

What's News

Business & Finance

A group of large oil producers led by Saudi Arabia said they would cut more than a million barrels of output a day starting next month, a surprise move that upset Washington and could raise crude prices amid concerns about the global economy. **A1**

◆ **Elon Musk** has revived the idea of digital banking to turn Twitter into a company worth more than \$250 billion, an aspiration that faces regulatory hurdles and the challenge of entrenched players. **A1**

◆ **Tesla** delivered a record number of vehicles in the first three months of the year, when the company slashed prices to stimulate demand in a cooling car market. **B1**

◆ **McDonald's** is temporarily closing its U.S. offices this week as it prepares to inform corporate employees about layoffs undertaken by the burger giant as part of a broader company restructuring. **B1**

◆ **Individual investors** are losing their appetite for U.S. stocks, leaving equity markets without a dependable leg of support after a rocky first quarter. **B1**

◆ **Swiss prosecutors** are investigating the government-orchestrated takeover of Credit Suisse by rival UBS to determine whether any criminal offenses took place under the deal. **B2**

◆ **Nashville, Tenn.**, topped the list of 2022's hottest job markets, followed by Austin, Texas, and Jacksonville, Fla. Orlando, Las Vegas and New Orleans rose in the rankings. **A3**

World-Wide

◆ **U.S. Secretary of State** Antony Blinken pressed his Russian counterpart for the release of recently detained Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich in a phone call, the State Department said, following his detention last week on espionage charges. **A1, A10**

◆ **Russian forces** shelled a town near the border with Ukrainian city of Bakhmut, killing six people, while Zelensky said Russia's presidency of the U.N. Security Council was undermining the body's credibility. **A6**

◆ **Japan is buying** Russian crude oil at prices above the cap agreed by the U.S. and allies with Washington's acquiescence. **A6**

◆ **New York prosecutors** and Donald Trump and his political allies and foes are gearing up for a week that will feature high-stakes combat and arraignment in a Manhattan courtroom on hush-money charges. **A4**

◆ **Former Arkansas Gov.** Asa Hutchinson said he was running for president and called on Trump to withdraw from the race over his criminal indictment in New York. **A5**

◆ **Denver's mounting** homelessness crisis is dominating a crowded mayoral election set for Tuesday, with candidates offering competing plans on how to tackle an issue that has sharply divided residents. **A3**

◆ **Egypt and Syria** are in advanced talks to restore full diplomatic relations more than a decade after ties broke down, people familiar with the matter said. **A10**

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Storm Death Toll Rises to 32 Over Weekend



DEVASTATION: Damage inspected on Sunday included roofs ripped off homes in Little Rock, Ark., above. At least 32 people were killed in the storms that barreled across the country from Wisconsin to Georgia, battering homes and downing power lines. **A3**

Saudi-Led Oil Producers Set for More Output Cuts

By Benoit Faucon and Sumner Said

A group of large oil producers led by Saudi Arabia said Sunday they would cut more than a million barrels of output a day starting next month, a surprise move that upset Washington and could raise crude prices amid concerns about the global economy.

The output cut adds to a reduction of 2 million barrels a day agreed to in October by the Saudi-led Organization of

the Petroleum Exporting Countries and a group of other producers led by Russia. Taken together, the output cuts amount to about 3% of the world's petroleum production taken off the market in seven months.

The decision marks another moment when Saudi Arabia, once a reliable U.S. security partner, is setting energy policy at odds with Washington as the West confronts Russia over its invasion of Ukraine. The U.S. has sought to reduce

revenue for Russia—one of the biggest oil and gas producers in the world—through sanctions and a price cap, but OPEC+ moves helped prop up crude prices in much of 2022.

Russia nominally is part of Sunday's action, but its output cut—500,000 barrels a day—was announced weeks ago and was likely involuntary, as the damage to its economy from

◆ **Japan breaches price cap on Russian oil**..... **A6**

Tigers Burn Bright in NCAA Final



LSU coach Kim Mulkey raises the championship trophy after the Tigers defeated the Iowa Hawkeyes 102-85 on Sunday to win the NCAA women's basketball tournament. **A16**

Meet the 18-Year-Old Who Wants to Be Disney's Next CEO

Superfan Cori Borgstadt started going to annual meetings in 2008, when she was 3

By Robbie Whelan

PEORIA, Ariz.—Walt Disney Co. Chief Executive Robert Iger has said his top priority is finding his successor within two years.

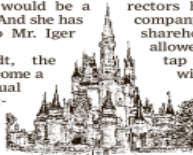
An 18-year-old Disney superfan from the Phoenix suburbs thinks she would be a strong candidate. And she has already talked to Mr. Iger about the job.

Cori Borgstadt, the young fan, has become a regular at annual shareholder meetings. In fact, she has attended every annual Disney shareholder confab since 2008, when she was 3 years old. She has asked Mr. Iger a question on all but three occasions, including in 2015, when she wondered what advice he would give to "a kid who wants your job some day."

Mr. Iger responded, "Well, one thing you can do is keep coming to our shareholders' meeting."

Monday will mark Ms. Borgstadt's 16th straight appearance—this year's meeting is virtual-only—a streak longer than nearly all of Disney's directors have been on the company's board. The shareholder events have allowed Ms. Borgstadt to tap into her obsession with Disney and her interest in corporate governance, while also providing an annual vacation for her family.

Her questions over the years have ranged from fan concerns such as whether or not Mack, the big-rig truck from the Pixar movie "Cars," would appear in the sequel, to inquiring



Dream on

Musk Taps Old Idea to Chase \$250 Billion Twitter Valuation

By Tim Higgins

Behind Elon Musk's gamble to turn Twitter Inc. into a company worth more than \$250 billion is a beloved idea he has hung on to for more than two decades: digital banking.

The billionaire entrepreneur gave employees late last month a taste of how grandiose his plans are, telling them he envisions Twitter being worth more than 10 times its current value of around \$20 billion.

Key to his effort, he has said, is putting the social-media

company at the center of users' financial lives. It is a remake that harks back to the early days of his career and his first major setback at a startup called X.com, now known as PayPal Holdings Inc. The early success of the digital-payments company gave Mr. Musk the fortune he parlayed into Tesla Inc., the car maker, and SpaceX, the rocket company. But his ouster as the startup's CEO meant he never got to bring his full plan to fruition.

Now, the 51-year-old is painting a world in which Twitter

users can effortlessly send money to each other, earn interest on deposits and much more through an app. That digital ideal closely resembles his original vision for X.com before it merged with another similarly focused firm to eventually become PayPal.

"I think it's possible to become the biggest financial institution in the world," Mr. Musk said in March at a Morley

◆ **Tesla reports record vehicle deliveries**..... **B1**

America Has Too Much Parking. Really.

Cities get rid of spaces, freeing land for new development; 'looking for a place to live'

By David Harrison

For decades, American cities have had a parking problem: too much of it.

Countless residential parking spots go unused, and many downtown garages sit half empty. Ride-sharing and the rise of remote work during the pandemic have aggravated the trend. The average American drove 4% fewer miles in 2022 than in 2019, according to government statistics.

Recognizing this, cities are shrinking the number of spaces, freeing up the land for other uses, with far-reaching consequences.

Garages and parking lots are being demolished. New buildings now come with fewer spots. Major retailers are leasing unused spaces for new development. And local

governments are scrapping decades-old minimum-parking rules for new buildings. Urban planners and economists say this helps to reduce construction costs, hold down rents, relieve congestion, revitalize cities and mitigate the national housing shortage by making better use of some of the country's most valuable land.

"The Dutch have reclaimed land from the sea, and I think we can reclaim land from parking," said Donald Shoup, an urban planner at the University of California, Los Angeles who pioneered the field of parking research.

Any driver who has been late to an appointment for lack of a parking spot might be surprised to hear there is a parking glut. Economists, however, say expectations for



INSIDE U.S. NEWS As court date nears, Trump's legal team brings swagger and strategy. **A4**



WORLD NEWS Pope presides over Mass on Palm Sunday after release from hospital. **A10**

Blinken Prods Russia to Free WSJ Reporter

By Vivian Salama and Alan Cullison

WASHINGTON—U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken pressed his Russian counterpart for the release of recently detained Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich in a phone call Sunday, the State Department said, following his detention last week on espionage charges.

Mr. Blinken conveyed his "grave concern" to Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov of Russia over the continued detention of Mr. Gershkovich and another American held by Russia, Paul Whelan, calling it unacceptable and demanding their immediate release, according to an official U.S.

statement on the rare call between the top two U.S. and Russian diplomats.

Russia's Foreign Ministry said in a statement that "attention was drawn to the need to respect the decisions of the Russian authorities, taken in accordance with the law and international obligations of the Russian Federation."

The ministry said that the Russians emphasized that "it is unacceptable for officials in Washington and the Western media to whip up a stir with the clear intention of giving this case a political coloring."

The Foreign Ministry said

◆ **Top French editors denounce reporter's detention**..... **A10**

The New Face of Hostage Diplomacy

More Americans in recent years have been detained by foreign governments on what the U.S. considers to be bogus or politicized charges than

come the face of it.

John Bolton, who was national security adviser to former President Donald Trump, called Mr. Gershkovich's arrest "an act of state terror," calculated to put pressure on President Biden. "This is as targeted a hostage-taking as you can imagine," he said.

Within hours of his detention on Wednesday, the highest figures in the U.S. government denied the charges against Mr. Gershkovich, bluntly called for him to be freed and accused Moscow of targeting Americans. "Let him go," Mr. Biden said to reporters on Friday.

"The Wall Street Journal demands the immediate release of our colleague, Evan

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Please turn to page A2

Please turn to page A12



How Mrs Assad holds Syria's economic reins

THE BIG READ, PAGE 15

Japan's youth reap demographic rewards

LEO LEWIS, PAGE 16

Base mettle Trump plays to Florida fans

Supporters of Donald Trump protesting against his indictment on criminal charges outside his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida this weekend.

Trump was indicted by a grand jury last week on charges related to the alleged payment of hush money to porn star Stormy Daniels, though the exact nature of the charges are not yet known.

He will appear in a New York court tomorrow to answer the allegations.

Joe Tacopina, one of the former president's lawyers, said yesterday Trump would plead not guilty and would seek to have the charges dismissed. "There's no law that fits this," he said.

After his court appearance, Trump, who is running to be the Republican candidate for president in 2024, will travel back to Florida to deliver a speech in a bid to rally his base.

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Outlook page 16



Georgia Vural/AFP via Getty Images

Opec members in surprise oil output cut of more than 1mn barrels a day

◆ Move will raise US-Saudi tensions ◆ Targets effective from May ◆ Russia extends production cap

DEBRA BROWER — NEW YORK
DAVID SHEPPARD AND TOM WILSON
LONDON

Saudi Arabia and other major oil-producing nations yesterday announced surprise production cuts totalling more than 1mn barrels a day, putting Riyadh on a collision course with the US as the kingdom attempts to boost prices.

Saudi Arabia will implement a "voluntary cut" of 500,000 b/d, or just under 5 per cent of its output, in "coordination with some other Opec and non-Opec countries", it said.

Russia, which is also a member of the Opec+ group of oil producers, said it would extend its existing 500,000 b/d production cut until the end of the year. Moscow's reduction was first announced last month in retaliation

against western countries' imposition of a price cap on its seaborne oil exports.

Oil prices fell sharply last month after the collapse of the US's Silicon Valley Bank and the forced takeover of Credit Suisse by UBS, which sparked fears of contagion in global financial markets and a significant drop-off in demand for crude.

"Opec+ have made a pre-emptive cut to get ahead of any possible demand weakness from the banking crisis that

'Opec+ have made a pre-emptive cut to get ahead of any demand weakness from the banking crisis'

has emerged," said Amrita Sen, director of research at Energy Aspects.

The Saudi-led initiative was announced without a formal Opec+ meeting, suggesting an element of urgency by the countries involved.

The surprise cuts risk reigniting a dispute between Riyadh and the US, which pushed the kingdom to pump more oil last year in a bid to tame rampant inflation amid a surge in energy costs after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

In October, when Opec+ announced a formal production cut of 2mn b/d, the White House accused Saudi Arabia of in effect siding with Russia.

People familiar with Saudi Arabia's thinking say Riyadh was irritated last week that the Biden administration publicly ruled out new crude purchases

to replenish a strategic stockpile that had been drained last year as the White House battled to tame inflation. The White House had previously offered reassurance to Saudi Arabia that it would step in to make purchases for its strategic reserve if prices fell.

Helima Croft, head of commodity strategy at RBC Capital Markets, said Saudi Arabia was staking out an economic strategy independent of the US, after relations between Riyadh and Washington had deteriorated under Biden's administration.

"It's a Saudi-first policy. They're making new friends, as we saw with China," Croft said, referring to a recent Beijing-brokered diplomatic deal between Saudi Arabia and Iran. The kingdom was sending a message to the

US that "it's no longer a unipolar world", she added.

The voluntary cuts from Opec+ members will begin in May and last until the end of 2023, the Saudi statement said. Iraq will reduce crude production by 211,000 b/d; the United Arab Emirates by 144,000 b/d; Kuwait by 128,000 b/d; Kazakhstan by 78,000 b/d; Algeria by 48,000 b/d; and Oman by 40,000 b/d, according to statements from their respective governments.

"We don't think cuts are advisable at this moment, given market uncertainty," the US National Security Council said. "We will continue to work with all producers to ensure energy markets support economic growth and lower prices for American consumers." Additional reporting by Felicia Schwartz

Briefing

► **China ups the US chip ante with Micron review**
Beijing has ordered a probe into imports from the semiconductor maker on security grounds as tech battle intensifies.—PAGE 5;
CHINA PRESSES JAPAN, PAGE 4

► **Israel to set up new force**
Israel's cabinet has approved the creation of a national guard to deal with "emergency situations" but critics have denounced the force as a "militia".—PAGE 4

► **Crude spill fears heighten**
The head of UK Seabed Resources insurer Gard has warned that the threat from oil spills has risen after Russian sanctions left many carriers with poor cover.—PAGE 4

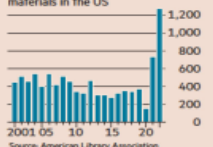
► **Plea for deep-sea mining**
The head of UK Seabed Resources has said Europe must allow mining of the ocean if it is to gain key resources in the transition to clean energy.—PAGE 8

► **Law firms eye India**
International firms are looking to open offices in the country after the Bar Council of India changed its rules to allow overseas groups wider market access.—PAGE 8

► **Crossword and Lex**
The Lex column, Business Life and the FT crossword can be found inside today.—PAGE 11

Datawatch

Throwing the book
Attempts to ban or restrict library materials in the US



The US last year saw its highest number of demands to censor books in more than 20 years of data from the American Library Association. The vast majority of titles were by or about members of the LGBTQ+ community or people of colour



Lithium supplies threaten Europe's EV ambitions

EU plans to ban sales of new petrol and diesel cars by 2035 and the switch towards electric vehicles means that demand for lithium, used in their batteries, is set to surge fivefold. But the challenges for Europe in meeting its lithium needs are enormous. "The resources we are aware of in Europe are not high quality and relatively small," says Albemarle, a leading lithium producer that has failed to find a viable site in the area. Electric transition — PAGE 8

Prosecutor to probe UBS takeover of Credit Suisse as investors vent anger

SAM JONES — BELLINZONA
OWEN WALKER — LONDON

Switzerland's federal prosecutor has opened an investigation into the state-backed takeover of Credit Suisse by its rival UBS, as the bank's shareholders prepare to vent their anger at its last annual meeting.

The Bern-based prosecutor is looking into potential breaches of Swiss criminal law by government officials, regulators and executives at the two banks, which agreed an emergency merger last month over the course of a frantic weekend in order to avert a potentially catastrophic financial crisis.

The prosecutor's office told the Financial Times it "wants to proactively fulfill its mission and responsibility to contribute to a clean Swiss financial centre". There were "numerous aspects of

events" that warranted investigation, it said, which must be analysed to "identify any crimes that could fall within the competence of the [prosecutor]".

Prosecutor Stefan Blättler has issued a number of "investigatory orders" to government bodies. His office has also been in contact with the federal and cantonal governments and is likely to seek to interview key officials.

A focus of the probe concerns sensitive information from the negotiations that was leaked to the press and could constitute a breach of state secrecy or industrial espionage laws, according to a person familiar with the investigation.

Shareholders of UBS and Credit Suisse — who were denied a say on the deal by government fiat — will get a chance to air their grievances in the coming days as both banks hold annual meetings. Credit Suisse's board is expected to

bear the brunt of investors' anger when they gather tomorrow at a 15,000-capacity ice hockey stadium in the Zurich suburb of Oerlikon. Executives fear that the event could attract protests from Swiss citizens, who are outraged by the bank's rapid decline and litany of recent scandals.

Folling shows that more than three-quarters of the public are opposed to the \$3.25bn takeover.

UBS is pressing ahead with plans to integrate its erstwhile rival into its business. It has whittled down a list of management consultants to advise on the deal to four. It will decide in the coming days whether to award the contract to Bain & Company, Boston Consulting Group, McKinsey or Oliver Wyman, said people involved in the process. The FT View page 16
Martin Wolf & Rana Foroohar page 17

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World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				GOVERNMENT BONDS					
	Mar 31	Prev %Chg		Mar 31	Mar 24	%S	Mar 31	Mar 24	Yield (%)	Mar 31	Mar 24	Chg	
S&P 500	4065.91	4050.83	0.87	\$/£	1.086	1.076	6/5	0.920	0.920	US 2 yr	4.10	4.14	-0.04
Nasdaq Composite	12146.50	12013.47	1.11	\$/€	1.236	1.223	1/5	0.809	0.818	US 10 yr	3.52	3.57	-0.05
Dow Jones Ind	35111.89	34959.03	0.77	\$/¥	0.679	0.660	6/2	1.130	1.136	US 30 yr	3.70	3.76	-0.06
FTSE100	1810.95	1798.80	0.68	\$/HK\$	153.090	150.626	1/5	144.598	140.598	UK 2 yr	3.43	3.45	-0.01
Euro Stoxx 50	4318.49	4289.42	0.77	\$/₹	164.559	159.724	1/2	79.018	78.599	UK 10 yr	3.62	3.66	-0.04
FTSE All Share	4157.89	4151.91	0.14	\$/₹	1.993	1.986	3/16	1.130	1.122	UK 30 yr	3.80	3.81	-0.01
CAC 40	7333.44	7283.37	0.68	CRYPTO			Mar 31	Prev %Chg	JPN 2 yr	-0.05	-0.07	0.02	
Xetra Dax	15638.01	15522.40	0.74	Bitcoin (B)	28295.60	28014.00	1.25	JPN 10 yr	0.32	0.32	0.00		
Nikkei	28041.48	27782.93	0.93	Ethereum	1828.40	1792.80	1.99	JPN 2 yr	1.24	1.21	0.02		
Hang Seng	20400.11	20309.13	0.45	COMMODITIES			Mar 31	Mar 24	%Week	GER 2 yr	2.68	2.74	-0.06
MSCI World \$	2759.70	2739.42	0.74	Oil WTI \$	75.45	69.16	9.09	GER 10 yr	2.29	2.37	-0.08		
MSCI EM \$	865.77	861.14	0.57	Oil Brent \$	79.63	74.89	6.33	GER 30 yr	2.36	2.42	-0.06		
MSCI ACWI \$	639.89	635.20	0.72	Gold \$	1965.80	1977.95	-0.61						
FT Wilshire 2500	5248.02	5220.02	0.54										
FT Wilshire 5000	40529.03	40716.86	0.52										

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Data provided by Morningstar

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TRANSACTIONAL
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Bliss on the Bayou

Louisiana State won its first national title in women's basketball, routing Iowa and Caitlin Clark. Angel Reese led the charge. Page D4.

U.S. Blacklisted a Spyware Firm. But Secretly the Two Had a Deal.

By MARK MAZZETTI and RONEN BERGMAN

WASHINGTON — The secret contract was finalized on Nov. 8, 2021, a deal between a company that has acted as a front for the United States government and the American affiliate of a notorious Israeli hacking firm. Under the arrangement, the Israeli firm, NSO Group, gave the U.S. government access to one of its most powerful weapons — a geolocation tool that can covertly track mobile phones around the world without the phone user's knowledge or consent. If the veiled nature of the deal was unusual — it was signed for the front company by a businessman using a fake name — the timing was extraordinary. Only five days earlier, the Biden administration had announced it was taking action against NSO, whose hacking tools for years had

been abused by governments around the world to spy on political dissidents, human rights activists and journalists. The White House placed NSO on a Commerce Department blacklist, declaring the company a national security threat and sending the message that American companies should stop doing business with it. The secret contract — which The New York Times is disclosing for the first time — violates the Biden administration's public policy, and still appears to be active. The contract, reviewed by The Times, stated that the "United States government" would be the ultimate user of the tool, although it is unclear which government agency authorized the deal and might be using the spyware. It specifically allowed the government to test,

Continued on Page A10

Democrats Run on Abortion, Even for Offices Without a Say

By REID J. EPSTEIN

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Eric Genrich is running a full-throated campaign in support of abortion rights, reminding voters of his position at every turn and hammering his anti-abortion opponent in television ads. At a recent event, he featured an obstetrician who now commutes to a state where abortion is legal to treat patients and a local woman who traveled to Colorado to terminate a nonviable pregnancy. There's just one inconvenient reality: Mr. Genrich is running for re-election as mayor of Green Bay, Wis., an office that has nothing to do with abortion policy. Even before the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade last summer, putting back into effect a Wisconsin law from 1849 that bans nearly all abortions, the city did not have a clinic that performed

the procedure, nor a health department that regulated it. Mr. Genrich is one of several candidates for municipal offices on the ballot this spring in races in Wisconsin, Chicago, St. Louis, Lincoln, Neb., and elsewhere who are making their support for abortion rights — and often their opponent's past opposition — a centerpiece of their campaigns, even though abortion policy in all of these places is decided at the state level. Democrats used a muscular defense of abortion rights to great success in the midterm elections last fall, and, if that strategy works again, they are likely to copy it next year in races at all levels of government, including in President Biden's campaign if he seeks re-election.

Continued on Page A9

WASHINGTON MEMO

An Appetite For Attention, Good or Bad

Ex-President's at Home in Indictment's Glare

By PETER BAKER

WASHINGTON — Since long before he entered the White House, former President Donald J. Trump has been an any-publicity-is-good-publicity kind of guy. In fact, he once told advisers, "If you're not in the press unless you're a pedophile." Hush money for a porn star? Not an exception to the rule. And so, while no one wants to be indicted, Mr. Trump in one sense finds himself exactly where he loves to be — in the center ring of the circus, with all the spotlights on him. He has spent the days since a grand jury called him a potential criminal milking the moment for all it's worth, savoring the attention as no one else in modern American politics would.

He has blitzed out one fundraising email after another with the kind of headlines other politicians would dread, like "BREAKING: PRESIDENT TRUMP INDICTED" and "RUMORED DETAILS OF MY ARREST" and "Yes I've been indicted, BUT" — the "but" being but you can still give him money. And when it turned out that they did give him money, a total of \$4 million by his campaign's count in the 24 hours after his indictment, he trumpeted that as loudly as he could too.

Rather than hide from the indignity of turning himself into a meme, Mr. Trump obligingly sent out a schedule as if for a campaign tour, letting everyone know he would fly on Monday from Florida to New York, then on Tuesday surrender for arraignment in New York and arraignment. In case that were not enough to draw the eye, he plans to then fly back to Florida to make a prime-time evening state-of-the-art at Mar-a-Lago, surrounded by the cameras and microphones he covets.

Never mind that any defense attorney worth the law degree would prefer he keep quiet; no one who knows Mr. Trump could reasonably expect that. He has already trashed the prosecutor ("degenerate psychopath") and the judge in the case ("HATES ME") and absent a court-issued gag order surely will continue to. His public comments could ultimately be used against him in court, but to him that hardly seems like a reason to stay silent.

"The trick, of course, is to take up all the air," demand all the attention, all the time, make

Continued on Page A15

AS ARREST NEARS, TRUMP IS SEEING POLITICAL GAINS

A FUND-RAISING FLURRY

Some Critics Defend Him — Aides Advise Him to Tread Lightly

By MAGGIE HABERMAN and JONATHAN SWAN

Former President Donald J. Trump spent the weekend preparing to walk into a Manhattan courtroom as both a defendant and a candidate, wrapping up plans for his arrest while also trying to maximize his surrender for political benefit. Officials in New York, meanwhile, were bracing for the circuslike atmosphere that expected protests might bring.

The Trump campaign on Sunday scheduled a prime-time news conference at Mar-a-Lago on Tuesday night, just hours after Mr. Trump is expected to turn himself in. The campaign also has been using his indictment in fund-raising appeals, and said it had raised \$4 million in just 24 hours, though financial records corroborating the claim will not be available for weeks.

The planning reflects Mr. Trump's belief that the indictment will ultimately bolster his standing in his third bid for the G.O.P. presidential nomination, with Republicans who had been considering alternatives rallying to his side. His recent polling has been among the strongest of his 2024 campaign.

On Sunday, some Trump critics came to his defense, suggesting that the Manhattan district attorney, Alvin L. Bragg, might have targeted him unfairly. The actual crimes Mr. Trump is accused of are not publicly known, though they are believed to be related to a hush-money payment to Stormy Daniels, a former porn star who claims she had an affair with Mr. Trump. The indictment, news of which broke on Thursday, may not be unsealed before his arraignment.

Mr. Trump is expected to fly into La Guardia Airport from Florida on his private plane on Monday afternoon, and then stay the night at his apartment in Trump Tower, meeting with his lawyers while there. Aides are trying to negotiate a short visit to the courthouse in Lower Manhattan, for a mid-afternoon arraignment, people familiar with his plans said.

The next few days could be critical for Mr. Trump, and advisers have warned him that he could easily damage his own case, according to a person involved in the

Continued on Page A14

Lake That Was Drained Wreaks Revenge in a California Valley

By SOUMYA KARLAMANGLA and SHAWN HUBLER

CORCORAN, Calif. — It is no secret to locals that the heart of California's Central Valley was once the largest body of fresh water west of the Mississippi River, gamed and drained into an empire of farms by the mid-20th century.

Still, even longtime residents have been staggered this year by the brute swiftness with which Tulare Lake has resurged: In less than three weeks, a parched expanse of 30 square miles has been transformed by furious storms into a vast and rising sea.

The lake's rebirth has become a slow-motion disaster for farmers and residents in Kings County, home to 152,000 residents and a \$2 billion agricultural industry that sends cotton, tomatoes, safflower, pistachios, milk and more around the planet. The wider and deeper Tulare Lake gets, the greater the risk that entire harvests will be lost, homes will be submerged and businesses will fail.

Across the region, the surprise barrage of atmospheric rivers that swept through California over the past three months already has saturated the ground,



The reappearance of Tulare Lake after a series of storms was not welcomed by the local farmers.

overflowed canals and burst through levees. The fear now is that record walls of snow in the southern Sierra Nevada will liquefy in the intensifying spring heat into a downhill torrent that will inundate the Central Valley.

And the resurrected Tulare Lake (pronounced too-LAIR-ee), already wider than all but one of the California's reservoirs, could remain for two years or longer, causing billions of dollars in economic damage and displacing

thousands of farmworkers while transforming the area into the giant natural habitat it had been before it was conquered by farmers. "The Big Melt," unsettled meteorologists have begun to call it.

Continued on Page A13

To Russia, a Rescuer of Children. To Ukraine, She Is a Kidnapper.

By VALERIE HOPKINS

MOSCOW — As children gathered at a holiday camp outside Moscow, they were greeted by a female performer in a kokoshnik, a traditional surely will continue to. He has already trashed the prosecutor ("degenerate psychopath") and the judge in the case ("HATES ME") and absent a court-issued gag order surely will continue to. His public comments could ultimately be used against him in court, but to him that hardly seems like a reason to stay silent.

"The trick, of course, is to take up all the air," demand all the attention, all the time, make



A global court accuses Maria Lvova-Belova of war crimes.

She has used that authority to transfer to Russia what Ukraine says are its most vulnerable children. Some of those children have described a wrenching process of

Continued on Page A6



INTERNATIONAL A4-7

Pope Francis Out of Hospital
Francis arrived in St. Peter's Square on Palm Sunday, where he thanked the crowds for their prayers. PAGE A7

Taiwan's Tiptrope Walker
President Tsai Ing-wen has built strong U.S. support while trying to avoid confrontation with China. PAGE A4

NATIONAL A8-15

Importance of Quick Response
In Nashville, emergency workers and the police had trained for a school shooting for years. Last week's shooting was over in 14 minutes. PAGE A12

Eyedrops Are Tied to Deaths
The C.D.C. has linked cases of blindness and death to a drug-resistant bacteria found in an import from India. PAGE A10

OBITUARIES A16-17

Oscar-Winning Composer
Ryuichi Sakamoto composed the film scores for "The Last Emperor" and "The Revenant." He was 71. PAGE A18



SPORTS D1-8

M.L.B. Adapts to New Rules
A sport that wanted more action got its wish, but some players are struggling to keep up. On Baseball. PAGE D2

Getting Ready for the Masters
Players are scrutinizing the Augusta National course, and Phil Mickelson is back after a year away. PAGE D7

BUSINESS B1-6

Railroad Is Accused of Lapses
Federal officials are investigating Norfolk Southern, once an industry leader, over its safety practices and culture after the toxic derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, and worker deaths. PAGE B1

Germany Spends Big on Chips
The global competition to attract semiconductor companies is expected to cost Berlin billions. Some hope it will bolster domestic industry. Others wonder if it's a good use of money. PAGE B1

OPINION A18-19

Farhad Manjoo PAGE A19



ARTS C1-6

A Determined Rescuer
Netflix's "Transatlantic" tells the story of Varian Fry, played by Cory Michael Smith, center, as an American who helped people flee the Nazis. PAGE C1



Speaker's city more nuanced on Trump charges

As McCarthy derides ex-president's criminal counts, some at home see them as overdue.

By Arif John

BAKERSFIELD — Before a Manhattan grand jury voted to indict former President Trump in connection with an alleged hush-money payment to adult film actor Stormy Daniels, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy told reporters how he thought the American people viewed the case.

"I think in your heart of hearts you know, too, that you think this is just political," McCarthy said during a March 21 news conference. "And I think that's what the rest of the country thinks, and we're kind of tired of that."

But back home in McCarthy's Bakersfield congressional district, the reaction is more nuanced. Some think it's about time, while others wonder whether the time has passed.

For Republicans here — many of whom have long supported McCarthy and think the 15 rounds of voting he endured for the speakership made him stronger — last week's indictment is as Trump has described it: a politically motivated witch hunt meant to keep him out of office.

"The left has a batting average of zero against Donald Trump," said Greg Perrone, president of the Greater Bakersfield Republican Assembly, a conservative group involved in local politics. "Whatever is possible to do to make sure he can't be a man for president, they're going to do that."

Perrone said he would view Trump's actions negatively if he is ultimately found guilty. But like other conservatives, he pointed to a Thursday tweet from former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco), who wrote that "everyone has the right to a trial to prove innocence," as a sign that Trump may not get fair treatment.

The law says innocent until proven guilty. But here's the former speaker of the House saying he has to prove that he's innocent," he said. "I think that definitely typifies the sentiment of the left: He's clearly guilty. Now he's got to prove it that he's not."

A Quinnipiac poll conducted March 23-27 found that 62% of Americans surveyed — including 93% of Republicans, 70% of independents and 29% of Democrats — believed Manhattan Dist. Atty. Alvin Bragg's investigation was "mainly motivated." [See Bakersfield, A8]



BASIN'S CREEPING SLUDGE

Could acres of L.A. County sewage brought to Tulare Lake each year contaminate its rising floodwaters?

By Brennon Dixon and Susanne Rut

REPORTING FROM KETTLEMAN CITY, CALIF.

Here at the western edge of the Tulare Lake Basin dwells a smelly industrial site the size of 150 football fields. Roughly eight times a day, its operations are replenished with a truckload of human waste from the residents of Los Angeles County.

Since 2016, the Tulare Lake Compost facility has been converting Southland sewage sludge into high-grade organic fertilizer, and sparing L.A. County the bother of burying its waste in local landfills.

But as epic Sierra Nevada snowpack threatens to overwhelm this phantom lake bed with spring runoff — inundating a region that has already suffered flooding from a series of powerful storms — some fear the facility could be transformed into an environmental disaster.

"When the southwest corner of Tulare Lake floods, thousands of tons of L.A. County sewage sludge, containing toxic heavy metals, will become part of the mix in the newly formed lake," said Tom Frantz, a retired schoolteacher and environmental activist who once lived in the area but moved to



A DARK BAND of liquid, top, spreads within the floodwaters of Tulare Lake in Corcoran, Calif. Above, an earthmover forms a makeshift levee wall beside a swelling irrigation ditch at the lake.

San Luis Obispo three years ago. "You can't grow food for humans where this waste has been spread," Frantz said.

Area water managers and government officials acknowledge that if Tulare Lake Compost were flooded, the resulting contamination could trickle into groundwater and contaminate streams and rivers throughout the region. An even bigger risk comes from scores of waste lagoons at nearby chicken and dairy ranches that dot the valley floor.

It's for this reason that officials are now keeping a wary eye on levees and other structures that are designed to keep floodwaters from entering waste ponds.

"We have seen it already driving around Tulare in the last few weeks," said Angel Fernandez-Bou, a researcher with UC Merced's Environmental Systems Graduate Group and a Western states senior climate scientist with the Union of Concerned Scientists. "Intensive cattle operations that are not careful about their waste had that waste spread beyond their properties, with [See Tulare Lake, A7]

A hidden flaw that can topple homes

Grants to help some Californians retrofit common design at risk in quakes

By Rong-Gong Lin II



A HOME was destroyed in the 1971 Sylmar earthquake when the second story collapsed on its garage.

It is a housing design common across California: single-family homes with living spaces atop garages.

But seismic experts are now raising alarms about this style, saying it is vulnerable to collapse in a major earthquake.

The homes are at risk because the weight of the living space — which is held up on either side of the garage door by skinny, flimsy supports that can bend or break in a quake — can come crashing down.

Because the ground story has already been weakened by a missing wall — where the garage door sits — and is top-heavy because it's overlaid by an upper story, this type of house is called a soft-story home. Such dwellings built before 2000 are vulnerable, experts say.

"If they have full collapse, that's an 8- or 9-foot drop... The house is dropping with all the furniture flying around in it," said structural engineer Janiele Maffei, chief mitigation officer with the California Earthquake Authority and president of [See Flaw, A8]

Providing abortion pills across the globe

A Dutch doctor adds Americans to her list of those who need help gaining access.

By Laura King

AMSTERDAM — It was nearly three decades ago, as a young medical trainee in West Africa, that Rebecca Gomperts witnessed scenes that would set in motion her life's work. Gruesome hemorrhages, perforated wombs, bloodied young women gasping out their lives: all the aftermath of botched illegal abortions.

"The methods — oh, how invasive they were," the 57-year-old Dutch activist-physician said, shaking her head at the memory of stricken women staggering or being carried into the hospital. "Sticks, Bleach."

In the intervening decades, Gomperts — founder of a trio of organizations that work to broaden abortion access worldwide — has sailed on shipboard clinics, delivered abortion pills by drone, and seen the inside of countless courtrooms. She's received international accolades for her work, but has also been shouted down, pelted with eggs, even confronted by warships off the Portuguese coast.

After years of activism focused on other parts of the globe, Gomperts, whose telemedicine group Aid Access helps pregnant patients obtain abortion pills, has become a central figure in the [See Abortion, A4]

COLUMN ONE

Seeking tolerance in heart of Jewish L.A.

Pico-Robertson neighborhood offers glimmers of hope amid spike in antisemitism, other hate crimes.

By Tyrone Beason

The Museum of Tolerance pierces your heart from the moment you step inside.

Portraits of Holocaust survivors line a spiral walkway down to an exhibit immersing you in a world of grief.

In a series of small rooms with dim theatrical lighting, human-scale dioramas, brought to life with voice-over narration, depict the rise of antisemitism in Nazi Germany and the systematic murder of 6 million Jews during World War II.

"My wish is that the world will learn that hatred is evil and only tolerance and love can bring peace on Earth," reads the sentence under the picture of Esther Stuhl, who survived the persecution of Jews in Krakow, Poland. [See Tolerance, A12]



STUDENT visitors to the Museum of Tolerance in L.A. watch a montage depicting the rise of antisemitism during the Nazi era.

LSU reaches hoops heaven

Tigers beat Iowa for women's trophy. Connecticut and San Diego State clash tonight for men's title. SPORTS, D1

A clever gambit in the art world

The Getty Museum's plan to share a British masterpiece creates a stir. CALENDAR, E1

Outside money shaping contest

Union and corporate spending helps three candidates in Valley race. CALIFORNIA, B1

Weather Breezy afternoon.

L.A. Basin: 62/45. B6

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The Washington Post

Please see page 10 for details on metropolitan Washington.

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Pleasant and warm 71/54 • Tomorrow: Warmer 78/58 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2023 • B3

With danger near, bank tweaked its risk model

Silicon Valley executives' decisions foreshadowed lender's sudden failure

BY DANIEL GILBERT, TODD C. FRANKEL AND JOSEPH MENN

Flush with cash from a booming tech industry, Silicon Valley Bank executives embarked on a strategy in 2020 to juice profits that quickly triggered an internal alarm.

In buying longer-term investments that paid more interest, SVB had fallen out of compliance with a key risk metric. An internal model showed that higher interest rates could have a devastating impact on the bank's future earnings, according to two former employees familiar with the modeling who spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe confidential deliberations.

Instead of heeding that warning — and over the concerns of some staffers — SVB executives simply changed the model's assumptions, according to the former employees and securities filings. The tweaks, which have not been previously reported, initially predicted that rising interest rates would have minimal impact.

The new assumptions validated SVB's profit-driven strategy, but they were profoundly misplaced. Over the past year, interest rates have climbed nearly five percentage points, the fastest pace since the 1980s. Meanwhile, the tech industry has entered a

SEE SVB ON A15

The fallout: Inside the scramble by a payroll-management firm. A14

Oligarch linked to act attributed to Putin

BY GREG MILLER, SPENCER WOODMAN AND URI BLAU

Heartwarming stories about Russian President Vladimir Putin are not exactly abundant, but one from early in his tenure seemed to qualify.

During a state visit to Israel in 2005, Putin encountered an elderly Jewish widow from Russia who had been one of his teachers in high school. After a brief reunion, the Russian leader showered her with gifts and, she said, arranged to "buy her a \$208,000 apartment."

"When I got the apartment, I cried," the former teacher, Mina Yuditskaya-Berliner, recalled nearly a decade later when she recounted the story to an Israeli newspaper. Putin does not appear ever to have addressed the purchase.

"Putin is a very grateful and decent person," Yuditskaya-Berliner said. Except that the money for the apartment purchase did not come from Putin. Instead, newly

SEE PUTIN ON A12

Communities clear the debris after weekend's severe storms



CHENEY ORR/REUTERS

People work to remove a tree Sunday that fell onto a home in Little Rock after a tornado tore through Friday. At least 31 people died in this past weekend's storms, and the governors of Illinois, Indiana and Arkansas issued emergency declarations. Authorities warned that extreme weather is likely to return this week. Story, A6

Law has soldier's name in it. His claim was denied.

Trailblazer on military malpractice fears case 'sets the tone' for future

BY IAN SHAPIRA

When he was diagnosed with advanced lung cancer in 2017 at the age of 36, Richard Stayskal was stunned. The Army Green Beret had undergone chest scans earlier that year for dive school and was told the results were normal. Then he discovered that his military hospital had misread the exams and failed to recognize the early-stage tumor in his upper

right lung.

Stayskal wanted to sue for malpractice. But another shock awaited him: A decades-old Supreme Court decision banned military malpractice lawsuits, declaring that the government was not liable for injuries to service members on active duty. So Stayskal lobbied Congress — and had a new law named in his honor. The Sgt. First Class Richard Stayskal Military Medical Accountability Act, passed in 2019, allows troops to file claims with the Defense Department alleging malpractice by military health-care providers. The process also allows them to seek damages for economic losses, pain and suffering.

But Stayskal, a former Marine



Army Master Sgt. Richard Stayskal, on patrol in Iraq between 2008 and 2010.

who is now an Army master sergeant, got word in March that not even he can win in the tort claims system he helped create. On March 15, the U.S. Army Claims Service wrote to one of his attorneys, denying Stayskal and his family \$40 million for injuries resulting from the failure to alert him of his growing cancer. The Army's rejection letter said there was "no evidence that [Master

Sgt.] Stayskal's prognosis or chance of survival was adversely affected by the delay in the diagnosis of lung cancer."

"I definitely felt like this should have been an easy decision, a slam-dunk," said Stayskal, 41, whose cancer has progressed to Stage 4. "If my claim doesn't get paid, that sets the tone for every service member who files a claim after me."

Stayskal, who plans on appealing to the Defense Health Agency, did win one concession. In March, the Army Claims Service notified him that Army Secretary Christine Wormuth intends to use a "special discretionary funding authority" to pay him \$600,000.

SEE MALPRACTICE ON A15

Was hectoring a threat — or just an annoyance?

Supreme Court will decide whether obsessive posts are beyond First Amendment limits

BY ROBERT BARNES

Coles Whalen is ready to take the stage. She'd rather you not know where.

The club is small, and so is the audience: family members, friends who are longtime fans and a reporter she has invited. Suffice it to say it's far from Denver, where Whalen says her life and career as a singer-songwriter were turned upside down by an obsessive stranger who inundated her for years with increasingly menacing online messages.

Although the trauma remains — Whalen still is reluctant to publicize her concerts — she thought the legal case was behind her. The state of Colorado charged the man with stalking, she testified against him, he was convicted, sentenced and served more than four years in prison.

But there's a twist to the ordeal of Coles Whalen and the conviction of Billy Raymond Counterman: The U.S. Supreme Court

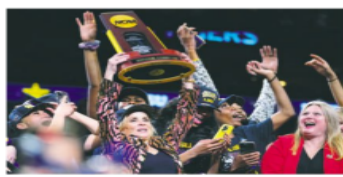
SEE STALKING ON A10



THOMAS SIRONETTI FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Singer-songwriter Coles Whalen says she was terrorized by hundreds of posts from a fan on her Facebook page, to the point where she's still reluctant to publicize her concerts.

IN THE NEWS



TOMY GUTIERREZ/AP

Tigers take title LSU beat Iowa, 102-85, in the NCAA women's basketball tournament final to claim the program's first championship. D1

THE NATION

The Fugees' Pras Michel, once rap royalty, is on trial in a criminal case arising from one of the world's biggest financial scandals. A2

In Nashville, near the school where a shooter claimed six lives, three people touched by earlier killings were taken back to old trauma. A4

THE WORLD

A Ukrainian court has placed the head of Kyiv's most prominent monas-

tery under house arrest on charges of justifying Russia's armed aggression. A11

An explosion at a cafe in St. Petersburg killed a popular pro-war Russian blogger and injured at least 16 others, Russian officials said. A12

THE REGION

The exodus of people fleeing large urban areas during the height of the pandemic appears to be reversing, according to Census Bureau data. B1

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY President Biden holds an event in Minnesota regarding his economic agenda.

The Supreme Court releases orders. **Secretary of State** Antony Blinken visits Brussels, where he will meet with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba and others.

TUESDAY **Chicago's** mayoral runoff is held, as is Denver's mayoral election.

WEDNESDAY

International trade for February is expected at a deficit of \$68.7 billion, up from \$68.3 billion for January.

THURSDAY **Jobless claims** for the week ended April 1 are expected at 201,000, up from 198,000 the week before.

The Senate meets for a pro forma session.

FRIDAY

The Labor Department issues the employment situation for March.

INSIDE



STYLE **Seeds of sagacity** "Make Something Wonderful" collects the wisdom of Steve Jobs, landing between memoir and scrapbook. C1

A curtain call Tennessee drag queens gave it their all as new restrictions loomed. C1

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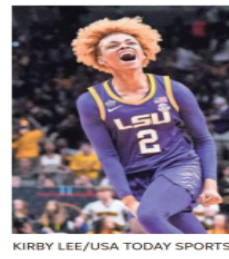
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Avoid autocorrect fails with know-how and tips

Experts: The feature we love to hate might make errors, but its accuracy has improved. **In Money**

Brooke Shields a survivor of the ugly side of fame

She talks about being sexualized as a child actor, past relationships and new documentary. **In Life**



LSU wins national title with 102-85 rout of Iowa

Jasmine Carson scored 22 points off the bench in the school's first-ever NCAA women's basketball title. **In Sports**

USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2023

KIRBY LEE/USA TODAY SPORTS



Savannah Bernard and Shakiya Wilson walk through rubble by the Crestview Elementary School in Covington, Tenn., Saturday. CHRIS DAY/USA TODAY NETWORK

Trump's indictment turns 2024 on its head



Donald Trump, the first former president to be indicted, is scheduled to be arraigned in New York on Tuesday. He has no plans to withdraw from the 2024 president race, he says. MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Twisters hit South, Midwest; 29 dead

Regions brace for more severe weather this week

John Bacon, Katherine Burgess and Jorge L. Ortiz
USA TODAY

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The death toll rose to 29 and more dangerous weather was forecast for a wide swath of the South and Midwest already in ruins Sunday from a surge of storms that fueled confirmed or suspected tornadoes in at least eight states.

The dead included at least nine in McNairy County, Tennessee, about 100 miles east of Memphis. Four of the fatalities were in the same building – one of at least 72 destroyed across the county, Mayor Larry Smith said.

In Memphis, two children and an adult died when a tree fell on a house likely because of the severe weather, police spokesman Christopher Williams.

Five deaths were reported in Indiana and four in Wynne, Arkansas. Deaths also were reported in Illinois, Alabama, Mississippi and Delaware, and another in Arkansas. Suspected tornadoes touched down as far north as New Jersey.

Almost 400,000 homes and businesses were in the dark in a dozen Southern and Eastern states Sunday as strong winds and storms toppled trees, downed power lines and converted anything left outdoors into dangerous projectiles.

One tornado at the center of the destruction in Arkansas drew stunning preliminary data from the National Weather Service – an EF3 with winds of up to 165 mph, 30 miles long and 1.3 miles wide. Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders had already declared a state of emergency and activated the National Guard.

There was no rest for the weary: Severe thunderstorms and flash flooding were possible Sunday across parts of the southern Plains and Lower Mississippi Valley, the weather service warned.

"Unfortunately more severe weather is possible in the coming days," the weather service office in Little Rock, Arkansas, said. A strong storm system will approach the area from the west, and thunderstorms are expected to develop Tuesday through Wednesday morning.

Contributing: The Associated Press

What's coming?

Here is a look at what's next for Donald Trump:

Monday

- Trump is expected to fly to New York and stay at Trump Tower in Manhattan.

Tuesday

- Trump is expected to turn himself in on charges levied by a grand jury last week.
- His arraignment in a Manhattan court is expected to start at 2:15 p.m. EDT.
- Trump says he will speak at Mar-a-Lago in Florida at 8:15 p.m.



Michael Cohen

Lawyers for Trump, Cohen square off

Legal teams for former president and former attorney engage in fight over credibility. **3A**

Indictment logistical issues

They include how he will be taken into custody, what happens after. **4A**

If he becomes GOP nominee, all bets are off

David Jackson, Phillip M. Bailey and Mabinty Quarshie
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The 2024 Republican presidential aspirants now have to game out a contest no candidate has ever faced: a front-runner – and former president – under criminal indictment.

While Donald Trump amps up a campaign of vilification against prosecutors, rivals like Ron DeSantis, Nikki Haley and Mike Pence are defending him and denouncing the Manhattan district attorney. But they're also counting on tiring of all the "drama" surrounding the former president.

Trump may well benefit politically in the short term with GOP primary voters, according to campaign aides and political analysts.

Others wonder what future implications – with at least three other ongoing investigations of Trump and a potential trial in New York City – will do to his political standing down the line.

See **CAMPAIGN**, Page 4A

Biden is staying silent, but how long can he?

Joey Garrison USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Joe Biden isn't usually one to hold back his feelings. But when reporters asked the president Friday about his predecessor's indictment, he had nothing to say.

"I have no comment on that," Biden said. "No. I'm not going to talk about the Trump indictment," when asked again. "I have no comment on Trump," he said a final time.

Convinced the best strategy is to stay out of Donald Trump's legal troubles, the White House is steering clear of Trump's indictment by a Manhattan grand jury over hush-money payments to adult-film actress Stormy Daniels during the 2016 campaign.

But that calculation will be tested when Biden formally announces his 2024 reelection bid, which he's widely expected to do in the coming weeks or months. While Trump holds the distinction as the first former president to face a criminal indictment, Biden could make different history: the first

See **BIDEN**, Page 3A

Trump using antisemitic rhetoric to raise money after indictment

Erin Mansfield USA TODAY

Less than two hours after his indictment became public, former President Donald Trump's fundraising machine sent out an email to supporters on his behalf loaded with extremist rhetoric and antisemitic tropes.

"The Deep State will use anything at their disposal to shut down the one political movement that puts YOU first," Trump wrote in the email, a reference to a conspiracy theory about a network of people working inside the federal government to exercise power over ordinary people.

Trump also attacked Manhattan prosecutor Alvin Bragg, whose office was responsible

for bringing the case to the grand jury, as being funded by George Soros, a major donor to Democratic causes and a popular target of antisemitism on the far-right, including in his birth country of Hungary.

In the hours that followed Thursday, Trump sent out at least three other fundraising emails about the indictment, according to a review of an archive at politicalemails.org. All used the same tone, selected all-caps words, and rhetoric as fundraising emails he sent in the roughly two weeks since he told supporters he expected to be arrested.

"They're loaded with antisemitic language,"

See **FUNDRAISING**, Page 3A

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deportes

Después de la fiesta con la selección, Messi volvió a sus frustraciones en París

Antes de perder por 1-0 frente a Lyon como local, hinchas de PSG nuevamente silbaron al rosarino.



Rugió el MotoGP en Santiago del Estero de la mano del showman Marco Bezzecchi

El italiano ganó con Ducati y trajo los mejores recuerdos de Valentino Rossi, la leyenda. **Página 4**

FINLANDIA VOTÓ POR EL CAMBIO: PERDIÓ SANNA MARIN

—el mundo

Los conservadores y la ultraderecha vencieron a la joven premier en las elecciones parlamentarias; piden esperar los resultados finales. **Página 6**

LA NACION

LUNES 3 DE ABRIL DE 2023 | LANACION.COM.AR

A pesar del pedido del FMI, el Gobierno no hará cambios en la moratoria previsional

PRESIÓN. Desde el Ministerio de Economía aseguran que no habrá marcha atrás con la ley

Pese al pedido expreso del FMI, el gobierno de Alberto Fernández aseguró ayer que no dará marcha atrás con la moratoria previsional, que por ley del Congreso permitirá que se jubilen más de 800.000 personas que no cumplen con los años de aportes establecidos para obtener el beneficio.

“Ya promulgamos la ley. No hay ninguna posibilidad [de revisarla]”, afirmaron a LA NACION en el Ministerio de Economía.

En un comunicado publicado horas después de la aprobación de la revisión del programa, el FMI pidió expresamente morigerar la reforma jubilatoria, a tono con el pedi-

do de bajar al 1,9% del PBI el déficit fiscal. El Fondo también pidió garantizar que las tarifas de energía estén alineadas con los costos. Pero cerca del ministro Sergio Massa aseguraron que no avanzarán hasta que los usuarios no hayan completado el registro sobre su capacidad de pago. **Página 7**

Empiezan a pensar en una boleta sin Cristina

Maía Jastreblansky **Página 8**

Dólar agro: alertan que no mitiga el efecto de la sequía

CRISIS. Para los analistas, las medidas no alcanzan; se anuncian el miércoles

El nuevodólar agroyla unificación de los tipos de cambio para importar, medidas que el ministro Sergio Massa anunciará pasado mañana, serían insuficientes para compensar los menores ingresos de divisas por la sequía, de acuerdo con economistas. Si bien ayudarían en parte a mitigar la caída de reservas, no alcanzarían para cubrir los US\$20.000 millones que se perderán por exportaciones. **Página 14**

En busca de oxígeno para un gobierno en la recta final José Luis Brea. **Página 15**

Bromas y emoción en el regreso a la plaza



el mundo — ROMA (De nuestra corresponsal) — Al día siguiente de recibir el alta tras una hospitalización por bronquitis, y en aparente buen estado de salud, el papa Francisco presidió ayer la misa del Domingo de Ramos en la Plaza San Pedro del Vaticano, ante decenas de miles de fieles. Francisco, de 86 años, saludó a algunos de los presentes luego de la misa e intercambió bromas con los cardenales. “También yo necesito que Jesús me acaricie”, dijo. **Página 4**

EL ESCENARIO

El factor Milei, en la disputa entre Larreta y Bullrich

Claudio Jacquelin

—LA NACION—

La disputa interna de Juntos por el Cambio no tiene visos de apaciguarse, sino de profundizarse, tras el retiro electoral de Mauricio Macri. Y esto, a pesar de que en el diagnóstico de los problemas de fondo y en los tratamientos por aplicar las diferencias son escasas y en muchos casos, como en lo económico, imperceptibles. **Continúa en la página 10**

Fernández, sobre Biden: “Nos reímos de Trump”

TRAS LA CUMBRE. Le atribuyó a su par de EE.UU. una comparación entre el republicano y Macri. **Página 7**

EL PULSO DEL CONSUMO

La sociedad entró en fase “punk consumista”

Guillermo Oliveto

—PARA LA NACION—

A fines de los años 70 surgió en Inglaterra, y luego en Europa, una corriente cultural y musical hija de la decepción y la frustración: el punk. Los jóvenes

enojados y abrumados por la falta de oportunidades se apropiaron de la consigna que inmortalizó una de las bandas icónicas del movimiento: “No hay futuro”. Esa banda

era, por supuesto, los Sex Pistols, y la canción inmortal —“Dios salve a la reina”— se metía con lo más sagrado de Inglaterra como forma de atacar al sistema. **Continúa en la página 18**

El empresario que “fletaba” aviones para traficar cocaína

EL FANTASMA. Buscado por la Justicia argentina, Jorge Granier Díaz fue atrapado en Brasil. **Página 22**

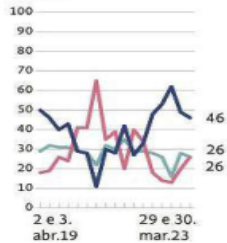
ENTREVISTA DA 2ª Rafael Correa É erro pauta identitária ser central para a esquerda

O ex-presidente do Equador Rafael Correa critica a nova ênfase da esquerda latino-americana em temas identitários por avaliar que dividem e desviam o foco sobre pobreza e desigualdade. "Nem resolvemos problemas do século 18 e queremos ser vanguarda de problemas de última geração", afirma. **A20**

Nos próximos meses, a situação econômica do país vai melhorar, vai piorar ou vai ficar como está?

Resposta estimulada e única, em %

■ Melhorar
■ Ficar como está
■ Piorar



Pessimismo com economia sobe desde a posse de Lula

Piora expectativa de inflação, diz Datafolha; 80% apoiam ofensiva contra juros

O percentual de brasileiros que esperam piora da economia aumentou, aponta a primeira pesquisa Datafolha sobre o tema no governo Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT), realizada nos dias 29 e 30 de março em 126 municípios. Em dezembro, 20% tinham essa expectativa. Agora, são 26%, parcela igual à dos que acreditam em estabilidade.

Entre os que contam com uma melhora, houve oscilação de 49% para 46%, na mesma base de comparação. A respeito da situação econômica nos últimos meses, a percepção maior agora é de continuidade: 41% dizem que está igual (eram 35%), 35% falam em piora (ante 38%), e 23% consideram que melhorou (eram 26%).

A deterioração das expectativas se nota entre os que preveem aumento da inflação, que saltaram de 39% para 54% —os entrevistados que acreditam em queda caíram de 31% para apenas 20%. Quanto ao desemprego, 44% esperam alta, ante 36% há três meses. Para 31%, haverá piora do poder de compra, alta de dez pontos.

A ofensiva de Lula contra os juros do Banco Central conta com ampla aprovação, de 80% dos brasileiros aptos a votar. Somente 16% avaliam que o presidente age mal ao pressionar o BC. Para 55%, a Selic, de 13,75% ao ano, está muito acima do que deveria, e para 16%, um pouco acima. Só 17% a consideram correta. **Mercado A13**



Eduardo Anzellini/Folhapress

ELEIÇÃO NA UFRJ TEM PRIMEIRO CANDIDATO NEGRO

Professor Vantuil Pereira, que concorre à reitoria da universidade; em 102 anos, instituição conta com chapa inédita de homem e mulher negros **Cotidiano B3**

Govto acumula polêmicas e busca reduzir os ruídos

O governo Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT) completou três meses marcado por falas polêmicas do presidente e propostas impensadas de ministros, que nem sempre estão alinhados ao Planalto. Aliados agora trabalham para diminuir os ruídos e reduzir a quantidade de compromissos do próprio Lula. **Política A4**

Disputa sobre jornalismo trava lei para fake news

Uma queda de braço entre Globo, Google e Meta sobre o financiamento do jornalismo é o principal entrave para o projeto de lei das fake news, prioridade do governo. A Globo e outros veículos defendem negociação direta com plataformas por pagamento de conteúdo. As big techs discordam. **Política A6**

Moderar conteúdo na rede é inútil, diz Nobel Maria Ressa

Em entrevista à **Folha**, a jornalista filipino-americana ganhadora do Nobel da Paz em 2021 fala, sobre seu livro "Como Enfrentar Um Ditador", que as redes sociais, embora tragam benefícios, podem corroer uma democracia. "As notícias, os fatos, não têm chance nessas plataformas de distribuição." **Mundo A10**

Países farão corte de 1 mi de barris de petróleo por dia

A Arábia Saudita e membros do Opep+ anunciaram ontem cortes de surpresa na produção de petróleo, de um milhão de barris diários. O preço disparou 8% na Ásia. **Mercado A14**

Mensageiro Sideral
Bilionários não
querem ir a Marte
para fugir da Terra
Folha Corrida B8

**Venda de chocolate
para adultos cresce
mais que para
criança, diz estudo**
Mercado A16



Ovos da fábrica Di Siena, em São Paulo **Eduardo Knapp/Folhapress**



O músico Ryuchi Sakamoto, em foto de 2018 **Nathan Bajar/NYT**

Ilustrada

Morre Ryuichi Sakamoto

Músico japonês, tido como avô da sonoridade eletrônica e autor de trilhas sonoras de filmes como "O Último Imperador", morreu aos 71 anos. **C4**

+

Museu da Casa Brasileira vai deixar casarão em SP **C1**

Esporte

Água Santa derrota o Palmeiras e busca zebra histórica **B6**

semináriosfolha em vivo em [folha.com/reformatributarianasaude](https://www.folha.com/reformatributarianasaude)

Impactos da reforma tributária na Saúde

9h • Abertura

Reginaldo Lopes

coordenador do grupo de trabalho da reforma tributária na Câmara dos Deputados e deputado federal (PT-MG)

• O que muda com a reforma tributária no setor de saúde

HOJE

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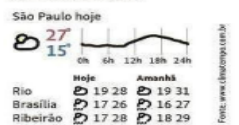
Saiba mais na página A9

EDITORIAIS A2

Mal-estar econômico
Sobre piora de expectativas, segundo o Datafolha.

Privilégio revogado
Acerca de prisão especial para detentor de diploma.

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COLECCIÓN PNEUMÁTICA PARA MOBILIDAD N.º 25

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La feligresía católica recuerda la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Jesús

Cardenal llama a vencer el amor al poder y la corrupción

- Pide también deponer las divisiones y frenar los crímenes contra la vida humana.
- Insta a andar en el camino de la humildad para hacer oposición a la vanidad y el orgullo.

Domingo de Ramos. La entrada de Jesús a Jerusalén fue representada ante una multitud en el cerro Ñemby.

PÁGINA 17



FRANKO DE JACO

Fuerte crítica a fiscal Stella Mary Cano
Jueza intenta evitar la extinción en millonario perjuicio a Caja Bancaria

PÁGINA 44

Fidelino Quintana, padre de Rodrigo
 "Cartes debe pagar por todo lo que ha hecho y debe pagarlo caro"



PÁGINA 4

Longeva máxima instancia judicial

Con Santander se completa una Corte que durará mínimo 7 años

PÁGINA 5

El seguro médico vip bajo la lupa
Adjudicada por Hacienda ganó otra licitación con el mismo modus operandi

PÁGINA 12

Uso de energía solar en hogares paraguayos tiene buena perspectiva

PÁGINA 13



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



JACQUES JULLIARD
« AU SECOURS,
LA IV^E REVIENT ! » >> PAGE 20

EXPOSITION
BASQUIAT ET WARHOL :
FULGURANCES POP
À LA FONDATION VUITTON PAGES 32 ET 33



LE FIGARO SANTÉ
Pilule, patch, sirop...
L'enjeu de la forme du médicament



DIPLOMATIE
La Russie révisé sa « doctrine » de politique étrangère

PAGES 8 ET 9

MOYEN-ORIENT
Le calvaire des exilés iraniens en Turquie

PAGE 10

JUSTICE
Ces « voix intérieures » qui pousseraient les criminels à tuer malgré eux

PAGE 15

ENTREPRISES
Les patrons français de retour en Chine

PAGES 24 ET 25

CHAMPS LIBRES

• La chronique de Nicolas Baverez
• La tribune de Michel Field

PAGE 21

FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON

Réponses à la question de samedi :
Retraites, Sainte-Soline : êtes-vous choqué par la mise en cause de la police dans le maintien de l'ordre ?

OUI 78% NON 22%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 203 224

Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr

Euthanasie, suicide assisté : Emmanuel Macron doit-il suivre l'avis de la convention citoyenne en faveur d'une aide active à mourir ?

ILLUSTRATIONS FABIEN CLAIREFOND : RON GALELLA / RON GALELLA COLLECTION VIA GETTY IMAGES

Fin de vie : Macron face à une décision à haut risque

Le chef de l'État va recevoir, ce lundi, le rapport de la convention citoyenne, favorable à « l'aide active à mourir ». Après de longs mois de prudence, l'Élysée évoque un « possible acte II ».

Après avoir promis, en septembre, à la comédienne Line Renaud d'avancer sur le délicat sujet de l'« aide active à mourir », Emmanuel Macron, début mars, avait laissé filtrer ses « doutes » lors d'un dîner réunissant des reli-

gieux, des médecins et des philosophes. Le projet d'un texte de loi sur la fin de vie pour 2023 semblait avoir été repoussé à plus tard. Mais, avec le rapport de la convention citoyenne, majoritairement favorable (76 %) à

l'ouverture de l'euthanasie et du suicide assisté, qui lui sera remis ce lundi, le président de la République pourrait écarter cette attente prudente. Un « possible acte II » est avancé par ses conseillers. Ce sont toutes les craintes du phi-

losophe Emmanuel Hirsch : il redoute que la position de la convention serve de « gage politique » pour à nouveau légiférer sur la fin de vie, alors qu'« aucune loi ne saurait répondre aux souffrances de notre confrontation à la mort ».

→ MICHEL HOUELLEBECQ : « EUTHANASIE : BIENVENUE DANS LE MONDE DE "SOLEIL VERT" ! » PAGES 2, 4, 19 ET L'EDITORIAL



Jusque-là épargnées par les grèves, ces universités estampillées conservatrices connaissent leurs premiers blocages avec la réforme des retraites, en raison de l'activisme d'une poignée d'étudiants, dont l'influence grandit. PAGE 18

Vague de démissions des élus locaux : le cri d'alarme de David Lisnard

Dans une interview au Figaro, le maire de Cannes exprime sa vive inquiétude devant les démissions en masse d'élus locaux. Depuis les dernières municipales, pas moins de 1000 maires ont ainsi jeté l'éponge. Le président de l'Association des maires de France met en cause, outre les agressions, l'acharnement bureaucratique et réglementaire qui complique démesurément la tâche des édiles. PAGES 6 ET 7

ÉDITORIAL par Laurence de Charette ldecharette@lefigaro.fr

Urgence palliative

Dimanche, les membres de la convention citoyenne ont remis leurs travaux, et leur avis, un « oui mais » circospect à l'aide active à mourir, succède à celui du Comité consultatif national d'éthique (en moins catégorique), ainsi qu'au rapport des députés sur la loi Claeys-Leonetti (en moins politique)... sans que l'on se trouve, en vérité, beaucoup moins démunis devant la question si insondable de la fin de vie. Comment pourrait-il en être autrement ? On prête à Emmanuel Macron de profondes hésitations. Souhaitons qu'il ne tranche pas imprudemment une matière si essentielle. Le triste sort de nos aînés pendant la crise du Covid a ouvert dans le cœur des Français une plaie qui n'est pas encore cicatrisée. Le débat sur les retraites, qui fracture aujourd'hui le pays, révèle aussi, en creux, quelque chose de l'importance de la fin de l'existence, et de la place qu'on y fait aux siens. Légiférer, dans ce contexte, sur l'euthanasie, ne manquerait pas de passer pour une diversion politique. Ce serait prendre le risque de fracturer un peu plus une société déjà à vif. De cette nouvelle « séquence », comme disent les experts en communication, il est d'ailleurs sorti, au moins, deux choses à peu près claires.

Les soignants, d'abord, ont manifesté très majoritairement leur opposition à l'aide active à mourir, et partagé, avec leurs tripes, la crainte de voir leur mission dénaturée. Ils ont exprimé combien le soin est, en profondeur, ce « pacte de non-abandon », dont parle si bien Claire Fourcade, présidente de la SFAP, cette volonté d'accompagner les derniers feux de la vie sans faire obstacle à la mort - sans s'inscrire dans la logique inverse. Les soins palliatifs, ensuite, ont émergé de l'obscurité dans laquelle ils étaient relégués. Beaucoup ont découvert cette médecine à hauteur d'homme, en même temps que son incompréhensible dénuement : comment imaginer que deux tiers des patients n'y aient pas accès ? La convention citoyenne elle-même a mis en garde le gouvernement contre le débâtement du système de santé. L'urgence est évidemment d'y remédier, avant que de s'enfermer dans la mécanique illusoire des nouveaux « droits », ce faux antidote aux souffrances, qui voudrait édicter des frontières à notre dignité. Et réduire nos sociétés, déjà si abîmées, à une terrible addition de solitudes vidées d'humanité. ■

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Michael Bubl 

'I never seemed to fit in. I still don't'

Interview G2



Chelsea sack Potter Blues boss fired after home defeat to Villa

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NHS delays 'risk harming thousands of children'

Delays to nearly 15,000 paediatric operations in 2022 prompts warning

Andrew Gregory
Health editor

Thousands of children experiencing long waits for NHS treatment face a "lifelong" impact on their health, a senior doctor has warned, as shocking figures reveal nearly 15,000 paediatric operations were postponed last year.

Dr Camilla Kingdon, the president of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, said the mounting treatment backlog in England risked "serious" and "devastating" physical and mental consequences for children and their families.

She sounded the alarm as data obtained under freedom of information laws by the Liberal Democrats showed a record 14,628 children's operations were postponed in 2022, up from 11,870 the year before and the highest in five years of data examined. Some children have now waited

several years for surgery, according to the data.

The figures emerged as the NHS braced itself for yet more disruption next week, with thousands of junior doctors due to go on strike, meaning yet more children - and adults - face having vital treatment and operations put on hold again.

Many of the children's operations were postponed because of a shortage of staff or bed space, the data reveals, a problem the government has been warned about by health leaders for years. The findings will pile pressure on ministers to tackle the workforce crisis and finally resolve the pay row with junior doctors.

Delaying a child's operation risks having a "lifelong impact" on their development, according to Kingdon, and also "seriously impact" their mental health, with knock-on effects on their ability to socialise, go to school and reach their potential.

"The shocking scale of cancelled children's operations is a badge of shame for this Conservative government," said the Lib Dem leader, Sir Ed Davey. "Behind these figures are countless children and parents having to wait in pain

Jodie Comer at the Olivier awards last night, where she won the best actress award for her West End debut in the play Prima Facie
Olivier awards
Page 7 →



PHOTOGRAPH: JORDAN PETTIT/PA

Braverman: Brexit not to blame for chaos at Dover

Haron Siddique
Pippa Crerar
Robyn Vinter

Thousands of people were stuck in queues at Dover yesterday, many for a second day, as the home secretary, Suella Braverman, denied post-Brexit

checks were to blame for the chaos at the Kent port.

Despite extra sailings put in place overnight on Saturday, P&O Ferries said yesterday that coaches arriving at cruise terminal 1 would probably face a total wait of more than 10 hours. Angry customers and parents of children caught up in the delays,

some of whom had their school trips cancelled as a result, bombarded ferry companies and the port - which declared a critical incident on Friday - with messages on social media.

As the government came under pressure over the situation, Braverman rejected the idea that the issues were linked to Brexit, though political opponents suggested she was out of touch with reality.

Speaking on Sky News's Sophie Ridge on Sunday, she said operations at the French border had been "very good" since Britain exited the EU. "I don't think that's fair to say

that this has been an adverse effect of Brexit," said Braverman. "We've had many years now since leaving the European Union and there's been, on the whole, very good operations and processes at the border.

"At acute times where there is a lot of pressure crossing the Channel, whether that's on tunnel or ferries, then I think there's always going to be a back-up. I just urge everybody to be a bit patient while the ferry companies work their way through the backlog."

Later, speaking on the Laura Kuenssberg show

COTTON CAPITAL

Manchester urged to take radical action to tackle 'scandalous' lack of Black people in prominent public roles

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2 →