And the legitimate security concerns of all parties should be respected. This is the right way to achieve durable security in Europe."

is the bedrock of the political foundation of China-US relations and the first red line that must not be crossed in China-US relations.

He urged Washington to stop containing China by exploiting the Taiwan question, return to the original meaning of the one-China principle, honor its political commitments to relations, and unequivocally oppose and forestall "Taiwan independence".

The US has constantly played the "Taiwan card" in recent years to challenge China's core interests by developing official exchanges with Taiwan and selling more advanced and sophisticated arms to the island.

Disregarding China's strong opposition, US politicians, including then US House speaker Nancy Pelosi, visited Taiwan last year. On March 1, the US State Department approved potential sales of new weapons worth \$619 million to the island, a move that violates the three China-US joint communiques, especially the August 17 Communiqué.

Qin warned that the US mishandling of the Taiwan question will shake the foundation of China-US relations, and undermine the overall and long-term interests of regional countries, and it is bound to fail, he added.

The foreign minister criticized the US "Indo-Pacific strategy", saying that it seeks to gang up to form exclusive blocs. In fact, this "strategy" provokes confrontation, seeks to create an Asia-Pacific version of NATO and undermines regional integration, he said.

The US claim to "shape the strategic environment in which China operates" actually reveals that the real purpose of its "Indo-Pacific strategy" is to encircle China, he said. Such an attempt will only disrupt the ASEAN-centered, open and inclusive regional cooperation architecture and undermine the overall and long-term interests of regional countries, and it is bound to fail, he added.

Regarding the Ukraine crisis, Qin said it is a tragedy that could have been avoided. There seems to be "an invisible hand" pushing for the protraction and escalation of the conflict and using the crisis to serve a certain geopolitical agenda, he added.

Qin reiterated China's position on the Ukraine crisis, saying that China chooses peace over war, dialogue over sanctions and cooling down the situation over fueling the fire.

He said that China is not a party to the crisis and has not provided weapons to either side. The core of China's position on the Ukraine crisis is to facilitate peace talks, he said.

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"The process of peace talks should begin as soon as possible. And the legitimate security concerns of all parties should be respected. This is the right way to achieve durable security in Europe."



Deputies participate in the second plenary meeting of the first session of the 14th National People's Congress in Beijing on Tuesday. WANG ZHANGFEI / CHINA DAILY

Nation's interests safeguarded

New laws have helped to enhance State security, development, top legislator says

By CAO YIN caoyin@chinadaily.com.cn

China's national sovereignty, security and development interests have been safeguarded over the past five years as its legislation in this regard was further strengthened, said a report delivered on Tuesday by the nation's top legislator.

From 2018 to 2022, several new laws relating to national security were formulated, including the Biosecurity Law, the Data Security Law and the Land Border Law, according to the work report of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress delivered by Li Zhanshu, chairman of the 13th NPC Standing Committee.

President Xi Jinping, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, attended the meeting with other Party and State leaders. The report, which was submitted on Tuesday for review to the ongoing first session of the 14th NPC,

China's top legislature, said that some other laws in this area, including the Counter-Terrorism Law, the National Intelligence Law and the Maritime Traffic Safety Law, were also revised during the period.

Recalling the top legislature's diplomatic work over the past five years, Li said, "A major task in the work is stepping up to the front lines of any legal, political or diplomatic struggle whenever the country requires, without the slightest hesitation, to defend China's sovereignty, security and development interests."

Li said that legislation in foreign-related fields had been strengthened over the past five years, with the enactment of the Law on Countering Foreign Sanctions and the Export Control Law, adding that "the legal system for opposing foreign sanctions, interference and long-arm jurisdiction has also been improved."

Draft laws on foreign relations and foreign state immunity were also deliberated by the 13th NPC Standing Committee, according to the report. All of these items of legislation



Li Zhanshu, chairman of the 13th Standing Committee of the 13th NPC, delivers a work report at the meeting. LI TAO / XINHUA

concerning foreign-related affairs have provided legal protection for the interests of the country and its people, it added.

The work report said that the Law on International Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters was formulated and the Criminal Procedure Law was amended in the

five-year period, providing the legal means for pursuing fugitives who had fled abroad and for recovering stolen State assets.

In addition, a series of laws concerning military issues were also made and revised, which helped to strengthen the rule of law in national defense and military development, it said.

It noted that deputies to the 13th NPC had an enhanced awareness of performing their duties during their five-year term, adding that they better played their role as an important bridge and channel through which the Party and State stay in touch with the people.

While helping deputies to improve the ability to perform their duties, the 13th NPC Standing Committee also enhanced its capacity to handle deputies' suggestions and increased its communication with national legislators, according to the report.

It added that it is a must to fully leverage the role of the people's congress system as a crucial institutional vehicle to advance whole-process people's democracy to ensure that the people's voice can be heard in every stage of the work of the Party and State, from decision-making and execution to overseeing implementation.

IPR protection sees major progress

By CAO YIN caoyin@chinadaily.com.cn

Innovators in China have been given stronger protection over the past five years, thanks to greater judicial efforts in the intellectual property rights field, the country's top court and top procuratorate said.

From 2018 to 2022, Chinese judicial authorities strengthened protection of IP rights to facilitate innovation-driven development, with harsher punishments for IP infringements, according to work reports of the Supreme People's Procuratorate and the Supreme People's Court.

The reports were submitted on Tuesday to the ongoing first session of the 14th National People's Congress, the country's top legislature, for deliberation.

In terms of improving legal services for innovation-driven development, courts across the country intensified IP protection of key technologies and emerging and major industries, Zhou Qiang, president of the SPC, said while



Zhou Qiang Zhang Jun

briefing national lawmakers on the SPC report.

According to the report, judges heard a number of cases involving high-tech areas such as 5G communication, new energies, new materials and high-end equipment manufacturing.

Data showed that courts across the country concluded more than 2.19 million IP cases between 2018 and 2022, up 221.1 percent compared with the previous five-year period.

Given frequent public complaints that penalties for IP infringements were too low, courts nationwide increased punitive damages against violators. The amount of compensa-

2.19 million

The number of IP cases concluded by courts across the country between 2018 and 2022, up 221.1 percent compared with the previous five-year period

153 percent

The amount by which compensation awarded in IP infringement cases rose in 2022, compared with 2018

Institutional reform draft plan unveiled

By XU WEI xuwei@chinadaily.com.cn

China has unveiled a draft plan for the biggest reorganization of State Council departments in five years as part of its broader efforts to bolster self-reliance in science and technology, enhance financial oversight and protect intellectual property rights.

The reform plan on the institutional reform of the State Council, China's Cabinet, includes steps to restructure the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, and set up a national administration for financial regulation — a financial oversight body.

See Plan, page 3

Inside

Comment, page 9



Foreign Minister Qin Gang holds a copy of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China while answering a question from the media at a news conference held on the sidelines of the ongoing annual session of the 14th National People's Congress in Beijing on Tuesday. Qin said that, as stipulated in the Constitution, Taiwan is part of the sacred territory of the PRC, and it is the lofty duty of the entire Chinese people, including the compatriots in Taiwan, to accomplish the great task of reunifying the motherland. WANG ZHANGFEI / CHINA DAILY

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Two guilty in boy's death

Mother, boyfriend are convicted of torture, murder of 10-year-old Anthony Avalos.

By JAMES QUEALLY

Anthony Avalos' mother and her former boyfriend were convicted of murder Tuesday in the 2018 death of the 10-year-old, whose short and tragic life exposed massive shortcomings in Los Angeles County's child welfare system.

The defendants, Heather Barron and Kareem Leiva, opted to have their case heard by a judge rather than a jury. Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Sam Ohta handed down the verdict after spending six days reviewing evidence.

The defendants were also convicted of torturing Anthony and abusing two of his siblings, and Ohta upheld a special circumstances allegation that the couple tortured the boy in the commission of a murder. Under California law, they must face a punishment of life without parole at a sentencing hearing next month.

Neither Barron nor Leiva showed any reaction as Ohta read the verdict. Some relatives and victims' rights advocates in the gallery shouted "yes!" when the judge read that Leiva was guilty of the first count. After Ohta finished reading the verdict, Deputy Dist. Atty. Jonathan Hatami walked into the gallery and hugged several of the boy's relatives, many of whom were crying.

"I will always remember Anthony as a loving, funny little boy who loved spending time with us, his aunts, his uncles. Today, I feel relief that they will finally pay for what they did," his aunt, Maria Barron, said during a [See Avalos, A6]



A JUDGE convicted Heather Barron, center, and her former boyfriend Kareem Leiva, not pictured, in L.A. court on Tuesday of murder and torture in the 2018 death of her 10-year-old son, Anthony Avalos.

GINA FERAZZI Los Angeles Times

Storms offer harsh lessons

As officials assess snow response, residents want answers

By SUMMER LIN, NATHAN SOLIS, LUKE MONEY AND GRACE TOOHEY

Officials knew the San Bernardino County mountains were going to be hit by a bad storm days before an unprecedented blizzard rolled in.

But they found themselves unprepared for the historic amount of snow and the disruptions it would bring. More than 100 inches of snow fell in back-to-back storms over the course of a few days, shutting down most mountain roads and leaving multiple communities stranded, some for nearly two weeks since.

Some of the snowplow local officials had available proved no match for the massive accumulation of snow. And because much of [See Snow, A9]



A RESIDENT runs to get her car Tuesday as a crew prepares to clear Highway 138 in the Valley of Enchantment a week after snowstorms paralyzed the region.

BRIAN VAN DER BRUG Los Angeles Times

FIRED AFTER YOUTH CAMP VIDEO

Los Angeles County supervisors oust probation chief over a series of crises.

By JAMES QUEALLY AND REBECCA ELLIS

Los Angeles County leaders unanimously voted to fire Probation Department Chief Amigo Gonzales on Tuesday, pledging it would be the first step in an overhaul of one of the county's most troubled departments.

The vote brings an abrupt end to Gonzales' tumultuous two-year term, in which the department careened from one crisis to the next. During his time at the helm, the department was faced with a dire staffing shortage, troubling findings from a state oversight body and allegations of officer misconduct.

County supervisors' frustrations with Gonzales appeared to peak in February after The Times published a video of officers violently restraining a 17-year-old and revealed that Gonzales overrode an internal disciplinary board's recommendation to fire the main officer involved. After The Times report, a majority of the Board of Supervisors called for Gonzales' resignation.

The resignation never arrived.

On Tuesday, board Chair Janice Hahn said that the juvenile halls were in a clear crisis and that the time had come for a change at the top.

"The state has found them unsuitable, and they are at risk of being shut down. Youth are being hurt and are not attending school," Hahn said. [See Probation, A6]



GURDEEP SINGH SAGGU, a member of Sikh Motorcycle Club USA, takes part in a cross-country ride to raise awareness about the faith, the target of an alarming increase in hate crimes.

IRFAN KHAN Los Angeles Times

COLUMN ONE

A full-throttle ride against hate

Curious about the motorcyclists in turbans? They want to talk.

By RUBEN VIVES REPORTING FROM OAK CREEK, WIS.

Gurdeep Singh Saggu sat on the carpet of the Stockton Sikh Temple prayer hall, staring at the photographs of the seven Sikhs killed in a 2012 mass shooting in Wisconsin.

Across the room, his wife, Ekdeep, and their sons, 5 and 10, sat cross-legged, listening to an FBI agent recount how a white supremacist strode into a Sikh temple in Oak Creek in search of victims.

Until that moment, Saggu's

older son, Akaaldeep, didn't understand why his father was joining his motorcycle club on a 2,700-mile ride to mark the anniversary of the Aug. 5, 2012, massacre.

Saggu, 37, soft-spoken with a wiry beard, had been torn about the trip. The members of Sikh Motorcycle Club USA had planned the weeklong ride to Oak Creek to raise awareness about their culture and faith. Their route would take them through Arizona, where it would be unusual to see turbaned bikers with black leather vests emblazoned with the Sikh faith symbol. A state where a Sikh

man, mistaken for a Muslim, was killed in a hate crime four days after 9/11.

The ride would end Aug. 5 in Oak Creek.

But Saggu hesitated to leave his family, especially his sons. The prospect of violence — that they could be attacked for their religion — meant he was always on guard. Saggu hadn't spent a night away from them since Akaaldeep's birth. He drove his boys to school every day and brought them home after class to do their homework. He watched over them while his wife, a teacher, worked.

Earlier [See Road trip, A7]

2 Americans are rescued, 2 found dead in Mexico

Authorities are trying to determine why they were kidnapped. One man is in custody.

By KATE LINTHICUM AND PATRICK J. McDONNELL

MEXICO CITY — Two of four U.S. citizens kidnapped at gunpoint in northern Mexico last week were found dead Tuesday, Mexican authorities said, while two others were rescued after an intense manhunt that renewed U.S. focus on violence south of the border.

The Americans were located Tuesday morning in a small wooden house in a field outside the violent border city of Matamoros, said Irving Barrios Mojica, the attorney general of Tamaulipas state. Mexican authorities detained one suspect,

identified only as Jose Guadalupe N. 24, who they said was guarding the house.

The two survivors — Latavia "Tay" McGee and Eric James Williams, who was badly wounded in his left leg — were rushed to the border in a convoy of ambulances and law enforcement vehicles and handed over to U.S. authorities in Brownsville, Texas.

The frantic rescue came four days after unknown gunmen fired on the tourists amid a busy stretch of downtown Matamoros, then loaded them into the back of a pickup truck and sped away.

The disappearance of the four friends sparked an international incident, with the FBI launching an investigation, the White House intervening and some Republican members of Congress calling for invading Mexico. [See Mexico, A4]

Biden's pitch to save Medicare

President calls for new taxes on the rich to preserve the health insurance program for people 65 and older. NATION, A5

An elected or appointed post?

Proposed legislation would change how the state schools chief is chosen. CALIFORNIA, B1

Proposal would protect workers

After deep job cuts in the tech industry, a bill in California offers new rights. BUSINESS, A5

Weather Sunny and cool. L.A. Basin: 62/46. B6



Resurrección

El Colón se muda a La Rural

En un espacio atípico, el Teatro puso en escena una sinfonía de Mahler por los 40 años de democracia. P. 48

La ex Ciudad Deportiva de Boca será barrio y parque

La Justicia anuló un amparo y habilitó los proyectos. P. 35

La pelea interminable en el Gobierno

Sin nombrarlo, Cristina acusó a Fernández de decir "barbaridades"

Fue por una conversación del Presidente con el dueño de un medio ultra oficialista. Su vocera admitió la charla, pero desmintió que Fernández hubiera dicho que si gana las elecciones "pondría fin a 20 años de kir-

chnerismo". En un acto en el Senado, con las Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo, Cristina dijo: "En un off se dicen barbaridades que después se niegan". En Mar del Plata, el kirchnerismo le vació un acto al Presidente. P. 8

Del Editor

Ricardo Roa

Macri en la foto que no está y que aprieta a Morales y Larreta P. 2

PELEA POR LOS FONDOS

La Ciudad le pide a la Corte que embargue las cuentas de la Nación

El Gobierno porteño hizo la presentación para tratar de cobrar lo que ordenó un escrito de la Corte Suprema del año pasado, cuando determinó que la Casa Rosada tiene que devolver los fondos que le quitó a la Ciudad para girarlos a la provincia de Buenos Aires. P. 10

Impuesto a las tarjetas

Larreta anunció que no cobrarán más el tributo en la Capital

EL PROBLEMA DE LA VIVIENDA

La oferta de alquileres cae 30% y los precios se disparan

Los propietarios retiran sus propiedades del mercado porque la Ley de Alquileres convirtió al negocio en poco rentable. Muchos prefieren ofrecerlos a turistas en alquiler temporario. Por la inflación, en marzo los inquilinos deben pagar hasta un 90% más. P. 32

LOMAS DE ZAMORA

Barras de Los Andes se enfrentan a tiros frente a la escuela del club

No hubo heridos, pero sí pánico entre los chicos que salían del colegio y tuvieron que correr para escapar a las balas. Hace una semana hubo elecciones en el club que ganó el sindicalista Omar Plaini. P. 42



Abrió Expoagro, la gran muestra del campo

Reúne a más de 600 expositores que recibirán a los visitantes hasta el viernes en San Nicolás. De Pedro dijo que "es necesario volver a unir al peronismo con el campo". Los productores mostraron su preocupación por la sequía, que podría agravarse. P. 18

VIAJARON POR UNA LIPOASPIRACIÓN

México: narcos asesinan a dos estadounidenses

Cuatro amigos viajaron desde Carolina del Sur hasta México porque una de ellas quería hacerse una cirugía estética, que es más barata que en Estados Unidos. Cuando cruzaron la frontera un grupo de narcos los secuestró

y asesinó a dos de ellos porque los confundió con integrantes de un cartel rival. La Casa Blanca consideró "inaceptable" el secuestro y exigió que el gobierno de Andrés Manuel López Obrador "haga justicia". P. 22

What's News

Business & Finance

Powell told lawmakers that the Fed would consider raising interest rates by a larger half percentage point this month and was likely to lift them higher than previously expected this year to cool an economy that has shown surprising strength. **A1**

- ◆ **Yields on shorter-term U.S. Treasuries** climbed to new milestones after the Fed chairman's remarks. Stocks fell, with the S&P 500, Dow and Nasdaq losing 1.5%, 1.7% and 1.2%, respectively. **B1, B11**
- ◆ **The FTC has demanded** that Twitter turn over internal communications related to owner Musk as well as detailed information about layoffs, documents viewed by The Wall Street Journal show. **A1**
- ◆ **The Justice Department** filed a lawsuit seeking to block JetBlue from merging with Spirit, saying the deal would stifle competition and lead to higher fares for tens of millions of travelers. **A1**
- ◆ **Binance's American affiliate** won court approval to take over thousands of customer accounts from bankrupt crypto platform Voyager despite warnings the Binance.US exchange faces possible regulatory action. **B1**
- ◆ **The NTSB said** it opened a special investigation into Norfolk Southern in connection with recent derailments and fatal accidents in the railroad's operations. **A4**
- ◆ **The German government** launched a review of the country's 5G high-speed mobile telecom networks as part of a broader revamp of its relationship with China. **B4**

World-Wide

- ◆ **China's foreign minister** warned that the U.S. strategy toward China risked plunging the countries into a conflict, in remarks a day after Xi unleashed a similar verbal salvo at Washington, signaling a deepening rift between the two powers. **A1, A9**
- ◆ **Biden's budget blueprint** will propose extending the solvency of a key Medicare trust fund by at least 25 years, according to the White House, in part by increasing tax rates on people earning over \$400,000 a year. **A4**
- ◆ **Ukraine urged** residents of Kherson to evacuate amid an uptick in Russian attacks in the southern city, while pressure grew on Ukraine to vacate the besieged eastern city of Bakhmut. **A8**
- ◆ **Two Americans were** found dead and two were rescued in the Mexican city of Matamoros after their Friday trip across the border turned deadly in an ambush and kidnapping by gunmen. **A8**
- ◆ **A bipartisan group** of senators introduced a bill to address threats posed by technology based in adversary countries, including the TikTok video-sharing app. **A4**
- ◆ **Six Palestinian men** were killed in the West Bank city of Jenin during an Israeli military raid pursuing a Hamas operative suspected of fatally shooting two Israeli brothers last week, Israeli and Palestinian authorities said. **A18**
- ◆ **The U.S. plans** to lift Covid testing requirements on travelers from China on Friday, according to people familiar with the matter. **A9**

CONTENTS Opinion..... A15-17
Arts in Review..... A13
Banking & Finance B10
Business News..... B3-5
Crossword..... A14
Heard on Street..... B12
Markets..... B11

Opinion..... A15-17
Personal Journal A11-12
Property Report..... B6
Sports..... A14
Technology..... A2-4, 6
U.S. News..... A2-4, 6
World News..... AB-9, 18

Fed Explores Faster Rate Increases



Fed Chair Jerome Powell before his Senate committee testimony Tuesday, where he discussed central-bank policy.

Stock prices decline as Powell opens door to a half-point rise in March to help cool economy

By Nick Timiraos

WASHINGTON—Chair Jerome Powell said the Federal Reserve would consider raising interest rates by a larger half percentage point this month and was likely to lift rates higher than previously expected this year to cool an economy that has shown surprising strength.

Mr. Powell's comments to lawmakers Tuesday laid the groundwork for a notable shift in tactics to reduce price pressures. He said hotter inflation and hiring could lead central-bank officials to alter their recently adopted strategy of raising rates in smaller quarter-point increments.

"The latest economic data have come in stronger than expected, which suggests that the ultimate level of interest

Please turn to page A2

- ◆ Rising rates squeeze towns, school districts..... A2
- ◆ Short-term yields reach a milestone..... B1

FTC Twitter Probe Demanded Musk Internal Messages

By RYAN TRACY

WASHINGTON—The Federal Trade Commission has demanded Twitter Inc. turn over internal communications related to owner Elon Musk, as well as detailed information about layoffs—citing concerns that staff reductions could compromise the company's ability to protect users, documents viewed by The Wall Street Journal show.

In 12 letters sent to Twitter and its lawyers since Mr. Musk's Oct. 27 takeover, the

FTC also asked the company to identify all journalists granted access to company records and to provide information about the launch of the revamped Twitter Blue subscription service, the documents show.

The FTC also is seeking to depose Mr. Musk in connection with the probe. "We are concerned these staff reductions impact Twitter's ability to protect content,"

Please turn to page A6

- ◆ Musk says he is optimistic about Twitter's future..... B3

U.S.-China Relations Fray As Xi Escalates Rhetoric

By JAMES T. AREDDY AND CHARLES HUTZLER

Harsh verbal attacks on the U.S. by Beijing's top leadership demonstrate just how unsteady relations have become between the world's two major powers.

Just a few weeks ago, China and the U.S. were tiptoeing toward something akin to a diplomatic cease-fire. President Biden's envoy was due in Beijing to craft a possible framework for high-level government-to-government dialogues and stabilize ties after years of bitterness.

Then, a suspected Chinese

surveillance balloon was detected crossing North America, casting a new shadow over relations. The fence-mending trip was postponed and relations between the two powers have plunged further into a spiral of recrimination and tension.

This week, China's leader, Xi Jinping, and his foreign minister accused Washington of suppressing China's development and driving the two countries toward conflict.

"Everything the other side does is seen as negative and done with evil intention," said Susheng Zhao, a China foreign-policy specialist at the University of Denver. "That is

the Cold War mentality."

Mr. Xi elevated the rhetorical tension with an accusation straight out of that bygone era. China, Mr. Xi charged, faces "all-round containment, encirclement and oppression" at the hands of Western nations in league with the U.S.

On Tuesday, his new foreign minister, Qin Gang, followed up with a warning that unless the U.S. changes course, "there will surely be

Please turn to page A9

- ◆ Chinese foreign minister criticizes U.S..... A9
- ◆ Beijing moves to further centralize government..... A9

How Google's Caution on AI Gave Microsoft an Opening

Blocked from releasing a powerful chatbot, researchers resigned

By MILES KRUPPA AND SAM SCHECHNER

More than two years ago, a pair of Google researchers started pushing the company to release a chatbot built on technology more powerful than anything else available at the time. The conversational computer program they had developed could confidently debate philosophy and banter about its favorite TV shows, while improvising puns about cows and horses.

The researchers, Daniel De Freitas and Noam Shazeer, told colleagues that chatbots like theirs, supercharged by recent advances in artificial intelligence, would revolutionize

the way people searched the internet and interacted with computers, according to people who heard the remarks.

They pushed Google to give access to the chatbot to outside researchers, tried to get it integrated into the Google Assistant virtual helper and later asked for Google to make a public demo available.

Google executives rebuffed them at multiple turns, saying in at least one instance that the program didn't meet company standards for the safety and fairness of AI systems, the people said. The pair quit in 2021 to start their own company to work on similar tech.

Please turn to page A10

China's imports and exports, change from one year earlier



*China reported combined data for January and February 2023. Source: China's customs bureau

Chinese Exports Drag on Recovery

Exports from China fell 6.8% in the first two months of 2023 from a year earlier, extending a string of year-over-year declines stretching back to October and complicating Beijing's efforts to juice an economy still reeling from three years of stringent 'zero Covid' rules. **A9**

Parents Opt for the Magic Kingdom Over Math Class

To dodge high costs and crowds, parents take kids out of school to go to Disney

By JACOB PASSY

Some parents have found a shortcut to save money and dodge crowds on family vacations: They enjoy a break while all the other kids are stuck in class—and perhaps frame Mickey Mouse as educational.

Airfare and hotel prices are high right now, particularly for popular travel dates around spring break or summer vacation. Sightseers are back in force. To circumvent the added cost and headaches, many families are opting to pull

their children out of school for trips. Amanda Howard and her husband spent more than 10 months planning a getaway with their four daughters to Walt Disney World in Florida. They decided to visit the week after Thanksgiving rather than during the holiday break in the hopes of encountering shorter lines and cooler weather. To go on the trip, Ms. Howard says she filled out forms that school officials needed to approve for each of her children.

Please turn to page A12

INSIDE



SPORTS

Allegations of sexual assault by star chess player raise questions for federation. **A14**

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Lego widens lead over rivals Mattel, Hasbro, reporting 17% rise in sales for 2022. **B1**

DOJ Sues to Block JetBlue-Spirit Deal

By DAVE MICHAELS AND ANDREW TANGEL

The Justice Department filed a lawsuit seeking to block JetBlue Airways Corp. from merging with Spirit Airlines Inc., arguing the deal would stifle competition and lead to higher fares for tens of millions of travelers.

Justice Department officials said JetBlue's proposed takeover would exacerbate concentration in the U.S. airline industry, eliminating the country's largest ultra-low-cost competitor to major carriers and reducing available capacity.

"If allowed to proceed, this merger will limit choices and drive up ticket prices for passengers across the country," U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland said at a news confer-

ence on Tuesday. The District of Columbia and the states of New York and Massachusetts joined the federal government's lawsuit, filed in federal court in Massachusetts.

JetBlue and Spirit said that they would fight the Justice Department's lawsuit and that their merger would increase competition among major airlines and benefit air travelers.

"Customers deserve a competitive airline marketplace and we will pursue this merger to ensure they get it," JetBlue Chief Executive Robin Hayes said in a statement.

JetBlue and Spirit agreed to combine last year in a \$3.8 billion deal that aims to create the fifth-largest airline in the U.S. Executives for the companies have said folding Spirit's

Please turn to page A10



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The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023 • B3



Mostly sunny 52/34 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny 53/33 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023 • B3

Pro-Kyiv group is suspect in bombings

Official says individuals had discussed carrying out Nord Stream attacks

BY SHANE HARRIS, SOUAD MEKHENNET, GREG MILLER AND MICHAEL BIRNBAUM

Intelligence and diplomatic officials in the United States and Europe suspect that pro-Ukraine saboteurs may be responsible for explosions in September that severely damaged the Nord Stream natural gas pipelines, an attack that could erode support for Ukraine among the Western nations that have come to its defense against Russia.

Questions about Ukrainian culpability first surfaced last year when investigators found no evidence to directly tie the attacks to the Russian government. Within days of the three undersea explosions on Sept. 26, officials in Washington and European capitals had publicly pointed the finger at the Kremlin.

As the weeks wore on, no evidence to support that claim materialized, according to multiple officials familiar with ongoing investigations and intelligence reviews. But officials in several countries said Ukraine could have been motivated to attack the pipelines to stiffen Western resolve in the face of Russian aggression, SEE NORD STREAM ON A7

Russian oligarchs: Study suggests going after wealth managers. A12

Fox News documents in suit show Trump rift

BY SARAH ELLISON

For years, Fox News executives and hosts cultivated a close relationship with Donald Trump. But after he lost the 2020 presidential election and turned his back on the network — inspiring many once-loyal viewers to do the same — the relationship curdled.

And the ensuing pressure caused tension, second-guessing and infighting within Fox on the scale of an “existential crisis,” as one senior executive called it, a cache of internal communications released Tuesday as part of a \$1.6 billion defamation lawsuit indicates.

“We are very, very close to being able to ignore Trump most nights,” prime-time host Tucker Carlson texted a colleague on Jan. 4, 2021. “I truly can’t wait.”

Carlson, who had shared private meetings with the president and defended him on-air, ended in a text: “I hate him passionately. ... What he’s good at is destroying things. He’s the undisputed world” SEE FOX ON A6

GOP blasts Carlson: Senators decry Fox host’s twist on Jan. 6. A6

Striking French workers: Non, it’s not ‘laziness’



LAURENT DIPPAN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A musician performs in Lyon during a new round of nationwide protests against President Emmanuel Macron’s plan to raise the retirement age from 62 to 64. The government counted 1.28 million protesters Tuesday. But their numbers and cause don’t always draw sympathy from a world that thinks French workers have it easy. Story, A8

FBI, DOD immersed in facial recognition research

BY DREW HARWELL

The FBI and the Defense Department were actively involved in research and development of facial recognition software that they hoped could be used to identify people from video footage captured by street cameras and flying drones, according to thousands of pages of internal documents that provide new details about the government’s ambitions to build out a powerful tool for advanced surveillance.

Files reveal their hand in academic work that could aid surveillance

The documents, revealed in response to an ongoing Freedom of Information Act lawsuit the American Civil Liberties Union filed against the FBI, show how closely FBI and Defense officials worked with academic research-

ers to refine artificial-intelligence techniques that could help in the identification or tracking of Americans without their awareness or consent.

Many of the records relate to the Janus program, a project funded by the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Agency, or IARPA, the high-level research arm of the U.S. intelligence community modeled after the Pentagon’s Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, known as DARPA.

Program leaders worked with FBI scientists and some of the nation’s leading computer-vision experts to design and test software that would quickly and accurately process the “truly unconstrained face imagery” recorded by surveillance cameras in public places, including subway stations and street corners, according to the documents, which the ACLU SEE FBI ON A16

TikTok troubles: Commerce could get power to ban foreign apps. A16

Amazon belt-tightening pinches towns across U.S.

The company’s D.C.-area pullback is far from its only development project facing delay or cancellation

BY CAROLINE O’DONOVAN

Last year, Amazon planned to open a new warehouse in Florida’s state capital, creating 1,000 jobs. The company bought up so much concrete and acquired so many sprinter vans in anticipation of the project that local business owners say the city temporarily ran out.

But the Tallahassee project still hasn’t opened.

“The big dog’s going to eat first and the puppies get the crumbs. That seems to be the thought,” said Bill Proctor, a county commissioner who’s concerned that local government promised \$2 million in tax breaks in exchange for little progress. “I just don’t want my community to get played.”

For years, Amazon has been in super growth mode, expanding its workforce by tens of thousands of employees each year and opening dozens of warehouses, delivery centers, corporate offices, data centers and other facilities that allow it to get packages to customers’ doors in just a day or two.

As part of that growth, commu- SEE AMAZON ON A4



JIM LO SCALZO/SPRINT/SHUTTERSTOCK

A newly renovated office building is an early part of Amazon’s second headquarters in Arlington, Va. Amazon said last week that it will pause construction of some buildings at HQ2, as it is known.

2 of 4 kidnap victims dead

SURVIVORS TAKEN TO U.S. BORDER

Mexican cartel’s motive unclear; suspect detained

BY KEVIN SIEFF, PAULINA VILLEGAS, BEN BRASCH AND LEO SANDS

MEXICO CITY — Two of the four Americans who were kidnapped in northern Mexico last week were found dead Tuesday, officials said, in a case that has sharpened the U.S. focus on insecurity across the border and the ease with which armed groups operate just yards from the Rio Grande.

On Friday, four friends from South Carolina crossed from Brownsville, Tex., to the border city of Matamoros, where one planned to undergo a cosmetic procedure. Their white minivan almost immediately came under gunfire; armed men in black with protective vests and rifles forced or dragged them into a white pickup truck, a grisly scene captured on video by a bystander.

In the days that followed, the victims were moved among at least three different locations by cartel members, said the governor of Tamaulipas state, Americo Villarreal.

By the time Mexican security forces located them in a “wooden” SEE KIDNAPPING ON A9

Biden issues plan to stabilize Medicare

BY JEFF STEIN

The White House on Tuesday proposed raising taxes on Americans earning more than \$400,000 and reducing what Medicare pays for prescription drugs in an attempt to ensure that the health-care program for seniors is funded for the next two decades, challenging Republicans over an imminent funding crisis.

As forecasters warn that a key Medicare trust fund will run into major financial problems within five years, the administration proposed three key changes — including the tax hike and new rules to reduce prescription drug costs — to bolster the program for at least 25 years.

Roughly 60 million seniors depend on Medicare for their health insurance. Because the program is spending money at a much faster clip than it brings in funding, it faces automatic federal cuts starting in 2028, raising the nightmare scenario of medical SEE MEDICARE ON A20

Budget brawl: House GOP rails against Biden’s fiscal plan. A20

IN THE NEWS



JAFAR ASHTYEH/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

West Bank violence: Palestinian authorities said an Israeli raid left at least six dead, hours after another rampage by settlers. A13

THE NATION

The head of the Department of Homeland Security acknowledged that the Biden administration is considering a plan to reinstate immigration detention centers for migrant families. A3
Through a firm he owns, a retired four-star admiral was among a dozen retired officers and former civilian leaders from the U.S. Navy to profit off nuclear submarine talks with Australia. A4

Gigi Sohn, a nominee for the Federal Communications Commission, withdrew from consideration after an extended lobbying battle. A7

THE WORLD
A study said nearly everyone in the world is exposed to unhealthy levels of tiny and harmful air pollutants known as PM 2.5. A10
An ignition failure forced Japan to blow up its flagship space rocket shortly after blastoff. A11

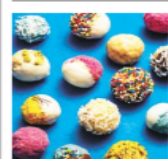
THE ECONOMY

The Justice Department is suing to block a merger of JetBlue Airways and Spirit Airlines, arguing the deal would hurt consumers. A14
Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. Powell told senators that based on recent economic data, the central bank could step up the pace of interest rate hikes. A15

THE REGION

A federal grand jury charged a D.C. police sergeant with second-degree murder in the on-duty fatal shooting of an armed motorist in 2021. B1
The U.S. Senate will vote on whether to strike down an overhaul of D.C.’s criminal code. Get answers to key questions about the measure. B1
Maryland lawmakers want to further change how deaths at the hands of police are addressed by placing charging decisions in the hands of the state attorney general. B1
Archaeologists at Colonial Williamsburg linked human remains discovered in a mass grave last year to a Civil War battle in 1862. B1

INSIDE



FOOD

Sweet and festive: These coconut truffles are a colorful way to celebrate Holi, the Hindu spring festival. E1
STYLE
A lucid approach: Rep. Ruben Gallego isn’t shy about addressing his Iraq War PTSD. C1

BUSINESS NEWS.....A14
COMICS.....C6
OPINION PAGES.....A7
OBITUARIES.....B5
TELEVISION.....A4
WORLD NEWS.....A8

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The Washington Post / Year 146, No. 5348
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