

What's News

Business & Finance

- ◆ **Mortgage rates pushed to a 22-year high this week** with the average 30-year fixed mortgage hitting 7.23%, making it tougher for the housing market to emerge from its stark slowdown. **A1**
- ◆ **A group of Wall Street firms** that lent hundreds of millions of dollars to WeWork is exploring the possibility of a bankruptcy filing that could help the company exit from expensive office leases. **A1**
- ◆ **Asian e-commerce powerhouse Shein** is acquiring roughly one-third of Forever 21's operator, Sparc, which is taking a minority stake in Shein. **B1**
- ◆ **Subway agreed to be acquired** by Roark in a deal that the sandwich chain's CEO said would help spread tens of thousands of new locations around the world. **B1**
- ◆ **The Justice Department** sued SpaceX, alleging that the Musk-led company discriminated for years against refugees and others who fled their homelands. **B1**
- ◆ **Roxle has agreed to buy** Bucherer, a major tie-up in the luxury-watch industry that will give it more control over how its watches are sold. **B2**
- ◆ **T-Mobile US plans to lay off** about 5,000 employees, or 7% of its workforce. **B3**
- ◆ **Turkey's central bank** raised its key interest rate by 75 percentage points as it attempts to correct years of easy-money policies imposed by Erdogan. **A16**
- ◆ **Declines in tech stocks** Tesla and Amazon and in Disney helped push the major indexes lower, with the Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq falling 1.1%, 1.3% and 1.9%, respectively. **B11**

World-Wide

- ◆ **The plane carrying Yevgeny Prigozhin**, the head of the Wagner paramilitary group, crashed as the result of an assassination plot but wasn't shot down by a surface-to-air missile, U.S. officials said. **A1, A6-7**
- ◆ **A court in Moscow** extended by three months the pretrial detention of Evan Gershkovich, The Wall Street Journal reporter deemed by the U.S. to be wrongfully held in Russia. **A7**

- ◆ **Trump was booked in** Fulton County Jail and a mug shot taken on charges that he operated a criminal enterprise that sought to overturn Biden's 2020 electoral win in Georgia. **A4**
- ◆ **Vivek Ramaswamy**, the 38-year-old political novice, grabbed the spotlight at the first GOP presidential debate, but there was little sign he or other contenders had found a new strategy for overtaking front-runner Trump. **A1**
- ◆ **Mauli County filed a lawsuit** against utility company Hawaiian Electric, alleging that its power lines caused recent wildfires on the island—including one that destroyed the town of Lahaina and killed at least 115 people. **B10**
- ◆ **Taiwan President Tsai** ordered another jump in defense spending this week as she tries to step up deterrence against China before leaving office in January. **A8**
- ◆ **The Brics group** of emerging nations has invited six additional countries to join the bloc in an effort to expand its global influence and its ability to challenge the West on key political and economic issues. **A16**

Markets	B11
Arts in Review	A10-11
Markets Digest	B7
Banking & Finance	B13
Business News	B3-6
Sports	A13-15
Crossword	A11
Technology	B4
Heard on Street	B12
U.S. News	A2-5
Mansion	M1-12
World News	A6-8, 36



Wagner Chief Raced To Save Empire

Yevgeny Prigozhin spent his final days planning for the future.

Last Friday, the warlord's private jet touched down in the capital of Central African Republic, on a mission to salvage one of the first client states of his Wag-

By Benoit Faucon, Drew Hinshaw, Joe Parkinson and Nicholas Bariyo

ner mercenary company. His African empire included some 5,000 men deployed across the continent.

In the riverside presidential palace in Bangui, Prigozhin told President Faustin-Archange Touadera that his aborted June mutiny in Russia wouldn't stop him from bringing new fighters and investments to his business partners in Central Africa, according to three people familiar with the meeting.

Shortly after, a Wagner helicopter landed nearby carrying five commanders from Sudan's Rapid Support Forces, a paramilitary group reliant on the mercenary group to wage war against their country's government. The delegation had traveled to Bangui bearing a gift for Prigozhin, who had provided them surface-to-air missiles; gold bars from the mines his mercenaries helped secure in Sudan's war-torn west.

On the other side of the Sahara, Prigozhin's rivals in Russia's defense ministry were delivering a competing message to Wagner's clients in Libya. The Kremlin was taking formal con-

Please turn to page A6

Crash Believed Sabotage

Officials say intelligence suggests Prigozhin was assassinated. **A6**

Wall Street Weighs WeWork Potential Bankruptcy Filing

By Alexander Saeedy and Jodi Xu Klein

A group of Wall Street firms that lent hundreds of millions of dollars to WeWork is exploring the possibility of a bankruptcy filing that could help the company exit from expensive office leases, one of several options under discussion, according to people familiar with the creditors' talks.

After WeWork raised doubts about its ability to stay in business a few weeks ago,

fund managers including BlackRock, King Street Capital and Brigade Capital are holding preliminary talks about the company's restructuring options and indicated they would support a plan for it to file for chapter 11 bankruptcy, the people said.

The creditors haven't presented proposals related to a bankruptcy or debt restructuring to the company's board, according to the people.

Bankruptcy could allow WeWork to shed a portion of its costly commercial real-estate

leases and in the process hand over control of the company to creditors like themselves, the people said. If a bankruptcy process is pursued, WeWork would likely restructure its debts and offer creditors shares in the reorganized company, they said.

WeWork's interim chief, David Tolley, said the company is seeking to avoid filing for chapter 11 by negotiating with landlords and reducing its cost of rent.

"To the extent that a subset

Please turn to page A8

Trump Booked, Stands for Mug Shot



ELECTION ALLEGATIONS: Former President Donald Trump turned himself in at the Fulton County Jail on Thursday on charges of trying to overturn 2020 election results in Georgia. It was the fourth time this year he answered an indictment and the first booking with a mug shot. **A4**

Political 'Rookie' Upstages His Rivals at GOP Debate

By Aaron Zitner

Vivek Ramaswamy, the 38-year-old political novice, grabbed the spotlight at Wednesday's prime-time Republican presidential debate, but there was little sign he or any other contender had found a new strategy for overtaking front-runner Donald Trump.

The former president, who skipped the GOP's first debate of the nominating contest in favor of a pre-taped interview with Tucker Carlson, was positioned to limit the attention that any of his rivals might

draw from the event. On Thursday evening Trump surrendered in Fulton County, Ga., over charges that he tried to reverse the results of the 2020 presidential election.

Ramaswamy, a wealthy entrepreneur, started the debate as one of the least-known candidates of the eight on stage. But he was a formidable if combative presence throughout the event, interrupting and tussling with far more experienced politicians and exciting the feisty audience with red-meat statements, declaring that "the climate change agenda is a

hoax," calling for "war on the federal administrative state" and offering: "Do you want incremental change, or do you want a revolution?"

Ramaswamy also offered a forceful defense of Trump. When he called Trump "the best president of the 21st century," viewers might have asked why the political newcomer was putting himself forward as someone who could do a better job. He offered an answer.

Please turn to page A4

◆ Trump interview tests new media's viability. **A5**

Mortgage Rates Hit 7.23%, Highest Since '01

Applications fall to lowest levels since 1995 as home market continues to sputter

By Ben Eisen and Gina Heeb

Mortgage rates pushed to a 22-year high this week, making it tougher for the housing market to emerge from its stark slowdown.

The average 30-year fixed mortgage came with an interest rate of 7.23%, according to data published Thursday by Freddie Mac. Some borrowers are paying even loftier rates. The rate was 7.09% a week ago, its first time above 7% since last fall.

The new high is a turnabout from two years earlier, when borrowing rates were below 3%, near record lows. Millions of people were rushing to buy homes and refinance. Now, financing a typical home purchase costs hundreds of thousands of dollars more in interest.

Applications for purchase

Please turn to page A2

Average rate on a 30-year fixed mortgage



Source: Freddie Mac via St. Louis Fed

INSIDE



SPORTS
The road to Paris Olympics gets crowded for U.S. gymnasts. **A12**



MANSSION
Lake Martin in east-central Alabama draws luxury buyers from near and far. **M1**

No Newts Is Good News For Some British Homeowners

Amphibian endangers construction plans of pop stars and politicians; a 'newtopia'

By Max Colchester and Humza Jilani

EASTCOURT, England—The bane of Britain's great and powerful is a couple of inches long, has warty skin and a bright orange underbelly—and the power to disrupt some of their most heartfelt ambitions.

Singer Ed Sheeran, King Charles and former Prime Minister Boris Johnson are among the many homeowners in Britain who have, at one time or an-

other, been warned they might have to alter their building plans to accommodate the great crested newt.

Britain is a country where the public proudly regard themselves as animal lovers. There are no wolves, lynxes or bears left in the wild here. But it turns out parts of the island nation have one of the greatest concentrations of great crested newts in Europe.

The tiny amphibian has a



Newt in my backyard

Please turn to page A9

New Approach to Mental Health Crises Falls Short

Units designed as police alternatives in responding to the mentally ill suffer from lack of funds and support

By Scott Calvert and Julie Wernau

Dispatchers at the 911 center in Mesa, Ariz., have three levers to pull: fire/medical, police or mental health. The last one is a relatively new addition, adopted by dozens of police departments around the country and aimed at avoiding violent and often deadly confrontations between police officers and the mentally ill.

In theory, the new teams are designed to better help people in distress who pose little if any threat to others. In practice, these

teams have struggled to make much of a dent in what remains a chronic problem in U.S. policing.

The mayor recently saw a woman downtown who was talking to herself. "In my heartless way, I ignored her and walked away," he said. Hours later, she was still there. Giles thought she had schizophrenia. He called 911 for an officer. Police were dispatched to the scene and said she was high on methamphetamine. She refused mental-health help, and the cops let her go.

"I don't know what would have been the outcome if a mental-health provider had gotten that call," Giles said. "I would have liked to know."

Out of about 250,000 total 911 calls last

Please turn to page A9

USA TODAY WEEKEND

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | AUGUST 25-27, 2023

Tim McGraw stays firm in his beliefs

Country star keeps out of culture wars, says he focuses on his own music and actions. **In Life**

'Dream' speech still reverberates

A look at progress in the 60 years since Martin Luther King Jr.'s address. **In Weekend Extra**



TOMMY GILLIGAN/USA TODAY SPORTS

Ohtani's torn UCL clouds his future

Injury ends historic season for Angels dual threat who will be a free agent in 10 weeks. **In Sports**

ELECTION 2024

Life of the party is the no-show

Debate reaffirms GOP still Trump's domain



Susan Page
Washington Bureau Chief
USA TODAY

To be clear, Donald Trump isn't guaranteed to win the Republican nomination for the presidency for the third time in 2024.

But the easy ride he got in the GOP's first primary debate Wednesday night – without even bothering to show up on the Milwaukee stage – underscored the reality that the only person likely to cost Trump the nomination is Trump, as the repercussion of some health or legal or other catastrophe. At least at the moment, that sort of political lightning looms as a bigger risk to him than the prospect that one of the rivals on stage is going to be able to consolidate enough support to be a threat.

The exchanges in the raucous two-hour debate on Fox News, moderated by Bret Baier and Martha MacCallum,

See PAGE, Page 2A

Rivals hope Milwaukee was their moment

Joey Garrison and Phillip M. Bailey
USA TODAY

In a race dominated by Donald Trump, eight other presidential contenders battled it out at the first Republican primary debate Wednesday in an uphill fight to stop the former president from running away with the nomination.

Trump's absence overshadowed the debate in Milwaukee but gave his challengers a prime opportunity to seize the spotlight and emerge as the leading alternative.

Yet even as the Republican front-runner enjoys a massive polling lead, most candidates only sparingly threw punches his way, instead lobbing most of their attacks at one another, President Joe Biden, his policy agenda and his son Hunter.

Here are five takeaways.

Republicans tread lightly

Throughout the two-hour discussion, the Republican field struggled to make a clear argument against Trump, whom polls show leading his next-closest counterpart, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, in national polls by about 40 percentage points.

DeSantis took no swings at Trump,

See TAKEAWAYS, Page 2A

GEORGIA ELECTION CASE

EYES ON TRUMP, CO-DEFENDANTS

WHAT'S AT STAKE
Former President Donald Trump, who was set to surrender at a Georgia jail, is one of 19 defendants in an indictment that alleges racketeering by a criminal organization that tried to overturn the election results.

WHAT'S NEXT
Trump's arraignment is expected the week of Sept. 5.

INSIDE
Georgia racketeering case could prompt some of the 18 people charged with the former president to turn on each other – and him – in an effort to avoid jail. **Story, 4A**

Rudy Giuliani

John Eastman

Mark Meadows

Mike Roman

Jenna Ellis

David Shafer

Bob Cheeley

Cathy Latham

Trevian Kuttli

Shawn Still

Sidney Powell

Harrison Floyd

Ray Smith

Scott Hall

Jeffrey Clark

Misty Hampton

Kenneth Chesebro

Stephen Lee



REPRODUCTION ©COPYRIGHT 2023 USA TODAY, A division of Gannett Co., Inc.

HOME DELIVERY 1-800-872-0001, USATODAYSERVICE.COM

PHOTOS: USA TODAY NETWORK, GETTY IMAGES, AP AND PROVIDED





How women are driving the labour market
RANA FOROQAR, PAGE 17

Hedge fund pioneers face end of golden era
BIG READ, PAGE 15

Putin breaks silence on Prigozhin to confirm Wagner warlord is dead

President offers condolences • Criminal inquiry launched • Hardliners accuse 'traitors' of killing

POLINA IVANOVA — BERLIN
MAX SEDDON — RIGA
HENRY FOY — BRUSSELS

Vladimir Putin said publicly yesterday that Yevgeny Prigozhin was dead, in the Kremlin's first official reaction to the warlord's apparent demise in a plane crash the day before.

The Russian president said "initial data" indicated figures from Prigozhin's Wagner mercenary group were on board and expressed condolences to the families of all 10 people who died.

But supporters of Prigozhin, who was listed among the passengers of a private jet that crashed north-west of Moscow on Wednesday, accused "traitors" of assassinating him in retribution for the mutiny he led in late June.

Putin said Wagner had "made a significant contribution to our common cause, the fight against Nazism in Ukraine" — a reference to Russia's invasion of its neighbour.

"I knew Prigozhin for a long time, from the early 1990s. He had a difficult path and made serious mistakes in his life. But he got results — for himself, and for the common cause when I asked him, like in the past few months," Putin added.

Prigozhin and his group are accused of brutal war crimes in Ukraine and also in parts of the Middle East and Africa where they operated. But the warlord was popular with some in Russia for his battlefield successes in Ukraine and his straight-talking critique of army leaders.

Putin said Prigozhin was a "talented businessman not just in our country but in Africa, where he was into oil, gas, precious stones and metals". He said Prigozhin had "just got back from Africa yesterday, as far as I know, and met certain officials", without elaborating.

Investigators launched a criminal inquiry into the crash yesterday and the aviation agency said it was searching for the plane's black box, with Putin noting that results would "take time".

Fellow hardliners dubbed Prigozhin the leader of a "party of victory" encompassing ultranationalists, Chechen militants and shadowy security service figures who wanted Russia to conquer



Ukraine entirely. "I'm the only leader [of the party of victory] left," Konstantin Malofeyev, patron of a militia that has fought alongside Wagner in Ukraine, told the Financial Times. "We want to fight to a victorious end."

Wagner's St Petersburg headquarters was lit up in the shape of a cross over-

night while some masked fighters in camouflage knelt in tears before his photograph. "The country has lost its hero and best conductor," a Wagner-affiliated channel wrote on Telegram.

Another said Prigozhin would be "the best, even in hell".

Many in the hardline group shared Prigozhin's view that Russia could have been more successful in Ukraine had it not been for blunders by top generals.

The apparent move to break up Wagner signalled Putin's intention to boost the position of Russia's armed forces, western officials told the FT yesterday.

Tighter Kremlin control over the group could also allow Putin to bring its non-military operations, such as lucra-

tive natural resources supply contracts in African countries, closer to the state budget, one of the officials added. "It shows Putin's focus on revenge."

"Prigozhin was a nuisance to too many people. The number of enemies reached a critical point," Sergei Mironov, an outspoken pro-war leader of a Kremlin-controlled opposition party, wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

Roman Saponkov, a war blogger and invasion cheerleader considered close to the Wagner group, said: "The assassination of Prigozhin will have disastrous consequences. The people who war the order do not understand the mood in the army and morale at all."

Warlord's death page 3

A body bag is carried from the wreckage of the crashed jet near the village of Kuzhenkino, Tver region, yesterday. All those on board were killed — 30

Briefing

► **Internet groups race to prepare for EU digital rules**
The biggest online companies have been rushing to implement measures ranging from limiting personalised ads to altering hate speech policies in preparation for onerous new rules that come into force in Brussels today. — PAGE 8

► **Fed official in rates alert**
Boston Fed boss Susan Collins has raised the spectre of further rises, warning that the strength of the economy means "we may have more to do". — PAGE 2, INSIGHT, PAGE 11; RANA FOROQAR, PAGE 17

► **Subway sold for \$9bn**
The family-owned group that was a franchising pioneer and is home to the foot-long sandwich has agreed to sell itself to Roark Capital in one of the year's biggest buyouts. — PAGE 6; LEX, PAGE 18

► **Fukushima water release**
Japan has started to release into the Pacific radioactive water from the Fukushima nuclear plant. The process will take decades and comes 12 years after a tsunami triggered a meltdown. — PAGE 4

► **Turkey targets inflation**
The central bank has boosted borrowing costs more than expected as it targets runaway inflation, marking a clear break with years of unorthodox policy. — PAGE 2; BEATING LONDON, PAGE 10

► **Blackstone fund revived**
The investor has rekindled a plan for a private equity fund for the wealthy, in a bid to reach beyond its institutional clients. It was shelved amid tough conditions at its property fund last year. — PAGE 8

► **European gas prices fall**
A tentative agreement between Australia's Woodside Energy and unions has eased fears that strike action would squeeze supplies. Prices fell back after having risen earlier in the week. — PAGE 10

► **Pensions offloading rises**
Companies have shifted their retirement schemes to insurers at a record pace on both sides of the Atlantic as higher interest rates boost solvency and make it easier to transfer obligations. — PAGE 8

“If there was any hope that some hardliners harboured a different opinion on the war to the boss, it has been shattered. Prigozhin's exit is unlikely to affect its course”

Alexander Gabueev
Page 17



Shoppers look for signs of levelling-off in price rises

Consumer food groups such as Nestlé, Danone and Unilever have signalled they might be ready to ease back on price rises. Companies in the sector have increased prices by an average of 11 per cent year on year for three consecutive quarters, until the three months to July, in which average rises fell back to 9.7 per cent. But shoppers should not expect immediate benefits and, as one analyst remarks, consumer groups "almost never cut prices".

Peak glimpsed — PAGE 9

Iran among nations offered Brics entry in triumph for China's expansion push

JOSEPH COTTERILL — JOHANNESBURG

The Brics emerging market bloc has launched the biggest expansion in its history as Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were invited to join, in a coup for China's drive to remake the group into a counterweight to the G7.

The countries were offered membership alongside Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa from the start of next year in a "new chapter" for the club of developing nations, South Africa's president Cyril Ramaphosa said at the end of a Brics summit in Johannesburg.

"We have consensus on the first phase of this expansion process, and further phases will follow," he said, adding that the Brics would also develop a "partnership model" for other countries.

The first expansion of the Brics bloc

since South Africa joined in 2010 represents a victory for China, which pushed for rapid expansion of the bloc before the summit as part of its ambitions to lead the developing world.

The inclusion of Iran and Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil producer outside the US, among the first Middle Eastern Brics members also follows Beijing's brokering of the normalisation of relations between Riyadh and Tehran this year.

"China is playing an agenda-setting role within the Brics grouping" as it competes with the US, Priyal Singh, senior researcher at South Africa's Institute for Security Studies, said.

India was more reluctant about expanding Brics, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday said: "Adding new members will further strengthen Brics and give it a new impetus."

However, not every country invited rushed to join up. Indonesia, the largest south-east Asian economy, declined to submit its interest in joining the bloc, saying it was discussing the possibility of membership internally.

Russia's Vladimir Putin welcomed the new members and called on the bloc to deepen its economic ties, including creating a common currency.

"I want to assure all my colleagues that we will continue what we started — expanding Brics' influence in the world," Putin said on a video link from the Kremlin.

The expanded group will boost the Brics' share of global gross domestic product from 32 per cent to 37 per cent on a purchasing power parity basis, Brazil president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva said.

Alec Russell page 17

Subscribe in print and online

www.ft.com/subscribe
Tel: 1 800 628 9088
For the latest news go to
www.ft.com

© THE FINANCIAL TIMES LTD 2023
No: 41,411

Printed in London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin, Frankfurt, Milan, Madrid, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore, Seoul, Dubai



World Markets													
STOCK MARKETS			CURRENCIES			GOVERNMENT BONDS							
	Aug 24	Prev	%Chg	Pair	Aug 24	Prev	Pair	Aug 24	Prev	Yield (%)	Chg		
S&P 500	4398.48	4436.01	-0.85	\$/€	1.084	1.085	€/\$	0.923	0.922	US 2 yr	4.29	4.95	0.04
Nasdaq Composite	13534.41	13721.03	-1.36	\$/£	1.285	1.288	£/\$	0.791	0.789	US 10 yr	4.21	4.22	-0.01
Dow Jones Ind	34267.24	34472.98	-0.60	€/£	0.857	0.855	£/€	1.167	1.169	US 30 yr	4.29	4.31	-0.03
FTSEurofirst 300	1798.61	1796.47	-0.44	\$/¥	145.615	144.745	¥/\$	157.840	156.997	UK 2 yr	4.94	4.95	-0.02
Euro Stoxx 50	4235.73	4266.67	-0.73	\$/₹	184.181	183.579	₹/\$	82.504	82.864	UK 10 yr	4.51	4.56	-0.06
FTSE 100	7333.63	7320.53	0.18	\$/₹	0.956	0.954	₹/\$	1.116	1.115	UK 30 yr	4.60	4.66	-0.06
FTSE All-Share	3997.86	3992.96	0.12	CRYPTO						JPN 2 yr	0.00	0.02	-0.02
CAC 40	7214.46	7246.62	-0.44		Aug 24	Prev	%Chg	JPN 10 yr	0.64	0.67	-0.03		
Zurich Dax	19521.49	19728.41	-0.99	Bitcoin (\$)	26069.10	26417.00	-1.33	JPN 30 yr	1.65	1.69	-0.04		
Nikkei	32292.21	32019.26	0.87	Ethereum	1646.48	1677.80	-1.87	GER 2 yr	2.97	2.97	0.01		
Hang Seng	18212.17	17945.92	2.05	COMMODITIES						GER 10 yr	2.51	2.52	-0.01
MSCI World \$	2937.70	2909.19	0.98		Aug 24	Prev	%Chg	GER 30 yr	2.61	2.62	-0.01		
MSCI EM \$	870.20	866.69	0.36	Oil WTI \$	78.75	78.89	-0.18						
MSCI ACWI \$	675.46	669.24	0.92	Oil Brent \$	83.03	83.21	-0.22						
FT Wilshire 2500	5736.85	5673.60	1.11	Gold \$	1916.85	1892.75	1.26						
FT Wilshire 5000	44709.40	44217.10	1.11										

BOVET
1822
Chateau de Môtiers

The Virtuoso XI
HAND-CRAFTED HAND-FINISHED HAND-ENGRAVED
A TRUE MASTERPIECE OF WATCHMAKING ART

bovet.com



Wreckage from a plane near Kuzhenkino, Russia. The mercenary leader Yevgeny V. Prigozhin was believed to be aboard the flight.

U.S. Suspects Putin Ordered Downing of Jet

This article is by Julian E. Barnes, Helene Cooper, Eric Schmitt, Riley Mellen, Muiji Xiao and Robin Stein.

An explosion on a plane believed to be carrying the Russian mercenary leader Yevgeny V. Prigozhin most likely brought down the aircraft on Wednesday, killing all the passengers aboard, according to U.S. and other Western officials citing preliminary intelligence.

A definitive conclusion has not yet been reached, but a blast is the leading theory of what caused a private plane to crash in a field between Moscow and St. Petersburg. The explosion could have been caused by a bomb or other device planted on the aircraft, though other theories, like adulterated fuel, were also being explored, said the officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the matter.

U.S. officials sounded increasingly certain, both publicly and privately, that Mr. Prigozhin was dead, and that President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia had ordered the killing, intent on removing a figure who had led a short-lived mutiny in June that was seen as the gravest challenge to Mr. Putin's rule in decades.

Brig. Gen. Patrick Ryder, the Pentagon press secretary, said the initial U.S. assessment, based on a "variety of factors," was that Mr. Prigozhin had most likely been killed in the crash.

General Ryder did not state a theory for the crash, but said the United States had no information to indicate that surface-to-air

Continued on Page A6

TEMPTING FATE Standing up to President Vladimir V. Putin has come with consequences. PAGE A6

Debate Offers Fleeting Vision of a Party's Future

By LISA LERER

It was, for 57 minutes, a glimpse into a post-Trump Republican Party.

They wrestled for long, heated stretches over policy and ideology. Young battled old. The lone woman chastised the seven men, casting herself as the adult in the room. Their personalities shone under the bright lights, displaying the strengths of a historically diverse field.

In the first primary debate of the 2024 race, the eight Republican participants tried to create a Trump-free zone — an alternative political universe where the G.O.P. race turned on issues, ideology and biography.

At least in the short term, the

NEWS ANALYSIS

performance was unlikely to threaten Donald Trump's dominance of the primary. He will probably pay little price for skipping the debate, a decision that allowed him to avoid direct questions — and challenges — not only about his criminal indictments but also some of the failed promises of his administration on immigration and federal spending.

He still leads the Republican race by double-digit margins, an advantage typically enjoyed by an incumbent president rather than a primary contender. A central challenger did not emerge on Wednesday night,

leaving Mr. Trump with the benefits of a fractured field. Even a majority of those challenging him for the nomination said they would continue to support him if he was convicted.

Yet the former president's absence created an opening, if an illusory one, for a broader array of conservative positions. Republicans have long discussed the far-off notion of what Trumpism without Mr. Trump would look like. For fleeting moments in Milwaukee, that possibility felt almost like a reality.

The Fox News hosts waited nearly an hour to ask only two questions in the entire two-hour debate on Mr. Trump, or, as Bret Baier, one of the moderators, Continued on Page A14



ARLANA DREHLEDER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Training Software to Spot Wildfires

California firefighters hope an A.I. program will detect smoke before 911 calls arrive. PAGE A19.

Behind 'Blind Side,' an Unusual Deal and a Football-Mad Culture

By SANTUL NERKAR

In August 2004, Michael Oher was living with Sean and Leigh Anne Tuohy and their two children in Memphis. Oher, who had bounced around several foster homes, was a top prospect to play major college football and seemed headed to the N.F.L. when the Tuohys took him in.

But there were complications. Because the Tuohys were not Oher's parents, providing support to him could have been seen as breaking N.C.A.A. rules against providing benefits to recruits. As significant donors to the University of Mississippi, one of the colleges recruiting Oher, the Tuohys might subject themselves and the school to penalties in case of a violation.

Couple Facing Scrutiny for Conservatorship

So they put together a plan. They asked a court to give them wide authority over Oher's affairs, including power of attorney, control of his medical decisions and the right to approve financial con-

tracts on his behalf. The arrangement, they believed, would satisfy the N.C.A.A. Oher, then 18 and legally an adult, agreed to it.

Everyone who has seen the 2009 film "The Blind Side" knows what happened next: Oher attended Mississippi, the Tuohys' alma mater, and went on to the N.F.L. Sandra Bullock won an Academy Award for her portrayal Continued on Page A11

TRUMP IS BOOKED AT JAIL IN ATLANTA IN ELECTION CASE

Ex-President Hires a New Lead Lawyer

This article is by Richard Fausset, Danny Hakim and Thomas Fuller.

Former President Donald J. Trump surrendered at the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta on Thursday and was booked on 13 felony charges for his efforts to reverse his 2020 election loss in Georgia.

It was an extraordinary scene: a former U.S. president who flew on his own jet to Atlanta and surrendered at a jail compound surrounded by concertina wire and signs that directed visitors to the "prisoner intake" area.

As Mr. Trump's motorcade of black S.U.V.s drove to the jail through cleared streets, preceded by more than a dozen police motorcycles — a trip captured by news helicopters and broadcast live on national television — two worlds collided in ways never before seen in American political history. The nation's former commander in chief walked into a notorious jail, one that has been cited in rap lyrics and is the subject of a Department of Justice investigation into unsanitary and unsafe conditions, including allegations that an "incarcerated person died covered in insects and filth."

The case is the fourth brought against Mr. Trump this year, but Thursday was the first time that he was booked at a jail.

Mr. Trump spent about 20 minutes there, submitting to some of the routines of criminal defendant intake. He was fingerprinted and had his mug shot taken. He was assigned an identification number, P01135809. But the process was faster than for most defendants; minutes after he entered the jail, Mr. Trump's secretary appeared in Fulton County's booking system, which listed him as having "blond or strawberry" hair, a height of 6 feet 3 inches and a weight of 215 pounds — 24 pounds less than the White House doctor reported him weighing in 2018.

His form was filled out in advance by aides, according to someone familiar with the preparations, not by officials at the jail.

Outside, supporters and detractors of Mr. Trump had gathered all day in the swampy Atlanta heat. The news media was kept at bay. The Fulton County Sheriff's Office barred reporters from gaining access to the parking lot in front of the jail's main entrance, a break with tradition.

Before leaving Atlanta on his plane, Mr. Trump was defiant. The Georgia case, he said, was a "travesty of justice."

"We have every right to challenge an election we think is dishonest," he said.

The former president's bond in the case was set at \$200,000 on Monday, and he used a commercial bondsman, Charles Shaw of Foster Bail Bonds, to post his bond in exchange for \$20,000, the bondsman confirmed.

In a last-minute shake-up of his legal team, Mr. Trump hired on Thursday, Steven H. Seifow, a veteran criminal defense lawyer in Atlanta whose clients include prominent rappers. In a filing to the court, Mr.

Continued on Page A16



FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, VIA REUTERS. A police mug shot of former President Donald J. Trump.

Progress in A.I. Now Threatens Office Workers

By CLAIRE CAIN MILLER and COURTNEY COX

The American workers who have had their careers upended by automation in recent decades have largely been less educated, especially men working in manufacturing.

But the new kind of automation — artificial intelligence systems called large language models, like ChatGPT and Google's Bard — is changing that. These tools can rapidly process and synthesize information and generate new content. The jobs most exposed to automation now are office jobs, those that require more cognitive skills, creativity and high levels of education. The workers affected are likelier to be highly paid, and slightly likelier to be women, a variety of research has found.

"It's surprised most people, including me," said Erik Brynjolfsson, a professor at the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered A.I., who had predicted that creativity and tech skills would insulate people from the effects of automation. To be brutally honest, we had a hierarchy of things that technology could do, and we felt comfortable saying things like creative work, professional work, emotional intelligence would be hard for machines to ever do. Now that's all being resolved through the federal government."

A range of new research has analyzed the tasks of American Continued on Page A19

Hochul Presses Biden for Help With Migrants

By LUIS FERRÉ-SADURNÍ and GRACE ASHFORD

In a pronounced shift in tactics, Gov. Kathy Hochul of New York on Thursday forcefully urged President Biden to respond to the influx of migrants arriving in the state, underscoring the urgency of a situation that has vexed Democratic leaders for months.

Unlike Mayor Eric Adams of New York City, the governor has taken pains to avoid overtly criticizing the president's response, choosing instead to communicate with Mr. Biden and his staff behind the scenes.

But the governor's 10-minute address, livestreamed from Albany, laid the blame directly at the door of the White House. She noted that the Biden administration had failed to respond to her call to expedite work permits for newcomers and turn more federal properties into emergency shelters, saying, "We've managed thus far without substantive support from Washington."

"New York has shouldered this burden for far too long," the governor, a Democrat, said in her most direct appeal to federal officials. "There does not appear to be a solution to this federal problem any time soon. This crisis originated with the federal government, and it must be resolved through the federal government."

More than 100,000 migrants Continued on Page A20



Ice Melt Impacts Penguins

New research indicates that a majority of emperor penguins in a region of Antarctica lost their chicks. PAGE A8

Rival Bloc to West Expands Iran and Saudi Arabia among six nations to join BRICS, bolstering leading members China and Russia. PAGE A9

Discord Over Abzug Film A new documentary about Bella Abzug, the feminist congresswoman, has been marred by a conflict between her daughter and the filmmaker. PAGE A10

Exonerations for Three Men Prosecutors in Queens moved to vacate convictions for three men, saying that they had all been wrongfully convicted of crimes three decades ago. PAGE A21

Shooting, Not Hunting, Bears As Connecticut's black bear population rises, a new law allows residents to kill bears in certain circumstances. Some people want more. PAGE A21

China's Flimsy Safety Net The consequences of failing to provide adequate support to seniors, the jobless and others in financial stress are rippling through the economy. PAGE B1

The Cachet of Jackson Hole Economists are closely watching this week's conference in Wyoming for signals from the Fed. PAGE B1

Gold Medalist by a Nose In 1956 in Australia, Tom Courtney, an American, made one last surge in the 800-meter Olympic race. PAGE B10

Weekend Arts C1-10 A Shoreline Spectacle An adaptation of a work by Merce Cunningham is part of this year's Beach Sessions Dance Series. PAGE C1

Adding to a Trumpeter's Legacy Jaimie Branch, who died a year ago at 39, completed a final studio LP with her quartet in April 2022. PAGE C7

Paths to Glory at U.S. Open The draws for the tournament set up the possibility of a final between Novak Djokovic and Carlos Alcaraz. PAGE B8

Ohtani Is Shut Down as Pitcher Shohei Ohtani, the two-way star for the fading Angels, has an elbow injury and can only hit the rest of the year. PAGE B8

Lydia Polgreen OPINION A22-23

Lydia Polgreen OPINION A22-23

Lydia Polgreen OPINION A22-23

Lydia Polgreen OPINION A22-23

PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESS HARBOR PRESS HARBOR, N.Y. 10043-2775 (C) 2023 THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



The Washington Post

Printed on recycled paper with 50% recycled content.

50 11 12 13 14

Heavy t-storms 88/73 • Tomorrow: T-storm 91/71 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2023 • B3

Trump surrenders at Ga. jail in election case

A gamble on finding strength in indictments instead of debate

BY JOSH DAWSLEY AND ISAAC ARNSDORF

MILWAUKEE — Less than 24 hours before he surrendered to authorities for the fourth time in five months, Donald Trump and his team tried to send a signal on Wednesday night: No one has a chance to beat him in the GOP primary.

As eight other Republicans battled onstage in the party's first debate here, Trump instead stayed at his New Jersey golf club and said he was too far ahead to worry about debating. His team also tried to project an aura of invincibility, flooding the debate venue with advisers and allies.

"I'm leading by 50 and 60 points, and some of them are at 1

and zero and 2 [percent], and I'm saying, do I sit there for an hour or two hours, whatever it's going to be, and get harassed by people that shouldn't even be running for president?" Trump said in an interview with former Fox News host Tucker Carlson that was released simultaneously to the start of the debate.

Whether the strategy to skip the debate accrues in his favor — or matters at all — remains unknown. But Trump's team has repeatedly deflected questions about 91 felony counts lodged against him, the potential he could face jail time, his 2024 electability and other

SEE DEBATE ON A6

Diverging GOP: On varying paths, Ramaswamy and Haley rise. A6



Former president Donald Trump in a mug shot taken after his surrender Thursday at the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta.

EX-PRESIDENT FACES 13 FELONY COUNTS

Mug shot and fingerprints taken during booking

BY HOLLY BAILEY, AMY GARDNER AND ISAAC ARNSDORF

ATLANTA — Donald Trump surrendered at an Atlanta jail on Thursday and was booked on felony charges alleging he participated in a sweeping criminal conspiracy to illegally overturn his 2020 election loss in Georgia — an unprecedented moment resulting in the first mug shot of a former American president.

Trump's booking at the Fulton County Jail came 10 days after the former president was charged in Georgia in what was his fourth criminal indictment since March — and his second tied to his alleged efforts to subvert the 2020 election results and remain in the

White House.

But his Atlanta surrender was unlike his previous ones. While other jurisdictions waived a booking photo and processed Trump in courthouse facilities, Fulton County officials announced Trump would be treated no differently than any other Atlanta-area arrestee.

Trump was required to turn himself in at the notorious county jail known as "Rice Street," where inmate deaths and decrepit conditions recently prompted a Justice Department civil rights investigation. The former president had his height and weight recorded and was fingerprinted and photographed. Unlike other arrestees, he was booked and released.

SEE TRUMP ON A4

In Lahaina, seniors fended for themselves

Residents of one complex were left to rely on each other — or no one

BY KARIN BRULLIARD AND EMILY WAX-THIBODEAUX

LAHAINA, HAWAII — The cheerful lilt of Hawaiian music was flowing through Marjorie St. Clair's apartment when she paused to bring her plants inside, away from the fierce winds of a distant hurricane. Reality flipped upside down. The sky outside was onyx, her smoke alarm began shrieking, her two cats fled, and the 81-year-old found herself grabbing a face mask and eye drops and dashing downhill to the parking lot of Hale Mahaolu Eono, the low-income senior-living complex she called home.

St. Clair passed her neighbor Joe Schilling, 67, who was scanning his phone for information on the fire darkening the sky. She called out to June Anbe, who used a walker, and Anbe responded that she was waiting for a relative. St. Clair jumped into her Honda and drove through flames, away from the complex that would quickly transform from affordable paradise to scorched rubble.

SEE LAHAINA ON A10

Evidence issue: Utility may have taken equipment from scene. A16



Emergency personnel carry a body bag near the wreckage of a jet linked to Yevgeniy Prigozhin's Wagner Group that went down about 185 miles from Moscow. The manifest listed Prigozhin, who staged a brief mutiny against Moscow in June, as among the jet's passengers.

For Russia's elite, a chilling message received

When the jet believed to be carrying Yevgeniy Prigozhin and several top commanders of the Wagner paramilitary group fell from the sky west of Moscow on Wednesday, its destruction sent a terrifying message to Russia's elite, even though the cause of the crash may never be conclusively known.

"Anyone who displays disloyalty will be seen by the state as an enemy that needs to be liquidated," one well-connected Moscow businessman said. "Everyone will believe that this was carried out on the orders of the czar.

Rival's apparent fate liquidates inclinations to cross Putin

BY CATHERINE BELTON AND GREG MILLER IN LONDON

We may never know whether this is true or not. But it has frightened everyone."

The downing of Prigozhin's plane has bolstered Vladimir Putin's hold on power, at least in the short term, officials and analysts said, restoring a reputation for a ruthlessness

that had been undermined by his hesitant response to the Wagner mutiny in June and puzzling truce with the renegade warlord.

At the same time, the broader sequence reflects a further descent into Mafia-style dysfunction for the Russian state that Putin has shaped over two decades in office — one that seemed paralyzed during Prigozhin's march on Moscow and now will be suspected of having dealt with his alleged treason not through an arrest and trial but by sending a jet plunging to earth with nine other passengers

SEE PUTIN ON A13

Wagner in peril, Putin in control after crash

Mercenary group may fold after apparent death of Prigozhin, experts say

BY ROBYN DIXON, CATHERINE BELTON, MARY ILYUSHINA AND FRANCESCA EBEL

RIGA, LATVIA — The presumed death of the high-profile leader of Russia's Wagner Group has thrown the future of the mercenary force into serious doubt and strengthened the hand of President Vladimir Putin, two months after a short-lived Wagner rebellion left him looking weaker than at any point in his nearly 25-year rule.

Putin made his first comments Thursday about the mysterious plane crash in the Iver region of Russia that is believed to have killed Wagner leader Yevgeniy Prigozhin, along with his operations commander, Dmitry Utkin, and other senior members of the group — effectively decapitating a force that was once central to Russia's war in Ukraine and still has fighters deployed across Africa and the Middle East.

"He was a talented person,"

SEE PRIGOZHIN ON A14

F-16s: U.S. will begin training Ukrainian pilots in Arizona. A2

Wagner future: What's ahead after leader's presumed death? A14

Tuberville's military 'holds' impact base in his own state

BY ALEXANDRA HEAL

HUNTSVILLE, ALA. — At the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama, a major hub of the U.S. military's space and missile programs, a key officer is supposed to be leaving his post for a critical new job leading the agency responsible for America's missile defense.

But now Maj. Gen. Heath Collins is supposed to be leaving his post for creating disruptions up and down the chain of command.

His lack of movement means that a rear admiral normally stationed at Redstone overseeing

missile testing is instead temporarily filling in as acting director of the Missile Defense Agency. Meanwhile, the brigadier general tapped to replace Collins is also stuck, forced to extend his assignment at Space Systems Command in Los Angeles rather than starting work in Huntsville.

Collins is one of 301 military promotions for jobs around the world currently being blocked by one of the state's U.S. senators.

SEE REDSTONE ON A8

Blocked promotions: 301 jobs are caught up in the dispute. A9



The Nationals' Stephen Strasburg was the best pitching prospect in a generation, but his MLB career was cut short by arm injuries.

PERSPECTIVE

Retiring Strasburg changed Washington baseball forever

BY BARRY SVRLUGA

Never forget, as he prepares to announce his retirement, that Stephen Strasburg changed baseball in Washington. That is not hyperbole or a romantic notion based on a career that is ending before it should. It's reality.

Put another way: For the Nationals, there are all the days before June 8, 2010, and all the days since. Before Strasburg first took the mound at Nationals Park, contending for postseason

berths seemed mere fantasy. For a town that had watched its major league team walk away not once but twice, there were still wounds deep enough that a fear it could happen again lingered over everything. All the losses, so many losses, didn't help.

And then 40,315 fans packed Nationals Park on a random Tuesday night. Bob Costas, the

SEE SVRLUGA ON A5

Calling it: Strasburg halts latest comeback bid, plans to retire. D1

IN THE NEWS

Bottleneck at the Panama Canal Low water levels linked to El Niño and climate change have stranded scores of ships, adding costs and delays to an already stressed system. A12

Small gains in D.C. Students' test scores improved slightly, showing that a recovery from a pandemic plunge is ongoing. B1

THE NATION The Justice Department sued SpaceX, alleging discrimination in its hiring process. A2

At 92, a trusted counsel to Martin Luther King Jr. is keeping up his civil rights mission. A5

THE WORLD Ukrainians marked their Independence Day with a somber ceremony in Kyiv. A11

Six nations are set to join BRICS, a group seen as a counter to the West. A15

THE REGION D.C. officials want to raise awareness of the city's red-flag law for seizing guns and preventing violence. B1

Fairfax County will provide 180 families with a payment of \$750 per month as part of an effort to combat systemic inequality. B1

Montgomery County parents can't pull their children out of classrooms during lessons with LGBTQ+ books, a judge ruled. B1

STYLE Striking Hollywood writers said studio offers that were made public are insufficient. C1

SPORTS Patrick Behan, who led St. John's to a WCAC boys' basketball title last season while suffering from ALS, said he is stepping down. D1

WEEKEND The section will return Sept. 1. Movie reviews can be found in the Style section.

BUSINESS NEWS.....A16
COMICS.....C6
OPINION PAGES.....A17
CRIMINAL JUSTICE.....B4
TELEVISION.....C4
WORLD NEWS.....A11

CONTENT ID 3223
The Washington Post
Year 146, No. 5368

070628211003

State utilizes AI to detect fires

Agency using artificial intelligence to scan camera feeds, directly alert dispatch centers.

By HAYLEY SMITH

Just before 3 a.m. one night this month, Scott Slumpff was awakened by the ding of a text message. An ALERTCalifornia anomaly has been confirmed in your area of interest," the message said.

Slumpff, a battalion chief with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, sprang into action. The message meant the agency's new artificial intelligence system had identified signs of a wildfire with a remote mountaintop camera in San Diego County.

Within minutes, crews were dispatched to the burgeoning blaze on Mt. Laguna — squelching it before it grew any larger than a 10-foot-by-10-foot spot. Without the alert, "we wouldn't have even known about the fire until the next morning, when people are out and about seeing smoke," Slumpff said. "We probably would have been looking at hundreds of acres rather than a small spot."

The rapid response was part of a new AI pilot project operated by Cal Fire in partnership with UC San Diego's ALERTCalifornia system, which maintains 1,039 high-definition cameras in strategic locations throughout the state. [See Fire, A7]

Tahoe's latest tourist is Biden

By BENJAMIN ORESKES

KINGS BEACH, Calif. — Strolling on the Lake of the Sky Trail, U.S. Forest Service officer Daniel Cressy marveled at the wildlife that first attracted him to Lake Tahoe.

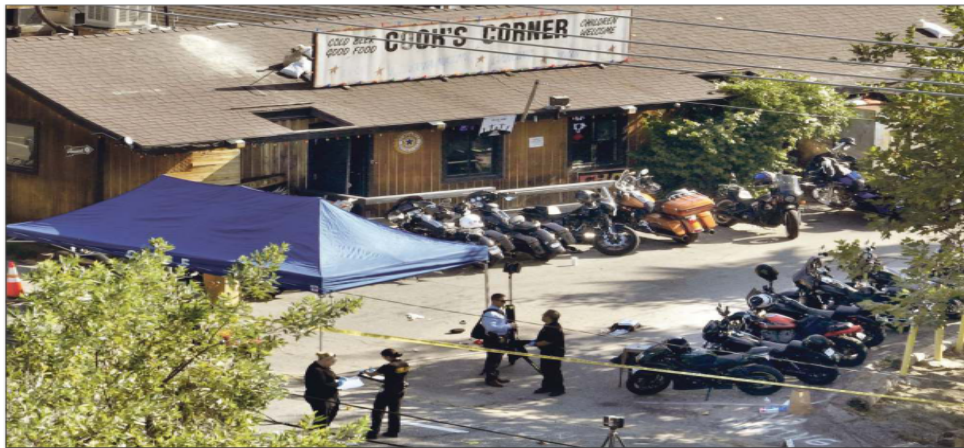
A bald eagle nested in the top of a Jeffrey Pine overlooking out over the shimmering blue of North America's largest alpine lake, and rising in the distance was Mt. Tallac, a 9,739-foot peak that he's skied many times.

Then, along the path, Cressy spotted a tree with "J&B" carved into its trunk.

"Folks feel like they got to leave their mark, whether that's scratching on a tree or painting on a facility or leaving trash," Cressy said.

This small stain of civilization epitomized the growing tension between the millions of tourists who provide economic sustenance to the High Sierra paradise and the effort to preserve the natural splendor that draws them, a clash that came into sharp focus this week with a weeklong visit from the world's most powerful tourist, President Biden.

While Biden and his family were in the area, [See Tahoe, A7]



INVESTIGATORS outside Cook's Corner in Trabuco Canyon, where a retired police officer killed three people and wounded six others, including his estranged wife. He was later shot dead by sheriff's deputies.

Food, a live band — then gunfire

No 'discussion, dialogue' as ex-cop shoots estranged wife at popular O.C. eatery.

By HANNAH FRY, RICHARD WINTON, NATHAN SOLIS, MATTHEW ORMSETH AND GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

Marie Snowling went to Cook's Corner on Wednesday night as she often did, to enjoy the live band and the \$8 all-you-can-eat spaghetti special.

Around 7 p.m., the patio of the Trabuco Canyon bar and eatery was filled with families tucking into big plates of food. At the bar, people drank beer and waited for M Street, a five-piece Orange County rock band, to begin its set.

That was when her estranged husband, 59-year-old John Snowling, a retired police sergeant, walked directly toward her and immediately opened fire, authorities said.

"There was not a discussion, dialogue or an argument," Orange County Sheriff Don Barnes said Thursday. Barnes said Snowling used two weapons — pistols or revolvers — in the shooting, at times targeting people randomly.

The shooter apparently did not know his victims apart from his wife and the friend she was dining with, who was also shot, Barnes said.

People dived behind furniture and speakers and ran toward the kitchen. Marie Snowling was struck once in the jaw and survived. Three people were killed and five others were wounded. One person was killed inside the bar and the other two — a man and a woman — outside.

Barnes said Snowling left the bar and went to his truck, where he grabbed a shotgun. Deputies raced up to confront him and shot him dead. "The deputies responded in two minutes. So all this happened within 120 seconds," the sheriff added. [See Cook's Corner, A6]

Dramatic reversal for a beacon of pop empowerment

In February, pop singer Lizzo won the Grammy for record of the year for "About Damn Time," her exuberant 2022 disco-funk single. Overjoyed at the honor, she took the stage at Crypto.com Arena in downtown Los Angeles and summed up what a triumph it was for larger women of color like her who long struggled to find a place in the entertainment industry.

"Now I look around and there's all these songs that are about loving our bodies and feeling comfortable in our skin and feeling good, and I'm just so proud to be a part of it," Lizzo, born Melissa Jefferson, said.

"Anybody at home who feels misunderstood or on the outside looking

Dancers' suit against Lizzo threatens to undo singer's hard-won brand

By August Brown and Stacy Perman

ing in like I did, just stay true to yourself," she continued, "I promise you, you will find people, you will attract people in your life who believe in you and support you."

Just six months after that high point in her career, Lizzo is now confronting allegations that threaten to undo years building a hard-won image as a beacon of empowerment and self-acceptance. A singer seen as an agent of change in the music industry has, for some, come to symbolize its entrenched problems.

Three of Lizzo's former backup dancers recently sued Lizzo and her company Big Grrrl Big Touring, alleging sexual harassment and creating a hostile work environment. [See Lizzo, A9]



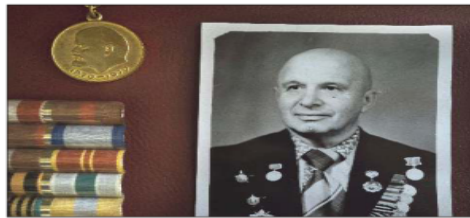
POP SINGER Lizzo says allegations of sexual harassment and bullying by three former backup dancers are "false" and "outrageous." Above, the performer at the Grammy Awards in February.

A legacy grown fraught in Ukraine

By SABRA AYRES

ZHOVTI VODY, Ukraine — This city of 43,000 in central Ukraine owes its modern existence to the Soviets, who discovered uranium ore here in 1951.

The mines they developed were so critical to their nuclear weapons program that nonresidents needed special permission to enter the city. To keep the residents happy, the Kremlin turned Zhovti Vody into a model Soviet city, with tree-lined boulevards, schools, shops, apartments and a



YUKHYM PRIGOZHIN was a beloved resident of a Ukrainian town. Then came a notorious relative.

performance hall so grand that it rivaled the opera house in Moscow.

Central to the uranium extraction effort was a mining specialist named Yukhym Prigozhin, who was sent from Russia and became something of a local hero. After the Soviet Union collapsed, he stayed.

When he died in 1999 at age 85, the city renamed its history museum for him and adorned the front of the building with a plaque bearing his profile and the inscription "honorary citizen." Now some are questioning the honor. [See Ukraine, A4]

Tough blow for Ohtani, Angels

Torn ligament leaves team's two-way star out for the season in a shocker for the baseball world. SPORTS, B10

Questions after Russia jet crash

Vladimir Putin speaks about Wagner chief, and experts weigh in on aftermath of apparent demise. WORLD, A3

Trump booked at Georgia jail

The former president surrenders and has a mug shot taken in the 2020 election case. NATION, A5

Weather Clearing

L.A. Basin: 82/62. B6

Printed with soy inks on partially recycled paper. 7 85944 00200 5



Get breaking news, instantly. Download the app for up-to-the-minute alerts.



Trump tuvo que ir a una cárcel para que le tomen la foto policial

—el mundo

Es el primer expresidente de EE.UU. que enfrenta esa situación; lo acusan de conspiración electoral. **Página 6**



deportes

El escándalo Rubiales: renuncia, acorralado por todos los sectores

El presidente de la Federación Española deja el cargo con la condena de la FIFA, el gobierno y la gente.



LA NACION

VIERNES 25 DE AGOSTO DE 2023 | LANACION.COM.AR

La Argentina se suma a los Brics, pero Bullrich y Milei rechazaron la alianza

RELACIONES. La oposición criticó la presencia de Rusia y la llegada a ese foro junto con Irán

La Argentina se sumará al grupo de países Brics, que integran Brasil, Rusia, la India, China y Sudáfrica. Además, se incorporarán Arabia Saudita, Egipto, Etiopía, Emiratos Árabes Unidos e Irán. El presidente Alberto Fernández localizó como "un nuevo escenario y una oportunidad". Pero los principales candidatos presiden-

ciales de la oposición, Javier Milei y Patricia Bullrich, lo rechazaron. "El Presidente acaba de comprometer a la Argentina a la entrada a los Brics, mientras se desarrolla la invasión a Ucrania y, con más razón, junto con el ingreso de Irán", dijo Bullrich. Milei ratificó que no hará alianzas "con comunistas". **Página 8**

El FMI pide más ajuste en tarifas, salarios y jubilaciones

Página 18

EL ESCENARIO
Problemas nacionales, al desnudo
Claudio Jacquelin
Página 11

En Santa Fe hubo tres intentos de saqueos en 15 minutos

ATAQUES. Se registraron hechos similares en Rosario y Pergamino

En 15 minutos, tres supermercados de la ciudad de Santa Fe fueron blanco ayer de intentos de saqueo, que derivaron en incidentes con la policía, que disparó balas de goma para disuadir a unas 30 personas que robaban mercadería. La policía también debió repeler ataques a dos supermercados en la localidad bonaerense de Pergamino y tres intentos en Rosario. **Página 16**

Juntos por el Cambio se abroquela para la campaña



política — Después del impacto que provocó el resultado de las PASO, los principales candidatos y dirigentes de Juntos por el Cambio se reunieron ayer para emitir una fuerte señal de unidad de cara a las elecciones generales de octubre. La candidata a presidenta, Patricia Bullrich, hizo una enérgica arenga en la que convocó a "no regalar el poder a nadie para que esté dos meses y regrese el peronismo". Larreta le dio un claro respaldo. **Página 14**

Marihuana: la cantidad de consumidores creció 300% en 12 años

DROGAS. El Indec difundió ayer un informe sobre el uso de sustancias psicoactivas, basado en un sondeo efectuado a 12.062 personas en todo el país

El mercado narco se expande al ritmo de la demanda de drogas. Esa realidad está instalada hace tiempo en la Argentina. Y la percepción social sobre el crecimiento de la venta de drogas quedó ratificada en un informe difundido ayer por el Indec: el 13,8% de los 12.062 encuestados en todo el país dijeron que habían fumado al menos un cigarrillo armado con marihuana en los últimos doce meses. Ese dato representa un

aumento del 300% en la cantidad de consumidores de cannabis en los últimos doce años.

En un informe oficial sobre consumo de drogas presentado en 2011 se había observado el incipiente crecimiento del uso de cannabis luego del fallo de la Corte Suprema que despenalizó la tenencia para consumo personal, el 25 de agosto de 2009. Ayer, esa tendencia fue confirmada por una encuesta. **Página 26**

DESDE ADENTRO

Los empresarios ya imaginan en el poder al libertario

Florencia Donovan
— PARA LA NACION —

"Te dije ya en el verano que Milei tenía chances de ser presidente", le recordaba ayer entre sonrisas Cristiano Rattazzi al presidente de la Unión Industrial Argentina (UIA), Daniel Funes de Rioja. Ambos estaban en el auditorio del Hotel Alvear, en el marco del Council of the Americas. **Continúa en la página 19**

OPINIÓN

Diez lecciones de Brasil para la Argentina

Fabio Giambiagi
— PARA LA NACION —

La Argentina se dirige hacia elecciones muy importantes para el futuro; en estas líneas se trata de explicar qué se puede aprender de la experiencia que Brasil vivió entre 2019 y 2022, bajo la presidencia de un individuo estafalario (Jair Bolsonaro). Hay diez lecciones que es válido extraer de esos cuatro años. **Continúa en la página 29**

Desgarrado Barco, casi afuera

La revelación de Boca, lesionado en la pierna izquierda, no llegaría al desquite contra Racing. P.42



Ezeiza: una mujer intentó pasar 420 monedas de oro

Estadounidense, de 61 años, iba a Miami. Se las incautaron. P.39

Después del viaje de Massa a Washington

El Fondo reclama subir tarifas, reducir el gasto y que no se atrase el dólar

A menos de 24 horas del regreso del ministro de Economía, el FMI divulgó un comunicado sobre el acuerdo y las perspectivas del programa con la Argentina. Señala que "la situación económica se ha tornado cada vez más

complicada", y advierte por la "inflación elevada". Insiste en no dejar atrasar las tarifas ni el precio del dólar y tomar medidas para que el déficit no siga creciendo. También apuntó a jubilaciones y a los salarios estatales. P.20

Del Editor

Ignacio Miri

Una prevención que el Gobierno no tomó P.2

Brics El Gobierno propone entrar al grupo; Bullrich y Milei se oponen

POR LA INFLACIÓN DESBORDADA

Cuatro gremios fuertes logran subas de más del 60% por seis meses

Son Camioneros, Alimentación, Neumáticos y Metalúrgicos. Los Bancarios también está a punto de cerrar. Todos reclamaron una suma de apuro para compensar la pérdida de poder adquisitivo del salario por la disparada de los precios tras la devaluación. P.8



Cien dirigentes. En apoyo a Bullrich.

DEMOSTRACIÓN DE UNIDAD

Cambiamos cierra filas para la presidencial de octubre

Patricia Bullrich reunió a la primera plana de Juntos por el Cambio y los arengó a "salir a ganar" la elección. La escucharon, entre otros, candidatos como Néstor Grindetti, Jorge Macri y Rogelio Frigerio. P.12

MÁS SOSPECHAS SOBRE PUTIN

Creen que el jefe del grupo Wagner fue asesinado

Los servicios de inteligencia de Gran Bretaña y EE.UU. señalan que hubo una explosión en el avión que llevaba a Prigozhin y a seis de sus asesores. P.24



JUAN JOSE GARCIA

Carnicería. En Rosario intentaron ingresar, pero su dueño se defendió a balazos.

Rosario: el dueño de una carnicería resiste a tiros un saqueo

Ayer se registraron nuevos ataques a varios supermercados y comercios de otros rubros en Santa Fe capital y en Rosario. Las autoridades provinciales confirmaron que hubo al menos 11 detenidos por esos robos en masa. P.10

13,8% DE LA POBLACIÓN

Se duplicó en seis años el consumo de marihuana

Son estudios oficiales y contemplan tanto el uso recreativo como el medicinal. El porcentaje de consumidores es mayor entre los hombres y la edad promedio es de 19 años. La mayoría asocia el consumo de marihuana al

"placer y la curiosidad". El crecimiento en el consumo se hizo más fuerte durante el último año. También se mantiene alto el de alcohol: la mitad de los encuestados admitió haber bebido en el último mes. P.32

Humedad y temperaturas bajo cero: el desafío tras las lluvias

▶ Laguna de Aculeo recupera parte de su histórico nivel.

▶ Qué hacer con el edificio Kandinsky, al borde de un socavón.



La imagen de la laguna ubicada en la comuna de Paine es elocuente: a la izquierda, así lucía días antes del sistema frontal; a la derecha, su estado actual, este jueves 24 por la mañana.

LA TERCERA

Viernes 25 de agosto de 2023

Papel Digital
CIERRE
21.00
hrs.

4 POLÍTICA / 2 PULSO

Boric retoma diálogos por pensiones y pacto fiscal en citas con Demócratas, Amarillos y republicanos

▶ UDI y RN optan por enviar solo técnicos a reunión de ministro Marcel con partidos, y Hacienda evita dar fechas para proyectos tributarios.



35-36 MUNDO

Un misil, error de defensa aérea o sabotaje: las dudas sobre el "accidente" aéreo de Prigozhin

30 NACIONAL

Por qué el CDE tiene en la mira a la Fundación Democracia Viva

4 PULSO

Gonzalo Arriagada es el nuevo presidente de la Asociación de Isapres

3 PULSO

Expertos anticipan alzas de hasta \$ 60 en precios de bencinas desde octubre

52 Gastón Soublette obtiene el Premio Nacional de Humanidades



CULTO

13-14 POLÍTICA

Diputada Carmen Hertz y los 50 años del Golpe: "Habría esperado más del gobierno"



Tu iPhone ahora es tu Tarjeta Banco de Chile

Apple Pay es una forma fácil, segura y privada de pagar.

Infórmese sobre la garantía estatal de los depósitos en su banco o en www.cmfchile.cl



Más información en BANCOCHILE.CL

Repudio a pedido de datos de periodistas
Tras cuestionado oficio a los medios FGE habla de corrección interna

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

Se afianzó tras su paso por Petropar
Denis Lichi gastó "solo" G. 25 millones en su campaña para gobernador

PÁGINA 5

Cámara rechazó recusación a juez
Erico vuelve a sufrir un revés y hay vía libre para imposición de medidas

PÁGINA 8

No hay buses y las paradas son inseguras
Estudiantes, víctimas de asaltos durante espera nocturna de ómnibus

PÁGINA 17

COMPRA OPCIONAL
EL AVC DEL MARKETING DIGITAL
Libro: G. 80.000
LANZAMIENTO

Federico Santoro, prófugo en caso A Ultranza
Cae y dictan prisión para mano derecha de Maset vinculado al avión iraní

PÁGINA 40

Sabor agridulce tras reunión bilateral con argentinos

Hidrovia: Cancillería molesta por falta de palabra de ministros Massa y Giuliano

A la mañana prometieron a Peña suspender peaje y pagar a Yacyretá; a la noche se desdijeron. Hay malestar con los vecinos.

PÁGINAS 10 y 11

Olimpia cae, pero sigue vivo

Libertadores. El Decano perdió 2-0 ante Fluminense en el Maracanã y jugará la revancha el próximo jueves en el Defensores en cuartos de final.

EFE

PÁGINAS 47 y 48

NUEVA FORTUNER SR 4X2
770 USD
Financiación hasta 60 meses
ENTREGA INMEDIATA
*Cuota sujeta a entrega inicial. Consulte más planes de financiación.

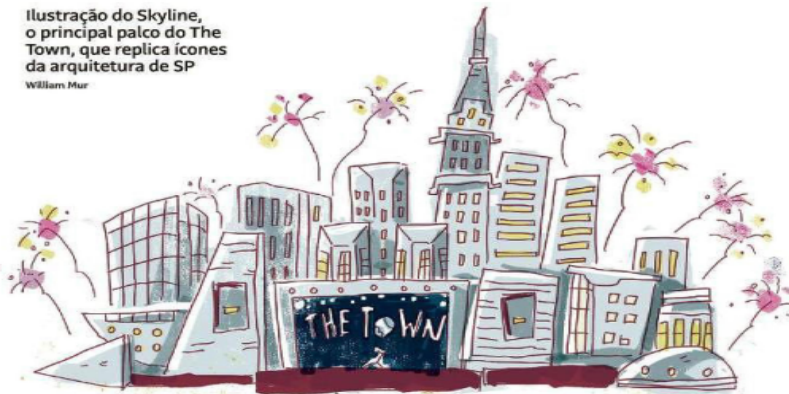
TOYOTOSHI
SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA
CONTIENE A
PETROBRAS LUBRAX
+595 21 6190000 WWW.TOYOTA.COM.PY
@TOYOTAPY TOYOTAPY

Entre facções e PM violenta, BA vive caos na segurança

Estado com maior número absoluto de mortes violentas desde 2019, a Bahia vive escalada na guerra entre facções e alta letalidade policial. A segurança é o principal gargalo dos 16 anos de gestões do PT. O atual chefe do Executivo, Jerônimo Rodrigues, que promete fechar o cerco ao crime, também ataca a imprensa, acena à PM e se diz "o governador dos direitos humanos". **Cotidiano B1**

Ilustração do Skyline, o principal palco do The Town, que replica ícones da arquitetura de SP

William Mur



Deputados debatem incluir municípios em desoneração

Medida proposta por líder da União Brasil coloca em xeque contas do governo sob novo arcabouço fiscal

O líder da União Brasil na Câmara, deputado Elmar Nascimento (BA), propôs ampliar para todo o país a redução da contribuição previdenciária paga por municípios sobre salários de servidores, o que põe em xeque as contas do governo.

O Senado inseriu no projeto de lei que prorroga até 2027 a desoneração da folha para empresas de 17 setores um dispositivo que estende o benefício a municípios com até 142,6 mil habitantes. O impacto projetado pela equipe econômica com isso é de R\$ 10 bilhões.

Segundo congressistas, como está a medida atinge 3.000 municípios, que concentram 40% da população.

Caso vá adiante a proposta de Elmar, todos os 5.568 municípios poderão lançar mão do recurso. Mesmo que o corte seja gradativo — dos atuais 20%, o valor diminuiria para entre 8% e 18% —, o efeito será multiplicado.

Aliado de Elmar, o presidente da Câmara, Arthur Lira (PP-AL), culpou o governo por não frear o problema no Senado. Segundo ele, a questão será debatida nesta semana. **Mercado A15**

IVC muda cálculo de assinaturas; Folha é líder em circulação

O Instituto Verificador de Comunicação mudou as regras para cálculo de assinaturas e passou a permitir contabilizar assinantes pagantes já existentes na base dos jornais. A Folha é líder na circulação paga total entre os veículos nacionais, com 796.088 exemplares pagos. **Mercado A21**

ilustrada especial the town

Festival em SP celebra a música e a cidade

Primeira edição do irmão paulistano do Rock in Rio, a partir do dia 2, terá mais de 235 horas de shows e Bruno Mars como estrela. **Págs. 1 a 12**

Esporte B7

Brasil tem caminho duro no Mundial de basquete, que dá vaga para Olimpíada

Ilustrada C1

Ex-BBB Juliette lança seu primeiro disco, 'Ciclone', e tenta se firmar na música

Guia C10

Plataforma Clube Folha Gourmet dá benefícios em 200 restaurantes e bares

Trump se entrega à Justiça, é fichado e sai sob fiança

Donald Trump se entregou ontem à Justiça na Geórgia, onde foi acusado de tentar mudar o resultado da eleição de 2020. Pela primeira vez um ex-presidente dos EUA foi fichado e fotografado numa prisão. Ele pagou fiança de US\$ 200 mil (quase R\$ 1 milhão) e foi solto. **Mundo A14**

Debate republicano tem negação de crise do clima
Sem Donald Trump, quem se destacou foi o filho de indianos Vivek Ramaswamy, 38, para quem o aquecimento global é fraude. **A14**

Líder de motim morto cometeu erros, diz Putin

Um dia após o anúncio da morte de Ievguêni Prigojin na queda de um avião, Vladimir Putin disse que ele "cometeu alguns erros sérios". Acusado por aliados do líder mercenário de envolvimento, Putin prometeu investigação. Especialistas dos EUA descartam ação de míssil. **Mundo A13**

ANÁLISE Igor Gielow

Xi infla o Brics com ditaduras e Estados falidos; Lula assiste

A cúpula da expansão do Brics foi um espetáculo de Xi, que busca ser o líder do autoproclamado Sul Global e agora vê convidados ao clube Irã e Arábia Saudita, arquirrivais que restabeleceram relações sob promoção da China, que visa a minar a influência dos EUA no Oriente Médio. **Mundo A11**



O ex-presidente Donald Trump é fotografado ao ser fichado em unidade prisional da Geórgia (EUA) Fulton County Sheriff's Office/Reuters

49% do esgoto no país é despejado sem tratamento

Apenas 51,2% da água consumida hoje no país recebe tratamento sanitário, segundo o "esgotômetro" do Instituto Trata Brasil. A porção sem tratar equivale ao despejo diário de 5.000 piscinas olímpicas de rejeitos que contaminam praias e áreas urbanas e trazem doenças. **Mercado A19**

Benesse a igrejas trava e esfria flerte evangélico de Lula

À espera de sinal verde do Planalto, projeto que amplia a imunidade tributária de templos parou há seis meses na Câmara e dificulta a aproximação de Lula (PT) com religiosos bolsonaristas. O autor, Marcelo Crivella (Republicanos-RJ), culpa o ministro Alexandre Padilha. **Política A4**

Jair Renan é alvo de operação policial

Polícia do DF cumpriu buscas contra filho '04' de Jair Bolsonaro por suposto esquema de estelionato. Defesa se diz surpresa. **A8**

Donos da 123milhas, em crise, dominam negócio bilionário

Mercado A26

Atendimentos por sinusite crescem mais de 90% no estado de SP

B4

EDITORIAIS A2

Brics+

Sobre ampliação do bloco de países emergentes.

Rusga ambiental

Acerca de exploração de petróleo no litoral do AP.

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



Fonte: www.climatempo.com.br

	Hoje	Amanhã
Rio	21° 27°	18° 23°
Brasília	19° 33°	18° 32°
Ribeirão	18° 34°	19° 32°



ISSN 1414-5733 3 4 4 7 7
9 771414572063

lefigaro.fr

LE FIGARO

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



ÉTATS-UNIS
DONALD TRUMP MET
EN SCÈNE SA COMPARUTION
EN GÉORGIE PAGE 8

TECH
INTELLIGENCE ARTIFICIELLE :
LA SAGA DE NVIDIA, NOUVEAU ROI
DES PUCES GRAPHIQUES PAGES 22 ET 23



L'été du FIGARO

**KATE MOSS :
MODE, SCANDALES
ET ROCK'N'ROLL**
LA MUSE,
LA MÈRE ET LA
MILLIONNAIRE
PAGE 14

**LE DÉCLIN DU RÊVE
CALIFORNIEN**
HOLLYWOOD
EN CRISE
PAGE 18

**L'HISTOIRE VRAIE
DES FAUSSAIRES
DE L'ART**
VAN MEEGEREN:
CELUI QUI A
ROULÉ GÖRING
DANS LA FARINE
PAGE 20

**LE PREMIER MÉTIER
DES ÉCRIVAINS**
KAFKA, UN
FONCTIONNAIRE
PUDIQUE
SUR SES
TOURMENTS
PAGE 25

JEUX D'ÉTÉ
PAGE 15

Russie, Ukraine, Afrique : ce que change la mort de Prigojine



Dans les opérations de désinformation comme sur les fronts ukrainien, syrien ou sahélien, le groupe Wagner offrait un puissant relais dont Vladimir Poutine cherche à reprendre le contrôle. PAGES 2 À 4 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

COMMERCE
Les Brics changent
de dimension
PAGE 24

**CHAMPS
LIBRES**
• Un entretien avec
Jonathan Siksou
• La tribune
Frédéric Douet
PAGE 19

**FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NON**
Réponses à la question
de jeudi :
Les Verts et LFI
doivent-ils
renoncer à inviter
le rappeur Médine ?
OUI 87% NON 13%
TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 104 308

**Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr**
Êtes-vous favorable à
une rentrée anticipée pour
les élèves en difficulté,
comme le propose
Emmanuel Macron ?
JOSEPH PREZIOSO/AFP - ANN WANG/
REUTERS - EMMANUEL DUNAND/AFP

Les oppositions sceptiques après la main tendue d'Emmanuel Macron

Invités à se réunir la semaine prochaine dans le cadre de « l'initiative politique » de rentrée du président, les chefs de parti évoquent déjà un « gadget politique » qui ne pourra déboucher sur rien de concret. La droite, notamment, attend avant tout des gages sérieux sur le projet de loi d'immigration, porté par Gérald Darmanin. PAGES 6 ET 7



Gabriel Attal confronté à l'explosion des attentes à la laïcité à l'école

Alors que le nombre de signalements a doublé en un an, le port de l'abaya, une robe islamique, est particulièrement concerné. Le ministre, qui devrait faire des annonces sur ce sujet dans les prochains jours, veut se montrer particulièrement « ferme ». « Nous devons faire bloc. Et nous allons faire bloc », a-t-il dit aux recteurs ce jeudi. PAGE 9

ÉDITORIAL par Philippe Gélie pgelie@lefigaro.fr

Le poutinisme illustré

Du président américain au citoyen russe lambda, personne ne se dit « surpris ». Dans la Russie de Vladimir Poutine, la mort brutale d'un « traître » désigné n'est qu'une question de temps. Pour Evgueni Prigojine et ses acolytes de la milice Wagner, tués mercredi soir dans un crash d'avion entre Moscou et Saint-Petersbourg, cela a mis deux mois, jour pour jour, après un coup de force militaire aux relents de putsch. Avec le chef du Kremlin, la rétribution semble calibrée en fonction de l'offense : le goulag pour les opposants politiques, le poison pour les transfuges, la chute mortelle ou le « suicide » pour les oligarques infidèles... Prigojine le soldat de fortune a eu droit, lui, à une mise en scène de guerre, son avion apparemment descendu par l'un de ses missiles antiaériens qu'il réclamait pour ses troupes. La dernière marque de son arrogance est d'avoir embarqué avec tout l'état-major de Wagner, comme s'il ne craignait rien de l'homme qu'il avait récemment humilié. C'était bien mal connaître celui qui l'avait pourtant enfanté. Les paramilitaires déployés de l'Ukraine à la Syrie, les laboratoires de manipulation et de désinformation digitale

chargés de déstabiliser l'Occident, le pillage des richesses minières en Afrique et même les juteux contrats pour alimenter les cantines de l'armée russe, c'est toute la direction de la multinationale mafieuse qui a été décapitée d'un coup. Pareille « aubaine » pourrait justifier à elle seule la patience du tsar. Mais le délai a surtout permis d'anticiper les conséquences : recycler les mercenaires, rassurer la clientèle africaine, reprendre le contrôle des activités lucratives sous d'autres faux nez... Le front russe en Ukraine, lui, a démontré ces derniers mois sa solidité sans les combattants de Wagner et les vociférations de leur chef. Prigojine illustre le poutinisme autant mort que vivant. Ses activités criminelles profitaient au maître du Kremlin sans l'impliquer personnellement. Sa disparition invite ceux qui se croient forts dans l'orbite du pouvoir à raser les murs. Mais que dit-elle d'un pays où un chef de milice est plus connu que le premier ministre (de qui s'agit-il, d'ailleurs?) et d'un régime qui en est réduit à dévorer ses propres membres? ■

**LE PLUS GRAND ESPACE
CANAPÉS-LITS À PARIS**
N°1 du couchage quotidien

Convertible Brighton
1990€ en 140

Canapé 3 places. Ouverture rapide (mécanisme Lampolet High), matelas 13 cm mousse HD 35 kg/m³, range-oreillers, fabriqué en Italie. tissu cat. 2 (95% polyester, 5% coton), L180 x P102 x H88 cm.

EspaceTopper®
Maison familiale depuis 1926
Plus de 40 modèles en exposition, à partir de 1390€
63 rue de la Convention Paris 15^e • 7J/7 • M° Boucicaud, 01 45 77 80 40
54 cours de Vincennes Paris 12^e • 7J/7 • M° Nation, 01 40 21 87 53
Canapés, literie, mobilier sur 3 000 m² : nos adresses sur www.topper.fr

M 00108 - 825 - F - 3,40 €

AND: 430 € - BEL: 350 € - CH: 440 FS - CZ: 785 CZK - D: 400 € - ESP: 430 € - GR: 380 € - LUX: 350 € - MAR: 37 DH - MTQ/PLP: 430 € - PORT-COMT: 420 € - REU: 450 € - TUN: 1100 TND ISMN 0182.5852

PLANO

Seniors struggle with housing costs

Some say city could do more to aid older adults living on fixed incomes

By MYAH TAYLOR
Staff Writer
myah.taylor@dallasnews.com

One night when Quintin Moses woke up for work, he couldn't move his right leg.

Moses had been wearing special boots for the last two years while working two security jobs. The boots, meant to help treat his deteriorating left ankle bones brought on by diabetes, strained Moses' back and caused nerve damage. He now uses a wheel-

chair. The 60-year-old has also been on dialysis for six years.

Many days, Moses and his wife worry about being evicted from their home.

Moses receives a \$1,729 disability check each month — the couple's only income. His wife lost two of her jobs because she had to care for her ailing husband and attend his medical appointments.

They live at Plano's The Savannah at Gateway development, a housing tax credit community for adults who are 55 and older. While his rent at the development is income-based, Moses said they have struggled to pay the \$1,300 monthly rate. He said a social



Jason Janik/Special Contributor

Quintin Moses and his wife worry about being evicted from their home in Plano. While their rent is income-based, Moses said they have struggled to pay the \$1,300 monthly rate.

worker at the Wellness Center for Older Adults in Plano paid two months' worth of their rent to preserve their stay at the apartment, which is close to where Moses re-

ceives dialysis treatment. "I don't know how I'm going to get my rent paid this month," said

See PLANO Page 7A

DALLAS COUNTY

Auditor resigns after issues

Months of payroll problems affect finances, new budget

By JOSEPHINE PETERSON
Staff Writer
josephine.peterson@dallasnews.com

The Dallas County auditor resigned after months of ongoing struggles within his office to pay employees and vendors, leaving the budget office scrambling to determine how much is left in the county's general fund.

Darryl Thomas gave his resignation Wednesday, County Commissioner Andrew Sommerman said.

District judges appoint the auditor. State District Judge Stephanie Huff, a presiding judge for the Dallas felony courts, did not respond to several requests for comment. Senior county officials say that district judges unanimously voted to give Thomas an ultimatum: resign or be fired after he requested a raise.

Thomas has been the auditor since 2015

See PAYROLL Page 6A



DARRYL THOMAS

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Smiley N. Pool/Staff Photographer

Honoring their fallen teammate

Friscio Heritage's Jiyere Cogshell (from left), Diego Gonzalez, Obi Udom and D'Andre Stephens carried the jersey of late teammate Landon Bourque as they walked to midfield for the coin toss before their game against W.T. White on Thursday. Bourque was killed when he was hit by a car while riding his bike on the first day of school. (Story, 1C)

Will school choice produce a seismic shift?

Debate stews over possible public-private power swap

By GREG RIDDLE
Staff Writer
gridle@dallasnews.com

As Texas high school football kicked off Thursday, coaches wrapped up weeks of hyper focus on finalizing depth charts, game planning and studying film. But this year, they've also found

themselves talking politics over pigskins at times.

Their biggest concern: Could a school voucher-like program, a priority of Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, enable private schools to become the kings of Texas athletics?

The governor is expected to call a special legislative session in October to consider school choice legislation. The one that had the most momentum in Texas is focused on education savings accounts, or

SportsDay/HS

ONLINE

FOLLOW your high school football team with live updates, scores and schedules. dallasnews.com/high-school-sports

ESAs. Those would give families public funds — possibly up to \$8,000 — to leave public schools and use taxpayer dollars on private

school tuition, home school supplies or other educational supplies.

Public school coaches have raised alarms about whether the system could result in less funding for sports in rural or less-wealthy districts, as well as a college-like transfer portal, with transfers already a rampant problem.

"Vouchers would have nothing but a negative impact on public

See OPINIONS Page 6A

BILLY CHEMIRMIR CASE

Collin County DA won't seek death penalty

He cites life sentences the killer was given in Dallas County in '22

By ISABELLA VOLMERT
Staff Writer
isabella.volmert@dallasnews.com

The Collin County district attorney's office announced Thursday it will not seek the death penalty for convicted murderer Billy Chemirmir, who has been accused of killing about two dozen elderly women and one man across North Texas.

Chemirmir, 50, was convicted last year in the 2018 slayings of two women and was given two life sentences by Dallas County juries. His attorney could not be immediately reached for comment.

"Billy Chemirmir is an evil person who preyed upon our most vulnerable citizens," Collin County District Attorney Greg Willis said in a written statement. "Although he is certainly deserving of a death sentence, my



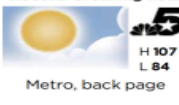
BILLY CHEMIRMIR

See CHEMIRMIR Page 4A

©2023, The Dallas Morning News



Record-breaking heat



Metro, back page

INSIDE	
Nation/World	4B
2-5A	Obituaries 9B
Opinion	8A Sports TV 2C
Editorial	9A
Business	3-5B
Autos	5B
Classified	5-6, 8B
GUIDE	
Dear Abby, Hor.	
Movies, Television,	
Comics and Puzzles	

GUIDE

FW Zoo's big cats
Visit the new Predators of Asia and Africa habitat.
FOOD: Maison Chinoise
GO SEE DFW: Pool parties for pooches

METRO

Policy tightened
The Texas Parks and Wildlife board voted to limit the ability to use eminent domain after the Fairfield Lake State Park issue. 1B

NATION & WORLD

Trump surrenders in Atlanta
Former President Donald Trump was booked in Atlanta on charges that he illegally schemed to overturn the 2020 election. His mug shot was taken for the first time. 4A



Switch to RBFCU

18-MONTH SUPERSAVER CERTIFICATE

4.65% APY

SOLID. SAFE. LOW-RISK.

Federally insured by NCUA

Membership eligibility required. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 8/2/23 and applies to only the 18-month SuperSaver Certificate. The APY for certificates assumes dividends are added back to the certificate. Subject to change without notice. Minimum initial deposit and minimum balance is \$1,000. Penalty for early withdrawal may reduce earnings.

Member since 1954

The Daily Telegraph

BRITAIN'S BEST QUALITY NEWSPAPER

He was a talented businessman... who made mistakes, says Putin

President breaks silence 24 hours after Wagner Group leader's jet is brought down

By James Crisp, Nataliya Vasilyeva and Ben Riley-Smith

VLADIMIR PUTIN said Yevgeny Prigozhin was a "talented businessman" who made "serious mistakes", as Western security sources warned that the Russian president had been emboldened by the apparent assassination of the Wagner Group leader.

Putin broke his silence almost 24 hours after Prigozhin's private jet was brought down by what was believed to be a bomb, killing the mercenary leader and his top deputies.

The West believes Putin ordered the killing, and yesterday a British security source said that the apparent assassination left the president with "a quasi private army at hand".

In a short speech from the Kremlin last night, Putin said Prigozhin had made a "great contribution" to the war in Ukraine. Putin added that an investigation into the crash was under way.

"I've known Prigozhin for a very long time - since the early 1990s," he said. "He was a man of difficult fate. He made serious mistakes in life but he also achieved results, both for himself and, when I asked him, for the common good, just like in recent months."

It came as Russian security sources and propagandists blamed Ukraine for the killing. Early US intelligence assessments have concluded that a bomb exploded on the private jet or that some other kind of sabotage caused the crash, which happened between Moscow and Saint Petersburg. Last night, the Pentagon said there was "no evidence to suggest" that a surface-to-air missile had brought down the plane.

Poland warned that Wagner could become more dangerous after the death of Prigozhin. Mateusz Morawiecki, the prime minister, said: "The Wagner Group comes under Putin's leadership. Let everyone answer the question for themselves - will the threat be bigger or



Vladimir Putin said that Yevgeny Prigozhin had made a 'great contribution' to the war in Ukraine; a Wagner mercenary lights a candle at a makeshift memorial in Siberia

smaller? For me, that's a rhetorical question." British sources agreed with the assessment. "The plus for Putin is he will feel emboldened and will now have a quasi-private army at hand," said one security source.

The source added that Sergei Surovi-

kin, the military chief dismissed by Putin on Monday, and Prigozhin were the only ones who told Putin the truth about the war in Ukraine.

But a second source said the apparent assassination also demonstrated Kremlin weakness, adding: "Ageing dictators

do two things. Firstly, they die. Secondly, they lash out because they realise their power is fading."

The downed plane was carrying Prigozhin's second in command, his logistics chief and six of his lieutenants as well as the 62-year-old warlord, who

was so close to the Russian leader that he was known as "Putin's chief".

Putin, who said those on board had "made a significant contribution" to the fighting in Ukraine, moved to shore up his global standing by addressing Brics leaders on the final day of their



summit. He was forced to do so by video link to avoid being detained under an international arrest warrant issued for war crimes.

Russia is keen to build the Brics group - which comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - into a more influential bloc able to challenge the West.

Putin said he was interested in deepening ties with Africa, which has suffered fuel and food price rises resulting from the war in Ukraine.

"The plus for Putin is he will feel emboldened and will now have a quasi-private army at hand"

Wagner mercenaries are active in Africa, from where Prigozhin recently posted a video.

Meanwhile, Jake Sullivan, the US National Security Adviser, held talks with his counterparts from France, Germany, Italy and the UK yesterday, at which they discussed ways to hold Russia accountable for the war.

"It is no coincidence that the whole world immediately looks at the Kremlin when a disgraced ex-confidant of Putin suddenly falls from the sky, two months after he attempted an uprising," said Annaletta Baerbock, the German foreign minister.

News outlets in Russia reported that investigators were focusing on a theory

Continued on Page 4

Reports: Pages 4-7

Rose West not de-banked as she posed 'little reputational risk'

By Katie Morley and Ben Wilkinson

SERIAL killer Rose West was allowed to keep her Co-op bank account, despite executives later deciding feminists should be barred from being customers, *The Daily Telegraph* can reveal.

The Co-operative Bank considered closing West's account during a review of customers with criminal records around a decade ago, it is understood. However, the murderer of 10 women

and girls was allowed to stay on as a customer despite the bank later declining services to a feminist group over its views on transgender issues, and other banks closing accounts belonging to politicians, such as Brexiters Nigel Farage, over reputational fears.

Bosses at the Co-op, which has the slogan "Ethical then, now and always", deemed keeping West as a customer carried little risk to the bank's reputation, it is understood. The review came

after the bank was embroiled in a scandal in 2013 when its former chairman Paul Flowers, a Methodist minister who led the bank for three years, was filmed buying and using illegal drugs including crystal meth and crack cocaine.

A banking insider told *The Telegraph* that Co-op Bank decided that closing West's account would cause problems for her daughter, who was the main user. West, now 69, was jailed for life in 1995 for 10 murders she committed in

Gloucester with her husband Fred, who killed himself before the trial.

The news comes after Coutts closed Mr Farage's account after producing a 40-page dossier on his political views detailing the "significant reputational risks of being associated with him". The documents said Mr Farage's views were "at odds with our position as an inclusive organisation".

Mr Farage said: "In 2023 my sins are considered by the banking industry to

be more serious than the acts of serial killers like Rose West. I, of course, do not align with the thinking of the bank, on net zero policies, transgenderism, and much else. That's why this business of closing accounts on the basis of "reputational risk" is highly political.

"Everybody should have a basic right to a bank account, and there are some exceptions to that, but not very many."

The Co-op Bank's boycott of the unnamed feminist group was revealed

in its 2017 "Values and Ethics Report". The bank claimed the group had "actively declined the rights of members of the transgender community".

At the time Co-op Bank said: "We gave the organisation an opportunity to provide clarification on their position relating to diversity and equality and how they comply with the UK Equality Act." A Co-op Bank spokesman said: "We would not discuss individual customer account details."

INSIDE

Puzzles 16

Obituaries 25

TV listings 27

Weather 29

NEWS

Pay-offs doubled for MPs who lose seats

Golden goodbyes are being doubled for MPs who lose their seats at the next general election, *The Daily Telegraph* can reveal. Parliamentarians who are voted out or decide not to stand are in line for a £17,300 pay-off following a rule change brought in by the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority. The new amount is twice the £8,600 they were previously entitled to, with the taxpayer set to be stung for millions of pounds more in farewell payments.

Page 2

NEWS

The appendix might trigger Parkinson's

Parkinson's disease may start in the appendix, scientists have suggested, after a study found people who have had an appendectomy were at lower risk of developing the condition. Experts at the Mayo Clinic in the US studied nearly 25,000 Parkinson's patients and compared them against a healthy control group. In research published in the *BMJ* journal *Gut* they found that people who had had their appendix removed were 52 per cent less likely to develop the disease.

Page 8

NEWS

Asylum backlogs cost taxpayer record £4bn

The UK's asylum backlog has hit a record high of more than 175,000 migrants waiting for a decision at a cost of £3.97 billion a year, figures show. The number of asylum seekers awaiting a decision has risen by 44 per cent from 122,213 in the year ending June 2022 to 175,457 in June 2023. It surpasses the previous record high when Sir Tony Blair's government faced a migration crisis with a backlog of 125,100 asylum seekers awaiting a decision in 1999.

Page 10

WORLD

Trump 'will avoid all Republican debates'

Donald Trump intends to skip all the Republican primary debates and will only go head-to-head with Joe Biden, the former president's aides have revealed. As the overwhelming frontrunner in the Republican race, the 77-year-old considers himself the undisputed "leader of the party", his allies said. He believes any Republican debates that happen without him "don't mean anything" and is therefore unwilling to give oxygen to his rivals on the main stage.

Page 13



AUDEMARS PIGUET
Le Brassus

SEEK BEYOND

CODE 11 59
BY AUDEMARS PIGUET
STARWHEEL

The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2023

Residents blast Mass. Ave. proposal

Wu seeks South End temporary shelter to ease nearby housing, opioid crises

By Danny McDonald

GLOBE STAFF

A new plan by the Wu administration to remove homeless people from the streets in the Mass. and Cass area by opening a "safe sleeping space" nearby is being met with stiff opposition from South End residents who

fear such a move would push the chaos of the open air illicit drug market into their neighborhood.

The shelter initiative is part of a new strategy by city officials to respond to the myriad public health and quality-of-life problems in the area around Massachusetts Avenue

and Melnea Cass Boulevard, the city's top public health official said during a virtual meeting Tuesday with the South End Forum, an umbrella organization for neighborhood groups.

Some of the measures announced in the meeting include closing down Atkinson Street, where scores of people gather daily to use and sell drugs, as well as filing an ordinance to make it easier for

police to remove tents from sidewalks and streets. Encampments continue to pop up around Mass. and Cass, with ramshackle shelters offering a reprieve from the elements for homeless people while providing a space concealed from police for opioid and sex trades.

It was unclear what would be involved in closing down the street; a spokesperson for Mayor Michelle

MASS. AND CASS, Page A6

TRUMP SURRENDERS TO GA. AUTHORITIES



ALEX BRANDON/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald J. Trump was booked on charges he attempted to illegally overturn the 2020 election results in Georgia. The quick booking yielded a historic first: a mug shot of a former American president. **A2.**

Another season, another T closure

Eng says 16 days of work will ease Red Line woes

By Daniel Kool

GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

The MBTA will suspend service on the Red Line's Ashmont branch and Mattapan Line for more than two weeks in October to repair tracks and speed up trains, general manager Phillip Eng announced Thursday, in the latest effort to improve service on the beleaguered system.

But, the T chief promised, it won't be déjà vu for riders who remember the debacle last year when the agency closed the Orange Line for repairs, only to result in slower service.

Eng said the plan is: "Get in, get it done, and get out."

Free shuttle buses will replace train and trolley service south of JFK/UMass Station from Oct. 14 to 29 while crews work to alleviate dozens of speed restrictions, the T said. Service along the Braintree branch and from JFK/UMass through downtown and north to Alewife will not be affected.

The closure will, however, affect more than five miles of rail, covering 11 stations, complicating commutes for tens of thousands of riders.

"After the end of these 16 days, the T intends to give our riders back that safe, reliable

RED LINE, Page A6

Evidence suggests an explosion brought down a plane, killing Russian mercenary leader Yevgeny Prigozhin, according to US officials. **A3.**

Wisconsin police are investigating a New Jersey lawyer who is accused of committing a series of rapes in Boston more than a decade ago. **B1.**

The Boston Police Department agreed to clear out its public records backlog, settling a case with a civil rights group. **B1.**



Thunder road

Friday: Heavy rain, storms. High 70-75, low 65-70.

Saturday: Lingering showers. High 76-81, low 61-66.

High tide: 6:10, 6:26.

Sunrise: 6:02. Sunset: 7:30.

Weather and comics, **G6-7.**

Obituaries, **C9.**

VOL. 304, NO. 56

Suggested retail price \$3.50



A return to its quirky, queer glory

One of the last of Provincetown's grand, old inns, Gifford House has a new local owner with vision and vigor



Steve Azar (below) has recently bought the Gifford House and is renovating its rooms and common areas. At top, Momma JC, a receptionist at the Gifford House, took a break on the inn's porch.



PHOTOS BY VINCENT ALBAN FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

'When the owners are on-site, they're part of the town's fabric.'

JOHN DOWD, chair of the Provincetown Historic District Commission

By Christopher Muther

GLOBE STAFF

PROVINCETOWN — The 165-year-old Gifford House has hosted four US presidents, housed an experimental theater company where a young Al Pacino launched his ascent to stardom, and, in more recent decades, been a staple of Provincetown's raucous LGBTQ+ nightlife scene.

But by the summer of 2022, the grand 33-room inn appeared to be on life support.

Guest rooms had yet to enter the 21st century. Chunky cathode-ray tube televisions sat on outdated furniture. The water-stained drop ceiling

tiles, along with old mattresses that had endured decades of summer trysts, were evidence that the Gifford was nearing the end of an era. In addition to its guest rooms, the Gifford House's three bars, long an essential part of Provincetown's social ecosystem, had collapsed into a decaying and moribund state.

The inn's 73-year-old owner, Jim Foss, who still recorded reservations with pen and paper, was holding out for the right buyer, and for Foss, the right buyer was not a corporation or hotel chain.

Several of Provincetown's beloved, independently owned inns,

GIFFORD HOUSE, Page A7

Agency vows to fix flaws in police data

Reform advocates, union criticize disciplinary list

By Sean Cotter

GLOBE STAFF

The criticism came just as swift as the praise. Not 24 hours after the new Massachusetts police-watchdog agency released for the first time a statewide database of thousands of officer disciplinary complaints, it admitted the eagerly awaited list had gaps, errors, and major omissions.

At least three of the police departments in larger cities and towns around Boston were omitted from the database released Tuesday by the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training, or POST, Commission. The commission acknowledged that a database error left Cambridge and Everett police off of the list, even though the two departments submitted officer disciplinary records as requested.

Further, officials with Brookline Police Department, whose former chief was fired last year over sexual harassment allegations, also said it sent information that was left out.

"We always anticipated that there would be some corrections," POST executive director Enrique Zuniga said in an interview Wednesday, when complaints and issues began to surface. "I did not quite anticipate that two big agencies like Everett or Cambridge would have fallen through the cracks, but the idea is to continue to improve."

The database was the largest public action by the commission, which was created in 2020 by a landmark police reform law passed in the wake

POST, Page A7

Community college students, officials hail state relief aid

New program covers most of costs for older residents

By Hilary Burns

GLOBE STAFF

Thomas Kendall's plans for college and a career in health care were derailed in 2019 when he crashed his car into a tree while driving under the influence. The incident was a "devastating" setback that prompted Kendall, now 26, to take retail and restaurant jobs to cover his living expenses and bills for several years, through the COVID-19 pandemic.

His goal of furthering his education and pursuing a career in health care remained, but he worried about taking on the added expense of college.

Recently, Kendall who is from Harwich and graduated from Cape Cod Technical High School, received news that brought him hope about his future for the first time in years — he is eligible for a new state program that will cover the cost of tuition, fees, and books for a degree in health care from Cape Cod Community College.

"There's just a massive weight lifted off of me

COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Page B4

The new program this year earmarked **\$20 million** to cover community college costs for residents over 25 who have not earned a degree or certificate. The budget includes **\$18 million** more for students pursuing nursing degrees at those colleges.



In today's paper
NATION: Mark Meadows, left, the former chief of staff for Donald Trump, is booked in Georgia election-interference case, 5A

Set up your **free** access
 Never miss a story. Set up the free digital access available with your subscription today.
 miamiherald.com/activate

VOLUME 120, No. 345
 STAY CONNECTED MIAMIHERALD.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/MIAMIHERALD
 TWITTER.COM/MIAMIHERALD

WINNER OF 24
 PULITZER PRIZES

FRIDAY AUGUST 25 2023
 SATURDAY AUGUST 26 2023

\$3.00

Miami Herald

'You don't have a plan to stop' gangs? Kenya's proposal for Haiti draws scorn

BY JACQUELINE CHARLES
 jcharles@miamiherald.com

Haitian police, government officials and some members of the foreign diplomatic corps have been hoping that an offer by Kenya to lead an international intervention into a

troubled Haiti would mean thousands of additional cops helping to fight heavily armed kidnapping gangs.

Instead, however, the proposal is shaping up as an offer to protect key government infrastructure such as the airport, seaports and main roads. Critics say the plan will fail.

"Most of the critical infrastructures they were quoting are in the hands of the gangs. Before protecting this critical infrastructure, you have to first take them back," a diplomatic source told the Miami Herald.

The "static protection force," which one Haiti

security expert calls "not effective," was presented by a 10-member security-assessment team headed by Ambassador George Orina, the general director of Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The team met Monday with members of the Haitian government, Haiti National Police brass,

foreign diplomats and the special representative of the U.N. secretary-general inside a hotel room not far from Port-au-Prince's international airport.

The delegation — which was under the protection of the U.S. and accompanied by more than a dozen U.S. State Department person-

nel — departed Wednesday after two days of meetings.

What is emerging, according to several people who spoke to the Miami Herald on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak, is not what some Haitian government ministers envisioned when they agreed in October to appeal for the international community's help.

Sources told the Herald that during the Port-au-Prince conversations, the Kenyans gave no commit-

SEE HAITI, 4A



Former Seaquarium chief trainer Marni Wood performs with Tokitae, also known as Toki and Lolita, at the Miami Seaquarium. Lolita died last Friday at the venue. 'What breaks my heart is that Toki died surrounded by strangers,' Wood said.

'She deserved better' Lolita's ex-vets and trainers criticize care; Seaquarium defends it

BY LINDA ROBERTSON
 lrobertson@miamiherald.com

Lolita's former veterinarians and trainers say inadequate care of the 57-year-old orca might have contributed to her death at the Miami Seaquarium, although Seaquarium officials say she had been receiving top care until the end.

Lolita, known by her Na-

tive American name of Tokitae and nickname of Toki, died Friday from kidney failure.

The 7,000-pound killer whale had been Seaquarium's main attraction for more than half a century, performing jumps and tricks and splashing Whale Bowl spectators. Toki stopped doing shows in late 2021 when she became severely ill

MORE INSIDE
 Push to send Lolita's remains home to the Pacific continues, 7A

with pneumonia. She was retired in 2022 but remained in her 20-foot-deep tank with her dolphin companion Li'i while the Whale Bowl was declared unsafe and closed to the public.

"We've been saying for a long time they're going to kill her at Seaquarium," said Dr. Jenna Wallace, a former Seaquarium vet. "We've been fighting so hard to get her the best treatment and get her out of there, but nobody listened. It shouldn't have ended like this. She deserved better."

SEE LOLITA, 6A

Why didn't cops give DUI test after boat crash that killed girl?

BY DAVID GOODHUE
 dgoodhue@flkeysnews.com

When police arrived at a Labor Day weekend boat crash in Biscayne Bay, they found a capsized craft and more than a dozen people tossed into the water. A day later, they found more than 60 empty containers of booze on the wrecked boat.

At the scene on the water, state investigators didn't give the boat driver a drunk-driving test. They say they didn't have probable cause to do so because he didn't seem impaired.

That is typical protocol on the water, just like it is with car crashes on the road: It's up to cops to determine if there is a reason to test.

The head of the state agency that investigated the 2022 Labor Day weekend crash, which killed a teen girl and seriously injured another, defends the inquiry, as do state prosecutors.

The investigation finished this month and led to minor charges for the vessel's operator, prominent Miami real estate broker George Pino.

The families of the two girls most affected by the Sept. 4, 2022, crash — Luciana Fernandez, who died in a hospital the day after at the age of 17, and Katerina Puig, the now-18-year-old left with life-altering injuries — criticized the investigation after the final report was released this month, saying the charges amounted to a wrist slap for Pino.

Rodney Barreto, commissioner of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, said in an email to the Mia-

SEE BOAT, 2A

Florida school 'segregated' Black kids for talk on test scores, parents say

BY TIMOTHY BELLA
 The Washington Post

Black students at a Florida elementary school were singled out and pulled from class for an assembly about how it was a "problem" that they had performed poorly on their standardized tests, school district officials said

Wednesday. Only Black fourth- and fifth-grade students at Bunnell Elementary School in Flagler County were taken out of class on Friday for the assembly on how to improve their grades — even if the students had passing grades. Students were selected to attend based on their race, Flagler Schools spokesman

Jason Wheeler told The Washington Post on Wednesday. The students were shown a typo-laden PowerPoint presentation titled, "AA Presentation," which noted how Black students had underperformed on standardized tests for the past three years. On the slide titled "The Problem," the school district identi-

fied Black students as "AA," or African Americans, in its assessment of their low math and language-arts scores, according to the presentation obtained by The Post. The incident has drawn backlash from parents who were not alerted about an event that had "segregated" their 9- and 10-year-olds. Some say their

children were told in the assembly that they could end up dead or in jail if they did not do well on their upcoming tests. "It told my child that she was not good enough," Jacinda Arrington told WOFL, a Fox affiliate in Orlando. "The color of your skin means that you are not good enough, when, in fact, she's one of the smartest kids in her class."

Another parent, Alexis Smith, told WFTV, an ABC affiliate in Orlando, that her son was panicking after the assembly. She said he

asked her, "So I'm going to die, I'm going to get shot, I'm going to go to jail if I don't do right?"

The district is investigating how Black students were the only group that attended an event aimed at encouraging improvement in test scores. As an incentive, the students were served meals from McDonald's, Flagler Interim Superintendent LaShakia Moore said in a statement.

"While the desire to help this particular subgroup of students is to be commended, how this was done does

SEE SCHOOL, 2A

We're committed to providing the essential journalism you need. Find the content important to you inside. Subscribers can find an additional 50+ pages each day by going to miamiherald.com/edition/extraextra or by scanning the code to the left.



CUSTOMER SERVICE
 800-843-4372
 miamiherald.com/customer-service

Partly sunny with showers around 92°/78° See 18A



Do believe the hype

Today's big names on 50 years of hip-hop

Film & Music G2



Mary Queen of Shirts Nike in U-turn over World Cup jersey

News



Friday
25 August 2023
£2.80
From £2.03 for subscribers

The Guardian

Newspaper of the year

US says bomb most likely cause of Prigozhin crash

Alarm over record gap in north-south GCSE grades

Richard Adams
Sally Weale

The largest gap on record between top GCSE grades awarded to pupils in London and those in the north-east has prompted warnings of a "continuing widening" in England's north-south education divide.

The extent of the gaps prompted school leaders in the north-east to accuse the government of "London-centric" policies, while Labour said it showed that "levelling up is dead and buried".

The GCSE results for England showed that more than 28% of entries by pupils in London were awarded grades 7 or higher, equivalent to an A or A*, compared with just under 18% of entries from pupils in the north-east.

The gap in top grades between the two regions of more than 10 percentage points was wider than the pre-pandemic gap up to 2019 and the largest since the numerical grading system for GCSEs was introduced in 2014.

Schools North East, which represents more than 1,000 state schools in the region, said the results were evidence of "the disproportionate impact of the pandemic, and the failure of government 'catch-up' policies to impact on the most deprived regions", **6** →



Putin points to Wagner chief's 'serious mistakes' as he confirms death

Pjotr Sauer
Andrew Roth
Julian Borger *Washington*

Vladimir Putin has confirmed the death of Yevgeny Prigozhin, saying the Wagner chief made "some serious mistakes" and met with a "difficult fate", as speculation grew that his plane was brought down by a bomb after it left Moscow.

US and western officials said it was likely that an intentional explosion had brought down the plane, which

crashed into a field 185 miles north of the Russian capital.

"A definitive conclusion has not been reached, but an explosion is the leading theory of what caused the plane to crash in a field between Moscow and St Petersburg," the New York Times quoted the officials as saying. "The explosion could have been caused by a bomb or other device planted on the aircraft," they said.

The Pentagon said the US believed Prigozhin had been killed but did not give any specifics other than to deny the plane had been hit by a surface-to-air missile.

"Our initial assessment is that it's likely Prigozhin was killed," the spokesman Brig Gen Patrick Ryder said. "We're continuing to assess the situation. We don't have any

▲ A makeshift memorial to Yevgeny Prigozhin in Moscow. Vladimir Putin said he met with a 'difficult fate'

PHOTOGRAPH: REUTERS

information to indicate right now the press reporting stating that there was some type of surface to air missile that took down the plane. We assess that information to be inaccurate."

In a meeting at the Kremlin, Putin addressed Wednesday's crash of Prigozhin's business jet for the first time, offering "sincere condolences" to the families of the 10 people on board, including Prigozhin.

"I have known Prigozhin for a long time, since the 1990s. He made some serious mistakes in life, but he also achieved the necessary results for himself but also for the greater good

when I asked him. He was a talented man, a talented businessman," the Russian leader said, speaking about the warlord in the past tense.

Putin added that Prigozhin's Wagner group "made a significant contribution to the fight against nazism in Ukraine".

"We remember this, know this, and won't forget it," he said. He said that Russian investigators would pursue the investigation into the crash "to the end".

Earlier yesterday, Joe Biden strongly suggested Putin's involvement in Prigozhin's death. "I don't know for a fact what happened, but I'm not surprised," the US president said after a briefing on the crash. "There's not much that happens in Russia that **10** →

'I want to win more' Gold not enough for Josh Kerr

News Page 15 →



9 770261 307255

34



CULTURA A vueltas con la rumba: ¿catalana o española? P23

MÚSICA Gardiner cancela un concierto al saberse que golpeó a un cantante P24



Rubiales presenta hoy su dimisión por el escándalo de sus abusos

El presidente de la federación de fútbol renuncia tras perder apoyos y ser expedientado por la FIFA

LADISLAO J. MOÑINO, Madrid
Luis Rubiales comunicó ayer a su círculo de confianza que prevé presentar hoy su dimisión como presidente de la Real Federación Española de Fútbol. El directivo,

que había convocado una asamblea extraordinaria para hoy con la intención de recabar su respaldo, se dio cuenta de la pérdida de apoyos. La renuncia se producirá tras cinco días de escándalo por su comportamiento en la final del Mundial femenino en Sidney el domingo, cuando besó en la boca sin su consentimiento a la jugadora Jenni Hermoso e hizo gestos obscenos en el palco junto a la Reina. El último revés para él fue la apertura de un expediente disciplinario por parte de la FIFA, que organiza el Mundial, por considerar que su conducta viola dos artículos de su normativa. El miércoles Jenni Hermoso pidió, a través del sindicato Futpro, que se adopten "medidas ejemplares" por estos hechos.

Rubiales ya estaba acorralado por la presión desde el Gobierno. El Consejo Superior de Deportes (CSD) había recibido tres denuncias contra él, y se dispone a iniciar un proceso que llevaría a su inhabilitación. PÁGINAS 29 Y 30

La federación, en manos de una gestora hasta las elecciones de 2024

La lenta y tímida reacción del fútbol español

EDITORIAL

La dimisión de Rubiales

PÁGINA 8

El PSOE acusa al PP de buscar tráfugas para la investidura

V. MARTÍNEZ / J. MARCOS, Madrid
El PSOE calificó de "llamamiento al transfuguismo" la insistencia del PP en recabar apoyos entre los socialistas para la investidura de Alberto Núñez Feijóo. Borja Sémper, portavoz del PP, apeló ayer a los socialistas "incómodos" con la gestión de Pedro Sánchez, y a la vez defendió que sería "edificante" un acuerdo entre los dos partidos para una "agenda transformadora". PÁGINAS 12 A 16



JAVIER ETXEZARRETA (EFE)

Póker de oro español en la marcha de los Mundiales

María Pérez, de 27 años, y Álvaro Martín, de 29, se proclamaron ayer campeones del mundo de 35 kilómetros marcha pocos días después de haber logrado también el oro en los 20 kilómetros en los Mundia-

les de atletismo que se celebran en Budapest (Hungría). Ningún país del mundo había logrado ganar las cuatro pruebas en la misma edición ni en los Juegos Olímpicos ni en los Mundiales. PÁGINA 34

EE UU cree que una explosión derribó el avión de Prigozhin

La inteligencia de Washington y expertos rusos descartan un ataque con misil como la causa del siniestro que mató a la cúpula de Wagner

JAVIER G. CUESTA, Moscú
Durante 32 segundos, el avión en que viajaba Yevgueni Prigozhin, el jefe de Wagner, ascendió y descendió violentamente, prácticamente vertical, en el siniestro que mató a 10 personas, entre ellos la

cúpula del grupo mercenario en Rusia. La inteligencia de EE UU apunta, en sus análisis preliminares, a una explosión como la causa del derribo, y descarta que fuera por el impacto de un misil tierra-aire, como dijo el entorno de

Wagner. Lo que no se excluye es una bomba a bordo o un sabotaje. Expertos citados por medios rusos señalan que la explosión debió producirse en la sección de cola del avión, que se desprendió antes del impacto. PÁGINAS 2 Y 3

Suscríbete para leer sin límites toda la actualidad en materia de educación



EL PAÍS

Los BRICS ganan peso en el orden mundial al admitir a seis países

Los emergentes incorporan a Irán, Arabia Saudí, Emiratos, Argentina, Egipto y Etiopía

JOSÉ NARANJO, Dakar
El grupo de economías emergentes conocido como BRICS gana protagonismo como contrapeso en el actual orden mundial tras aprobar ayer la incorporación de seis nuevos países a partir del 1 de enero de 2024. En la cumbre

que se ha celebrado esta semana en Johannesburgo, los BRICS —Brasil, Rusia, la India, China y Sudáfrica— han invitado, no sin discrepancias, a Argentina, Egipto, Irán, Etiopía, Arabia Saudí y Emiratos Árabes Unidos a sumarse a sus filas. PÁGINA 4