U.S. News: New Drugs Alter the Debate on the Cause of Obesity

McKay, Betsy . McKay, Betsy.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Ozempic and similar drugs are transforming the world's understanding of obesity. It isn't so much about willpower: It's about biology.

The success of the powerful new class of diabetes and weight-loss drugs shows how important chemistry is to determining a person's weight. The brain is the body's chief chemist, regulating appetite and making it difficult for many people to shed pounds and keep them off. The brain determines how much fat it wants people to carry, according to years of research bolstered by the new drugs.

The amount is like a setting on a dial, or what many researchers call a "set point" or "defended fat mass." The brain maintains the dial setting or set point by regulating how much a person eats. Ozempic, its sister drug Wegovy and another, Mounjaro, lower the dial setting, or set point, in effect by acting on the brain to reduce hunger and make a person feel full sooner, some obesity researchers said.

The new set point lasts as long as a patient is on the drug, they said. Patients who ate a lot before they started taking one of the drugs feel less hungry and fill up more quickly -- sometimes after one slice of pizza when they once ate the whole pie.

"This is not about willpower or personal choice," said Dr. Florencia Halperin, an endocrinologist and chief medical officer of Form, a virtual medical weight-loss clinic. "This is about your brain driving behaviors."

The drugs and their insights into biology have arrived at a precarious point in the losing battle against obesity. Although people in the U.S. spend billions of dollars a year to shed pounds, growing numbers are overweight. Nearly 42% of U.S. adults have obesity, according to thelatest government statistics, up from 31% in 1999. So do one in fivechildren.

People with obesity are more likely to develop heart disease, stroke and diabetes. Treating them is driving more than $170 billion in yearly costs. Wegovy has been shown to reduce cardiovascular risk, and Mounjaro is being studied for additional health benefits.

The new medicines have put some long-held assumptions about weight and health on the chopping block. "What these drugs have proven is that patients are right: It's not their fault," said Dr. Louis Aronne, an obesity treatment specialist and professor of metabolic research at Weill Cornell Medical College.

Jon Weisman was about 300 pounds, prediabetic and at risk of heart disease when he sought help in 2020. The 46-year-old, who works in mortgage banking and real estate in Boston, had tried restricting food but always then felt hungrier.

He went back on an earlier-generation weight-loss drug, Saxenda. He lost about 30 pounds, but then hit a plateau. In September 2021 Dr. Halperin prescribed Wegovy. His hunger quickly abated.

He reached his goal of 180 pounds a couple of months ago, and is staying on the drug. "This is something I am going to have to have treated for the rest of my life," he said.

The obesity epidemic is a product of forces, old and new, that have collided: human biology shaped over millennia of struggle to find sustenance; lives that are largely lived sitting down; and the abundance of cheap, processed foods. Potato chips, soda and other cheap processed foods are a big culprit because they are high in calories, sugar, salt and fat, and they are hard to put down, studies suggest. For some people, high-calorie foods are especially problematic.

At least 1,500 genes are linked with weight. Some people are genetically predisposed to gain weight, depending on the combinations of variants in those genes, said Ruth Loos, a professor focused on the genetics of obesity at the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Metabolic Research at the University of Copenhagen and at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

The brain sends hunger signals when a person needs fuel to reach or maintain their set point and signals a sense of fullness when they reach or exceed it. The set point isn't set: It changes throughout a person's lifetime. Babies lose body fat. Women gain weight during pregnancy and menopause.

In a person with obesity, however, the set-point system has gotten out of whack, said Dr. Lee Kaplan, director of the Obesity and Metabolism Institute in Boston. The body-fat dial moves to a new higher set point.Obesity causes overeating, rather than the other way around, Kaplan said.

The new drugs are based on a hormonecalled glucagon-like peptide 1, or GLP-1, secreted primarily in the lining of the gut in response to food, and in the brain.

The medications essentially lower the set point by activating GLP-1 receptors in the hypothalamus and brain stem that regulate weight and appetite, said Randy Seeley, a professor of surgery and director of the Michigan Nutrition Obesity Research Center at the University of Michigan. The drugs also indirectly reach neurons in parts of the brain involved in reward sensations and impulse control.

(See related letters: "Letters to the Editor: Behind the Explosion of Obesity in America" -- WSJ Aug. 24, 2023)

Credit: By Betsy McKay

DETAILS

Subject:	Drugs; Cardiovascular disease; Hunger; Diabetes; Biology; Metabolism; Brain research; Obesity
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850660095
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-new-drugs-alter-debate-on-cause-obesity/docview/2850660095/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: New Drugs Alter the Debate on Cause of Obesity

McKay, Betsy . McKay, Betsy.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Ozempic and similar drugs are transforming the world's understanding of obesity. It isn't so much about willpower: It's about biology.

The success of the powerful new class of diabetes and weight-loss drugs shows how important chemistry is to determining a person's weight. The brain is the body's chief chemist, regulating appetite and making it difficult for many people to shed pounds and keep them off. The brain determines how much fat it wants people to carry, according to years of research bolstered by the new drugs.

The amount is like a setting on a dial, or what many researchers call a "set point" or "defended fat mass." The brain maintains the dial setting or set point by regulating how much a person eats. Ozempic, its sister drug Wegovy and another, Mounjaro, lower the dial setting, or set point, in effect by acting on the brain to reduce hunger and make a person feel full sooner, some obesity researchers said.

The new set point lasts as long as a patient is on the drug, they said. Patients who ate a lot before they started taking one of the drugs feel less hungry and fill up more quickly -- sometimes after one slice of pizza when they once ate the whole pie.

"This is not about willpower or personal choice," said Dr. Florencia Halperin, an endocrinologist and chief medical officer of Form, a virtual medical weight-loss clinic. "This is about your brain driving behaviors."

The drugs and their insights into biology have arrived at a precarious point in the losing battle against obesity. Although people in the U.S. spend billions of dollars a year to shed pounds, growing numbers are overweight. Nearly

42% of U.S. adults have obesity, according to thelatest government statistics, up from 31% in 1999. So do one in fivechildren.
People with obesity are more likely to develop heart disease, stroke and diabetes. Treating them is driving more than $170 billion in yearly costs. Wegovy has been shown to reduce cardiovascular risk, and Mounjaro is being studied for additional health benefits.
The new medicines have put some long-held assumptions about weight and health on the chopping block. "What these drugs have proven is that patients are right: It's not their fault," said Dr. Louis Aronne, an obesity treatment specialist and professor of metabolic research at Weill Cornell Medical College.
Jon Weisman was about 300 pounds, prediabetic and at risk of heart disease when he sought help in 2020. The 46-year-old, who works in mortgage banking and real estate in Boston, had tried restricting food but always then felt hungrier.
He went back on an earlier-generation weight-loss drug, Saxenda. He lost about 30 pounds, but then hit a plateau.
In September 2021 Dr. Halperin prescribed Wegovy. His hunger quickly abated.
He reached his goal of 180 pounds a couple of months ago, and is staying on the drug. "This is something I am going to have to have treated for the rest of my life," he said.
The obesity epidemic is a product of forces, old and new, that have collided: human biology shaped over millennia of struggle to find sustenance; lives that are largely lived sitting down; and the abundance of cheap, processed foods.
Potato chips, soda and other cheap processed foods are a big culprit because they are high in calories, sugar, salt and fat, and they are hard to put down, studies suggest. For some people, high-calorie foods are especially problematic.
At least 1,500 genes are linked with weight. Some people are genetically predisposed to gain weight, depending on the combinations of variants in those genes, said Ruth Loos, a professor focused on the genetics of obesity at the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Metabolic Research at the University of Copenhagen and at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.
The brain sends hunger signals when a person needs fuel to reach or maintain their set point and signals a sense of fullness when they reach or exceed it. The set point isn't set: It changes throughout a person's lifetime. Babies lose body fat. Women gain weight during pregnancy and menopause.
In a person with obesity, however, the set-point system has gotten out of whack, said Dr. Lee Kaplan, director of the Obesity and Metabolism Institute in Boston. The body-fat dial moves to a new higher set point.Obesity causes overeating, rather than the other way around, Kaplan said.
The new drugs are based on a hormonecalled glucagon-like peptide 1, or GLP-1, secreted primarily in the lining of the gut in response to food, and in the brain.
The medications essentially lower the set point by activating GLP-1 receptors in the hypothalamus and brain stem that regulate weight and appetite, said Randy Seeley, a professor of surgery and director of the Michigan Nutrition Obesity Research Center at the University of Michigan. The drugs also indirectly reach neurons in parts of the brain involved in reward sensations and impulse control.
Credit: By Betsy McKay

DETAILS

Subject:	Hunger; Cardiovascular disease; Drugs; Diabetes; Biology; Metabolism; Brain research; Obesity
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850660087
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-new-drugs-alter-debate-on-cause-obesity/docview/2850660087/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Co-Defendants Face Range of Charges --- Grand jury indicts 18 people besides Trump after several witnesses testified

Yu, Isaac; Tau, Byron . Yu, Isaac; Tau, Byron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

An Atlanta area grand jury returned an indictment of former President Donald Trump Monday night, naming an additional 18 individuals as co-defendants over alleged efforts to overturn the 2020 Georgia election results.
Trump faces 13 total charges, alleging a criminal racketeering scheme in which he pressured public officers and conspired to commit forgery, create false statements and file false documents.
The Fulton County District Attorney, Fani Willis, charged 18 additional defendants under Georgia's Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations law, known as RICO, alleging they engaged in a pattern of illegal scheming.
The 98-page indictment also lists an additional 40 types of charges, ranging from perjury and forgery to impersonating a public officer.
Several of the co-defendants are well-known figures, including former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani and former Trump legal adviser Sidney Powell. Others are relatively obscure figures within Georgia politics or conservative activists from other states.
Five of the co-defendants -- Giuliani, Powell, John Eastman, Kenneth Chesebro and Jeffrey Clark -- are also identified as co-conspirators in a separate federal indictment brought by special counsel Jack Smith that also related to election-reversing efforts.
Here are some of the co-defendants in the Georgia case:
Rudy Giuliani: 13 counts
The former mayor of New York City and Trump's personal attorney was the chief architect of efforts to overturn the 2020 election in swing states. He served as a high profile surrogate for Trump after the election and personally argued a case on Trump's behalf in Pennsylvania court. As part of a civil lawsuit, he also admitted to making false statements to the Georgia state senate.
John Eastman: 9 counts
A former constitutional law professor, Eastman promoted the notion that then Vice President Mike Pence could single-handedly reject the electoral count on Jan. 6, 2021. He also asserted without evidence that President Biden won in Georgia because 66,000 underage people and thousands of felons voted illegally there.
Eastman also unsuccessfully advanced the fringe "independent state legislature" theory to lobby state legislators in swing states to appoint alternate, pro-Trump slates of electors. The State Bar of California is seeking to revoke Eastman's license.
Mark Meadows: 2 counts
Meadows is a former North Carolina congressman and the White House chief of staff. Testimony during the House Jan. 6 panel's hearings indicated Meadows had some knowledge of the potential for violence before the Capitol insurrection, having been informed of the crowd outside possessing weapons. His text messages, turned over to the panel, contained details of Trump's alleged effort to overturn the election.
Meadows refused to testify before the Jan. 6 panel and refused to testify in Georgia before being ordered to do so by a state judge.
Kenneth Chesebro: 7 counts
Chesebro, an attorney and Trump campaign adviser, was the original architect of the fake elector plan. His memo to GOP party officials in his home state of Wisconsin on Nov. 18, 2020, is the earliest known proposal to nominate fake electors, which he then worked to replicate nationwide with Giuliani and others. Republicans from seven Biden-won states eventually met on Dec. 14, 2020, to cast fake electoral votes for Trump, which Trump allies then attempted to deliver to Capitol Hill. Chesebro has been the subject of a complaint to the New York Bar and a subpoena by a Georgia grand jury related to his efforts.
Jeffrey Clark: 2 counts
Clark, a former Justice Department lawyer during the Trump presidency, proposed sending a letter to officials in swing states asking them to send slates of Trump-supporting electors, DOJ officials testified at a hearing held by the House Select Committee that was investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol. A former environmental lawyer, Clark later promised to use the DOJ's power to help Trump pressure state officials and open election investigations if

Trump removed the then acting attorney general and nominated Clark to lead the Department of Justice instead. The plan failed when DOJ officials threatened to resign en masse.
"Willis is exceeding her powers by inserting herself into the operations of the federal government to go after Jeff," said Rachel Cauley, a spokeswoman for Center for Renewing America, the conservative think tank where Clark works.
Jenna Ellis: 2 counts
Ellis was the youngest member of Trump's legal team. The 36-year-old identifies as a constitutional law specialist and appeared regularly on cable news to promulgate allegations of voter irregularities. Ellis was censured by legal officials in Colorado and acknowledged making 10 "misrepresentations" on television, including that 500,000 votes in Arizona had been cast illegally.
Ray Stallings Smith: 12 counts
An Atlanta-area attorney, Smith filed an unsuccessful lawsuit challenging Biden's Georgia victory. He was later the subject of a complaint from a legal watchdog group to the state bar seeking disciplinary measures.
Robert David Cheeley: 10 counts
A personal injury lawyer, Cheeley presented Georgia state senators with video clips that he claimed showed election workers at a downtown Atlanta precinct double- and triple-counting votes.
Mike Roman: 7 counts
Roman served as the director of Election Day operations for Trump's 2020 campaign. Communications that surfaced during the Jan. 6, 2021 House panel's probe show Roman worked with other Trump operatives to create slates of fake Trump electors in seven states, including Georgia.
Sidney Powell: 7 counts
Powell, a former Trump legal adviser, helped direct efforts in Georgia to investigate election results that prosecutors allege amounted to a security breach in Coffee County, in rural southeastern Georgia. She was briefly named as part of Trump's legal team soon after Election Day and quickly became the public face of efforts to cast doubts on the results.
Credit: By Isaac Yu and Byron Tau

DETAILS

Subject:	Forgery; Attorneys; Constitutional law; Indictments; Political campaigns; Election results; Rebellions; Criminal investigations; Presidential elections; Public hearings; Scandals; Grand juries
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	United States--US; Georgia; New York City New York; Atlanta Georgia
People:	Clark, Jeffrey; Giuliani, Rudolph W; Powell, Sidney; Trump, Donald J
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463737
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-co-defendants-face-range-charges-grand/docview/2850463737/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Argentina's Financial Markets Plummet -- Central bank devalues the peso's official exchange rate after primary election

Dube, Ryan; Forero, Juan . Dube, Ryan; Forero, Juan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Argentina's dollar bonds tumbled and the peso weakened Monday, a day after a libertarian outsider positioned himself as the country's leading hopeful ahead of October's election.

The tumult came after Javier Milei, a 52-year-old economist who rails against what he calls "the political caste," took

more votes in a Sunday primary than the center-right Together for Change coalition and the ruling Peronist movement's candidate, Economy Minister Sergio Massa.
Argentina's dollar bonds slid about 14% in early trading, though the initial knee-jerk reaction had little volume behind it, according to Lucas Martin, emerging markets sovereign-debt strategist at Bank of America. Those losses were cut in half to about 7% on the day as trading progressed. The central bank devalued the peso's official exchange rate, which fell over 20% to about 350 a U.S. dollar. The peso's black-market rate also depreciated on the streets of Buenos Aires, trading more than 10% weaker at about 690 per dollar.
Investors had expected the Together for Change coalition to do better in a vote that had a low turnout.
"The low turnout and surprise results have contributed to increased political and market uncertainty," said Jared Lou, portfolio manager at William Blair Investment Management in Chicago. "Given the poor state of the economy, voters appear to be demanding change."
U.S. investors pulled out of Argentina's stock market, sending the Global X MSCI Argentina ETF down as much as 6% in early Monday trading, setting the stage for its worst day in more than a year. The fund traded 2.4% lower on the day as of noon in New York.
In a radio interview on Monday, Milei said his win was an "enormous slap in the face" to the government of President Alberto Fernandez, who had a 75% disapproval rating in one poll and whose term ends in December. "They don't have any idea of how to explain what they're going to do from here to December," he said of the Fernandez government, on Radio Rivadavia.
A populist upstart who pledges to close the central bank, replace the peso with the dollar and slash spending, Milei took 30% of ballots. In an election that decides who runs in the first-round presidential vote in October, Milei topped Patricia Bullrich, a hard-on-crime conservative from Together for Change and a former security minister who got 28.3%, and Massa, who is considered more centrist and business friendly than the president. Massa took 27.3% of the vote.
The vote took place in a country suffering its worst economic crisis since its 2001 financial meltdown. About 40% of Argentines live in poverty. Inflation tops 116%, making it difficult for families to buy enough to eat and for businesses to function.
Milei has tapped into bubbling anger, assuring Argentines that if they drastically scale back the government by closing ministries the country would regain its foothold.
"Today, we stood up to say enough with this decadent model," he said late Sunday in front of cheering supporters. "I invite Argentines to participate in the liberal revolution."
Milei's strong showing sets up a three-way race that pits him against the two traditional political coalitions. Political analysts say Bullrich, the conservative, likely will be his toughest rival in October amid a backlash against the Peronists, whose rule during most of the last 20 years has been marked by a sharp rise in public spending amid generous state subsidies and social programs.
While acknowledging that some Argentines want Milei, Bullrich said she, too, represents change. "That's represented by Milei, but us as well," said Bullrich, who has pledged to move quickly to cut the fiscal deficit and dismantle currency controls. "It's really important that in this time, from here to the election, we represent this change with a lot of fervor."
Bullrich's coalition ruled from 2015 to 2019 under then-President Mauricio Macri. He tried to reduce the deficit inherited from a previous Peronist government without sparking social upheaval. That strategy failed as the government took on billions of dollars in debt and inflation surged. Many Argentines haven't forgotten.
Maria Colman Rodriguez has three children but no job. "I'm betrayed by all of them," she said of politicians. "They all promise things and do not deliver."
"Milei could be a hope for us," she added. "We have to believe in someone who is different."
Milei offers some of the prescriptions economists say Argentina badly needs, such as opening the country to trade, reducing taxes and privatizing state-owned companies to curb spending. He also has a radically different social vision: He has pledged to end public schools, supports a market for people to sell their organs, proposes to expand access to guns and to end legal abortion.

But Milei as president likely would have little support in the opposition-controlled Congress, which he has lambasted, making it hard to pass his ambitious changes. Austerity measures also likely would face stiff opposition from powerful unions and social movements.
Credit: By Ryan Dube and Juan Forero

DETAILS

Subject:	Presidents; Central banks; American dollar; Foreign exchange rates; Politics; Securities markets; Economic conditions; Presidential elections; Currency devaluation
Business indexing term:	Subject: Central banks American dollar Foreign exchange rates Securities markets Economic conditions Currency devaluation; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	Argentina; United States--US
People:	Milei, Javier
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463736
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-argentinas-financial-markets-plummet/docview/2850463736/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government in stitutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Art Was Escape For Ex-Detainee Of Guantanamo

Solomon, Feliz . Solomon, Feliz.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

In the early days of America's war on terror, U.S. authorities detained Ahmed Rabbani thinking he was someone else. They soon realized their mistake but later said he himself had facilitated terrorists.

Rabbani denies that, and he was never charged with a crime. After 18 1/2 years at Guantanamo Bay, he stepped off a plane in Pakistan in February -- a free but broken man. Years of hunger strikes and forced feeding have left him unable to eat most solid food.

"I never, never, ever sleep at night," he said. "If I fall asleep, I wake back up immediately."

Through it all, he said, his only means of escape was art. He began making paintings inside his cell, sometimes forgetting where he was and what had happened since he was detained in 2002. By the time of his release, he had made hundreds of paintings.

Art is among the few existing testaments to life inside the Guantanamo Bay facility, which opened a few months after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks to hold foreign suspects in America's war on terror.In May, 20 of Rabbani's paintings were shown at a gallery in the Pakistani city of Karachi.

U.S. authorities didn't allow some works depicting torture and suffering to be taken from Guantanamo, but other artists re-created them from descriptions written by Rabbani's lawyer.

"They didn't just damage me, they damaged my whole family," Rabbani, now 53 years old, said from his Karachi home.

He was cleared for release from Guantanamo in October 2021, after a government review board determined he didn't pose "a continuing significant threat" to national security -- standard language accompanying prisoner releases.

Rabbani's lawyer says he should never have been held at all. He says his client was taken by Pakistani authorities who misidentified him and handed him over to U.S. intelligence officers for a $5,000 reward.The U.S. Defense Department didn't comment on the circumstances under which Rabbani was initially detained.

Credit: By Feliz Solomon

DETAILS

Subject:	Art; Terrorism; Political prisoners
Location:	Pakistan; Karachi Pakistan; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Guantanamo Bay Naval Base; NAICS: 928110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463728
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-art-was-escape-ex-detainee-guantanamo/docview/2850463728/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Trump Indicted in Racketeering Plot --- Georgia also alleges Giuliani among 19 who took part in scheme to toss votes; fourth criminal case against former president this year

McWhirter, Cameron; Wolfe, Jan . McWhirter, Cameron; Wolfe, Jan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ATLANTA -- A grand jury in Georgia charged Donald Trump, his lawyer Rudy Giuliani, and other Trump allies with operating a criminal enterprise that sought to overturn Joe Biden's electoral victory in the state, marking the fourth time the former president has been indicted this year and deepening his legal woes ahead of the 2024 election.

There were 19 people in total charged in the indictment, including former Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows and legal adviser Sidney Powell.

Taken together, the Georgia charges allege a sweeping criminal conspiracy to overturn the 2020 election result and undermine U.S. democracy. They describe calls, emails, and other efforts to allegedly corrupt state and federal officials into backing the effort to find votes Trump lacked to win or assert that he was victorious both in Georgia -- and other states he lost.

The indictment, brought by Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, covers some of the same ground as the federal case Trump faces in Washington but goes into greater detail of the effort in Georgia and offers some new details of the alleged conspiracy. It charges Trump with 13 felonies that allege he pushed false claims of voter fraud in Georgia and pressured Republican officials to help him secure the state's Electoral College votes.

"The defendants engaged in a criminal racketeering enterprise to overturn Georgia's presidential election results," Willis said at a news conference late Monday, adding that the defendants pursued an illegal goal of allowing Trump to "seize" a presidential term.

She said she would seek a trial date in the next six months. She gave the defendants until Aug. 25 to turn themselves in.

In a statement after the indictment was unsealed, a Trump campaign spokeswoman said Willis was pursuing the former president for partisan reasons -- as she claimed the U.S. attorney general, a federal special counsel and the Manhattan district attorney were, too.

"Today, Fani Willis joins Merrick Garland, Jack Smith, and Alvin Bragg in the Deranged Democrat Prosecutor Club -- their only goal being to arrest Donald Trump and prevent him from being on the ballot against Joe Biden," said Karoline Leavitt, the spokeswoman.

Willis, whose investigation lasted more than two years, used the state's sweeping anti-racketeering law to help paint a picture for grand jury members of an elaborate plot by Trump to stay in power over the will of Georgia voters. Biden narrowly won the state in 2020.

The indictment also alleged the criminal enterprise operated in Georgia outside of Fulton County, as well as in other states, including Michigan, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Nevada and New Mexico.

Several individuals are charged with breaching voting machines in Coffee County, a rural county about 200 miles from Atlanta.

The Georgia charges bear similarities to the federal case Trump faces in Washington, alleging a criminal conspiracy to undermine U.S. democracy.

The move by Willis, a Democrat, had been widely anticipated. In April, she said she planned to announce charging

decisions this summer, and she had told local law-enforcement leaders to prepare for the "significant public reaction" her announcement could trigger.
Willis initially opened the probe on the basis of a recorded Jan. 2, 2021, phone call in which then-President Trump urged Republican Brad Raffensperger, the state's top elections official, to find enough votes to overturn the election. Trump, the front-runner for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, denies wrongdoing and has said the call was perfect. Trump has denounced the Fulton County probe as a witch hunt.
Willis convened a special grand jury, which heard from more than 75 witnesses, wrote a report summarizing its findings and recommended criminal charges against several people whose identities haven't been made public. The special grand jury lacked the authority to issue indictments, however, prompting Willis to present evidence to a regular grand jury.
In November 2020, Trump lost the election in Georgia to the Democratic nominee, Biden, by about 12,000 votes out of five million cast. Trump and his supporters claimed the election was stolen, but statewide recounts and a partial forensic audit overseen by state election officials found no evidence of widespread fraud. Court challenges failed.
Earlier this year, Trump was indicted by Manhattan District Attorney Bragg for his role in paying hush money to a porn star on the eve of the 2016 election, marking the first time a former president was ever faced with criminal charges.
Then, in June, federal prosecutors unsealed an indictment alleging the former president held on to classified documents he knew he shouldn't have retained access to after his presidency. He was accused of sharing those documents with others and directing his staff to help him evade authorities' efforts to get them back from his Mar-a-Lago resort in South Florida. The case is being handled in Florida.
A superseding federal indictment returned in late July charged Trump with an additional count of willful retention of national-defense information, stemming from a classified national-security document prosecutors said he showed to visitors at his golf club in New Jersey.
Trump was indicted a third time Aug. 1 in another criminal case accusing him of trying to subvert the will of U.S. voters through his attempts to cling to power after he lost the 2020 election. That indictment, by a federal grand jury in Washington, charged Trump with four crimes, including conspiring to defraud the U.S., obstructing an official proceeding, and conspiring against the rights of voters for his actions that culminated in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack by his supporters on the U.S. Capitol.
Trump, 77 years old, pleaded not guilty in the New York, Florida and Washington cases.
Credit: By Cameron McWhirter and Jan Wolfe

DETAILS

Subject:	District attorneys; Racketeering; Public prosecutors; Political campaigns; Indictments; Election results; State elections; Conspiracy; Voter fraud; Presidential elections; Grand juries
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Location:	United States--US; Georgia; Florida
People:	Trump, Donald J; Giuliani, Rudolph W; Biden, Joseph R Jr
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463722
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/trump-indicted-racketeering-plot-georgia-also/docview/2850463722/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: High Housing Costs, Evictions Push Homelessness to a Record Increase

Kamp, Jon; Najmabadi, Shannon . Kamp, Jon; Najmabadi, Shannon.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The U.S. has seen a record increase in homeless people this year as the Covid-19 pandemic fades, according to a Wall Street Journal review of data from around the country.

The data so far this year are up roughly 11% from 2022, a sharp jump that would represent by far the biggest recorded increase since the government started tracking comparable numbers in 2007. The next highest increase was a 2.7% jump in 2019, excluding an artificially high increase last year caused by pandemic counting interruptions.

This year's surge reflects a host of pressures around the U.S. such as rising housing costs, lack of affordable rental units and the nation's continuing opioid crisis, according to reports from nonprofits and government agencies counting the homeless.

The Journal reviewed available data from more than 300 entities that count homeless people in areas ranging from cities to entire states. Those entities accounted for 8 of every 9 homeless people counted last year.

The Journal's tally thus far includes more than 577,000 homeless people. The outstanding entities, known as continuums of care, declined to provide their numbers, didn't respond to requests or couldn't be reached.

These are preliminary numbers, and a final estimate is expected later this year from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The numbers come from so-called point-in-time counts conducted early this year, and pending reports and HUD's assessment could alter the final percentage change.

Point-in-time counts are widely considered to be an undercount. Still, HUD considers these numbers a vital tool to measure the homeless population and allocate resources.

The biggest driver remains high housing costs, which are now taking a heavier toll following the wind down of pandemic-era relief spending and policies such as eviction moratoriums, according to advocates for the homeless.

Data from the Eviction Lab, a Princeton University research initiative that tracks filings in more than 30 cities, show most of them reported more eviction filings this year, through the end of June, than they averaged before the pandemic.

The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, a federal agency, also blamed growing homeless counts on housing costs and shortages. The agency said the 2023 numbers don't reflect Biden administration efforts to combat homelessness.

Credit: By Jon Kamp and Shannon Najmabadi

DETAILS

Subject:	Homeless people; Pandemics
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Department of Housing &Urban Development--HUD; NAICS: 925110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463704
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-high-housing-costs-evictions-push/docview/2850463704/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Niger Junta Threatens Ousted Leader

Faucon, Benoit; Phillips, Michael M . Faucon, Benoit; Phillips, Michael M.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Niger's new military junta suggested it would prosecute ousted President Mohamed Bazoum for high treason and endangering the West African country's security.

In a statement published Monday on state media, the junta said it also had sufficient evidence to charge unnamed "local and foreign accomplices" of Bazoum, an elected, pro-Western leader who has been held prisoner in his residence since being toppled in a bloodless uprising by his presidential guard on July 26.

The announcement ratcheted up the rhetoric between Niger and other West African countries, led by regional powerhouse Nigeria, that have imposed economic sanctions and threatened to use military force to reverse the July coup.

Military governments in two of Niger's neighbors -- Mali and Burkina Faso -- have said they could come to the junta's defense, raising the specter of a regional war in what is already one of the poorest parts of the world.

A senior West African army commander said the threats to prosecute Bazoum likely were an attempt by the junta to

strengthen its position ahead of negotiations with its critics within the 15-nation Economic Community of West African States, or Ecowas.
Bazoum's Nigerien Party for Democracy and Socialism said that a trial for high treason could only take place in the country's constitutional court and therefore only if rule of law were reinstated.
"The seditious soldiers must return to their respective barracks and let the institutions of the Republic, including those they implicitly recognize, do their job," the party said.
The U.S., France and other Western countries have been alarmed by the turn of events in Niger, which under Bazoum had been a close ally in the fight against al Qaeda, Islamic State and Boko Haram militants who have conducted attacks across western Africa.
The U.S. has two drone bases and 1,100 troops in Niger, and the coup threatens to upend its strategy of training Nigerien special forces to combat Islamist extremists.
France maintains some 1,500 troops in its former colony, and, before the coup, conducted both its own operations and joint missions with Nigerien forces.
On Monday, fighters affiliated with al Qaeda claimed to have killed six Nigerien soldiers in an attack last week. The militant group posted photos of seized weapons and armored vehicles.
Daouda Takoubayoke, Bazoum's deputy chief of staff, blamed the attack on the military junta, which he said had moved Nigerien units previously focused on fighting militants to instead protect the coup plotters in the capital, Niamey.
Takoubayoke said Monday's attack was the sixth such assault on government military positions since the coup.
"Fearing a military intervention to dislodge him, [Brig. Gen. Omar Tchiani, the leader of the post-coup government] broke the framework of the fight against terrorism and shifted all the units and brought them to Niamey for his own protection," Takoubayoke said.
Credit: By Benoit Faucon and Michael M. Phillips

DETAILS

Subject:	Militancy; Treason; Political prisoners; Threats; National security; Coups d'etat
Location:	United States--US; France; Niger; West Africa
People:	Bazoum, Mohamed
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463701
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-niger-junta-threatens-ousted-leader/docview/2850463701/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Newspaper Raid Puts Town in Spotlight --- Kansas outlet wants no review of what was taken by police until court hearing

Najmabadi, Shannon . Najmabadi, Shannon.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

MARION, Kan. -- The police raid last Friday of the Marion County Record, a small Kansas newspaper, swept up cellphones and computers containing information about the outlet's investigation of the police chief and has drawn rebukes from First Amendment experts and dozens of news organizations.

One of the Record's owners, 98-year-old Joan Meyer, collapsed and died Saturday less than 24 hours after police officers and sheriff's deputies seized items from her home and from the publication's offices, according to her son Eric Meyer, who is also a co-owner of the paper. Police also raided the home of a city council member.

The Record's Kansas City-based attorney, Bernie Rhodes, has sent a letter to local law enforcement demanding they not review any information on the devices until a court hearing can be scheduled.

"I can assure you that the Record will take every step to obtain relief for the damages your heavy-handed actions have already caused my client," the letter said.

The raids have cast the 1,900-person city of Marion, about an hour's drive north of Wichita, into a national firestorm. Legal experts and advocates for a free press have said the seizure of reporters' work products is illegal and reflects increased hostility toward the media. The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and more than 30 news organizations, including the New York Times, Dow Jones (parent company of The Wall Street Journal) and the Washington Post, have written to the chief of the Marion Police Department to condemn its raid on the Record.
Marion Police Chief Gideon Cody said Monday the Kansas Bureau of Investigation is now the lead investigator of the case. He has declined to answer questions about the raid but previously said he believes the judicial system will be vindicated once the entire story is made public.
The Record investigated Cody before he took office May 30 but didn't publish a story, Meyer said. Rhodes, the paper's lawyer, said information about that probe was included in what was seized.
Cody told the Kansas City Star the allegations that the Record was investigating about him weren't true. "If it was true, they would've printed it," he said.
Since the raid, the Record has received support and new subscribers from around the country, said Meyer, whose family has owned the newspaper for 25 years. But he has heard little from locals in his hometown of Marion, where he retired after working as an editor for the Milwaukee Journal and as a journalism professor.
"They're afraid in a small town that if they cross the powers that be, they will be punished," Meyer said.
Tim Stauffer, president of the Kansas Press Association and managing editor of the Iola Register, said he had never heard of a similar incident happening in Kansas.
"The federal Privacy Protection Act is designed to protect journalists against exactly what happened here," he said, referencing a 1980 federal law that requires law enforcement to subpoena journalists' work product rather than execute a search warrant.
The raid followed a complicated series of events in Marion that began on Aug. 1, when local restaurateur Kari Newell asked Meyer and a Record reporter to leave a public meet-and-greet with Congressman Jake LaTurner, held at one of her food establishments.
A source reached out to the reporter on Facebook after the event, suggesting Newell had been driving without a license after an impaired driving conviction 15 years ago.
The source later shared through Facebook Messenger a copy of a letter addressed to Newell from the Kansas Department of Revenue that outlined how Newell could get her driver's license back, Meyer said.
The Record reporter used Newell's date of birth and driver's license -- but the reporter's own name -- to find the document on a state website to verify its authenticity, he said.
The paper decided not to publish a story, in part because the source is connected to Newell's husband, with whom she is engaged in divorce proceedings.
But the source separately provided the same information to Councilwoman Ruth Herbel, whose home was also raided last week. Herbel couldn't be reached for comment.
Herbel passed the information along to at least one city staff member in advance of a meeting about whether or not to approve a liquor license that Newell was seeking, which could be precluded by an impaired driving charge, Meyer said.
At that city council meeting on Aug. 7, Newell accused the newspaper of sharing her driving records with Herbel. Meyer said neither he nor the reporter who received the tip shared the personal information or downloaded it from the state website.
Newell's liquor license was granted.
A few days later, police officers and sheriff's deputies raided the Record's office and the home Meyer shared with his mother. They had a search warrant signed by Eighth Judicial District Magistrate Judge Laura Viar that named Newell and a potential identity-theft crime.
Record staff tried to get a copy of the probable cause statement justifying the need for a search. But one of Viar's employees said there was no probable cause statement on file, Meyer said.
The Eighth Judicial District said it couldn't comment.

Newell has said she was surprised to learn of the raid, which happened while she was out of town. She has received nasty messages and fake reviews on her businesses since then, she said.
"It's truly beyond me how people think I alone am capable of having a newspaper raided," she said in a statement. "Even in small town America we have the same processes any larger city does to make this happen."
Credit: By Shannon Najmabadi

DETAILS

Subject:	Journalism; Liquor laws &regulations; Court hearings &proceedings; Criminal investigations; Search warrants; Raids; Drivers licenses; Freedom of the press; Reporters; Newspapers
Business indexing term:	Industry: 51311 : Newspaper Publishers
Location:	United States--US; Kansas City Missouri; Kansas
Company / organization:	Name: Marion County Record; NAICS: 513110
Classification:	51311: Newspaper Publishers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463693
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-newspaper-raid-puts-town-spotlight/docview/2850463693/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-09-23
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A grand jury charged Donald Trump, Rudy Giuliani and other Trump allies with operating a criminal enterprise that sought to overturn Joe Biden's electoral victory in Georgia, marking the fourth time the former president has been indicted this year.

Ukraine's military advanced in the southeast in a boost to its slow-moving counteroffensive, and captured a Russian battalion commander in a raid over the Dnipro River in the south.

The U.S. ambassador to Russia was granted access to jailed Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich in the third such visit since his detention in March.

The U.S. has seen a record increase in homeless people this year as the Covid-19 pandemic fades, according to a Wall Street Journal review of data from around the country.

The police raid on a Kansas newspaper swept up cellphones and computers containing information about the outlet's investigation of the chief of police.

The University of Chicago agreed to pay $13.5 million to settle a suit accusing it of illegally colluding with other schools to limit financial aid.

Montana must do more to protect the state and its residents from climate change, a judge ruled, in a decision that cited a state constitutional right to a clean environment.

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Homeless people
Location:	United States--US

Company / organization:	Name: Wall Street Journal; NAICS: 513110, 516210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
column:	Wor ld-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463684
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2850463684/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be vi sible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Maui Searches for Victims as Death Toll Rises

Lukpat, Alyssa; Caldwell, Alicia A . Lukpat, Alyssa; Caldwell, Alicia A.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LAHAINA, Hawaii -- Maui officials increased the death toll to at least 96 following the catastrophic wildfires on the island as they continue the painstaking search for victims in the rubble.

Residents braced for a higher death toll in what is already America's deadliest wildfire event in over a century as searchers find more human remains in the charred town of Lahaina.

Survivor Shelby DeBell said she and others believe the official death toll is low, having seen cars full of people overtaken by flames as traffic out of Lahaina came to a standstill in the rush to flee.

Across Maui, officials urged residents to share DNA samples to help identify those lost.

DeBell was one of many who lost their homes and belongings picking through donated supplies at a makeshift aid center set up at the Lahaina Gateway shopping center Sunday.

She lived just north of Lahaina's historic Front Street, which was entirely destroyed.

The aid center, one of several dotting West Maui's coastline, sits at the edge of fire-ravaged downtown Lahaina. The pungent smell of smoke still permeated the air. Authorities warned that the air around the burn scar is toxic and urged residents and volunteers to wear masks outside.

"It is a harrowing sight in Maui," Hawaii Gov. Josh Green said in a Sunday video post on Facebook.

He said more than 2,700 structures were destroyed in Lahaina. About 4,500 customers remained without power in Maui County early Monday, according to data from PowerOutage.us. Cellphone carriers AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile said they were working to restore service on Maui.

Officials estimated over $5 billion is needed to rebuild from last week's wildfires. Among the relief crews are officials from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency and Hawaii's National Guard.

AccuWeather on Monday estimated the total damage and economic loss to be between $14 billion and $16 billion.

Residents on Maui have grown concerned about Tropical Storm Greg, which is expected to pass 300-400 miles south of Hawaii on Wednesday evening into Thursday morning.

But Da'Vel Johnson, a meteorologist who works for the National Weather Service, said the government doesn't see signs that winds from the storm are likely to whip up another fire, as Hurricane Dora did last week. Winds from the storm are predicted to reach up to 25 miles an hour, Johnson said.

About 3,200 people have signed up for disaster assistance through FEMA so far, with that number expected to grow, said Jeremy Greenberg, FEMA's director of operations for response and recovery. "This is an amazingly devastating fire and the conditions are extraordinarily difficult to work through," Greenberg said at a news briefing.

On Monday, residents without a place to stay became eligible for a FEMA program known as transitional assistance, which will allow them to stay in hotel rooms paid for by the government while they work on longer-term housing plans. The Small Business Administration is offering homeowners low-interest-rate loans of up to $500,000 for home repairs and additional loans of up to $100,000 for both homeowners and renters to replace personal property.

Investigators are likely to consider several possible sources that sparked the blazes, including a campfire, lightning, transmission equipment and the electric grid, according to longtime fire investigators and electrical-grid experts.

Hawaiian officials said over the weekend that crews using cadaver dogs had searched only 3% of the disaster zone.

Relatives have posted across social media about scores of missing loved ones.

Lahaina residents said they had little warning about the fires that raced through the once-verdant town. Maui has an

extensive network of sirens to warn about disasters but reports indicate they weren't activated during the blaze. The fires struck the town so quickly that many panicked residents weren't able to flee.

Ben Kesling, Andrew Restuccia and Michelle Hackman contributed to this article.

Credit: By Alyssa Lukpat and Alicia A. Caldwell

DETAILS

Subject:	Storm damage; Social networks; Weather; Disaster recovery; Human remains; Forest &brush fires
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social networks
Location:	Hawaii; United States--US; Maui Hawaii
Company / organization:	Name: Federal Emergency Management Agency; NAICS: 922190
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463676
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-maui-searches-victims-as-death-toll/docview/2850463676/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: University of Chicago Agrees To Settle Financial Aid Suit

Korn, Melissa . Korn, Melissa.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The University of Chicago has agreed to pay $13.5 million to settle a lawsuit in which it was accused of illegally colluding with other top universities to limit financial aid to students, making it the first defendant in the case to settle, according to a court filing Monday.

The lawsuit, filed in Illinois federal court in January 2022, accuses 17 colleges and universities, including most members of the Ivy League, Duke University, Vanderbilt University and the California Institute of Technology, of engaging in price fixing by using a shared methodology to calculate applicants' financial need.

Under a decades-old federal antitrust exemption that expired in the fall, schools were allowed to collaborate on their aid formulas, but only if they didn't consider applicants' financial circumstances in their admission decisions. The suit alleged that these schools do weigh applicants' ability to pay in certain circumstances, including by giving an edge to children of wealthy donors or when considering who to admit from wait lists. As a result, the suit says, the schools shouldn't have been eligible for the antitrust exemption.

The schools worked together under what was called the 568 Presidents Group, a reference to the section of the 1994 legislation that provided the exemption. The University of Chicago withdrew from the group around 2014.

The University of Chicago said in a court filing that its settlement isn't an admission of liability, but that settling would allow the school to avoid the distraction and expense of continued litigation.

Separately, spokesman Jeremy Manier said Monday that the school believes the plaintiffs' claims are without merit. "We look forward to putting this matter behind us and continuing to focus our efforts on expanding access to a transformative undergraduate education," he said.

The other 16 schools continue to deny the allegations in court. The University of Chicago agreed in the settlement to provide documents to the plaintiffs and detailed information about the school's financial aid practices and those of other schools named as defendants. Plaintiffs say that will help them pursue the cases against the other 16 schools.

The settlement must still be approved by the Illinois federal judge overseeing the case.

Credit: By Melissa Korn

DETAILS

Subject:	Antitrust; Colleges &universities; Schools; Settlements &damages; Student financial aid
Business indexing term:	Subject: Antitrust; Industry: 61131 : Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Location:	United States--US; Illinois
Company / organization:	Name: University of Chicago; NAICS: 611310
Classification:	61131: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463669
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-university-chicago-agrees-settle/docview/2850463669/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.S. Envoy Makes Third Visit To Reporter Held in Russia

Simmons, Ann M . Simmons, Ann M.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The U.S. ambassador to Russia was granted access to jailed Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich, the third such visit since his detention in March.

U.S. Ambassador Lynne Tracy's visit to Gershkovich at Moscow's Lefortovo Prison on Monday follows two earlier meetings that came amid friction between Washington and Moscow over the infrequency of consular access to the American reporter. Monday's visit occurred six weeks after Tracy's latest meeting with Gershkovich on July 3.

"Ambassador Tracy reported that Evan continues to appear in good health and remains strong, despite the circumstances," the U.S. Embassy in Moscow said.

Gershkovich, a 31-year-old U.S. citizen who was accredited by Russia's Foreign Ministry to work as a journalist, was detained by agents from Russia's Federal Security Service, or FSB, while on a reporting trip in the Russian city of Yekaterinburg on March 29. He is being held on an allegation of espionage that he, the Journal and the U.S. government vehemently deny.

The Biden administration has said Gershkovich, the first American journalist arrested on an espionage accusation in Russia since the end of the Cold War, isn't a spy and has never worked for the government. The State Department has designated the reporter as wrongfully detained, a status that unlocks a broad U.S. government effort to free him.

The issue of consular access to Americans -- including Gershkovich -- who are jailed in Russia has been a contentious one between the U.S. and Russia. The 1963 Vienna Convention signed by both countries allows states consular access to their nationals who are arrested or detained in other nations.

However, the U.S. has said Russia ignores the convention and instead has delayed or deprived jailed Americans of diplomatic access. Tracy's July visit with Gershkovich came nearly three months after her first meeting with the jailed reporter.

Moscow had denied requests for consular access to Gershkovich in April and May, saying it was a response to the U.S. decision to deny visas to Russian journalists seeking to travel to New York in the spring.

In June, a Russian court upheld a request from the FSB to extend the reporter's detention to at least Aug. 30 while he awaits trial, denying an appeal from Gershkovich's lawyers.

The Biden administration has continued to press Russia to release Gershkovich. President Biden in July said the U.S. is "serious about a prisoner exchange" to secure his freedom.

However, the White House has cautioned that talks with Russia on potential prisoner swaps haven't yet yielded "a pathway to a resolution" for Gershkovich or other Americans the U.S. considers wrongfully detained in Russia. These include Paul Whelan, a businessman who was convicted and sentenced to 16 years in Russian prison in 2020 on an espionage charge he and the U.S. deny.

Credit: By Ann M. Simmons

DETAILS

Subject:	Espionage; Public officials; Diplomatic &consular services; Reporters; Political prisoners
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	Russia; United States--US
People:	Gershkovich, Evan
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463667
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-s-envoy-makes-third-visit-reporter/docview/2850463667/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutio ns, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW YORK
Judge in Trump
Case Won't Recuse
The judge presiding over Donald Trump's criminal hush-money case declined to recuse himself, rejecting the former president's arguments that he can't fairly oversee the trial.
State Supreme Court Justice Juan Merchan said Trump's lawyers offered "speculative and hypothetical" arguments for recusal that fell well short of the legal standard for him to step aside. "This Court has examined its conscience and is certain in its ability to be fair and impartial," Merchan wrote in a ruling made public Monday.
Merchan also denied Trump's request for an explanation for three political contributions the judge made in 2020 -- which totaled $35 -- to progressive causes and President Biden's campaign. A lawyer for Trump and a spokeswoman for Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg declined to comment on the ruling.
-- Corinne Ramey

MISSOURI
Rescues Made After
Severe Rainstorm
A drenching storm dropped several inches of rain in a short time Monday morning in an area of southeastern Missouri, shutting down roads and prompting several water rescues.
The Missouri State Highway Patrol said rescue crews with boats were going door-to-door in the hardest hit areas. High water also closed roads in several counties, including sections of U.S. 67.
The Bollinger County Sheriff's Office said rescuers were focused on the area in and around the tiny village of Glen Allen, trying to get people to higher ground.
-- Associated Press

ALABAMA
Panel Reviews
Redrawn Map
A panel of federal judges on Monday began a review of Alabama's redrawn congressional map that opponents argued defies the court's mandate to create a second district where Black voters have an opportunity to influence the outcome of an election.
The three-judge panel, which blocked the use of the state's old map last year, will decide whether to let Alabama's new districts go forward or step in and draw new congressional districts for the state.
Alabama was forced to draw new district lines after the U.S. Supreme Court, in a surprise June decision, upheld the panel's earlier finding that the state's then-map -- which had one Black-majority district out of seven in a state where more than one in four residents is Black -- likely violated the federal Voting Rights Act.
-- Associated Press

MISSISSIPPI
Ex-Officers Plead
Guilty to Attack
Six white former Mississippi law enforcement officers pleaded guilty to state charges on Monday for torturing two Black men in a racist assault. All six had recently admitted their guilt in a connected federal civil rights case.
In January, the officers entered a house without a warrant and handcuffed and assaulted the two men with stun guns, a sex toy and other objects. The officers mocked them with racial slurs throughout a 90-minute torture session, then devised a coverup that included planting drugs and a gun, leading to false charges that could have sent one victim to prison for years.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Voting rights; Assaults; Criminal pleas
Location:	Missouri; Alabama; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463664
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2850463664/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Montana Youth Win Landmark Climate Ruling

Timms, Mariah . Timms, Mariah.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Montana must do more to protect the state and its residents from climate change, a judge ruled Monday in a landmark decision that cited a state constitutional right to a clean environment.

State District Judge Kathy Seeley ruled in favor of a group of youth plaintiffs and invalidated legislation prohibiting state agencies from considering the effects of greenhouse-gas emissions.

"The degradation to Montana's environment, and the resulting harm to Plaintiffs, will worsen if the State continues ignoring GHG emissions and climate change," Seeley wrote.

The case, brought by more than a dozen Montana residents who were between 2 and 18 years old when it was filed in March 2020, is among a wave of similar suits brought by young people across the country who argue that future generations will bear the consequences of a warming planet. It was the first of its kind to go to trial, which took place in June.

A 1972 provision in Montana's constitution explicitly guarantees the right to "a clean and healthful environment," but the clause had largely gone unenforced. The plaintiffs argued the state's reliance on fossil fuels and their production was at odds with that constitutional guarantee.

The judge didn't lay out specific steps for the state to take in response to her ruling. Instead, her order opens the door for state officials to consider climate impacts in future policy decisions, including on energy and mining projects, or efficiency and emissions standards.

"Today, for the first time in U.S. history, a court ruled on the merits of a case that the government violated the constitutional rights of children through laws and actions that promote fossil fuels, ignore climate change, and disproportionately imperil young people," said Julia Olson, chief legal counsel and executive director for Our Children's Trust, the organization representing the plaintiffs. "This is a huge win for Montana, for youth, for democracy, and for our climate."

The state opposed the suit largely on procedural grounds, arguing the challenge was overly broad. It also argued that Montana's specific contribution to global greenhouse-gas emissions couldn't be identified and therefore wasn't a state responsibility to regulate.

The Montana attorney general's office said it planned to appeal, saying that Monday's ruling was "absurd" and that

the trial was a "weeklong taxpayer-funded publicity stunt."
"Montanans can't be blamed for changing the climate -- even the plaintiffs' expert witnesses agreed that our state has no impact on the global climate. Their same legal theory has been thrown out of federal court and courts in more than a dozen states. It should have been here as well," said Emily Flower, spokeswoman for Republican Attorney General Austin Knudsen.
The plaintiffs included outdoor enthusiasts, athletes, Native American youth and children of farmers, who cited climate harms including extreme heat, poor air quality and damage to crops and livestock.
Similar cases are moving forward in other parts of the U.S.
Montana's Republican-majority legislature has supported fossil-fuel infrastructure in the resource-heavy region, and passed a new law this session that explicitly prohibited the analysis of greenhouse gases and climate effects in environmental-impact reviews by state agencies. That law was blocked by Monday's ruling.
Global greenhouse-gas emissions reached record levels in 2022.
Credit: By Mariah Timms

DETAILS

Subject:	Children &youth; Attorneys general; Gases; Fossil fuels; Emissions; Negligence; Climate change; Trials; Court decisions
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Location:	Montana; United States--US
Classification:	92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2850463663
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-montana-youth-win-landmark-climate/docview/2850463663/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public librarie s. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Regulators Grapple With Bank Failures --- Tumult in March exposed gaps that officials in U.S. and abroad want to fix

Ackerman, Andrew . Ackerman, Andrew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Global regulators spent more than a decade trying to ensure that a large bank could fail without any government support.

Despite this year's bank failures, they are still working on it.

Global regulators are reviewing the March failures, including Credit Suisse's collapse and Swiss officials' decision to push UBS to acquire its rival in a deal with billions of public money, people familiar with the probe said. Swiss officials chose to sidestep the postcrisis plan for global megabanks, under which Credit Suisse would have been wound down by regulators or restructured into a new entity.

In the U.S., regulators are considering new rules as soon as this month that would force midsize banks to add to their financial cushions in case of insolvency, people familiar with the plans said. The March failures of Silicon Valley Bank and another midsize bank prompted officials to take extraordinary steps to promise depositors they could access their money.

The tumult was far less severe than the financial crisis of 2007-09, when hundreds of banks went under and Washington injected hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars to keep the system afloat.

Still, the bank failures in the U.S. and in Switzerland have exposed gaps in the regulatory regime built up after the 2008 bailouts, some officials say.

"It is shocking to me that after 15 years of costly reform efforts, we still couldn't resolve even a $200 billion bank like SVB without extraordinary government support," said Jonathan McKernan, a Republican member of the Federal

Deposit Insurance Corp.
Other regulators have expressed skepticism about the post-2008 plans for winding down failed megabanks. "We really need to look at these closely to see if they're realistic," Rohit Chopra, the head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and an FDIC board member, said in a recent interview.
The 2010 Dodd-Frank financial overhaul requires the biggest banks to write plans showing how they could be dismantled in bankruptcy without using taxpayer money. If regulators think the so-called living wills aren't credible, they have the authority to break up the banks.
Dodd-Frank also empowers regulators to seize a failing megabank and wind it down outside of normal bankruptcy proceedings if financial stability is at risk, as a backup option.
Some former U.S. officials say that while the big-bank wind-down plans might seem credible on paper, it is doubtful any regulator would actually rely upon them in a crisis. Daniel Tarullo, a former Federal Reserve governor who was the central bank's point person on regulation, told the Brookings Institution recently that officials might not think even a modest risk of igniting a larger meltdown by allowing a megabank to fail would be worth taking.
In the first real-world test of the wind-down system for global banks during the March failure of Credit Suisse, Swiss officials deemed the process unduly risky. They viewed a merger with UBS as the only viable path to resolving the crisis.
The review of Credit Suisse and the other spring failures is spearheaded by the Financial Stability Board, a Switzerland-based group of global regulators that establishes baseline international standards. The work is being led by FDIC Chairman Martin Gruenberg, who heads an FSB steering group focused primarily on bank resolutions.
In the U.S., the turmoil after the failure of SVB prompted regulators to take emergency steps including a new Federal Reserve lending program. They declared SVB and Signature Bank a systemic risk to the financial system, allowing them to guarantee those failed firm's deposits above a $250,000 federal insurance cap.
Months later, policy makers hope to extend to midsize banks a version of the long-term debt requirements that at present only apply to global megabanks. They have already proposed raising capital requirements for banks with $100 billion or more in assets and are considering a spate of new liquidity and stress-testing rules.
Tougher rules for midsize banks were already on the way before SVB's collapse. An October plan floated by the Fed and FDIC would have required firms with more than $250 billion in assets to raise long-term debt that can help absorb losses in case of their own insolvency. Regulators now plan to propose applying the measure to banks down to $100 billion. They also plan to bolster the requirements for smaller banks to plan for their own failures.
Industry groups have said the long-term debt requirements would be expensive and aren't necessary to promote financial stability. The U.S. problems, particularly SVB's collapse, should have been prevented by better supervision, not more rules, they say.
Applying the long-term debt rules to banks that are similar in size to SVB and Signature could slow bank runs and give regulators more options in how they handle such failures, Gruenberg said in a speech Monday at the Brookings Institution.

David Benoit contributed to this article.
Credit: By Andrew Ackerman

DETAILS

Subject:	Bankruptcy; Long term debt; Wall Street Reform &Consumer Protection Act 2010-US; Insolvency; Central banks; Bank failures; International finance; International banking; Regulation of financial institutions

Business indexing term:	Subject: Bankruptcy Long term debt Wall Street Reform &Consumer Protection Act 2010-US Insolvency Central banks Bank failures International finance International banking Regulation of financial institutions; Corporation: UBS AG Credit Suisse Group AG; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	Switzerland; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Federal Deposit Insurance Corp; NAICS: 524128; Name: Brookings Institution; NAICS: 541714, 541720; Name: UBS AG; NAICS: 522110, 523150, 523920, 523940; Name: Credit Suisse Group AG; NAICS: 523150, 523920
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 15, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2850463661
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-regulators-grapple-with-bank-failures/docview/2850463661/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All R ights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: In Georgia, Trump Fatigue Runs Deep

McWhirter, Cameron; Wise, Lindsay . McWhirter, Cameron; Wise, Lindsay.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

PEACHTREE CITY, Ga. -- Georgia has become ground zero for exhaustion over the legal drama surrounding Donald Trump -- and the GOP debate about whether to stick with him in 2024.

The three indictments he has faced to date have boosted Trump's standing in national polls. But in Georgia -- where Trump is expected to be indicted as soon as this week on charges related to his effort to overturn the 2020 election result in the state -- there are signs that voters have tired of the 2020 election replays and of Trump himself.

In a shopping center in the Atlanta suburb of Peachtree City, Republican Cindy Allamon, 65, said she voted for Trump in 2020 but wasn't sure she wanted him to be the GOP nominee in 2024 -- a sentiment that could be a sign of trouble for Trump in the state's March 12 primary.

Allamon dreads the coming indictments in Georgia.

"For the country I think they should just let it go," she said. "It's getting ridiculous."

That kind of Trump fatigue is pervasive in Georgia, Republican campaign strategists warn, especially among suburban independents and some disenchanted Republicans.

"What has he done to net a single new vote since 2020 here?" complained one Georgia GOP consultant. "The reason he lost in 2020 were white suburban voters in Atlanta. They were over it then, and they're certainly over it now."

Now comes a fresh reminder of Trump's 2020 antics in the anticipated indictments from Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis. Though she has been tight-lipped about who she will indict and on what charges, experts and those close to her expect her to charge the former president, his associates and leading GOP activists in Georgia.

A Trump campaign spokesman declined to comment for this article, but Trump has repeatedly said the probe is politically motivated and he did nothing wrong.

Popular GOP Gov. Brian Kemp leads the faction urging the party to stop obsessing over the last presidential contest or risk losing the next one, the same way Trump fatigue depressed Republican turnout and alienated suburban voters in the past two elections, costing the party key Senate races.

Joe Biden won the election in Georgia by about 12,000 votes out of five million cast, making Trump the first Republican presidential candidate to lose the state since 1992. Trump and his allies unsuccessfully pressured Kemp, Republican Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, who oversees elections, Atlanta-based U.S. Attorney Byung J. Pak and others to investigate and overturn Biden's win.

Trump's attacks on state Republicans and the election process in Georgia helped depress the Republican vote and enhance Democratic turnout in two Senate runoff elections in January 2021. Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock won those contests, giving control of the 50-50 Senate to Democrats, with Vice President Kamala Harris breaking ties.

Two years later, Trump backed failed primary challenges against Kemp and Raffensperger, causing further GOP division. And Trump-endorsed GOP candidate Herschel Walker, a former football star, failed to unseat Warnock, with Republicans again losing in an expensive, closely watched runoff that handed Democrats a 51-49 Senate majority.

Kemp's former campaign manager, Bobby Saparow, leads a super PAC supporting former Vice President Mike Pence's campaign, while a close adviser, Cody Hall, has joined Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis's campaign staff.

The charges in Georgia are likely to include violations of the state's antiracketeering statute, often used by prosecutors going after gangs. Prosecutors use the antiracketeering law to build a case against what they describe as criminal networks. In this case, they would make the case that such a network, headed by Trump, sought to subvert democracy by blocking legitimate election results.

Some Republican strategists said the latest indictment might not yield the same benefits for Trump in the state. Georgia GOP Chair Josh McKoon disagreed.

"I think it will continue to energize Georgia Republicans, and even really center-right voters, because most people in this country don't believe you take the criminal justice system and use it as a political tool," McKoon said.

Georgia Democrats said they, too, were tired of rehashing 2020 but were eager to see indictments against a man who they believe tried to disenfranchise them.

"I'm just so over the whole thing," said Kevin Kelly, 60, a flight attendant and a Democrat who lives in Coweta County, southwest of Atlanta. "But I hope Trump gets what he deserves."

Credit: By Cameron McWhirter and Lindsay Wise

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Fatigue; Political campaigns; Indictments; Election results; Presidential elections; Voters; Voter behavior
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Georgia; Atlanta Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940; Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785213
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-georgia-trump-fatigue-runs-deep/docview/2849785213/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08- 14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Maui Keeps The Aloha Spirit Alive

Caldwell, Alicia A . Caldwell, Alicia A.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

MAUI, Hawaii -- The crew of the Lani Kai, a Maui Snorkeling boat normally jammed with ocean-loving tourists, quickly unloaded flippers, goggles and snorkels to make room for roughly 10 truckloads of supplies.

No nook or cranny of the vessel went unused. The ship had packed up about an hour's ride away from Lahaina on Saturday afternoon, carrying clothes, food and tarps to distribute, among other things.

"Spence, is there room for more?" one volunteer shouted out to the boat's captain after emptying a pickup truck bed.

Spencer Erwin, the captain, surveyed the deck and interior galley and gave a nod. "Sure. One more should do it," Erwin said.

State and federal aid is trickling into the region in the wake of the deadliest U.S. wildfire event in over 100 years. The Lahaina fire has left at least 93 people dead, though officials expect the death toll to continue to rise. Residents have described walls of wind-whipped flames and black, acrid smoke that billowed around them as the blaze reached its peak Tuesday evening.

Many Maui residents have since launched their own relief efforts, shuttling supplies to the fire-devastated region by boat. For days, a mini-flotilla of aid-laden boats have arrived off the shore of Kaanapali, just north of Lahaina.

On Saturday aboard the Lani Kai, a host of volunteers and a few journalists joined its captain and first officer as the boat made way toward Kaanapali, keeping about a mile off shore as it passed the charred remains of Lahaina.

"Maui and Hawaii has always been about aloha. It's a very small community and we need to help each other," Erwin said. Aloha, as anyone here will tell you, refers to a broad sense of love and fellowship.

As the boat navigated around Maui's west coast, those aboard were startled at the scope of the damage.
Small plumes of gray smoke could be seen from the ship as it passed into sightlines of Lahaina.
Erwin and his makeshift crew rendezvoused with another tourist boat-turned-aid supplier, the catamaran Sea Maui III, just off shore and formed a hand brigade to move supplies from one vessel to another.
The catamaran then made landfall, taking its place in line after another catamaran finished unloading. A line of volunteers waited on shore, forming a line up the beach to move trash bags, boxes and plastic bins stocked with supplies that would later be driven to distribution sites around West Maui.
The stories of survivors, many having made their way to the safety and calm of central Maui, are told in truly apocalyptic terms. Most people have described the area as looking like a war zone in the aftermath of a massive bombing, with bodies left in burned-out cars and twisted metal as the only recognizable remains.
"It was raining fire," Bosco Bae, a 39-year-old art gallery employee, recounted of his escape from Front Street after black, acrid smoke became too much and hopes of saving anything were lost.
The conversations are often matter-of-fact and rich in detail of the terror. Some end with hugs among friends or simple thank yous for asking. Residents who fled the hardest hit areas say they suspect the official death tolls are too low. Too many friends are gone, many said plainly.
Access to Lahaina is limited. On Saturday, some residents simply waited at a nearby gas station, hoping they would be able to eventually make it home. By the afternoon, only responders were allowed in and lines of residents in cars had dissipated.
Residents throughout the area pressed to return. The line of cars at a police checkpoint stretched miles back Friday.
At shelters around central Maui, evacuated residents showed a sense of resilience. At the War Memorial Complex, the area's largest shelter, a group of local Hawaiian singers serenaded families.
For some residents now housed in shelters in Central Maui, returning for now isn't an option. "I'll get a tent, I guess, and wait to rebuild," said David Ballesteros, 56.
"Everything I've known in my adult life is gone and I can't get it back," he said.
Credit: By Alicia A. Caldwell

DETAILS

Subject:	Art galleries &museums; Disaster relief; Volunteers; Forest &brush fires
Business indexing term:	Industry: 71211 : Museums 62423 : Emergency and Other Relief Services
Location:	Hawaii; United States--US; Maui Hawaii
Classification:	71211: Museums; 62423: Emergency and Other Relief Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Easter n edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785212
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-maui-keeps-aloha-spirit-alive/docview/2849785212/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-21
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News --- THE OUTLOOK: Gasoline, Food Threaten to Bump Up Inflation

Guilford, Gwynn; Parker, Will . Guilford, Gwynn; Parker, Will.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

While inflation continued on a downward glide path in July, economists say to brace for some turbulence in coming months as rising energy and food prices disrupt that process.

The consumer-price index increased 0.2% in July, the same as in June, the Labor Department said Thursday. That is down sharply from June 2022's 1.2% gain, and the 0.5% averaged in 2022. Continued moderate monthly readings would put inflation on a path toward the Federal Reserve's 2% target by late 2023 or early 2024.

But one powerful downward force on inflation is now reversing. Gasoline leapt in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine in early 2022, pushing the 12-month inflation rate to 9.1% a year ago. Its drop explains much of the subsequent fall to 3.2% in July.

Gasoline is now headed higher again. While its price rose just 0.2% in July, bigger gains are in store. Regular gasoline on Friday was up 30 cents a gallon from a month earlier at $3.84, according to OPIS, an energy-data and analytics provider.

That would lift the gasoline component of the CPI reading more than 10% in August, the monthly CPI by 0.6% and the 12-month change in consumer prices to as much as 3.6%, said Stephen Stanley, chief economist at Santander US Capital Markets.

Moreover, gasoline could keep rising because it tends to lag behind oil prices. West Texas Intermediate hit $82.82 a barrel last week, the highest since November, on worries about reduced supply after Saudi Arabia and Russia cut production and amid an improved outlook for the U.S. economy.

Oil prices threaten to boost other costs, such as airfare, an outsize driver of falling inflation. It fell 8.1% in July from June, shaving nearly 0.05 percentage point off the one-month inflation rate.

Food also made an outsize contribution to last summer's surge in inflation, and also its subsequent reversal. Grocery prices rose an average of 1% a month in the year through last September, but declined an average of 0.1% in March through June of this year. Then in July they jumped 0.3%.

Further increases could be in store. Producer prices for foods gained 0.5% in July from June, the most since November. The United Nations' index of food prices -- which includes cereals, vegetable oils, sugar, meat and dairy products -- climbed 1.3% in July from June, which was the second increase in four months after falling steadily from the 50-year high reached in March 2022.

Geopolitical events and weather could sustain that trend. Russia in July withdrew from a deal that allowed Ukraine to export grain through the Black Sea, and it has since attacked its key port facilities. Russia's withdrawal from the export deal could drive grain prices up by 10% to 15%, the International Monetary Fund estimated. Rising transportation costs, inclement weather and El Nino, a recurrent fall and winter weather pattern that can cause drought, could also contribute, said Michael Gapen, the head of U.S. economics at Bank of America.

On their own, costlier food and gasoline are unlikely to result in higher interest rates, because the Fed pays more attention to core inflation that excludes both, said Andrew Schneider, senior economist at BNP Paribas.

The good news is that shelter is the biggest component of core inflation, and it is likely to ease in coming months. Shelter rose 7.7% in the 12 months through July but was down from March's peak of 8.2%. Many economists expect this deceleration to continue over the next year, in large part because it tends to trail market conditions by 12 months or more.

Listing and property-data companies show average increases for new apartment leases already running below 2% this summer. Tenants renewing their leases faced an average increase of 5.8% in July, down from 11.1% in August last year, according to rental software firm RealPage.

Still, gas and food pose a particular concern for the Federal Reserve and the prospects of avoiding a recession. Gasoline is the only price that is broadcast to consumers on 4-foot-tall signs each day. They encounter food prices -- particularly for milk, eggs and other staples -- nearly as often. As a result, gasoline and grocery prices disproportionately shape consumers' expectations of inflation, which can, in theory, add to inflationary pressures as they ask for higher wages to compensate.

Inflation expectations tracked by the University of Michigan for five to 10 years out edged lower to 2.9% in early August from 3.0% in July, though above the 2019 average of 2.4%. A sustained rise in gasoline and food prices could send them higher, said Schneider, of BNP Paribas. "The Fed really pays attention to that," he said.

Recent strikes and big pay increases in union settlements exemplify how high inflation can flow through to wages and, potentially, prices, said Santander's Stanley.

"If everyone thought that the inflation we got during the pandemic was a flash in the pan, I don't think you'd be seeing the types of demands on the labor side that we're seeing right now," Stanley said.

Credit: By Gwynn Guilford and Will Parker

DETAILS

Subject:	Gasoline; Inflation; Consumers; Inflation rates; Consumer Price Index; Food prices
Business indexing term:	Subject: Inflation Consumers Inflation rates Consumer Price Index Food prices; Corporation: BNP Paribas
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Ukraine
Company / organization:	Name: BNP Paribas; NAICS: 522110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785202
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-outlook-gasoline-food-threaten-bump-up/docview/2849785202/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Cen tral

LINKS

U.S. News: Illegal Border Crossings Rise Despite Extreme Desert Heat

Perez, Santiago; Caldwell, Alicia A . Perez, Santiago; Caldwell, Alicia A.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Illegal crossings along the U.S. Southwestern border are rising fast three months after the Biden administration tightened immigration policy, with Border Patrol arrests surging in remote desert areas.

Migrants trying to enter the U.S. illegally are braving record-high temperatures, which is making their journeys riskier and requiring more rescues by U.S. and Mexican border authorities.

More than 130,000 migrants were apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border in July, according to a U.S. government official briefed on the data, a third more than in June.

The fastest growth was in the Border Patrol's Tucson sector, with some 40,000 apprehensions, the most since April 2008. Authorities attribute much of the Tucson traffic to a shift in tactics by human smugglers guiding migrants to the border.

Tens of thousands of migrants crossed in some of the most remote and harsh stretches of the Arizona desert between Yuma and Tucson as smugglers try less-frequently used routes to avoid detection. Such paths keep to areas with limited infrastructure to detain migrants, making it more likely they will be released.

"You would think nobody would be coming, but they are all coming in the worst heat in history," said Adam Isacson, a border-security expert at WOLA, a Washington-based human-rights advocacy group.

There have been no deaths or major medical emergencies reported in the newly busy area in recent weeks, officials say. U.S. authorities recovered the bodies of more than 890 migrants, a record number, along the border, in the 2022 fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, according to the Biden administration. Many died from dehydration while lost in arid areas of the border.

John Modlin, the Border Patrol's top agent in Tucson, said on July 28 that officers there had made about 10,000 arrests and more than 400 rescues in the previous week. In all of June, there were around 24,000 arrests, according to Customs and Border Protection data.

Border authorities in the Rio Grande Valley sector of east Texas also reported surges in migrant apprehensions. Large numbers of arrests have continued into August.

Crossing in desert areas can be deadly, with ground temperatures well exceeding 100 degrees at times, CBP officials say. Such extreme conditions have led to a surge in 911 calls, they say. Agents responding to such calls for help routinely find dozens or even hundreds of migrants in need of aid and trying to surrender to arriving border agents, according to an official familiar with the situation.

CBP said the Border Patrol has deployed additional agents and transportation resources to the region.

The agency said that "callous human smuggling organizations" have even sent migrant families with children through stretches of a National Wildlife Refuge and the Tohono O'odham Nation southwest of Tucson.

While arrests for illegal border crossings have increased sharply in recent weeks, they remain significantly below the 222,000 reported in December. They are also lower than in the months before the Biden administration stopped enforcing the Title 42 public-health law that allowed agents to quickly turn back migrants before they could ask for

asylum.
Along the key routes in Latin America, the number of migrants making their way north has also been rising fast. It is an indication that apprehensions along the U.S.-Mexico border could again reach the record level seen earlier this year. Farther south, a record 273,000 migrants crossed the dangerous jungle paths of the Darien Gap between Colombia and Panama from January to early August, more than in all of 2022, according to Panama's government. Most people are on the way to the U.S. More than 150,000 Venezuelans made the trek. Panama's statistics show that July was the busiest month so far this year, with crossings almost doubling from June to more than 55,000, even as the rainy season picked up.
Mexico's government registered a monthly record of more than 58,000 migrants heading to the U.S. in June, the latest month of available estimates, a 45% increase from May. In Cuba, social-media advertisements have recently increased offering door-to-door transportation to the U.S. through flights to Nicaragua and ground travel across Central America and Mexico.
Endemic poverty and criminal violence are still the main reasons that Latin Americans emigrate, migrants say. A 60-year-old migrant from Honduras said that she arrived in Mexico this week fleeing the violent community of Choloma, near the city of San Pedro Sula, because of extortion threats. "I had to leave my house because if I didn't deliver the extortion payment this weekend, they were going to kill me," said the migrant, a garment retailer.
"All my family is out of the country too," she said. "I don't know if I'm going to be able to enter the U.S. Until now, what I do is thank God that I'm still alive."

Michelle Hackman, Juan Carlos Rivera and Jose de Cordoba contributed to this article.
Credit: By Santiago Perez and Alicia A. Caldwell

DETAILS

Subject:	Extortion; Border patrol; Immigration policy; Immigrants
Location:	Mexico; United States--US; Panama
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785198
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-illegal-border-crossings-rise-despite/docview/2849785198/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Carl Icahn is fighting for his investment company's survival after a short-seller attack nearly halved its value, propelling the billionaire into one of the most trying periods of his six-decade career.

A 2022 deal to let DuPont sell its sustainable-materials business to a Chinese company while ensuring the technology behind it never left the U.S. hasn't worked as planned, according to people familiar with the matter.

U.S. Steel rejected an unsolicited offer from rival Cleveland-Cliffs, stopping for now a deal that would significantly reshape the domestic steel industry.

Neeraj Khemlani, president and co-head of the unit that houses CBS News and its TV-station holdings, is resigning and has entered into a content and development deal with parent company Paramount Global.

Big companies are split on whether the Fed will be able to tame inflation without tipping the U.S. economy into a full-blown recession.

Wall Street is growing confident the U.S. can avoid a recession, but the yield curve continues to send seemingly bleak signals.

Texas sued British oil giant Shell and the other owner of apetrochemical and refinerycomplex near Houston that

caught fire in May over alleged environmental damage.

After a short-lived sales rebound earlier this year, China's property market has fallen back into a deep slump, with potential home buyers sitting on the sidelines.

DETAILS

Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785195
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2849785195/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14

LINKS

U.S. News: Texas Sues Shell Over May Fire at Houston Refinery

Strasburg, Jenny . Strasburg, Jenny.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The state of Texas sued British oil giant Shell and the other owner of a petrochemical and refinery complex near Houston that caught fire in May over alleged environmental damage.

The Texas attorney general alleged in court documents that the massive fire caused "mass quantities" of airborne contaminants and illegal flows of wastewater into nearby waterways.

The civil lawsuit, filed Aug. 7 in state district court in Travis County, on behalf of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, seeks unspecified monetary damages of more than $1 million and other relief tied to alleged environmental violations at the Deer Park site.

According to the state, days of firefighting using "vast quantities of water" to cool parts of Shell's sprawling chemical facility resulted in at least 68.7 million gallons of wastewater being unlawfully discharged into a storm-water pond and into the nearby Houston Ship Channel.

The lawsuit says Shell also allowed additional, unspecified volumes of wastewater to flow through a water-treatment facility in amounts exceeding what was permitted.

The wastewater passed through a drainage ditch crossing Shell's chemicals-manufacturing facility as well as the next-door refinery owned by a unit of Mexican state oil company Petroleos Mexicanos, operating under the name Deer Park Refining Limited Partnership. Both Shell and the Pemex-owned entity are named as defendants.

A Shell spokesman said Saturday the company was aware of the lawsuit and doesn't comment on pending litigation. He said the Deer Park chemicals facility remains in a recovery phase, and Shell continues to investigate the cause of the fire and rebuild the damaged portion of the plant.

A Pemex spokeswoman with the Deer Park refinery said the company is committed to working with regulators to resolve concerns about the May fire and is dedicated to conducting business in a safe and environmentally responsible way.

Serious releases of chemicals, oil, vapors and other substances at U.S. chemical-manufacturing sites and refineries resulting in injuries, evacuations or other severe consequences, saw an overall uptick in frequency during portions of the pandemic, according to data collected by the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers, a U.S. trade and lobbying group.

Such incidents, which are self-reported by companies according to standards set by the industry, have declined in frequency from the levels of a decade ago but became more common in 2021 at U.S. chemical plants. They also increased in frequency during four out of the past five years at U.S. refineries, AFPM data show.

In addition to the lawsuit filed by Texas, Shell faces private lawsuits on behalf of more than two dozen employees and contractors who say they were injured and exposed to harmful chemical fumes during the fire.

A Shell executive at the chemicals plant told reporters in May that the fire sent 15 people to the hospital for

evaluations, and that all were later released. The company has said it is committed to the safety and well-being of workers and communities near its plants.
The Deer Park wastewater discharges started May 5, when the fire ignited, and lasted until at least May 26, according to the state's lawsuit.
Shell said at the time of the fire that there was no danger to the community near the chemicals facility. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality also said at the time there were "no detections of concern in the air monitoring surveys" being conducted by staff and contractors during the fire.
In 2021, Shell said it would sell its 50% stake in the crude-refining plant at the Deer Park complex to its partner Pemex as part of broader moves by the London-based company to shrink its U.S. refinery footprint. The sale was completed in early 2022.
Shell retained 100% ownership of the adjacent petrochemicals plant that dates back to the 1940s. The company has had a presence at Deer Park for more than 90 years.
The Deer Park chemicals facility makes ethylene and isoprene for use in paints, plastics, insecticides and other products, as well as acetone and phenol for dyes, agricultural chemicals and other uses.
Credit: By Jenny Strasburg

DETAILS

Subject:	Petroleum refineries; Chemicals; Manufacturing; Limited partnerships; Litigation; Environmental quality; Fires; Refineries
Business indexing term:	Subject: Manufacturing Limited partnerships Refineries; Corporation: Shell PLC
Location:	Texas; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Petroleos Mexicanos; NAICS: 211120; Name: Shell PLC; NAICS: 213112, 221210, 324110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785189
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-texas-sues-shell-over-may-fire-at/docview/2849785189/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full textavailability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Restaurants, Grocers Battle for Diners --- Supermarkets expand prepared meals, as eateries aim to defend turf

Kang, Jaewon; Haddon, Heather . Kang, Jaewon; Haddon, Heather.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Supermarkets and restaurants are stepping up their tug of war for Americans' stretched food budgets.

Grocery chains are revamping prepared meals in delis and buffets, expanding menus and offering more discounts, seeing a chance to woo diners away from restaurants. Retail executives say that U.S. consumers have gotten more discerning about eating out, an opportunity for grocers to offer potentially cheaper, faster alternatives.

"There's been resistance from the consumer for the prices that they were paying at restaurants," said Mark Van Buskirk, who oversees merchandising at Save Mart Supermarkets. The California-based retailer has introduced a new line of gourmet sandwiches and added more packaged meals in recent months.

"We think we have an advantage," he said.

Restaurants are fighting back, designing new menu items they say would be tough to replicate at home. Executives at Chipotle Mexican Grill, Domino's Pizza and Taco Bell-parent Yum Brands dismiss the idea that cash-strapped consumers will give up professionally prepared meals for food made at a grocery store or in their own kitchens.

"My kids are like, 'You are putting chicken on the grill, why don't you just get Chipotle?'" the chain's chief executive, Brian Niccol, said in an interview. "I don't know what they are saying about my grilling technique."

Inflation has upended the typical economic dynamic between eating at home versus going out. Grocery prices increased at a faster rate than restaurants in 2022 -- a phenomenon that hadn't occurred in decades -- until it flipped

in March. The price gap has since widened, with grocery prices rising 3.6% while restaurant prices increased by 7.1% in July compared with the same month a year earlier, according to the Labor Department. Overall food prices have moderated in recent months as inflation has eased.

U.S. consumers' budgets remain under pressure. The federal government reduced food-stamp benefits in March that it had increased earlier in the pandemic. People have been buying cheaper items and fewer products at supermarkets, executives have said, and they are eating out at restaurants less often, or ordering less when they do visit.

In supermarkets, sales of prepared meals grew 8.3% in dollar terms and remained relatively steady in terms of units sold over the past year, according to research firm Circana Group. Overall food and beverage unit sales declined by 3% over the same period.

Cassie Sorensen, a 45-year-old stay-at-home mom from Arizona, said she occasionally gets prepared food from Costco as restaurant prices have gotten increasingly expensive.

"They have great dinner options and those are a lot more affordable for a family of four rather than eating out," Sorensen said. She still eats out for date nights or evenings with friends, but she would rather make a meal at home and enjoy the leftovers, too.

McDonald's, Denny's and other chains have told investors that they don't expect to keep raising their menu prices as steeply in coming months as their U.S. costs have started to stabilize. Restaurant companies said they are investing in new food items to sell meals that consumers wouldn't quickly or easily make on their own.

Burger King, Domino's and other restaurants are pushing their franchisees to overhaul their kitchen operations to improve service. Chipotle is testing new grills it hopes will make the cooking of its chicken and steak more consistent, juicier and with a sear that executives said can't easily be re-created at home.

Taco Bell is now selling a burrito with cheese grilled on top, and KFC just introduced hand-breaded nuggets, said Chris Turner, chief financial officer of parent company Yum Brands. "The craveability is impossible to replicate at home," Turner said.

Retailers aim to carve out a larger piece of the pizza market, too. Casey's, a convenience-store operator and already one of the country's biggest pizza sellers, is expanding its pizza menu; Wawa gas stations started selling pizza in July.

Restaurant-quality pizza can't be re-created in a home kitchen, Turner said. Russell Weiner, CEO of Domino's, said in an interview that plenty of people choose to eat at home instead of ordering restaurant food, but they aren't just substituting a frozen Tombstone pizza for his chain's made-to-order pies.

A spokeswoman for Nestle, which makes Tombstone, said the company's frozen meals offer a great-tasting and affordable alternative to takeout.

Kroger, the largest grocery operator in the U.S., said it has been expanding its meal offerings, including chicken meals bundled with sides, beverages and rolls, along with ready-to-make pizza and chicken and steak taco kits. It is broadening into pizza and other products for its meal-kit business, Home Chef.

When Giant Eagle began a storewide promotion program in May, prepared meals garnered a bigger increase in sales than other sections of the store. This fall, it will triple the number of prepared meals and quadruple deli items in discount programs, said Brian Ferrier, the company's senior vice president of merchandising.

"There's pent-up demand and interest," he said.

Some grocers are studying their recipes to appeal to more shoppers. Midwest-based Festival Foods changed the chicken in its chicken salads in response to customer feedback, while Good Food Holdings, the owner of Bristol Farms and Lazy Acres Natural Market chains, is adding new ingredients to menus of prepared meals.

Zachary Belcher, a facilitator in Chicago, said he has been trying to eat at home more because of high prices. While he generally considers restaurant cuisine higher quality, in many cases, he said, the supermarket-made meals are just as good.

"It's pretty much all the same thing," he said.

Wendy Guzman contributed to this article.

Credit: By Jaewon Kang and Heather Haddon

DETAILS

Subject:	Pizza; Consumers; Food; Customer feedback; Supermarkets; Prices; Meals; Restaurants; Grocery stores
Business indexing term:	Subject: Consumers Customer feedback Supermarkets Restaurants Grocery stores; Corporation: Yum Brands Inc; Industry: 44511 : Supermarkets and Other Grocery Retailers (except Convenience Retailers) 72251 : Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Yum Brands Inc; NAICS: 551112, 722513
Classification:	44511: Supermarkets and Other Grocery Retailers (except Convenience Retailers); 72251: Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785183
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-restaurants-grocers-battle-diners/docview/2849785183/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-03-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Small Kansas Paper Raided by Police After It Investigated a Tip

Najmabadi, Shannon . Najmabadi, Shannon.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The police force of a small Kansas town raided the office of a local newspaper and the home of its owners on Friday, seizing personal cellphones and computers in a case U.S. legal experts say is likely unprecedented in modern times. One of the newspaper's owners, 98-year-old Joan Meyer, collapsed and died the next day, according to her son Eric Meyer, who is also a co-owner of the paper.

The search centered on a tip the news outlet, called the Marion County Record, received from a confidential source who alleged a local restaurateur, Kari Newell, was driving without a license after an impaired driving conviction 15 years ago. Record staff investigated the tip using a document the source provided but decided not to publish a story because they had reservations about the source's motives and how the source got the document, which contained personal information about Newell.

"That is what has all of my publishers going 'wait a minute, we're sent stuff all the time,'" said Emily Bradbury, executive director of the Kansas Press Association. "If that is the catalyst for seizing my computers, this is scary."

The Record is based about an hour's drive north of Wichita in the 1,900-person city of Marion. The Meyer family has owned the paper for 25 years.

A reporter with the Record received the tip about Newell in early August. The source sent a document that included Newell's date of birth and driver's license, which the reporter used to verify the document's veracity on a state website. The reporter used her own name to do so, said Meyer.

But Meyer said he had an "inkling suspicion" that the paper was "being set up -- that somebody gave us a document that we weren't supposed to have."

Without mentioning Newell's name, Meyer told the police and county sheriff about the document, said they didn't intend to publish a story, and offered to provide additional information in an email, he said. He didn't get a response, he said.

The next week, sheriff's deputies and police officers simultaneously showed up at the news outlet's office and at the house Meyer shared with his mother, with a search warrant signed by Eighth Judicial District Magistrate Judge Laura Viar. No probable cause statement justifying the need for a search has been made public. Meyer's mother grew agitated as officers rifled through papers and took electronics, Meyer said.

The Eighth Judicial District said it couldn't comment on a matter pending before the court.
Marion Police Chief Gideon Cody responded to questions about the case by referring to the search warrant and a public statement that said he believed the judicial system would be vindicated once the entire story was made public. "The victim asks that we do all the law allows to ensure justice is served. The Marion Kansas Police Department will [do] nothing less," he said in the statement.
Newell said she was shocked to learn of the raid after being contacted by the police early last week. They said she might be the victim of a crime, because a reporter and editor at the Record received a copy of a letter she had received about her driver's license, Newell said.
"I don't know if it ever left their organization or not. But the fact that they were even considering -- if they were not going to do a story on it, then what was the point of downloading it?" Newell said.
She confirmed she had driven without a license but said she had a driver's license now. "I am not the Gestapo. I can't go tell the police, 'Hey, go raid this place' and they're just going to be like, 'OK, I'm going to go do that after lunch.' There is a full process that comes into play, none of which I had anything or any part of," she said.
Meyer said neither he nor the reporter who received the tip shared the personal information or downloaded it from the state website. It is standard practice to look into tips the newsroom receives, he said.
The Kansas Bureau of Investigation assigned an agent to the case Tuesday, after getting a request from local police and the Marion County Attorney to join "an investigation into allegations of illegal access and dissemination of confidential criminal justice information," said agency spokeswoman Melissa Underwood. The KBI agent didn't apply for the search warrants executed at the Record's office and Meyer's home, and wasn't present when they were served, Underwood said.
Legal experts and advocates for press freedom said the raids likely violate a privacy protection act Congress passed in 1980 that requires law-enforcement officials to get a subpoena for reporters' work product rather than a search warrant that can't be challenged in court beforehand.
The Reporters Committee for the Freedom of the Press and more than 30 news organizations, including The New York Times, Dow Jones and The Washington Post, have written to the chief of the Marion Police Department to condemn its raid on the Marion County Record.
Credit: By Shannon Najmabadi

DETAILS

Subject:	Personal information; Criminal investigations; Search warrants; Raids; Drivers licenses; Freedom of the press; Reporters; Fatalities; Newspapers
Business indexing term:	Industry: 51311 : Newspaper Publishers
Location:	United States--US; Kansas
Company / organization:	Name: Marion County Record; NAICS: 513110
Classification:	51311: Newspaper Publishers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785180
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-small-kansas-paper-raided-police-after/docview/2849785180/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Grand Jury In Atlanta Set to Hear 2020 Case

Wolfe, Jan; McWhirter, Cameron . Wolfe, Jan; McWhirter, Cameron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The Georgia district attorney who has investigated alleged 2020 election interference by former President Donald Trump will begin presenting evidence to a grand jury in Atlanta early this week, according to witnesses summoned to

appear.
Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis's timeline became clearer on Saturday when two witnesses in the investigation said they had been summoned to testify Tuesday. Legal experts have said they expect the presentation of evidence to take around two days.
There are two grand juries meeting in Fulton County through the end of August, one on Mondays and Tuesdays and the other on Thursdays and Fridays. The latest developments suggest Willis will begin her presentation of the case on Monday, and the public could know whether Trump and others have been indicted by Tuesday evening.
"I can confirm that I have been requested to testify before the Fulton County grand jury on Tuesday," said Geoff Duncan, Georgia's former lieutenant governor, who spoke out against Trump's false claims that the Nov. 3, 2020, election was marred by fraud.
"I look forward to answering their questions around the 2020 election," said Duncan, a Republican, in a statement. "Republicans should never let honesty be mistaken for weakness."
Another witness summoned to testify is George Chidi, an independent journalist who stumbled upon a meeting of state GOP officials seeking to certify an alternate slate of Electoral College votes for Trump while the official procedure was committing the state's electoral votes to the Democratic winner of the race, Joe Biden.
One focus of Willis's investigation was these "alternate electors," individuals who signed a certificate stating Trump had won Georgia in the 2020 election and declared themselves Georgia's "duly elected and qualified" electors.
"I've just received a call from District Attorney Fani Willis' office," Chidi said on X, formerly known as Twitter. "I have been asked to come to court Tuesday for testimony before the grand jury."
Both Duncan and Chidi testified before a special grand jury that investigated the actions of Trump and his allies after the election. That grand jury lacked authority to hand down indictments, but after hearing 75 witnesses it wrote a report recommending criminal charges against several people, according to excerpts of the report that have been unsealed.
Credit: By Jan Wolfe and Cameron McWhirter

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Witnesses; State elections; Investigations; Presidential elections; District attorneys; Scandals; Grand juries
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Location:	United States--US; Georgia; Atlanta Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785179
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-grand-jury-atlanta-set-hear-2020-case/docview/2849785179/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Biden Sets Security Talks for Tokyo, Seoul

Gale, Alastair . Gale, Alastair.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

They have done the diplomatic courtship. Now the U.S., Japan and South Korea are trying to make their three-way relationship more permanent -- in particular on military matters with annual joint exercises.

Two years ago Tokyo and Seoul were barely on speaking terms. How much has changed will become clear on Friday when President Biden is set to host South Korea's president, Yoon Suk Yeol, and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida at Camp David.

Countering China and North Korea is the main aim of the three-way meeting, which is marked by a pair of firsts. It is

the first time Biden is greeting foreign leaders at the presidential retreat in rural Maryland, and the first time leaders of the three countries have held a stand-alone summit, instead of gathering at another event.
The three leaders are set to announce that their countries will hold joint military exercises every year across a range of forces, and they also plan to make their summit an annual event, officials said.
National-security advisers from the three nations are set to meet twice a year, and a hotline for the three leaders is in the works. They are also planning tighter economic cooperation as they try to shield supply chains from China-related risks.
"When the U.S., Japan and Korea are in lockstep, it changes the strategic landscape in a fundamental way," said Rahm Emanuel, the U.S. ambassador to Japan.
China, North Korea and Russia are forging their own closer military ties, including a recent joint naval patrol by Beijing and Moscow near Alaska. North Korea is advancing its nuclear program through frequent test launches.
Closer relations between Seoul and Tokyo, driven by Yoon, have opened an opportunity for the two longtime U.S. allies to work more closely together. Already, Yoon and Kishida, fellow conservatives, have visited each other's country, and dozens of three-way meetings involving top officials have taken place.
Biden has said he is running next year for re-election but could be succeeded by someone less committed to global alliances, while the South Korea-Japan rapprochement has historically been prone to abrupt backsliding.
Locking in the gains now to keep the three-way relationship strong will be an essential goal at the Camp David summit, said Tongfi Kim, a professor of Asian geopolitics at the Brussels School of Governance. "So, basically make the breakup more difficult."
The annual military exercises will include training to track and destroy ballistic missiles by knitting together radar, satellites and weapons systems, officials involved in the planning said.
Credit: By Alastair Gale in Tokyo and Timothy W. Martin in Seoul

DETAILS

Subject:	Military exercises; Diplomatic &consular services; International relations-US; State visits
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	North Korea; China; United States--US; Camp David; Japan; South Korea
People:	Yoon Suk-yeol; Kishida, Fumio
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.18
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785177
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-biden-sets-security-talks-tokyo-seoul/docview/2849785177/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Trump Overshadows DeSantis at Iowa State Fair

McCormick, John; Leary, Alex . McCormick, John; Leary, Alex.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

DES MOINES, Iowa -- This state's fair has staged locomotive collisions, hosted high-wire walkers, held wartime battle re-enactments and, in recent days, been home to a prizewinning boar weighing 1,012 pounds. On Saturday, Donald Trump arrived.

The former president was the center of attention, even on a day when he shared the fairgrounds with four others also seeking the 2024 Republican presidential nomination. He worked especially hard to overshadow Ron DeSantis, his current top challenger for the GOP nomination, arriving shortly after the Florida governor and stealing crowd and media attention.

Iowa starts the Republican nomination process with its Jan. 15 caucuses, and the state's importance looms large because there's a belief among party operatives that, if Trump can't be slowed in the Hawkeye State, he's likely to become the nominee.

Trump's enthusiastic reception came despite unprecedented legal woes. He is facing three criminal indictments -- for improper handling of classified documents, a hush money payment to a porn star and conspiring to undo his 2020 defeat to Joe Biden.

A fourth could come in Georgia this week concerning his alleged attempts to reverse his 2020 loss in the state. A reporter on Saturday asked if he would be open to a plea deal. "We don't take plea deals because I did nothing wrong," Trump said.

Even before stepping onto the fairgrounds, Trump's Boeing 757 circled overhead several times. Fairgoers pointed to the sky as the jet flew above, just as DeSantis was finishing his shift flipping meat at the Iowa Pork Producers Association building. Supporters of the former president also chanted "we love Trump" as DeSantis took his turn at the grill. Trump made multiple stops, attracting such large crowds that the mass of humanity frequently blocked foot and motor traffic.

At the former president's side were nine members of the Florida congressional delegation backing Trump over DeSantis, a dig at the governor's lack of congressional support back home. DeSantis, showing his Iowa support, brought roughly a dozen state legislators backing him.

"The other candidates came here -- they had like six people," Trump said, wildly understating the crowds gathered for DeSantis. The former president also bragged about the size of the fair audience and his polling in the state. A New York Times/Siena College poll released earlier this month showed Trump leading DeSantis in Iowa, 44% to 20%, a narrower margin than nationally.

"We'll be back," Trump vowed, "we don't want to take any chances." His campaign said it spent $20,000 on food and drink at the fair, donated to attendees.

On Saturday, DeSantis told reporters that Trump has failed the party by declining to sign a loyalty pledge to support the party's eventual nominee. He also defended Iowa Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds.

Trump has been critical of her. His critique was centered on her decision to remain neutral ahead of the caucuses rather than endorse his candidacy. Reynolds invited every candidate to a friendly question-and-answer session. Almost all GOP presidential candidates accepted the invitation except Trump.

Other GOP hopefuls on the Iowa fairgrounds Saturday included businessman Vivek Ramaswamy, former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley and business executive and pastor Ryan Binkley.

Credit: By John McCormick and Alex Leary

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Political campaigns; Nominations; Presidential elections; Criminal pleas; Fairs &exhibitions
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	Florida; United States--US; Iowa
People:	Trump, Donald J; DeSantis, Ron
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785173
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-trump-overshadows-desantis-at-iowa-state/docview/2849785173/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Beijing Eyes Taiwan's U.S. Stopover --- Aggressive response could stoke tensions with Washington, backfire in Taipei vote

Chun Han Wong; Wang, Joyu; Hutzler, Charles . Chun Han Wong; Wang, Joyu; Hutzler, Charles.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

After Taiwan's president traveled through the U.S. this spring, China responded with three days of live-fire military drills and a barrage of condemnations asserting its claims to the self-governing island.

Now, with Taiwan's vice president, Lai Ching-te, who touched down in New York on Saturday night, China's leaders have more to think about as they weigh a response.

Beijing repeatedly warned the U.S. against allowing Lai to stop in the U.S. on his way to and from Paraguay, denouncing the route as provocative. China's military stepped up sorties into the airspace and waters near Taiwan in the days leading up to Lai's trip, and its state broadcaster released a documentary that featured soldiers expressing a willingness to die in an attack on the island.

Yet Beijing could limit its response for a range of reasons, Taiwanese officials and political analysts said.

One is fear of upsetting a delicate effort to ease tensions with Washington. Another is the potential effect on Taiwan's presidential election in January. Lai is the current front-runner in the race and a provocative action could boost his popularity.

"Any maneuvering by Beijing, based on past experiences in the last few years, may just help Lai to score points," said a senior Taiwanese official, referring to past elections in which aggressive Chinese action boosted the ruling party's candidate. "This holds no benefits for Beijing."

Lai's transit comes as Washington and Beijing try to ease tension with tentative efforts to manage friction over Taiwan, the war in Ukraine, espionage and technology controls. For Beijing, easing tensions would help reduce external pressures weighing on China's economy, though officials have also stressed to American counterparts that they won't compromise on their core interests, including the goal of unifying Taiwan with the mainland.

Lai was scheduled to depart for Paraguay on Sunday evening as part of a seven-day trip to attend the inauguration of Paraguay's incoming president. In keeping with past precedent for such trips, Lai won't go to Washington but is due to stop by San Francisco on his way back to Taiwan.

The passage of Taiwanese officials through the U.S., officially referred to as transits, are part of deliberated arrangements made between Washington and Taipei to allow its leaders to engage with the other side on American soil after the two governments cut formal diplomatic ties in 1979.

The arrangements around Lai's transit don't differ from previous practices and shouldn't be used as a pretext by China to engage in provocations, Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said in July.

Recent opinion polls suggest that Lai, the ruling Democratic Progressive Party's presidential candidate, is leading the race to succeed President Tsai Ing-wen next year, though observers say the three-way contest is too volatile to pick a favorite, with months to go before the election in January.

Ahead of Lai's trip, Chinese state media blasted Lai as a separatist bent on stoking tensions. Beijing considers him a more fervent advocate of Taiwan independence than Tsai. That is partly because of previous remarks he has made, including in 2017 when he described himself as a "pragmatic" worker for Taiwan independence.

Lai has said, if elected, he wouldn't seek to change the status quo between Taiwan and the mainland. Discussing his 2017 remarks in a television interview aired last Monday, Lai said he was referring to how he would work to protect Taiwan's sovereignty. "The fact is Taiwan is not part of the People's Republic of China," he said.

Some political analysts said they expect China to further step up military activities near Taiwan in response to Lai's trip.

Beijing "will not overreact, but react they certainly will," said Dylan Loh, an assistant professor at Singapore's Nanyang Technological University who studies China's foreign policy.

Credit: By Chun Han Wong, Joyu Wang and Charles Hutzler

DETAILS

Subject:	Elections; State visits; Military exercises

Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US; Paraguay; Taiwan
People:	Lai Ching-te
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.18
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785171
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-beijing-eyes-taiwans-u-s-stopover/docview/2849785171/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Chinese Goods Make Up Smaller Slice of U.S. Imports

DeBarros, Anthony; Hayashi, Yuka . DeBarros, Anthony; Hayashi, Yuka.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A deepening confrontation between the U.S. and China is eroding trade ties between the world's two largest economies, with goods from China accounting for the smallest percentage of U.S. imports in 20 years.

Instead, buyers are turning to Mexico, Europe and other parts of Asia for wares ranging from computer chips and smartphones to clothing, according to a Wall Street Journal analysis of trade data released this week by the Census Bureau.

China accounted for 13.3% of U.S. goods imports during the first six months of this year, below a peak of 21.6% for all of 2017. The current level is the lowest since 12.1% for the year in 2003, two years after China's accession to the World Trade Organization.

The shift started in 2018 as the Trump administration imposed tariffs on a range of Chinese products. During the pandemic, shortages of products such as face masks and semiconductors prompted companies to rethink their supply chains. This year, some companies cut their reliance on China amid an intensifying bilateral fight over advanced technology. President Biden dialed up the heat last week with an executive order banning U.S. investments in certain Chinese advanced semiconductors and quantum computing.

"It's now become clear to companies that the conflict on trade and technology and other things between the United States and China is not going to go away," said Chad Bown, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. "They have begun to try to figure out ways to de-risk."

Broad decline

China's loss of share in U.S. imports isn't the result of a dramatic change in imports from any one product or country. Instead, slow-moving supply-chain shifts across dozens of industries and nations are driving the trend.

One factor has been a shift of production to other Asian nations, namely in Southeast Asia and India. Starting in early 2019, China's share of U.S. imports fell below the total share from a basket of 25 other Asian nations. India, Thailand and Vietnam accounted for 24.6% of U.S. imports in the 12 months ended in June, compared with 14.9% for China, according to census data.

Meanwhile, Mexico's share of U.S. imports matched China's in June. The free-trade agreement between the U.S., Mexico and Canada has made Mexico a strong contender against China and other Asian nations as a supply base to the U.S. A move toward shorter supply chains in the post-Covid era adds to the advantage of Mexico and Canada. Machinery and electronics were among the largest trade categories where Mexico's share of U.S. imports increased during the year ending in June.

When the dollar values of exports and imports are combined, Mexico is now the U.S.'s No. 1 trading partner, followed by Canada, pushing China to third place. The shift reflects a recent decline in the share of U.S. exports to China, combined with a longer-term decline in China's share of U.S. imports. China accounted for 10.9% of U.S. total trade during the first half of 2023. Mexico tops at 15.7%, with Canada close behind at 15.4%.

Recent declines in imports of Chinese products, in both dollars and as a share of imports, stretch across product categories. Imports of machinery -- a category wide enough to include pumps, air conditioning units and computers -- dropped by $16.6 billion in the 12 months ending in June. In the same period, China's share of U.S. machinery imports fell to 21.1% from 25.3%.

U.S. imports of Chinese-made electronics decreased by $13.4 billion in the 12 months ending in June, compared with a year earlier. China's share of electronics imports fell to 27.9% from 32%.

Smartphones

Most smartphones imported to the U.S. arrive from China, but its share fell to 75.7% for the 12 months ended in June,

according to census data. That was down from several recent peaks above 80%.
Smartphone makers, particularly Apple, are pushing to diversify their supply chains away from China. Apple supplier Foxconn, for example, plans to increase production in India.
Semiconductors
Vietnam and Thailand are growing sources of chip imports to the U.S. They are becoming hubs for the later stages of chip-making, where raw silicon chips are tested and then packaged into their final form -- an area where China also has a big footprint.
Amkor Technology, a U.S. company that specializes in chip packaging, is building a large factory in Vietnam that it expects to open later this year. Israel, where Intel has some of its most advanced chip-making factories, has also been a growing source of imports.
As the U.S. and its allies step up policies to restrict sale and production of advanced chips in China, companies are increasing their production in the U.S., Europe and other Asian countries.
Apparel
China's share of U.S. imports of apparel declined quickly after the Trump administration included the category in a round of tariffs in 2019. Sourcing has continued to shift to other Asian countries, including Vietnam, Bangladesh and Indonesia.
The departures were accelerated by growing U.S. scrutiny of labor practices in the cotton-producing Chinese region of Xinjiang, as well as rising wages for Chinese workers.
Furniture
A boom in furniture imports from China starting in the 1990s helped close factories across the U.S. But China's share of U.S. furniture imports began declining in response to tariffs and has continued to slide in the past year. China accounted for 25.7% of furniture imports in the 12 months ending in June. Meanwhile, Vietnam, Mexico and Canada collectively accounted for 49.4% of furniture imports in that same period, up from 41.8% at the start of 2020.

Asa Fitch contributed to this article.
Credit: By Anthony DeBarros and Yuka Hayashi

DETAILS

Subject:	Smartphones; Furniture; Semiconductors; Trade agreements; Tariffs; International trade; Supply chains; Factories; US imports; International relations-US
Business indexing term:	Subject: Smartphones Trade agreements Tariffs International trade Supply chains Factories US imports; Industry: 33712 : Household and Institutional Furniture Manufacturing
Location:	Thailand; Mexico; United States--US; Canada; India; Vietnam; China; Europe
Classification:	33712: Household and Institutional Furniture Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785168
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-chinese-goods-make-up-smaller-slice/docview/2849785168/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and publ ic libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Hunter Biden Team Says DOJ Reneged on Deal

Viswanatha, Aruna . Viswanatha, Aruna.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Hunter Biden's legal team said late Sunday the Justice Department had decided to "renege on the previously agreed-upon plea agreement," escalating a dispute that is threatening to become a factor in 2024 as President Biden seeks re-election.

On Friday, prosecutors disclosed that plea talks with the president's son had broken down and Attorney General

Merrick Garland named Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss as a special counsel to continue the investigation and prosecution related to Hunter Biden's tax and business dealings.
The disagreements between the two sides spilled into public view at a hearing last month, when Hunter Biden had expected to plead guilty to two misdemeanor tax counts. Under questions from the judge about both sides' understanding of the agreements -- including whether the government expected to bring any further charges against him -- Hunter Biden reversed course, pleaded not guilty, and left the deal in limbo.
In the three-page filing Sunday, the younger Biden's legal team provided more details about the talks, saying prosecutors had proposed and "largely dictated" the language in the plea agreement and a separate deal to resolve a gun charge.
That included language that said the U.S. wouldn't criminally prosecute Biden further over the conduct at issue in either the tax or gun cases, a provision which Biden understood to mean the investigation was over. The agreement, now public, said it didn't cover any future conduct by Biden.
At the July hearing, prosecutors instead revealed they continued to investigate Hunter Biden, including in connection with possible foreign-lobbying charges related to his work for foreign clients.
In the new filing, Hunter Biden's team said prosecutors had previously conveyed otherwise, saying his understanding of the scope of immunity is "corroborated by prosecutors' contemporaneous written and oral communications during the plea negotiations."
Credit: By Aruna Viswanatha

DETAILS

Subject:	Agreements; Plea bargaining
Location:	United States--US
People:	Biden, Hunter
Company / organization:	Name: Department of Justice; NAICS: 922130
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785164
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-hunter-biden-team-says-doj-reneged-on/docview/2849785164/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-10-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

DuPont's China Deal Shows Security Flaws

O'Keeffe, Kate; Viswanatha, Aruna . O'Keeffe, Kate; Viswanatha, Aruna.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

U.S. officials forged an uneasy compromise to let DuPont sell its sustainable-materials business last year to a Chinese company while ensuring the technologybehind it never left the U.S.

The arrangement hasn't worked as planned, according to people familiar with the matter, exposing flaws in a national-security review process on the front lines of a battle over technology between the U.S. and China -- and ultimately prompting an investigation by the FBI.

Divisions on the cabinet-level committee that screens sensitive deals involving foreign buyers were so deep that the government review took more than a year, including an unsuccessful appeal for President Biden to intervene. And the solution that members ultimately settled on was undermined in just a few weeks.

At issue was a DuPont technology used to make a key component of a more sustainable version of nylon. After initially describing the invention as revolutionary, DuPont decided a few years ago to sell the business. It found a willing buyer in China, prompting DuPont to apply for permission to proceed from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S.

The Biden administration early on identified Cfius, whose job is to ensure that such deals don't end up putting sensitive U.S. technology, data or real estate in hostile hands, as a linchpin in plans to square off with the world's second-largest economy andreorient the U.S. economyaway from China.

On DuPont, members of Cfius were split. The reason: a U.S. intelligence assessment that byproducts from a DuPont manufacturing process could theoretically serve as ahigh-quality base for fuelused in cutting-edge weapons. That

had the potential to aid China.
Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin argued in a tense video call with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and others that the deal should be blocked. Treasury didn't agree. The agency found those concerns too abstract and believed that scuttling a transaction on such grounds would amount to improper market interference.
Officials on the Cfius panel reached a complicated compromise to approve the sale, which closed in May 2022. But no sooner had it been signed than Cfius was told its effort to protect the industrial secret involved hadn't worked.
Cfius deliberations are confidential. This article is based on interviews with people familiar with the discussions of the companies and agencies involved in the transaction and its aftermath.
In 2007, with a British partner, DuPont opened a $100 million factory in Tennessee to use corn to produce an ingredient called BioPDO to make everything from makeup to a replacement for petroleum-based nylon.
DuPont's innovation involved taking bulk corn grown in the Midwest, crushing it, mixing it with enzymes and creating a sugar. That sugar could be fed into a fermentation tank with bacteria bioengineered to produce the unique liquid known as BioPDO. The substance could then be used to make products such as cosmetics and detergents, and to produce pellets that could be spun into fibers.
One resulting product was marketed as "Sorona" and used in clothing and carpet.
In 2017, under pressure from activist shareholders, DuPont merged with Dow Chemical, and the combined company split into three. The biomaterials business didn't fit into the new structure, and DuPont sought buyers. It settled on Huafon Group of China, a manufacturer of polyurethane materials.
DuPont announced the deal without disclosing the buyer in the fall of 2020 and sought the blessing of Cfius.
Established in 1975, Cfius began scrutinizing Chinese deals more aggressively during the Obama administration. That focus sharpened during the Trump administration. But the committee still struggles to be effective at times. It is at the center of a messy, yearslong review of Chinese-owned social-media app TikTok.
In cases when Cfius approves a deal with conditions, compliance largely depends on the companies. When parties violate a Cfius agreement, they are rarely punished.
Deep internal divisions among its members are a challenge. The Pentagon and other departments that focus on security issues often push for a broader interpretation of foreign threats. The Treasury and Commerce Departments tend to take a narrower view.
Pentagon officials wanted Cfius to push DuPont to sell the business to a U.S. buyer. Given the intelligence assessment, they worried about the possible military implications of the biomaterials technology moving to China.
The officials also wanted to know why DuPont would agree to a deal with Huafon despite earlier misadventures with Chinese partners, including intellectual-property disputes involving Sorona that prompted Chinese authorities in 2017 to raid DuPont's Shanghai offices and demand passwords to its research network.
Some U.S. officials suspected that DuPont selected Huafon to curry favor with Beijing as DuPont sought greater access to China's electric-vehicles market.
A DuPont spokesman said the Huafon deal wasn't part of any attempt by the company to gain greater market access in China, adding that by the end of the sales process there were no U.S. bidders.
Treasury and Commerce officials found their counterparts' concerns around the intelligence assessment overblown, and they deemed considerations such as DuPont's possible motive for the sale irrelevant. They also thought the idea of trying to engineer a sale to a U.S. buyer was inappropriate.
Cfius officials pushing to block the deal asked to meet with Biden, a Democrat, to break the stalemate. The White House declined, instead offering a meeting with Jake Sullivan, the national security adviser. Sullivan said he agreed the deal presented substantial risks but directed the departments to work it out.
The compromise Cfius settled on was to allow the purchase to go ahead with a major condition: Huafon wasn't to gain access to the proprietary fermentation process DuPont used to make BioPDO.
To meet the condition, Huafon created a new U.S. holding company called Covation Inc. Under that umbrella, two entities were formed: Covation Biomaterials, which holds the majority of the assets from DuPont's biomaterials business; and CovaPDO, a carve-out that Huafon wasn't permitted to access because it holds the secrets of BioPDO

production.
Huafon and the three Covation companies signed what is known as a national-security agreement with Cfius pledging to honor those terms. DuPont and Huafon closed the deal in May 2022.
A month later, as Defense Department officials were planning a trip to China to ensure that the key technology hadn't made its way to Huafon, they got some very unwelcome news: CovationBio employees found information on their servers that should have stayed within CovaPDO.
Pentagon officials were furious and suspected the potential breach of the Cfius agreement was deliberate. They, with the support of their Energy Department counterparts, called in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which launched a criminal probe, the status of which couldn't be determined.
In the aftermath, DuPont and Covation, in statements to the Journal, traded blame on who was responsible. Covation said DuPont transferred the information to the wrong corporate entity; DuPont said it acted at Covation's direction.
Covation said that after its employees noticed the problem, it locked down the relevant information andhired an auditor who reports to Cfius. It added that the investigation hadn't found evidence that the information was accessed by anyone outside Covation or the U.S.
In September, in a move prompted in part by difficulties in handling the DuPont deal, Biden issued an executive order heightening scrutiny of deals that might give China and other adversaries access to critical technologies.

Clarence Leong contributed to this article.
Credit: By Kate O'Keeffe and Aruna Viswanatha

DETAILS

Subject:	Biomedical materials; Criminal investigations; Sustainable materials; National security
Business indexing term:	Subject: Sustainable materials; Corporation: E I DuPont De Nemours &Co
Location:	China; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120; Name: Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States; NAICS: 926150; Name: E I DuPont De Nemours &Co; NAICS: 211120, 324110, 325180, 424720
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785161
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/duponts-china-deal-shows-security-flaws/docview/2849785161/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

PENNSYLVANIA
Four Dead After
House Explosion
Four people were dead and a fifth was unaccounted for following a house explosion in western Pennsylvania that destroyed three structures and damaged at least a dozen others Saturday morning, authorities said.
Allegheny County officials said three people were taken to hospitals after the blast shortly before 10:30 a.m. in the borough of Plum, about 20 miles east of Pittsburgh.
Three people were transported to area hospitals, including one who was listed in critical condition and two who were treated and released.
The Allegheny County Medical Examiner's Office was expected to provide additional information about the deceased victims.
Emergency responders reported people trapped under debris after one house apparently exploded and two others were engulfed in flames, county spokesperson Amie Downs said.
The cause of the explosion is under investigation by Plum and county law enforcement and the county fire marshal's

office.
-- Associated Press

NORTH CAROLINA
Officers Fatally
Shoot Armed Man
Officers in a western North Carolina city fatally shot a man early Sunday when he pulled a handgun from his waistband during a pursuit, police said.
Timothy Craig Setzer Jr., 27, was shot by Hickory police officers shortly after midnight, the city's police department said. Officers involved in the shooting were placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of a review by the State Bureau of Investigation.
Police received several 911 calls about gunshots being fired, including one that said a shot had struck a home. Another call described a possible suspect with a gun in his hand.
More officers responding to the area located a suspect, who fled as they continued to pursue him while giving commands to stop. Police said the suspect then turned and pulled out a handgun, prompting officers to fire their weapons, striking him.
-- Associated Press

ILLINOIS
State Bans Some
Ads for Firearms
Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker has signed a law banning firearms advertising that officials determine produces a public safety threat or appeals to children, militants or others who might later use the weapons illegally -- opening the door for lawsuits against firearms manufacturers or distributors.
Pritzker on Saturday signed the Firearm Industry Responsibility Act, making Illinois the eighth state to approve legislation that rolls back legal protections for firearms manufacturers or distributors. "We hold opioid manufacturers accountable. Vaping companies accountable. Predatory lenders accountable. Gun manufacturers shouldn't get to hide from the law -- and now, they won't be able to," Pritzker said.
The law took effect immediately.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Criminal investigations; Firearm laws &regulations; Explosions; Firearms
Location:	United States--US; Illinois
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785158
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2849785158/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Probe of President's Son Looms in Race

Gurman, Sadie; Linskey, Annie . Gurman, Sadie; Linskey, Annie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- When President Biden nominated Merrick Garland to be attorney general, he said he wanted an independent chief law-enforcement officer who would follow the facts, unencumbered by politics.

He got one, and now Garland is presenting the president's re-election campaign with the prospect that the travails of Biden's son Hunter will be at least a sideshow to the 2024 presidential race, one that bears the risk of affecting voters' view of the president.

The Justice Department had the chance to end Hunter Biden's years of legal travails over tax violations and a gun offense with a plea agreement that was tentatively outlined with defense attorneys in June.

But the judge overseeing the case queried the plea deal's terms, and Friday brought the official whiplash: Garland

agreed to name a special counsel to continue the long-running investigation of Hunter Biden, a blockbuster announcement that came as prosecutors in the case said plea negotiations were at an impasse and they expected to move to trial.

The decision caught Democrats by surprise. White House allies went into the summer thinking Hunter Biden's legal woes would be completed, leaving them to contend only with attacks from Republican lawmakers with a record of overstating their findings.

Instead, Democrats now must contemplate a lengthy legal process that will be harder for them to dismiss as a political stunt, as they have the congressional probes. On the other hand, the court case will center entirely on Hunter Biden, unlike the GOP probes searching to tie the president to his son's foreign business dealings.

David Weiss, the U.S. attorney in Delaware who has been overseeing the case for five years, requested the appointment, Garland said Friday. With Republicans already investigating allegations that the Biden administration was seeking to hinder or play down the probe, the attorney general had little choice but to grant it, his supporters said, given the damaging optics of turning him down. Biden allies said they didn't immediately focus their frustration on Garland.

Special-counsel status formalizes Weiss's autonomy, gives him leeway to pursue charges outside Delaware and ensures that the president's son will remain under scrutiny by the Justice Department. It also raises the likelihood of a politically explosive trial in the same campaign season as the Republican front-runner, Donald Trump, faces three and possibly four prosecutions himself.

Garland gave no warning of his action to the White House or Hunter Biden's legal team, a person familiar with the matter said, in keeping with department policy andGarland's stated commitment not to involve the president or any other politician in his decision-making.Garland's decision means Weiss will have to write a report that the attorney general could make public, revealing more of what conduct the investigation uncovered.

The White House remained silent about the decision, referring questions to the Justice Department and Hunter Biden's legal team.

His opponents reacted swiftly. "It's about time," said former Vice President Mike Pence of the special-counsel appointment.

Garland said earlier this year he hadn't discussed the investigation with the president, who promised when he nominated Garland to stay out of Justice Department affairs. Biden took that stance after years in which Trump pressured his attorneys general to prosecute political rivals, show leniency to associates and discredit the 2020 presidential-election results.

Credit: By Sadie Gurman and Annie Linskey

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Attorneys general; Scandals; Decision making; Political parties; Criminal investigations; Presidential elections
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution 81394 : Political Organizations 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Delaware
People:	Biden, Hunter; Weiss, David; Garland, Merrick; Biden, Joseph R Jr
Classification:	92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution; 81394: Political Organizations; 92111: Executive Offices

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 14, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849785157
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-probe-presidents-son-looms-race/docview/2849785157/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ILLINOIS

High Court Allows

Ban on Some Guns

The Illinois Supreme Court has upheld the state's ban on the sale or possession of the type of semiautomatic weapons used in hundreds of mass killings nationally.

In a 4-3 decision Friday, the high court found that the Protect Our Communities Act doesn't violate the federal Constitution's guarantee of equal protection of the law nor the state constitution's bar on special legislation.

With Washington state adopting a similar law in April, there are now 10 states plus the District of Columbia that have prohibitions on semiautomatic firearms.

The law bans dozens of specific brands or types of rifles and handguns, .50-caliber guns, attachments and rapid-firing devices. No rifle is allowed to accommodate more than 10 rounds, with a 15-round limit for handguns. The most popular gun targeted is the AR-15 rifle, which can be found in at least 25 million American households, according to 2021 research by Georgetown University.

Those who possessed semiautomatic guns before it became effective on Jan. 10 are allowed to keep them but must register them with the state police by Jan. 1, 2024.

The plaintiff's attorney, Jerrold Stocks, said additional legal action was likely, including a potential appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed the Protect Our Communities Act hours after lawmakers sent it to him in a lame-duck session in January, months after a shooter using a high-powered rifle killed seven and injured dozens on Independence Day 2022 in the Chicago suburb of Highland Park. The new law set off a firestorm of criticism from gun-rights advocates, including county sheriffs who were nearly unanimous in signing a statement that they would not zealously enforce the law.

-- Associated Press

CALIFORNIA

Judge Is Charged

With Killing Wife

A Southern California judge accused of killing his wife during an argument while drunk texted his court clerk and bailiff afterward to say he had shot her, prosecutors said Friday as they charged him with murder.

A court filing from prosecutors says Orange County Superior Court Judge Jeffrey Ferguson texted minutes after last week's killing: "I just lost it. I just shot my wife. I won't be in tomorrow. I will be in custody. I'm so sorry."

Ferguson is free on $1 million bail. But prosecutors said they're seeking new bail conditions to protect public safety and ensure he doesn't flee after authorities found 47 weapons, including the pistol used in the shooting, and more than 26,000 rounds of ammunition at his Anaheim home. The weapons are legally owned but a rifle registered in his name is still missing, they said.

The shooting happened after Ferguson and his wife, Sheryl Ferguson, were arguing at a restaurant on Aug. 3, the Orange County district attorney's office said in the court filing. The argument continued after the couple returned to their home in the upscale neighborhood of Anaheim Hills. The court document says the wife said something to the effect of "why don't you point a real gun at me?" and he pulled a pistol from his ankle holster and shot her in the chest.

Their adult son called 911 and said his father had been drinking too much and shot his mom, the document says. Jeffrey Ferguson also called 911 to vaguely report the shooting. When asked if he shot his wife, he said he didn't want to talk about it at that time and she needed paramedics.

When officers arrived, Ferguson smelled of alcohol and told them, "Oh man I can't believe I did this," according to the document.

-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Shootings; Domestic violence; Firearm laws &regulations; Massacres; Firearms
Location:	United States--US; Anaheim California
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235289
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2849235289/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-12
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Race Animates Mayoral Fight in Alabama -- A Black man and his white predecessor each lay claim to be leader of tiny town

Campo-Flores, Arian . Campo-Flores, Arian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEWBERN, Ala. -- For as long as Dexter Thornton can remember, white people served as mayor of this tiny majority-Black town and passed on the position without holding elections. Then a Black man, Patrick Braxton, ran unopposed for mayor in 2020 and after winning, named an all-Black town council.

The existing white mayor and majority-white council responded by seeking to oust him and retain their offices. Braxton said they locked him out of the town hall and blocked his access to the town's bank account. Both camps now lay claim to Newbern's government, leaving it unclear who is in charge.

"You just got people that have been in power, and they don't want to relinquish that power," said Thornton, who is 56 years old, Black and a longtime Newbern resident. "You hate to say it in 2023, but the division is along color lines."

The conflict has convulsed the town, triggered a federal civil lawsuit by Braxton and his council members and raised prickly issues of race and political power. In recent months, the saga earned headlines after Braxton took his fight to court.

During a recent visit, Black residents approached by a reporter generally were open to discussing the issue, while white residents almost uniformly refused to let their names be published.

"As long as you don't rock the boat, there's not much hostility," said one white resident. "But this is rocking the boat, and I expect division."

Newbern has fewer than 300 residents, roughly 85% of them Black, according to census data. It has no stoplights, rusting relics of a cotton gin and train depot, and historic churches.

Braxton, a contractor and volunteer firefighter, said he decided to run for mayor in April 2020 out of concern that white leaders weren't addressing the needs of Black citizens. But he stressed that he aimed to help all residents.

"I'm trying to make the town better for everyone," said Braxton, 57.

Braxton said it began when he told Haywood Stokes III, who had been the incumbent for years, of his plan to run to succeed him. Braxton filed his statement of candidacy in July 2020. No one else submitted such paperwork, and no election was held in August, when municipal contests are usually scheduled, both sides said.

Stokes and his council members either couldn't be reached for comment or declined to comment, as did a lawyer representing them. In a response to Braxton's lawsuit, the defendants argued their actions to remain in office were lawful and justified.

More than a dozen Black and white residents said in interviews that they generally live together peacefully. But they mostly live in separate parts of town, attend separate churches and hold separate gatherings.

Newbern hasn't held elections for mayor or town council for decades, residents said. (In fact, The Wall Street Journal couldn't find a record of how long Stokes had been in office.) Each white mayor handed off the job to a successor, said Patricia Jackson, 57, a Black lifelong resident. "It's just the way it was," she said.

Arthur Crawford, the Hale County probate judge and chief election official, said he informed Braxton that he had won by default. Braxton then named members of the town council and said although he approached Black and white residents about joining, only Black ones accepted.

In August 2020, Stokes and his council passed a resolution declaring that Braxton was elected mayor, according to

minutes of the meeting, the location of which was unclear. But they also said they had "inadvertently and mistakenly failed to satisfy the requirements for a municipal election," without specifying what those requirements were, the minutes said, and voted to set a new election date in October for the town council seats.

No notice of that election was ever published, and residents weren't made aware of it, according to Braxton's legal team. Stokes and his council members filed statements of candidacy for the new election and, as the only ones who did so, claimed victory.

On Nov. 2, Braxton and his council members were sworn in by the presiding circuit judge, according to oaths of office filed with Crawford's office. About 10 days later, Stokes and his council allies filed their own oaths of office with the probate judge. Crawford declined to comment on why his office accepted the subsequent set of oaths.

Later that November, Braxton and his council members said they held what would be their only meeting in the town hall. Afterward, they said, Stokes and his council members sought to block them from carrying out their duties -- changing the locks at the town hall and denying them access to the town's mail and finances. (Braxton said he then changed the locks but that Stokes and his allies changed them again.)

Underpinning the Stokes side's claim to power is that they said they held several meetings from November 2020 to February 2021 that Braxton didn't attend, according to a document from the Alabama attorney general's office. They argued Braxton should be ousted under a state law that calls for municipal officials who miss meetings for 90 consecutive days to be removed. They voted in March 2021 to name Stokes as mayor, according to the document.

The attorney general's office, responding to the Stokes group, said it couldn't make factual determinations -- but that a mayor who fails to attend meetings for 90 days is removed under the law.

Braxton said he had no idea the Stokes-led meetings were being held.

Last year, Braxton filed a civil lawsuit in state court against Stokes and his faction, as well as other parties, and earlier this year he and his council members filed an amended complaint in federal court. They claim violations of equal protection and accuse the defendants of racial discrimination. In response, the defendants denied that they made moves to prevent Braxton and his council members from performing their duties on account of their race.

The Alabama secretary of state's office wouldn't comment on pending litigation but takes allegations such as those in Newbern seriously, said Meridith Blackburn, the agency's deputy general counsel.

Credit: By Arian Campo-Flores

DETAILS

Subject:	Local elections; Mayors; Probate; Attorneys general; Councils; Political power; Litigation; Race relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: Probate; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Location:	Alabama; United States--US
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92213: Legal Co unsel and Prosecution
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235283
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-race-animates-mayoral-fight-alabama/docview/2849235283/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Many 911 Call Centers Ill-Equipped To Use Modern Cellphone Technology

Bousquette, Isabelle . Bousquette, Isabelle.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Decades after the debut of the cellphone, some 911 centers are still struggling to modernize their communications infrastructure -- the result of funding scarcity and hesitation over the high stakes of making changes.

But the continued use of legacy systems, installed when pay phones dotted city corners and every household had a landline, has led to a host of challenges for call center operators, including misrouted calls, potentially increasing

response times.
U.S. regulators have estimated that as many as 10,000 lives could be saved every year by reducing 911 response times by just one minute.
The U.S.'s more than 5,500 call centers, typically locally funded and operated, have each taken their own path toward modernization. Overall progress has been slow.
"We're using 35-year-old technology today to deliver 911 calls," said Patrick Lustig, Program Operations Team Lead of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management.
The National Emergency Number Association, a nonprofit, in 2004 came up with the vision for a "Next Generation 911" center, which could fully take advantage of modern capabilities. At the core of Next Generation 911 is a shift from copper telephone infrastructure that only supports voice communication to an internet-based network, capable of receiving various types of digital data, including more accurate caller location information as well as photos and videos -- once the appropriate software is layered on top. NENA has published a series of standards for Next Generation 911 in the years since.
By the end of 2022, deployments of Next Generation 911 technology covered about 56.2% of the U.S. population, consulting firm Frost &Sullivan said. For the remaining population, it could be several more years until upgrades take shape.
Imprecise call routing is one of the biggest problems for call centers operating on older communications infrastructure, said Becky Bacon, executive director of Christian County Emergency Services 911 in Missouri.
NENA estimates 27 million calls on legacy systems are misrouted annually, wasting precious time as the operator then has to transfer the caller to the appropriate center.
Unlike landline phones, a cellphone's location has generally been determined by which cell tower handles the call, according to Lynne Houserman, a vice president at Motorola Solutions, a provider of networking, software and services to 911 centers. The call is then routed to a 911 center based on a decades-old database linking cell sites with call-center locations, she said.
But cell site boundaries are imprecise and sometimes fall within multiple 911 center jurisdictions -- meaning calls aren't always routed to the nearest one, she said. "You could be right next door to Seattle P.D., but because of where your call happened to plot, it puts you in King County 911," said Houserman.
But the software in cellphones can transmit more precise locations, the way it does for Uber or Google Maps. Over the past decade, Apple and Google, among other device makers, have worked to make this information available to emergency services. Legacy 911 centers, however, typically can't tap it for call routing.
"That device knows where it's at. It's just that the 911 centers are not capable of receiving that information today," said Oregon's Lustig.
Once Next Generation upgrades enable device-based routing, the 911 operator would also automatically receive that device-specific location when they pick up the call, said Frank Kuchta, Oregon's State 911 program manager. Today, legacy setups can access it through an additional service provider such as RapidSOS -- if the device owner has opted in -- but again, this doesn't help with routing, he said.
During a shooting rampage at Virginia Tech in 2007, texts from students and witnesses poured into 911 lines. All went unanswered because 911 centers weren't equipped to receive texts.
Sixteen years later, about 40% to 45% of U.S. 911 centers still can't accept texts, according to NENA.
With a Next Generation 911 network, texting is automatically enabled, Houserman said, though there are also interim ways to make it work without the full network.
Funding has continued to be the primary barrier to investing in the necessary 911 system upgrades, NENA said.
Most states have a 911 tax, which is often just enough, or in some cases not enough, to maintain current legacy systems, Houserman said, though some have successfully sought increases. Oregon was able to increase its 75-cent tax to $1 in 2020 and to $1.25 in 2021.
No federal funding has been doled out to Next Generation 911 efforts since $109 million in 2012. Earlier this year, new funding bills were introduced in both the House and the Senate.

Credit: By Isabelle Bousquette

DETAILS

Subject:	Cellular telephones; Call centers; Infrastructure; Legacy systems; Funding; Emergency services; Emergency communications systems
Business indexing term:	Subject: Infrastructure; Industry: 62423 : Emergency and Other Relief Services 56142 : Telephone Call Centers
Location:	United States--US; Oregon
Classification:	62423: Emergency and Other Relief Services; 56142: Telephone Call Centers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235271
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-many-911-call-centers-ill-equipped-use/docview/2849235271/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30

LINKS

World News: Biden's China Order Raises Tough Questions for Private Equity

Cumming, Chris . Cumming, Chris.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The Biden administration's plan to restrict private-equity and venture-capital investment in China has left firms and their lawyers struggling with the implications for the huge Chinese operations that many have built over the past several decades.

The Wednesday executive order suggests a kind of "sanctions-lite" approach to investments in China, lawyers say. It would prevent private funds from investing in some high-technology areas and require them to disclose information about commitments involving sensitive industries in China.

The Treasury Department can issue the final rule after a 45-day comment period. The agency's proposal asked for feedback on many aspects of the rule, and private-equity and venture firms are likely to have a lot to say.

Private-equity lobbying group the American Investment Council disputes the administration's view that buyout fund investment in China represents a threat. The group said last month that private equity "sharpens the United States' competitive edge in emerging technologies" and that, in any case, the U.S. accounts for only a tiny fraction of private-equity investment in China.

On Thursday, a spokeswoman for the group said it was reviewing the proposal and would work with the Treasury Department on the rules.

The final proposal's shape remains to be seen. But the sketchiness of Wednesday's proposal means private-equity firms face many unknowns about what will come next.

The proposal applies to private-equity investment in just three high-tech sectors: artificial intelligence, quantum computing and semiconductors.

Firms should be aware that the scope proposed now can broaden over time.

Wednesday's order leaves firms with a lot to ponder concerning what to do with legacy investments in sensitive Chinese businesses. One basic question: Will Chinese investment arms or affiliates of U.S. private-equity firms be treated under the rule as U.S. or Chinese entities?

Like much else in the proposal, the answer remains unclear.

But some firms might choose to restructure the legal relationship between their U.S. headquarters and their Chinese operations to avoid this risk, said Brendan Hanifin, a partner at law firm Ropes &Gray who works on international investment risks.

However, he thinks it is unlikely that the proposal spooks firms into selling off their Chinese investments altogether.

Credit: By Chris Cumming

DETAILS

Subject:	Private equity; Executive orders; Business government relations; Foreign investment
Business indexing term:	Subject: Private equity Foreign investment
Location:	China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235267
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-bidens-china-order-raises-tough/docview/2849235267/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Beijing Is Unlikely to Match U.S. Curbs --- China's options for retaliation are few after Biden's new investment ban

Lin, Liza; Strumpf, Dan . Lin, Liza; Strumpf, Dan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

China is unlikely to hit back at the U.S. blow for blow over the Biden administration's new investment ban on certain Chinese tech companies. That's because Beijing is limited both in its ability and desire to fire a big salvo, analysts say. American tech companies aren't as reliant on Chinese investments as their Chinese counterparts are on U.S. capital. China is also grappling with worsening macroeconomic conditions and falling investor confidence, which makes it less inclined to escalate an economic standoff, they say. On the political front, Beijing is also seeking to sustain a diplomatic thaw with Washington.

This week, the U.S. issued an executive order banning Americans from investing in Chinese companies developing advanced semiconductors and quantum computers and requires American investors to notify Washington about investments in other types of semiconductors and artificial intelligence. The limits, which come into place next year, amp up the race between the two major rivals over who controls the next generation of critical technology.

On Thursday, China's Commerce Ministry said America's actions had deviated from market norms, and the U.S. was disrupting global supply chains and trade. Its Foreign Ministry blasted the moves as "blatant economic coercion and tech bullying" by the U.S., adding that the country would move to protect its rights.

Despite the rhetoric, analysts and businessmen believe the outbound investment measures aren't enough to change the calculus in a strained bilateral relationship that both sides are trying to improve. China has known such measures were coming for a long time, and some say the new rules are less strict and more narrowly targeted than many feared -- at least in their current form.

Instead, Beijing is more likely to retaliate in other domains, such as byimposing more export restrictions over key materials that China has significant influence and control over -- like rare earths or particular minerals.

President Biden, speaking at a political fundraiser on Thursday, referred to China's weakening economy and the problem that poses for its leaders. "China is a ticking time bomb in many cases," Biden said, noting China's high youth unemployment and an aging workforce.Still, he said, he wants a "rational relationship" with Beijing. "I don't want to hurt China," he said in Utah.

In July, China set export restrictions on gallium and germanium, two minerals the U.S. and experts have said are key to producing semiconductors, missile systems and solar cells. Beijing's move was viewed by experts as retaliation against U.S. export restrictions aimed at curbing Beijing's high-technology industries.

"We expect China to retaliate with some high-profile but non-escalatory moves," said Xiaomeng Lu, the head of risk consulting firm Eurasia Group's geotechnology practice. She forecast that authorities will deal harsh judgments on merger and acquisition deals involving U.S. companies, or experiment with further Chinese export control restrictions.

Lu said the immediate impact of the order would be limited, as the U.S. has already put in place prior restrictions on such sectors, and cross-border investment flows between the U.S. and China were already at historic lows. Investment into China by U.S. venture capital and private-equity firms collapsed to about $400 million in the first quarter of this year, compared with a peak of roughly $35 billion in 2021, she added.

In the longer term, China would escalate its search for substitutes to restricted U.S. technology, said Ja Ian Chong, an

associate professor in political science at the National University of Singapore, including using proxies to buy or invest in foreign companies that could have access to such key technologies.
The U.S. is a large and mature market for venture capital and money flows between the two countries are asymmetrical.
The new executive order coincides with a renewed effort by the Biden administration to re-engage with Beijing and halt a monthslong spiral of worsening relations.
Among recent efforts include last month's visits to China by Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen. During her visit, Yellen sought to offer assurances that the U.S. wasn't out to threaten China's overall development and any actions were narrowly focused on national security grounds.
Credit: By Liza Lin and Dan Strumpf

DETAILS

Subject:	Executive orders; Semiconductors; Venture capital; International relations-US; Foreign investment
Business indexing term:	Subject: Venture capital Foreign investment
Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	202 3
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235261
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-beijing-is-unlikely-match-u-s-curbs/docview/2849235261/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libr aries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Federal Judge Curbs Trump's Disclosure in Jan. 6 Case --- Former president's 2024 campaign doesn't justify special treatment, she says

Wolfe, Jan; Gurman, Sadie . Wolfe, Jan; Gurman, Sadie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- A judge barred Donald Trump from publicizing sensitive evidence in the criminal case alleging that he conspired to undo his 2020 election loss, saying his presidential campaign doesn't mean he should get special treatment.

"He's a criminal defendant. He is going to have restrictions like every single other defendant," U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan said Friday during a hearing where prosecutors sparred with Trump's lawyers over how much information the former president and his legal team can access and potentially publicly expose.

"The existence of a political campaign is not going to have any impact on my decision," Chutkan said. "I intend to keep politics out of this."

The judge interrupted Trump's lawyer, John Lauro, when he said the Justice Department's goal was to interfere with Trump's ability to run for president.

"I'm not going to accept that," she said. "I have seen no evidence that this is politically motivated."

Friday's hearing -- Chutkan's first since being randomly assigned the case -- focused on rules for how evidence turned over to Trump, known as discovery, could be accessed and publicized.

Four hours after the hearing ended, she issued a five-page protective order. Such orders are commonplace in criminal cases and typically draw little attention.

In her order, Chutkan declined to grant prosecutors' request for a broad order that would bar the defense from disclosing or disseminating any discovery evidence.

She also rejected a request from Trump's lawyers that they be allowed to share sensitive evidence, like grand jury transcripts and witness interviews, with consultants and volunteer attorneys. She instead limited disclosure to people Trump has formally employed to assist on the case, saying letting volunteer attorneys see sensitive evidence could lead to unauthorized disclosure of the materials.

Lauro said Trump may need to cite that information to adequately defend himself against political opponents on the

campaign trail.
Chutkan responded: "The need for this criminal case to proceed in the normal order and protect witnesses and the integrity of the process means there are going to be limits on the defendant's speech."
Trump earlier this month pleaded not guilty to four alleged crimes, including conspiring to defraud the U.S., obstructing an official proceeding and conspiring against the rights of voters. Prosecutors say Trump worked with a group of advisers and lawyers to subvert the will of American voters by trying to cling to power after his defeat in 2020, actions that culminated in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol.
The Justice Department has proposed the trial start on Jan. 2, 2024, two weeks before the first votes in the Republican presidential primary will be cast in Iowa's caucuses. The Trump team hasn't responded, and Chutkan hasn't yet set a trial date.
Chutkan at times expressed an inclination to try the case as quickly as possible. She cautioned the lawyers to be careful about their public statements, adding that the risk of tainting the jury pool is a reason to move the case to trial.
"The more a party makes inflammatory statements about this case that could taint the jury pool or intimidate witnesses, the greater the urgency that we proceed to trial to ensure a jury pool from which we can select an impartial jury," the judge said.
"I will take whatever measures are necessary to safeguard the integrity of these proceedings," the judge added.
Friday's hearing was the first of many expected battles over Trump's rights and the integrity of the sprawling probe.
Lauro expressed concern that an overly broad protective order would serve as a "contempt trap" under which Trump could unknowingly violate the terms.
"Trump, during the middle of a campaign, should not have that chill over him," Lauro said.
Chutkan, who was appointed to the federal bench by President Barack Obama, responded that she won't give Trump "greater or lesser latitude" than any other defendant.
Lauro repeatedly said Trump would abide by the judge's rules ahead of trial. "President Trump will scrupulously abide by the terms of his release," he said.
The indictment in Washington charges Trump alone but describes six co-conspirators working with him, including lawyers identifiable as Rudy Giuliani and several others who worked with him to contest the 2020 results.
The 45-page document paints a detailed portrait of Trump's efforts to press claims that the election had been marred by fraud, even though he had been repeatedly told that those claims had no merit, and attempts to convince officials in battleground states he had lost, including Arizona, Georgia and Michigan, to support his efforts.
Credit: By Jan Wolfe and Sadie Gurman

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Evidence; Attorneys; Restraining orders; Trials; Indictments; Political campaigns; Election results; Presidential elections; Voters; Federal court decisions
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J; Chutkan, Tanya
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235253
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-federal-judge-curbs-trumps-disclosure/docview/2849235253/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Attorney General Garland named Delaware U.S. Attorney David Weiss as a special counsel to continue his prosecution of Hunter Biden after plea talks broke down, opening a new, politically fraught chapter in the long-running legal

drama.

A judge barred Donald Trump from publicizing sensitive evidence in the criminal case alleging that he conspired to undo his 2020 election loss, saying his presidential campaign doesn't mean he should get special treatment.

Ukraine's Zelensky said he was firing the heads of regional draft boards in a bid to rid the system of corruption as the country's armed forces struggle to break through Russian positions.
After Egypt agreed it wouldn't send weapons to Russia, it is now resisting requests from senior U.S. leaders to send them to Kyiv, Egyptian and American officials say.

The assassination of a presidential candidate in Ecuador shines a spotlight on the corrosive impact of a booming cocaine trade and the emboldened gangs fueling brutal violence.

Iran has slowed the pace at which it is accumulating near weapons-grade enriched uranium and has diluted some of its stockpile.

DETAILS

Subject:	Presidential elections; Uranium
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235249
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2849235249/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-12
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Iran Slows Buildup of Enriched Uranium

Norman, Laurence . Norman, Laurence.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LONDON -- Iran has significantly slowed the pace at which it is accumulating near weapons-grade enriched uranium and has diluted some of its stockpile, people briefed on the matter said Friday, moves that could help ease tensions with the U.S. and allow the resumption of broader talks over its controversial nuclear program.

The more slowly Tehran accumulates highly enriched uranium, the less potential fissile material it has for nuclear weapons.

The news comes a day after Iran released four U.S. citizens from prison into house arrest, the first step in a planned prisoner swap that Washington expects will eventually see them return home. If the U.S. detainees are set free, Iran will gain access to billions of dollars of oil revenues trapped in South Korea under U.S. sanctions.

U.S. and European officials have told Iran that if there was de-escalation of tensions over the summer, they would be open to broader talks later this year, including on Iran's nuclear program.

"If Iran were to take de-escalating steps with respect to their nuclear ambitions again, that would all be to the good," John Kirby, a spokesman for the White House National Security Council, said Friday.

For the Biden administration, the hope is to avoid any major crisis with Tehran in the lead-up to next year's presidential elections. Critics in Washington and elsewhere say the U.S. is preparing to reward Iran for taking U.S. citizens hostage and for a minor pause in its nuclear work while Tehran ramps up regional threats and supplies

military assistance to Russia for its war against Ukraine.
Since the U.S. left the 2015 Iranian nuclear accord, which lifted international sanctions on Tehran in exchange for strict but temporary limitations on its nuclear work, Tehran has massively expanded its program.
Among the most worrying parts of its work for Western officials is Tehran's production of 60% enriched uranium, which U.S. officials say could be turned into enough weapons-grade material for a nuclear bomb in less than two weeks.
Iran says its nuclear program is for peaceful aims only.
Credit: By Laurence Norman

DETAILS

Subject:	Presidential elections; Uranium; Plutonium
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	Iran; United States--US
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235247
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-iran-slows-buildup-enriched-uranium/docview/2849235247/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-12
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Colleges Urged to Provide More Useful Financial Data

Fuller, Andrea; Korn, Melissa . Fuller, Andrea; Korn, Melissa.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A number of university trustees, faculty and staff members are calling for more transparent financial data that they can access about their schools in the wake of a Wall Street Journal investigation that highlighted large spending increases at 50 state flagship universities.

Some contacted the Journal, after it published its article Thursday, asking for information that would give them a better understanding of spending patterns at their schools. That's in part because some universities provide only minimal information to those with oversight, for instance handing trustees pie charts or high-level summaries rather than detailed budgets, as the Journal's investigation found.

"The fault lies with governing boards," said Marty Kotis, a trustee at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill since 2021 who previously served on the oversight board for the UNC system. When he first started seeking financial information about the system a number of years ago, he said, he struck out with university administrators. Instead, he had to track the figures down with the state auditor.

"They'd just never been asked this before," he said, adding that without that pressure, universities' finance offices are less likely to produce detailed, digestible reports.

"Prior boards were merely ceremonial. If you've got a board that never asks about financials and just wants to talk about winning the next game or when the cocktail party is, they are not going to get a lot done," he said.

Kotis urged boards to step up their oversight and take their fiduciary responsibilities seriously and said school finance offices need to scrutinize budgets more closely. Specifically, he said, they should review how they handle funds left over at the end of the year, as some policies encourage departments to spend every last dollar -- whether or not they need to -- for fear of not getting that same allocation the following year.

In response to the Journal's reporting, some schools defended their spending habits.

Justin Schwartz, the provost at Pennsylvania State University, one of the schools highlighted in the Journal's article, released a statement on the school's website Thursday saying Penn State has "curbed tuition increases aggressively." Moreover, state funding, which he said the school uses to reduce in-state tuition, has dropped dramatically during the past 20 years.

"We strive to provide students with the highest quality education as cost-effectively as possible," Schwartz said.

The Journal reported that Penn State's University Park campus was the most expensive state flagship in the 2021-22 school year for in-state freshmen, even after accounting for scholarships. Those students paid an average $26,747 in tuition, fees, room and board, according to Education Department data. The Journal also found that the school received far more new tuition revenue than it lost in state support during the past two decades.

The requests by university officials for information were also a result of the poor quality controls for financial data that the Education Department requires colleges to report. The Journal found that survey data published in a public data tool called Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System were riddled with errors and inconsistencies, making them impossible to analyze with certainty.

For example the University of Mississippi reported in the government system that it spent $2.2 billion in 2019, down from $3.8 billion the prior year; its audits contain vastly different figures and show that spending actually grew. A spokesman for Mississippi didn't respond to a request for comment.

The Journal's investigation turned to audited financial reports, available for some years on school websites. It was also supplemented with additional data requested directly from the schools as well as from other public sources, such as state auditors.

The Education Department says it is aware of the problem and taking steps to improve the financial data collection. A spokeswoman from the National Center for Education Statistics told the Journal earlier this summer that the Education Department unit is developing a working group to help improve its federal data collection efforts. She said that NCES relies on self-reported data and doesn't have the authority to collect audited financial statements for comparison. NCES said Friday the group expects to begin meeting later this year.

Robert Kelchen, an education professor at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville who has advised the Education Department on how to improve its data collection efforts, said even small tweaks to its annual survey can take years. Because the reporting places a burden on colleges, changes must be cleared by the Office of Management and Budget, he said.

"The intent is to provide more useful, usable data," Kelchen said regarding the department's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.

Credit: By Andrea Fuller and Melissa Korn

DETAILS

Subject:	Higher education; Tuition; Data collection; Audited financial statements; Schools; Budgets; Transparency; Financial reporting; School finance; Colleges &universities
Business indexing term:	Subject: Audited financial statements Budgets Transparency Financial reporting Colleges &universities; Industry: 61131 : Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Classification:	61131: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235244
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-colleges-urged-provide-more-useful/docview/2849235244/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-07-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Ecuador Candidate Defied Criminals --- Assassination of Villavicencio reflects rapid rise of violent cocaine trade

Dube, Ryan; de Cordoba, Jose . Dube, Ryan; de Cordoba, Jose.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Four days before he was shot dead, presidential hopeful Fernando Villavicencio traveled to a dusty town near Ecuador's Pacific coast, defying one of the country's most ruthless drug gangs on its home turf.

"Come on, here I am," he said during a campaign rally in the sweltering town of Chone, the birthplace of the Choneros gang that has been at the center of the country's drug-fueled carnage. "They told me to wear a bulletproof vest, but here I am in just a sweaty shirt."

During his career as a journalist and later a politician, the 59-year-old Villavicencio often clashed with powerful people

ruling the nation of 18 million.
He made enemies through investigations into government corruption, colleagues say, forcing him to hide at one point in the Amazon. While campaigning ahead of the Aug. 20 election, he pledged to fight organized crime and drug gangs that he said had corrupted the police, judges and upper echelons of political power, an assertion shared by Ecuadorean political analysts.
His brazen killing on Wednesday in the capital Quito, the first time a presidential candidate has been assassinated in Ecuador, shines a spotlight on the corrosive impact of a booming cocaine trade and the emboldened gangs fueling brutal violence.
"The killing of Villavicencio marks a before and after," said Sebastian Hurtado, president of Profitas, a Quito-based consulting firm. "It wasn't just a killing, it was a political action as well that will have an immediate impact."
The assassination occurred as Ecuador was already mired in turmoil, with a deeply unpopular president, Guillermo Lasso, ruling by decree after dissolving the National Assembly in May. And the country's security services, which for years operated in a relatively peaceful country, face unprecedented challenges from well-funded and violent drug gangs.
The chaotic landscape is fertile ground for drug gangs, said Daniel Ponton, a security expert in Quito.
On Thursday, Interior Ministry officials said six Colombian suspects have been arrested in the killing of Villavicencio, who was shot in the head while leaving a campaign event. A high-ranking police official said the men had ties to an organized crime group steeped in cocaine, though a precise motive hadn't been determined.
A country roughly the size of Oregon, Ecuador is sandwiched between Colombia and Peru -- two nations that grow coca, the leaf central to making cocaine. Until recently, Ecuador's problems with drug-related crime had been marginal.
Then came two major developments: the end in Colombia of U.S.-supported aerial fumigation of coca, and a surge in violence following the death of a key Ecuadorean cartel leader.
The 2015 end of aerial spraying in Ecuador's northern neighbor led to a massive expansion of the crop and the finished product. With more cocaine available to ship into Ecuador, the last stop before export to Europe and the U.S., drug gangs began to battle over the growing business.
"Each one wants to control the routes and the ports," said Mario Pazmino, the Ecuadorean army's former director of intelligence.
For traffickers, it was easier and cheaper to send the drugs through Ecuador because of its porous border, good roads and large Pacific ports with weak security, local security experts said.
Reduced cooperation with U.S. counterdrug agencies in Ecuador also made the country more appealing for shipping cocaine than Colombia, where the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has long worked closely with police.
Cocaine seizures by Ecuadorean authorities in recent years underscore the country's importance to global drug smuggling. The proportion of cocaine from Ecuador destined for Europe rose from 9% in 2019 to 33% in 2021, the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime recently reported. Cocaine also flows in large quantities from Ecuador north to Central America and on to Mexico and the U.S., the U.N. and counterdrug officials say.
The explosive growth has led to the arrival of new gangs, including Albanian mafias taking advantage of loose visa requirements, according to government officials and security experts.
Mexico's two leading drug-trafficking organizations, the Sinaloa cartel and the Cartel Jalisco Nueva Generacion, are allied with Ecuadorean criminal gangs. The Jalisco cartel, which in Mexico has challenged the state by killing politicians and judges, has become the dominant Mexican group in Ecuador, said Douglas Farah, a Washington-based international security consultant.
The assassination of Jorge Luis Zambrano, the head of the Choneros, Ecuador's most powerful cartel, in December 2020 was a key factor in setting off Ecuador's spiraling violence, says John Polga-Hecimovich, a Latin America expert at the U.S. Naval Academy.
During the campaign, Villavicencio was one of the more vocal proponents for going after drug traffickers. He pledged to build a maximum-security prison in the Amazon for gang leaders, expand antidrug cooperation with the U.S. and

purge the police of corrupt officers.
Credit: By Ryan Dube and Jose de Cordoba

DETAILS

Subject:	Cocaine; Organized crime; Violence; Criminal investigations; Cartels; Political power; Assassinations &assassination attempts; Gangs; Presidential elections; Candidates
Business indexing term:	Subject: Cartels; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	Mexico; United States--US; Ecuador; Colombia; Europe
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235234
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-ecuador-candidate-defied-criminals/docview/2849235234/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30

LINKS

Researchers Long Warned Of Lahaina's Wildfire Risk

Frosch, Dan; Carlton, Jim . Frosch, Dan; Carlton, Jim.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Nearly a decade before a wildfire destroyed the coastal Maui town of Lahaina this week, killing at least 67 people, a report by Hawaiian fire researchers warned the area was at extremely high risk of burning.

Another report, in 2020, tied fires to winds from a passing hurricane -- similar to the ones that fanned the Lahaina blaze.

And the state's electric utility had for years worried about wildfire risk in the area. It even flew drones to monitor conditions.

Yet local authorities said in the aftermath of this week's devastation that though they knew wildfires were becoming more frequent in Hawaii, they weren't prepared for one to roar through Lahaina.

The fire hit the coastal town so quickly and caught officials so off-guard that emergency sirens didn't sound. Many panicked residents were unable to flee on the town's one clogged highway and took boats or swam to safety, if they were able to escape at all.

In 2014, a wildfire protection plan for the area was written by the Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization, a nonprofit that works with government agencies. It warned Lahaina was among Maui's most fire prone areas because of its proximity to parched grasslands, steep terrain and frequent winds.

The plan, which involved Maui and state officials, laid out a multitude of mitigation measures that needed to be undertaken to shield the area around Lahaina from fires. They included thinning vegetation near populated areas, improving wildfire response capabilities and working with landowners and utilities to help reduce fire risk on their property.

Some of the recommendations from the 2014 plan, which was devised after more than a half-dozen community meetings, were implemented, like brush-thinning efforts and public education for landowners, said the report's lead author Elizabeth Pickett. But others, such as ramping up emergency response capacity, have been stymied by a lack of funding, logistical hurdles in rugged terrain and competing priorities, said Pickett, co-executive director of the wildfire nonprofit.

"We've been hammering this home and it's just really frustrating and heartbreaking to see that some things could have been done, but we couldn't find money," she said. "We are living through what happens when there's a lag and everyone's still catching up."

Representatives for the Hawaii state and Maui county governments didn't respond to requests for comment.

Asked at a news conference Thursday why the state wasn't more prepared, Hawaii Gov. Josh Green said, "We've never experienced a wildfire that affected a city like this before so this is something that we have not experienced before."

He said officials were particularly surprised that Hurricane Dora, which passed by Hawaii this week, caused winds as strong as 60 miles an hour, driving the blaze into Lahaina faster than emergency responders and residents could keep up.

"This was of course a shock to see a hurricane and its winds and trade winds cause collateral damage, which was the spread of fire," he said.
But that risk was known, too.
The fire danger from passing hurricanes in Hawaii was documented in a 2020 report by researchers at the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center, which tied a 2018 outbreak of fires on both Maui and Oahu to winds from Hurricane Lane.
Like Dora, Hurricane Lane passed the islands to the south, but sparked four fires -- three on West Maui and one on Oahu -- which blackened about 3,000 acres.
Over the past decade, an average of 20,000 acres have burned annually in Hawaii, more than quadruple the pace from a century ago, according to the Pacific Fire Exchange, a nonprofit fire safety group.
One of the main causes has been the proliferation of non-native grass and shrubs that cover more than one quarter of the state, the group said.
The researchers in the 2020 hurricane report said the fires tied to Lane ignited in areas dominated by non-native grasses, which are exceptionally flammable. Non-native grasses blanket the sloped terrain around Lahaina.
Jennifer Potter, a former state public-utility commissioner who lives on Maui, said she began hearing growing concern from community members about fire activity on the island beginning in 2019. That same year, Hawaiian Electric, the state's main utility, said it would fly drones over the areas including West Maui to identify utility lines prone to wildfires.
Documents show Hawaiian Electric submitted a request for funding in 2022 from the public utilities commission to help offset the $189.7 million it said it needed to bolster their power grid across the state, including wildfire prevention measures. The request is still being processed.
A spokesman for the utility didn't respond to requests for comment.
"There was absolutely knowledge within the state and within the electric industry that fire was a huge, huge concern on the island of Maui, and even more so than any of the other islands," Potter said. "I don't think it's fair to say we've never seen this coming."
Residents of Lahaina said they didn't see the fire coming just hours before it reached their town Tuesday.
Around 9 a.m. local time that day, Maui officials said the wildfire outside Lahaina had been 100% contained. By midafternoon, however, it had grown out of control.
Maui Fire Chief Brad Ventura said at the Thursday news conference that the speed of the blaze made it difficult for officials to warn residents of the dangers.
"The fire that day moved so quickly, that from where it started in the brush to where it moved into the neighborhood, communications back to those who make [emergency] notifications were physically, nearly impossible," he said.
Some Lahaina residents said they received emergency alerts, but many didn't. The fire disabled cellular service in the city, as well as power and water.
Hawaii has what it says is one of the world's largest siren systems to warn people of all kinds of events, including wildfires and hurricanes. Maui County has 80. State records don't indicate that the sirens sounded in Lahaina, according to the Associated Press.
"Normally there'd be like a hurricane siren or something. None of that stuff went off," said Kevin Campbell, who escaped Lahaina with his pregnant wife, Tasha.
When he tried to convince friends to leave, he said, some argued that it was pointless for them to go. The single-lane Honoapiilani Highway, the main road out of town, was jammed with cars. Portions of it were closed because of downed power lines from the earlier windstorms.
Some residents and tourists abandoned their gridlocked cars on foot, while others rammed vehicles through gates, fled by boat, or waited out the fire in the ocean, witnesses said.

Ginger Adams Otis, Suryatapa Bhattacharya and Christine Mai-Duc contributed to this article.
Credit: By Dan Frosch and Jim Carlton

DETAILS

Subject:	Landowners; Hurricanes; Forest &brush fires; Electric industries; Risk
Business indexing term:	Subject: Electric industries; Industry: 33531 : Electrical Equipment Manufacturing
Location:	United States--US; Lahaina Hawaii
Classification:	33531: Electrical Equipment Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235228
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/researchers-long-warned-lahainas-wildfire-risk/docview/2849235228/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Egypt Resists U.S. Calls to Arm Ukraine

Malsin, Jared; Said, Summer . Malsin, Jared; Said, Summer.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

After Egypt agreed it wouldn't send weapons to Russia, it is now resisting requests from senior U.S. leaders to send them to Ukraine, Egyptian and American officials say, posing an obstacle for the Biden administration's push to generate arms for a Ukrainian counteroffensive.

Egypt initially planned to send rockets to Russia but dropped that plan under pressure from the U.S. earlier this year, the officials say. U.S. officials asked Egypt to supply weapons to Ukraine instead.

Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin made the request in March when he met Egypt's president, Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, in Cairo. Egypt's leaders were noncommittal at the time, and senior U.S. officials have raised the request in multiple encounters since then, the officials said. The U.S. asked Egypt to supply artillery shells, antitank missiles, air-defense systems and small arms, according to a U.S. official. In conversations with U.S. officials, Egypt hasn't definitively rejected the requests, but Egyptian officials said privately that Egypt has no plans to send the weapons.

A senior State Department official said Egypt was acting as a partner working toward a just and lasting peace in Ukraine. "We find these conversations with Egypt productive. On a range of diplomatic discussions, Egypt's response has been befitting of a strong U.S. partner," the official said.

A spokesman for Egypt's Ministry of Foreign Affairs didn't respond to a request for comment.

Credit: By Jared Malsin and Summer Said

DETAILS

Subject:	Military aid
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Egypt; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235200
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-egypt-resists-u-s-calls-arm-ukraine/docview/2849235200/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Death Toll Climbs to 67 in Maui Wildfires --- Number is expected to rise as island's search-and-rescue efforts continue

De Avila, Joseph; Caldwell, Alicia A; Pohle, Allison . De Avila, Joseph; Caldwell, Alicia A; Pohle, Allison.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The death toll from the Maui wildfires climbed to 67 as recovery efforts continued across the island in what officials called the worst natural disaster in Hawaii's history.

Disrupted phone and internet service made it difficult to determine how many people were missing, and officials said they expected the death toll to rise. The fires destroyed much of Lahaina, the historic former capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom, and left residents and tourists stranded throughout the island.

Residents and visitors forced to evacuate during the disaster were told they could return to Lahaina on Friday at noon local time, Maui County said. A 10 p.m.-to-6 a.m. curfew was expected in some areas.

By 10:30 a.m., a long line of traffic had formed on the Honoapi'ilani Highway, one of the routes back to Lahaina. On

another route, local police formed a checkpoint to ensure only residents and visitors with hotel reservations were allowed back to the area.
Maui County Mayor Richard Bissen said cadaver dogs were searching on Friday for people killed in the fire. A nine-member search-and-rescue team arrived to assist crews on the ground. The names of the missing were highlighted on a list of local residents posted on a bulletin board outside a shelter.
Lahaina was unrecognizable, Bissen said in an interview with ABC News. Buildings, palm trees and cars were quickly engulfed in flames earlier this week, as wind-whipped walls of fire and smoke spread. By Thursday, there was little more than smoldering rubble where surf shops, restaurants and homes once stood in the town of 12,000.
"The closest thing I can compare it to is perhaps a war zone or a bomb went off," Bissen said. "Cars in the street, doors open, melted to the ground. Most structures no longer exist."
At the Maalaea Harbor, approximately 15 miles from Lahaina, cars and trucks waited in line to drop off supplies for the town. One small boat brought supplies to Lahaina at around 9 a.m., and a larger tour boat ferried items like water, bedding and dog food about an hour later.
The Lahaina fire is one of four that have scorched Maui this past week. None of the fires were fully contained by late Thursday. Officials haven't determined what started the fires.
Firefighters were working to put out the fires and extinguish new flare-ups. The National Weather Service in Honolulu forecast a gradual decrease in winds through Friday.
High winds and drought helped fuel the blazes, according to the National Weather Service. Western Maui has experienced severe drought from a lack of rain, making the region ripe for wildfire. Once the fires started, winds from Hurricane Dora, located nearly 800 miles southwest of Honolulu, fanned flames on the island.
The topography of Maui was another factor. Winds coming off the ocean were pinned between a layer of warm air in the atmosphere and the ground, causing the winds to speed up, spreading flames quickly.
A brush fire spread to the first neighborhood in Lahaina so rapidly that Maui's Emergency Management Agency couldn't send emergency alerts before it arrived, officials said.
Tourists were told to shelter in place at their hotels, which aren't near the fires, Bissen said Thursday. Many tried to flee and created bottlenecks in the roads, making it difficult for emergency crews to travel.
Nearly 15,000 people flew out of Maui on Thursday, according to Maui County. State officials have discouraged visitors from coming to the island for nonessential travel to spare resources for displaced residents and recovery efforts.
Lahaina is on the National Register of Historic Places and holds an important place in Hawaiian history.
"It's not right to call it just a tourist town; it's a Hawaiian town," says David Aiona Chang, a professor of history and American Indian studies at the University of Minnesota who is a Native Hawaiian.
Front Street, home to dozens of restaurants and businesses, is also home to a giant banyan tree that stands more than 60 feet tall. The tree was charred in the fires, according to the town's website, and much of Front Street burned.
"It will shock you how much damage there is. The way things burned to their base: cars, trucks, buildings. There's no way anyone could stay in that space or be in that space," Gov. Josh Green said of Lahaina. "All of the infrastructure is gone."
One of the shelters that opened in Lahaina closed because it was too close to one of the fires, Green said.
The town was a center of the whaling industry in the mid-1800s. It was also home to a printing press that published the first printed documents in the Hawaiian language, Chang said.
Missionaries arrived in Lahaina in the 1820s and built sites now considered historic, such as the Baldwin Home, thought to be the oldest house on Maui. The former mission was most recently headquarters for the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, which maintains landmarks and historic structures.
The Baldwin Home, like many buildings in the area, had a wooden roof, said Theo Morrison, the foundation's executive director. The roof burned and the entire building was likely gutted, Morrison said. Lahaina's business district was also decimated.
"We're just losing the essence of the community," she said.

Jennifer Calfas, Suryatapa Bhattacharya and Ethan M. Steinberg contributed to this article.
Credit: By Joseph De Avila, Alicia A. Caldwell and Allison Pohle

DETAILS

Subject:	Forest &brush fires; Evacuations &rescues; Trucks; Fatalities
Location:	United States--US; Maui Hawaii
Company / organization:	Name: National Weather Service-US; NAICS: 924120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.10
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 12, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2849235197
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/death-toll-climbs-67-maui-wildfires-number-is/docview/2849235197/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporatio ns, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Deal Creates U.S. Fashion Powerhouse --- Tapestry to acquire Capri for $8.5 billion but still would trail luxury leader LVMH

Kapner, Suzanne . Kapner, Suzanne.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

America has an answer to the deal making among Europe's fashion houses: a proposed merger of two U.S. rivals that would put Coach, Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Versace and other brands under one roof.

Tapestry's $8.5 billion acquisition of Capri would create a conglomerate with more than $12 billion in annual sales that would span income levels, from the more budget-conscious, aspirational customers to the upper echelons of British and Italian fashion.

The combined company would still be dwarfed by European rivals and lack the high-wattage labels and diversity that have fueled LVMH's success. The French luxury-goods giant has annual sales of roughly $90 billion and owns dozens of brands -- from Dior to Dom Perignon -- across fashion, leather goods, jewelry, and wine and spirits.

That diversity has helped LVMH post consistently strong financial results, which have fueled its stock price, giving it a market valuation of more than $440 billion and allowing Chief Executive Bernard Arnault to compete with Elon Musk for the title of the world's richest person.

The European conglomerates also benefit from deep management benches and equally deep pockets that they use to nurture and expand their brands. When LVMH acquired Tiffany for about $16 billion in 2021, it invested heavily to revamp the jeweler's marketing, including by hiring Beyonce and Jay-Z as brand ambassadors.

The size advantage was recently on display when Louis Vuitton mounted a menswear show on the historic Pont Neuf bridge in Paris. Guests were ferried in on boats to a gilded runway. Pharrell Williams, the brand's new creative director for menswear, rapped alongside Jay-Z. The show quickly garnered more than one billion views on social media, according to the company.

Tapestry and Capri have gone toe-to-toe in recent years snapping up brands to create conglomerates of their own. But they have been hard pressed to keep up with the deal making.

Gucci owner Kering last month said it was buying a stake in Valentino, adding the Italian luxury label to a portfolio that also includes Balenciaga and Saint Laurent. Kering recently appointed a new designer at Gucci and shuffled its executive ranks to revitalize its largest brand, which has fallen out of favor.

Tapestry and Capri are betting they will be stronger together than apart. Capri shares surged 56% on the news, which promises a big cash premium from where the stock had slumped. Tapestry shares, which had climbed more than 23% over the past 12 months, fell 16% on Thursday. It will take on debt to finance the acquisition.

The task of making the marriage work largely falls to Joanne Crevoiserat, who took over the top Tapestry job in 2020 when her predecessor resigned amid a board probe into his personal behavior. Previously, she was Tapestry's finance chief and an executive at teen retailer Abercrombie &Fitch and at department-store chains. Capri Chief Executive John Idol has agreed to stay through the transaction's close sometime next year, Crevoiserat said in an interview.

She said the deal combines two complementary companies that can learn from each other to expand their brands.

Tapestry has a strong expertise in leather goods as well as in operating its own stores and digital business. It also has a large presence in Asia. Capri has expertise in shoes and clothing and is bigger in Europe.
Crevoiserat said the acquisition isn't aimed at creating an American version of a European luxury house. "We are not trying to be something else," she said. Rather, it is rooted in applying data and analytics to iconic brands to develop them, a strategy that has worked well at Tapestry, she said.
Tapestry uses data to manage its inventory, develop products and market to consumers. Crevoiserat said those skills have helped it transform its business over the past three years and can be used to enhance the brands it is buying. "We consider that a competitive advantage," she said.
The deal will allow Tapestry to attract the best talent and provide a stronger foothold in the true luxury sphere by placing Capri's Versace and Jimmy Choo labels under its umbrella, she said. Items at those brands can sell for thousands of dollars rather than hundreds of dollars at Coach, Kors, Kate Space and Stuart Weitzman.
But it comes as demand for luxury goods is slowing, particularly in North America. Crevoiserat said she is taking the long-term view of the luxury sector, which tends to rise over time. The diversification of products and geographies should help insulate the company from economic shocks, according to Scott Roe, Tapestry's finance chief.
The company expects more than $200 million in annual savings within three years of the deal closing by eliminating duplicate corporate costs and wringing efficiencies from its supply chain, Roe said.
The U.S. companies started as single brands. Tapestry was called Coach until it changed its name in 2017 to reflect the acquisitions of Kate Spade and Stuart Weitzman. Capri, formerly Michael Kors, followed suit in 2018, after it bought Jimmy Choo and Versace.
Both companies have struggled at times with oversaturation and discounting of their Coach and Michael Kors brands. Tapestry has done a better job of revitalizing and protecting the cachet of the Coach brand, and analysts are hopeful it can bring that discipline to Kors.
Their acquisitions haven't all gone smoothly. Kate Spade initially struggled, although it is in the process of a turnaround. And Versace, which initially recorded stellar growth, has stumbled in recent quarters.
After the market closed on Thursday, Capri said net income in the most recent quarter fell 76% to $48 million. Total revenue dropped 9.6%, driven by declines at its Kors and Versace brands. Tapestry is slated to report results next week.

Nick Kostov contributed to this article.
Credit: By Suzanne Kapner

DETAILS

Subject:	Menswear; Competitive advantage; Fashion designers; Conglomerates; Acquisitions &mergers; Competition; Equity stake
Business indexing term:	Subject: Competitive advantage Conglomerates Acquisitions &mergers Equity stake; Corporation: Tapestry Inc LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton; Indus try: 54149 : Other Specialized Design Services
Location:	United States--US; Europe
People:	Jay-Z (rapper)
Company / organization:	Name: Jimmy Choo; NAICS: 541490; Name: Gian ni Versace SpA; NAICS: 315250, 334519; Name: Tapestry Inc; NAICS: 551112; Name: Capri Holdings Ltd; NAICS: 551112

Classification:	54149: Other Specialized Design Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670542
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/deal-creates-u-s-fashion-powerhouse-tapestry/docview/2848670542/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-09-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.S., China Poised to Drift Farther Apart -- Biden's investment order is the latest development leaving global rivals at odds

Hutzler, Charles . Hutzler, Charles.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The Biden administration is sending an unmistakable signal to American business to steer investment away from China after years of blacklisting Chinese companies and scrutinizing their investments in the U.S.

An executive order President Biden issued on Wednesday -- while narrowly targeted at critical leading-edge technologies with military, surveillance and cyber capabilities -- more broadly aims to reorder the flow of American capital and expertise away from its biggest global rival.

The order prohibits U.S. investment in advanced semiconductors and quantum computing, and requires American investors to notify Washington about investments in other types of semiconductors and artificial intelligence. It also bars U.S. citizens and permanent residents from taking part in prohibited deals.

In doing so, White House officials said, the order intends to deny China the know-how, market access and other benefits U.S. venture-capital and private-equity firms bring with their investments. That is likely to further rattle American companies doing business in China, coming on top of weakening Chinese growth, Covid lockdowns that made travel to China difficult and a recent pressure campaign against U.S. and other foreign companies amid rising tensions between Washington and Beijing.

Andrew Polk, a partner with the boutique research firm Trivium China, said that while U.S. companies he advises remain interested in China's market, many have grown hesitant.

"What we always say -- and this resonates with our clients -- is that the risk-adjusted return in China has changed dramatically," Polk said. "So what we see is a lot of companies fundamentally rethinking their China strategies. It doesn't mean they'll necessarily change them, but they're stress testing them now, because we're clearly in a new environment."

Wednesday's order lands in the middle of a fragile nursing of relations by Washington and Beijing after months of bruising tensions, over Taiwan, the Ukraine war, espionage and technology controls. In the short term, officials and security specialists said, the tentative diplomatic progress of recent months is likely to hold.

Chinese leader Xi Jinping sees a calm in relations with the U.S., at least temporarily, as a boost to his prestige at home as the economy slips into deflation while growth falters and foreign investment plummets. A senior Chinese Foreign Ministry official, Yang Tao, held discussions with State Department and other officials in Washington last week with a prime focus on preparing for Xi to attend a summit of Asia-Pacific leaders in San Francisco in November and convene separate talks with Biden, people briefed on the discussions said.

Both sides also pushed ahead to repair communication channels, agreeing tentatively this month to set up working groups to discuss Asia-Pacific regional and maritime issues, officials said. Discussions are still under way for Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo to travel to Beijing in what would be the fourth visit by a senior Biden administration figure since June.

Longer term, however, the U.S. and China are locked in rivalry, driving them to disentangle the economic and commercial ties that for decades gave ballast to relations, and the new investment restrictions are likely to accelerate the momentum to draw farther apart.

"That talk of diversification, de-risking, decoupling, disentangling -- choose your 'D-word,' whichever one you like -- it's really baked into the minds in Washington, increasingly in Silicon Valley, and this is really being beamed right at Wall Street," said Liza Tobin, a former National Security Council official now with the Special Competitive Studies Project, a Washington-based group focused on technology policy.

Venture-capital firms, which once poured into China energetically, have already pulled back responding in part to

sharpening tensions; U.S. investment in Chinese startups fell by more than 30% from 2021 to 2022 and is on pace to fall further this year, according to Crunchbase data.
"The real message to come out of this move is that it's an enduring trajectory" that companies and investors must consider, said Nate Picarsic, a fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies and co-founder of supply-chain intelligence firm Horizon Advisory. "Geopolitical and national security risks have become a permanent fixture."
After the order's unveiling, China's foreign ministry on Thursday deplored the move and said Biden was backtracking on past statements that the U.S. isn't looking to decouple economically.
The Chinese foreign ministry suggested possible retaliation, saying Beijing will "resolutely safeguard our rights and interests."
Credit: By Charles Hutzler

DETAILS

Subject:	National security; Semiconductors; Executive orders; International relations-US; Foreign investment
Business indexing term:	Subject: Foreign investment
Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US; Asia
People:	Biden, Joseph R Jr
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670539

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-s-china-poised-drift-farther-apart/docview/2848670539/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Six Arrested in Ecuador Candidate's Killing

Dube, Ryan . Dube, Ryan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Six Colombians were arrested in connection with the assassination of an Ecuadorean presidential candidate in Quito, officials with Ecuador's Interior Ministry said, hours after President Guillermo Lasso declared a state of emergency to bring order to the country buffeted by drug-fueled violence.

A high-ranking police official said the Colombians are part of a drug-trafficking organization. He said some of the suspects had been arrested in the past in Ecuador and had committed crimes in Colombia, where U.S. officials say the cocaine trade is flourishing.

The official said police were investigating two possible motives for the Wednesday killing of Fernando Villavicencio, but declined to provide additional information. Villavicencio, 59 years old, was a former congressman and journalist who had railed against graft and pledged to battle drug gangs if elected president.

"They are part of organized crime," the official said. "They are connected to drug trafficking, and other crimes."

The developments in the case came after Lasso declared a 60-day, nationwide state of emergency that curtails civil liberties like freedom of movement and right to assembly. It takes force as several other candidates suspended their campaigns following Wednesday's killing, the first time a presidential hopeful has been assassinated in the country's history.

Lasso also declared three days of national mourning and said the Aug. 20 election will go forward as planned.

"We aren't going to hand over power and the democratic institutions to organized crime," Lasso said in televised comments. "The elections aren't going to be suspended."

Villavicencio was killed after leaving a campaign event at a school in the capital, Quito. The attack occurred during the evening rush hour and near the city's busy financial center.

The brazen shooting in front of crowds of supporters just 11 days before the vote has rattled Ecuadoreans, who were grappling with a surge in violent crime. Drug gangs fighting for control of cocaine-trafficking routes have recently

unleashed bloodshed across what had once been a relatively peaceful country.
"Everything was so confusing, there was so much chaos, people didn't know what to do, they were crying and very scared," said Diego Torres, a photographer who was walking with his wife about a block away from the school when he heard what he said were shots fired from high-powered rifles. "This was on another level, a more advanced level of criminality."
Torres, who has covered Ecuador's crime wave, said he approached the scene after the gunfire stopped. He said he was told by police to move back because they had found two grenades that hadn't exploded. Lasso said the hit men threw a grenade that didn't explode to distract authorities as they fled.
Three police officers were injured in the attack on Villavicencio. In addition to those who were arrested, a suspected gunman died of wounds sustained during an exchange of gunfire with police, officials said. The candidate had been using an armored vehicle during the campaign, but police said it had been left behind during a recent trip to the coastal city of Guayaquil.
There were conflicting claims of responsibility for the assassination. In a video posted on X, the site previously known as Twitter, heavily armed, masked men who said they were from one of Ecuador's biggest and most violent gangs, The Wolves, claimed responsibility for the killing. Later, another video with unmasked men who also claimed to be members of The Wolves said the gang wasn't involved. The Wall Street Journal couldn't verify the authenticity of the videos.
Villavicencio had recently said he received threats from another powerful gang, known as the Choneros, which security experts say has ties to Mexico's Sinaloa cartel.
Villavicencio's death has drawn comparisons to the 1989 assassination of Colombian presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan, who was killed by henchmen of drug kingpin Pablo Escobar after Galan campaigned on pledges to extradite drug traffickers to the U.S. Colombian security officials were also involved and convicted in Galan's killing.
The killing was met with condemnation on Thursday from Washington to Beijing. U.S. national-security adviser Jake Sullivan called it an assault on Ecuador's democracy. China's Foreign Ministry said it hoped Ecuador would be able to hold safe elections.
Antonio Lopez, Villavicencio's campaign director, recalled the candidate telling supporters at the rally that he was proud to be hated by criminals.
"Democracy has been gunned down and the fight against corruption has been mutilated," Lopez said. "His biggest fight was to combat the narcopolitics."

Jenny Carolina Gonzalez contributed to this article.
Credit: By Ryan Dube

DETAILS

Subject:	Cocaine; Organized crime; Criminal investigations; Presidential elections; State of emergency; Assassinations &assassination attempts; Gangs; Arrests; Candidates
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Ecuador
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670535
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-six-arrested-ecuador-candidates/docview/2848670535/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Spy Agencies Will Share More Secrets --- Outreach to private sector comes as new cyber and other risks alter strategy

Strobel, Warren P . Strobel, Warren P.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- U.S. spy agencies will share more intelligence with U.S. companies, nongovernmental organizations and academia under a new strategy released this week that acknowledges concerns over new threats, such as another pandemic and increasing cyberattacks.

The National Intelligence Strategy, which sets broad goals for the sprawling U.S. intelligence community, says that spy agencies must reach beyond the traditional walls of secrecy and join with outside groups to detect and deter supply-chain disruptions, infectious diseases and other growing transnational threats.

The intelligence community "must rethink its approach to exchanging information and insights," the strategy says.

The U.S. government in recent years has begun sharing vast amounts of cyber-threat intelligence with U.S. companies, utilities and others who are often the main targets of foreign hackers, as well as information on foreign-influence operations with social-media companies.

The last National Intelligence Strategy was released in 2019 under the Trump administration, before the Covid-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"There's so much that's changed in the threat landscape, and in the world that we're operating in today," Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines said in an interview.

She sketched out a broader, more institutionalized information exchange on a wider array of topics with the private sector, ranging from academia to local governments.

Illustrating the changing threats, a senior U.S. official said that the daily intelligence briefing prepared for President Biden and his top advisers -- once dominated by terrorism and the Middle East -- now regularly covers topics as varied as China's artificial-intelligence work, the geopolitical impacts of climate change, and semiconductor chips.

The new strategy is meant to guide 18 U.S. intelligence agencies with an annual budget of about $90 billion whose work Haines coordinates.

The 16-page document, which contains no budget or program details, also says spy agencies must support the U.S. in its competition with authoritarian governments such as China and Russia, particularly in technological arenas.

On transnational threats such as financial crises, narcotics trafficking, supply-chain disruption and infectious diseases, the document calls on intelligence agencies to strengthen their internal capabilities to warn U.S. policy makers of looming threats.

A report last year by the House Intelligence Committee, at the time led by Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff, concluded that three years after the Covid-19 pandemic began, U.S. intelligence agencies still hadn't made the changes needed to provide better warnings of future global health crises.

Haines said that the intelligence community has strengthened its focus on global health. Her office, she said, now has a senior official whose responsibilities include coordinating intelligence work on global health issues, has invested more resources and has strengthened outreach to organizations such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

But the government, she said, also needs to rely on outside experts.

Haines' office brought in scientists and other specialists outside the government to help investigate the origins of the Covid pandemic and the health incidents affecting U.S. personnel abroad known as Havana Syndrome.

Such exchanges can be tricky. Many academics don't want to be associated publicly with the intelligence community, said Haines, who has resisted efforts by Republican lawmakers to disclose the names of those consulted on the Covid question.

The emphasis on greater intelligence sharing is part of a broader trend toward declassification that the Biden administration has pursued.

Credit: By Warren P. Strobel

DETAILS

Subject:	Intelligence gathering; Infectious diseases; Global health; Espionage; Transnationalism; Pandemics; Intelligence services; COVID-19; Nongovernmental organizations--NGOs; Information sharing
Business indexing term:	Subject: Information sharing
Location:	China; Russia; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670534
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-spy-agencies-will-share-more-secrets/docview/2848670534/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WEST VIRGINIA
Manchin Weighs
Being Independent
Sen. Joe Manchin (D., W.Va.), who has at times split with his party and President Biden, said he was weighing whether to leave the Democrats and become an independent as he considers his political future.
"I would think very seriously about that. I've been thinking about that for quite some time," he said when asked if he would become an independent. Manchin, who hasn't said whether he plans to run for re-election in the Senate next year or perhaps seek the presidency, made the comments on a West Virginia program hosted by radio personality Hoppy Kercheval.
"I can't accept either party right now," he said.
Manchin, 75 years old, has been a pivotal figure in the closely divided Senate, where Democrats currently control 51 seats compared with 49 for Republicans.
Manchin represents a solidly red state, and would face a tough Senate re-election campaign if he runs. Already, popular Republican Gov. Jim Justice has jumped into the race, along with GOP Rep. Alex Mooney.
Manchin has said he wouldn't make a decision until near the filing deadline in January. In 2018, he didn't announce his plans until January of that year. He won re-election by 3 percentage points.
-- Siobhan Hughes

TEXAS
Three Hunters Die in
Sewer-Gas Mishap
A Texas sheriff said Thursday that three hog hunters from Florida died in an underground tank filled with sewer gas after one of them apparently tried rescuing their dog after it fell into the hole, followed by the other two jumping in to save them.
The bodies of two men and a woman, as well as the dog, were pulled from the tank in a cornfield on the rural outskirts of Austin. Bastrop County Sheriff Maurice Cook said the hole was a cistern with an opening roughly 4-feet wide and containing 8 feet of water, as well as hydrogen sulfide gas.
He said the chain of events started early Wednesday in the middle of the night with one of the men apparently getting into the cistern to rescue the dog. Clothing and boots belonging to the other two hunters were found near the hole, suggesting they removed them before also jumping in, Cook said.
He said authorities believe the hunters were overcome by hydrogen sulfide gas in the hole and sank to the bottom.
"There was no cover. This was just an open hole in the middle of a cornfield," Cook said.
The victims were identified as Delvys Garcia, 37; Denise Martinez, 26; and Noel Vigil-Benitez, 45. All were from Florida.
-- Associated Press

PENNSYLVANIA
Death Penalty Not
Sought in Killings

A suburban Philadelphia woman accused of fatally shooting her parents and dismembering their bodies with a chain saw in the home they shared wouldn't face a death sentence, prosecutors said Thursday.
The announcement came during an arraignment hearing for Verity Beck, 44, of Abington, who pleaded not guilty to two counts each of first- and third-degree murder, corpse abuse, and possessing instruments of crime -- a firearm and a chain saw. Her trial was scheduled for February, and she will remain jailed without bail.
A motive for the slayings hasn't been disclosed. James P. Lyons, Beck's public defender, said only that "we do intend to vigorously defend this case."
Samantha Cauffman, an assistant prosecutor in Montgomery County, told the judge her office wouldn't seek the death penalty because "the required legal factors are not present in this case."
Beck underwent several mental-health evaluations and was found competent to stand trial. She could face a potential life sentence if convicted.
The bodies of Reid Beck, 73, and Miriam Beck, 72, were found Jan. 17 after their son told Abington police he had gone to his parents' home to check on them.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Criminal sentences; Capital punishment; Murders &murder attempts
Location:	Florida; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670531

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2848670531/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.A.E. Sent Weapons, Not Aid, To Sudan

Bariyo, Nicholas; Faucon, Benoit . Bariyo, Nicholas; Faucon, Benoit.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ENTEBBE, Uganda -- When a cargo plane landed in Uganda's busiest airport in early June, its flight documents said it was carrying humanitarian aid sent by the United Arab Emirates for Sudanese refugees.

Instead of the food and medical supplies listed on the aircraft's manifest, Ugandan officials said they found dozens of green plastic crates in the plane's cargo hold filled with ammunition, assault rifles and other small arms.

The weapons discovered June 2 at Entebbe airport were part of an effort by the U.A.E., a U.S. ally, to support Lt. Gen. Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, a Sudanese warlord who is battling for control of Africa's third-largest country, African and Middle Eastern officials said.

The officials said the U.A.E.'s covert arms shipments are fueling a war that has plunged Sudan into a humanitarian catastrophe and killed more than 3,900 people since its start on April 15, according to the nonprofit Armed Conflict Location &Event Data Project. Arming Dagalo's Rapid Support Forces militia could add to friction between the U.A.E. and the U.S., which has been working to mediate an end to the war.

United Nations agencies and human-rights groups have accused the RSF militia of human-rights abuses in Sudan, including the killing of civilians.

The U.A.E. government, responding to questions from The Wall Street Journal, said it is in favor of a peaceful solution to the conflict in Sudan and "seeks to provide all forms of support to alleviate humanitarian suffering." It said it has sent around 2,000 metric tons of humanitarian aid, including food and medical supplies, for people affected by the war and has built a field hospital in neighboring Chad.

An RSF spokesman said the group isn't getting arms or other military supplies from the U.A.E. and denied its fighters have participated in rights abuses.

The U.A.E. is likely betting on Dagalo to help protect Emirati interests in Sudan, with its strategic location on the Red Sea, access to the Nile River and vast gold reserves. The U.A.E.'s interests include swaths of Sudanese farmland and a stake in a planned $6 billion port on the Red Sea.

U.N. monitors have previously accused Abu Dhabi of sending arms, including drones and armored vehicles, to Khalifa Haftar, a militia commander in Libya, Sudan's neighbor to the northwest. Both Haftar and Dagalo have worked with Russia's Wagner Group, allowing the paramilitary group access to oil fields in Libya and gold mines in Sudan.
"We would be concerned about reports of any outside support to either of the conflict parties," a spokesman for the State Department said. "We continue to engage and coordinate with the U.A.E. and a number of other partners in efforts to press for a cessation of hostilities and humanitarian access in Sudan."
Credit: By Nicholas Bariyo and Benoit Faucon

DETAILS

Subject:	Humanitarian aid; Medical supplies; Militia groups; Humanitarianism; Airports; Military sales; Military weapons; Cargos
Business indexing term:	Subject: Airports; Industry: 48811 : Airport Operations
Location:	Sudan; Red Sea; United States--US; Libya; Uganda; United Arab Emirates
Classification:	48811: Airport Operations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670530
Document URL:	https://www.proq uest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-e-sent-weapons-not-aid-sudan/docview/2848670530/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Why Blazes Caused So Much Mayhem

Pisani, Joseph . Pisani, Joseph.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Here is a look at some of the factors behind the deadly wildfires in Maui.

High winds

Winds from Hurricane Dora, a Category 4 hurricane spinning nearly 800 miles southwest of Honolulu, fanned flames on the island. Between Monday and Wednesday, Maui had peak winds from 45 miles an hour to 67 mph, according to the National Weather Service. Winds were still strong on Thursday, at about 30 mph to 50 mph.

Authorities said they had prepared for the hurricane but not the fires that followed. Firefighters working on the blaze in the Lahaina area had declared the fire 100% contained Tuesday morning, but it flared up by the afternoon.

Dryness

The western part of Maui, where the fires raged, was in a severe drought, said Greg Carbin, the chief of forecast operations at the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center.

"That's the one spot that was quite dry and drier than the other islands," Carbin said.

At least 1,000 acres of Maui's Upcountry, an agricultural inland area that includes Haleakala National Park, have been charred.

Local topography

The island is made of two volcanoes, several mountains and steep valleys, with flat land along the ocean.

Winds coming off the ocean grew faster on land, fanning the flames. That is because a layer of warm air in the atmosphere, called an inversion, was lower than usual, said John Bravender, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Honolulu. As winds headed to the mountaintops, they got trapped between the ground and the inversion and pushed downward, accelerating their speed. "It's like putting your finger over a hose," he said. "That restricts the flow and makes it go faster."

Local fire officials alerted residents on just how quickly the blaze moved."The fire can be a mile or more from your house, but in a minute or two, it can be at your house," Fire Assistant Chief Jeff Giesea said in an alert Tuesday.

Credit: By Joseph Pisani

DETAILS

Subject:	Fires; Hurricanes; Weather
Location:	United States--US; Maui Hawaii
Company / organization:	Name: National Weather Service-US; NAICS: 924120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670525
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-why-blazes-caused-so-much-mayhem/docview/2848670525/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

State Colleges 'Devour' Money, And Students Foot the Bill

Korn, Melissa; Fuller, Andrea; Forsyth, Jennifer S . Korn, Melissa; Fuller, Andrea; Forsyth, Jennifer S.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The nation's best-known public universities have been on an unfettered spending spree. In the past two decades, they erected new skylines of snazzy academic buildings and dorms. They poured money into big-time sports programs and hired layers of administrators.

Then they passed the bill along to students.

The University of Kentucky upgraded its campus to the tune of $805,000 a day for more than a decade. Its freshmen, who come from one of America's poorest states, paid an average $18,693 to attend in 2021-22.

Pennsylvania State University spent so much money that it now has a budget crisis -- even though it's among the most expensive public universities in the U.S.

The University of Oklahoma hit students with some of the biggest tuition increases, while spending millions on projects including acquiring and renovating a 32,000-square-foot Italian monastery for its study-abroad program.

The spending is inextricably tied to the nation's $1.6 trillion federal student debt crisis. Colleges have paid for their sprees in part by raising tuition prices, leading many students to take on more debt. That means student loans served as easy financing for university projects.

"Students do not have the resources right now to continue to foot the bill for all of the things that the university wants to do," said Crispin South, a 2023 Oklahoma graduate. "You can't just continue to raise revenue by turning to students."

It has long been clear to American families that the cost of college has gone up, even at public schools designed to be affordable for state residents. To get at the root cause, The Wall Street Journal examined financial statements since 2002 from 50 universities known as flagships, typically the oldest public school in each state, and adjusted for inflation.

At the median flagship university, spending rose 38% between 2002 and 2022.

Only one school in the Journal's analysis -- the University of Idaho -- spent less.

The schools paid for it in part by pulling in tuition dollars. The median flagship received more than double the revenue from undergraduate and graduate tuition and fees it did 20 years prior. Even accounting for enrollment gains, that amounted to a 64% price increase for the average student, far outpacing the growth in most big household expenses.

Public university leaders often blame stingier state funding for the need to raise tuition revenue. And three-fourths of states did cut their support, undermining a longstanding principle that schools educated the populace with government backing. But universities generally didn't tighten their belts as a result. Rather, they raised prices far beyond what was needed to fill the hole.

For every $1 lost in state support at those universities over the two decades, the median school increased tuition and fee revenue by nearly $2.40, more than covering the cuts, the Journal found.

Through it all, schools operated in a culture that valued unrelenting growth and prioritized raising revenue over cutting costs. Administrators established ambitious strategic plans and tried to lure wealthy students with luxurious amenities. Influential college rankings rewarded those that spent more.

Many university officials struggled to understand their own budgets and simply increased spending every year. Trustees demanded little accountability and often rubber-stamped what came before them. And schools

inconsistently disclose what they spend, making it nearly impossible for the public to review how their tuition and tax dollars are being used.
"These places are just devouring money," said Holden Thorp, who was chancellor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 2008 to 2013 and is now the editor of Science.
Colleges invested money inside and outside the classroom, including to improve technology, expand counseling and intramural sports, and build facilities such as modern dorms and new stadiums.
To examine public university spending, the Journal collected data from audits, archived budget websites and documents received through public-records requests covering expenses in fiscal 2002, 2012 and 2022.
Much of the increase in outlays showed up in the hiring process, for administrators, faculty, coaches and finance experts, the Journal's analysis found. Salaries and benefits, which usually eat up more than half of operating budgets, rose by roughly 40% at the median flagship since 2002.
The University of Florida in 2022 had more than 50 employees with titles of director, associate director or assistant director of communications, roughly double the number it had in 2017. The school also employed more than 160 assistant, associate, executive and other types of deans last year, up from about 130 in 2017. Spokesman Steve Orlando said the university is decentralized and different departments have the freedom to hire as they need.
Inflation-adjusted spending on athletic coaches rose by about half between 2010 and 2022 at the median flagship, the Journal's analysis of data from the Knight-Newhouse College Athletics Database found.
Though a handful of powerhouse sports departments pay for themselves, most can break even only with student fees and university subsidies. Across all flagships with available data, that additional funding totaled $632 million in 2022. That's a jump of 27% from 12 years prior.
The University of Connecticut won the national championship this spring in men's basketball, and its women's team has been a near-constant presence in the Final Four. Yet since 2016, Connecticut's athletic department has received more than $35 million annually in student fees and university subsidies to stay afloat. In 2022, it took in $55 million in such funds, making up more than half its total athletics budget.
The school said more than $13 million of that subsidy covered a payout to a former men's basketball coach as part of a legal settlement over his employment contract, and that it faces unique challenges in having to pay rent and other fees for basketball and hockey games, which are played off campus.
Overall, the University of Connecticut's spending rose by 73% between 2002 and 2022, far faster than enrollment grew. Much of that was driven by personnel costs, with spending on benefits more than tripling.
Reka Wrynn, associate vice president of budget, planning and institutional research, said that was in part because the school was on the hook for a growing share of the state's unfunded pension liability. Connecticut was also obligated to pay for raises that unionized employees negotiated with the state, she said.
Colleges have faced little accountability over their budgets in part because they aren't required to track expenses in a uniform way. And Education Department data on college finances often contain errors and don't match audited figures.
Schools use their own discretion to categorize spending on audited financial statements, making precise comparisons at a single school over time, or among different schools, extremely difficult.
In some cases, colleges spent more as the student body grew, with the typical flagship increasing enrollment by about 20% over the past two decades. Adding students may in some cases be expensive -- requiring new dorms and classroom space -- or relatively inexpensive, especially for online students. Nonetheless, spending per student rose, by a median 15% over the past two decades.
The schools have passed the tab on to students even in the nation's poorest states. Most of these schools increased financial aid for low-income students, but that hasn't fully offset rising tuition for many families.
Kentucky has among the country's lowest median household income. What in-state students paid in 2021-22 put Kentucky in the top half of flagship schools ranked by cost. Those figures, from the Education Department, cover what the average freshman paid in tuition, fees, room and board after scholarships.
Kentucky on its website touts the total of $3.66 billion spent on its Lexington campus overhaul over the past dozen

years. That included new homes for the law, business and visual-arts schools, state-of-the-art hospital facilities, a student center, a 900-spot parking garage, a theater for videogame competitions and dorms sporting full-size Tempur-Pedic mattresses, granite countertops and in-unit washer-dryers.
Private developers were involved in some projects but more than half of the total construction costs were paid for with university funds.
"Our residence halls meet student and family needs and expectations, while emphasizing learning and connectedness," university spokesman Jay Blanton said. He said that some features in the dorms, such as the countertops, lower maintenance expenses, and that the Tempur-Pedic mattresses were purchased at a comparable cost to traditional ones.
The school set out decades ago to become one of the best universities in the country. It boosted research funding and faculty salaries, which helped it attract talent.
Some college rankings, including U.S. News &World Report, reward spending in those categories as well as student services such as clubs and cultural events. They don't necessarily credit moves that make schools more efficient. The Journal's college rankings also took spending into consideration, though it is dropping that measure in coming reports.
For all Kentucky's effort, U.S. News ranked the school No. 64 among public universities in 2022, actually dropping a few spots from where it had been a decade earlier.
But the bill for students grew. Kentucky took in about 70% more in tuition and fee revenue per student than it did 20 years ago.
The school said it has decelerated the rate of increase for tuition and fees over the past several years, and students from the lowest-income families receive scholarship support. Blanton said Kentucky continues to aspire to be recognized as one of the best public research institutions in the country but has shifted to a broader focus of advancing the state.
Schools loaded their campuses with state-of-the-art recreation centers and dorms to appeal to students with top test scores and minimal need for financial aid. The price for these amenities was then baked into the bills for all students, including with fees students paid to cover construction debt.
Tuition and fee revenue per student climbed by double digits in the past 20 years at every school in the Journal's analysis. The average student paid more because many schools both upped prices and increased the percentage of higher-paying students from out of state.
At the University of Oklahoma, per-student tuition and fees rose 166%, the most of any flagship. The school also borrowed hundreds of millions of dollars to perform building upgrades and erect new dorms.
"We levered up the balance sheet to avoid dealing with [financial] reality," said Oklahoma President Joseph Harroz Jr., who took the helm in 2019. Across higher education, he said, "there was an arms race."
Beginning in 2009, the university spent $14.3 million to buy and renovate a monastery in Arezzo, Italy, to house a new study-abroad program. The monastery has a landscaped garden, faculty apartment and classrooms featuring painted frescoes.
The school said it was paid for by a mix of private gifts and university funds.
"Would I go and do one of those right now? No," Harroz said. "It wouldn't be the best use of capital dollars."
Harroz said that under some of his predecessors, the school didn't maintain long-term budget plans or prioritize its needs over its wishes. Oklahoma has since changed course, he said, and the university cut $143 million in expenses at the main campus in Norman since 2018.
The increase in tuition at Oklahoma came after the state legislature gave school regents tuition-setting authority in the early 2000s, a move designed to allow the school to catch up with its peers' rates, said University of Oklahoma spokeswoman April Sandefer. She said its increases have slowed in recent years, and more than half of Oklahoma undergraduates leave school debt-free thanks to a growing financial-aid budget.
Research by James V. Koch, an economist who studies college spending and a former president at Old Dominion University in Virginia, found public-university trustees approved 98% of the cost-increasing proposals they reviewed,

often unanimously. In most states, he said, there hasn't been anyone to say, "No, you can't do that."
Back in 2005, a Hawaii state audit called out the University of Hawaii System board for approving a budget that gave the flagship Manoa campus $200 million when, auditors said, all but $13 million went to vague or unnecessary requests.
Honolulu attorney Benjamin Kudo, who joined the university's board in 2011, said he was stunned by the lack of information he was given during the budget process. He said he received a packet of pie charts and a PowerPoint presentation with general information on how the university planned to divide up its funds for areas including teaching, libraries, athletics and facilities across 10 campuses.
Kudo said administrators weren't initially receptive to requests that he and another new board member made for more detail, including a comparison of projected versus actual spending. Kudo, who served until 2022, recalled being accused of trying to micromanage the $1 billion budget.
School officials expected him to follow the lead of prior trustees, Kudo said: "It's basically an automatic approval of whatever the administration wants."
After a few years of nagging, Kudo said, the board received more detailed financial information, and it stopped greenlighting so many requests.
University of Hawaii President David Lassner said the university has changed. He decried a time around a decade ago, shortly after he was named interim president, when the board found out about depleted reserves by reviewing audited financial statements that had been produced six months after the fiscal year closed.
"That is no way to understand the financial health of something as big and complicated as this," he said. "We're certainly not budgeting by pie charts anymore."
Penn State, like many schools, long relied on a simple approach to budgeting, in which each department generally received the same amount it got the prior year plus a little more to cover inflation. Dollars were rarely tied to enrollment shifts or demonstrated need.
The school's spending rose 36% since 2002. That number excludes the university's health system, which the Journal removed from its analysis where possible. Total tuition and fee revenue from both undergraduate and graduate students increased 72% over the past two decades, far faster than enrollment grew.
Penn State's University Park campus was the country's most expensive state flagship in the 2021-22 school year for in-state freshmen after scholarships. Those students paid an average $26,747 in tuition, fees, room and board, according to the Education Department data.
The school said it offers students the option of starting at one of its less expensive regional campuses and finishing at University Park, and has increased financial aid significantly.
Penn State cut spending nearly 3% between 2012 and 2022. Still, the university's 2022-23 budget forecast spending that was $140 million more than its revenue.
It's not the first time expenditures were projected to outpace revenue, and Penn State determined last year it was on track to blow through its $350 million reserve funds in the next few years if it didn't change course. Trustees gave the administration until 2025 to balance the budget.
Trustee Barry Fenchak criticized his fellow board members at the meeting when they voted last summer to increase tuition and fees by 5% for in-state students at the University Park campus after the state held funding flat.
"I think the knee-jerk reaction was, 'OK, we've got to raise tuition,' and I think perhaps the knee-jerk reaction should have been, 'We need to get to work on the things we should've been doing for the last 10 years and light a bit of a fire underneath our behinds'" to address costs, he said.
Several trustees at the meeting said the decision was based on thorough analysis.
"We acknowledge that tuition has increased quite a bit over the past 20 years, which is a large stretch of time for such a comparison when taking into account growth in student needs, services, technology, stem fields, academic support, mental health services etc. and considering our stagnant state funding," said Lisa Powers, a school spokeswoman.
(See related letters: "Letters to the Editor: The Rising, Rising Tuition at State Colleges" -- WSJ Aug. 18, 2023)
Credit: By Melissa Korn, Andrea Fuller and Jennifer S. Forsyth

DETAILS

ERIC Subject:	Departments; Athletic Coaches; Public Schools; Public Colleges; State Aid; Financial Audits; Accountability; Expenditures; Schools of Education; Institutional Research; Family Income; Dormitories; Family Needs; Universities; Intramural Athletics; Educational Facilities Improvement; Debt (Financial); Periodicals; Student Personnel Services; Team Sports; Tuition
Subject:	Study abroad; Student loans; Audited financial statements; Sports; Basketball; Schools; Funding; Low income groups; College campuses; School finance; Construction costs; College sports; Tuition; Budgets; Subsidies; Fees &charges; Accountability; Colleges &universities
Business indexing term:	Subject: Audited financial statements Construction costs Budgets Subsidies Colleges &universities; Industry: 61131 : Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Location:	Connecticut; United States--US; Kentucky
Company / organization:	Name: University of Kentucky; NAICS: 611310; Name: Temp ur-Pedic Inc; NAICS: 337910; Name: University of Connecticut; NAICS: 611310
Classification:	61131: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publicationyear:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670517

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/state-colleges-devour-money-students-foot-bill/docview/2848670517/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, inclu ding corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Inflation Eases, Fueling Hope on Fed Rates --- July's figures point to continued moderation in underlying prices

Omeokwe, Amara; Timiraos, Nick; Robles, Christian . Omeokwe, Amara; Timiraos, Nick; Robles, Christian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Price pressures continued cooling last month, inflation figures showed Thursday, likely deterring the Federal Reserve from raising interest rates at its September meeting.

The consumer-price index, a measure of goods and services prices across the economy, rose a mild 0.2% in July, the same as in June, the Labor Department said. Core prices, which exclude volatile food and energy categories, also increased just 0.2% in both months, extending a broader slowdown in price pressures.

The figures led to 3.2% annual inflation in July, up from 3% in June. Annual core inflation ticked down to 4.7% in July from June's 4.8%.

The pickup in annual inflation was influenced by what happened in July 2022, which serves as the basis for comparison. Economists don't expect the annual rate of inflation to slow much more this year in part because of so-called base effects.

U.S. stocks edged higher following the positive inflation news. The S&P 500 gained less than 0.1%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 0.2%, and the Nasdaq rose 0.1%. The benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury yield inched up.

Fed officials focus on core inflation because they see it as a better predictor of future inflation than the overall rate. The core CPI, in particular, adds to recent data that calls into question whether the central bank will need to raise rates again this year, as most officials had projected in June.

The new numbers lowered the three-month annualized rate of core inflation to 3.1%, the lowest such reading in two years, from 5% in May.

"My God, that's incredible," said Laurence Meyer, a former Fed governor. "There's absolutely no question that core inflation has turned the corner faster" than the Fed anticipated.

Even before Thursday's report, a handful of Fed officials said the central bank could be close to pausing interest-rate increases after raising them at 11 of the past 12 central bank meetings. The Fed raised rates most recently last month to a range between 5.25% and 5.5%, a 22-year high.

In June, most officials projected they would raise rates at least to a range between 5.5% and 5.75% this year, but inflation has slowed markedly in the two months since they made those projections. Their next meeting is Sept. 19-20.

"I believe we may be at the point where we can be patient and hold rates steady," Philadelphia Fed President Patrick Harker said Tuesday.

Boston Fed President Susan Collins said she also thought a pause could be appropriate soon. "My read of the data that we have so far is that we are near or perhaps at a sufficiently restrictive level of monetary policy to hold for some time," she said in a Monday interview.

Others said it is too soon to tell. Three months ago, core inflation appeared so stubborn that the central bank might have little choice but to push rates higher and risk a sharper downturn. More recent data contain both signs that the economy might achieve a soft landing -- where inflation cools without a sharp rise in unemployment -- and that economic activity could be reaccelerating, which could keep inflation elevated.

Prices for housing rose 0.4% in July from the prior month, the same increase as June, and accounted for more than 90% of the overall CPI increase, according to the Labor Department.

Slowing price increases for housing, including rent, can take time to show up in inflation data because of measurement lags. Housing inflation has cooled from earlier this year, a trend that should continue in the coming months, said Kathy Bostjancic, chief economist at Nationwide Mutual.

Prices for used cars dropped 1.3% in July from June, continuing a reversal from a large surge during the rebound from the pandemic.

Americans got a break on summer travel expenses with hotel and flight prices declining in July from June. Restaurant and bar prices rose modestly last month. Auto-insurance prices jumped 2% for the month, amid a move up in rates this year.

Meanwhile, energy prices rose by a slight 0.1% in July, but could put upward pressure on inflation in the coming months. The average U.S. price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline climbed gradually in July to $3.76 at the end of the month from about $3.54 at the start, according to OPIS, an energy-data and analytics provider.

Because the CPI is essentially based on average prices over the month, that recent move up in gasoline prices is likely to have more of an impact on August's inflation data, economists said.

Sanjay Vinaik, a retiree living in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., said he was shocked to see premium unleaded gasoline at $4.79 a gallon at a warehouse club last week.

Trips to warehouse stores are one of the many frugal habits Vinaik said he has adopted over the past year. Around nine months ago, Vinaik started buying conventional tomatoes because organic options were too expensive. He said he also stopped eating out.

"Price increases are not as aggressive now, but the baseline prices have already gone up and that has impacted our behavior," Vinaik said. "I think behavior changes will stay with us."

Austen Hufford contributed to this article.

Credit: By Amara Omeokwe, Nick Timiraos and Christian Robles

DETAILS

Subject:	Gasoline prices; Inflation; Interest rates; Central banks; Consumer Price Index; Price increases; Economic conditions

Business indexing term:	Subject: Gasoline prices Inflation Interest rates Central banks Consumer Price Index Price increases Economic conditions; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670514
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/inflation-eases-fueling-hope-on-fed-rates-julys/docview/2848670514/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Iran Frees Five Imprisoned Americans --- Tehran seeks return of its own detainees, over $10 billion in frozen energy funds

Salama, Vivian . Salama, Vivian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Iran has freed five Americans from a notorious Tehran prison with the understanding that five of its own prisoners and billions of dollars in frozen revenue from energy sales would be released in return, U.S. and Iranian officials said.

On Thursday, Tehran released four Americans into house arrest with the intention of allowing them to travel to the U.S. in the coming weeks. A fifth American was already under house arrest and is set to leave Iran with the other four.

"We will not rest until they are all back home in the United States," the White House National Security Council said.

The development followed months of intense, if quiet, diplomacy brokered by the Swiss Embassy in Tehran and two Gulf Arab states, officials said.

A spokesman for the Iranian mission to the U.N. said the two countries had agreed to "reciprocally release and pardon five prisoners."

"The transfer of these prisoners to out of prison marks a significant initial step in the implementation of this agreement," the spokesman said.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency reported that more than $10 billion would be released from accounts in South Korea and Iraq, and that under the agreement, the Americans wouldn't be permitted to leave Iran until the funds become available in Iranian accounts in Qatar.

A U.S. official dismissed Iran's claim, saying that only the $6 billion in funds held in South Korea was under discussion. The official added that in exchange for having these Americans move to house arrest, no Iranian prisoners in the U.S. have been released.

"Iran will not be receiving any sanctions relief, and in any instance where we would engage in such efforts to bring Americans home from Iran, Iran's own funds would be used and transferred to restricted accounts such that the monies can only be used for humanitarian purposes . . . permitted under our sanctions," Secretary of State Antony Blinken told reporters on Thursday. "We will continue to enforce all of our sanctions. We will continue to push back on Iran's destabilizing activities in the region and beyond," he added.

Iranians officials have repeatedly tied the possible release of prisoners to access to billions of dollars held in Iraq for deliveries of gas and oil and what Iran has said is $7 billion in Iranian funds held in South Korea after the Trump administration tightened sanctions on the country's oil exports.

Those discussions to release the funds are continuing, the person familiar with the negotiations said, but the outcome remains undecided.

The U.S. Treasury Department is exploring ways to move those funds from the restricted account in Seoul, where they can't be accessed, to a third country where they can be accessed for humanitarian purposes and other trade permitted under U.S. sanctions.

On Thursday, the family of one of the hostages, Siamak Namazi, received direct visual confirmation that Namazi, Emad Shargi and Morad Tahbaz had been freed from Evin prison, said Jared Genser, the family's attorney. Those three men and a fourth unnamed American had been brought to the prison office and informed they would be

released, he said.
Switzerland, which has represented U.S. diplomatic interests in Iran since Washington and Tehran cut ties shortly after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, has been involved in the talks. The Swiss ambassador to Tehran will have full access to Americans under house arrest, the person familiar with negotiations said. Qatar and Oman have also assisted in facilitating these negotiations, this person said.
Namazi was arrested in October 2015 on a business trip to Iran on charges of cooperating with a hostile government. Tahbaz, an environmentalist, was jailed in 2018 and has served five years of a 10-year sentence after being convicted of spying. Shargi, a businessman, was arrested in 2018 and sentenced without a trial in 2020 to 10 years in prison for espionage. All three are dual U.S. and Iranian nationals. Tahbaz also holds British nationality.
The two other individuals, including one woman, have asked that their identities remain private, the person familiar with the negotiations said.

Aresu Eqbali contributed to this article.
Credit: By Vivian Salama

DETAILS

Subject:	Prisoners; House arrest; Humanitarianism; Diplomatic &consular services; Sanctions; Prisoner exchanges; Frozen assets
Business indexing term:	Subject: Sanctions Frozen assets; Industry: 92214 : Correctional Institutions 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	Iran; United States--US; Qatar; Iraq; South Korea
Classification:	92214: Correctional Institutions; 92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670508
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-iran-frees-five-imprisoned-americans/docview/2848670508/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

ProQuest document link

World-Wide

FULL TEXT

The Supreme Court blocked Purdue Pharma's $6 billion settlement of opioid lawsuits against its Sackler family owners, agreeing to hear the Justice Department's claim that the drugmaker's bankruptcy plan improperly wipes out potential liability to additional parties for allegedly fueling the addiction crisis.

Special counsel Jack Smith recommended that Trump stand trial in Washington on Jan. 2, two weeks before the first votes in the Republican presidential primary will be cast in Iowa's Jan. 15 caucuses.

Ukrainian troops have fallen back on the small-unit tactics that brought them success earlier in the war with Russia after experiencing checks and setbacks in their counteroffensive against the occupier.

Ukraine said it was opening temporary routes for civilian ships to sail from its Black Sea ports in a potential challenge to Russia's attempt to blockade the country's food exports.

Six Colombians were arrested in connection with the assassination of an Ecuadorean presidential candidate in Quito, officials with Ecuador's Interior Ministry said.

Covid-19 infections are rising in the U.S. ahead of the autumn months when respiratory illnesses typically surge, as another offshoot of the Omicron variant gains momentum.

U.S. spy agencies will share more intelligence with U.S. companies, NGOs and academia in a strategy that acknowledges concerns over threats such as another pandemic and increasing cyberattacks.

DETAILS

Subject:	Presidential elections
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	Russia; United States--US
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670503
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2848670503/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: American Venture-Capital Firms Still Have a Lot at Stake Amid Curbs

Chernova, Yuliya; Loten, Angus . Chernova, Yuliya; Loten, Angus.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

President Biden's executive order restricting investments by U.S. firms in some Chinese technology sectors over national-security concerns threatens to cause problems for investors with existing deals in China.

U.S. venture firms have been pulling back from China amid rising tensions between the countries, but many had gone all in on China, and the order may restrict reinvesting in existing portfolio companies and potentially hurt returns.

"It could have a chilling effect on an existing investor's liquidity," said Jacob Osborn, partner and co-chair of the global trade practice at the law firm Goodwin Procter LLP.

The Biden administration issued the order on Wednesday to restrict Americans from investing in some Chinese companies developing advanced semiconductors, quantum computers and artificial intelligence, which are critical in military, intelligence, surveillance and cyber uses. Americans also must notify the U.S. government regarding some direct investments in such technology.

Venture investors typically repeatedly invest in portfolio companies. If investors can't reinvest, they risk seeing their stakes and influence over a company watered down, reducing their potential returns.

While the executive order won't apply retroactively, it might limit the ability of investors to continue backing portfolio companies involved in prohibited technologies. The Treasury Department will define the technologies, set rules around follow-on investments, and solicit public comments for that.

"The reinvestment concern is certainly something we will look at closely," Osborn said.

American venture investments in China once boomed, flowing into some sectors now under scrutiny in Washington.

U.S. venture investors participated in more than 700 deals for Chinese startups in the artificial-intelligence and semiconductor technology sectors, broadly defined, since 2016, according to PitchBook Data. In total, U.S. venture firms have taken part in more than 2,700 Chinese startup deals worth $165.7 billion since 2016, according to the research firm.

U.S. investment, however, dwindled to participation in 30 China deals totaling about $200 million in the second quarter, the lowest quarterly numberof deals since at least 2016, according to PitchBook.

Credit: By Yuliya Chernova and Angus Loten

DETAILS

Subject:	Executive orders; Portfolio management; Foreign investment

Business indexing term:	Subject: Portfolio management Foreign investment
Location:	China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670500
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-american-venture-capital-firms-still/docview/2848670500/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-09-23
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Hospitals Shut Down Maternity Wards, Leaving Women, Infants at Higher Risk

Evans, Melanie . Evans, Melanie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

More hospitals are getting out of the baby business.

Last month, Ohio-based University Hospitals said it would halt maternity services in the city of Ashland. OSF HealthCare said its hospital in Pontiac, Ill., would do so in September. Trinity Health plans to stop delivering babies in Troy, N.Y., and Baker City, Ore.

Megan Nelson, an emergency-room nurse for Trinity Health's St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City, has never delivered a baby. She will soon be responsible for women who arrive in labor and can't get to the nearest hospital with maternity services, a 45-minute drive away.

"It's a scary prospect," said Nelson, a member of the Oregon Nurses Association.

The closures are broadening a swath of America without maternity units, commonly communities that are sparsely populated or aging. The trend threatens to worsen infant health and maternal death rates that have hit the highest level in decades.

Hospitals that are closing maternity units said they can't recruit enough staff to safely operate. Hospitals with fewer births are less attractive to doctors and nurses, executives said. Births at OSF HealthCare St. James-John W. Albrecht Medical Center in Illinois declined to 120 last year from 184 in 2019.

"There's just not enough babies to be had," said Dr. Michael Cruz, OSF HealthCare's chief operating officer.

Roughly 2.2 million women of childbearing age lived in so-called maternity deserts in 2020, according to March of Dimes, which it defined as counties without a hospital, a birth center, and doctors and nurse midwives with experience delivering babies. The 1,052 counties on the list represented an increase of 70 counties since 2016, the nonprofit's latest analysis found.

Women in remote rural communities are more likely to give birth too early after losing a local maternity unit, research shows. Babies born preterm are at higher risk of death, disabilities or chronic health issues, such as asthma. Women who give birth in rural hospitals that deliver fewer babies are also at higher risk for serious complications, such as acute kidney failure, research shows.

Investments to improve safety in low-volume hospitals could mitigate the risks, said Katy Kozhimannil, a University of Minnesota professor who studies maternal care and hospital-unit closures. "It's better to have a facility to give birth at than not to have anything at all," she said.

Trinity's hospital in Stafford Springs, Conn., tried training its own labor and delivery nurses only to have them leave for other hospitals, hospital testimony to state regulators said. Trinity has sought permission from Connecticut regulators to close the maternity ward in Stafford Springs.

Trinity's maternity unit at Samaritan Hospital in Troy, N.Y., lost $2.3 million last fiscal year, and some women were transferred to other hospitals to give birth because of nurse staffing shortages.

The nonprofit delayed closing maternity services at St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Baker City until this month after public outcry. St. Alphonsus has plugged nurse vacancies at the Baker City hospital with temporary staff but can't find permanent replacements with a dwindling number of deliveries, said Gay Landstrom, Trinity's chief nurse executive.

"It becomes very hard to retain them and next to impossible to recruit," Landstrom said.

Credit: By Melanie Evans

DETAILS

Subject:	Births; Nurses; Babies; Maternal child nursing; Hospitals
Business indexing term:	Subject: Hospitals; Industry: 62211 : General Medical and Surgical Hospitals 62231 : Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals
Classification:	62211: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; 62231: Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670494
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-hospitals-shut-down-maternity-wards/docview/2848670494/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: 'Above Normal' Hurricane Season Is Predicted

Ansari, Talal . Ansari, Talal.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on Thursday increased its forecast for this year's Atlantic hurricane season to "above normal" from its previous estimate of a "near-normal" season.

This year's hurricane season, which typically runs from June to the end of November, has been difficult to predict, climate scientists said. The El Nino climate pattern traditionally helps temper the Atlantic hurricane season. This year, that's counteracted by elevated water temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean that can fuel hurricanes.

"The ongoing El Nino potentially competing with local conditions in the Atlantic increased the uncertainty in the outlook," said Matthew Rosencrans, lead hurricane forecaster for NOAA's Climate Prediction Center.

NOAA said Thursday it now expects 14 to 21 named storms this year, of which six to 11 will become hurricanes, which have winds of 74 miles an hour or higher. Two to five storms are expected to be major hurricanes. NOAA's Climate Prediction Center Thursday calculated a 60% chance of an above-normal season and a 25% chance of a "near-normal" season.

NOAA forecasters in May predicted a "near-normal" Atlantic hurricane season, with 12 to 17 large storms that get named. An average Atlantic hurricane season produces 14 named storms, of which seven become hurricanes and three are major hurricanes.

The typical impact of El Nino produces an Atlantic hurricane season with only about nine named storms, Rosencrans said, including four hurricanes and two major hurricanes.

This year is different, in large part because of record-warm sea surface temperatures, NOAA said. In June and July, the sea-surface temperatures in the area of the North Atlantic where most major hurricanes form were the warmest since 1950, Rosencrans said.

"Normally El Nino knocks down your storms. Normally the warm Atlantic brings up your storms," said Phil Klotzbach, a senior research scientist at Colorado State University. "So it's kind of a big question as to exactly how that's going to play out."

Credit: By Talal Ansari

DETAILS

Subject:	Storms; Hurricanes; Ocean currents; El Nino; Weather forecasting
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92411 : Administration of Air and Water Resource and Solid Waste Management Programs
Company / organization:	Name: Climate Prediction Center; NAICS: 541990; Name: National Oceanic &Atmospheric Administration--NOAA; NAICS: 924120

Classification:	92411: Administration of Air and Water Resource and Solid Waste Management Programs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670489
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-above-normal-hurricane-season-is/docview/2848670489/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

News Corp Posts Loss, Cites Book Unit --- CEO says publisher is in talks with AI firms to establish value of its content

Trachtenberg, Jeffrey A . Trachtenberg, Jeffrey A.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

News Corp said it swung to a loss in the latest quarter, due in part to a revenue decline and a sharp drop in profitability at its book-publishing unit.

The New York-based media company, which owns The Wall Street Journal, HarperCollins Publishers and news organizations in the U.K. and Australia, said revenue fell 9% to $2.43 billion for the quarter ended June 30, hurt by foreign-currency fluctuations and the fact that the year-earlier quarter comprised one extra week.

The company lost $8 million, or one cent a share, which it said was also partly caused by higher restructuring charges. That compared with a profit of $110 million, or 19 cents a share, in the year-earlier quarter, boosted by a $149 million tax benefit.

News Corp shares were flat in after-hours trading.

Chief Executive Robert Thomson said the company's Dow Jones unit, which beyond the Journal also publishes Barron's and MarketWatch, reported its highest profitability since it became part of News Corp. Segment earnings at Dow Jones increased 25% to $133 million, while revenue fell 3.4%.

News Corp calculates segment earnings as revenue less operating and administrative expenses. Segment earnings exclude expenses such as interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring charges, and other items.

The Journal averaged 3.406 million digital subscriptions in the period, an increase of 107,000 from the previous quarter. Including the print edition, the Journal averaged 3.966 million subscriptions. Total average subscriptions to all Dow Jones consumer products reached 5.242 million, an increase of 125,000 from the previous quarter.

During a call with investors to discuss the company's results, Thomson said the company was in active negotiations with relevant companies in the artificial-intelligence field to address the impact of generative AI, a type of artificial intelligence that can create various types of content including text, images and audio.

"We have been characteristically candid about the AI challenge to publishers and to intellectual property," Thomson said. "Our content is being harvested and scraped and otherwise ingested to train AI engines. Ingestion should not lead to indigestion."

News Corp's news-media segment, which includes the Sun, the New York Post and the Times in the U.K., posted a 9.2% revenue decline and a 36% increase in segment earnings, driven by cost-saving initiatives.

Advertising revenue across all units fell 11% to $424 million.

The company said revenue was down 13% at its book-publishing unit, HarperCollins Publishers, where segment earnings fell 66%. News Corp said the decline reflected "lower book sales due to lower consumer demand industry-wide."

Key titles in the quarter included Barbara Kingsolver's novel "Demon Copperhead" and Shelby Van Pelt's novel "Remarkably Bright Creatures."

The company's digital real-estate services division reported a 17% decrease in revenue, with segment earnings declining 11%.

News Corp's subscription-video-services unit, which includes Foxtel, an Australian pay-television provider, posted a 4.4% drop in revenue and a 3.7% decline in segment earnings.

During the call, Thomson also mentioned the continued detention by Russia of Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich, stating that Gershkovich is "unjustly incarcerated by Russia for being a journalist seeking facts, seeking the truth."

Gershkovich, a U.S. citizen who was accredited by Russia's Foreign Ministry to work as a journalist, is being held on a

charge of espionage that he, the Journal and the U.S. government vehemently deny. The Biden administration has designated him as wrongfully detained.
"Evan has now spent almost five months in prison, and we thank the many thoughtful people, from all around the globe, who have rallied to his cause and sought his release," Thomson said.
Credit: By Jeffrey A. Trachtenberg

DETAILS

Subject:	Administrative expenses; Subscriptions; Artificial intelligence; Corporate profits; Profitability
Business indexing term:	Subject: Artificial intelligence Corporate profits Profitability; Corporation: News Corp
Location:	Russia; New York; United States--US; United Kingdom--UK
Company / organization:	Name: Wall Street Journal; NAICS: 513110, 516210; Name: News Corp; NAICS: 513110, 516120, 551112
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Section:	Technology
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670482
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/news-corp-posts-loss-cites-book-unit-ceo-says/docview/2848670482/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Don't Flip the Pork Chops Too Fast, Watch Out for Corn Dogs --- For presidential hopefuls, the annual Iowa State Fair can be an obstacle course

McCormick, John; Lucey, Catherine . McCormick, John; Lucey, Catherine.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

DES MOINES, Iowa -- Republican presidential hopefuls are now barnstorming early voting states, answering questions at town hall meetings and trying to win over enough donors to qualify for the first debate.

None of that may compare to the political obstacle course that is the Iowa State Fair, which started Thursday and is expected to attract more than a dozen presidential candidates.

"Things can go wrong because it's spontaneous," says Jimmy Centers, a Republican strategist in Iowa who has consulted with presidential campaigns for fair visits. "It is a campaign advance staffer's nightmare."

One bright spot: Drinking beer is fine, maybe even good.

"Americans often judge a candidate by if they'd like to have a beer with them," Centers says. "Here's their chance." (At least one venue offers beer served at or below 27 degrees.)

Failures on the 400-plus-acre fairgrounds are the stuff of legend in the state that starts the Republican presidential nomination voting with its caucuses on Jan. 15. Local fixers say candidates must carefully prepare for an event laden with greasy victuals, food on a stick, butter sculptures and massive farm machines -- as well as an audience increasingly equipped with cell phones and an inclination to post any mishaps on social media. More than one million people are expected to visit the fairgrounds over the 11-day run.

Along with passing the test of unscripted politicking, the candidates are also there to make good photos and video for the mob of state and national news crews who cover the spectacle the summer before the caucuses.

Fortunately for the newcomers, there are many cautionary tales that can serve as a guide for staying out of trouble. (For readers, it's a guide to why you're glad you're not running for office.)

First, buy a ticket. Don't show up at the gate thinking you will get in free because you want to be president and may be traveling with an entourage.

As tempting as it might be to cut in line to see the butter sculptures faster, don't do it. That's a good rule fairgrounds wide, too.

Also, don't accept a ride in a golf cart as tempting as it may be. "Speeding past sweltering fairgoers looks elitist and out of touch," Centers says. "Wear comfortable shoes and walk just like everyone else." Fred Thompson, campaigning

for the 2008 Republican nomination, wore dress loafers, which drew some ribbing.
Brace for tough weather (and go extra-strength on that deodorant) lest your face shine more than your message. Former Vice President Mike Pence, who plans to spend at least two days at this year's fair as a GOP 2024 candidate, got soaked last year when he visited as a prospective candidate. Massive sweating can also make for ugly photos.
When it comes to eating, Matt Paul, a Democratic strategist in Iowa and fair visit veteran, suggested sticking to the basics. "Don't get crazy with the food."
In 2011, Republican Rick Perry, then a Texas governor, was mocked over unflattering photos of him eating a corn dog. State fair political guides have since recommended dodging that food entirely.
Also, when buying a snack, tip big and don't look too healthy. John Kerry, seeking the 2004 Democratic nomination, famously ordered a strawberry smoothie instead of something deep-fried.
At the Iowa Pork Producers Association building, where candidates typically flip pork chops for the cameras, Centers recommends caution and courtesy.
"The smart candidates will venture beyond the grill to serve lemonade and ice tea," he said. "Don't flip too fast. These aren't pancakes. Let them sizzle."
Scheduling is another variable. Campaigns sometimes jockey to try to appear on a day that's both good for their broader schedules and when they will not be competing with too many other candidates for attention.
It doesn't always work out. In 2015, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump arrived on the same day, and he overshadowed her by using his personal helicopter to offer rides to children from the south end of the grounds.
The Des Moines Register's "soapbox," a stage offered by the state's largest newspaper for political speeches, is another place of potential danger.
In 2015, animal-rights activists crashed the stage while then-New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie was speaking. The Republican took it in stride and stressed his state's reputation for brashness, saying: "When something like that happens and I'm here in Iowa, man, I feel right at home."
Republican Mitt Romney, now a Utah senator, argued with a heckler at the 2011 soapbox over Social Security, before blurting out "corporations are people."
Candidates who bring their children can benefit from the family friendly images they can help generate. That was the case for then-Sen. Barack Obama in 2007, who brought his two young daughters along. But there is risk, too, if the kids get sick or have an emotional meltdown.
Former Louisiana governor Bobby Jindal, who ran for the GOP nomination in 2016, said at one point his young son waited until he was surrounded by the media at the fair before asking for a deep-fried candy bar. "He knew I couldn't say no," Jindal jokes.
Above all, try to relax.
"Let people see who you are," says former Sen. Rick Santorum, who unsuccessfully ran for the Republican nomination in 2012 and 2016. "That's the most important thing, to the extent that that's a good thing."
David Wade, who was Kerry's 2004 presidential campaign spokesman, downplayed the ultimate importance of the fair on electoral politics. "When John Kerry handily won the caucuses on a cold night in 2004, we were relieved that none of the 124,000 caucus-goers were thinking of pink smoothies or meat on a stick," he said.
Credit: By John McCormick and Catherine Lucey

DETAILS

Subject:	Pork; Nominations; Political activism; Presidential elections; Candidates; Political parties
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 81394 : Political Organizations

Location:	United States--US; Iowa
People:	Kerry, John F
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United Sta tes
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670480
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/dont-flip-pork-chops-too-fast-watch-out-corn-dogs/docview/2848670480/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Omicron Subvariant 'Eris' Drives Rise In Covid Infections

Abbott, Brianna; Kamp, Jon; Hopkins, Jared S . Abbott, Brianna; Kamp, Jon; Hopkins, Jared S.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Don't count Covid-19 out just yet.

Covid-19 infections are rising in the U.S. -- ahead of the autumn months when respiratory illnesses typically surge -- as another offshoot of the Omicron variant gains momentum.

The continued evolution of the virus is a reminder that Covid-19 remains a nuisance for many and a serious risk for some even though the disease is far less disruptive than it once was.

The new subvariant, called EG.5, is a descendant of another, called XBB.1.9.2, and has been reported in at least 51 countries since Aug. 7, according to the World Health Organization, which classified the EG.5 as a variant of interest this week.

Some scientists on X, formerly known as Twitter, have unofficially dubbed it "Eris." Like other Omicron subvariants, EG.5 has immune-escape properties, but there are no signs it is more severe, the WHO said.

EG.5 is projected to represent roughly 17% of cases in the U.S. as of Aug. 5, making it the most prevalent version of the virus in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC can't make variant predictions in every U.S. region anymore because there isn't enough testing and sequencing data available, said Dr. Joseph Kanter, state health officer and medical director at the Louisiana Department of Health.

Health officials, vaccine makers and doctors are gearing up for a fall vaccination campaign that will look different from previous ones: Vaccines will be distributed to pharmacies and doctors offices through the commercial market, not government purchases.

Boosters updated to target XBB.1.5 should retain good protection against EG.5, because the Omicron subvariants are similar, Kanter said.

Pfizer expects its new shots to win approval this month, with vaccinations likely starting in September, Chief Executive Albert Bourla said this month. Pfizer expects the booster to work against EG.5 because it is an offshoot of Omicron -- but is conducting laboratory tests to be sure, a spokeswoman said.

Moderna has ample supply of its updated vaccine and is waiting for FDA signoff to distribute doses, a spokesman said. He said that preliminary testing shows the shot works against EG.5.

Novavax is submitting data to regulators to authorize its booster and expects to win clearance and ship doses in September, a spokeswoman said.

Whether to get a booster now or wait for new ones depends on someone's health and risk,said Dr. John Moore, professor of microbiology and immunology at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Credit: By Brianna Abbott, Jon Kamp and Jared S. Hopkins

DETAILS

Subject:	COVID-19 vaccines; Immunization; Disease transmission

Business indexing term:	Corporation: Pfizer Inc
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Pfizer Inc; NAICS: 325412, 339113
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670478
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s- news-omicron-subvariant-eris-drives-rise/docview/2848670478/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Maui's Wind-Whipped Fires Leave Ash, Ruin and Death --- At least 53 are killed in blazes that devastated historic town of Lahaina

Caldwell, Alicia A; Bhattacharya, Suryatapa; Mai-Duc, Christine . Caldwell, Alicia A; Bhattacharya, Suryatapa; Mai-Duc, Christine.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

MAUI, Hawaii -- Travis Miller was pulling into a grocery store in the town of Lahaina Tuesday when a massive gust of wind knocked over power lines and trees onto parked cars. Soon, he saw dark smoke and people running down the street, including a woman with burns on her feet begging for help.

After dropping her off at an aid center, he rushed to his nearby home, where he heard propane tanks exploding and saw a fast-moving blaze approaching.

"I did not know a fire could be that big," said the 37-year-old photographer, whose home burned down. "It was just tornadoes of fire going up in the air."

At least 53 people have been killed by the wildfire that destroyed much of Lahaina, the historic former capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom and a popular tourist destination, officials said.

That number is expected to rise in the coming days. Officials said they don't know how many people are missing, but it could be around 1,000. Search-and-rescue efforts are underway.

The Lahaina blaze is one of three that have torn through Maui this week, fueled by powerful winds caused by Hurricane Dora spinning hundreds of miles away. None were fully contained by late Thursday.

Gov. Josh Green called it the worst natural disaster in Hawaii history and said it will take years and billions of dollars to rebuild. President Biden declared a major disaster in the state. Green said about 1,000 structures have been destroyed, and the state is looking for 2,000 rooms in hotels and homes to temporarily house displaced people.

Videos and images from Lahaina show buildings, palm trees and cars engulfed in flames, while wind-whipped walls of fire and smoke spread. By Thursday, there was little more than smoldering rubble where surf shops, restaurants and homes once stood in the town of 12,000.

A massive, 150-year-old banyan tree that is a central feature of Lahaina's downtown was also damaged in the fire, which officials said was 80% contained Thursday afternoon.

Another fire in the coastal town of Pulehu, north of Lahaina, was 70% contained. The third fire, in the island's rural Upcountry, is still being assessed, but authorities said earlier that at least 1,000 acres burned in the area, home to Haleakala National Park.

Officials haven't determined the causes of the Maui wildfires, which started Tuesday and Wednesday.

They said they hadn't anticipated how quickly the Lahaina fire ended up moving into populated areas and that the rapid damage it caused made communications among emergency responders impossible at times.

Local residents said the Lahaina blaze didn't seem serious at first, until 60-mph winds spread it out of control.

"Within just two or three hours, the majority of the town was gone," said Richard Coennen, a 37-year-old project manager for a construction company.

"It was very apocalyptic . . . I couldn't see a thing, but it was like raining fire, embers raining down," said Bosco Bae, 39, an art gallery employee.

Survivors reported running into the water to escape the flames. The Coast Guard said it rescued 14 people from the ocean.

Eddy Garcia was working on his farm outside Lahaina when powerful winds started sweeping through his property, eventually causing the first tornado he has ever seen.
"It 100% devastated all my structures -- lifted up things and threw them in the air, and busted all the power lines in this small area," he said.
Garcia said he plans to kill a few pigs from his farm to help feed the community in the coming days.
Light rain was falling Thursday morning on the west side of Maui, relieving dry conditions that helped fuel the blazes.
Some 11,000 people are without power across the west of Maui, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
The fires will likely be devastating to Maui's tourism industry. Nearly 1.5 million people visited the island in the first half of the year, up 5.7% from the same period in 2022, according to the state. Total visitor spending during that time was $3.47 billion. Accuweather estimated that the wildfires will cause $8 billion to $10 billion of damage and economic loss to Hawaii.
Six shelters on Maui were housing a little more than 2,000 people as of Thursday morning, FEMA said.
Cecilia Sunshine was on the second week of a vacation with her husband and three children in Maui when she saw flames from her hotel located just north of Lahaina. "You could see the black smoke all night," the 47-year-old from Newport Beach, Calif., said.
With many roads closed, her family made their way through long, twisting back roads lined by burned trees to the town of Kahului. All of the local hotels were booked, so they rented a pair of sport utility vehicles with roof-mounted tents and spent the night Wednesday in the parking lot of Maui High School, a shelter where other evacuees slept on mats on the floor.

Erin Ailworth, Allison Pohle, Ethan M. Steinberg, Michael Wright and Annie Linskey contributed to this article.
Credit: By Alicia A. Caldwell, Suryatapa Bhattacharya and Christine Mai-Duc

DETAILS

Subject:	Art galleries &museums; Fires; Wind; Displaced persons; Power; Evacuations &rescues; Fatalities; Hurricanes; Weather
Business indexing term:	Industry: 71211 : Museums
Location:	United States--US; Maui Hawaii; Lahaina Hawaii
Company / organization:	Name: Federal Emergency Management Agency; NAICS: 922190
Classification:	71211: Museums
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670473
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-mauis-wind-whipped-fires-leave-ash-ruin/docview/2848670473/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Price pressures continued cooling last month, fresh inflation figures showed, likely deterring the Fed from raising interest rates at its September meeting.
U.S. stocks edged higher after the release of the inflation data, with the S&P 500 gaining less than 0.1%. The Dow and Nasdaq rose 0.2% and 0.1%, respectively.

Amazon is dropping dozens of its in-house brands as part of a significant reduction of its private-label operation as it works to fend off antitrust scrutiny and shore up profit.

Tapestry's proposed $8.5 billion acquisition of Capri would create a conglomerate with more than $12 billion in annual sales spanning the range of customers' incomes.

Officials of China's securities regulator told a group of domestic law firms to soften the wording of China-specific risk disclosures in overseas stock-listing documents, according to people familiar with the meeting.

California regulators voted to allow self-driving car companies Cruise and Waymo to expand in San Francisco, which has played host to thousands of self-driving car test miles.

Novo Nordisk said it will continue to reduce the availability of lower doses of Wegovy that are meant for new patients starting out on the weight-loss drug in the U.S.

Friday marks hip-hop's birthday, and in the 50 years since DJ Kool Herc played a party in the Bronx and helped create a new sound the genre has transformed the way the music industry does business.

DETAILS

Subject:	Autonomous vehicles
Location:	China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670469

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2848670469/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Smith Seeks January Trial for Trump Vote Case

Gurman, Sadie . Gurman, Sadie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Special counsel Jack Smith on Thursday recommended that former President Donald Trump stand trial in Washington on Jan. 2, 2024, two weeks before the first votes in the Republican presidential primary will be cast in Iowa's Jan. 15 caucuses.

The proposed trial date for the case alleging Trump conspired to overturn his 2020 election loss reflects the challenges Trump faces in trying to juggle courtroom battles with campaign events as he seeks the 2024 Republican presidential nomination.

Trump's lawyers are likely to propose a later date to U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan, who will hold a hearing Friday on rules about disclosing evidence in the case.

In a post on his Truth Social platform, Trump wrote: "Only an out of touch lunatic would ask for such a date, ONE DAY into the New Year, and maximum Election Interference with IOWA!"

The GOP front-runner faces mounting legal peril. On Thursday, he pleaded not guilty to additional charges related to his retention of classified documents after he left the White House, the second time in a week the former president has formally denied federal prosecutors' allegations against him.

Trump wasn't present during a brief hearing before U.S. Magistrate Judge Shaniek Mills Maynard in Fort Pierce, Fla. His attorney, Todd Blanche, entered his not guilty plea to an indictment filed against him last month alleging he and his aides sought to have surveillance footage from his South Florida resort deleted so it couldn't be turned over to a grand jury.

The three additional charges -- one count willful retention of national-defense information and two counts of obstruction -- add to a case Smith brought in June charging Trump with improperly retaining classified government documents at Mar-a-Lago and obstructing the government's efforts to retrieve them. Trump now faces 40 counts on seven different charges in the documents case, which is scheduled to go to trial in May 2024.

Also facing charges in the Florida case are Trump's personal aide, Walt Nauta, and Carlos de Oliveira, a maintenance worker at Mar-a-Lago. Nauta also pleaded not guilty Thursday to the superseding indictment.De Oliveira didn't enter a plea Thursday because he hadn't been able to secure a local attorney in time. He has found one who said he would be set to appear in court on his behalf on Tuesday.

Just a week earlier, Trump pleaded not guilty to separate federal charges that he conspired to overturn the results of the 2020 election to remain in power, appearing in a federal courtroom in Washington just blocks from the U.S. Capitol that was stormed by his supporters on Jan. 6, 2021.

In the documents case, the superseding indictment says Trump had a 24-minute phone call with de Oliveira on June 23, 2022, the day after a lawyer for the Trump Organization received a draft grand-jury subpoena requiring the production of Mar-a-Lago security-camera footage. A few days later, de Oliveira confronted an unnamed Mar-a-Lago staffer, identified in the indictment as the director of information technology at the resort, and told him that "the boss" wanted the footage deleted and, according to the indictment, asked, "What are we going to do?"

The IT director told de Oliveira that he didn't know how to delete the server and that he didn't think he had the right to do that, according to the indictment, which doesn't say any of the footage was actually deleted.

Surveillance footage is at the heart of the Mar-a-Lago case, with prosecutors saying it shows Nauta moving dozens of boxes in the days before Justice Department investigators visited the property in June 2022 to retrieve records.

Trump's lawyers have sought to delay both federal cases and have sparred with prosecutors in each over how much of the government's evidence he should be able to have access to and potentially publicly expose. In the documents case, attorneys are arguing over where and how Trump and his team can view and discuss classified information.

On Wednesday, the defense team asked a judge to allow them to reassemble a secure area -- what is known as a sensitive compartmented information facility, or SCIF -- at or near Mar-a-Lago where Trump could review classified evidence in the case. Such a facility existed at the resort when he was president, but he didn't always use it to view sensitive material, former aides have said. The SCIF at Mar-a-Lago was dismantled after Trump lost the election to President Biden.

"This request is based on the immense practical and logistical hurdles and costs that make it virtually impossible for President Trump to make regular trips to a public facility to discuss classified discovery material with counsel as necessary to conduct a defense consistent with the rights afforded by the Constitution," one of Trump's lawyers, Chris Kise, wrote in the Wednesday filing. They called Mar-a-Lago "a highly protected location guarded by federal agents that previously housed a secure facility approved for not only discussion, but also the retention of classified information."

Prosecutors have strongly opposed allowing Trump to view the material at his homes, saying they are "not lawful locations for the discussion of classified information, any more than they would be for any private citizen." They want the defense team to be able to access the evidence only in a secure location overseen by the federal court.

Prosecutors haven't said how they would view a SCIF located at Mar-a-Lago.

Credit: By Sadie Gurman in Washington and Deborah Acosta in Fort Pierce, Fla.

DETAILS

Subject:	Evidence; Attorneys; Trials; Public prosecutors; Indictments; Political campaigns; Election results; Court hearings &proceedings; Legal defense; Surveillance; Presidential elections; Classified information
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	United States--US

People:	Trump, Donald J; Smith, Jack (Special Counsel)
Company / organization:	Name: Mar-a-Lago Club; NAICS: 713910
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution; 54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670465
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-smith-seeks-january-trial-trump-vote/docview/2848670465/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Emmy Awards Postponed Amid Hollywood Strikes --- Show that honors prime-time TV will now air on Jan. 15, instead of September

Calfas, Jennifer . Calfas, Jennifer.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The Emmy Awards have been postponed until January amid a historic work stoppage in show business, with screen actors and writers on strike because of contract battles with major studios.

The show honoring achievements in prime-time television will air on Jan. 15 -- months after its originally scheduled broadcast of Sept. 18,the Television Academy and Fox said on Thursday.

The rescheduled show will fall on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Fox will broadcast the show from Los Angeles.

The Creative Arts Emmy Awards, which was originally scheduled for Sept. 9-10, will take place Jan. 6-7 in Los Angeles.

Members of the Writers Guild of America began their strike May 2 -- just over 100 days ago. Members of the Screen Actors Guild joined them on the picket lines in July.

The unions are pushing for higher pay, increased residuals and protections against the use of artificial intelligence in the creative process.

The strike rules create a challenge for organizers of these industry awards. Writers who create the material used by hosts and presenters are forbidden under union rules from participating in the telecast during the strike. Actors are also barred by union rules from promoting the work of studios they are striking against and from accepting trophies on national television.

It is unclear when the disputes will be resolved.

Nominees for the 75th annual Primetime Emmy Awards were unveiled in July, just before the Screen Actors Guild joined striking writers on the picket line.

"Succession," which ended its fourth and final season on HBO this year, led the nominations with 27 nods, including in top categories like best drama, best actor and best actress. "The Last of Us" earned 24 nominations, "The White Lotus" received 23 and "Ted Lasso" got 21.

The delay comes after the Tony Awards aired in June during the writers strike. Playwrights convinced the Writers Guild of America that a disruption could hurt business on Broadway.

The show, hosted by Academy Award winner Ariana DeBose, aired without scripted segments.

Many presenters and winners showed solidarity with the writers.

Credit: By Jennifer Calfas

DETAILS

Subject:	Nominations; Emmy awards; Strikes
Business indexing term:	Subject: Strikes
Location:	Los Angeles California; United States--US

Company / organization:	Name: Screen Actors Guild; NAICS: 813930; Name: Writers Guild of America; NAICS: 813410, 813930
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 11, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publicationsubject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848670460
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-emmy-awards-postponed-amid/docview/2848670460/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

China's consumer prices tipped into deflationary territory in July for the first time in two years, as a deepening economic malaise in the world's second-largest economy enters a potentially dangerous new phase.
The U.S. will prohibit Americans from investing in some Chinese companies developing advanced semiconductors and quantum computers starting next year, escalating Washington's efforts to prevent Beijing from producing cutting-edge technology for its military.
China has at least a 70% dependence on the U.S. and its allies for more than 400 items, ranging from luxury goods to raw materials needed for Chinese industries, a new analysis of trade data found.

Disney announced a round of major price increases to its streaming products, raising the cost of the ad-free versions of Disney+ and Hulu by more than 20% each.

Coach owner Tapestry is in talks to buy Capri Holdings, parent of fashion brands Michael Kors, Jimmy Choo and Versace, in what would be one of the biggest tie-ups in the industry in recent years.

Major U.S. stock indexes edged lower, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow industrials losing 0.7%, 1.2% and 0.5%, respectively.

The fight between the NYSE and Nasdaqto win new stock listings is raging again, in another sign the market for IPOs is perking up.

Roblox shares plummeted more than 20% after the videogame company reported a wider net loss as spending continued to exceed sales growth.

DETAILS

Location:	China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088405
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2848088405/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-10
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Beijing Relies on U.S., Allies for Key Products

Martin, Timothy W . Martin, Timothy W.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

China has at least a 70% dependence on the U.S. and its allies for more than 400 items, ranging from luxury goods to raw materials needed for Chinese industries, a new analysis of trade data has found.

Countries could potentially use those products to counter economic pressure from China, but it would require a collective effort on a scale they haven't previously deployed against the world's second-largest economy, according to an analysis of 2022 global trade data by Victor D. Cha of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington-based think tank.

China has faced criticism for attempting to use its trade heft for political retaliation against countries, targeting a range of products and industries -- from Norwegian salmon and Australian wine to South Korean group tourism. Beijing denies using trade as a weapon. It has also accused Washington of being the real offender, pointing to the U.S. curbs on tech exports to China as an example.

Countries such as the U.S. and Australia have found themselves in one-on-one trade fights with China. That risk has prompted efforts such as de-risking to friend-shoring that seek to create alternative supply chains that bypass Beijing.
Cha argues that the U.S. and other like-minded countries could collectively weaponize their own trade with China. Doing so would demonstrate a clear and immediate cost to Beijing, he says.
China has at least a 70% dependence on about 412 items imported from the U.S. and allied countries, at a value of roughly $47 billion annually, according to the analysis. Beijing lacks ready-made homegrown alternatives for many of the items.
Virtually all of China's imports of silver powder, essential for solar panels, arrive from Japan, the U.S. and South Korea, according to the analysis. Australia, Canada and the U.K. represent about 86% of China's imports of nickel powder and flakes used for batteries and other electrical components. China imports from the U.S. nearly two-thirds of its grain sorghum used for the traditional Chinese alcohol "baijiu."
The analysis in the International Security academic journal uses data from the United Nations Comtrade database, which tracks official global trade statistics.
The data show how potentially potent the U.S. and like-minded partners could be if they acted together to dissuade -- or even punish -- Chinese economic coercion, said Cha, a former U.S. National Security Council director.
"All of our answers are about playing defense, and none of our answers are about playing a little offense," Cha said. "Two can play this game if you want to."
Countering China has been a growing focus by Washington and its allies. In May, President Biden and the other G-7 leaders issued an unusually pointed communique that promised to "counter malign practices" by China and "foster resilience to economic coercion." The G-7, without mentioning China by name, launched an initiative to respond to cases of economic coercion.
Credit: By Timothy W. Martin

DETAILS

Subject:	International trade; International economic relations; Grain; Trade relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: International trade International economic relations Trade relations
Location:	Australia; China; Beijing China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660

Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088404
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-beijing-relies-on-allies-key-products/docview/2848088404/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Buyout Firm To Close $26 Billion Fund

Cumming, Chris . Cumming, Chris.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Veteran buyout firm Clayton Dubilier &Rice is set to close its largest-ever fund, with demand from investors exceeding the firm's expectations despite a challenging market that has made it difficult for other large firms to reach their fundraising goals.

The New York-based firm expects to close Clayton Dubilier &Rice Fund XII LP at $26 billion within the next week, a firm spokesman said. The vehicle has received $23.5 billion in commitments from outside investors along with a $2.5 billion general-partner commitment, or money pledged by the firm and its executives, he said.

Following the firm's record fundraise, Clayton Dubilier &Rice's longtime head of investor relations plans to hand off his responsibilities and step back to an advisory role. Tom Franco, a partner who has been with the firm since 2006 and who advised it on fundraising for 15 years before that, will transition to senior adviser at the end of the year, said David Novak, co-president of Clayton Dubilier &Rice.

Franco's responsibilities will be split between two senior firm executives: Partner Kevin Smith, who will lead fundraising and investor relations, and Managing Director Jon Selib, who will handle external communications.

Franco "has hired, trained and developed two great leaders who can lead the functions he's now responsible for in a way that is consistent with the growing demands and the scale of our firm," Novak said.

Large, oversubscribed private-equity funds have become scarcer over the past year as many investors in the asset

class, hamstrung by rising interest rates and choppy public markets, have pulled back from making new commitments.

Private-equity firms globally raised just under $107 billion in the three months ended June 30, the lowest quarterly sum in five years. This slump has left many firms -- including some of the largest and most successful in the industry -- struggling to meet their fundraising goals.

Clayton, Dubilier &Rice found a strong reception among limited partners, however. The firm exceeded both the $16 billion it raised for its 11th flagship fund, which closed in 2021, and the new fund's $20 billion fundraising target. Last week, the firm received permission from its investors to raise the fund's hard cap, or upper fundraising limit, to $23.5 billion from $23 billion, a firm spokesman said. The Financial Times previously reported news of the higher fundraising cap.

Investors that committed to the new vehicle include the Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement System, the Teacher Retirement System of Texas and the Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System, based on publicly available pension documents. In support of the investment decision, the Pennsylvania pension fund cited Clayton Dubilier &Rice's strong record deploying money in difficult markets and its focus on improving the operations of the companies it buys.

Novak, a 26-year Clayton Dubilier &Rice veteran, said Franco played a key role helping the firm get to its current position. In 1987, Franco founded Broadgate Consultants, which advised private-equity managers -- including Clayton Dubilier &Rice -- on issues including fundraising and marketing. Franco also founded PEI Media, which publishes news about the alternative-investments industry.

Clayton Dubilier &Rice had a tough time fundraising in the early 2000s after making some investment misfires. Franco, whom the firm brought in-house after years as a consultant, was instrumental in helping correct course and improve relations with its limited partners, Novak said.

Credit: By Chris Cumming

DETAILS

Subject:	Private equity; Equity funds
Business indexing term:	Subject: Private equity Equity funds; Corporation: Clayton Dubilier &Rice LLC
Location:	Pennsylvania; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Clayton Dubilier &Rice LLC; NAICS: 523920
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.11
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088400
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/buyout-firm-close-26-billion-fund/docview/2848088400/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Ecuador Candidate Assassinated --- Presidential hopeful said he got threats for denouncing gangs, corruption

Dube, Ryan; Forero, Juan . Dube, Ryan; Forero, Juan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Ecuadorean presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio was shot dead on Wednesday, less than two weeks before an election in a country racked by a surge in violent crime, said President Guillermo Lasso.

Villavicencio, a 59-year-old former journalist and congressman, was killed after leaving a campaign event at a school in the capital, Quito.

"Outraged and dismayed by the assassination of presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio," Lasso wrote on X, the site formerly known as Twitter. "In his memory and for his fight, I assure you that this crime will not stay unpunished."

A suspect in the killing died of wounds after he was arrested, the attorney general's office said.

A video posted online shows people diving to the ground moments after Villavicencio gets into a car and a barrage of gunshots goes off. Another video posted by Villavicencio's friend, the journalist Christian Zurita, showed people screaming and huddling on the floor of the school.
"They killed my friend," Zurita tweeted shortly after posting the video.
Villavicencio was a sharp critic of corruption and the drug gangs that have recently unleashed bloodshed across what had once been a relatively peaceful country. He recently said that he received threats from a local gang, known as the Choneros. It has ties to Mexico's Sinaloa drug cartel, which security experts say ensures cocaine shipments from Colombia pass through Ecuador before heading north toward the U.S.
"This confirms that our campaign proposal would gravely affect these criminal structures," Villavicencio had said, referring to recent threats. "I'm not afraid."
In another speech in which he addressed the economy, Villavicencio said that "to talk about investments requires dismantling the criminal structures."
Ecuadoreans are scheduled to vote on Aug. 20 for a new president after Lasso called new elections to avoid being impeached by Congress. Political analysts say that Villavicencio was one of the candidates with a chance to finish second in the first-round vote. Polls show that no one is likely to receive enough votes to win the presidency outright in the first round. That scenario would require a second-round runoff between the top two candidates.
The killing of Villavicencio led to an outpouring of condolences.
"As an Ecuadorean, I deeply lament the assassination of Fernando Villavicencio at the hands of criminals," said another presidential candidate, Jan Topic, in a video posted online. "Today more than ever an iron fist is needed."
As a journalist, Villavicencio led numerous investigations and wrote books about government corruption, especially during the administration of former President Rafael Correa, who was convicted in 2020 of corruption in absentia. Villavicencio was later elected to Congress and led the oversight committee, where he investigated graft. He was a sharp critic of Chinese loans to Ecuador, including for large hydroelectric projects.
"Ecuador was harmed," he told The Wall Street Journal during an interview last year at his congressional office.
Once one of Latin America's safest countries, Ecuador has become one of its most dangerous. Police and security experts say record cocaine production in neighboring Colombia and violence among Ecuadorean drug gangs propped up by Mexican and Albanian cartels has sparked a wave of violence.
Homicides have quadrupled since 2019, reaching a record 4,800 last year and driving a surge in migration, mainly to the U.S., according to the Interior Ministry. Violence has increased significantly since 2020, mostly hitting the coastal city of Guayaquil, as gangs fight for control of cocaine-trafficking routes to maritime ports. Police and residents say that assassins gun down prosecutors and police, hang bodies from bridges and recruit children.
Credit: By Ryan Dube and Juan Forero

DETAILS

Subject:	Journalists; Corruption in government; Cocaine; Violence; Criminal investigations; Presidential elections; Assassinations &assassination attempts; Gangs; Candidates
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Ecuador; Colombia
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088397
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-ecuador-candidate-assassinated/docview/2848088397/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-10
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Wildfires Kill Six, Destroy Historic Hawaiian Town

Caldwell, Alicia A; Calfas, Jennifer . Caldwell, Alicia A; Calfas, Jennifer.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Six people were confirmed dead after wildfires fueled by hurricane winds burned in Maui, destroying much of the popular Hawaiian tourist town of Lahaina.

Maui Mayor Richard Bissen said in a news conference Wednesday that it was too early to know how many homes, businesses or other structures had been destroyed or damaged. He said "many have been burned to the ground," particularly in the Lahaina area on Maui's west coast.

Three wildfires caused the damage and were still burning Wednesday afternoon, Bissen said. More than 1,000 acres of the island's Upcountry, an agricultural inland area that includes Haleakala National Park, had been charred.

Evacuations were ordered in 13 communities and towns, and many roads closed around Maui, while roughly 2,100 people had taken refuge in shelters. State and county authorities urged tourists to stay away from the region or leave Maui if they can.

Bissen said he didn't know how the six people killed in the fires died or whether they were local residents or tourists.

Earlier Wednesday, smoke and fire caused people to flee to the ocean, Maui County officials said. The U.S. Coast Guard transported 12 people from the waters off Lahaina to safety.

Videos posted online showed flames on both sides of a single lane of fleeing vehicles. Buildings, palm trees and cars were seen engulfed in flames.

Others showed wind-whipped walls of fire and smoke spreading through Lahaina. Devastated areas include Front Street, an eclectic road popular with tourists that is lined with shops, businesses and historic architecture.

Lt. Gov. Sylvia Luke issued an emergency proclamation Wednesday encouraging the suspension of all nonessential air travel to Maui. Luke, who is serving as acting governor while Gov. Josh Green returns from a trip, activated Hawaii's National Guard to help with response efforts.

Authorities said they had prepared for the arrival of Hurricane Dora on Tuesday, but not for the wildfires that followed. "We never expected a hurricane which did not touch down on our land would cause this kind of wildfires," Luke said.

Credit: By Alicia A. Caldwell and Jennifer Calfas

DETAILS

Subject:	Fatalities; Forest &brush fires
Location:	Hawaii; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088395
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-wildfires-kill-six-destroy-historic/docview/2848088395/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-10
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

UTAH
FBI Kills Man Who
Threatened Biden
The FBI fatally shot a Utah man accused of threatening President Biden as agents tried to serve arrest and search warrants at a home in Provo, hours before the president was set to land in the state.
Federal Bureau of Investigation special agents went to the home Wednesday, the agency said. The man, Craig Robertson, was armed, according to a law-enforcement official.
A felony complaint filed in the U.S. District Court in Utah alleges that in early August, Robertson wrote on social media, "I hear Biden is coming to Utah. Digging out of my old Ghille [sic] suit and cleaning the dust off the M24 sniper rifle."
Robertson made several social-media posts calling for the assassination of Biden, as well as Vice President Kamala Harris and others, including Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, the complaint said.
-- Talal Ansari

FLORIDA

One Ticket Hits
$1.58 Billion Jackpot
A single ticket sold in Florida is good for a $1.58 billion Mega Millions jackpot.
A Publix grocery store in Neptune Beach sold the winning ticket, according to the Florida Lottery. The winning numbers drawn Tuesday night were 13, 19, 20, 32, 33 and the yellow ball 14.
James F. Davis, secretary of the Florida Lottery, said Wednesday that officials don't yet know who bought the winning ticket.
He noted that the person has 180 days to present the ticket to lottery officials in Tallahassee to receive the winnings
The $1.58 billion payout would go to the winner if they opt for an annuity, paid out over 30 years. People usually take the lump-sum option, which for Tuesday's jackpot was an estimated $783.3 million.
-- Associated Press

OBITUARY
Robertson, Guitarist
And Songwriter, 80
Robbie Robertson, the songwriter and lead guitarist of The Band, has died. He was 80 years old.
Robertson died Wednesday morning in Los Angeles after a long illness, according to a statement from his manager Jared Levine.
The Canadian musician electrified the music scene as part of Bob Dylan's famed 1965 and 1966 tours, and helped shape the sound of the 1970s with The Band, whose rise, influence and fallout were documented in the 2019 film "Once Were Brothers" and Martin Scorsese's 1978 documentary "The Last Waltz."
"We never saw ourselves as some kind of cutesy pop group," Robertson told The Wall Street Journal in 2005. "We were always about 'let's go deeper into the music, let's get subtleties and flavors in there.' We wanted to be really good at what we did."
-- Joseph Pisani

DETAILS

Subject:	Songwriters; Search warrants
Location:	Florida; United States--US; Utah
Company / organization:	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120; Name: Florida Lottery; NAICS: 713290
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088387
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2848088387/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-10
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Yellow Says It Has Assets to Cover $1.2 Billion It Owes

Biswas, Soma; Page, Paul . Biswas, Soma; Page, Paul.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Bankrupt trucking giant Yellow said it has enough real estate and equipment it can sell to cover $1.2 billion it borrowed from the U.S. government and private lenders led by Apollo Global Management.

An appraisal last year of Yellow's trucks, equipment and other property came out to $2.1 billion, Yellow's lawyer Patrick Nash said at the company's first appearance in bankruptcy court since filing for chapter 11 on Sunday.

The assessment of Yellow's asset value means there appears to be little risk the U.S. government will suffer losses on over $700 million in loans it extended to help keep the company operating during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Yellow shut down last month after nearly a century in business as concerns about its finances and a labor dispute drove customers away. It also released financial results on Wednesday showing it lost $14.7 million in the three months ended June 30, compared with a profit of $60 million a year earlier.

The bankruptcy filing had fueled concerns that U.S. taxpayers could take a loss on the pandemic rescue loan, which

also gave the Treasury Department a 30% stake in Yellow. The company plans to use its stay in chapter 11 to market and sell all of its assets, applying the proceeds toward its loans as well as other creditors including employees, Nash said.

The bankruptcy followed years of struggles with profitability, a recent conflict with the Teamsters union over operational changes the company proposed and mounting debt amassed through a series of mergers.

The second-quarter report released Wednesday showed that demand for Yellow's trucking was weakening in a sagging freight market and that liquidity was growing more strained ahead of the financial tailspin that ended in bankruptcy.

Yellow's real estate was appraised at just over $1 billion and its equipment is worth more than $900 million. The company is "cautiously optimistic there will be material proceeds available for unsecured creditors," Nash said.

Dean Seal contributed to this article.

Credit: By Soma Biswas and Paul Page

DETAILS

Subject:	Bankruptcy; Pandemics; Bankruptcy reorganization; Assets
Business indexing term:	Subject: Bankruptcy Bankruptcy reorganization Assets; Corporation: Yellow Corp
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Yellow Corp; NAICS: 484121, 551112
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088381

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-yellow-says-has-assets-cover-1-2/docview/2848088381/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Ohio Vote Signals Warning To GOP on Abortion Rights

Kusisto, Laura; Zitner, Aaron . Kusisto, Laura; Zitner, Aaron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Even in red-leaning states, support for abortion rights is again proving to be a potent electoral force.

That was the message of Tuesday's vote in Ohio, where voters rejected a ballot measure that would have made it harder to add abortion rights to the state's constitution.

The victory for abortion-rights groups, which follows similar wins in Kansas and Michigan, is likely to encourage abortion-rights advocates to put the issue on ballots in more states next year and beyond. Such moves could boost Democratic turnout as many party leaders are worried about low enthusiasm for re-electing President Biden because of his age and weak job-approval ratings.

Republicans likely will have to continue grappling with how much to respond to their conservative base on the issue given efforts to restrict abortion appear to alienate many moderate and independent voters, particularly in the suburbs.

The Ohio vote Tuesday on the proposal known as Issue 1 didn't directly touch on the issue of abortion, but it would have put a significant hurdle in front of a separate measure -- on the November ballot -- to enshrine abortion rights in the state's constitution. Issue 1 would have raised the threshold to amend the state's constitution by referendum to 60% support, instead of a simple majority. As of Tuesday afternoon, with 97% of the ballots in, the vote stood at 57% against Issue 1 and 43% in support, according to the Associated Press.

Both antiabortion and abortion rights groups ran millions of dollars of advertising in the state in recent weeks.

Republican Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose, who supported Issue 1, said it was needed to raise the standards for future amendments, but at a Lincoln Day event in May he said it was "100% about keeping a radical, pro-abortion amendment out of our constitution."

Kimberly Inez McGuire, executive director of URGE, an abortion-rights group, said Issue 1 was "a cynical attempt to sabotage the power of the people to secure abortion access and they failed."

Abortion-rights groups have prevailed in six ballot measures since the overturning of Roe v. Wade last June. But a key question has been whether they can continue winning referendums in conservative and politically mixed states, as well as leverage voter passions about the issue in other political races.

"It's pretty clear what direction this stuff is going in. I do think it sends a pretty strong incentive for Democrats to get that on the ballot," especially in the 2024 presidential election, said Susan Burgess, distinguished professor emerita of political science at Ohio University.

Abortion-rights supporters are gathering signatures in Florida to put a measure on the ballot enshrining abortion rights in that state's constitution in 2024, which would go before voters as GOP Sen. Rick Scott is seeking re-election. A similar effort is under way in Arizona, one of the most competitive presidential swing states and home to one of the year's marquee Senate races. That measure could also appear on the November 2024 ballot.

Nationally, Republicans have struggled with how to frame the issue. Republican presidential hopefuls are under pressure from antiabortion groups, an important source of political support, to support a national 15-week ban. So far, leading candidates, including GOP Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and former President Donald Trump, have avoided committing to a national ban, although some of their rivals have.

In a warning sign for Republicans nationally, the Ohio results signaled that support for abortion rights can drive voter turnout. The defeat of Issue 1, by a landslide 14 percentage points, came as more than three million voters cast ballots. It was a large turnout for a summertime, off-year election.

The results also suggested abortion restrictions draw wide opposition not only in the nation's populous cities and suburbs but also the exurbs -- the communities on the edges of the suburbs that Republicans have relied on to produce big voting margins. Lately, those margins have slipped. The nation's exurbs swung away from Trump between 2016 and 2020, trimming his 18-point margin from 2016 by 6 percentage points, a Wall Street Journal analysis found after the last presidential election.

In Ohio, outside Columbus, Trump won exurban Delaware County -- one of the state's most populous -- by 7 points in 2020; voters there rejected Issue 1 by 16 points. Voters were split about evenly on the measure in Fairfield County, an exurb of Columbus, and Butler County, an exurb of Cincinnati. Trump had won both in 2020 by more than 20 points.

Tuesday's vote in Ohio was also likely affected by factors other than abortion. Many voters across the spectrum viewed it as an attack on democracy and the citizens' veto, political scientists said.

Nonetheless, polling in the state shows strong support for abortion rights.

Credit: By Laura Kusisto and Aaron Zitner

DETAILS

Subject:	Referendums; Presidential elections; Abortion; Voter behavior
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	Florida; United States--US; Ohio
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088374
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-ohio-vote-signals-warning-gop-on/docview/2848088374/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-09-23
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Biden Restricts U.S. Investment in China -- Order comes amid concern Beijing could use American tech to develop weapons

Duehren, Andrew . Duehren, Andrew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The U.S. will prohibit Americans from investing in some Chinese companies developing advanced semiconductors and quantum computers starting next year, escalating Washington's efforts to prevent Beijing from producing cutting-edge technology for its military.

President Biden on Wednesday issued an executive order creating the rules after months of deliberations. The move could unsettle fragile efforts to rekindle diplomatic relations with China. Officials in Beijing have railed against U.S. policies restricting access to advanced technology, as tensions between the two superpowers have contributed to slowing U.S. direct investment in China.

Beyond banning new private-equity, venture-capital and joint-venture investments in advanced semiconductors and quantum computers, the executive order will require Americans doing business in China to inform the U.S. government about direct investments in artificial intelligence and other types of semiconductors.

Washington is increasingly concerned that Beijing could use American technology and know-how to develop weapons that could be used against the U.S. in a military conflict. The Biden administration last year restricted exports of advanced semiconductors and chip-manufacturing equipment to China, and the U.S. has also heightened scrutiny of Chinese investment in American technology companies.

Even ahead of their release, the new capital controls have started to reshape U.S. investor behavior. Venture-capital fund Sequoia Capital split off its China business earlier this year after persistent scrutiny in Washington. Other firms have slowed or paused transactions in China as they await the new rules, according to people familiar with their thinking.

The new investment restrictions risk refreezing an attempted thaw in diplomacy between the two superpowers. Biden administration officials cast the rules as narrowly targeted attempts to protect national security. Still, officials in Beijing say they are aimed at kneecapping China's economic growth and development. Chinese leader Xi Jinping complained to Biden about the export controls on semiconductors last year. China banned its major companies from buying technology from Micron Technology, the largest memory-chip maker in the U.S., earlier this year.

A spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Washington said China was "very disappointed" that the U.S. moved forward with the investment restrictions. "China opposes the U.S.' overuse of national security to politicize and weaponize trade, scientific and technological issues and deliberately making obstacles to normal economic and trade exchanges and technological cooperation," he said.

Industry reaction Wednesday was muted. Some industry representatives described the action as relatively narrow compared with approaches that lawmakers have considered.

The Semiconductor Industry Association said it looked forward to providing input, adding that "we hope the final rules allow U.S. chip firms to compete on a level playing field and access key global markets, including China." The National Venture Capital Association said it was watching closely "to ensure there are no unintended consequences on investments in U.S. companies."

Rep. Michael McCaul (R., Texas), the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, applauded the step but said the administration should apply the rules sooner and to more technology sectors.

"The administration scaling back -- at a time where aggressive action is needed more than ever -- continues the trend of appeasing industry at the cost of national security," he said.

The rules technically apply to investments in "countries of concern," though the administration has identified only China, as well as Hong Kong and Macau, as meeting that standard. Before enforcing the new rules, the administration will accept feedback on the regulations implementing them.

John D. McKinnon contributed to this article.

Credit: By Andrew Duehren

DETAILS

Subject:	Quantum computing; Executive orders; National security; Semiconductors; Diplomacy; Diplomatic &consular services; High technology; Military weapons; Foreign investment
Business indexing term:	Subject: Foreign investment; Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US
People:	Biden, Joseph R Jr
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088373
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-biden-restricts-investment-china-order/docview/2848088373/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-02-22
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: American Nurse, Daughter Released by Abductors in Haiti

de Cordoba, Jose . de Cordoba, Jose.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

An American nurse and her young daughter were released by their abductors in Haiti on Wednesday after spending nearly two weeks in captivity, victims of rising kidnappings and killings in the Western Hemisphere's poorest country.
El Roi Haiti, which runs a school for some 400 children near the capital Port-au-Prince, said Alix Dorsainvil, the wife of the organization's director, and their daughter, were kidnapped on July 27.
"There is still much to process and to heal from in this situation," El Roi Haiti said. The organization said their release brought "gratitude and extreme joy." No other details were disclosed, including whether a ransom had been paid.
El Roi Haiti asked that no attempts be made to contact Dorsainvil or her family.
Haiti has been caught in a spiral of social turmoil and criminal gang violence since the assassination two years ago of the country's President Jovenel Moise. Moise was killed, and his wife wounded, when more than 20 former Colombian soldiers stormed the presidential compound in July 2021.
The investigation into the assassination has stalled in Haiti, where more than 40 people were initially detained. U.S. prosecutors have made progress in Miami, where one person has pleaded guilty to the killing and 10 others face charges in federal court.
Kidnappings and killings rose sharply after the assassination as powerful gangs, many with links to corrupt politicians and businessmen, fought for control of Port-au-Prince.
In a report this week, Unicef recorded almost 300 cases of kidnappings of women and children in the country so far this year, about the same number as in all of 2022 and three times as many as in 2021.
"The growing trend in kidnappings and abductions is extremely worrisome," said Garry Conille, Unicef's regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean.
The deterioration of Haiti's security and economy has put some 5.2 million people, including three million children, about half the country's population at risk, Unicef said.
Dorsainvil, who is originally from New Hampshire, had been working as a school nurse at El Roi Haiti since 2020 and had married the organization's director in 2021, the school said. She first started coming to Haiti in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake, which is estimated to have killed more than 200,000 people.
Last month, on the same day that Dorsainvil was kidnapped, the U.S. Embassy ordered the departure of all nonemergency personnel.
The Center for Analysis and Research in Human Rights, a Haitian organization that tracks kidnappings, says there have been 539 kidnappings in the country since January, including at least 51 of foreigners.
Last year, Haiti's Prime Minister Ariel Henry asked the United Nations and the international community to send a security force to help the outgunned and outmanned Haitian police tame the country's violent gangs.
The U.S. and Canada have been unwilling to head such a mission, but last month the government of Kenya said it would be willing to do so.
Credit: By Jose de Cordoba

DETAILS

Subject:	Murders &murder attempts; Assassinations &assassination attempts; Violent crime; Gangs; Hostages
Location:	Port Au Prince Haiti; United States--US; Haiti
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088364
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-american-nurse-daughter-released/docview/2848088364/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-10
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Smith Got Search Warrant for Ex-President's Twitter Account

Wolfe, Jan . Wolfe, Jan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Special counsel Jack Smith obtained a search warrant earlier this year requiring X, the social-media company formerly known as Twitter, to produce data and records related to Donald Trump's Twitter account, according to a newly unsealed court decision that upheld a fine imposed on the company for its slow response to the warrant.

In a 3-0 decision made public Wednesday, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed a lower-court decision that held the social-media company in contempt of court and imposed a $350,000 fine on it.

"The district court followed the appropriate procedures before finding Twitter in contempt of court -- including giving Twitter an opportunity to be heard and a chance to purge its contempt to avoid sanctions," Judge Florence Pan wrote for the court.

X didn't immediately respond to a request for comment beyond an auto reply from its media email contact. Trump posted on his social-media website, Truth Social: "Just found out that Crooked Joe Biden's DOJ secretly attacked my Twitter account, making it a point not to let me know about this major 'hit' on my civil rights."

Smith is the special counsel appointed by Attorney General Merrick Garland to investigate Trump's effort to undo his election defeat, as well as his handling of classified documents. Smith has brought criminal charges against Trump in Florida and Washington, D.C. The former president has pleaded not guilty in both cases.

According to the D.C. Circuit decision, Smith's office in January applied for, and obtained, a search warrant that directed Twitter to produce data and records related to the '@realDonaldTrump' Twitter account. The decision didn't say what kind of data and records the warrant sought.

The government also got a nondisclosure order that prohibited X from notifying anyone about the existence or contents of the warrant, including Trump. X challenged that order in court, saying the restrictions violated the company's First Amendment rights.

The clash began after billionaire Elon Musk completed his acquisition of the social-media company then known as Twitter. In early 2021, under its previous management, the platform suspended Trump permanently, citing the risk of incitement of violence after the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. Musk reinstated Trump's account late last year, but the former president hasn't resumed posting on the platform.

Alexa Corse contributed to this article.

Credit: By Jan Wolfe

DETAILS

Subject:	Contempt of court; Search warrants; Social networks
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social networks; Corporation: Twitter Inc

People:	Trump, Donald J
Company / organization:	Name: Twitter Inc; NAICS: 516210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088361
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-smith-got-search-warrant-ex-presidents/docview/2848088361/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The U.S. and Saudi Arabia agreed on the broad contours of a deal for Saudi Arabia to recognize Israel in exchange for concessions to the Palestinians, U.S. security guarantees and civilian nuclear help, according to U.S. officials.

Special counsel Jack Smith obtained a search warrant earlier this year requiring X, the social-media company formerly known as Twitter, to produce data and records related to Trump's Twitter account, according to a newly unsealed court decision that upheld a fine imposed on the company for its slow response to the warrant.

Six people were confirmed dead after wildfires fueled by hurricane winds burned in Maui, destroying much of the popular Hawaiian tourist town of Lahaina.

Ecuadorean presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio was shot dead leaving a campaign rally, less than two weeks before an election in a country racked by a surge in violent crime.

Pakistan's prime minister dissolved Parliament, a move that will give the government more time to hold the next election.

Italy's government is treading a narrow path as it tries to impose a special tax on bank profits without spooking markets and discouraging foreign investments.

An American nurse and her daughter were released by their abductors in Haiti after spending two weeks in captivity.

Died: Robbie Robertson, 80, songwriter and lead guitarist of The Band.

DETAILS

Subject:	Search warrants
Location:	United States--US; Saudi Arabia
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	News paper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088360
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2848088360/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-10
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Trump's Fiery Rhetoric Is Testing His Lawyers

Leary, Alex . Leary, Alex.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Donald Trump's campaign strategy is increasingly colliding with the legal one, sapping his time and financial resources as he pursues the twin goals of winning another term in the White House and staying out of prison.

The former president says he is so politically energized by the three criminal indictments he faces that he claims he needs one more to ensure his election -- a wish he could receive in the coming days from a Georgia grand jury over his efforts to overturn the 2020 election.

But Trump's inflammatory attacks on prosecutors and judges are in direct conflict with his lawyers' efforts to win him multiple acquittals.

The campaign is developing plans for Trump to reach voters with social media and other ways if he ends up stuck in

court during the height of the 2024 election, people familiar with the effort said. He could do Facebook live or YouTube appearances in the evenings, hold tele-town halls and push more prerecorded policy videos. Trump's team is also banking on his continuing to dominate news coverage, no matter the venue.

Senior Trump advisers are mapping out court obligations and possible trial dates, the people said, expressing confidence a dual schedule can be managed. Still, Trump has begun to acknowledge the problem.

"I'm winning by a lot," he said this week in New Hampshire, while complaining the legal peril is "forcing me nevertheless to spend time and money away from the campaign trail."

In a sarcastic voice, Trump added: "I'm sorry, I won't be able to go to Iowa today. . .because I'm sitting in a courtroom on bulls----." The crowd roared, chanting the profanity.

In the same speech, Trump attacked prosecutors and judges presiding over his cases, just as he has repeatedly online, and said that he would keep talking about it publicly -- "They're not taking away my First Amendment" -- illustrating the challenge facing his lawyers.

Managing Trump's dual aims is "an enormous problem," said former Trump White House lawyer Ty Cobb. "So he'll have difficulties, and he may have to actually miss some campaign events. But whose fault is that? A defendant's comfort and convenience go out the window when he is charged with serious crimes."

Prosecutors in New York have charged Trump in connection to a hush-money payment made to a porn star in the final stretch of the 2016 election. Trump has been charged federally with improperly retaining classified documents at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida and obstructing efforts to retrieve them. Last week Trump was indicted in connection with his effort to undo the 2020 election results. A fourth indictment is expected soon in Georgia for election interference.

Trump has denied wrongdoing in all those cases and accused state and federal prosecutors of pursuing him to undermine his bid to return to the White House -- often using inflammatory language. In New Hampshire on Tuesday, for example, he called Georgia state prosecutor Fani Willis, a "young racist in Atlanta."

John Lauro, a newer addition to Trump's legal team, on Sunday had to backtrack from Trump saying he would immediately seek a recusal from the Washington-based U.S. District Court judge overseeing the latest federal case. Trump said they would be "immediately asking for recusal" and have "very powerful grounds" to do so. Hours later, Lauro said on a podcast with a Florida defense attorney: "We haven't made a final decision on that issue at all. . .I think as lawyers we have to be very careful of those issues and handle them with the utmost delicacy."

Lauro also seemed resigned to a client who may ignore his advice.

"I think it's a little bit different than our standard case where we would pull our hair out if a client commented on a prosecutor or a judge," Lauro said on the podcast.

Lauro said the situation forces a "very difficult intersection between your role as a lawyer for a client and your role as a lawyer for a client who's a candidate for president."

Politically the cases have strengthened Trump's hold on the GOP, polling shows, and many Republicans expect him to be the party's 2024 nominee. The legal issues will be a bigger problem in a general election because of their potential to turn off moderate Republicans and independents. And he has already shelled out tens of millions of dollars for lawyers that could have gone toward his campaign efforts.

Credit: By Alex Leary

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Political campaigns; Attorneys; Social networks; Public prosecutors; Judges &magistrates; Presidential elections
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social networks; Industry: 54111 : Offices of Lawyers 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution 92111 : Executive Offices

Location:	New Hampshire; Florida; United States--US; Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J
Classification:	54111: Offices of Lawyers; 92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution; 92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088338
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-trumps-fiery-rhetoric-is-testing-his/docview/2848088338/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Sputtering Trade Fuels Concerns About a Fractured Global Economy

Walker, Marcus; Hayashi, Yuka . Walker, Marcus; Hayashi, Yuka.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The downturn in world trade, exemplified by slumping Chinese exports and a decline in U.S. imports, mainly reflects a phase of weak global economic growth.

It also raises questions about whether deeper changes are under way, with decades of deepening global economic integration giving way to a new era in which the West and China do more business with their political friends and less with each other.

Geopolitical tensions, heightened by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, are leading to more curbs in the U.S. and Europe on doing business with China. The sheer scale and complexity of global trade and investment links, however, mean any process of disentangling the world economy into blocks of like-minded countries is likely to be gradual and incomplete.

Global trade is currently weak mostly because demand for goods is weak, economists say. Higher interest rates in the U.S., Europe and other economies battling with inflation have led to a broad global slowdown.

In addition, consumers who spent heavily on goods during and after the Covid-19 pandemic are now spending more of their disposable income on services, which -- with exceptions such as tourism -- are more likely to be locally produced. Manufacturing-heavy economies in Asia are feeling the fallout.

Trade in services is livelier than shipments of goods, thanks not least to the rebound in international travel and tourism, which is expected to recover this year to nearly its prepandemic level.

Inflation itself is also weighing on trade. Food and energy prices remain higher than before Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in early 2022, cutting into people's disposable income around the world, even though prices on commodities such as grain and natural gas have fallen from their peaks last year.

"The main story is probably related to the global slowdown in manufacturing, after the big surge in manufacturing that followed the pandemic," said Lorenzo Codogno, chief economist at LC Macro Advisors and a visiting professor at the London School of Economics. "Fragmentation, deglobalization, de-risking will play a bigger role in the coming years and could be very significant. But I'm skeptical that it can happen overnight," Codogno said.

Resilient U.S. consumer demand, helped by strong wage growth, has been a bright spot for the world economy. But the Federal Reserve's interest-rate increases are weighing on business investment, including spending on capital goods.

Trade data is beginning to reflect that. In the first half of this year, overall U.S. imports declined 4% from a year earlier, while exports grew 2.6%, the Commerce Department said Tuesday. Imports fell 1% in June from May to $313 billion, the lowest level since December 2021.

The International Monetary Fund expects growth in global trade to slow to 2% this year from 5.2% last year. The World Bank and the World Trade Organization both forecast trade will grow by just 1.7% this year.

Even a partial recovery in 2024 is predicted to fall well short of trade's average yearly growth of 4.9% during the two decades before the pandemic.

Economists at the IMF and other multilateral organizations mainly blame sluggish overall growth, especially in advanced economies. But they have also expressed concern about the long-term effect of geopolitical rivalries on global trade, with possible emergence of a trading bloc surrounding China and Russia an additional around the U.S. and its allies.

"We see the increase in trade restrictions that have been imposed by countries on one another," IMF chief economist Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas said in late July, pointing to a spread of tariffs and restrictive regulations. "There is an impact in terms of direct investment also and that is quite important."

Jason Douglas contributed to this article.

Credit: By Marcus Walker and Yuka Hayashi

DETAILS

Subject:	Geopolitics; Disposable income; Global economy; Pandemics; International trade; Manufacturing; Economic growth; Tourism; Trade restrictions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Disposable income Global economy International trade Manufacturing Economic growth Trade restrictions
Location:	Russia; United States--US; China; Ukraine; Europe
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088331
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-sputtering-trade-fuels-concerns-about/docview/2848088331/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Biofuels Made From Weeds Show Promise as Industry Demand Grows

Khan, Yusuf . Khan, Yusuf.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Could growing weeds help the planet?

Field pennycress, a plant in the Brassica family related to mustards and cabbages, is usually considered a weed. But one feature made it less of a wallflower: its very high oil content, about 50% higher than that of a soybean.

After close to a decade of controlled breeding and gene-splicing, the onetime weed is being cultivated as a source for renewable diesel or sustainable aviation fuel.

Most biofuels in the U.S. come from corn or soybeans. But as demand for green fuels rises, global food shortages are also threatening. That is bringing a push for low-carbon fuels that can be made without using edible grains -- and spurring research on crops like field pennycress.

"Today the dominant feedstock oil source for [biofuels] would be soybeans, which creates this dynamic of, 'Are we going to be using our soybean oil and our soybean meal for the fuel market vs. the food and feed markets?'" says Mike DeCamp, chief executive of CoverCress, the company that developed field pennycress. The plant, now also dubbed CoverCress, is aimed for cultivation on farms in harvest offseasons.

CoverCress is one of three nonfood cover crops that have received funding from the U.S. Agriculture Department, where scientists have hoped to find oilseed plants that could potentially produce renewable fuels without competing with food sources. The other two -- Nuseed Carinata and a plant called camelina marketed by Global Clean Energy Holdings -- are also oilseed crops grown in the winter fallow period.

Major oil companies have gotten on board. In 2022, BP agreed to buy Nuseed Carinata oil to process or sell as a supply of sustainable biofuels. Chemical and pharmaceutical giant Bayer expanded its stake in CoverCress to a 65% ownership share, with the remainder held by Chevron and agricultural trading house Bunge. Exxon Mobil has a multiyear agreement with Global Clean Energy Holdings to purchase renewable diesel made from camelina.

Carinata, also known as Ethiopian Mustard, isn't a weed like pennycress but also isn't edible by humans. The crop, grown between November and May, is being tested by farmers in Alabama, Georgia and Florida, as well as in Argentina. The oilseed is crushed in Europe for use as a biofuel.

The companies behind these crops tout benefits to farmers, but persuading farmers to grow them can be a major hurdle.

"Farmers are very cautious, conservative and skeptical because they have heard a lot of promises that haven't panned out," says John Sedbrook, a professor of genetics at Illinois State University who is researching cover crops.
Aviation is among the industries that are pushing demand for biofuels like those produced with cover crops.
Sustainable aircraft fuel, or SAF, is still very much in its infancy. Output in 2021 was 100 million liters; for the industry to achieve net zero carbon output by 2050, around 449 billion liters would be needed, according to the Montreal-based International Air Transport Association. In 2022, 450,000 flights used SAF as a fuel source, the IATA estimates -- just 1.5% of the flights that took place.
Credit: By Yusuf Khan

DETAILS

Subject:	Biofuels; Aviation; Crops; Biodiesel fuels; Oilseeds; Soybeans; Clean technology; Weeds; Renewable resources
Business indexing term:	Subject: Renewable resources; Industry: 32419 : Other Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	32419: Other Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 10, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2848088329
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-biofuels-made-weeds-show-promise-as/docview/2848088329/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: New York City Closes Beach After Swimmer Is Bitten by a Shark

Pisani, Joseph . Pisani, Joseph.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The latest shark-biting incident in New York closed a popular beach and resurfaced fears about increased sightings in the area in recent years.

Marine-life experts said cleaner waters are bringing sharks closer to swimmers along the Atlantic Seaboard, and local officials have stepped up monitoring efforts. Shark bites remain rare, however.

Officials closed Rockaway Beach in Queens, a swim and surf destination about 20 miles from Midtown Manhattan, on Tuesday after a woman was bitten on the leg the day before. She was in stable condition Tuesday, said a spokesman for Jamaica Hospital Medical Center, where the woman was taken.

A New York City Department of Parks and Recreation spokesman said it was the first shark bite in recent memory at the beach.

"Though this was a frightening event, we want to remind New Yorkers that shark attacks in Rockaway are extremely rare," he said. "We remain vigilant in monitoring the beach and always clear the water when a shark is spotted."

Efforts to clean up the waters off the New York coast are attracting sharks and the fish they like to eat closer to the shore, said Gavin Naylor, director of the Florida program for shark research at the Florida Museum of Natural History.

There were eight shark bites in New York last year, according to the Florida museum's International Shark Attack File, which tracks incidents around the world. Its website says there have been just 20 confirmed, unprovoked shark attacks in New York in records dating back to the 1800s.

New York was the No. 2 state for shark bites last year, behind Florida, which had 16 incidents. None of the bites in either state were fatal.

New York officials pledged to increase shark monitoring in July, the same month five suspected shark bites were reported in the state. Gov. Kathy Hochul said 10 additional drones would patrol the state's beaches, bringing its total number of shark-searching drones to 18.

At Rockaway Beach, police helicopters were sent Tuesday to look for sharks after the woman was bitten, the city parks department said.

Drones, which have been used over the beaches of Australia for years, are increasingly being used in the U.S. to spot sharks and warn swimmers to stay away, Naylor said.
One of the New York drones uses lasers and thermal imaging to search for sharks at night or during bad weather. It can also drop a flotation device for people who need help.
To reduce the risk of attracting a shark, swimmers are advised to stay out of the water around dusk or dawn, avoid swimming near schools of fish and to not wear shiny jewelry.
Credit: By Joseph Pisani

DETAILS

Subject:	Parks &recreation areas; Swimming; Museums; Animal bites; Beaches; Sharks; Animal attacks
Business indexing term:	Industry: 71211 : Museums
Location:	Rockaway Beach; New York City New York; Florida; New York; United States--US
Classification:	71211: Museums
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634249
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-new-york-city-closes-beach-after-swimmer/docview/2847634249/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Key China Developer Sinks Into Debt Crisis --- County Garden's U.S. dollar bonds plunge after it misses interest payments

Feng, Rebecca; Cao, Li . Feng, Rebecca; Cao, Li.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

HONG KONG -- Country Garden Holdings, a 31-year-old property developer that had been lauded by China's authorities as a model for others, missed interest payments on two U.S. dollar bonds, marking a new stage of distress for the country's real-estate market.

The developer didn't pay $22.5 million in interest that was due Monday on debt securities with a total face value of $1 billion, the company confirmed on Tuesday. Prices of the two bonds, which were scheduled to mature in 2026 and 2030, plunged to less than 8 cents on the dollar, according to Tradeweb. Such levels indicate that investors are expecting the company to default.

Country Garden has a 30-day grace period to make the interest payments before bondholders can send a notice of default to the company. Its Hong Kong-listed shares, which have lost more than half their value since the start of this year, plummeted 14% on Tuesday and led a selloff in property and other Chinese stocks.

The developer's cash crunch shows how quickly China's housing market has deteriorated following a short-lived rebound early this year. Dozens of Chinese developers, including China Evergrande Group and Sunac China Holdings, defaulted on their bonds and other financial obligations over the past two years, spooking home buyers across the country and sending the broader market into a deep slump.

Country Garden's missed payments "will have a negative spillover effect for the sector," said Sandra Chow, co-head of Asia-Pacific Research at CreditSights. "The fact that the company is struggling to address an interest payment, rather than a full bond principal repayment, perhaps underscores its very tight liquidity," she said.

Bonds of other privately run developers also dropped in value on Tuesday, reflecting investor worries that more dominoes could topple.

Less than a year ago, Country Garden was widely regarded by investors as one of the biggest beneficiaries of a host of supportive measures that authorities in China rolled out to aid the real-estate sector. The developer has residential projects in many of the country's less prosperous cities, and was China's largest by contracted sales last year, when it reported the equivalent of around $50 billion in nationwide transactions.

The Foshan, Guangdong-based company was also among a select group of developers that were held out as models

for the industry, and Chinese banks publicly pledged financial support late last year for the companies. Investors bid up Country Garden's shares and bonds, and many believed the worst was over for the developer.
Country Garden also resumed buying land in April following a long hiatus, signaling its executives' confidence in a housing market recovery.
China's property market is now slumping again, and Country Garden's monthly contracted sales dropped more than 30% in the first six months of 2023 from the same period a year ago. Many of the developer's bonds had fallen back to distressed levels by July.
In the past two weeks, Country Garden was hit by a wave of bad news and market rumors about its financial health. The company warned on July 31 that it could record a net loss for the first half. It considered doing a share placement to raise funds but decided not to proceed.
In recent days, it denied a rumor about the city of Foshan sending a working group to the company. Country Garden also said its chairwoman, Yang Huiyan, and founder, Yang Guoqiang, were working as usual at its headquarters, after speculation swirled about their whereabouts.
The company was unable to make its interest payments because of the recent deterioration in its sales and a shortage of available funds, according to a spokesperson.
"The fact that they need to defer coupon payments now shows their worse-than-expected liquidity situation," said Iris Chen, an analyst at Nomura. The company has to make other bond payments next month, and it is possible that Country Garden will ask bondholders to give it more time to pay to stave off a default, she added.
Chinese authorities recently signaled further support for the property market. The country's top decision-making body, the Politburo, said last month that housing policies need to be adjusted. Regulators and cities across the country have responded with additional measures such as tax rebates and cash subsidies to encourage home purchases.
Credit: By Rebecca Feng and Cao Li

DETAILS

Subject:	American dollar; Bonds
Business indexing term:	Subject: American dollar Bonds; Corporation: Country Garden Holdings Co Ltd
Location:	China; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Country Garden Holdings Co Ltd; NAICS: 236220, 237210, 531312, 551112, 721110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634248
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-key-china-developer-sinks-into-debt/docview/2847634248/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

China's Exports See Steep Slide --- Decline, worst since early in pandemic, reflects fraying trade ties with the West

Xie, Stella Yifan . Xie, Stella Yifan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

HONG KONG -- China's exports to the rest of the world tumbled in July, adding to the challenges for the world's second-largest economy and offering fresh evidence that a drying up of Western demand is hurting Beijing's attempts to rekindle growth.

After a short-lived rebound in the spring, goods exports from China resumed a long-term slide that dates to October last year, when consumers in Western developed countries began shifting their spending away from buying furniture and electronic gadgets, and diverted it toward services such as entertainment and dining out.

Worsening geopolitical tensions between Beijing and the U.S.-led West have prompted some Western manufacturers to reduce their reliance on China's supply chain, which in turn is expected to erode trade ties between the two sides.

Overseas shipments from China slumped 14.5% in July from a year earlier, the steepest year-over-year decline since February 2020, in the earliest days of the Covid-19 pandemic, data released Tuesday by China's General Administration of Customs showed.
Compared with those of a year earlier, China's exports to the U.S. and European Union plunged by more than 20% each last month. There was a lone bright spot: Chinese shipments to Russia soared in July, calculations from the customs data show.
Recent data have signaled deepening troubles for China's economy. The country's beleaguered housing market showed new signs of distress this week. Youth unemployment has hit record highs. And the latest data show China is on the brink of falling into deflation, a scenario that many fear could drag the economy into a downward spiral.
Asia's other export powerhouses are also grappling with crumbling global trade demand. South Korea's exports fell 16.5% year over year in July, widening from a 6% drop in June. Purchasing managers indexes showed the manufacturing sectors in five out of seven Asian countries, including China and Vietnam, were in contraction last month, pointing to weak underlying demand from the West.
Taken together, sluggish figures in China and other parts of Asia suggest that the global growth slowdown is starting to bite harder.
Economists predict that growth headwinds in the U.S. and Europe, in part the result of persistent inflationary pressures, will continue to curb consumer spending and business borrowing for the rest of the year as the threat of a recession lingers.
"Overall, the outlook for global trade in the second half of 2023 is pessimistic," the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development wrote in a June report.
The organization now forecasts the global goods trade to shrink by 0.4% in the second quarter when compared with the previous quarter, after rising 1.9% in the first three months of the year, due to a host of factors including inflation and the war in Ukraine.
For China, weakening exports signal more trouble for its domestic economy, which is sputtering on several fronts. The country's economic recovery, which was sparked by the lifting of Covid-control measures late last year, has been losing steam since April.
The private sector has been battered by the years of Covid-19 restrictions and regulatory crackdowns, and weak confidence among consumers has caused them to avoid splurging on big-ticket items from apartments to home appliances, economists say.
After a short-lived rebound early in the year, China's real-estate market has deteriorated further this year. Investment in the property industry, a key growth driver, fell 8% in the first six months from a year earlier, curbing China's appetite for commodities.
On Monday, Country Garden Holdings, a property developer that had been lauded by China's authorities as a model for others, missed interest payments on two U.S. dollar bonds.
Steve Cochrane, chief Asia-Pacific economist at Moody's Analytics, said July's subpar trade figures spell more bad news for Chinese policy makers and their hopes for an economic acceleration in the third quarter. "It'd be a long slog back for China," he said.
July's 14.5% drop in Chinese outbound goods shipments was sharper than the 12.4% year-over-year decline in June and outpaced the 12% decline expected by economists polled by The Wall Street Journal.
Chinese goods shipments to the U.S. fell 23% in July compared with a year earlier. Shipments to the European Union and to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, a group of 10 countries that includes Singapore and Indonesia, each dropped by about 21%.
Separately, the U.S.'s trade with the rest of the world fell in June as both imports and exports declined, the latest sign that high interest rates are cooling U.S. economic activity.
U.S. imports fell 1% in June from the prior month to a seasonally adjusted $313 billion, the lowest since November 2021, the U.S. Commerce Department said Tuesday. Exports slipped 0.1%.
U.S. goods imports from China fell 4.3% in June from the prior month. The trade deficit with China decreased $2.1

billion to $22.8 billion in June, and exports to China were the lowest since February 2021.
On a 12-month basis, the U.S. trade deficit with China fell to $313.1 billion in June, the lowest level since January 2021.
Chinese shipments to Russia, a country under Western sanctions over its invasion of Ukraine, rose 52% in July from a year earlier, helped by sales of high-value goods including automobiles. For the first seven months of this year, Chinese exports to Russia soared 73% from a year earlier, even as China's total exports have fallen 5%, data from Chinese customs show.
Still, economists said given that the overall size of the trade relationship with Russia remains relatively small, booming trade between the two neighbors and geopolitical partners wouldn't reverse the longer-term overall slowdown in Chinese exports.
The bad news for many Chinese manufacturers and exporters is that rich countries in the West are reducing their reliance on Chinese goods. U.S. officials and their allies in Europe have been prompting firms to move production away from China toward a circle of trusted nations.
That has weakened trade links between the U.S. and China. The U.S. became a relatively less important export market for China over the past year and a half, while the U.S.'s dependence on China as a goods supplier has decreased by even more, according to Unctad.

Grace Zhu, Harriet Torry and Anthony DeBarros contributed to this article.
Credit: By Stella Yifan Xie

DETAILS

Subject:	Consumers; Geopolitics; Exports; Pandemics; Trade deficit; International trade; Manufacturers; Economists; COVID-19
Business indexing term:	Subject: Consumers Exports Trade deficit International trade Manufacturers Economists
Location:	Beijing China; Russia; United States--US; China; Asia; Ukraine; Europe
Company / organization:	Name: European Union; NAICS: 926110, 928120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660

Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634243
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/chinas-exports-see-steep-slide-decline-worst/docview/2847634243/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Weight Drug Shown to Cut Heart Risks

Loftus, Peter . Loftus, Peter.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Novo Nordisk's anti-obesity drug Wegovy not only helped people lose weight but also reduced their risk of heart attacks, strokes and cardiovascular deaths by 20% in a large study.

The results provide evidence that the weight loss that Wegovy delivers can have important secondary benefits, such as improved cardiovascular health, in people who don't have diabetes. Novo and other companies are studying whether these types of drugs can treat sleep apnea, liver disease and chronic kidney disease.

Analysts say a proven heart-health benefit beyond weight loss could increase pressure on more U.S. employers and insurers to pay for Wegovy and similar weight-loss drugs. Many insurers don't cover them, including the federal Medicare program for older people, partly because of the high cost -- Wegovy has a list price of about $1,350 a month.

Novo Nordisk said Tuesday it plans to seek U.S. and European regulatory approvals to add the evidence of a heart benefit to Wegovy's prescribing label. Such approval would allow the company to promote a heart benefit in addition to weight loss for Wegovy.

"This is a pivotal trial," said Dr. Ania Jastreboff, an obesity-treatment specialist and professor at Yale University School of Medicine. "Here you're demonstrating clear improvement in health outcomes." Jastreboff enrolled patients in the study and consults for Novo Nordisk.

Novo Nordisk issued limited results of the company-funded study in a press release, and they haven't been published

yet in a peer-reviewed journal. Novo said it plans to present full results at a scientific conference later in 2023.
Obesity-treatment specialists say Wegovy and similar drugs have the potential to help people reduce cholesterol and blood pressure, and to avoid heart attacks and strokes, among other benefits for complications of obesity.
Obesity can increase a person's risk of cardiovascular disease. Previously, researchers found that weight loss from bariatric surgery can reduce a person's risk of heart attacks and strokes.
Wegovy belongs to a class of drugs that work by mimicking a gut hormone known as GLP-1, which has various effects including promoting insulin production and suppressing appetite.
Wegovy contains semaglutide, the same main ingredient in the drug Ozempic, which is approved to treat Type 2 diabetes and has gained popularity for weight loss.
GLP-1 drugs have been used to treat diabetes for years, and have been shown to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease in people with diabetes. But until now, it wasn't known whether any of the drugs could deliver a cardiovascular benefit in people without diabetes, when used as a weight-loss aid.
"To date, there are no approved weight management medications proven to deliver effective weight management while also reducing the risk of heart attack, stroke or cardiovascular death," said Martin Holst Lange, executive vice president for development at Novo Nordisk.
Novo Nordisk started the heart-disease study in 2018 and enrolled more than 17,600 adults 45 and older who had a history of cardiovascular disease such as a heart attack, and a body-mass index of at least 27. A BMI of 27 is equivalent to a weight of 177 pounds for a 5-foot-8 person.
Some were given injections of Wegovy and others a placebo, once weekly. Researchers tracked heart attacks and strokes, including fatal ones, in addition to weight loss and other measures in study subjects.
Researchers found that the people who took Wegovy had 20% fewer heart attacks, strokes, and cardiovascular deaths, combined, than those who received a placebo in the study. The reduction surpassed the study's goal of demonstrating at least a 17% reduction in risk.
Novo Nordisk said Wegovy appeared to be safe and well-tolerated in the study, but it didn't release details on Tuesday. The most common side effects of Wegovy include gut problems such as nausea and diarrhea. The drug's prescribing label in the U.S. also cautions that patients should be monitored for depression and suicidal thoughts, a potential risk that European health regulators recently started to probe.
Novo Nordisk didn't disclose the magnitude of weight loss of patients in the study.
"The positive result should be meaningful for payers to drive improved coverage," including Medicare, Jefferies analyst Peter Welford said in a research note.
Supplies of Wegovy, however, remain constrained. Novo Nordisk earlier this year reduced supplies of the lower doses of the drug temporarily to deter new patients from starting treatment, while the company builds inventory to catch up to the strong demand.
Eli Lilly is conducting a separate study of whether its drug Mounjaro prevents heart attacks, strokes and other cardiovascular problems in adults with obesity, but results aren't expected for a couple more years.
Credit: By Peter Loftus

DETAILS

Subject:	Cardiovascular disease; Drugs; Gastrointestinal surgery; Diabetes; Stroke; Heart attacks; Weight control; Medicare; Obesity
Business indexing term:	Subject: Medicare; Corporation: Novo Nordisk AS
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Novo Nordisk AS; NAICS: 325412, 541714

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634236
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-weight-drug-shown-cut-heart-risks/docview/2847634236/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: UAW Slams Jeep Maker Stellantis's Call for Givebacks

Felton, Ryan . Felton, Ryan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The United Auto Workers president took aim Tuesday at Jeep maker Stellantis, criticizing the car company for demanding concessions at the bargaining table that he described as a "slap in the face" to union-represented auto workers.

The move marked an unusually public escalation between the UAW and the global automaker only weeks after negotiations for a new four-year labor contract began in late July.

Shawn Fain, the newly elected head of the union, said Stellantis is pressing for a number of givebacks, including on medical benefits and workers' profit-sharing bonuses. He also said, during a Facebook livestream event with union members, that Stellantis wants to introduce new wage levels, while the UAW is trying to eliminate pay tiers altogether. To punctuate his frustration, he made a show of throwing the company's proposals into a trash can.

Stellantis didn't have a comment Tuesday on Fain's remarks.

The UAW is also negotiating new labor agreements with General Motors and Ford Motor. The current contacts, set to expire Sept. 14, cover about 146,000 blue-collar workers at the Detroit car companies' U.S. factories.

For its part, the UAW has in recent weeks presented the automakers with its own demands, including some that seek to significantly advance worker pay and regain benefits lost in previous rounds of talks.

Among them is a desire toincrease wages by at least 40% during the life of the next contract, a boost that would be the largest in recent memory.

"I've been shocked to see how one company in particular is trying to lowball and undercut us," Fain said in a Facebook livestream. "My message to Stellantis is very simple: Quit with the games," he added.

The UAW has historically zeroed in on one automaker as a "strike target" to negotiate with first and then picket if a deal can't be reached.

Once an agreement is completed at the first company, the union will typically use it as a template for deals with the other two car companies, a process known as pattern bargaining.

So far, Fain has said all three car companies are being targeted, but he has been unusually outspoken about his gripes with Stellantis, saying its robust profit in North America has come off the backs of workers. Since forming in early 2021 through the merger of Fiat Chrysler and PSA Group, the carmaker has consistently posted double-digit profit margins in the region that have surpassed those of both rivals GM and Ford.

Credit: By Ryan Felton

DETAILS

Subject:	Workers; Profit margins; Labor contracts; Labor disputes
Business indexing term:	Subject: Workers Profit margins Labor contracts Labor disputes
Company / organization:	Name: Stellantis NV; NAICS: 336110, 551112; Name: United Automobile Aerospace &Agricultural Implement Workers of America--UAW; NAICS: 813930
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634234
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-uaw-slams-jeep-maker-stellantiss/docview/2847634234/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Ohio Rejects Change Backed by Abortion Foes

Maher, Kris . Maher, Kris.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Voters in Ohio defeated a measure that would have made it harder to change the state constitution, according to the Associated Press, in a win for abortion-rights supporters.

The defeat Tuesday of the measure known as Issue 1 means a proposed constitutional amendment on the November ballot enshrining abortion access faces a lower bar for passage. Issue 1 would have made all future constitutional

amendments receive at least 60% support to be adopted, instead of the current rule requiring a simple majority.
The contest, which featured millions of dollars of advertisements for both sides, was the latest fight over state-level abortion rights since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade last year, ending the federal right to abortion.
Ohio is one of several Republican-dominated states to vote with abortion-rights supporters, following Kansas and Kentucky last year.
Ohio's Republican-controlled legislature voted this spring to put Issue 1 on the ballot in an August special election. At the time, abortion-rights supporters were gathering signatures for their constitutional amendment, which was approved for the November ballot last month by the secretary of state.
The measure would have raised the bar for passage of future constitutional amendments to 60%, up from a simple majority. That threshold could prove decisive for November's abortion-ballot measure. A July poll by the USA Today Network and Suffolk University found that 58% of likely voters in Ohio supported the abortion-rights measure.
Residents in different parts of the state said abortion was top of mind as they voted on Issue 1.
Karen Kopack, a 56-year-old Democrat in Mason, Ohio, and mother of three, said she voted against Issue 1 because she views it as a government overreach aimed at limiting abortion rights.
"It's going to effectively end any citizen-led initiative in the state," Kopack said.
Ruth Edmonds, 59, a Republican who works for the Center for Christian Virtue, a faith-based public policy organization, said she voted for Issue 1 because she doesn't want special-interest groups funding campaigns to bypass the legislature and change the state constitution on issues like abortion rights.
"I think the issue of life is superior to all other issues," she said.
Issue 1, which needed a simple majority to pass, also would have required citizens who want to put an amendment on the ballot to get signatures from each of the state's 88 counties -- instead of 44 currently -- and eliminated a 10-day period in which signatures deemed faulty can be replaced.
Voters have favored abortion rights in referendums in half a dozen states since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in June 2022. The states include Kansas and Kentucky, which, like Ohio, voted for Donald Trump in the last two presidential elections.
On Tuesday, a coalition of abortion-rights groups in Arizona submitted language to the secretary of state to amend that state's constitution to protect the right to an abortion until a doctor has determined fetal viability, which typically occurs around 22 to 24 weeks. Abortions would be allowed after that cutoff if a healthcare provider determines the procedure is necessary to protect the life or health of the mother.
Supporters will need to gather 383,923 signatures to put that amendment on the ballot next year. Arizona law currently bans most abortions after 15 weeks.
In Ohio, abortion is now legal up to 22 weeks of pregnancy. Last year, after the Supreme Court decision, a 2019 law banning abortion at six weeks took effect in Ohio. In September, a state judge issued an injunction blocking it while litigation proceeds.
Supporters said Issue 1 was needed to keep out-of-state special-interest groups from bypassing the legislature on a range of issues, such as redistricting or raising the minimum wage. Opponents said it was primarily aimed at keeping the abortion-rights amendment from passing.
The state GOP, antiabortion advocates and business groups that supported Issue 1 faced off against state Democrats, abortion-rights groups and labor groups.

Eliza Collins and Laura Kusisto contributed to this article.
Credit: By Kris Maher

DETAILS

Subject:	Constitutions; Referendums; Constitutional law; Legislatures; Interest groups; Presidential elections; Abortion; Voters; Constitutional amendments; State laws
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92112 : Legislative Bodies
Location:	United States--US; Ohio; Arizona; Kansas; Kentucky
Company / organization:	Name: Supreme Court-US; NAICS: 922110
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92112: Legislative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634232
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-ohio-rejects-change-backed-abortion-foes/docview/2847634232/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: High Court Lets 'Ghost Gun' Rule Stand --- Firearm-kit measure will remain in place while U.S. appeals lower-court orders

Bravin, Jess . Bravin, Jess.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- A 5-4 Supreme Court said Tuesday that federal regulation of so-called ghost guns wouldstand while the Biden administration appeals lower-court orders finding that do-it-yourself firearm kits weren't covered by the principal federal weapons law, the Gun Control Act.

The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives issued a rule in 2022 applying the Gun Control Act to gun kits amid a proliferation of such kits being sold over the internet. After lower courts said the rule exceeded the government's regulatory authority, the Justice Department asked the Supreme Court to let the regulations stand while the litigation continues.

Tuesday's order, as is typical in emergency matters, was unsigned and provided no reasons. It noted that Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh would have denied the government's request.

The Justice Department said it was gratified the court permitted the government to continue treating guns assembled from kits like other weapons, at least for now. The rule "is about public safety -- helping law enforcement solve crimes and reducing the number of untraceable ghost guns flooding our communities," a spokesman said.

A lawyer for the Firearms Policy Coalition, a gun group that challenged the regulations, said they were "deeply disappointed that the court pressed pause on our defeat of ATF's rule." The lawyer, Cody Wisniewski, said he remained "confident that we will yet again defeat ATF and its unlawful rule at the Fifth Circuit when that court has the opportunity to review the full merits of our case."

In its Supreme Court filing, the Justice Department said criminals have used ghost guns as a loophole to frustrate law enforcement. Exempting them from the rules that apply to other guns "poses an acute threat to public safety," the government said. More than 19,000 ghost guns were recovered by police in 2021, a 1,000% increase from 2017, it said, and the number so far this year is 23,000.

Companies that market such kits, along with consumers who sought to assemble homemade firearms and gun-rights groups, filed suit to block the rule, arguing it exceeded the Gun Control Act's scope. A federal district judge in Fort Worth, Texas, Reed O'Connor, agreed, issuing an order in July blocking enforcement of the ghost gun rule.

"A weapon parts kit is not a firearm," O'Connor wrote, and "ATF has no general authority to regulate weapon parts."

The Fifth U.S. Circuit of Appeals, in New Orleans, agreed to expedite the government's appeal, but left in place O'Connor's order blocking enforcement of the ghost-gun regulations that had been challenged.

The Gun Control Act's provisions are intended to make it easier to keep guns out of the hands of criminals by channeling sales through licensed dealers, and to help law enforcement solve crimes involving guns by requiring that weapons carry serial numbers.

President Lyndon Johnson signed the Gun Control Act in October 1968, after the assassinations of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy, along with mounting civil unrest, pushed Congress to move the long-stalled

legislation. Among other devices, it covers any weapon that "will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive," as well as "the frame or receiver of any such weapon."
In its 2022 rule, the ATF said that regulation includes "a weapon parts kit that is designed to or may readily be completed, assembled, restored, or otherwise converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive." The bureau said the clarification was necessitated by "technological advances" that have "made it easier for companies to sell firearm parts kits," which include all the components needed "to complete a functional weapon within a short period of time."
The government argues that it makes no sense to draw a line between an assembled product and a kit that can quickly be put together.
"Every speaker of English would recognize that a tax on sales of 'bookshelves' applies to IKEA when it sells boxes of parts and the tools and instructions for assembling them into bookshelves. The court's insistence on treating guns differently contradicts ordinary usage and makes a mockery of Congress's careful regulatory scheme," the government's brief argues.
BlackHawk Manufacturing Group, a ghost-gun maker that challenged the rule, said the government's IKEA analogy was superficial. In the company's furniture store analogy, Congress may have decided to tax bookshelves but excluded assemble-them-at-home kits.
Credit: By Jess Bravin

DETAILS

Subject:	Law enforcement; Public safety; Firearm laws &regulations; Federal court decisions; Firearms; Weapons; Federal regulation; Supreme Court decisions
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634230
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-high-court-lets-ghost-gun-rule-stand/docview/2847634230/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, i ncluding corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Lawmakers Seek the Upper Hand In Funding Government

Hughes, Siobhan . Hughes, Siobhan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- More than a week into the August recess, some lawmakers are diving back into their efforts to fund the government for fiscal 2024, seeking to gain a negotiating edge when Congress returns in September.

Congress must pass 12 separate funding bills before Oct. 1 to avoid a partial government shutdown. When Congress left town in July, the House had passed only a single bill related to veterans and the construction of military facilities, while the Senate had approved none of its versions of the same bills, set at a higher spending level. Lawmakers could also agree to pass a short-term extension to buy more time.

On Tuesday, Rep. Chip Roy (R., Texas) -- a member of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus -- circulated a letter seeking to build support for a strategy of withholding money for one of the bills, dealing with Department of Homeland Security funding, unless Congress also takes tougher action to secure the southern border.

House Republican leaders have backed fiscal 2024 spending bills that would provide $1.59 trillion in annual discretionary spending, in line with the year's debt deal, with the price tag reduced to $1.471 trillion by taking money from programs that had already been funded. Fiscal conservatives have criticized that plan, saying it is a gimmicky approach that does little to change the longer-term arc of spending.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D., N.Y.), before leaving for recess, said that all 12 bills had passed out of committee on a bipartisan basis in his chamber and said he hoped there wouldn't be a government shutdown.

On Tuesday, Sen. Chris Murphy (D., Conn.) said the Senate, where appropriators have agreed to add extra money to the debt-deal level, should pass its own funding bills quickly in September so that the Democratic-controlled

chamber could gain leverage over the House. Republicans hold a narrow 222-212 House majority, so even small levels of GOP opposition could trigger a standoff and lead to a shutdown.
"It's important to show that we can get not only a bipartisan vote in the committee, but a big bipartisan vote on the floor," Murphy said, according to Politico.
Credit: By Siobhan Hughes

DETAILS

Subject:	Government shutdowns; Bipartisanship; Funding; Legislators
Business indexing term:	Subject: Government shutdowns; Industry: 92112 : Legislative Bodies
Company / organization:	Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120; Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	92112: Legislative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634226
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-lawmakers-seek-upper-hand-funding/docview/2847634226/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Jordan Blocks Satire Site, Seriously

Jilani, Humza; Nissenbaum, Dion . Jilani, Humza; Nissenbaum, Dion.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LONDON -- Isam Uraiqat spent years testing the line in the Middle East between satire and insult. Now the founder of the region's best-known satirical news site seems to have found it.

After a decade lampooning the region's kings, autocrats and despots, the website AlHudood has been blocked in Jordan, where it was founded in 2013, with Uraiqat and his team of writers now effectively personae non gratae. Their offense? Mocking the lavish wedding of the kingdom's crown prince.

While parts of the Middle East are in the midst of a modernization push, the region is still wrestling with how seriously to take itself. Police crackdowns and a flurry of new laws restricting free speech are growing.

"The space for comedy and political satire in the Middle East has shrunk," said Celine Assaf Boustani, president of Human Rights Foundation, a New York-based human-rights organization. Many comedians now reside in exile in the West.

The United Arab Emirates, a favorite target of AlHudood, or "the Limit," blocked the satirical website two years ago.

In Jordan, widely regarded as one of the region's more progressive countries, the government is clamping down on its online critics, including AlHudood. Parliament in July approved a cybercrime bill that expands the government's powers to prosecute people accused of undermining national unity. Ahead of the vote, a State Department spokesman warned that the draft law could "further shrink the civic space that journalists, bloggers, and other members of civil society operate in."

AlHudood is often compared with the Onion, the American satirical news site. But while Uraiqat says he sees everyone as fair game, satire in the Middle East is a different proposition.

A joke can be easily misconstrued by intelligence services as part of a psyop, shorthand for psychological operations, concocted by the U.S. or the Israelis, he says, or by the Saudis, Qataris or Iranians, for that matter.

"People always ask us, who do you work for? Who is funding you?" Uraiqat said one recent afternoon in London, where he runs the satirical website while living in exile from his home in Jordan. "We are equal opportunity offenders."

The website is irreverent and ruthless in challenging feared Middle East rulers and daily political life in the region.

It has published sardonic stories about a joint Saudi-Turkish "counter-journalism agreement," a British-French team of crocodiles patrolling the English Channel looking for migrant boats, and an Israeli offer to help the Syrian government bomb Syrian cities.

But it was AlHudood's coverage this summer of a royal wedding that seemed to be the final straw in Jordan. It published a series of stories pillorying Jordan's royal family for spending so much on the wedding when millions in the country struggle with poverty.

Uraiqat suspects the post that got him in trouble was one about the royal wedding that urged citizens to "be happy,

dog," a pointed insult in the Middle East. The Jordanian government declined to comment on its reasons for imposing the ban.
Most of AlHudood's 17-member staff operate in anonymity, and it recently shut its offices in the region to limit the threat of reprisals.
It is a different mood from when AlHudood first began. "There was an atmosphere of freedom," said an editor in Jordan, who joined the outlet in 2013.
Now, Uraiqat starts his mornings by tinkering with a VPN to log into editorial meetings. He says the state keeps a close eye on him. When people ask where he works, he says he is a freelance writer. "It's very hard now," he said.
Still, Uraiqat and his team aren't backing down. "The plan is to do what we're good at, poking at them to poke holes in the narratives of autocracy and repression," he said, adding that AlHudood plans to launch two new podcasts, a fresh social-media campaign and a new TV series.
Credit: By Humza Jilani and Dion Nissenbaum

DETAILS

Subject:	Weddings; Websites; Censorship
Location:	Middle East; Jordan (country)
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.18
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634224
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-jordan-blocks-satire-site-seriously/docview/2847634224/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

New York Times Gains Subscribers

Bruell, Alexandra . Bruell, Alexandra.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

New York Times Co. said it increased its digital-subscriber base to 9.19 million in the second quarter and generated more revenue from each of them than it did a year ago, as a wave of introductory discounts expired for some existing users.

Chief Executive Meredith Kopit Levien said it was the first time revenue per digital user grew yearly since its acquisition of the Athletic, a sports publication bought for $550 million last year that the company is offering to users who subscribe to a bundle of apps including its core news, games and cooking offerings.

The publisher also saw a larger-than-expected increase in digital-advertising revenue, a quarter after it warned that its advertising business faced cyclical challenges.

New York Times shares closed 8.5% higher Tuesday.

The company said it added 180,000 digital subscribers in the second quarter. Taking into account its print operations, the New York Times had a total subscriber base of about 9.88 million.

"More than one-third of our nearly 10 million subscribers are now bundle or multiproduct subscribers, which supports our belief that over the next few years we can get to 50% or more of our total subscribers on the bundle," Kopit Levien said.

The Times said last month it was dismantling its sports desk and would rely on the Athletic for its daily sports coverage, part of an effort to further integrate the publication and increase subscriptions of its bundle.

The Athletic's total revenue increased by 55% from a year earlier to $30.4 million, boosted by subscription and advertising revenue growth.

While it continued to offer heavily discounted access to its bundle of products, the New York Times said it increased the amount of revenue it brings in per user to $9.15 from $8.83 a year earlier.

The company said that subscription revenue from digital-only products increased 13% to $269.8 million, benefiting from price increases on subscribers to single products, as well as the end of some promotional pricing.

Overall, revenue increased 6.3% from a year earlier to $590.9 million, while net profit decreased 25% to $46.6 million from $61.8 million, partly due to a year-earlier one-time gain and an impairment charge this quarter, both of which were related to real estate.

Digital-advertising revenue grew 6.5%, as the company saw improvements with premium ads, including with games and the Athletic, although the growth was partially offset by weakness in podcast advertising, the company said. The

Times expects digital ads to continue to increase in the mid-single digits in the next quarter, Kopit Levien said.
Credit: By Alexandra Bruell

DETAILS

Subject:	Subscriptions; Subscribers; Advertising revenue
Business indexing term:	Subject: Advertising revenue; Corporation: New York Times Co
Location:	New York; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: New York Times Co; NAICS: 513110 , 516110, 516120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Section:	Technology &Media
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634222
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/new-york-times-gains-subscribers/docview/2847634222/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated: 2025-02-07

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON
Judge Eyes Limiting
Trump's Disclosures
The judge overseeing the criminal case against Donald Trump alleging he conspired to undo the 2020 election results set a court hearing for Friday morning to resolve disputes over what information the former president and his legal team can access and potentially publicly expose.
U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan's decision is an early sign that she wants to follow a disciplined timetable, which could run counter to the Trump team's tactics that have led to delays in other court proceedings. She scheduled the hearing after a flurry of court filings revealed several disagreements between the Justice Department and Trump's lawyers over how the voluminous evidence in the case should be handled.
Trump campaigned Tuesday in Windham, N.H., and mocked any suggestion that he would accept limits on what he could say publicly. "I'll come here and I'll say, 'Hi, everybody, listen, I'm not allowed to speak. Please vote for me,'" he said sarcastically. He later said on social media: "They're not taking away my First Amendment right."
-- Jan Wolfe

NEW YORK
Drug Kingpin Gets
45-Year Sentence
A Colombian drug kingpin who was once one of that country's most wanted fugitives was sentenced in Brooklyn federal court Tuesday to 45 years in prison for overseeing the smuggling of more than 100 tons of cocaine into Central America and the U.S.
Dairo Antonio Usuga David, 51 years old, pleaded guilty in January to running a criminal enterprise and two other drug-related charges. The plea agreement settled three federal indictments that Usuga David faced.
Prosecutors said in a court filing ahead of the sentencing that for nearly a decade Usuga David was the leader of the Gulf Clan, a rural militia of at least 1,000 fighters that operates across several Colombian provinces. During his reign, Usuga David oversaw the trafficking of drugs while terrorizing communities, prosecutors said.
Usuga David, who is also known by the alias Otoniel, was captured in 2021 in a hideout near the Colombia-Panama border after an extensive manhunt. He was extradited to the U.S. last year.
-- James Fanelli

LOS ANGELES
City Employees

Strike for One Day

Thousands of Los Angeles city employees, including sanitation workers, lifeguards and traffic officers, walked off the job Tuesday for a 24-hour strike alleging unfair labor practices.

Picket lines went up before dawn at Los Angeles International Airport and other locations, and a large rally was held later in the morning downtown at City Hall. SEIU Local 721 said airport custodians, heavy duty mechanics and engineers are among the more than 11,000 Los Angeles city workers who are striking.

The union said its members voted to authorize the walkout because the city has failed to bargain in good faith and engaged in labor practices that restricted employee and union rights.

It's the latest strike to overtake the nation's second largest city in recent months. Hollywood writers have been striking since May, and actors joined them last month. Los Angeles hotel workers have staged walkouts all summer, and earlier this year school staff walked picket lines. There was also a contract dispute at Southern California ports.

-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Municipal employees; Court hearings &proceedings; Airports
Business indexing term:	Subject: Airports; Industry: 48811 : Airport Operations
Location:	Los Angeles California; United States--US
Classification:	48811: Airport Operations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634219

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2847634219/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and p ublic libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: DeSantis Names New Manager of Struggling 2024 Campaign

Leary, Alex . Leary, Alex.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has named a new campaign manager, the latest effort to steady his struggling bid for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination.

Generra Peck will move to a senior strategist role while James Uthmeier, chief of staff to DeSantis as governor, will become the campaign manager, an aide said.

"James Uthmeier has been one of Governor DeSantis' top advisers for years and he is needed where it matters most: working hand in hand with Generra Peck and the rest of the team to put the governor in the best possible position to win this primary and defeat Joe Biden," spokesman Andrew Romeo said Tuesday.

The appointment follows the dismissal of roughly a third of the DeSantis campaign staff over concerns of overspending and as DeSantis has had trouble gaining traction in polls while facing criticism of his strategy by donors and other allies.

Former President Donald Trump continues to dominate the Republican field, though some state polls show a closer contest. DeSantis has been trying to emphasize policy proposals, including those on the military, the southern border and the economy. In recent days he distanced himself from Trump's false claims about the 2020 election. He is also doing more media interviews and blanketing early voting states.

Peck, who hadn't run a presidential campaign before, in July acknowledged hiring too many staffers for in-house operations and events, and some DeSantis insiders said her job seemed secure. But others continued to advocate for a shake-up.

Uthmeier has been the governor's chief of staff since October 2021 and before that was general counsel. He was previously an adviser to former Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross.

The campaign also said it was bringing on David Polyansky, an operative who had worked for a pro-DeSantis super PAC, Never Back Down.

The staffing moves were earlier reported by the Messenger.
Credit: By Alex Leary

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Governors; Presidential elections
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
People:	Uthmeier, James; DeSantis, Ron
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634216
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-desantis-names-new-manager-struggling/docview/2847634216/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-0 9

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: How Six Cities Coped With a Record July -- Hottest-ever month caused death, water shortages, wildfires and rising sea levels

Woodward, Aylin; Churchill, Carl; Ailworth, Erin . Woodward, Aylin; Churchill, Carl; Ailworth, Erin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

July was Earth's hottest month on record, surpassing the global monthly average temperature record set in July 2019, according to data from the Copernicus Climate Change Service, a European Union-funded scientific agency. The heat blanketed parts of North America, Asia and Europe as wildfires blazed in Greece and Canada, hitting economies. Water shortages and humidity affected parts of the Middle East. Residents in China contended with both extreme flooding and a heat wave as the country set a new national temperature record. All this came on the heels of the world's hottest June on record.

Parts of the U.S. experienced record-breaking heat as well. July was the warmest month on record for states like Arizona and New Mexico, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Tuesday. Agency data also shows that more than 3,000 daily temperature records were broken or tied across the country last month. Even cities in typically colder areas like Alaska experienced unprecedentedly high temperatures.

July is always, on average, the hottest month of the year annually, but these temperature records represent merely the newest iteration of what has become a notable pattern over the past decade. The world experienced the eight warmest years on record globally from 2015 to 2022, the World Meteorological Organization reported earlier this year. The global ocean, too, is part of this pattern: Roughly, the last 10 years were among the ocean's warmest since at least the 1800s, and the Copernicus agency, a division of the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, found that global sea-surface temperatures remained at record high levels last month.

"What seems unprecedented this year now will just be normal a few years from now," said Tapio Schneider, a California Institute of Technology climate scientist.

Heat waves have become quotidian problems in the summer. And this year, much as in 2016, a powerful El Nino weather pattern developing in the Pacific has liberated heat from the ocean depths, redistributing it into the atmosphere, amplifying the effects of climate change driven by fossil-fuel emissions.

The Wall Street Journal looked at some of the cities around the world that are among those affected in different ways by rising temperatures.

Phoenix

Excessive heat is the No. 1 weather-related killer in the U.S., according to the National Weather Service. Phoenix residents endured a record stretch of it in July, when daytime temperatures hit 110 degrees or above for 31 consecutive days -- the hottest month ever in a U.S. city. Phoenix also clocked a record 16-day stretch when the temperatures didn't go below 90 degrees at night. That nighttime heat has been responsible for a growing number of heat-related deaths.

So far this year, Maricopa County has recorded 39 heat-associated deaths and is investigating another 312, according to the most recent weekly report from the public-health department.
There were a record 425 heat-associated deaths in 2022, a 25% increase from the previous year, according to Maricopa's public-health department.
Sonia Singh, spokeswoman for Maricopa's public-health department, said it is hard to pinpoint exactly what caused the jump because so many factors can play into a heat-associated death, including a person's housing situation, substance use and access to healthcare.
"This is a lot more than we're used to," Singh said of the recent and unusually long spate of extreme temperatures. "Everybody needs to have a plan for where they can go to escape the heat."
Even places like Arizona that routinely experience extreme heat have struggled to get people to pay attention to the risks, according to Kristie Ebi, a professor who researches health risks in a changing climate at the University of Washington's Center for Health and the Global Environment.
"You talk with people who say, 'Oh, I can remember heat waves from a couple of years ago . . . I was fine,'" she said, adding, "Today's hot isn't hot five years ago -- it is a different hot and that is not easy to communicate."
Heat-related deaths in the U.S. have been on the rise for the past five years, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show. The agency, on average, has recorded some 1,200 deaths each year from 2018 to 2022. The agency said that better reporting may be a factor, particularly as people have become more aware of how heat can contribute to death cases. In contrast, heart disease, the leading cause of death in the U.S., sees hundreds of thousands of deaths recorded each year by the agency.
Ebi said the number of heat deaths is "massively underestimated," and that the real number is closer to 10,000 when factoring in people who died of things like heart issues brought on by heat.
New York
Heat has an outsize impact on urban areas. In cities like New York, where asphalt, cement and buildings absorb heat, it will not only feel hotter during the day, but also at night, when a lot of that heat is released, according to Ebi, of the University of Washington.
The compact, built-out environments of densely populated cities help create pockets known as heat islands, which experience temperatures that can be several degrees higher than surrounding rural areas. Many elements of city life contribute to this effect, including traffic, industrial facilities, and the heating and cooling of buildings.
"Think about people who have window air conditioners, and you know the way they work is they take heat from the inside and they dump it outside," Ebi said. "Air conditioners can make cities hotter as well."
More than two-thirds of residents in New York City experience at least 8 degrees Fahrenheit more heat due to the effect, according to the New Jersey-based nonprofit Climate Central.
City data on the relative risk from extreme-heat events shows that residents of the south Bronx, upper Manhattan and central Brooklyn are the most vulnerable. In Brooklyn, Borough President Antonio Reynoso said the vulnerability is largely concentrated in communities of color.
Athens
Tourists saw their vacations soured by heat waves and wildfires across the Mediterranean last month. Greece experienced a 15-day heat wave -- its longest on record, according to Lagouvardos Kostas, meteorologist and research director at the National Observatory of Athens. Temperatures as high as 110 degrees Fahrenheit fried the capital, prompting city officials to intermittently close outdoor archaeological sites like the Acropolis.
"It is an open space. It is very exposed to the sun, you have to work to climb to go there too," Kostas said of the Acropolis. "It's not an easy task to do it even in fine weather."
Officials encouraged tourists and residents to limit their time outside. Some workers were given the option to telecommute rather than risk developing health conditions like heat stroke, he added. Spain and Italy were among other Mediterranean countries experiencing extreme heat -- Catania, in Sicily, saw temperatures exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit midmonth.
Europe experienced a similarly scorching and deadly summer in 2022.

There were more than 61,000 heat-related deaths on the continent between the end of May and beginning of September last year, according to a recent study published in the journal Nature Medicine.

Tehran

Taps are running dry in Tehran as millions in Iran and neighboring Iraq face water shortages that are being compounded by the effects of rising temperatures.

"In Iran they are wrestling over the available water," said Charles Iceland, director for freshwater initiatives at the World Resources Institute, a Washington-based nonprofit. "They have been overexploiting groundwater, and they are actually using it faster than it is replenished."

Unsustainable use and management of water resources -- to sate a growing population and economy -- and inefficient irrigation practices have contributed to scarcity, Iceland said. Roughly 80% of water use goes to agriculture, according to Soroosh Sorooshian, a University of California, Irvine, professor of civil and environmental engineering, who grew up in Iran.

Farmers generally flood their land using open-air canals, and much of the water is lost to evaporation. And as temperatures continue to rise, Iceland said, more of that irrigation water will be lost to evaporation. He added that mid-latitude regions including Iran and Iraq are projected to get less rainfall over time as the Earth continues to warm.

A combination of high heat and humidity is an additional issue for the region's beleaguered population. While temperature highs haven't exceeded those of Europe and the southern U.S., researchers say subtropical regions near warm water, including the Middle East, are less hospitable even at the same temperatures. High humidity levels make it more difficult to sweat out excess body heat.

Beijing

In recent weeks, residents in China's capital and surrounding areas have been hit by a one-two punch of extreme heat and deadly flooding from record rainfall following Typhoon Doksuri.

The occurrence, intensity and duration of such events, research shows, are affected by climate change. Rising temperatures result in increased precipitation. Ultimately the unpredictability of these events makes it harder to manage water, energy and other critical resources in a heavily urbanized country where people and valuable assets are densely clustered, according to Scott Moore, a University of Pennsylvania political scientist and director of China programs and strategic initiatives at the university.

"There is a good argument that, of the world's large economies, China is the most vulnerable to climate risk," Moore said. An April study published in the journal Nature Communications identified the area around Beijing as being among the most at-risk for high-impact heat waves.

The aftermath of Doksuri forced more than a million people in Beijing and surrounding areas to evacuate. Meanwhile, consistently high temperatures strained electrical grids and exacerbated water shortages.

A July report from China's National Climate Center showed the rate of the country's temperature rise has been higher than the rest of the world's since the beginning of the 20th century. Extreme high temperature events have increased in frequency and intensity in about the past six decades, as well as a per-decade increase in China's average annual precipitation during the same period. Indeed, the biggest threat to Beijing, Moore said, is extreme rainfall that overwhelms the capital's drainage system.

Utqiagvik, Alaska

Even the Arctic isn't immune to rising temperatures.

The U.S.'s northernmost city, Utqiagvik -- formerly known as Barrow -- north of the Arctic Circle in Alaska just experienced its hottest July on record. Typically, summer temperatures hover between 40 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit, but on July 23, the daily average temperature hit a record high of 63.5 degrees. That record was just broken again, as the average temperature there on Saturday hit 66 degrees, according to Brian Brettschneider, a climate scientist at the National Weather Service Alaska region headquarters.

"It used to be normal to have a couple inches of snow up there in July," he said of Utqiagvik. Other cities around the state, like Northway, also had their warmest months on record in July. "The last two months have really been kind of big steps up" in a long-term, ongoing warming trend worldwide, Brettschneider said.

Not only does data show Alaska is the fastest warming state due to climate change, but its North Slope is among the fast-warming areas on Earth, Brettschneider said. "It is safe to say the Arctic warms at least twice as fast as the rest of the world," he added.

Loss of surrounding sea ice due to rising surface and ocean temperatures has decreased surfaces that act like a mirror for incoming heat from the sun, reflecting solar energy back into space, Brettschneider said. Now more of it is absorbed by the ocean, which further heats up and contributes to more ice melt as part of a feedback loop. Such ice melt can affect global ocean circulation, and the additional heat filters into the atmosphere, where it gets transported to lower latitudes, affecting sea levels and weather systems.

"Warmth in Alaska doesn't stay in Alaska," he said.

Credit: By Aylin Woodward, Carl Churchill and Erin Ailworth

DETAILS

Subject:	Humidity; Water shortages; Floods; Temperature; Weather; Heat; Climate change; Rain; Cities
Location:	Middle East; Iceland; Greece; New York; United States--US; Arizona; Iraq; Iran; China; California; Europe
Company / organization:	Name: University of Washington; NAICS: 611310
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634215
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-how-six-cities-coped-with-record-july/docview/2847634215/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.S. to Ban Some Investments in Chinese Tech Firms

Duehren, Andrew . Duehren, Andrew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The U.S. is set to ban private-equity and venture-capital investments in some Chinese technology companies under an executive order the Biden administration will release Wednesday, escalating Washington's efforts to prevent Beijing from developing cutting-edge technology for its military.

The executive order is expected to cover direct investments in three technology sectors: semiconductors, quantum computing and artificial intelligence. It would prohibit investments in some forms of those technologies, while requiring Americans doing business in China to inform the U.S. government about investments in the three high-tech sectors more broadly.

Investors that violate those rules may face fines and be forced to divest themselves of their stakes, according to people familiar with the order. Before enforcing the new rules, the Biden administration is expected to accept feedback on them, which are expected to apply to future transactions and won't cover portfolio investments in Chinese stocks and bonds, according to the people.

The rules are expected to technically also apply to investments into other adversaries such as Russia, but they are expected to only practically affect U.S. investment into China.

A Treasury spokesman declined to comment.

The executive order is a product of a growing bipartisan concern that American technology and know-how could inadvertently help Beijing develop weapons it could use against the U.S. in a military conflict. The Biden administration last year restricted exports of advanced semiconductors and chip-manufacturing equipment to China, and the U.S. has also heightened scrutiny of Chinese investment in American technology companies.

While Biden administration officials have cast the moves as targeted efforts to protect U.S. national security, officials in Beijing say they are aimed at kneecapping China's economic growth and development. Chinese President Xi Jinping complained to President Biden about the export controls on semiconductors last year. And in a step widely interpreted as retaliation for the U.S. export restrictions, China banned its major firms from buying technology from Micron Technology, the largest memory-chip maker in the U.S., earlier this year.

The new investment restrictions risk refreezing an attempted thaw in diplomacy between the two superpowers.
U.S. investment into China, which helped drive the country's economic development, has slowed in recent years as the geopolitical rivalry has intensified. Direct U.S. investment into China hit a 20-year low of $8.2 billion last year, according to Rhodium Group, which also said U.S. venture-capital investment hit a 10-year low of $1.3 billion last year. It is unclear how much of that goes toward the targeted sectors. A report by Georgetown University researchers found that U.S. investors were involved in 401 transactions in Chinese AI companies between 2015 and 2021, with investments from exclusively American investors amounting to $7.45 billion in that period.
As they crafted the executive order, Biden administration officials struggled with how to distinguish forms of artificial intelligence that primarily pose a national-security risk from others that are broadly used for everyday commercial purposes, according to people familiar with the talks.
Even ahead of their release, the new capital controls have started to reshape U.S. investor behavior. Venture-capital fund Sequoia Capital split off its China business earlier this year after persistent scrutiny in Washington. Other firms have slowed or paused transactions in China as they await the new rules, according to people familiar with their thinking.
Industry groups in Washington sought to narrow the rules, which the Biden administration spent more than a year crafting. Other proposals to limit U.S. investment in China have been broader.
A bipartisan group of lawmakers last year called for the creation of an interagency panel that would have screened investments in a wider range of technologies. Two lawmakers this year revived elements of that plan in an amendment adopted by the Senate to its annual defense policy bill. Their legislation would require disclosure of investments, rather than prohibitions, and may not become law.
Rep. Mike Gallagher (R., Wis.) and the House committee dedicated to China have called for restrictions that also apply to the much larger flows of U.S. portfolio investment into China. In a recent letter, the committee criticized BlackRock and MSCI, a top stock-market-index compiler, for facilitating investment in Chinese companies the U.S. government has accused of bolstering China's military and violating human rights.
Within the Biden administration, officials from the Treasury and Commerce departments had successfully sought to limit the scope of the executive order, according to people familiar with the deliberations.
Credit: By Andrew Duehren

DETAILS

Subject:	Bipartisanship; Artificial intelligence; Executive orders; Semiconductors; Portfolio investments; Congressional committees; Portfolio management; Foreign investment; Private equity; High tech industries
Business indexing term:	Subject: Artificial intelligence Portfolio investments Portfolio management Foreign investment Private equity High tech industries; Industry: 52394 : Portfolio Management and Investment Advice 92112 : Legislative Bodies
Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US
Classification:	52394: Portfolio Management and Investment Advice; 92112: Legislative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634214
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-s-ban-some-investments-chinese-tech/docview/2847634214/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions , and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Beijing to Curb Facial-Recognition Tech --- Proposed limits on uses would leave exceptions for national security

Hao, Karen; Lin, Liza . Hao, Karen; Lin, Liza.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

China released draft rules on Tuesday to curb uses of facial recognition, taking a step to limit the expansion of a polarizing technology while leaving large carve outs for national-security-related uses.
The draft from the internet regulator, the Cybersecurity Administration of China, proposes to restrict the use of the technology to instances where it has a specific purpose and is sufficiently necessary. The rules also ban the use of the technology for identifying race, ethnicity, religious belief or health status -- applications that haven't been scientifically proved -- unless a person has given consent or for the purposes of national security.
The stipulations bring China's stance on private and commercial uses of facial recognition closer to Western norms, including rules proposed in the European Union and by local governments in the U.S. It also leaves exceptions for national-security-related uses of the technology, a common feature among China's data and security regulations.
"Within one law you have provisions that reflect an authoritarian tech-enabled superpower and also genuine concern about misuse of the technology," said Samm Sacks, a senior fellow at Yale Law School's Paul Tsai China Center. "That's the sweet and sour approach of Chinese governance."
The proposal is the latest in a series of moves by China's government to put guardrails around how companies use data and artificial intelligence, putting it at the forefront of global attempts to regulate cutting-edge technology.
This year, the regulator implemented rules on so-called deepfakes, AI-generated media, and proposed others on generative AI tools similar to OpenAI's ChatGPT. Last year, it began regulating the algorithms that underpin popular apps and internet platforms including TikTok's Chinese equivalent Douyin and the ubiquitous super app WeChat.
There is no national law regulating the use of facial recognition in the U.S., even though some states including Massachusetts and cities such as San Francisco have imposed limits, particularly with regard to law enforcement's use of the technology. In Europe, policy makers recently agreed on a draft version of a law governing artificial intelligence, which will ban the use of real-time facial recognition in public spaces by police and other state security forces.
The Chinese rules also come after China's Covid controls led to the blanket adoption of location logging and access-control technologies.
Graham Webster, a research scholar who heads the Stanford University-based DigiChina Project that examines China's digital-policy developments, said the draft seems aimed at discouraging unnecessary use of facial recognition. "If enforced, it would cool the proliferation of biometric gadgetry outside security contexts," he said.
Facial-recognition use in China has been burgeoning during the past seven years, with the means to use your face as a form of identity mushrooming in malls, office buildings, airports and hotels.
Surveillance cameras are ubiquitous in many Chinese cities, and some of China's largest facial-recognition suppliers have partnerships with local police to provide the technology for security purposes -- tracking not just criminals but also dissidents, ethnic minorities and others the government sees as threatening national security.
Such technology is at the heart of international criticism of Beijing for its treatment of ethnic minority groups in the northwestern region of Xinjiang, where the Chinese government has carried out a campaign of forced ethnic assimilation targeting Turkic Muslims. Authorities in Xinjiang have used facial recognition and other surveillance tools to track and sort Muslims, sending hundreds of thousands to internment camps for political indoctrination, researchers said. China has rejected those allegations, referring to its policies in Xinjiang as a campaign to prevent terrorism.
Many people in China greeted the initial rollout of smart cameras with enthusiasm or indifference, adopting the technology in their everyday life. Still, Chinese leaders have faced growing unhappiness over the widespread use of facial recognition.
Tuesday's proposed regulation pulls together and fleshes out in one framework the restrictions on the use of face-recognition technology scattered throughout various laws in China, including in the national privacy law passed in 2021. It states, for example, that facial data shouldn't be collected and used without consent, reiterating a key aspect of China's 2017 Cybersecurity Law, which requires individual consent for personal-data collection.
The proposed regulation is the latest effort by authorities to walk the fine line between acknowledging public debate and maintaining tight control on the country's security.

Credit: By Karen Hao and Liza Lin

DETAILS

Subject:	Cameras; Artificial intelligence; Facial recognition technology; Surveillance; National security; Consent; Cybersecurity
Business indexing term:	Subject: Artificial intelligence
Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634212
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-beijing-curb-facial-recognition-tech/docview/2847634212/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2024-06-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Democrats Bypass Iowa as It Turns Redder

Lucey, Catherine; Overberg, Paul . Lucey, Catherine; Overberg, Paul.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Just about every Republican presidential candidate plans to attend the Iowa State Fair that begins in Des Moines this week. But don't expect to see President Biden there.

Iowa was once a center of gravity for both political parties during presidential elections and a key swing state. In recent years, it has turned so red that Democrats have little political power in the state, andthe party's candidates have few reasons to go.

The Hawkeye State helped elect Barack Obama president in 2008 and 2012 before Donald Trump carried it in 2016 and 2020. Today, Republicans hold majorities in both chambers of the legislature and the governor's mansion, and Iowa doesn't have a single Democratic member of Congress. Only one Democrat holds a statewide office, auditor Rob Sand.

A confluence of factors that mirrors national trends has pushed the state to the right. Iowa is more white and rural than the rest of the country, and Republicans have grown stronger with those voters, particularly through Trump's populist appeals. Meanwhile, Democrats have lost droves of voters in rural areas, and Iowa has fewer of the minority and urban voters who tend to be more liberal and have helped the party offset rural losses. Some Iowa Democrats say they are struggling to connect with voters on cultural issues as Americans have grown more polarized.

Iowa's rightward shift was evident in 2014 when Joni Ernst, a Republican, captured the Senate seat held for 30 years by Democrat Tom Harkin, with a folksy campaign that emphasized her upbringing on a farm. That trend accelerated with Trump, who placed second in Iowa's 2016 Republican caucuses but won the state resoundingly in the general election. Democrat Hillary Clinton turned off some voters, while Trump's appeals to block illegal immigration and economic populism resonated with them.

"You had these folks who normally would have voted for me who voted for Republicans," said Steven Sodders, a former Democratic Iowa state senator who lost his re-election bid in a central Iowa district in 2016. "Trump's message spoke to some of those union members."

According to census data, 83% of Iowa's population is white, compared with 58% nationwide. A big part of this is fewer Hispanics, who make up about 7% of Iowa's population, compared with 19% nationwide. The state's share of foreign-born is about 5% vs 14% for the U.S. About a third of Iowans live in a rural area, while a fifth of Americans overall do. Just a few states, including Vermont and Maine, remain solidly Democratic in presidential elections despite being whiter and more rural than Iowa.

Sodders also noted the so-called brain drain in the state that has siphoned off college-educated voters. "My daughter just graduated from Iowa State with her masters and she took a job in Pittsburgh," he said. "She told me with the politics in Iowa, I'm not moving back there."

To reverse the trend in states such as Iowa, former Illinois congresswoman Cheri Bustos, who led the House Democratic campaign arm during 2020, said Democrats need a game plan for rural America. An election postmortem she wrote determined that Democrats who won in Trump districts did so by engaging with voters, focusing on issues

such as healthcare and addressing regional concerns such as bridges or roads that need repairs.
"As a whole, if you're looking at the national Democratic Party, it has moved to the left," she said. "But if candidates want to do well in rural America, the national party that has swung leftward is not going to resonate."
Sand said flipping Iowa back is doable. He said that in his race he focused on his record of uncovering misspent money, his willingness to stand up to powerful people and at times buck his own party.
The Democratic National Committee said it has invested more money in Iowa since 2020, including from a DNC "Red State Fund" to build long-term infrastructure in GOP states.
The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has listed two Republican-held seats in Iowa as top targets for 2024.
Rita Hart, a former state senator who chairs the Iowa Democratic Party, said Democrats need to run on their record, citing Biden's investments in broadband internet, healthcare and infrastructure. "Joe Biden has a strong case to make here in Iowa," she said.
Biden's legislative efforts have failed to gain traction. An Iowa poll conducted in the spring showed just 30% of Iowans approved of his job performance.
Democrats earlier this year stripped Iowa of its role hosting the leadoff caucuses. The decision followed a botched vote count in 2020. Republicans still plan to kick off in Iowa next year, and Democrats have said they would hold an unsanctioned event there.
Credit: By Catherine Lucey and Paul Overberg

DETAILS

Subject:	Trends; Political parties; Political campaigns; Rural areas; Presidential elections; Political power; Voters; Congressional elections; Fairs &exhibitions
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92112 : Legislative Bodies 81394 : Political Organizations
Location:	United States--US; Iowa
People:	Biden, Joseph R Jr
Company / organization:	Name: Democratic Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92112: Legislative Bodies; 81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634209
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-democrats-bypass-iowa-as-turns-redder/docview/2847634209/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-09-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Beijing Reassures Moscow Of Impartiality on Ukraine --- Chinese envoy vows to keep independent position in seeking ways to end conflict

Chun Han Wong . Chun Han Wong.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

SINGAPORE -- China's top diplomat assured Russia that Beijing hasn't wavered in its stance on the Ukraine war, right after a Chinese envoy joined a multilateral forum -- which excluded Moscow -- to discuss ways to end the conflict.
In a Monday call, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his Russian counterpart, Sergei Lavrov, affirmed the strong partnership between their governments and promised to keep working together to resist Western efforts to contain their countries' development, according to readouts from both foreign ministries.
The two ministers also discussed the Ukraine war, but neither of the readouts directly mentioned a weekend diplomatic gathering in Saudi Arabia, where China played what the U.S. later said was a productive role in discussing

possible paths to peace in Ukraine. Even so, Wang's comments included an apparent reference to the Jeddah meeting that sought to reassure Moscow of China's position on the war.
China, at any international multilateral forum, will "uphold an independent and impartial stance" while promoting peace talks and seeking a political solution to the "Ukraine crisis," the Chinese diplomat said, according to the readout from China's Foreign Ministry, which kept to Beijing's longstanding aversion to describing the conflict as a war.
Russia's Foreign Ministry, meanwhile, characterized the call as confirmation that "Moscow and Beijing have identical or largely concurring approaches towards international affairs," without elaborating on what was discussed regarding Ukraine. Lavrov and Wang "reaffirmed their commitment to maintain close foreign policy coordination," it said.
Their call came the day after the diplomatic conclave in the Saudi Arabian city of Jeddah, where senior officials from 42 countries -- including the U.S. and China -- met to discuss ways to reach a potential peace settlement.
Ukraine and its Western backers cast the closed-door talks as an effort to rally global support, particularly from major developing countries that have largely stayed neutral, behind conditions for ending the war that would favor Ukraine.
As Russia's most important diplomatic partner, China is seen as crucial to building traction for the peace talks and potentially shaping discussions on Moscow's red lines and concerns in any peace plan.
The U.S. on Monday praised China's participation in the Jeddah meeting.
China was an active participant in the meetings, the head of Ukraine's presidential office, Andriy Yermak, said in a televised interview that aired after the forum.
Most countries that attended the Jeddah conclave -- including China -- appeared willing to meet again in the coming weeks, with Russia excluded, people involved in or briefed on the talks said.
China was represented in Jeddah by Li Hui, Beijing's peace envoy for the Ukraine war. Li's presence marked a shift for China, which didn't join similar talks held in Copenhagen in June.
At the Jeddah meeting, the Chinese delegation presented Beijing's 12-point position paper -- first published in February -- that called for a cease-fire in Ukraine and peace talks to end the war. European diplomats pushed back to warn that an unconditional cease-fire could simply create a frozen conflict and allow Russia to consolidate its control of Ukrainian territory.
China's account of the phone call on Monday quoted Lavrov as saying Russia appreciates China's constructive role in trying to resolve the Ukraine crisis, and that Moscow "highly agrees" with Beijing's existing position paper on the matter.
While Monday's call underscored Beijing's commitment to its partnership with Moscow, Chinese officials have at times signaled concern over the global impact from prolonged hostilities in Ukraine, and warned against the use of nuclear weapons -- a veiled rebuke against Russia's threats to use such armaments in Ukraine.
Credit: By Chun Han Wong

DETAILS

Subject:	Peace negotiations; Diplomacy; Diplomatic &consular services; Truces &cease fires; War; International relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: International relations; Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	China; Beijing China; Russia; United States--US; Ukraine
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634208
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-beijing-reassures-moscow-impartiality/docview/2847634208/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Biden Designates a National Monument To Protect Land Near the Grand Canyon

Ansari, Talal . Ansari, Talal.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

President Biden designated a new national monument that would protect lands near the Grand Canyon, a move that has been opposed by the mining industry.

The Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument in northern Arizona covers more than 900,000 acres of public land. Biden designated the monument Tuesday in an announcement near the Grand Canyon.

Biden has designated five national monuments, including the Grand Canyon one, as part of his administration's conservation efforts. Several tribes have long sought permanent protection of their ancestral homelands in the Grand Canyon region, as have environmentalists. The mining industry has opposed curtailing access to uranium deposits in the area, arguing it will undermine the effort to produce more energy in the U.S. and increase dependence on Russia for the critical nuclear-power fuel.

In 2012, the Obama administration imposed a 20-year ban on new uranium mining claims around the Grand Canyon. Those protections will become permanent in the newly protected areas. Existing mining claims won't be affected, a senior administration official said.

"These special places are not a pass-through on the way to the Grand Canyon. They're sacred and significant in their own right. They should not be open to new mining claims and developed beyond recognition," U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said Monday.

Democratic officials in Arizona, including Gov. Katie Hobbs, Sen. Mark Kelly and Rep. Raul Grijalva, have supported the creation of a Grand Canyon monument, as has Kyrsten Sinema, the Democratic-turned-independent senator.

The mining industry and some of the state's congressional Republicans and local officials have criticized the Obama-era ban on new uranium mining and the prospect of the new monument, saying it could hurt economic growth.

"Why would we permanently cut off access to some of America's best uranium deposits for no scientific, health or environmental reasons," Curtis Moore, senior vice president of marketing and corporate development for uranium producer Energy Fuels, said before the monument was announced.

The Uranium Producers of America said it opposes the creation of the monument, and added that U.S. mining practices are "the most environmentally sound and regulated in the world."

The areas covered by the monument contain roughly 1.3% of the nation's known uranium reserves, according to a senior administration official.

Nuclear power supplies nearly 20% of U.S. electricity. Domestic uranium mining has dwindled, and raw uranium prices haven't been high enough to encourage U.S. mining over cheaper imports.

Credit: By Talal Ansari

DETAILS

Subject:	Uranium; Mining industry; National monuments; Environmental protection; Native North Americans
Business indexing term:	Subject: Mining industry; Industry: 71212 : Historical Sites 21229 : Other Metal Ore Mining
Location:	Grand Canyon; United States--US; Arizona
People:	Biden, Joseph R Jr
Classification:	71212: Historical Sites; 21229: Other Metal Ore Mining
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634206
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-biden-designates-national-monument/docview/2847634206/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-04-29
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Trump Allies Wait for Call To Join Ticket

Collins, Eliza; Hughes, Siobhan . Collins, Eliza; Hughes, Siobhan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Former President Donald Trump and many of his supporters say he has locked up the race for the Republican nomination even with the first contests months away. That has prompted early jockeying among top Republicans to potentially be his running mate.

Possible vice-presidential candidates range from staunch loyalists in Congress such as Rep. Elise Stefanik of New York and Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia to other popular party figures, including former Arizona television host Kari Lake. One prominent critic, Rep. Nancy Mace of South Carolina, has been warming to the idea of supporting Trump and serving alongside him, people familiar with her thinking say.

Trump has also indicated he could tap a current 2024 rival for the job. He hasn't committed to attending the first GOP presidential debate later this month and posted on social media: "Let them debate so I can see who I MIGHT consider for Vice President!"

The Trump campaign declined to comment for this article, but aides and allies have started discussing names of possible candidates who could join him on the ticket in a general election against President Biden, who is expected to be the Democratic Party nominee. Trump hasn't engaged, aides said, and is focused on the GOP primaries, where he has built a strong lead in opinion polls. They say Trump wants someone who has a record of winning and is aligned with his agenda. Trump also likes people who do well on TV.

A decision could be nearly a year away, as Trump and other nominees have typically picked their running mate ahead of the summer party conventions.

Some hopefuls are working to prove their support for Trump as he faces several indictments, including one this month over his efforts to overturn the 2020 election. Some are juggling their own ambitions for other jobs while signaling they remain open to a spot on the 2024 ticket should the opportunity arise.

Lake, the TV anchor who narrowly lost her 2022 bid for governor of Arizona, is expected to announce a run for Senate this fall. But she would agree to be Trump's running mate and skip the Senate bid if he asked, according to people familiar with her thinking.

Lake has been traveling the country this year pushing the pro-Trump agenda and false claims of fraud in her 2022 election loss to crowds of supporters. A straw poll at a recent Turning Point Action gathering of conservative activists had her as the top pick for vice president, with just under a third of the vote.

Lake's advisers have started interviewing potential staff for a Senate run and she has started to indicate publicly that she is likely to get into that race, according to people familiar. Even if she runs for Senate, that wouldn't rule out her pivoting to the VP spot.

She has previously said she would do whatever Trump asked of her, and she recently tweeted that Rep. Byron Donalds (R., Fla.), who played a role in the House speaker fight, "would be GREAT!!!" as Trump's running mate.

Donalds, who came in second in the straw poll with 24% of the attendees at the Turning Point Action event, said "it's cool, it's like an honor" to be a favorite with activists but he hadn't heard anything from Trump's inner circle.

One person unlikely to be interested in the job: Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. He said recently, "I don't want veep . . . I'm running to win." Also not in the running: Trump's pick for his first two campaigns, Mike Pence, who has condemned Trump's actions related to the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol riot.

Stefanik, who as the No. 3 House Republican is in charge of messaging, is interested in being selected for the role, according to two people familiar with her thinking.

"I'd be honored to serve in the Trump administration," said Stefanik, who likes to note she is the highest-ranking GOP official in Congress to endorse the former president. She said she talks to Trump almost weekly. But regarding the VP job, she said, "We have not discussed it."

Another Trump ally, Greene, said she would consider an offer from Trump, but said she hadn't spoken to the former president about it.

"She's a warrior," Trump told a Georgia crowd in early June, when Greene spoke alongside him at a rally at the state GOP convention. After the indictment she said on X, the service formerly called Twitter: "I will still vote for Trump even if he's in jail."

Mace is an unlikely name on the list. She said Trump "wiped out" his legacy with the Jan. 6, 2021, riot. Trump in 2022

endorsed a primary opponent of Mace's.
But as polling has made clear that Trump is the clear favorite for the GOP nomination next year, Mace has grown more open to the idea of backing him, according to people familiar with her thinking. South Carolina is the third state in the GOP nominating process, so the endorsements of its elected officials can hold more weight than those from other states. She would be open to being his running mate if offered, the people said.
In an interview on Fox News in July, Trump said he may consider a primary opponent as his running mate. Trump declined to be specific but praised Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina and entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy. Both have said they aren't interested.

Alex Leary contributed to this article.
Credit: By Eliza Collins and Siobhan Hughes

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Nominations; Debates; Political campaigns; Riots; Presidential elections; Endorsements; Vice Presidents; Candidates
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	South Carolina; United States--US; Arizona; Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940; Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634200
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-trump-allies-wait-call-join-ticket/docview/2847634200/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Latin America Takes Aim at Deforestation --- Summit participants look to stem risks to Amazon that many tie to climate change

Pearson, Samantha; Magalhaes, Luciana . Pearson, Samantha; Magalhaes, Luciana.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

SAO PAULO -- The Latin American countries that share the Amazon rainforest embarked on a two-day meeting Tuesday in the Brazilian jungle city of Belem with an aim to halt the deforestation that many scientists blame for accelerating climate change.

Brazil, home to 60% of the world's biggest rainforest, held a meeting for presidents and top officials from countries that are home to the rest of the Amazon: Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Guyana and Suriname. The summit is the first in 14 years for the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, a group that arose from a treaty Amazonian nations signed in 1978 to promote harmonious development of the region. France, which oversees French Guiana on South America's northeast shoulder, was represented by the French ambassador in Brasilia.

The meeting comes as Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva seeks to position his country as a leading voice in the global fight against deforestation, and facilitator of cross-border environmental cooperation on the continent through the 45-year-old treaty.

"It's never been more urgent to resume and widen this cooperation -- it's the challenge of our era," said da Silva in his opening speech Tuesday.

Other countries with large tropical forests, such as Indonesia, Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo, were expected to join the meeting along with Norway and Germany, which contribute to deforestation

programs. The United Arab Emirates, which will host this year's United Nations climate summit in Dubai, was also to attend.

Twice the size of India, the Amazon rainforest has long absorbed more carbon than it releases, acting as a vital brake on global climate change. But with close to 20% of the original forest now gone, scientists tracking the forest say the Amazon could now be close to its so-called irreversible tipping point, at which it would dry out and eventually become savanna. The effects could be global. Climate scientists have blamed forest loss for contributing to global warming, which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has said explains why heat waves in countries such as the U.S. are becoming more common.

Deforestation in Brazil's Amazon has hit its lowest level in four years since da Silva's administration started in January, dropping about 34% in the first six months of this year compared with the same period last year, according to preliminary data from Brazil's National Institute of Space Research, known as INPE. While da Silva has vowed to bring jungle destruction down to zero by 2030, he has argued that this can't be done at the cost of the livelihoods of the some 30 million people who live in Brazil's Amazon.

Instead, Brazil must build a new green economy in the Amazon with financing and investment from abroad, da Silva argues, as well as developa regulated carbon market. Brazil relies on foreign donations to help operate its underfunded environmental enforcement agencies, which use helicopters, drones and other equipment to monitor illegal deforestation across the vast area.

"What we want is to tell the world what we're going to do with our forests and what the world has to do to help us," da Silva said. He said he plans to pressure wealthy nations to fulfill the pledge they made during the 2015 Paris climate accord to provide $100 billion a year to help developing countries fight climate change.

Such a summit seemed a distant possibility just a year ago, when da Silva's right-wing predecessor Jair Bolsonaro was president. Bolsonaro, who jokingly referred to himself as "Captain Chainsaw," cut funding for environmental enforcement and bristled at attempts from foreign nations to influence his stewardship of the Amazon even as he called on them to fund deforestation efforts.

Credit: By Samantha Pearson and Luciana Magalhaes

DETAILS

Subject:	Rainforests; Forests; Cooperation; Climate change; Deforestation; Activism; Environmental protection
Location:	Amazon Basin; Brazil; United States--US; Latin America
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.18
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634197
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-latin-america-takes-aim-at/docview/2847634197/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: TSMC to Build Plant in Germany --- Move reflects efforts by Europe to curb its reliance on high-tech imports from Asia

Yang, Jie; Bertrand, Benoit . Yang, Jie; Bertrand, Benoit.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

BERLIN -- Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. will build its first European chip factory with support from the German government, the latest move to make the continent less dependent on high-tech imports out of Asia.
TSMC said it had approved a $3.8 billion investment in the factory in Germany, with total investments in the plant expected to exceed 10 billion euros, equivalent to $11 billion, including government support.
The German Economics Ministry said the government would support the project subject to approval by the European Union, which has eased limits on government subsidies for semiconductor projects.
The widely anticipated decision comes weeks after Berlin said it would pay 10 billion euros to support a 30 billion euros investment by Intel, the U.S. chip maker, in two plants in Magdeburg, in eastern Germany -- among the biggest foreign investments ever made in the country.
The EU is seeking to double its share of the global semiconductor market as part of a broader effort to strengthen its

high-tech supply chains and reduce its dependence on outside suppliers in high-growth industries.
The effort is partly a reaction to the Biden administration's $53 billion Chips Act, which aims to draw semiconductor investments to the U.S., and its Inflation Reduction Act, which offers incentives for support for green technology investments.
Europe's attempts to bolster its domestic chip industry also reflect a strategic effort to reduce its reliance on Chinese technology imports.
Since Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine last year, sending Europe scrambling to replace Moscow as one of its main energy suppliers, governments on the continent have sought ways to insulate themselves from future geopolitical shocks.
One of these would be a decision by China to invade Taiwan, the self-ruled island it considers its own territory, in a scenario that European officials fear could wreak economic havoc on the continent. Another impetus for the change in policy was the Covid-19 pandemic, which severed crucial supply chains in a range of industries.
Last month, Germany released its first-ever strategic policy document on China, saying it would reduce its economy's exposure to and technological reliance on the country, in part through more state support for high-tech and strategic industries.
TSMC's German factory will be set up as a joint venture with several EU-based chip companies including Bosch, Infineon and NXP, according to the four companies involved. TSMC said it would run the plant and hold 70% of the joint venture, with the other three companies each holding 10%.
Construction is expected to start in the second half of 2024, with production beginning by the end of 2027, the company said.
TSMC faces challenges including soft consumer demand, rising costs and a shortage of various types of skilled workers. But like Europe and the U.S., it has sought to reduce its vulnerability to geopolitical tensions by spreading its assets around the globe.
The company, which makes chips for a host of major electronics products including those of Apple, is building chip-manufacturing plants outside of its home base, Taiwan, in countries like the U.S. and Japan.
The new multibillion-dollar German plant will be located in Dresden, in the eastern state of Saxony, which has become a technology and industrial hub since German reunification three decades ago. The plant will specialize in the production of less advanced chips typically used in cars, the company said.
People familiar with TSMC's plans said government subsidies would help offset regional disadvantages such as higher operating costs and the relative scarcity of skilled workers required to build and run a chip factory in Europe compared with Taiwan.
Skills shortages have been an obstacle to the company's expansion abroad. Last month it said a planned factory in Arizona would miss its target of starting mass production next year, as people with expertise in building semiconductor facilities were in short supply locally. Industry experts had said TSMC is likely to face a similar talent shortage in Japan and Europe too.
The company is seeking up to $15 billion from the Biden administration for its plans to build two chip factories in Arizona, and is concerned about the U.S. rules that could require it to share profits from the factories and provide detailed information about operations.
Credit: By Yang Jie and Bertrand Benoit

DETAILS

Subject:	Geopolitics; Semiconductors; Joint ventures; Skilled workers; Supply chains; Manufacturing; Suppliers; Government subsidies; Factories

Business indexing term:	Subject: Joint ventures Skilled workers Supply chains Manufacturing Suppliers Government subsidies Factories; Corporation: Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd; Industry: 42369 : Other Electronic Parts and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers
Location:	United States--US; Arizona; Germany; China; Asia; Taiwan; Japan; Europe
Company / organization:	Name: Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd; NAICS: 334413
Classification:	42369: Other Electronic Parts and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United S tates
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634196
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-tsmc-build-plant-germany-move/docview/2847634196/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Corporate Diversity Is Under Siege --- Conservative groups mount legal challenges against Amazon, Comcast and others

Francis, Theo; Weber, Lauren . Francis, Theo; Weber, Lauren.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Conservative legal activists successfully challenged the use of affirmative action by universities. Now they are going after diversity initiatives widely deployed across American corporations. Some companies are already reconsidering their efforts.

In lawsuits, shareholder letters and petitions to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, activists are using some of the same tactics that progressive groups have used to advance diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, programs. They are arguing that companies are violating rules against race- and sex-discrimination, including those drawn from legislation designed to secure the rights of Black Americans.

Comcast settled a case accusing it of illegally favoring minority-owned small-business customers with grants and marketing advice. Amazon has been sued in Texas over a program offering an extra $10,000 to Black- or Latino-owned delivery-service contractors. Starbucks directors and executives are being sued by a shareholder arguing they violated their duty to investors by supporting diversity policies.

Dozens of corporate law firms and major employers have received letters from Republican officials warning them to adhere to laws prohibiting racial quotas and preferences in employment and contracting decisions.

Edward Blum, who also organized the challenge that culminated in the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn affirmative action, used a recently formed nonprofit group to sue Georgia investment manager Fearless Fund, charging that a grant program for startups is discriminatory. Fearless makes early-stage investments in businesses run by women of color.

Companies say their initiatives fall within the law. Many say they remain committed to increasing the demographic diversity of their workforces and suppliers, citing business benefits and the hurdles some groups continue to face in American corporations.

Privately, many are asking their lawyers if and how much they should modify their methods in light of the affirmative-action decision.

Many of the legal efforts against corporate diversity programs predate the high court's June 29 decision. That ruling, centered squarely on higher-education admissions, didn't address employment or business practices.

But it added momentum to an effort by conservative activists and public officials to challenge corporate diversity programs. Companies have long relied on rationales similar to those buttressing affirmative action at universities -- that there are benefits to diversity. By dismissing that rationale, the high court weakened the justification for other programs that promote it.

"Anything a company's doing that is treating someone differently because of their race, even if it's a small part of the decision-making process, is going to be scrutinized," said Dan Lennington, a former Wisconsin deputy solicitor general and deputy counsel for Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, the legal group behind the Comcast lawsuit.

Employment lawyers say it is likely a matter of time before one of these cases reaches the Supreme Court. Some companies have decided they aren't going to wait for the court to weigh in. That is especially true for programs that were quickly adopted after the May 2020 killing of George Floyd in police custody, said Angela Berg, who led the

global DEI practice at HR consulting firm Mercer and now consults independently.
Some executives "were uncomfortable with equity programs from the get-go," said Berg, referring to initiatives such as mentorship or training programs. The Supreme Court has changed the risk calculation, she said.
Companies are evaluating diversity programs in light of litigation threats that often seem designed to stoke public fear, said Fordham University law professor Atinuke Adediran. She has received inquiries on the subject from an association of human-resources officers at large companies. "Most of what the firms are doing for diversity is legal," she said. "Companies may need to be ready to defend themselves."
Cable giant Comcast limited a small-business grant program to companies at least 51% owned and operated by someone identifying as Black, indigenous, a person of color, or female -- people the company said had been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.
The Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, in suing Comcast in April 2022, cited the 1866 Civil Rights Act. One provision often referred to as Section 1981 says all Americans should have the same rights to sue and enforce contracts "as is enjoyed by white citizens." The institute, which says it supports litigation promoting "individual initiative and ordered liberty that leads to prosperity," essentially turned that section on its head by gathering several white, male business owners as plaintiffs.
In mid-September, when Comcast announced the next round of grants, it opened the program to all small businesses. Two months later, Comcast settled the litigation.
A Comcast spokesman declined to comment. In a news release about the program in May, Comcast described the program as evolving "from helping businesses survive the pandemic, to helping businesses and their communities thrive with a focus on economic growth."
A federal lawsuit against Amazon.com filed outside Dallas in July 2022 also invokes the 1866 law. It targets a program awarding an additional $10,000 to Black, Latino and Native American delivery-service contractors to defray startup costs. The lawsuit also criticizes an Amazon program aimed at helping Black-owned businesses sell products on Amazon's website.
The plaintiff, a Denton County, Texas, resident, wants to apply to start an Amazon delivery-service contractor, but says she won't until the company eliminates the assistance for minority contractors or offers whites and Asians the same benefit, the complaint says. The plaintiff can't apply to become an Amazon delivery service partner "without subjecting herself to racial discrimination," the lawsuit says.
The case seeks class-action status. It was filed by attorneys including the general counsel of America First Legal, a Washington, D.C., nonprofit headed by former Trump administration adviser Stephen Miller. America First Legal describes itself as combating "an unholy alliance of corrupt special interests, big tech titans, the fake news media, and liberal Washington politicians."
Amazon has moved to dismiss the lawsuit, saying its selection process for delivery contractors is race-neutral and that the plaintiff doesn't have standing to sue because she hasn't applied to be an Amazon contractor.
In court filings, the company calls her complaint "the epitome of an abstract and generalized grievance by a member of the general population about an internal corporate program that has no actual effect on her."
Amazon declined to comment on the lawsuit. "We believe in the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion," a spokesman said in a written statement. "We'll investigate the potential impact of any legal decisions on our programs and adjust as necessary to comply with the law."
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 bans workplace discrimination. The recent affirmative-action decision didn't address employment practices directly. But Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch in a concurring opinion noted "materially identical language" on discrimination in the laws governing higher education and employment.
Starbucks officers and directors were sued in August 2022 by National Center for Public Policy Research, a conservative think tank that owns 56 shares in the coffee chain. It accuses Starbucks of violating Title VII and Section 1981, and the officials of breaching their fiduciary duty to shareholders by embracing policies it says violate antidiscrimination law in areas including employment, supplier contracts and executive compensation.
Under the policies, Starbucks says it wants at least 30% of its U.S. workforce at all levels to be Black, indigenous or

people of color by 2025. It plans to implement an analytics tool that lets managers see their progress and uses workforce diversity measures to help set executive pay.
Starbucks and company officials are seeking to dismiss the case, with a hearing scheduled for Friday. They say NCPPR hasn't shown any real harm from the policies, which are covered by a legal principle that gives company officials broad discretion in running their business, and that courts have upheld diversity policies as permissible. Acceding to the lawsuit's demands would leave Starbucks vulnerable to other litigation, they say.
"We remain committed to creating a culture of warmth and belonging, where everyone is welcome," a company spokeswoman said.
In court, Starbucks and its officials also argue NCPPR doesn't represent shareholders, who have rejected previous proxy proposals from the group suggesting Starbucks favors liberal or "woke" perspectives.
Coca-Cola is among the companies that has already backtracked. In early 2021, then-General Counsel Bradley Gayton addressed a letter to outside law firms saying that 30% of new legal work for the soda giant should be performed by lawyers who are women, LGBTQ+, disabled or members of racial and ethnic minority groups. Law firms had to report demographic data to Coke, which could cut their fees if the guidelines weren't met, the letter said. Gayton stepped down from the role three months later.
American Civil Rights Project, a nonprofit law firm that also represents NCPPR in its Starbucks lawsuit, threatened to sue Coke officials on behalf of shareholders. In a letter to the company that June, the group called the policies "textbook violations" of Section 1981.
In early 2022 Gayton's successor, Monica Howard Douglas, wrote to the American Civil Rights Project that while the company remained fully committed to advancing DEI in the legal profession, she had contacted law firms to tell them the guidelines were never company policy.
America First Legal Foundation, the group backing the Texas lawsuit against Amazon, has written to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, urging the four current commissioners to bypass the usual complaint process and open investigations into diversity practices at a range of brand-name companies.
Andrea Lucas, who was nominated to the commission by President Trump, declined to comment on the likelihood that she or other commissioners would open investigations. She said she sees "significant legal and practical risk" in many corporate diversity programs. "Equal opportunity is our charge," she said of the agency's mission, "but the law does not demand equal outcomes."
Civil-rights lawyers say conservative activists' arguments distort the original purpose of laws designed to protect groups that, historically, have had fewer labor-market opportunities or difficulty cracking corporate ceilings.
"The intent here is more political gain and a chilling effect -- unfortunately it's effective," said Katy Youker, an attorney with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, which has been tracking challenges to corporate programs.
In Florida, a federal judge last year halted enforcement of provisions in HB 7, better known as the Stop Woke Act, which would have restricted private employers from conducting some diversity-related training. The judge said the measures violated companies' free speech rights. Gov. Ron DeSantis's administration has appealed the decision.
The pressure leaves employers vulnerable to litigation for either going too far or not far enough in addressing barriers to equity and inclusion, lawyers say.
"Employers still have obligations to comply with civil rights statutes," said Charles McLaurin, senior counsel with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Rolling back DEI programs designed to expand workplace opportunities, he added, "has the potential of creating a hostile environment for certain marginalized groups. Companies would still face exposure."
Credit: By Theo Francis and Lauren Weber

DETAILS

Subject:	Workplace diversity; Litigation; Nonprofit organizations; Contractors; Conservatism; Affirmative action
Business indexing term:	Subject: Workplace diversity Contractors; Corporation: Comcast Corp Starbucks Corp Amazon.com Inc
Location:	Texas; Wisconsin; United States--US
Company/ organization:	Name: Comcast Corp; NAICS: 517111, 517112, 517810; Name: Starbucks Corp; NAICS: 722515
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634195
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/corporate-diversity-is-under-siege-conservative/docview/284763419 5/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-02-05
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Eastern Storms Cause Deaths, Outages

Calfas, Jennifer . Calfas, Jennifer.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

At least two people died as powerful storms ripped through the Eastern U.S. on Monday, resulting in hundreds of thousands of power outages and disrupting air travel.

A 15-year-old boy from Anderson, S.C., died after a large tree fell on him shortly after he arrived at his grandparent's house Monday, the Anderson County Coroner's Office said. A 28-year-old man was struck by lightning during the storm Monday and died, the Florence Police Department in Alabama said.

The storms carried hail and lightning to communities across the Eastern U.S. late Monday and resulted in hundreds of thousands of power outages. The National Weather Service warned residents across the mid-Atlantic of large hail, damaging winds and the potential for tornadoes. The storm didn't appear to produce tornadoes.

Reports of large hail in Virginia and Maryland were identified by the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center.

By late Tuesday afternoon, about 180,000 customers were without power across Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Maryland, Tennessee and Georgia, according to data from PowerOutage.us.

Repair crews made progress restoring power in many areas.

The Knoxville Utilities Board in Tennessee said about 6,000 customers remained without power Tuesday afternoon, down from more than 56,000 Monday afternoon. Remaining repairs may take several days to complete, the utility said.

"A single pole replacement takes at least eight hours and could take up to 12 hours to complete," the utility said Tuesday. "With more than two dozen broken poles currently identified and more damage remaining to assess, we currently have more than 80 crews working, including two dozen crews from neighboring utilities."

More than 1,700 flights were canceled and nearly 9,000 were delayed within, into or out of the U.S. on Monday, according to FlightAware.

By Tuesday late afternoon, more than 3,800 U.S. flights were delayed and more than 390 were canceled, according to FlightAware.

In Maryland, dozens of vehicles were stuck on Maryland Route 140 for hours Monday due to fallen electric poles. All motorists and passengers were transported away from the area by 10:30 p.m., a spokesperson for Maryland State Police said Tuesday.

A high school in Loudon County, Tenn., canceled classes Tuesday because of damage from the storm.

At UNC Health Rex, a hospital in Raleigh, N.C., an area lightning strike Monday evening resulted in power outages to some parts of the hospital. The temporary outages lasted for a little over an hour and didn't affect patients, a spokesperson for the hospital said.

Credit: By Jennifer Calfas

DETAILS

Subject:	Storms; Lightning; Tornadoes; Electric power
Location:	Maryland; Tennessee; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: National Weather Service-US; NAICS: 924120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634193
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-eastern-storms-cause-deaths-outages/docview/2847634193/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Governor's Race Presents Competing Views of Mississippi

McWhirter, Cameron . McWhirter, Cameron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

PHILADELPHIA, Miss. -- Republican Gov. Tate Reeves is looking to ride record low unemployment in this state to a second term. His campaign coffers are flush with cash. He is ahead in the polls.

In a primary Tuesday he defeated two lesser-known GOP rivals -- and will now face off against a distant cousin of Elvis Presley.

Brandon Presley, who ran unopposed in the Democratic gubernatorial primary and is related to the King of Rock 'n' Roll, has played down his party affiliation and used recent scandal and corruption to build out his underdog campaign in this ruby red state.

Reeves and Presley, in their general-election matchup in November, will present sharply different views of the state's economy. Reeves argues the state is on the upswing; Presley says Mississippi is in trouble, with a government geared toward helping the powerful and ignoring the middle class and poor.

For generations, politicos have considered speaking at the annual Neshoba County Fair in the backwoods as the unofficial start of Mississippi's campaign season. Presley took the stage at the fair recently and lit into Reeves, who was standing nearby."Everyone can't be born rich and lucky," said Presley, who was raised in poverty.

Reeves, who stepped up to the podium after Presley, was cheered by his backers as he fired back, arguing Presley was a frontman for elites who want to remake Mississippi in the image of a state like California. "I stand against the national liberals and as your governor, I always will," he said.

Reeves, 49 years old, and Presley, 46, both had early successes in politics, but they have led very different lives. Reeves was elected Mississippi's state treasurer at 28. Later, he served as lieutenant governor before becoming governor. Reeves is the scion of the owner of a heating and cooling company. He attended a private college in Jackson, then became a financial analyst before entering politics.

Presley was elected mayor of his small hometown, Nettleton, Miss., at 23. Later, he was elected to the state's Public Service Commission. Growing up, his father was killed on Presley's first day in the third grade, and his mother struggled to make ends meet, he said.

Republicans dominate Mississippi government, controlling both houses of the Legislature and all major statewide elected offices. A Democratic gubernatorial candidate hasn't won here since 1999.

State polling is sparse, but head-to-head matchups between Reeves and Presley show the Republican with a clear lead. Reeves has outpaced Presley in fundraising, with July campaign-finance reports showing Reeves with more than $9.6 million cash on hand, compared with Presley's roughly $1.9 million.

In his speech, Reeves touted a record-low 3.1% unemployment rate and new investment in the state, including the announcement earlier this year of a $2.5 billion aluminum manufacturing plant.

Presley highlighted corruption in state government that has rocked Mississippi, sending several Republican-appointed officials and others to prison for misuse of federal welfare funds. He said the scandal, which began under previous Republican Gov. Phil Bryant, took place while Reeves was lieutenant governor.

Reeves hasn't been charged with wrongdoing and said he had no role in a scandal that began before he became governor.

The state is facing other challenges. Mississippi was one of only three states along with Illinois and West Virginia to see its population shrink in 2020 from 2010, according to the Census Bureau. The bureau later said it had undercounted in

2020, but it estimated Mississippi's population in mid-2022 was 2.94 million, about 1% smaller than in 2010. Continuing crises in the state's capital and largest city, Jackson, over collapsing water infrastructure and crime have drawn national scrutiny. Black Democratic city officials have battled with Reeves and the white Republican state leadership -- with state officials seeking more control over the city's affairs and city officials asking for more funding. Racial divisions are a perpetual issue in Mississippi, with its legacy of slavery, Jim Crow and violence during the Civil Rights era.

Today most Black voters in the state back Democrats. Most whites support Republicans. In recent years, Democratic candidates have attempted to win in Mississippi by building a coalition of Black voters with centrist or liberal whites -- but with little success, unlike in Georgia, where Democrats had some statewide wins in federal races.

Credit: By Cameron McWhirter

DETAILS

Subject:	State elections; Governors; Unemployment; Scandals; Voters; Politics; Political finance
Business indexing term:	Subject: Unemployment; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Mississippi
People:	Reeves, Tate
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634191

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-governors-race-presents-competing-views/docview/2847634191/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Teamsters Contract Fallout, Delivery Slowdown Hit UPS

Fung, Esther . Fung, Esther.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

United Parcel Service cut its financial outlook for the year as a slowdown in global delivery volumes and the fallout from a new labor contract are weighing on the business.

The tempered forecast Tuesday came as the package-delivery company said that its revenue and profit fell in the second quarter from the prior year. The challenges in the June quarter were due in part to customers moving business away from UPS as it negotiated its largest labor contract with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. UPS and the Teamsters last month reached a tentative five-year deal that covers more than 300,000 workers, avoiding a strike that could have created big problems in U.S. supply chains.

Revenue in the second quarter slipped nearly 11% from a year earlier to $22.1 billion, missing the $23 billion consensus forecast from analysts polled by FactSet. Profit fell 27% to $2.08 billion. On a per-share basis, its profit was $2.42.

The profit picture would have been worse if the company hadn't worked to cut expenses, executives said. During the quarter, UPS reduced working hours by 10%, alongside the decline in parcel volume.

It also reduced flights and lowered volume in nonautomated buildings by 18%, enabling the company to decrease operations head count, said Chief Financial Officer Brian Newman. The company added that it reduced management head count by more than 2,500 from a year earlier.

After showing larger declines early in Tuesday trading, UPS shares closed down less than 1% at $180.55. So far this year, UPS shares have gained 3%, while the S&P 500 has climbed more than 17% over the same period.

UPS Chief Executive Carol Tome said the new agreement restores labor certainty and addresses the concerns of workers, shareholders and the company itself. The company is now focused on winning back customers that diverted volume, estimated at around one million packages a day, to other carriers during the labor negotiations, she said.

Tome said that she expects workers to ratify the labor agreement in two weeks.

In the U.S. domestic market, average daily package volume fell 9.9% in the June quarter, and the amount of revenue earned per package rose 3.3%. Internationally, average daily package volume fell 6.6% over the same period.
UPS said revenue this year would be about $93 billion. Earlier this year, the company said it expected 2023 revenue to be at least $97 billion. UPS generated $100.3 billion in revenue last year. The company now expects an adjusted operating margin of around 11.8% this year, down from an earlier guidance of 12.8% to 13.6%.
Credit: By Esther Fung

DETAILS

Subject:	Earnings forecasting; Labor disputes; Postal &delivery services; Labor contracts; Executives
Business indexing term:	Subject: Earnings forecasting Labor disputes Labor contracts Executives; Corporation: United Parcel Service of America; Industry: 49111 : Postal Service 49211 : Couriers and Express Delivery Services
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: United Parcel Service of America; NAICS: 484110, 492110
Classification:	49111: Postal Service; 49211: Couriers and Express Delivery Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 9, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847634181
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-teamsters-contract-fallout-delivery/docview/2847634181/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Fast-Food Diners Take Their Meals To-Go --- McDonald's, Burger King want upgrades to dining rooms but franchisees resist

Haddon, Heather . Haddon, Heather.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Americans are eating their burgers, fries and nuggets at home, in their cars and at the office -- increasingly anywhere but at the fast-food restaurants themselves.

At McDonald's and Burger King, booths are often empty. Customers pick up their orders and head out. People sitting at tables sometimes are workers on their breaks.

Dine-in customers now represent less than 10% of visits in most U.S. McDonald's restaurants, according to chain franchisees, compared with around one-quarter of domestic sales before the Covid-19 pandemic.

Across U.S. fast-food chains, diners ate 14% of orders at a restaurant in the first five months of this year, less than 21% before the pandemic, data from market-research firm Circana show. In June, diners ate 14% of their fast-food orders in the restaurant's dining room, compared with 22% in 2015, Circana said.

The Covid-19 pandemic accelerated a shift toward to-go that was already under way. Owners serving the bulk of their orders to-go found that they were more profitable and efficient to run, needing less maintenance work and staff. Big companies started speeding up investments in drive-throughs and online ordering.

"You don't necessarily need the big dining rooms that you needed in our traditional restaurants," McDonald's Chief Executive Chris Kempczinski said during an investor call in July.

McDonald's and other chains are developing new restaurants centered around drive-through and carryout, with very little or no dine-in option.

Still, fast-food restaurants are reluctant to give up on the dining room. Major chains want their restaurants to look modern, inviting and fresh.

McDonald's, for instance, pledged to spend billions of dollars to help U.S. franchisees pay for digital kiosks, modern furnishings and other improvements beginning in 2017. The chain now expects U.S. owners to renovate dining rooms every 10 years. Franchisees said they often pay hundreds of thousands of dollars to install new furniture and fixtures and discard the old.

Dine-in orders at McDonald's are a significant part of its U.S. business, and consumers' perception of the brand has improved with the investments, the company said. McDonald's said it is looking at its restaurant design to determine how to respond to consumer trends and work with franchisees to manage costs.

Burger King is spending millions of dollars to encourage U.S. owners to renovate their locations, though operators have to pick up much of the cost.

"It's absolutely critical," Josh Kobza, chief executive of Burger King owner Restaurant Brands International, said in May.

A Burger King spokeswoman said a remodel results in an average sales lift of 12% in the first year.

Restaurant franchisees, who run the majority of restaurants for chains like McDonald's and Burger King, largely support the shift to dining away. It is often cheaper and less labor-intensive to pack food into bags to be eaten elsewhere than keep a dining room clean. Some franchisees say the fast-food business is permanently shifting toward drive-through, delivery and to-go orders.

A number of U.S. McDonald's operators in 2018 formed the National Owners Association, an independent group to help advocate for franchisees' interests. The group has pushed back at the burger chain on some of the remodeling requirements.

U.S. franchisees are expected to freshen up their dining rooms, front counters and bathrooms with approved designs every 10 years, according to company documents. Equipment for the remodels averaged $350,000 last year, according to the documents. A full update can cost as high as $750,000, owners said.

Credit: By Heather Haddon

DETAILS

Subject:	Restaurants; Fast food industry; Pandemics; COVID-19; Franchisees; Consumer behavior
Business indexing term:	Subject: Restaurants Fast food industry Franchisees Consumer behavior; Corporation: Burger King Co LLC; Industry: 53311 : Lessors of Nonfinancial Intangible Assets (except Copyrighted Works) 72251 : Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: McDonalds Corp; NAICS: 533110, 722513; Name: Burger King Co LLC; NAICS: 533110, 722513
Classification:	53311: Lessors of Nonfinancial Intangible Assets (except Copyrighted Works); 72251: Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210770
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-fast-food-diners-take-their-meals/docview/2847210770/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-07-16
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Amazon to Meet FTC Officials Next Week

Wolfe, Jan . Wolfe, Jan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Representatives of Amazon.com are set to meet next week with Federal Trade Commission officials, a person familiar with the plans said, in the latest sign that the agency is close to bringing an antitrust complaint against the online retail giant.

The Amazon representatives will meet individually with each of the FTC commissioners during the week of Aug. 14, the person said.

The person referred to the plans as a last-rites meeting, often one of the final steps before either a lawsuit or a settlement is filed.

If the commission does sue Amazon, it would mark a signature moment in the tenure of FTC Chair Lina Khan, who built her career in part by arguing in a widely read academic paper that Amazon had amassed too much market

power and that antitrust law had failed to restrain it.
The commission in recent years has been examining Amazon practices, including whether it favors its own products over competitors' on its platforms and how it treats outside sellers on Amazon.com, according to some of the people familiar with the matter. The FTC also has been scrutinizing the company's Amazon Prime subscription service's bundling practices, some of the people said.
Exactly which aspects of the business the FTC would target in a potential Amazon lawsuit couldn't be learned.
Credit: By Jan Wolfe

DETAILS

Subject:	Antitrust
Business indexing term:	Subject: Antitrust; Corporation: Amazon.com Inc
Company / organization:	Name: Amazon.com Inc; NAICS: 334310, 454110, 518210; Name: Federal Trade Commission--FTC; NAICS: 926150
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210764
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-amazon-meet-ftc-officials-next-week/docview/2847210764/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Federal Appeals Court Freezes Relief for Defrauded Student Borrowers

Rubin, Gabriel T . Rubin, Gabriel T.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A federal appeals court put on hold a Biden administration program to make it easier for defrauded borrowers to have their student debt canceled.

The New Orleans-based Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday issued an injunction freezing an initiative, known as the Borrower Defense to Repayment, while it hears a lawsuit by several Texas-based for-profit schools challenging the government's ability to offer the program. Oral arguments are expected in November.

The program allows students who have been misled by schools about job prospects or are victims of other types of fraudulent behavior and aggressive recruiting to have their federal debt canceled in full by the Education Department. Students applying for debt relief may have to wait longer for approval while the injunction is in place, if claims are processed at all.

A spokesman for the Education Department didn't immediately comment on the injunction. In court filings, the department said it was relying on debt-cancellation powers that the department has had for decades and that have been updated by several administrations.

Put in place during the Obama administration, the program has been the target of litigation by students and for-profit schools. It was weakened under the Trump administration, whose Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos, was sued for failing to act on hundreds of thousands of outstanding student claims.

The Biden administration revived the program with changes that streamline the process for borrowers to make claims and that allow them to apply for relief as part of a legal settlement.

The Biden administration has canceled $14.7 billion in debt for 1.1 million borrowers, a figure that includes a major settlement of claims from students who sued the Trump administration. Last month, after new rules for the program went into effect, the administration approved $130 million in claims from 7,400 student borrowers who were enrolled at a Colorado chain of for-profit colleges.

The borrower-defense program has been a key tool in the Biden administration's efforts to reduce student debt loads as it attempts a broader overhaul of federal loan programs. The Supreme Court in June dealt the administration a blow to those efforts when it struck down a separate plan to cancel up to $20,000 in student debt per borrower.

The administration is separately pursuing a revamp of other student-repayment programs and is restarting loan

payments after a more than three-year pandemic-era freeze.
For-profit schools argued that the Education Department's standards were slanted heavily toward borrowers. In a filing, Career Colleges and Schools of Texas, the group that brought the lawsuit, argued that the regulation "imposes strict liability on schools for even inadvertent errors in the name of remedying borrower injury, and then irrationally relieves the borrower of any requirement to prove injury in most circumstances."
Advocates of the debt-relief program say that it prevents administrative backlogs from delaying help for defrauded students, because the Education Department has to review fewer claims.
"Until these protections are restored, countless students are at risk of being taken advantage of by higher-ed profiteers who are exploiting students with little accountability," said Aaron Ament, president of the National Student Legal Defense Network and a former senior lawyer at the Education Department.
By the end of 2021, 423,000 borrowers had filed claims under the program and around 157,000 applications had either not been processed or borrowers hadn't yet been told whether their claims were approved.
Credit: By Gabriel T. Rubin

DETAILS

Subject:	Injunctions; Education; Litigation; Student debt; Federal court decisions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Student debt
Location:	Texas; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210762

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-federal-appeals-court-freezes-relief/docview/2847210762/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Already facing three criminal indictments, Trump is bracing for a potential fourth in Georgia that is likely to come with a legal twist he hasn't faced yet: sprawling racketeering charges.

Florida Gov. DeSantis further distanced himself from Trump's false claims that he won the 2020 election, saying in a television interview that "of course he lost."

A federal appeals court put on hold a Biden administration program to make it easier for defrauded borrowers to have their student debt canceled.

Voters in Argentina living with inflation in excess of 100% and a fast-depreciating currency are expected to hand a rebuke on Sunday to the ruling Peronist movement that has governed the country for mostof the past 75 years, polls show.

At least two people died, thousands of flights were canceled or delayed and more than 1.1 million homes and businesses lost power as severe storms struck the eastern U.S.

Kim sought to showcase North Korea's defense industries and its nuclear-weapons arsenal, as U.S. and South Korean officials worry Pyongyang may seek to expand its illegal weapons trade.

More than 36,000 teenage scouts and their leaders were evacuating from the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea before a typhoon that is expected to bring heavy rains and strong winds.

Died: William Friedkin, 87, Oscar-winning film director.

DETAILS

Subject:	Presidential elections
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210757
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2847210757/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Trump Lawyers, Prosecutors Clash Over Evidence Access

Gurman, Sadie . Gurman, Sadie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Donald Trump's lawyers on Monday clashed with prosecutors over how much evidence the former president should be able to access in the federal case charging him with conspiring to overturn his 2020 election loss, the first of many expected battles over free speech and the integrity of the sprawling probe.

On Friday, special counsel Jack Smith's team sought a protective order after Trump posted a message on his Truth Social platform, saying "IF YOU GO AFTER ME, I'M COMING AFTER YOU!"

Prosecutors cited concern that the message may have been aimed at people connected to the case, and urged U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan to limit disclosure of evidence to people with a direct interest in the case, namely Trump and his lawyers.

On Monday, Trump's lawyers asked a judge to keep only a limited amount of evidence from public view.

"In a trial about First Amendment rights, the government seeks to restrict First Amendment rights," Trump attorneys Todd Blanche and John Lauro wrote. "Worse, it does so against its administration's primary political opponent, during an election season in which the administration, prominent party members, and media allies have campaigned on the indictment."

Prosecutors fired back. "The defendant seeks to use the discovery material to litigate this case in the media," their filing said. "But that is contrary to the purpose of criminal discovery, which is to afford defendants the ability to prepare for and mount a defense in court -- not to wage a media campaign."

Credit: By Sadie Gurman

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Attorneys; First Amendment-US; Evidence
Business indexing term:	Industry: 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J

Classification:	54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210753
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-trump-lawyers-prosecutors-clash-over/docview/2847210753/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

England Clears a Path At Women's World Cup

Robinson, Joshua . Robinson, Joshua.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

There's no such thing as an England World Cup run without a little national psychodrama.

The good news for the country's women's national team is that on Monday, it got the panic out of the way early. The Lionesses on Monday survived 120 goalless minutes against Nigeria and a penalty shootout to land a spot in the quarterfinals. With that scare behind it, England can look around and take stock of a highly unfamiliar situation.

With heavyweights such as Germany and the two-time defending champion U.S. already eliminated, this tournament is opening up for the Lionesses. England may be the favorite to win the World Cup.

If that sentence sounds a little crazy, it's because nearly six decades of heartbreak on the men's side have taught England that World Cups are rarely a time for optimism. A song called "Football's Coming Home" debuted as a hopeful tune in 1996 and spent more than 20 years morphing into a tongue-in-cheek anthem for failure.

But while the men have failed to win any international trophy since the 1966 World Cup, the Lionesses have spent the past few years reversing the trend. Last summer, they brought home their first major trophy by winning the European Championship on home soil at London's Wembley Stadium. And earlier this year, they won the Finalissima, which pits the champions of Europe against the champions of South America, in a penalty shootout against Brazil.

Now, after holding off Nigeria, England is only three victories away from completing a historic double.

"It's amazing, anything that's thrown at us, we show what we're capable of [handling]," said England forward Chloe Kelly, who drilled the Lionesses' winning penalty. "We dig deep as a group and we believe in our ability. We believe in what we're told to do."

Coming this far hasn't always been pretty. England had to scrape past Haiti 1-0 in its opening game, before hitting its stride against Denmark and China to round out the group stage. Nigeria, ranked No. 40 in the world, shouldn't have caused the No. 4 Lionesses too many problems.

But the longer the game went without a goal, the more nervous England looked. By the time it reached a penalty shootout, decades of English angst came bubbling back to the surface. The men's collection of devastating shootout losses includes a 1990 World Cup semifinal to West Germany, a 1998 World Cup round of 16 match to Argentina, a 2004 European Championship quarterfinal to Portugal, and a 2021 European Championship final to Italy.

These are the collapses that conditioned an entire generation of English soccer fans to hear the words "penalty shootout" and immediately hide behind the couch. Only this crop of Lionesses held their nerve -- and now that existential dread of an ugly game that could have so easily broken against them is out of the way.

"I don't know what my heart rate is, I just know I'm 10 years' older," said England manager Sarina Wiegman. "It was a really intense game."

England's reward is a quarterfinal date with either Colombia or Jamaica, in which the Lionesses will be heavily favored again. And projecting even further, a likely semifinal against Australia or France would await. But the Lionesses understand that the top two teams in the FIFA world rankings, the U.S. and Germany, are already out, while No. 3 Sweden is on the other side of the draw.

Part of this reshuffle is down to the surprising parity across the group stage of this tournament. As the Women's World Cup expanded to 32 teams, including eight countries making their first ever appearances, the stage seemed set for plenty of blowouts. Instead, the opposite happened, as smaller programs raised their level and underscored how increased professionalism is redrawing the map of international women's soccer.

Nigeria, for instance, found itself in the round of 16 against England because it edged out Canada for the second spot in its group. Jamaica and Colombia, who will face off on Tuesday, both qualified from groups that saw Brazil and Germany crash out.

"You see the women's game has improved so much," Wiegman said. "You saw it in the group stage. So many games were equal and it's not the expected teams have won all the time."

So instead of a possible road to the final that went Canada-Germany-France, England could realistically meet Nigeria, Jamaica, and Australia.

The Lionesses will have to advance, however, without their breakout star of the tournament, Chelsea's Lauren James. After a spate of pre-tournament injuries, England lost another key player to a one-game suspension when James was sent off against Nigeria for stepping on an opponent. James, who also happens to be the sister of Chelsea men's player Reece James, had been involved in six of England's eight goals before Monday.

"We've had many setbacks and this was a big one too," Wiegman said.

But one classic England setback the Lionesses don't seem to have is the one that has derailed a generation's worth of World Cup campaigns for the country that invented the sport: a crippling fear of penalty shootouts.

"We have trained it," Wiegman said. "We know how to do it, and we have the experience."

Credit: By Joshua Robinson

DETAILS

Subject:	Tournaments &championships; Women; Soccer
Location:	United States--US; Jamaica; Canada; Nigeria; Germany; United Kingdom--UK; England; Australia; Brazil; France; Colombia
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.12
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Section:	Sports
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210745
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/england-clears-path-at-womens-world-cup/docview/2847210745/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Smith Pursues Tough Cases, With Mixed Results

Gurman, Sadie; Fanelli, James . Gurman, Sadie; Fanelli, James.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Jack Smith, the special counsel who brought historic, back-to-back indictments of a former president, has developed a reputation as an aggressive prosecutor known for trying high-stakes, politically explosive cases.

But he hasn't always prevailed.

Smith led the Justice Department's public corruption unit more than a decade ago, when it brought several cases against lawmakers and politicians that legal experts say were based on far-reaching interpretations of federal law that sometimes backfired before juries and courts.

Now he faces the most consequential case of his extensive career, the prosecution of Donald Trump on charges that he conspired to undo his 2020 election loss. In doing so, Smith is relying on theories that present legal questions that some experts say could go either way in court.

Smith and some of his prosecutors were present Thursday when Trump pleaded not guilty to four crimes, including conspiring to defraud the U.S., obstructing an official proceeding and conspiring against the rights of voters. A lawyer who worked with Smith called it a "classic Jack case" -- streamlined, compelling and easy to follow.

While some defense attorneys viewed the indictment as strong and straightforward, others said the case pushes the envelope.

"This case is clearly on the frontier of American jurisprudence: using general and broad conspiracy and fraud theories to convict a politician for transgressions against the state," said Stan Brand, a defense lawyer who has represented several Trump associates.

Some former prosecutors said the indictment doesn't clearly define which specific moments Trump's actions became criminal. It notes, for example, that it isn't a crime to falsely claim he won an election, but that Trump also "pursued unlawful means of discounting legitimate votes and subverting the election results." Where the line stands between the former and the latter isn't clearly spelled out in the indictment, some former prosecutors said.

Other experts say if the theories are novel, it is because so are the facts: Never before has a defeated president been accused of trying to block the peaceful transfer of power to his successor.

Trump has denied wrongdoing and accused Smith -- whom he has personally attacked as "deranged" -- of pursuing him to undermine his candidacy in the 2024 Republican presidential nomination.

The latest indictment follows separate charges Smith brought in June alleging Trump retained classified documents after he left the White House and tried to obstruct their recovery. Trump has pleaded not guilty to those charges.
Smith, a registered independent, brings to the Trump cases a wide-ranging prosecutorial career on the local, national and international levels. He has handled a range of complex investigations that involved some of the most serious offenses committed by government officials, including corruption and war crimes.
Attorney General Merrick Garland had no relationship with Smith when another senior official recommended him in November for the fraught role of special counsel, pointing to his reputation as a mission-driven prosecutor. Attorneys who know Smith have said he would feel like he failed if he didn't find charges to bring against a target.
After Tuesday's indictment, Garland praised Smith and his team as "experienced and principled, agents and prosecutors" and said they have "followed the facts and the law wherever they lead." A spokesman for Smith declined to comment.
Smith took over the Public Integrity Section in 2010, as it was reeling from the implosion of its case against the late Republican Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska after prosecutors failed to turn over evidence that would have helped the defense. Shortly after his arrival, Smith reviewed some long-running investigations into members of Congress and recommended closing several of them without charges.
In 2011, prosecutors charged former North Carolina Democratic Sen. John Edwards on a novel legal theory that funds paid from an Edwards benefactor to the senator's mistress were campaign expenses. The jury deadlocked on most of the charges and acquitted Edwards on one charge.
In 2014, Smith's office brought charges against Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell of Virginia. In that case, McDonnell accepted $175,000 worth of loans and gifts from a businessman with interests in front of the state. In an 8-0 decision, the Supreme Court overturned McDonnell's conviction, saying that prosecutors needed to show an explicit quid pro quo between gifts or donations and official actions to bring certain corruption charges.
Smith left the unit in 2015, after his team launched an investigation into Sen. Robert Menendez (D., N.J.), whose federal corruption case ended in a mistrial.
Under Smith's leadership, the unit also prevailed in a number of other cases, including that of former Arizona Rep. Rick Renzi, who in 2013 was sentenced to three years in prison after he was found guilty of misusing his office in a fraudulent land deal.
Lanny Breuer, the former head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division who hired Smith to run the unit, said the mixed record is more a reflection of the challenges public corruption prosecutors routinely face than of Smith's approach. "If you only win your cases, you're not bringing hard cases," Breuer said. "It's very, very difficult to get convictions."
Credit: By Sadie Gurman and James Fanelli

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Indictments; Acquittals &mistrials; Scandals; Corruption
Location:	United States--US
People:	Smith, Jack (Special Counsel)
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210737
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-smith-pursues-tough-cases-with-mixed/docview/2847210737/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Kim Touts Arsenal as Rivals Fret Over Sales

Yoon, Dasl . Yoon, Dasl.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

SEOUL -- North Korean leader Kim Jong Un sought to showcase his country's defense industries and its nuclear-weapons arsenal, as U.S. and South Korean officials worry Pyongyang may seek to expand its illegal weapons trade.

Kim toured North Korea's weapons factories for three days through Saturday, overseeing production of artillery systems and launch vehicles for nuclear-capable ballistic missiles, Pyongyang's state media reported on Sunday.
During the latest visits, Kim ordered factories making artillery and missile engines to boost capacity. He inspected multiple-launch rocket systems and engines for drones that are necessary for North Korea's "war preparation," state media reported.
On Monday, Koo Byoung-sam, a spokesman for South Korea's unification ministry, said Kim's visits could signal an intent to export weapons.
U.S. officials have said Russia is looking to buy more ammunition from North Korea to replenish its stockpiles amid the war in Ukraine. Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu visited the North Korean capital in July. "We're seeing Russia desperately looking for support, for weapons wherever it can find them," U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in late July.
Credit: By Dasl Yoon

DETAILS

Subject:	Nuclear weapons
Location:	North Korea; Russia; United States--US
People:	Kim Jong Un
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210729
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-kim-touts-arsenal-as-rivals-fret-over/docview/2847210729/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

OBITUARY
'Exorcist' Director
Friedkin, Age 87
William Friedkin, the Oscar- winning director who became a top filmmaker in his 30s with the gripping "The French Connection" and the horrifying "The Exorcist," and struggled in the following decades to match his early success, has died. He was 87.
Friedkin, who won the best director Oscar for "The French Connection," died Monday in Los Angeles, said Marcia Franklin, his executive assistant, on behalf of his family and wife, former studio head Sherry Lansing.
Born in Chicago on Aug. 29, 1939, Friedkin began working in local TV productions as a teenager. By age 16 he was directing live shows.
"My main influence was dramatic radio when I was a kid," he said in a 2001 interview. "I remember listening to it in the dark, Everything was left to the imagination. It was just sound. I think of the sounds first and then the images."
-- Associated Press

SOUTHEAST
At Least Two Killed
In Severe Storms
At least two people died, thousands of U.S. flights were canceled or delayed and more than 1.1 million homes and businesses lost power Monday as severe storms, including hail and lightning, moved through the eastern U.S.
The storms' spread was massive, with tornado watches and warnings posted across 10 states from Tennessee to New York. The National Weather Service said more than 29.5 million people were under a tornado watch Monday afternoon.
In Anderson, S.C., a 15-year-old boy was struck and killed when a tree fell on him as he got out of a car, according to the Anderson County Office of the Coroner. In Florence, Ala., police said a 28-year-old man was struck by lightning and died, WAAY-TV reported.
By Monday night, more than 2,600 U.S. flights had been canceled and nearly 7,900 delayed, according to flight-

tracking service FlightAware.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Storms; Tornadoes
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210717
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2847210717/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-09
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: DeSantis Distances Self From False Stolen Vote Claims

Leary, Alex; McCormick, John . Leary, Alex; McCormick, John.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis further distanced himself from Donald Trump's false claims that he won the 2020 election, saying in a television interview that "of course he lost."

"Of course -- Joe Biden's the president," DeSantis repeated when asked again by an NBC News reporter in a segment that aired Monday.

The comments are the Republican governor's strongest to date and put him at odds with Trump's continued claims of widespread election fraud, which have been proved false and rejected in numerous courts.

They came as DeSantis is trying to recalibrate his presidential campaign after slumping in polls and taking criticism from some allies that he hasn't differentiated himself from Trump. DeSantis is also doing more interviews with reporters, after largely sticking to conservative media, and is often questioned about Trump.

DeSantis still faulted the 2020 election, questioning the legality of some changes Democrats made to voting laws during Covid-19 and saying technology companies censored coverage of the business dealings of President Biden's son, Hunter Biden. "And so I don't think it was the perfect election," the governor said.

DeSantis also distanced himself from Trump's 2020 claims while campaigning in Iowa on Friday.

"I've said many times the election is what it is," DeSantis told a reporter. "All those theories that were put out did not prove to be true. But what I've also said is the way you conduct a good election that people have confidence in, you don't change the rules in the middle of the game."

A Trump spokesman, Steven Cheung, said: "Ron DeSantis should really stop being Joe Biden's biggest cheerleader, it's very unbecoming of him. Maybe that's why he's plummeted in the polls and getting squashed like a little bug by President Trump."

DeSantis has at times avoided directly commenting on the election, including whether it was rigged, though he has said generally that Republicans need to move on from their culture of losing. He pushed back on calls from some Florida Republicans to conduct an audit of the election, even as Trump won the state. But he also pushed for the creation of the Office of Election Crimes and Security.

DeSantis isn't alone among 2024 GOP presidential candidates in saying that Trump lost.

Former Vice President Mike Pence, who has been drawn closer in recent days to Trump's post-2020-election controversies because he is a central character in the indictment issued last week against the former president in relation to his actions following the 2020 election, has made his disagreement central to his campaign.

"President Trump also demanded that I choose between him and the Constitution," Pence said in June when he announced his bid. "Now voters will be faced with the same choice. I chose the constitution, and I always will."

Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie has repeatedly said he knows Trump didn't win. "The fact is that he doesn't believe he won," he said in July on ABC News.

Credit: By Alex Leary and John McCormick

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Voter fraud; Presidential elections
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	Florida; United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J; Biden, Joseph R Jr; DeSantis, Ron
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210716
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-desantis-distances-self-false-stolen/docview/2847210716/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Drug Shortages Benefit Compounding Pharmacies

Hopkins, Jared S; Whyte, Liz Essley . Hopkins, Jared S; Whyte, Liz Essley.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Relentless drug shortages are fueling a niche sector that operates outside the realm of the traditional pharmaceutical industry: compounding pharmacies.

Large-scale compounders, which make custom versions of medicines in bulk without individual prescriptions, are filling more of the demand for crucial drugs such as pain medications and respiratory treatments, hospitals, pharmacists and industry officials say. Compounding facilities are also supplying more anesthetics, including lidocaine and ketamine hydrochloride.

More than half of the 1,100 members of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists surveyed recently said they increased purchases from large compounders -- known as outsourcing facilities -- because of drug shortages, according to the professional organization.

"Almost every time there is a fear of some new shortage, we turn immediately to the compounders and say, 'What do you have for our needs for this?'" said Eric Tichy, who leads the medical supply chain at Mayo Clinic, which is using compounders to source widely used blood-pressure drugs.

The demand is turning bulk compounding into an attractive business. As shortages become more widespread, more drug manufacturers are expanding into the market, while compounding businesses are drawing investments from private equity, venture capital and hospitals.

The Food and Drug Administration in 2021 estimated the bulk compounding market to be as high as $4.6 billion and growing.

Bulk compounders usually make custom versions of medicines, such as anesthetic drugs in ready-to-go syringes, without individual prescriptions. But they can also make copies of existing drugs that are deemed to be in shortage by the FDA.

Large compounding facilities must follow the same manufacturing rules as generic drugmakers. But they don't need approval from the FDA to start making a drug, so they can deliver drugs to hospitals in a matter of weeks or months, rather than the years often needed for the regulatory steps that come with commercial generic drugs.

The industry has a mixed safety record. In 2013 the U.S. government ratcheted up regulation after contaminated drugs from the New England Compounding Center sickened hundreds with fungal meningitis and killed more than 100 people.

Some in healthcare still question the quality control of bulk compounders, but others say they have grown comfortable with the industry's expanded role, pointing out that generic manufacturers also face safety problems.

Having a steady supply of drugs, compounded or not, means healthcare providers are less likely to ration drugs and patients are less likely to miss treatments.

Hospitals in recent months have contended with scarce antibiotics, chemotherapies and other generic drugs, partly due to drugmakers abandoning unprofitable products or failing quality checks. Supplies could be further pinched after a recent tornado damaged a Pfizer manufacturing plant that produced 8% of sterile injectable medicines used by U.S. hospitals.

Lobbyists for compounders say they could do more to help with shortages if they had more regulatory flexibility.

Large compounders can duplicate drugs that are on the FDA's shortage list, but predicting when drugs will make that list and how long they will stay on can be difficult. Compounders are sometimes reluctant to invest in ramping up production for drugs that could go either way.
House Republicans last month proposed lengthening the amount of time bulk compounders could copy drugs -- 30 days to produce and six months to distribute -- even after the drugs are no longer in shortage.
Data from Premier, a major group-purchaser for U.S. hospitals, shows that its 4,400 members purchased 41% more products from outsourcing facilities in 2022 than in 2021, compared with a roughly 4% rise between 2020 and 2021.
"More and more hospitals are inclined and interested to move to the outsourcing facilities," said Amish Vyas, who leads a compounding division started last year by generic drugmaker Hikma Pharmaceuticals.
The FDA, too, sometimes taps compounders for help with drugs in shortage. In June, it asked generic manufacturer and compounder Nephron Pharmaceuticals to consider compounding cardioplegia, a solution used in open heart surgery, said Chris Fortier, president of the company's compounding division. He said Nephron has distributed all2,000 cardioplegia bags produced.
About half of the lidocaine with epinephrine purchased by hospitals in June through hospital group purchaser Vizient was from compounding facilities, compared with none in October 2021, when the drug was entering shortage, the company's data shows.
For ketamine hydrochloride, the supply from compounders jumped to about 70% in that same period from about 20%.
Credit: By Jared S. Hopkins and Liz Essley Whyte

DETAILS

Subject:	Drug stores; Pharmaceutical industry; Manufacturers; Shortages; Generic drugs; Manufacturing; Ketamine; Outsourcing; Contamination
Business indexing term:	Subject: Drug stores Pharmaceutical industry Manufacturers Shortages Manufacturing Outsourcing; Industry: 32541 : Pharmaceutical and Medicine Manufacturing 45611 : Pharmacies and Drug Retailers
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Food &Drug Administration--FDA; NAICS: 926150
Classification:	32541: Pharmaceutical and Medicine Manufacturing; 45611: Pharmacies and Drug Retailers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210714
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-drug-shortages-benefit-compounding/docview/2847210714/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Aramco posted a 38% drop in quarterly profit due to lower energy prices and production cuts, but boosted its dividend by more than half, highlighting Saudi Arabia's dependence on oil revenues.

Many apartment-building owners across the U.S. face default after last year's sudden surge in debt costs, in another hit to the commercial-property market.

Amazon representatives are set to meet next week with FTC officials, a person familiar with the plans said, in the latest sign the agency is close to bringing an antitrust complaint against the online retail giant.

Charlie Ergen is nearing a deal to merge his major holdings, Dish Network and Echo-Star, a step toward building a nationwide wireless network.

Major U.S. stock indexes rose, with the S&P 500, Dow and Nasdaq gaining 0.9%, 1.2% and 0.6%, respectively.

Tyson said it is closing chicken plants in three states as the meat-processing giant posted a $417 million loss for the three months ended July 1.

Campbell Soup agreed to acquire Sovos, the parent company of food brands including Rao's pasta sauces and noosa yogurt, in a deal valued at about $2.7 billion.

Tesla finance chief Zach Kirkhorn stepped down after more than four years in the role, where he worked behind the scenes to translate Elon Musk's ambitions into reality.

Paramount Global said it agreed to sell book publisher Simon &Schuster to KKR for $1.62 billion in cash and would use the funds in part to cut debt.

DETAILS

Subject:	Commercial real estate
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2847210711
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2847210711/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-19
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Ramaswamy Draws Scrutiny as He Rises -- - Republican hopeful has contributed to Democrats, didn't vote GOP until 2020

McCormick, John . McCormick, John.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

There's a wealthy businessman running for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination who has in the past given campaign contributions to Democrats and has a record of statements that don't always sound like a conservative. His name isn't Donald Trump.

Vivek Ramaswamy, a 37-year-old biotech company founder, has moved into third or fourth place in some state and national polls, and he says his opponents are taking notice.

"The knives are coming out," Ramaswamy said in an online video posted before The Wall Street Journal interviewed him for this story. "The opposition research machines are churning."

As the most prominent nonpolitician in the GOP field, Ramaswamy has a record that is less known than most of his rivals and will inevitably get more scrutiny if he keeps rising in the polls. His self-funding of his campaign could keep him in the race longer than some others.

Ramaswamy has focused heavily on his opposition to business efforts to advance political, social and environmental causes. The son of Indian immigrants is selling himself as an outsider, government skeptic and a next-generation version of Trump.

Late last week, he declined to say if he would have certified the election results as former Vice President Mike Pence did in the early morning of Jan. 7, 2021, even though Ramaswamy said on Feb. 6, 2021, that "Joe Biden is our legally elected President." He also has said he would pardon Trump if the former president is convicted for his efforts to overturn the 2020 election.

Those stances echo the views of many Republican voters, but a detailed look at Ramaswamy's record of political commentary, dating back to his Harvard years when he was an occasional rapper, shows some past statements may be out of step with some GOP primary voters and even his own current rhetoric.
Before he was a presidential candidate, Ramaswamy at least playfully praised billionaire Democratic mega donor George Soros, criticized Trump for not conceding the 2020 election and had his name on a joint letter calling for greater diversity and inclusion efforts in business.
He has also made statements in the past that could be problematic in Iowa, home of the Jan. 15 caucuses. He has called himself an "animal-rights activist" and said he is a vegetarian -- not uncommon for those who practice the Hindu faith as he does -- because it is "wrong to kill sentient animals for culinary pleasure."
Such comments could rub farmers in Iowa, where hogs outnumber humans 7 to 1, the wrong way. His views on meat also could present awkwardness this month at the Iowa State Fair, where presidential candidates traditionally take a turn flipping grilled pork.
In an interview, Ramaswamy said he's unlikely to flip chops at the fair. He said the point he was trying to make was that he didn't push his personal dietary views on his employees.
Ramaswamy, who owns roughly $650 million in stock in the company he founded and is heavily financing his own campaign, also expressed interest in, according to one of his books, inheritance tax rates as high as 59% and said passing wealth from parents to children breeds inequality and "hereditary aristocracy." Rural Iowans often refer to such taxes as the "death tax," and those who plan to hand down valuable farms to subsequent generations feel especially vulnerable.
"As a thought experiment, I do believe in a vision of bringing income taxes as low as possible, if one could collect it back on the back end," he said in the interview. "That is a vision of a taxation trade off that I think is something that Americans would welcome."
Before he entered the race, Ramaswamy played down abortion. "That isn't an issue that I have made a core part of my voice or my identity as a writer or as an author," he said on a podcast in May 2021, while noting that he considers himself "pro-life, you know, not without nuance."
In the interview, Ramaswamy said he made those comments in the context of being a business leader. "I was talking about what CEOs and capital allocators should and shouldn't be concerned about in their roles," he said.
Decisions about abortion, Ramaswamy has said, should be left up to states, though he has said he would support state-level bans "around the six-week mark" of gestation.
Ramaswamy, who has proposed increasing the standard voting age to 25, has little voting history of his own. Election records in Ohio's Franklin County, where he lives, show he registered to vote there in November 2021 as "unaffiliated," not Republican.
"I don't pay attention to partisan affiliations that much," he said in the interview. "I consider myself a Republican, but I don't believe in box checking."
Ramaswamy said he voted for a libertarian presidential candidate in 2004 and didn't vote in a presidential election again until the 2020 election, when he backed Trump.
Campaign finance records show Ramaswamy gave $2,700 in March 2016 to the congressional campaign of Dena Grayson, a Democrat running in Florida. He also gave $500 in 2014 to a state senate candidate in Massachusetts who had longtime ties to the Obama administration and was endorsed by Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren.
Ramaswamy's campaign said the earlier contribution was made to a college friend and didn't entail a political statement.
Regarding the 2016 contribution, Ramaswamy said he made it at the request of a "friend of a friend" who asked him to attend a fundraiser.
Trump also contributed to Democrats before running for president, including a 2008 contribution to his 2016 opponent, Hillary Clinton. He has said such giving was part of doing business as a real-estate executive.
Ramaswamy has argued one of the central tenets of his presidential bid, which has focused heavily on what he calls woke capitalism, is best addressed outside Washington.

"It will not be a U.S. president. It will not be the U.S. Congress. It will not be a U.S. Senate that solves this problem," he said in a July 2022 speech to a conservative group. "It will be state legislatures and state executive leaders across the country."
Ramaswamy said he is running for president because "woke capitalism" is a symptom of a "deeper void of purpose and meaning" in the U.S.
While CEO of Roivant Sciences and Axovant Sciences, he signed onto a joint letter in 2017 created by the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council that called for "driving diversity and inclusion" in the industry.
"I don't recall signing that," Ramaswamy said when asked about the letter. "I never signed or authorized the signing of that."
Credit: By John McCormick

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Tax rates; Political finance; Campaign contributions; Political campaigns; Election results; Multiculturalism &pluralism; Presidential elections; Capitalism; Abortion; Voters; Candidates
Business indexing term:	Subject: Tax rates Capitalism; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Massachusetts; Iowa
People:	Ramaswamy, Vivek
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210708
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-ramaswamy-draws-scrutiny-as-he-rises/docview/2847210708/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Violence by West Bank Settlers Sparks a Divide Within Israel --- Netanyahu coalition lauds shooting of Palestinian, while security officials balk

Lieber, Dov . Lieber, Dov.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

TEL AVIV -- When a Jewish shepherd took his flock to graze near the Palestinian village of Burqa in the occupied West Bank on Friday, violence followed. A 19-year-old Palestinian was shot and killed, and an Israeli settler accused of killing him was hospitalized with a head wound after being hit with a rock.

What came next showed how polarized Israel has become as tensions spiral between Israelis and Palestinians. Minister of National Security Itamar Ben-Gvir, a member of an ultranationalist party who oversees the country's police force, said the injured Jewish man should be given a medal. "A Jew who defends himself and others from murder by Palestinians isn't a murder suspect," he tweeted.

Opposition lawmaker Benny Gantz, a former defense minister and military chief, countered that settlers are engaging in a form of "dangerous Jewish terrorism" that is diverting the country's security resources and putting Israeli lives in danger. Support for killers is "a stain that will not be erased," he said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government includes ultranationalist parties who support expanding Jewish sovereignty in the West Bank and have characterized instances of settler violence as self-defense.

That puts them at odds with parts of the Israeli security establishment who say the country needs to do more to head off a growing wave of violence from Jewish settlers or risk reprisals in cities such as Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

"There should be no doubt -- these things are pushing people in the [West Bank] that aren't involved in terrorism into

terrorism," Israeli military spokesman Daniel Hagari said on Monday.
The U.S. State Department took the unusual step of labeling the killing a "terror attack by Israeli extremist settlers," and urged "full accountability and justice" -- adding to tensions between the U.S. and Israel, whose ties are already strained over Netanyahu's plans for a judicial overhaul.
Ultranationalists and settlers' representatives in Netanyahu's coalition have accused the military and other officials of siding with Palestinians, widening the divide between the bulwarks of the Israeli state and the direction of the current government, some analysts said.
As settlers look to expand in the West Bank, violent encounters between Jewish settlers and Palestinians have been growing. In the first six months of this year, there been nearly as many incidents as in all of 2022, according to data from Israeli security agencies.
The United Nations says Israeli settlers have killed seven Palestinians this year, four of them people not involved in clashes. Last year, two people were killed.
Israelis, for their part, have been facing more Palestinian violence, including a shooting attack in Tel Aviv on Saturday night that left one Israeli municipal security official dead.
Members of the Religious Zionism and Jewish Power parties -- many hailing from Israel's West Bank settlements -- form a critical bloc in Netanyahu's new government, formed at the end of last year, and now control posts that oversee key elements of Israel's presence there.
Shortly after the violence on Friday, Commanders for Israel's Security, an umbrella group for hundreds of former senior Israeli security officials, put out a statement saying the settlers who commit attacks "are convinced they are above the law."
Ronen Bar, the head of Israel's domestic security agency Shin Bet, in a talk with senior Israeli officials at the end of July, warned that settler violence was fueling Palestinian attacks against Israelis. In response, several coalition members accused Bar of siding with Palestinians.
Netanyahu on Monday called Bar to tell him he supports the security establishment and the work it does to protect Israeli citizens.
Ben-Gvir, who in 2007 was convicted of incitement to racism and support of a Jewish terrorist group, and who before entering politics often provided legal defense to settlers accused of crimes against Palestinians, is growing in influence.
"I really value and am grateful to this government, which is better than previous ones that came and destroyed this place," said Yehuda Lieber, who lives in Oz Zion, a settler outpost near the Palestinian village where Friday's incident took place. "I trust that Ben-Gvir will understand who the terrorist is and who fought to defend his life."
Lieber said he and other settlers intend to settle as much empty land as they can in the West Bank, and see it as a race against Palestinians determined to do the same.
Rifki Mu'tan, uncle of Qusay Mu'tan, the 19-year-old Palestinian killed on Friday, said villagers were familiar with the shepherd who brought his sheep to graze near their homes and had accused him of trying to prevent them from accessing their own lands.
Eytan Gilboa, an expert on U.S.-Israel relations at Israel's Bar-Ilan University and a senior fellow at the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security, said the Biden administration's rush to label Friday's killing a terrorist attack reflects growing frustration in Washington over Netanyahu's inability or unwillingness to temper the violence. "The fundamental question that the U.S. doesn't have an answer to is whether he's in control of his coalition or is his coalition in control of him."

Fatima AbdulKarim and Ari Flanzraich contributed to this article.
Credit: By Dov Lieber

DETAILS

Subject:	Violence; Terrorism; Shootings; Murders &murder attempts; Palestinian people; Territorial issues
Location:	West Bank; United States--US; Israel; Jerusalem Israel; Tel Aviv Israel
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210704
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-violence-west-bank-settlers-sparks/docview/2847210704/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Racketeering Threat Looms for Trump

Wolfe, Jan; McWhirter, Cameron . Wolfe, Jan; McWhirter, Cameron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ATLANTA -- Already facing three criminal indictments, Donald Trump is bracing for a potential fourth in Georgia that is likely to come with a legal twist he hasn't faced yet: sprawling racketeering charges.

Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, a prosecutor who made a name for herself bringing such charges in high-profile cases, has been tight-lipped about what case she will make against the former president and others.

But lawyers who have followed the investigation, including some who have worked with Willis in the past, expect her to invoke Georgia's RICO Act, modeled after the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act of 1970.

"Signs are certainly pointing in that direction," said Anthony Michael Kreis, a law professor at Georgia State University.

Within the next two weeks, a grand jury is expected to consider whether criminal charges are appropriate for Trump and GOP allies who sought to overturn his 2020 election loss in Georgia. Last week, he was indicted on federal criminal charges, accused of trying to subvert the will of American voters after he lost the 2020 election. Events in Georgia figured prominently in the federal indictment. Trump faces a different federal case in Florida over his handling of classified documents.

Trump has pleaded not guilty in Washington and Florida to all federal charges and in a separate case in New York. He has stated repeatedly that he did nothing wrong regarding the Georgia election.

Georgia's RICO law is a powerful tool for Willis, who has skillfully applied it in the past, legal experts say. The state code is modeled after the federal statute, enacted in 1970 to help take down the mafia. Before RICO, it was difficult for prosecutors to connect mob bosses with their underlings who carried out crimes. More than 30 states have adopted RICO statutes based on the federal law.

Under both the federal and Georgia's RICO law, if prosecutors show that there is an organization of people who commit crimes together on a recurring basis, then members can be prosecuted for crimes the group committed.

In 2021, when Willis first launched her election-interference probe, she retained one of Georgia's leading experts on racketeering charges, John Floyd, to advise on the investigation, which he still does. Floyd has worked on high-profile cases for the Fulton County District Attorney's office, including the Atlanta school-cheating case, in which Willis was a key prosecutor.

That case involved a group of public-school administrators and teachers conspiring to inflate test scores of students to improve the test ranking of individual schools and the district. The case led to 11 convictions in 2015 -- all under the state RICO law.

Clint Rucker, a former top Fulton County prosecutor who worked closely with Willis on the case, said the team was sent to a hotel in Macon for a week to study RICO. "It was a big deal because it wasn't a gang case," said Rucker, who is now in private practice.

Rucker said he expected Willis, who he has known well for years, would use RICO in the 2020 election case, since she has already used it with success in the complicated cheating-scandal case.

Willis in May 2022 announced a 56-count RICO indictment of 27 people associated with alleged criminal organization YSL, which Willis called a violent street gang. Defendants include Jeffery Williams, better known as Young Thug, a prominent rapper. He has pleaded not guilty and is awaiting trial.

The RICO statute lends itself well to the Georgia investigation because Trump allies around the country tried a range of tactics to keep him in power, legal experts said.

"It gives prosecutors lots of choices as far as venue goes, and it leads to very long complicated trials that wear down defense attorneys," said Andrew Fleischman, a defense lawyer in Atlanta.

Critics of RICO said it allows the government to join defendants with little connection to each other into a single

prosecution that, absent RICO, would be too disjointed to proceed in the same trial.
Willis has said Georgia's RICO Act allows prosecutors to connect dots for the jury.
"I think jurors are very, very intelligent," Willis said in 2022 at a press conference about a gang indictment. "They want to know what happened. They want to make an accurate decision about someone's life. And so RICO is a tool that allows a prosecutor's office and law enforcement to tell the whole story."
Kreis, the Georgia State professor, noted that Willis has also investigated an effort by Trump allies to access sensitive voting equipment in Coffee County, 200 miles away. RICO allows her to make it part of her case, Kreis said.
Defense lawyers have said the state's RICO law allows prosecutors to tar defendants by association.
"A lot of folks in Georgia have been critical of its use," Kreis said of the state's RICO law. "It's ripe for abuse given how open-ended it is relative to the federal law."
Credit: By Jan Wolfe and Cameron McWhirter

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Scandals; Trials; Racketeering
Location:	Florida; United States--US; Georgia; Atlanta Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210703
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-racketeering-threat-looms-trump/docview/2847210703/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Food-Name Rules In EU Cheese Off Producers in U.S.

Peterson, Kristina . Peterson, Kristina.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Klondike Cheese sells its crumbly, Wisconsin-made cheese as feta throughout the U.S.

In Europe, the company would have to label it white-brined cheese, or some variation that doesn't mention the word feta. The company doesn't even bother exporting it there.

Not being able to call the cheese feta "effectively closes off that entire market for me," said Luke Buholzer, vice president of sales at Klondike, which makes Odyssey-brand feta cheese.

Klondike is among the U.S. companies bristling as the European Union expands its list of foods, wines and spirits whose names are reserved for use by traditional local producers. There are now more than 3,500 of these protected items, up almost 28% since 2010, according to data from AND International, an independent food industry research firm.

The U.S. cheese industry in particular has chafed against the EU regulations, which protect almost 300 cheeses. To be called feta, the cheese must be made in Greece. Gorgonzola cheese has to be from Italy.

Along with increasing the number of protected products, the EU is looking to ease the application process for producers to add their foods to the list. U.S. food makers worry that this will rope in other products, including cured meats. They aren't challenging the EU protections around "Prosciutto di Parma," but they want to continue to use the words prosciutto, bologna and chorizo.

"You cannot take something that has been in the public domain for decades -- centuries in some cases -- and all of a sudden, overnight, decide that name doesn't belong to the public," said Jaime Castaneda, executive director of the Consortium for Common Food Names, which represents U.S. food and wine producers on the issue.

The U.S. and EU are longtime allies and trading partners, but have contended with a lengthy list of disputes over the years, including over poultry, tariffs on steel and aluminum and differing approaches to genetically modified crops.

The U.S. is the world's top exporter of food, excluding fish, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, shipping out close to $200 billion in agricultural exports in 2022, according to the Agriculture Department.

U.S. food producers have also taken steps to protect some products with geographic ties, including trademarks that protect Idaho potatoes and Florida oranges. The governor of Hawaii signed a law in July requiring more disclosure on labels of Kona coffee blends.

Castaneda said these are legitimate protections in line with EU regulations for products tightly associated with a specific region. The EU goes too far, he said, in extending those to more common terms.

"'Idaho potatoes' identifies a specific region," he said. "When you're looking for a cheese, you're looking for a method of production."

Castaneda's group is among those pushing Congress to include a provision in the coming farm bill that would direct the Agriculture Secretary to work with the U.S. Trade Representative to secure U.S. food makers' rights to use common food terms.

"If not curtailed, this could be a really big injury to our export markets," said Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D., Wis.), who is backing the bill along with Senate GOP Whip John Thune (R., S.D.) and others.

EU officials said these protected products, known as "geographical indications," represent intellectual property and command a premium because consumers associate these products with the regions responsible for their high reputation.

EU officials say their system doesn't prevent U.S. producers from selling their wares abroad -- it only limits how they can label certain items in the EU and other countries where these protections are part of trade agreements.

U.S. producers said the EU's labeling restrictions can dissuade them from exporting, or add expense if they choose to continue selling abroad with new packaging.

The largest cost "is if you are losing sales because consumers no longer see the cheese name they are used to buying," said Gaetano Auricchio, president of BelGioioso Cheese of Wisconsin.

Credit: By Kristina Peterson

DETAILS

Subject:	International trade; Food; Cheese
Business indexing term:	Subject: International trade
Location:	Idaho; Wisconsin; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: European Union; NAICS: 926110, 928120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 8, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2847210698
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-food-name-rules-eu-cheese-off/docview/2847210698/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-06
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Big Oil's Talent Crisis: High Pay Isn't Enough

Novik, Mari; Eaton, Collin . Novik, Mari; Eaton, Collin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Good news from the oil patch: Jobs are plentiful and salaries are soaring.
The bad news is that young people still aren't interested.
Even as oil-and-gas companies post record profits, the industry is facing a worsening talent drought.
At U.S. colleges, the pool of new entrants for petroleum-engineering programs has shrunk to its smallest size since before the fracking boom began more than a decade ago. European universities, which have historically provided many of the engineers for companies with operations across the Middle East and Asia, are seeing similar trends.
Students and high-skilled young workers are concerned about the industry's role in climate change, as well as long-term job security given that global economies are transitioning away from fossil fuels to other energy sources, according to executives, analysts and professors.
The trend is a stark departure from previous cycles, when the industry's workforce ebbed and flowed with the rise and fall of oil prices.
Between 2016 and 2021 -- a period when the Brent crude price nearly doubled -- the number of petroleum-engineering graduates more than halved, according to the U.S. Education Department.

The number of undergraduates pursuing petroleum engineering has dropped 75% since 2014, according to Lloyd Heinze, a Texas Tech University professor.
The trend has continued even as other recent studies have shown that the average graduate earns 40% more than a peer with a computer science degree.
That puts students, including Hayden Gregg, in high demand.
The 21-year-old Kansas City, Mo., native is studying petroleum engineering at Colorado School of Mines. His graduating class of 36 students is down from around 200 in the years before oil prices collapsed in the mid-2010s, according to a college official.
"People are concerned they won't have a job in 10 to 20 years," Gregg said.
Encouraged by his roommates and a visit to Texas, he became convinced that the industry offers a range of engineering possibilities as it transitions to a broader mix of energy sources.
"Even if oil and gas is going away, I can deploy my skills in other engineering fields," he said.
Jennifer Miskimins, head of the petroleum engineering department at Colorado School of Mines, said Gregg's graduating class is benefiting from a pickup in oil-industry hiring and many have gotten good internships. "They're a hot commodity," she said. "I think this class is going to be sitting pretty."
Oil-and-gas companies are pouring money into fellowships and other programs designed to cultivate new talent. Much of the focus is on white-collar careers that tend to attract college graduates, but the trend is broadly true among the industry's blue-collar workers as well.
A big part of the pitch is that the industry is increasingly dynamic and creative, requiring employees who can run carbon capture, hydrogen and geothermal projects, said Barbara Burger, who served in several leadership roles at Chevron and is a senior adviser at investment bank Lazard.
Part of the challenge, she said, is that there are more startups and fast-growing companies in those fields that don't carry the same baggage as the giants that earn most of their profits from fossil fuels.
"There's competition in a way that probably wasn't there 15 years ago," she said.
Burger recently attended an event hosted by Fervo Energy, a startup that uses the shale boom's horizontal drilling and fracking techniques to develop geothermal wells for electricity generation. Around 60% of Fervo's employees previously worked at oil-and-gas outfits, the company said.
To attract workers, she said, oil-and-gas companies need to better articulate their energy transition strategies, including efforts to carve out new businesses or curb emissions.
"That's a hook for employees -- current and future," Burger said. "They want to know there's a future in the actual companies, the industries and the skill sets they have."
The talent shortage represents a long-term problem at a moment when energy security -- largely dependent on fossil fuels for the foreseeable future -- is increasingly a global priority. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Europe is desperate for new supplies of oil and gas, though countries around the world are trying to keep fuel affordable.
Darian Kane-Stolz said that growing up in New York, she was always concerned with climate change. She taught neighbors how to recycle.
When Kane-Stolz, 25, enrolled at the University of Texas at Austin seven years ago, she felt that joining the petroleum-engineering program was consistent with her desire to have a positive impact on the planet.
Now a BP engineer bringing wells online in the Gulf of Mexico, she said the attitude toward the industry has drastically shifted within her cohort. Before she goes out with friends, she sometimes prepares talking points in case someone attacks the industry.
"There's definitely a negative perception out there," Kane-Stolz said.
BP this year launched a new $4 million fellowship program with U.S. universities to provide students with exposure to the energy industry. It also said last year that it planned to double the size of its apprenticeship program to 2,000 people this decade.
"To achieve our goal of reimagining energy, we need the brightest talent," a BP representative said.
Meanwhile, Kane-Stolz's alma mater, UT, is working on adding a new master's degree without the word "petroleum"

to capture a broader group of students who still want to work in energy-related engineering, said Jon E. Olson, the department chair of petroleum and geoscience at UT.
Other universities are ending their petroleum engineering degrees or rebranding them. Imperial College London -- formerly housing the Royal School of Mines -- shut its program last year and replaced it with one in geo-energy with machine learning and data science.
Analysts and company officials said a steady flow of talent is critical to company efforts to build out infrastructure needed to curb emissions and develop clean-energy and low-carbon businesses.
"One of the scarcest resources at the moment seems to be people," said Aslak Hellesto, a business adviser for Northern Lights, a carbon capture and storage project off the coast of Norway operated by European energy companies Equinor, Shell and TotalEnergies.
"This is groundbreaking technology and we cannot afford to try and fail," he said. "We need young people with new ideas and bright minds to make it right the first time."
Credit: By Mari Novik and Collin Eaton

DETAILS

ERIC Subject:	Universities; Apprenticeships; Undergraduate Students; Young Adults; Department Heads; Internship Programs; Graduation; Fuels; Climate; Talent; Engineering Education; Energy
Subject:	Petroleum engineering; Talent management; Students; Carbon sequestration; Energy industry; Trends; Fossil fuels; Employees; Engineering; Energy resources; Corporate profits; Engineers; Natural gas utilities; Colleges &universities
Business indexing term:	Subject: Talent management Energy industry Employees Corporate profits Natural gas utilities Colleges &universities; Industry: 61131 : Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools 54133 : Engineering Services
Location:	Texas; United States--US; Colorado
Company / organization:	Name: Colorado School of Mines; NAICS: 611310
Classification:	61131: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools; 54133: Engineering Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778642
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/big-oils-talent-crisis-high-pay-isnt-enough/docview/2846778642/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-07-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Ukrainian Drones Attack Oil Tanker Tied to Russian Military in Black Sea

Malsin, Jared . Malsin, Jared.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ISTANBUL -- An attack by Ukrainian sea drones on an oil tanker on which the U.S. imposed sanctions for working for the Russian military potentially brings the war into a new phase that threatens Russia's vital shipping lanes in the Black Sea.

The weekend attack struck the Russian oil tanker Sig near the Kerch Bridge that links Russia to the occupied Crimean Peninsula, causing damage to the engine room, Russian state news agency TASS reported, citing the Marine Rescue Coordination Center of Novorossiysk.

The attack intensifies hostilities in the Black Sea after weeks in which Russia has heightened tensions in the region by imposing a de facto blockade on much of Ukraine's grain exports, striking Ukrainian ports and threatening to attack civilian ships on their way there.

Ukraine in late July issued its own warning, saying it would treat ships headed to Russian ports as potential military targets. This was an apparent attempt to turn the tables on Russia by imposing an "insurance blockade," a freezing of commercial maritime activity that would happen if insurers refused to cover civilian ships heading to and from

Russian ports on the Black Sea.
Ukrainian authorities didn't comment directly on the attack, in keeping with a policy of official silence on their drone attacks in the region. Some reports said only one drone was involved in the attack.
Vasyl Maliuk, head of the Security Service of Ukraine, the country's main intelligence agency, nodded indirectly to the attack in a post on Telegram, noting that it took place in Ukraine's territorial waters and calling such strikes "an absolutely logical and effective step in regard to the enemy.
"They should take advantage of their only opportunity -- to leave the territorial waters of Ukraine and our land. And the sooner they do it, the better for them," Maliuk said.
The tanker was under U.S. sanctions for carrying fuel to Russian forces operating in Syria. The Treasury Department's sanctions designation for the ship said it was linked to Transpetrochart, a Russian company that was targeted for its role in "facilitating the illicit transfer of jet fuel to the Russian military in Syria." The ship had loaded fuel from a refinery in Feodosia, in occupied Crimea, experts said.
The attack, which came a day after Ukrainian sea drones struck a Russian landing ship in the port of Novorossiysk, shows how Ukraine's forces can potentially sever some of Russia's most important military supply lines and economic links, maritime analysts said.
Following explosions in the area, Russian authorities halted traffic on the Kerch Bridge to Crimea before allowing vehicles to pass again on Saturday morning, TASS reported.
A video of the attack published by Ukrainian media and verified by Storyful, owned by The Wall Street Journal's parent company News Corp, shows a surface drone gliding along the water before crashing into the side of a tanker.
Credit: By Jared Malsin

DETAILS

Subject:	Ports; Sanctions; Drones; Tankers; Air warfare
Business indexing term:	Subject: Ports Sanctions Tankers
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Syria; Black Sea; Crimea; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
Firstpage:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778640
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-ukrainian-drones-attack-oil-tanker/docview/2846778640/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Berkshire Hathaway Profit Rises --- Buffett's company gets boost from insurance division, investment portfolio

Thomas, Lauren . Thomas, Lauren.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway swung to a profit in the second quarter, boosted by its insurance division and strong gains in its massive investment portfolio, while its cash pile swelled.

The Omaha, Neb., company, which owns businesses including insurer Geico, railroad BNSF Railway and sportswear maker Brooks Running, posted net income of $35.9 billion, or $24,775 a Class A share equivalent. That compared with a loss of $43.8 billion, or $29,754 a Class A share equivalent, a year earlier.

Berkshire's operating earnings, which exclude some investment results, rose slightly to just over $10 billion from $9.3 billion a year earlier. Earnings grew at most of the company's major units, including its insurance-underwriting operations and insurance-investment-income unit.

Buffett has long told the company's shareholders that they should ignore net income and focus on Berkshire's operating earnings, which he feels are a better reflection of how Berkshire is doing. Accounting rules require Berkshire to include unrealized gains and losses from its investment portfolio when it reports its net income.

Berkshire's Geico insurance business -- which has struggled in the past year because of elevated claims costs -- recorded higher average premiums, lower advertising costs and a reduction in prior accident years' claims estimates, Berkshire said in a securities filing.

Berkshire ended the second quarter with $147.4 billion in cash and cash equivalents, compared with around $130 billion at the end of the first quarter. The cash pile mostly contains holdings of short-term U.S. Treasury bills and is nearing record levels.

The strong results this quarter came after Berkshire posted a big loss for the same period in 2022 in large part because of investment declines. Last year, stock and bond markets tanked as the Federal Reserve embarked on its most aggressive campaign in decades to raise interest rates.

Stocks have risen sharply after last year's selloff, defying any number of risks along the way. The S&P 500 is up about 17% this year, including a 3.1% increase in July that reflected gains across all 11 sectors. Investors in 2023 have brushed off inflation fears, corporate earnings being squeezed, the looming threat of a recession, a standoff over the U.S. debt ceiling and a massive bank failure.

Technology stocks have been driving gains, and Berkshire boasts a more than $175 billion stake in Apple, which has run up 40% so far this year.

As a result, Berkshire's Class A shares have been hovering near records, bringing the company's market value to nearly $780 billion.

Last week, Fitch Ratings downgraded the U.S. government's credit rating weeks after President Biden and congressional Republicans came to the brink of a historic default. But Buffett largely shrugged off the news.

"Berkshire bought $10 billion in U.S. Treasurys last Monday. We bought $10 billion in Treasurys this Monday. And the only question for next Monday is whether we will buy $10 billion in 3-month or 6-month" T-bills, Buffett told CNBC in an interview last week.

Berkshire's share-repurchase activity slowed during the latest quarter. The company said it used about $1.4 billion to buy back stock, compared with $4.4 billion in the first.

Credit: By Lauren Thomas

DETAILS

Subject:	Investments; Corporate profits; Treasuries; Net income; Financial performance
Business indexing term:	Subject: Corporate profits Treasuries Net income Financial performance; Corporation: Berkshire Hathaway Inc
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Berkshire Hathaway Inc; NAICS: 335210, 445292, 449121, 513110, 513130, 523920, 524126, 531210, 551112
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778633
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-berkshire-hathaway-profit-rises/docview/2846778633/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-pro fits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: China, U.S. Take Part In Peace Discussions

Norman, Laurence; Kalin, Stephen . Norman, Laurence; Kalin, Stephen.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Efforts to forge an international consensus around a durable and fair peace settlement to the war in Ukraine inched forward after discussions in Saudi Arabia among senior officials from 42 countries, including the U.S., China, India and Ukraine.

Ukraine and its Western backers have pitched the talks as an effort to rally global support behind conditions for ending the war that would favor Ukraine. Many big developing countries have been largely neutral on the conflict.

After the talks in Jeddah concluded on Saturday, diplomats said there was broad acceptance that central principles of international law, like respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, should be at the heart of future peace talks between Ukraine and Russia.

Saudi Arabia on Sunday said participants had "agreed on the importance of continuing international consultations and exchanging opinions in order to build a common ground that will pave the way for peace."

There was agreement on pursuing more detailed work on the global impact of the war, and most countries attending, including China, appeared willing to meet again in the coming weeks in the current format, with Russia excluded, people involved in or briefed on the closed-door talks said.
The Jeddah talks came after initial discussions in Copenhagen in June. U.S. and European officials have stressed that the discussions aren't negotiations to end the conflict and won't seek to prescribe specific terms for a settlement.
The meeting's location on Saturday carried important symbolism, as Ukraine, the U.S. and Europe have pushed to bolster support for Kyiv in the global south. Western diplomats have said the kingdom was picked to host partly in hopes of persuading China to participate, as Riyadh and Beijing maintain close ties.
Saudi Arabia is trying to play a larger role in diplomacy on Ukraine, after the U.S. accused it last year of siding with Russia to keep oil prices high -- thus bolstering Moscow's finances.
"A lot of credit to the Saudi hosts for the diplomatic engagement," a U.S. official said.
Many Western capitals are deeply skeptical that Russian President Vladimir Putin is interested in pursuing peace talks this year. Russia has shown no signs of backing away from demands such as the recognition of its annexations of Ukrainian territory, including areas of Ukraine its military doesn't control.
Moscow has sent mixed signals about the talks. The Kremlin has suggested it would be watching closely, but Russia's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman called the discussions a hoax.
Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky pushed his ambassadors last week to intensify efforts to win global support for Kyiv's position.
While diplomats talked in Jeddah, Russia launched fresh missile attacks on Ukraine.
The biggest difference between the Copenhagen and Jeddah meetings was attendance -- more than twice as many countries attended or dialed into Saturday's talks.
Most significantly China, which was invited to Copenhagen but stayed away, sent a delegation to Jeddah.
Credit: By Laurence Norman and Stephen Kalin

DETAILS

Subject:	Developing countries--LDCs; Peace negotiations; Diplomatic &consular services
Business indexing term:	Subject: Developing countries--LDCs; Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	China; Kyiv Ukraine; Russia; United States--US; Saudi Arabia; Ukraine
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778627
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-china-u-s-take -part-peace-discussions/docview/2846778627/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Turks Leery of Lira Flock to Istanbul Bazaar --- Patrons pour money into foreign cash, gold, other assets as currency weakens

Malsin, Jared; Kivilcim, Elvan . Malsin, Jared; Kivilcim, Elvan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ISTANBUL -- Deep in the stone warren of Istanbul's 560-year-old Grand Bazaar, a cluster of traders selling gold and dollars pace the alleyway, murmuring into phones and smoking. The tension rises as demand grows. A shout comes from the crowd: "I've got it ready!"

Turks are pouring money into foreign currency, gold, cryptocurrency, jewelry and other assets they see as a safer bet than the Turkish lira, which has lost more than 80% of its value in the past five years.

"There's an atmosphere of panic," said Mustafa Demiray, 39, a currency trader standing on the edge of the crowd and clutching two phones. "People think the price [for dollars] will go up, so there's a higher demand right now."

The collapse of the lira is the result of an era of economic mismanagement by Turkish President Recep Tayyip

Erdogan, economists say. The Turkish leader in recent years has pressured the central bank into cutting interest rates despite the country's high rate of inflation -- the opposite of what central banks would usually do.
Erdogan has attempted to adjust course since winning a close election in May in which his opponents attacked him over Turks' purchasing power.
The country's newly appointed central-bank governor, Hafize Gaye Erkan, and Finance Minister Mehmet Simsek have raised interest rates, but too slowly to get inflation under control, some analysts say.
The lira continued to slide after the central bank's July meeting, in which officials decided to raise interest rates by a mere 2.5 percentage points, a move that slowed the pace of the rate increases and put the lira under further pressure.
The decision disappointed some economists and investors who hoped Simsek and Erkan would be more aggressive about tackling inflation.
Erkan on July 27 raised the bank's year-end inflation forecast to 58% from 22.3%, while predicting price increases would slow next year. Analysts said the upward revision was an acknowledgment that the bank's current stance was unlikely to tame inflation, which is running at 38%.
Erkan said the bank would lift rates further, and would adopt a holistic approach to tackling inflation, including using other policy instruments such as quantitative tightening.
Investors and analysts are concerned that Erkan and Simsek don't have a genuine mandate from Erdogan to do what is needed to stabilize the Turkish economy. Erkan pushed back on those questions on July 27.
"The central bank of the Republic of Turkey is an independent institution," she said. "We will continue the increases in interest rates alongside the quantitative tightening alongside the selective credit tightening because that's what the current situation demands."
Turkey's economic turmoil has put pressure on the traders at the Bazaar, who have played a central role in the economy since the vast covered marketplace was built during the days of the Ottoman Empire, more than five centuries ago. The shops in the Bazaar are part of a sprawling global network of businesses and banks dealing in gold and currency.
Mehmet Akif Turker, a 44-year-old gold trader, sat in his office at the Bazaar on a recent morning, his phone and two slabs of gold on the desk in front of him. The high demand for gold should be good for his business, he explained, but the turmoil in the economy isn't.
Turks and other traders must contend with a complex web of rules imposed by the government in recent years to scare up foreign currency and keep the country from tipping into insolvency. Those include a rule that forces businesses like Turker's to convert 40% of their foreign-currency earnings into lira, traders say.
"In general, in our line of work, crisis makes money," Turker said. "But when the dollar fluctuates so much and the market is so unstable, it can bring us profit or it can bring us losses. We are exhausted."
Volatility in the economy isn't the only driver of gold sales, vendors say. The pandemic also increased business, said Metin Kocatepe, 54, a salesman from another jewelry shop. "After corona, people's mentality changed. They're more relaxed in their shopping. They say 'maybe tomorrow I'm gonna die, I'll buy something nice.'"
Credit: By Jared Malsin and Elvan Kivilcim

DETAILS

Subject:	Jewelry; Interest rates; Central banks; Foreign exchange; Currency devaluation
Business indexing term:	Subject: Interest rates Central banks Foreign exchange Currency devaluation; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	Turkey; Istanbul Turkey
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.18
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778624
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-turks-leery-lira-flock-istanbul-bazaar/docview/2846778624/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Low Mississippi Water Threatens Barge Commerce --- Years of drought have depleted the river that months ago saw flooding

Najmabadi, Shannon . Najmabadi, Shannon.

FULL TEXT

Low water levels on the Mississippi River are threatening to disrupt commerce for a second consecutive year, months after cities along the vital economic artery saw floodwaters test their sandbag barriers and containment walls.
Water levels in St. Louis and Memphis, Tenn., are 10 to 20 feet lower at this point in the year than in 2020 and 2019 due to lack of rain. Parched soils have absorbed moisture instead of letting it run off into the river, though recent downpours have helped, said Lisa Parker, spokeswoman for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Mississippi Valley Division.
While record snowfall in Minnesota this past winter engorged the Mississippi when it melted quickly in April, years of drought have depleted the river that courses through 10 states and impeded barges that traverse it carrying goods such as soybeans, corn, chemicals and gas.
"We've really seen this ebb and flow -- this dramatic ebb and flow -- this last year more than we've seen in years past," said Mike Steenhoek, executive director of the Soy Transportation Coalition, which includes 13 state soybean boards. More than half of soybeans grown in the U.S. are exported, the majority traveling down the lower Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, he said.
The Army Corps is monitoring water levels and has 16 dredges operating on the Mississippi to keep the water channel and harbors deep enough for transit.
It has built an underwater structure called a sill in Louisiana, where some communities including New Orleans draw drinking water from the Mississippi, to prevent saltwater from the Gulf of Mexico from moving upstream while water levels are low. The Corps previously built sills in 2022, 2012, 1999 and 1988.
Low water levels on the Mississippi last fall contributed to $20 billion in economic losses, according to an AccuWeather estimate. Some barges were grounded on sandbars. Other vessels lightened their loads to keep them from sitting too low in the water, which increased transportation costs.
Tracy Zea, president and chief executive of the Waterways Council, which represents river shipping interests, is hopeful water levels won't be as low as last fall.
The extreme variations in water levels are affected by a number of factors, including a changing climate, nearby land development, and the recurring cycles of drier and warmer or wetter and colder conditions known as El Nino and La Nina, experts in the river system said.
The way the river has been engineered -- the addition of levees, for example -- has also increased flood risks, according to multiple studies.
"Climate change is in there," said Nicholas Pinter, a University of California, Davis, professor who has researched rivers and watersheds. But "it's smaller than the impacts of levees and navigational infrastructure on portions of the Mississippi River."
Companies that use Germany's Rhine River for transit have explored low-water barges and trains to navigate frequent low-water levels.
Bob Criss, a professor emeritus at Washington University in St. Louis and critic of the Corps' management of the river, said U.S. goods should also be moved by rail because locks and dams used to make the Mississippi navigable create a slow-moving, deep channel that has changed the environment.
"The Mississippi River from St. Louis all the way to New Orleans was twice as wide as it is now," he said. "It was full of islands and sandbars, which are habitat for birds and everything else."
Parker, with the Corps, said it has habitat restoration efforts and is environmentally concerned. Zea said locks and dams benefit other users of inland waterways.
U.S. barge and transportation industry representatives say it is unlikely there will be a shift to favor land transit over water. "It's just such an efficient way of moving heavy products long distances," said Steenhoek, with the Soy

Transportation Coalition.
About 500 million tons of goods, worth more than $158 billion, are transported on inland U.S. waterways each year, Zea said. The vessels are more fuel-efficient than trucks or trains. One barge can carry the load of 70 fully loaded semitrucks.
Farmers whose fields are within 100 miles of the Mississippi River typically drive their crops to a grain terminal where they get loaded onto barges, shipped to the Gulf, moved to an ocean vessel and then sent overseas, Zea said.
Credit: By Shannon Najmabadi

DETAILS

Subject:	Dams; Ships; Drought; Levees &battures; Rivers; Floods; Water supply
Location:	United States--US; Mississippi; Gulf of Mexico; Mississippi River
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Econom ics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778621
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-low-mississippi-water-threatens-barge/docview/2846778621/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News --- THE OUTLOOK: Services Go Global in Modern Economy

Torry, Harriet . Torry, Harriet.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

When Chris Koerner's 12-year-old son struggled with algebra this spring, the Dallas business owner posted an ad for a math tutor on the jobs website Upwork.

Minutes later, he and his son were on a video call with a Ph.D. mathematician in Pakistan, who asked for $4 an hour for her services.

Koerner's experience reflects a trend that has accelerated since the Covid-19 pandemic: increasing international trade in digital services. Global exports of music and video streaming, remote learning and financial and similar digital services rose 37% from 2019 to 2022, the World Trade Organization estimates. Other services exports declined 5%.

The U.S. has long been the world leader in exports of services, including Hollywood movies, computer software and spending by foreigners at American resorts and restaurants. Still, its share of global exports of digitally delivered services fell to 16.5% in 2022 from 17.4% in 2019, the WTO said. Ireland, India, China and Singapore grabbed a larger slice.

The trend means a different type of American worker faces overseas competition. While factory workers have seen U.S. jobs move overseas for decades, many types of service workers were more protected because, until recently, the jobs were done in person.

For Koerner, hiring a math tutor from Pakistan paid off.

"Within an hour, I had found, interviewed and hired someone, and they were already in their first lesson," he said.

While the pay was a bargain compared with the $24 average U.S. rate estimated by jobs site ZipRecruiter, it exceeded Pakistan's minimum wage of under $1 an hour.

And his son "ended up getting a great grade" on the test, he said.

Hiring remote services workers overseas comes with challenges including language differences, data protection, tax compliance and regulatory and labor standards.

For some parents, however, another benefit is the availability of a qualified job candidate in a tight labor market.

The option of outsourcing could help the U.S. economy by alleviating domestic-worker shortages, said Scott Lincicome, a trade expert at the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank. The U.S. unemployment rate was 3.5% in July, near a half-century low, the Labor Department reported Friday. In June, there were 3.6 million more open jobs in the U.S. than unemployed Americans seeking work.

At the same time, the availability of services delivered from overseas puts pressure on Americans to generate new domestic jobs to provide services that are more advanced and of higher value.

"The key is, the world is getting more competitive and that's really good as long as we keep our own house in order

and keep competitive here," said Claude Barfield, senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative think tank.
The economic pie is growing, creating space for expansion in the U.S. and abroad. The global market for business services is expected to grow 9% this year to $681 billion, according to consulting firm Kearney.
American companies have hired workers in countries with lower labor costs for decades. Textile and manufacturing jobs moved from the U.S. to Asia and Latin America in the 1970s and 1980s, followed by call-center, financial and tech jobs that went abroad in the 1990s and 2000s. While individual U.S. workers and communities suffered from such shifts, the national unemployment rate has returned to levels recorded in the 1950s and '60s. Americans found jobs in other growing fields, such as healthcare and e-commerce.
Now, online marketplaces for freelancers, higher educational attainment overseas, current technology and employers' increasing comfort with remote work mean individuals and smaller companies can import labor from abroad, too. A national shortage of accountants prompted small and midsize firms to hire overseas for the first time as they seek workers to audit U.S. companies' books and prepare Americans' tax returns.
"Covid forced a march that put us 5 to 10 years down the road, essentially globalizing services" and shifting production to lower-cost locations, said Richard Baldwin, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. He noted services being outsourced range widely in pay, including writing financial reports, legal work, virtual assistants and data entry.
Travel-clothing company Scottevest primarily relies on overseas labor, for a fraction of the cost of its former U.S. staff. The company previously had 20 employees at its Ketchum, Idaho, headquarters doing marketing, accounting and customer service starting at $40,000 a year plus benefits, said Chief Executive Scott Jordan. Pandemic attrition and the high cost of living locally whittled employees in the Sun Valley area down to two: Jordan and his wife, the company president.
"I live in a ski resort, so it's hard to employ people here," Jordan said.
Scottevest uses coders and graphic designers in Ukraine, customer-service agents in Albania and Macedonia, and an order-processing worker in India. It has one marketing contractor in the U.S., employed remotely.
Before the pandemic, "I never would have trusted a remote worker in my life," Jordan said. "We had a mentality that if you weren't willing to make a commitment to move to Sun Valley, I'm not willing to hire you."
Credit: By Harriet Torry

DETAILS

Subject:	Workers; Think tanks; Exports; Unemployment; Economic conditions; Employment; Pandemics; COVID-19; Foreign labor; Outsourcing
Business indexing term:	Subject: Workers Exports Unemployment Economic conditions Employment Foreign labor Outsourcing
Location:	Pakistan; United States--US; Sun Valley; India
Company / organization:	Name: World Trade Organization; NAICS: 928120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778616
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-outlook-services-go-global-modern/docview/2846778616/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Trump Lawyer Says Violations Of Constitution Aren't Crimes

Tau, Byron; Omeokwe, Amara . Tau, Byron; Omeokwe, Amara.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Even if Donald Trump violated the Constitution when he pressured former Vice President Mike Pence not to certify the results of the 2020 election, that doesn't make it a crime, Trump's lawyer said Sunday.

"A technical violation of the Constitution is not a violation of criminal law," John Lauro, an attorney for Trump, told NBC News. He also argued that Trump's expression of concerns about election irregularities was protected speech under the Constitution's First Amendment.

Lauro's comments came in response to a question from "Meet the Press" host Chuck Todd about Pence's claim that Trump had asked him to violate the Constitution after the 2020 election. Lauro later told The Wall Street Journal in a text message: "I did not acknowledge or concede that President Trump pressured VP Pence."

A flurry of interviews and statements on Sunday from Trump and his legal team previewed how they might seek to defend the former president against federal conspiracy charges over his attempts to remain in power after he lost the 2020 election, a battle that is also expected to loom over next year's contest.

"The government will never be able to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that President Trump had corrupt or criminal intent, and that's what this case is about," Lauro said Sunday on ABC. He said Trump firmly believed that election irregularities had led to inappropriate results.

Lauro added that he would seek to emphasize that point during questioning of Pence should he testify during the trial. Pence has said Trump asked him to violate the U.S. Constitution by pushing him not to certify the results of the 2020 election.

Trump and his lawyer both said on Sunday that they would pursue a change of venue for the case. "NO WAY CAN I GET A FAIR TRIAL, OR EVEN CLOSE TO A FAIR TRIAL, IN WASHINGTON, D.C.," Trump wrote on his social media platform Truth Social. "THERE ARE MANY REASONS FOR THIS, BUT JUST ONE IS THAT I AM CALLING FOR A FEDERAL TAKEOVER OF THIS FILTHY AND CRIME RIDDEN EMBARRASSMENT TO OUR NATION," he added.

The statements Sunday came as the Justice Department and Trump's lawyers are expected to offer competing visions for how the legal process should play out in the federal trial over the charges. At a hearing last week, the U.S. Magistrate Judge Moxila Upadhyaya gave both sides a week to propose trial dates.

Trump's lawyers warned that there were significant volumes of documents in the case and indicated they wanted to take their time to review the material and prepare a defense. In response to questioning about timing, Lauro told CBS News on Sunday that "in 40 years of practicing law, on a case of this magnitude, I've not known a single case to go to trial before two or three years."

"This case will benefit from normal order, including a speedy trial," prosecutor Thomas Windom urged the judge, referencing a right in the U.S. Constitution that gives defendants the opportunity to resolve charges against them in a "speedy" manner. Windom indicated that the government was prepared to hand over substantial volumes of documents to Trump's legal team as soon as practicable.

On Friday, the former president said in another post on Truth Social: "IF YOU GO AFTER ME, I'M COMING AFTER YOU!" Prosecutors, saying Trump's social media posts raised the possibility he might improperly share evidence publicly, asked presiding Judge Tanya Chutkan for a protective order. The order would bar parties involved in the case from disclosing or disseminating details of discovery materials, such as information on witness testimony and subpoenas.

Trump could benefit by delaying the trial beyond the 2024 elections. If he wins the general election, he would regain control of the government and could put pressure on the Justice Department to drop the charges or stay the case until the end of his presidency. Or he could attempt a self-pardon, a move with no precedent that would plunge the country into uncharted legal territory.

Both sides are due back in court on Aug. 28 for a hearing in front of Chutkan. She is expected to set a trial date -- a complicated endeavor given that Trump is already facing separate criminal trials in Florida and New York.

Attorneys are also hashing out the timing of the case against Trump in New York over hush money paid to a porn star and how it will work around the two existing federal cases.

As the two sides spar over that trial date, all eyes will turn to Georgia where another indictment of Trump could be issued in the next two weeks. Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, a Democrat, is expected to bring charges regarding a yearslong probe into alleged 2020 election interference.

Cameron McWhirter and Corinne Ramey contributed to this article.

Credit: By Byron Tau and Amara Omeokwe

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Presidents; Trials; Social networks; Constitution-US; Criminal law
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social networks; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	New York; United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J; Lauro, John
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778612
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-trump-lawyer-says-violations/docview/2846778612/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW YORK
Influencer Faces
Charges After Riot
Social media influencer Kai Cenat is facing charges of inciting a riot and promoting an unlawful gathering in New York City, after the online streamer drew thousands of his followers, many of them teenagers, with promises of giving away electronics, including a new PlayStation.
The Friday event produced chaos, with dozens of people arrested -- some jumping atop vehicles, hurling bottles and throwing punches.
Cenat was released early Saturday from police custody after being issued a desk appearance ticket, which police issue to require a suspect to appear in court to answer charges. A police representative said he is to appear in court on Aug. 18.
Police said they arrested 65 people, including 30 juveniles.
-- Associated Press

ARIZONA
Missing Hiker
Is Found Dead
An Oregon woman who went missing on a hike in north Phoenix has been found dead and it appears to be heat-related, according to authorities.
Phoenix Fire Department officials said Jessica Christine Lindstrom, 34, went hiking around 8:30 a.m. Friday and was declared missing about nine hours later.
Fire Department Capt. Scott Douglas said drones and technical rescue teams were used before Lindstrom's body was found on a remote trail on the north side of the Deem Hills Recreation Area.
Authorities said Lindstrom, who formerly lived in the Phoenix suburb of Peoria, was a registered nurse in Oregon and was visiting family.
Maricopa County reported Wednesday that 39 heat-associated deaths have been confirmed this year.
-- Associated Press

PENNSYLVANIA
Gas Utility Settles
In 2019 Blast
The Public Utility Commission approved a revised settlement totaling nearly $1 million with a gas utility over a 2019 explosion in western Pennsylvania that reduced a home to rubble and injured five people.

Canonsburg-based Columbia Gas took responsibility for the July 2019 blast in North Franklin Township, saying it had failed to install a key piece of equipment in the home while workers nearby upgraded a gas main. Officials said the home lacked a pressure regulator, and when the new system was engaged there was a leak that led to the explosion. The homeowner, a neighbor and three firefighters were hurt in the blast, which also damaged cars and nearby homes. Columbia's insurance company earlier paid out more than $3 million to cover the damage.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Riots; Arrests
Location:	United States--US; Oregon
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778605
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2846778605/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-07

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Oligarchs Fight Sanctions --- Russia's business elite was penalized to pressure Putin, but war still rages

Colchester, Max . Colchester, Max.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LONDON -- Over a year ago, the West launched a new foreign-policy weapon to pressure the Kremlin to halt its war in Ukraine: It imposed sanctions on more than 100 leading Russian businessmen and their families, hoping they would prod Russian President Vladimir Putin to give up his expansionist plans.

So far, the strategy hasn't worked. The war still rages and very few Russian billionaires have publicly denounced Putin or sold off their Russian assets.

Meanwhile, a handful of deep-pocketed oligarchs are pushing back, intensifying their legal challenges in U.K. and European Union courts in a long-shot attempt to remove restrictions that include travel bans and asset freezes.

The legal battles will prove a test of whether Russian businessmen can use the West's attachment to the rule of law to undermine its own foreign-policy aims.

It will also lay bare their key criticism of the sanctions; that many of those targeted have no sway over Putin and the sanctions, far from applying pressure on the Russian president, may be pushing disaffected Westernized oligarchs back into his arms.

"Never before have we seen so many billionaires with such large international footprints so massively sanctioned all at the same time," said George Voloshin, a sanctions expert at the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists, an association that shares best practices on fighting money laundering. Given that most of these oligarchs aren't in Putin's inner circle, "sanctions are painful for them and their families, but they're not really effective from the point of view of policy."

Western government officials say the mass sanctioning should be viewed as part of a wider crackdown on Russia, which includes bans of key exports to the country aimed at crippling its economy, moves that have also had a limited effect.

They also argue that Russian businesspeople and politicians shouldn't be allowed to continue with their normal lives while the Kremlin, whose patronage allowed them to grow rich, presses on with an illegal invasion.

The aim is "to start to peel away the support [for Putin] because oligarchs have an outsize political and economic influence," said John Smith, former director of the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control and a partner at law firm Morrison Foerster. "We are not at that tipping point yet. But it doesn't mean that we won't get to that tipping point."

Roman Abramovich's lawyers recently appeared in a Luxembourg courtroom to appeal European Union sanctions against their Russian client, arguing the designation prevented him from "intervening effectively" as a conduit for peace talks between Russia and Ukraine, according to court documents.

The billionaire former owner of English soccer team Chelsea F.C. also made an argument that several other oligarchs have put before the court: that he is being unfairly targeted for simply being a Russian businessman and that his ties to Putin are overstated. The court will rule in the coming months.
Meanwhile, Eugene Shvidler has become the first person to challenge the U.K.'s Russian sanctions regime in court. The former business colleague of Abramovich claimed that the sanctions caused his family "serious hardship" and were disproportionate, according to court filings.
The billionaire, who holds British and U.S. citizenship, also claimed to have never held a Russian passport and not to have seen Putin in person since 2007, according to the filings.
In its defense, the U.K. government said Shvidler should remain sanctioned in part so that he can apply pressure on Abramovich, who, in turn, could pressure Putin.
Now that they can't access their wealth in the West, some sanctioned oligarchs may become more dependent on their assets in Russia and Putin's patronage. Many are legally barred from traveling to the West.
Abramovich, who based his operations in London for years until the U.K. government didn't renew his visa in 2018, is now shuttling between Russia, Turkey and Israel. Andrei Guryev, who is sanctioned by the U.S., redomiciled his holding company that owns shares in Russian fertilizer giant PhosAgro to a low-tax zone in Russia from Switzerland.
Putin has called on the businessmen to come back home to Russia.
"Running around with cap in hand, begging for your own money, makes no sense and most importantly, it accomplishes nothing," he said during his state-of-the-nation speech in February. "Stop clinging to the past, resorting to the courts to get at least something back."
While high-profile oligarchs are pushing back on their sanctions in European courts, so far they haven't challenged their U.S. sanctions "for the simple reason that they don't think they are going to win," Voloshin said.
Credit: By Max Colchester

DETAILS

Subject:	Oligarchy; Money laundering; Patronage; Passports &visas; Sanctions; Foreign policy
Business indexing term:	Subject: Sanctions; Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Ukraine; United Kingdom--UK
People:	Putin, Vladimir
Company / organization:	Name: European Union; NAICS: 926110, 928120
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country ofpublication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778599
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-oligarchs-fight-sanctions-russias/docview/2846778599/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News -- Indictment Mystery: Where Is Meadows, Ally of Ex-President?

Hughes, Siobhan . Hughes, Siobhan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Mark Meadows was the White House chief of staff when Donald Trump tried to overturn the 2020 election result, but he plays only a bit role in the document laying out the charges against the former president. Meadows talked to Trump several times a day, worked at times to reverse the 2020 results as well as to rein in some efforts and, according to congressional testimony, was slow to engage on Jan. 6, 2021, when Trump supporters stormed the Capitol to stop the election's certification. The House Jan. 6 committee's report said Meadows was likely part of a conspiracy with other Trump confidants to block President Biden's win.

Last week's indictment by a federal grand jury only mentions Meadows a handful of times, and his level of cooperation with prosecutors remains a mystery.

The indictment points to six people as co-conspirators, and Meadows isn't one of them. Five of the people, though unnamed in the document, are clearly identifiable as a circle of attorneys and advisers, including Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani. The sixth is an unidentified political consultant.
Meadows didn't return a request for comment. A lawyer representing him, George Terwilliger, said earlier this year that Meadows has been committed to telling the truth. Meadows declined to cooperate fully with the Jan. 6 committee but testified earlier this year before the grand jury investigating Trump's actions related to the attack.
"We don't know for sure whether he's cooperating with the Department of Justice," said Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D., Calif.), who sat on the House Jan. 6 committee. A Justice Department spokesman declined to comment.
Meadows's allies say he isn't a co-conspirator because he didn't do anything wrong and that prosecutors came to a conclusion different from that of a committee many Republicans saw as politically motivated.
Trump pleaded not guilty Thursday to charges that he conspired to overturn the results of the 2020 election to remain in power. He called the charges a "persecution of a potential political opponent" by the Biden administration.
While Meadows moved to South Carolina after Trump lost, he returns regularly to Washington, serving as a senior partner at the nonprofit Conservative Partnership Institute, which hosts regular, weekly meetings of the Freedom Caucus. The Conservative Partnership Institute paid Meadows nearly $560,000 in 2021, according to the most recently available tax filing. Trump's Save America political-action committee donated $1 million to the group that year.
"I don't talk about anything J6 related," Meadows told NBC News at the end of July, referring to Jan. 6, as he entered the Conservative Partnership Institute building, which is near the U.S. Capitol.
In 2021, the Democratic-controlled House voted largely along party lines to hold Meadows in contempt of Congress for refusing to cooperate fully with the Jan. 6 committee. The Justice Department declined to prosecute the case. Meadows shared thousands of pages of material, including text messages, before he declined to appear for a deposition or to share additional material, citing executive privilege.
The indictment cites an incident in December 2020, when Meadows reported that Georgia election officials were "conducting themselves in an exemplary fashion," only for Trump to then tweet that officials were trying to hide evidence of fraud.
According to electronic communications that Meadows turned over to the Jan. 6 committee, Meadows encouraged pushing Republican legislators in some states to send alternative slates of electors to Congress -- responding "I love it" when one lawmaker acknowledged the plan was "highly controversial."
He was at a Dec. 21, 2020, Oval Office meeting with Trump and Republican lawmakers and tweeted that they were "preparing to fight back" against what he called "mounting evidence of voter fraud." He told Rep. Jim Jordan (R., Ohio) that he had pushed for Vice President Mike Pence to simply decline to count Electoral College votes from some states, according to texts that Meadows turned over to the committee.
Credit: By Siobhan Hughes

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Committees; Election results; Voter fraud; Presidential elections; Cooperation; Scandals; Grand juries
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J; Meadows, Mark
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120

Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778597
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-indictment-mystery-where-is-meadows-ally/docview/2846778597/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note has surged close to its highest level in more than a decade, lifted by new bets that a strong economy could support years of higher interest rates.

Yellow filed for bankruptcy and is closing the business, falling victim to mounting debt including a government loan and a standoff with the Teamsters.

Pfizer is hitting a rough spot after its postcrisis Covid-19 sales nosedived and while it waits for new drugs and recent deal-making to pay off.

The oil patch faces a worsening talent shortage even as oil-and-gas companies post record profits, in a departure from previous cycles in the industry.

Senior members of the Biden administration are attempting to persuade Canada to drop its plan to impose a digital-services tax at the start of 2024.

Airlines in the U.S., Europe and Asia are preparing to reduce some flights and routes temporarily to inspect aircraft affected by the recall of hundreds of Pratt &Whitney jet engines.

Earnings for the nation's biggest companies are poised to fall for the third straight quarter, hurt in part by the decline in energy prices.

Berkshire Hathaway swung to a profit in the second quarter, boosted by its insurance division and strong gains in its massive investment portfolio, while its cash pile swelled.

DETAILS

Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778589
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2846778589/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Oklahoma's Governor Sows Dispute With Tribes and Fellow Republicans

Flores, Adolfo . Flores, Adolfo.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt is locked in a long-running battle with tribal nations in the wake of a 2020 Supreme Court decision that held that much of the eastern part of the state is tribal territory.

Stitt has maintained that the ruling in McGirt v. Oklahoma -- in which the Supreme Court affirmed tribal jurisdiction in a large portion of the state -- has led to different rules for tribal and nontribal residents and threatens to force the state to cede state jurisdiction to tribal governments.

"The tribes are literally trying to take over the state of Oklahoma," said Stitt, who since he took office in 2019 has taken a more aggressive posture with the state's major tribes than his recent predecessors. He has challenged existing agreements with tribes and attempted to negotiate new agreements, including withthe United Keetoowah Band and

Comanche Nation, on gaming fees as well as vehicle and tobacco taxes.
The governor has run into a wall of opposition not only from tribes but also from fellow Republicans.
Last week, he sued GOP lawmakers, the latest escalation in disputes over compacts between the state and tribes that bring millions of dollars in revenue to the state each year, most of it from gambling. Oklahoma collected more than $191.5 million in tribal gaming exclusivity fees in 2022 under state-tribal gaming compacts; the state's budget was $8.83 billion that year.
After the GOP-majority Oklahoma House voted to renew cigarette tax compacts with tribes last week, overriding a veto from Stitt, the governor asked the state Supreme Court to invalidate the extension, as well as others that elected officials recently passed via veto overrides.
"Tribes aren't trying to 'take over the state,'" said Jason Salsman, a spokesman for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the tribe involved in the McGirt U.S. Supreme Court case.
Salsman said the 2020 decision, which deemed tribal territory in the state extended well beyond previously understood borders, offered an unprecedented opportunity for Oklahoma and tribal nations to work together on public safety and prosperity. But much to the tribe's frustration, he said, Stitt chose divisive political rhetoric.
About 9.5% of the state's population is Native American, and there are 38 federally recognized Indian nations in the state.
Stitt, a member of the Cherokee Nation, said he is proud of his heritage but believes the McGirt decision thrust the state into a jurisdictional tailspin."The only way to fix this is for the Supreme Court or Congress to go back to the way we operated our state for the last 115 years," Stitt said.
Senate President Pro Tem Greg Treat said he was confident the court would rule in the Legislature's favor in Stitt's lawsuit.
Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. said the governor's remarks about the state being in danger of becoming a reservation are offensive and defy reality.
"Eastern Oklahoma is thriving today in part because of the economic success and investment by Indian tribes in their own communities," Hoskin said in a recent statement.
Credit: By Adolfo Flores

DETAILS

Subject:	Jurisdiction; Governors; Litigation; Native North Americans; Tribal society
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Oklahoma
People:	Stitt, Kevin
Company / organization:	Name: Cherokee Nation; NAICS: 921150; Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778585
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-oklahomas-governor-sows-dispute-with/docview/2846778585/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Kviv Official Oversees Efforts to Produce More Ammunition

Coles, Isabel . Coles, Isabel.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

KYIV, Ukraine -- Like any good boss, Oleksandr Kamyshin keeps on top of production numbers for the factories he oversees. But for Kamyshin, Ukraine's minister of strategic industries, it is a matter of life and death: The figures that land on his desk every morning show ammunition output at dozens of Ukrainian factories.

The availability of artillery shells could prove decisive in the next phase of the war with Russia, and the 39-year-old is

in charge of boosting Ukraine's production. Western stocks have been run down by nearly 18 months of fighting, and the U.S. and its allies are struggling to increase production.
Any dip in output and Kamyshin immediately gets on the phone with the factory manager to find out what went wrong. "All of them are on a direct line with me," he said in an interview.
Ukraine's sprawling arms industry fell into decline after the country gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. Kamyshin says it is still hamstrung by unproductive practices rooted in the Soviet era.
Kamyshin has delivered before. As head of Ukraine's state railway company, he kept goods and people flowing after the country's airspace was closed in the early days of the invasion. Ukrzaliznytsia's trains ferried civilians and foreign dignitaries including President Biden, who traveled to Kyiv last year on a train dubbed Rail Force One.
But bringing Ukraine's defense industry up to speed in the middle of a war is an even bigger challenge.
Four months into the job, Kamyshin's efforts have yielded results. In July, Ukraine produced more than twice as much mortar and artillery ammunition as it did during 2022, he said.
That, however, is less an indication of how much Ukraine is producing now than how little it was before, Kamyshin acknowledged.
For now Kyiv is dependent on Western countries that are also struggling to increase production after running down their own ammunition stockpiles.
The U.S. recently provided Kyiv with cluster munitions to help alleviate a looming shortage as Ukrainian forces struggle to break through Russian defenses in the south of the country. European states, too, struck a deal in July mobilizing half a billion euros to boost ammunition production for Ukraine -- and for themselves.
The war was a year old by the time Kamyshin was appointed as chief of the defense industry, but to him it felt like the first days of the invasion.
"Being in charge of a large, crucial, critical structure for your country for the war when nothing works," he said.
Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky tapped him as minister in March as the country geared up for a counteroffensive to retake territory occupied by Russia.
Kamyshin's immediate priority was ammunition, which Ukrainian forces are consuming at a rate of about 90,000 shells a month, U.S. officials said.
His new team of deputies includes a new head of state-owned weapons manufacturer Ukroboronprom.
Kamyshin has extended defense companies' contracts to year-end -- rather than monthly -- and brought in more firms to gear production toward the defense industry. "It's not rocket science," he said.

Daniel Michaels contributed to this article.
Credit: By Isabel Coles

DETAILS

Subject:	Ammunition; Defense industry; Factories; Production capacity
Business indexing term:	Subject: Defense industry Factories Production capacity
Location:	Kyiv Ukraine; Russia; United States--US; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778578
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-kviv-official-oversees-efforts-produce/docview/2846778578/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This p ublication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: New Jersey Is the Last Holdout on Self-Serve At Pump

Ginger Adams Otis . Ginger Adams Otis.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

New Jersey resident Nyoami Winterburn knows this: If her state ever abolishes full-service gas stations, then baby, she was born to run.

"I will move out of New Jersey. I'm not kidding. It is one of the big perks of living here," Winterburn said Saturday outside a gas station along Route 4 near Englewood.
Fellow New Jerseyan Suni Brown, who counts having to pump his own gas as reason to avoid leaving the state, feels the same. "I like being able to sit in the car," the Englewood resident said.
On Saturday, a day after Oregon revoked its 72-year-old ban on self-service gas stations, many New Jersey drivers along the busy commuter corridor that feeds into the George Washington Bridge said they are proud to be the last state to prohibit the self-pump.
There's even a popular bumper sticker that says "Jersey Girls Don't Pump Gas," an homage to the Garden State's 1949 law banning self-service stations for fire safety and other concerns.
"I can pump my own gas but I like to talk to the workers and give them a tip," said Eddie Valle, who fuels up at the same Exxon station in Englewood on Route 4 to greet his favorite attendant, Juan Hernandez.
Hernandez, 61, spent his workday on Saturday bouncing between two rows of four double-sided gas pumps, which were rarely empty. "Many people here know me, they always come in and say hello. I've been doing this for 18 years," said Hernandez. He works six days a week pumping gas, earning enough for himself and his family to send money back home to Guatemala.
Several out-of-state drivers who zipped up to the pumps didn't wait for Hernandez and jumped out to pump gas for themselves. Sean Hodel, from Virginia, said he didn't know full-service gas stations existed. "I have never heard of such a thing," he said.
Hernandez said some customers do wave him off, even though they aren't supposed to touch the pumps. "If they say, 'I got it,' I don't mess with them," he said.
New Jersey gas-station owners would consider a 10-to-15-cent price difference per gallon if self-service pumps ever became a reality in the state, said Ed Kashouty, who has owned a gas station and convenience store in Lakewood since 1988. On average, it costs owners 12 cents a gallon to have an attendant at the pump, he said.
New Jersey has roughly 2,300 gas stations and convenience stores with pumps, according to Eric Blomgren, of the New Jersey Gasoline, C-Store, Automotive Association. His organization supports a bill introduced in the New Jersey Legislature about 18 months ago similar to the law passed in Oregon that would require station owners to offer full-service alongside self-service pumps.
Such a change would help station owners who sometimes struggle to find enough workers, Blomgren said.
Credit: By Ginger Adams Otis

DETAILS

Subject:	Convenience stores; Service stations; Self service
Business indexing term:	Subject: Convenience stores Service stations Self service; Industry: 45711 : Gasoline Stations with Convenience Stores 44513 : Convenience Retailers and V ending Machine Operators
Location:	United States--US; Oregon; New Jersey
Classification:	45711: Gasoline Stations with Convenience Stores; 44513: Convenience Retailers and Vending Machine Operators
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778577
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-new-jersey-is-last-holdout-on-self-serve/docview/2846778577/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Flexible Work Options Give Some Employers an Advantage

Guilford, Gwynn . Guilford, Gwynn.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

With employers fighting for a limited pool of office workers, those offering remote-friendly jobs appear to have the upper hand.
Companies that allow at least one day of remote work each week increased staffing at nearly twice the rate in the year ended in May than those with full-time office requirements, according to an analysis of more than 3,600 companies by Scoop Technologies, a software firm that tracks workplace policies, and People Data Labs, a data technology company.
The trend highlights Americans' ability to command flexibility, along with better pay and benefits. It also points to the staying power of remote work after daily life otherwise largely returned to normal as the pandemic faded.
Many workers have the leeway to demand at least partially remote jobs because the labor market is tilted in their favor. The unemployment rate fell to 3.5% in July, the Labor Department said Friday. That is just a tick above a half-century low, showing a limited pool from which to hire.
Wages grew a historically high 4.4% in July from a year earlier, well above prepandemic rates and another sign of workers' strong bargaining power.
Many bosses soured on remote work last year, saying flexible arrangements harm productivity, and required workers to spend all or most of their time in the office.
The Scoop analysis showed that head counts at firms allowing at least one day of remote work increased 5% in May 2023 from June 2022, while those at fully in-person companies gained 2.6%, on average.
Separate research also shows that workers view hybrid work arrangements as equal to an 8% pay increase, said Nicholas Bloom, a Stanford economics professor.
When Cassandra Wilander began a job search last year in Chicago, she rejected listings that required her to be in the office five days a week.
"To me that just screams that they don't respect work-life balance and won't be flexible with my time," the 37-year-old said. She ultimately accepted a hybrid job last September as a marketing communications strategist at a commercial real-estate firm.
After working remotely during the pandemic, Wilander didn't want to return to a daily commute to downtown Chicago on the "L" train, which she said can be unreliable and at times felt unsafe.
Instead, she wanted a job that would allow her to work from home part of the time to focus on solo tasks and spend time in the office to collaborate and bond with colleagues.
"It's easier to get people to help you out, versus just being someone on a screen saying, 'Hey, I need your bio updates,'" she said.
The share of U.S. job postings advertising hybrid work arrangements has increased as fully remote postings have fallen, according to separate data from LinkedIn.
The gain in hybrid work postings is spread across most industries, said Guy Berger, principal economist at LinkedIn."Some of that is remote switching to hybrid and some is from companies that were on-site only increasing their willingness to do hybrid, potentially to lure more talent," he said.
Flexible work policies at Gas South, a retail and wholesale natural-gas marketer with operations in Atlanta and Gainesville, Fla., have helped the company expand and improve performance, said Kevin Greiner, the company's CEO.
The company employs 425 workers, up from 400 in the first quarter of 2022, and is hiring for numerous roles.
Retention has improved, with attrition at 19% last year, down from 25.5% in 2019. Greiner said reduced worker turnover has lowered training costs, improved customer satisfaction and increased worker performance.
Gas South moved to flexible work for all workers after reviewing productivity and employee feedback. Many employees at Gas South set their own schedule, with the balance of remote and in-office work depending on work roles. Executives are expected in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, at a minimum. Call-center workers are required to come to the office one day a month for team meetings and training.
"The ability to be able to manage your own schedule more has become of primary importance to a lot of people, and our ability to accommodate those desires more effectively has definitely helped us to bring folks into the organization," said Greiner.

Credit: By Gwynn Guilford

DETAILS

Subject:	Hybrid work; Workers; Employment; Pandemics; Work at home; Flexibility
Business indexing term:	Subject: Hybrid work Workers Employment Work at home; Corporation: LinkedIn Corp
Location:	Chicago Illinois; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: LinkedIn Corp; NAICS: 518210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778576
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-flexible-work-options-give-some/docview/2846778576/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Warns Canada Over Digital Tax Plan

Vieira, Paul . Vieira, Paul.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

OTTAWA -- Canada plans to impose a digital-services tax at the start of 2024, a move that bucks a global consensus on restructuring international taxation and has drawn criticism from U.S. officials.

Senior members of the Biden administration are attempting to persuade Canada to drop its digital tax plan. Leaders in the U.S. and Canadian business communities say Ottawa's move would harm commerce and throw the future of the North American trade deal into doubt.

Canada's 3% tax on technology companies' revenue from providing digital services to Canadian users or sales of Canadian user data would start Jan. 1 and would be retroactive to revenue dating to 2022. Canada's finance minister, Chrystia Freeland, said last month that the tax is important for Canada's national interest.

Companies in the information-technology field can currently operate worldwide while concentrating their profits in their home countries or in small, low-tax jurisdictions; they then pay relatively little tax in the nations where many of their users are.

A global tax accord, agreed to in the fall of 2021, represents changes to how, where and how much multinational companies are taxed around the world, but it has yet to be implemented. The accord aims to reallocate the taxation of some $200 billion in corporate profits across the globe, a move taken to adapt the tax system to new ways of doing business internationally made possible by advances in information technology.

Canada signed on to the global deal with a caveat: If not implemented by the start of 2024, Canada would impose its own digital-service tax.

In Paris last month, 138 countries agreed to a one-year delay in implementation of the tax accord's first phase, to early 2025. Canada didn't agree to the delay and said it would move ahead with its digital-services tax. On Friday, Canada issued guidance on how the proposed digital tax would be applied.

Freeland said Ottawa's earlier decision to delay its digital tax for two years, even though other European countries kept pre-existing digital taxes in place, "was a significant concession by Canada" and that Canada can't support an extended pause on digital taxes.

The measures related to digital taxes are separate from another global deal, also led by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, to impose a 15% minimum tax on large companies in each country where they operate, although the accords are politically linked.

U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai has urged Ottawa to abandon the levy, and the U.S. ambassador to Canada, David Cohen, said in an interview published last month in Canada's National Post that "if Canada decides to proceed alone, you leave the United States with no choice but to take retaliatory measures in the trade context, potentially in the digital trade context, in order to respond to that."

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa didn't respond to requests for further comment.

Freeland said Canadian officials remain in talks with their Group of Seven counterparts about a compromise.

A number of European countries, including France, the U.K. and Italy, had introduced digital-services taxes before the OECD-led talks secured a global tax deal. The agreement included a standstill on new digital-services taxes until the

agreement came into force. Pre-existing digital taxes, such as those in Europe, are still being applied but would be revoked once the accord entered into force. Canadian officials say it is unfair some European jurisdictions can collect taxes from Meta Platforms and Google parent Alphabet but Canada can't.
The U.S. trade representative considers digital-services taxes to be a burden on U.S. commerce.
The global tax deal might not ultimately come together. In the U.S., senior House Republicans warned the Biden administration that the OECD accord could breach U.S. tax treaties by expanding other countries' taxing authority.
Michael Plowgian, a senior tax official at the U.S. Treasury, told Congress that administration officials are speaking to their Canadian counterparts "to dissuade them from implementing a discriminatory" digital-services tax.
Credit: By Paul Vieira

DETAILS

Subject:	Taxes; Taxation; Diplomatic &consular services; Canada-US relations; High tech industries
Business indexing term:	Subject: Taxes Taxation High tech industries; Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	United States--US; Canada
Company / organization:	Name: Organization for Economic Cooperation &Development; NAICS: 541720
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 7, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country ofpublication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846778562

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-warns-canada-over-digital-tax-plan/docview/2846778562/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Texas Judge Blocks Part Of Ban on Abortions

Kusisto, Laura . Kusisto, Laura.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A Texas judge blocked the state from enforcing abortion bans against women facing serious pregnancy complications, saying physicians unsure of how to interpret the law have been withholding essential medical care.
The decision was a victory for abortion-rights groups in a state with some of the country's strictest abortion laws. The case featured emotional testimony in a two-day hearing from women who had been denied abortions and suffered sepsis, been forced to travel out of state and watched a baby born gasping for air, only to die within hours. It was the first time since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade that women provided hours of testimony in front of a judge about the emotional and physical impact of being denied an abortion because of a state ban.
Texas law already contains exceptions allowing physicians to provide abortions in life-threatening emergencies. But Judge Jessica Mangrum said that lack of clarity about how to interpret the law had caused physicians to withhold care from the women suing.
Mangrum said that an equality provision of the Texas Constitution protects the right of women to receive such care in order to alleviate a risk of death or risk to their health, including their fertility. Mangrum also found that SB 8, a law passed in late 2021 that allows private lawsuits against anyone who provides an abortion after six weeks of pregnancy, violates the Texas constitution.
Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's office didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.
The decision is nonetheless both narrow and potentially fleeting. Most abortions will remain banned in the state. Under Texas civil procedure, the judge's decision will also be automatically stayed if the state appeals.
Texas has said that any delays in medical care these women experienced were the result of decisions by individual doctors, not state officials. No provider has been prosecuted for providing an abortion in a medical emergency in Texas, state attorneys said in court.
Credit: By Laura Kusisto

DETAILS

Subject:	Court hearings &proceedings; Abortion; Court decisions
Location:	Texas; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058844
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-texas-judge-blocks-part-ban-on-abortions/docview/2846058844/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW YORK CITY

Giveaway Turns

Into Mayhem

Police arrested 65 people, including 30 juveniles, on Friday after a crowd of thousands that packed Manhattan's Union Square for a popular live-streamer's hyped giveaway got out of hand.

Police planned to charge the streamer, Kai Cenat, with multiple counts of inciting a riot, unlawful assembly and possibly other crimes, NYPD Chief of Department Jeffrey Maddrey said.

Aerial TV news footage showed a surging, tightly packed crowd running through the streets Friday afternoon, scaling structures in the park and snarling traffic. Shouting teenagers swung objects at car windows, threw paint cans and set off fire extinguishers. Some people climbed on a moving vehicle, falling off as it sped away. Others pounded on or climbed atop city buses.

On his Instagram feed, Cenat had an image promoting a giveaway at 4 p.m. in the park. Cenat, 21, is a video creator with 6.5 million followers on the platform Twitch. He also boasts four million subscribers on YouTube.

A number of people were injured in the chaos, including at least four people taken away in ambulances, Maddrey said, adding that he saw other people leaving the area with bloodied heads. "We have encountered things like this before but never to this level of dangerousness," he said.

By 5:30 p.m., police officers in growing numbers had regained control of much of the area, but small skirmishes were still breaking out. Police were seen wrestling people to the ground and chasing them down the street.

Messages sent to Cenat's publicist, management company and an email address weren't immediately returned.

-- Associated Press

NORTH DAKOTA

Five-State Pipeline

Permit Is Denied

North Dakota regulators denied a siting permit on Friday for a proposed carbon-dioxide pipeline through five states.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission denied the permit for the Summit Carbon Solutions Midwest Carbon Express pipeline, which planned a 320-mile route through North Dakota. Summit proposed the pipeline to capture carbon dioxide from more than 30 ethanol plants in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota, and to store it deep underground in North Dakota.

Summit said it "respects the decision by the North Dakota Public Service Commission, and we will revisit our proposal and reapply for our permit. We're committed to understanding and incorporating the considerations outlined in the decision. We are confident that our project supports state policies designed to boost key economic sectors: agriculture, ethanol, and energy."

The project has raised landowner concerns of eminent domain, or the taking of private land for the pipeline, and potential dangers of a pipeline break.

The company has "legal options" it can take, commission spokesperson Stacy Eberl said. The regulators don't have jurisdiction over injection sites, she said. Summit proposed an underground injection site in central North Dakota.

The Public Service Commission held public hearings throughout North Dakota this year, during which landowners expressed many concerns, including about eminent domain, safety and requests for reroutes on their property.

-- Associated Press

NEW YORK
Officials Identify
Gilgo Beach Victim
A woman whose remains were among discoveries that became known as the Gilgo Beach killings has been identified after 27 years, authorities said on Friday.
Known until now to the public only as "Jane Doe No. 7," she was Karen Vergata, 34, Suffolk County District Attorney Ray Tierney told a news conference.
Her family last heard from her on Valentine's Day in 1996, when she called her father on his birthday, according to a 2017 court decision that declared her presumptively dead.
Friday's development was part of a reinvestigation that in July spurred the first arrest in connection with the long-unsolved string of killings that emerged when remains of 10 people were found over a decade ago along a coastal parkway in Gilgo Beach, on Long Island in New York.
But it is unclear whether Vergata's death might ever be tied to the continuing case against Rex Heuermann, an architect who has been charged with three of the killings and named the prime suspect in a fourth.
Heuermann has pleaded not guilty, and his lawyer says the 59-year-old denies killing anyone.
Tierney declined to comment on "what, if any, suspects we developed" in Vergata's death.
Some of Vergata's remains were discovered in 1996 on Fire Island. More of her bones were found in 2011 near Gilgo Beach, more than 20 miles west of the original location.
Vergata lived in Manhattan, Tierney said. He said investigators believed she was working as an escort; most of the other victims in the Gilgo Beach killings also were sex workers.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Eminent domain; Criminal investigations; Murders &murder attempts; Carbon
Location:	North Dakota; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Public Service Commission-North Dakota; NAICS: 926130
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058837
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2846058837/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-05
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Pac-12 Melts Down as Five Schools Leave --- After Oregon and Washington joined the Big Ten, Arizona, Arizona State and Utah left for the Big 12. The defections mark a major -- and possibly final -- blow to the Pac-12 Conference.

Higgins, Laine . Higgins, Laine.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The rapid consolidation of college sports accelerated into a frenzy on Friday as five more Pac-12 schools switched conferences, moves that instantly melted down a century-old institution as schools raced to align themselves with the richest conferences.

Oregon and Washington said they would jump to the Big Ten. Later Arizona, Arizona State and Utah later announced they would leave for the Big 12. The moves left the Pac-12 with just four remaining members committed beyond 2024.

The Big Ten council of presidents and chancellors voted to approve Oregon and Washington as new members on Friday evening, expanding the conference to 18 teams a little more than a year after the league grabbed two other

Pac-12 members, UCLA and Southern California. In 2024, the conference will swell to an unprecedented size, two schools larger than the soon-to-be 16-team Southeastern Conference.
Hours later, the Big 12 officially added Arizona, Arizona State and Utah about a week after another Pac-12 member, Colorado, said it would leave for the Big 12.
The moves came after a chaotic week in which the Pac-12 tried and failed to save itself. Commissioner George Kliavkoff was unable to nail down a new television deal for the league despite more than a year of negotiations with several cable and streaming partners.
The defections mark what may be a final blow to the Pac-12, the self-described "Conference of Champions" which now faces an uncertain future with Cal, Oregon State, Stanford and Washington State.
"Today's news is incredibly disappointing," the Pac-12 said in a statement late Friday night. "We remain focused on securing the best possible future for each of our member universities."
The moves are part of a dramatic realignment of the college-sports landscape that finds the biggest names gravitating toward two powerful conferences that are flush with giant broadcast deals: the Big Ten and the SEC. The consolidation began in earnest two summers ago when Oklahoma and Texas said they would leave the Big 12 for the SEC.
Previous defections have emerged as shocking done-deals, but the more recent moves have played like a semipublic panic, as schools that weren't yet aligned with the big conferences scrambled to secure a better future. The last few days have seen hastily called leadership meetings in the Pac-12, Big 12 and Big Ten, in addition to governance board meetings at the various schools involved.
"We have tremendous respect and gratitude for the Pac-12, its treasured history and traditions. At the same time, the college athletics landscape has changed dramatically in recent years," Washington athletic director Jennifer Cohen said in a statement. "The Big Ten's history of athletic and academic success and long-term stability best positions our teams for future success."
In a joint statement released Friday afternoon, Cal chancellor Carol Christ and athletic director Jim Knowlton said, "We aren't watching and waiting from the sidelines."
The Pac-12's mass exodus is a stunning turn of events from just two years ago, when the Pac-12 formed a vague "Alliance" with the Big Ten and Atlantic Coast Conferences in the wake of the SEC expanding. Back then in 2021, the Big 12 wasn't invited because they were presumed dead and the three Alliance members tacitly agreed not to poach each other's schools.
"There is no signed document. There is an agreement among three gentlemen . . . to do what we say we're going to do," Kliavkoff told reporters in August 2021.
The ACC is unchanged, but now the Big Ten and the Big 12 have four Pac-12 members each and Kliavkoff has learned a cardinal lesson of collegiate athletics the hard way.
"There are no gentlemen in college sports," said an official in the Big 12. "There is no honor in college sports."
Discussions between Washington and Oregon and the Big Ten began last summer after USC and UCLA exited, but the financial realities for the incoming schools will be different. Because the Bruins and Trojans announced their plans before the Big Ten struck a historic television deal worth approximately $7.5 billion over six years, both California schools are slated to earn an equal share of revenue as the Big Ten's 14 existing members.
That won't be the case for Oregon and Washington. The Big Ten offered the newcomers a partial share of revenue, between roughly 50% and 65% of what the other 16 schools are slated to earn, said a person familiar with the matter. This is similar to what the Big Ten offered Maryland and Rutgers when they joined the league in 2014.
"We think these shares are more generous than what was available to the University of Oregon as our new media deal was being negotiated," Oregon president John Karl Scholz told trustees on Friday.
The dollar amounts aren't set in stone, as the annual disbursement steadily increases each year for the duration of the new contract from current levels. Tax records indicate the Big Ten disbursed $58 million per school during the 2021-22 fiscal year.
Schools in the SEC are also slated for major paydays once their new 10-year, $3 billion television deal with ESPN takes

effect in 2024. The upshot is a dramatically widening revenue gap between the two richest conferences, the Big Ten and SEC, and everyone else.

For the outgoing schools, changing conference affiliations at this point may be more about stability than maximizing the financial payout.

"You are dying in your conference, you don't know if it will exist, you can't get a media deal, you just lost your two big schools in California," said one person familiar with the situation. "Of course you would take a slightly lower amount."

Credit: By Laine Higgins

DETAILS

ERIC Subject:	Conferences (Gatherings); College Athletics; Television
Subject:	College sports; Athletic directors; Schools
Location:	California; United States--US; Arizona; Oregon; Utah
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.14
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Section:	Sports
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058836
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/pac-12-melts-down-as-five-schools-leave-after/docview/2846058836/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-07-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

How the U.S. Fumbled Niger's Coup --- A week of missteps and breakdowns pushed a key ally toward Russia

Hinshaw, Drew; Faucon, Benoit; Parkinson, Joe . Hinshaw, Drew; Faucon, Benoit; Parkinson, Joe.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Niger's president hid behind a bulletproof door of his official residence and talked over a phone he assumed was monitored. To anxious French and American allies, he repeated assurances that the army would soon rescue him from an unfolding coup.

Outside the ground floor safe room Mohamed Bazoum had recently renovated to protect himself from such an event, mutineers from his presidential guard fanned out across the presidency compound, furious about a proposal to replace their longstanding commander, according to Nigerien, U.S. and European officials. Hunkered over the phone beside his wife and son, Bazoum delicately encouraged advisers to send the army's regular units.

At around noon, his cellphone rang with a call from a former U.S. ambassador, who was about to board a flight on his vacation. The ambassador was worried one of Washington's closest allies in Africa could become the latest in a string of regional states to fall into the hands of coup leaders sympathetic to Russia.

Everything is fine, the imprisoned president carefully intoned.

A week later, Bazoum is still imprisoned in his palace, junta leaders are seeking aid from Vladimir Putin's regional partners and America is on the verge of losing its most important ally in a crucial and unstable part of Africa. An obscure personnel dispute within Niger's presidential guard has now become what appears to be a geopolitical win for Russia and its Wagner Group paramilitary company in their bid to flip Western allies.

The situation could yet turn into open military conflict. Eleven West African countries, led by Nigeria, have threatened to use force to restore Bazoum to power if the coup isn't reversed by Sunday. In return, the pro-Russian leaders of Mali and Burkina Faso have vowed to defend Niger.

Officials in the U.S. and Europe are scrambling for ways to return Bazoum to power but concede the window is closing. The Kremlin on Friday warned against any intervention.

The coup, if successful, could lead Russia to pick up some of America's most important drone bases, used to fly missions across the Sahara between Libya and Nigeria.

This outcome wasn't predestined. A week of missteps and communication breakdowns pushed the vast nation of Niger toward Russia. Nigerien, American, European and other West African security officials, as well as Nigerien

soldiers, described a series of unexpected blunders that now threatens to turn West Africa into a theater for regional war.
Washington, caught without key personnel in its Africa posts, failed to anticipate what is now the seventh coup in the region since 2020 -- not including a failed attempt in Niger two years ago. While Bazoum sat in his safe room calling for help, America and its allies struggled to react.
The U.S. has spent more than $500 million arming and equipping Niger's military. Yet the country's special forces, trained for nearly every counterterrorism eventuality, had no answer for Sunday's coup -- West Africa's most enduring security threat. The forces were left chatting over WhatsApp groups over whether to intervene.
The U.S. and Europe have made Niger the centerpiece of their fight against the spread of Islamic State and al Qaeda in Africa's Sahel, a 3,000-mile semiarid territory on the southern shore of the Sahara. Nearly half of Niger's budget comes from foreign aid.
"This is your strong ally, your reliable ally, you have invested a lot and then there is a coup without any reason," said Kiari Liman Tinguiri, Niger's ambassador to Washington who was recently fired by the junta. "It's very nice to be friends of the West, but it may not be helpful when hard times come."
U.S. State and White House officials said they still think there's a narrow opportunity for a peaceful resolution that would retain Niger's democracy. "While we are giving diplomacy a chance and have ongoing diplomatic engagements at the highest levels, we are continuing to review all options around our cooperation with the Nigerien government," a spokeswoman for the White House National Security Council said.
The coup began with an idea for a personnel change, mulled over months by Bazoum and his aides, to replace the leader of the presidential guard that held watch over the country's commander-in-chief.
U.S. and French intelligence officers had long known about the president's plan to reshuffle his security detail and the risks it entailed. The presidential guard felt marginalized after vast sums of military assistance poured into the country's counterterrorism units, people familiar with the situation said.
The French intelligence service DGSE warned Paris of the risk, but neither France nor the U.S. took significant action to defend their ally in Niamey, according to French and West African intelligence officials.
Bazoum, elected in 2021 in Niger's first democratic transfer of power, had been feted in Washington as a reliable partner against the twin threats of jihadist attacks and Russia's growing influence.
After coup leaders in neighboring Mali and Burkina Faso shifted toward Russia, Bazoum made clear he stood with America.
In April, Bazoum replaced the army chief of staff and the head of the national gendarmerie, hoping to place more trusted officers in their ranks, according to European and West African security officials. That stirred suspicion within his presidential guard. On July 24, Bazoum directed an aide to draft a decree to dismiss the guard's leader.
Gen. Omar Tchiani had protected Niger's leaders for 12 years, with a unit of some 700 elite soldiers. The unit had stopped a coup attempt against Bazoum days ahead of his inauguration. As Bazoum built up the country's counterterrorism forces, Tchiani's guard lost out on resources and stature.
At 3 a.m. on July 26, the general's men drove up to the presidential palace. Carrying heavy weaponry, they disarmed security officers equipped only with handguns and walked to Bazoum's residence.
Bazoum fled into the safe room and phoned aides to say he was confident that U.S.-trained elements of his army would rally to his rescue.
In a twist, some of the best U.S.-trained special forces among Niger's regular army units were on counterterrorism missions in distant desert regions, with few roads.
The lightly armed units in the capital weren't in a position to assault the palace and the chain of command broke down. Rank-and-file soldiers said they debated over WhatsApp groups what to do.
Bazoum, who still had full control of his communications in the safe room, phoned international allies and ambassadors in the West. He stressed over phone and video calls that the coup was a personnel dispute and could easily be reversed.
Though the U.S. had spent hundreds of millions of dollars transforming Niger into its top military outpost in the

Sahara, it didn't have an ambassador in the country.
The Biden administration didn't formally nominate one until eight months after the previous ambassador left, only to face opposition from Sen. Rand Paul (R., Ky.), who has put holds on State Department appointees until the White House releases intelligence he believes could show Covid-19 leaked from a Chinese lab.
Washington also has no ambassador at the African Union or in neighboring Nigeria -- or anybody in a special envoy post that it had created to deal with the region's deterioration. The relevant Africa desk at the National Security Council was in flux, held by a short-term temporary post that was due to hand off to another temporary caretaker within days.
"This is extremely frustrating. This was not a widely supported coup -- it was one unit that had its grievance for years and we should have done more to act," said J. Peter Pham, former U.S. special envoy to the Sahel under President Trump. In the early hours, he added, "his exfiltration could have been organized relatively easily. . . . The golden hour has passed."
Bazoum contacted allies in France, which had about 1,500 troops in the country. A decision would have to come from President Emmanuel Macron, who was traveling in the South Pacific. France's government declined to comment.
Junta leaders headed to a state TV station and stood around a table where a stone-faced spokesman said the military could no longer "witness the gradual and inevitable demise of our country."
If Bazoum was going to be freed, it would have to come from outside.
Macron had just landed in the South Pacific when he spoke to his top defense and diplomatic officials, who laid out options to free Bazoum.
For years, the French president had been briefed on a growing protest movement against France in its former West African colonies.
In Mali, then Burkina Faso, coup leaders seized power and justified their takeovers as an act of liberation from France, before turning to Russia as their protector and benefactor.
The French president ruled out sending a unilateral force. Instead, he wanted to assist Nigerien armed forces that remained loyal to Bazoum, an option that vanished as the country's military command acquiesced to the coup.
Russia was in an excellent position to step into the vacuum. Vladimir Putin was already receiving African leaders invited to a Russia-Africa summit in St. Petersburg due to start the day after the coup.
Bazoum had refused the invitation, but the Kremlin-backed leaders of Mali and Burkina Faso, Assimi Goita and Ibrahim Traore, gathered for meetings. As news of the coup trickled in, their intelligence chiefs met under Russian auspices to agree on a coordinated response.
Officials in Mali and Burkina Faso didn't respond to requests for comment.
Protests, organized by an opposition movement, thronged France's embassy in Niger. France sent military planes to evacuate its citizens. The U.S. moved its 1,100 troops, sent there to fight Islamist insurgents, inside American-built drone and special-forces bases. The State Department held off on calling the upheaval a coup, a designation that could, under U.S. law, sharply restrict America's ability to keep funding, training and equipping Niger's military.
The stakes were becoming more serious for the giant to Niger's south. Nigeria was once the world's 33rd richest country per capita, until decades of military coups and misrule left it among the poorest.
On Sunday, July 30, Nigeria's new president, Bola Tinubu, gathered with presidents and foreign ministers from 11 West African states, along with a representative from Bazoum's government, in the Nigerian capital of Abuja. Tinubu said that after coups in Mali and Burkina Faso -- both supported by Russia -- as well as in Guinea and Chad, the one in Niger was the last straw. If they accepted this coup, more would come. A Nigerian government spokesperson declined to comment.
After their meeting ended, the West African leaders issued an ultimatum: Tchiani had one week to return power to the democratically elected president or face the possible use of military force.
Blinken issued statements of general support for the Nigerian-led idea.
On Thursday the junta announced on state TV it had terminated military cooperation agreements with France.
From his palace, Bazoum phoned his ambassador to the U.S. to dictate an op-ed that appeared in the Washington

Post calling for international intervention.
By the time it published, parts of the country were in the dark. Nigeria, which provides some 75% of Niger's electricity, had cut off one of its main transmission lines, plunging villages and towns into blackouts. The presidential residence lost power as well.
Bazoum's phone remains charged, his aides said Friday. If it goes out, the U.S. could lose its ability to reach the president. "I hope he has a lot of lithium batteries," one former official said.

Vivian Salama and Noemie Bisserbe contributed to this article.
Credit: By Drew Hinshaw, Benoit Faucon and Joe Parkinson

DETAILS

Subject:	National security; Coups d'etat; Counterterrorism; Diplomatic &consular services; Presidents; Military personnel; Armed forces; Special forces; International relations-US
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92811 : National Security 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	Russia; United States--US; South Pacific; Nigeria; Niger; West Africa; Africa; Mali; France; Burkina Faso; Europe
People:	Putin, Vladimir
Company / organization:	Name: National Security Council; NAICS: 928110; Name: WhatsApp Inc; NAICS: 513210
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92811: National Security; 92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2846058835
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/how-u-s-fumbled-nigers-coup-week-missteps/docview/2846058835/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Business News: U.S. Cellular Owner Weighs Sale of the Wireless Carrier

FitzGerald, Drew . FitzGerald, Drew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The owner of U.S. Cellular, the largest regional cellphone carrier left standing in the U.S., signaled that it could sell the business, offering a new test of a slowing telecom sector's appetite for more consolidation.

Telephone and Data Systems said Friday it would start a process to explore a range of strategic alternatives for U.S. Cellular. The rural-focused wireless carrier has more than four million customers across 21 states. TDS owns more than 80% of U.S. Cellular shares.

Shares of TDS jumped 88% while U.S. Cellular leapt 93% on Friday, giving it a market capitalization of nearly $3 billion. U.S. Cellular's annual revenue has hovered around $4 billion for the past five years.

Executives declined to answer questions about the review but detailed pressures from the company's ebbing cellphone customer base and underwhelming revenue from its portfolio of more than 4,000 owned cellphone towers. The company leases tower space for its network and those of rival wireless companies.

"We see a lot of value in that tower business," U.S. Cellular Chief Executive LT Therivel said Friday.

Chicago-based U.S. Cellular is one of several telecom pioneers that grew its cellphone service from a niche professional offering into a mass-market business in the 21st century under the control of founder LeRoy Carlson. The wireless business spread across rural pockets in the Northwest, Midwest and Northeast, but the Carlson family avoided joining the wave of consolidation that left the country with three national network operators by the end of 2020.

U.S. Cellular has since struggled to keep cellphone users who are increasingly drifting to national brands AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile. Cable companies offering cellphone service through partnerships with Verizon have also sapped customer additions.

The company's network of towers could appeal to rival U.S. infrastructure companies as well as private-equity firms that have snapped up similar equipment around the world. Big cellphone carriers could also absorb its consumer business but would need to persuade Biden administration antitrust officials who have sought to block mergers in other sectors on competition grounds.

Verizon in 2021 acquired prepaid wireless provider TracFone, while T-Mobile struck a deal earlier this year to take over Mint Mobile, a low cost competitor. Unlike those two brands, which resell wireless services, U.S. Cellular operates its own cellular network.

Satellite company Dish Network is meanwhile building another nationwide cellphone network to serve a base of customers mostly spun off from T-Mobile's 2020 merger with Sprint. The effort has moved slowly as executives struggle with the high cost of building new infrastructure and defending that customer base against competitors.

Credit: By Drew FitzGerald

DETAILS

Subject:	Cellular telephones; Divestiture; Wireless carriers
Business indexing term:	Subject: Divestiture Wireless carriers; Corporation: Verizon Communications Inc US Cellular Corp; Industry: 51711 : Wired and Wireless Telecommunications Carriers (except Satellite)
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Verizon Communications Inc; NAICS: 513210, 517111, 517112; Name: US Cellular Corp; NAICS: 517112
Classification:	51711: Wired and Wireless Telecommunications Carriers (except Satellite)
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058831
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-business-news-u-s-cellular-owner-weighs/docview/2846058831/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-10-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Business News: Superconductor Breakthrough Claims Take Stock Investors for a Wild Ride

Sohn, Jiyoung . Sohn, Jiyoung.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The hope and hype surrounding superconductors took off this week, as stocks with a perceived connection to the latest research swung wildly and videos by once-obscure scientists went viral.

Late last month, a group of scientists from South Korea and Virginia's William &Mary, in two academic papers that hadn't undergone peer review, claimed a breakthrough that opened "a new era for humankind." It relates to the so-called LK-99 crystal, a superconductor that consists of a lead-based compound seasoned with copper.

The material, the group claimed, showed the properties of a superconductor that transmits electrical currents without resistance at room temperature and at ambient pressure -- a long-running scientific pursuit that, if valid, would usher in generational advances in chips, power grids and computing systems.

The word "superconductors" trended widely online this week. Share prices surged for companies in the U.S., China and South Korea whose operations overlap with superconductors -- and even some that lack a direct link -- before the gains reversed late in the week. A video uploaded by Chinese researchers, who backed some of LK-99's traits, attracted nearly 10 million views.

But many scientists see LK-99's claims, for now, as more viral than verifiable. The fervor speaks to the immense potential of room-temperature superconductors as well as limited public understanding of the technology and its prospects. A superconductor refers to a material that conducts electricity without energy loss and expels magnetic

fields while transitioning to the superconducting state, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.
The buzz around superconductors has remained elevated since March. That is when Ranga Dias, a physicist at the University of Rochester, published a piece in the prestigious journal Nature, arguing the rare-earth metal lutetium combined with nitrogen and hydrogen was a superconductor at a temperature of 69 degrees Fahrenheit. It also did so at pressures less extreme than what is required for many known superconducting materials. Dias's claim and his prior work have been heavily scrutinized by his scientific peers, including accusations of fabricated data and plagiarism.
Like all previous reports of such "unidentified superconducting objects," the South Korea-led group's findings will be "taken seriously once other groups reproduce them and then weigh in on whether this is a true superconductor or just an unusual kind of diamagnet," said Michael Norman, a condensed matter physicist with the U.S. Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory.
Several efforts are under way to verify the LK-99 claims, including one led by Argonne. Some initial attempts at verification have shown promise, such as Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's simulations that have supported LK-99 in theory. Others have concluded that the material doesn't display the appearance of bulk superconductivity at room temperature.
They are reacting to a pair of papers posted recently by scientists, most of whom work for the privately held Quantum Energy Research Center in Seoul. They uploaded their findings to arXiv, a global repository for unpublished science research. One of the scientists also provided a video showing a small sample of the material partially levitated over a magnet in an apparent demonstration of superconductivity.
LK-99 is named after the initials of the surnames of two of the scientists -- Lee Suk-bae and Kim Ji-hoon of the Quantum Energy Research Center -- and 1999, the year the material was reportedly synthesized by them.
Quantum Energy Research Center didn't respond to a request for a comment.
Some compounds composed of metals including aluminum, zinc, and mercury are known to exhibit superconducting behaviors, though only at extreme pressures and temperatures. That has made them unfeasible or impractical for widespread use.
The enthusiasm for LK-99 triggered wild stock swings. Given the current concentration of manufacturing expertise in Asian countries like South Korea, Japan and China, it is highly probable that companies from these countries would play a significant role in developing and implementing superconductors when they are ready for more practical applications.
Several little-known South Korean companies with presumed ties to superconductors received investor warnings after share prices skyrocketed. One, Sunam, which makes high-temperature wiring and electromagnets involved in superconductors, hit the daily maximum level of 30% gains for three straight days. Trading of Sunam shares were halted Friday for one day after surges that occurred after the warning. Another company, Mobiis, involved in nuclear fusion and particle-accelerator technologies, rose 19% this week through Thursday, then fell roughly by 28% by Friday's close.
Despite having no involvement in superconductors, a third South Korean company, Shinsung Delta Tech, hit maximum gains on Tuesday and Wednesday before selling off. The rise came from Shinsung's ownership stake in a venture-capital firm that has invested in the Quantum Research Institute.
In the U.S., shares of American Superconductor, which specializes in high-temperature superconducting wires, skyrocketed by roughly 60% on Tuesday, before the gains reversed in following days.
Several Chinese companies saw their stock prices soar and fall as the LK-99 video went viral. The investor attention prompted Shanghai-listed Benefo, which rose 34% in recent days, to clarify that it has no related work now to room-temperature superconductivity. In the past, a subsidiary had engaged in some high-temperature superconducting research. Meanwhile, Shenzhen-listed TICW pointed out the same lack of a room-temperature superconducting exposure, though its stock price surged roughly 70% this week.
Credit: By Jiyoung Sohn in Seoul and Yang Jie in Tokyo

DETAILS

Subject:	Energy research; Research centers; Temperature; Stock prices; Superconductors
Business indexing term:	Subject: Stock prices; Industry: 54171 : Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences
Location:	China; United States--US; South Korea
Company / organization:	Name: Department of Energy; NAICS: 926130
Classification:	54171: Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058822
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-business-news-superconductor/docview/2846058822/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Food-Delivery Workers Press Labor Fight

Ailworth, Erin . Ailworth, Erin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW YORK -- As the heat index edged toward 100 degrees on a recent Friday at noon, William Medina toggled between DoorDash and another food-delivery app for about an hour, getting alerts that no jobs were available. Then, the desired alert hit his phone. He was, for the moment, employed.

Medina dodged traffic on his Yamaha scooter to pick up a delivery order from Pink Nori, a Japanese restaurant in the Queens neighborhood of Astoria. An order of shawarma from elsewhere was next, then two orders from Papa Johns. By 3:21 p.m., Medina had netted just $34.31, including the $2 tip he'd received from the customer who had sent him to two wrong locations before he was able to hand off their pizza.

Improving his pay is the main reason the Colombian native with a degree in business administration became an organizer for Los Deliveristas Unidos. The collective of food-delivery workers began pushing for better pay and working conditions -- like the right to use restaurant bathrooms -- after the industry exploded in 2020. Medina and his peers became essential workers helping keep restaurants alive amid Covid lockdowns, often making less than the city's standard $15-an-hour minimum wage.

"I have to pay for wheels, I have to pay to change the oil," Medina, 38 years old, said, gesturing to his black Yamaha Zuma scooter motorcycle. "We earn money just to survive."

The U.S. food-delivery market more than doubled during the pandemic, according to McKinsey &Co., and as of 2021, the global market was worth over $150 billion.

Delivery workers in the largest city in the U.S. -- and one of its most expensive to live -- face unique challenges as the industry grows, city officials say, pointing to busier streets and the widespread use of electric bikes and mopeds.

A city analysis shows that app deliveries accounted for 15% of nearly $25 billion in restaurant sales from March 2021 to May 2022. Delivery workers here say they're often making those deliveries in extreme weather with little time to rest and few places to do so away from the elements. Many make those deliveries using e-bikes, which became legal in the city in November 2020, putting workers in risky traffic conditions because many streets don't have bike lanes. Nearly three dozen delivery workers, who are mainly considered contract workers, not employees, have died on the job since 2020, advocates say.

They often need to work somewhere between 10 to 12 hours a day to earn enough money from those orders to cope with a high cost of living.

Medina, who moved from Colombia in 2018, is one of the roughly 65,000 food-delivery workers constantly crisscrossing the five boroughs while ferrying meals on behalf of apps like Uber Eats, DoorDash, Grubhub and Relay. The four platforms account for nearly all of the app-based food deliveries here, according to a city analysis. From July 2021 to June 2022, those deliveries totaled 124 million.

The push for better working conditions and labor rights has earned Los Deliveristas the backing of city leaders, while at times pitting the group against the app companies that pay their members' wages.

The city in June adopted a law setting new pay rates for app-based delivery workers at around 50 cents for every minute they spend on a trip, or a minimum of $17.96 an hour for the time they are active on each app. The food-

delivery apps Uber Eats, Relay, Grubhub and DoorDash responded with lawsuits last month seeking to block those rates from taking effect.
The companies say the per-minute rate could end up being significantly higher than the minimum wage for other industries, and that compensating workers for time spent online could result in multiple apps paying workers for the same hours.
DoorDash, which filed suit jointly with Chicago-based Grubhub, called the pay rates deeply misguided, while Relay said they imperil the company's existence.
During a Thursday hearing, a New York Supreme Court judge considered a request by the companies for a temporary injunction on the rates.
Both rates, which exclude tips, were supposed to take effect on July 12. The judge is expected to decide on the preliminary injunction request sometime in the next 30 days.
While the group's main focus in recent weeks has been on pay, organizers have also advocated for physical amenities that would make their jobs safer, including bike lanes with barriers.
Plans are also in the works to transform old newsstands in Manhattan and an empty storefront in Brooklyn into places where delivery workers can rest and charge their bikes while waiting for deliveries, or go to get a repair or take work-related training.
"It is possible to transform the gig economy into a profession that is dignified for workers," said Ligia Guallpa, executive director of the Worker's Justice Project.
Arun Sundararajan, a New York University professor who studies the gig economy, said he supported the infrastructure provisions but thinks the proposed minimum pay rate for delivery workers is out of whack with what other tipped workers make.
Kovon Flowers, who delivers food in his Jeep, said he supports the infrastructure improvements. But the 53-year-old worries that the new wage standard would force companies to change their business models in a way that could hurt his earning potential with Grubhub, where he pulls in about $1,700 a week.
The Brooklyn resident is considered a pro driver, meaning he can schedule his preferred hours before many other drivers. The flexibility and income allow him the time and funds for other pursuits.
"I don't want to mess that up," he said.
Credit: By Erin Ailworth

DETAILS

Subject:	Injunctions; Gig economy; Workers; Food; Restaurants; Employment; Working conditions; Home delivery services; Wages &salaries
Business indexing term:	Subject: Gig economy Workers Restaurants Employment Working conditions Home delivery services Wages &salaries; Corporation: Uber Technologies Inc; Industry: 72251 : Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Location:	New York; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Uber Technologies Inc; NAICS: 513210, 518210; Name: DoorDash Inc; NAICS: 492210
Classification:	72251: Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058815
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-food-delivery-workers-press-labor-fight/docview/2846058815/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: First Amendment Defense for Trump Faces Tricky Path

Ramey, Corinne . Ramey, Corinne.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Donald Trump's lawyer has argued on television that the First Amendment protects the former president's efforts to reverse the results of the 2020 election, but defense attorneys say that argument presents an uphill battle in the courtroom.

Shortly after the Justice Department charged Trump with four counts, including conspiring to defraud the U.S. and obstructing an official proceeding, his lawyer, John Lauro, previewed his argument, calling the indictment an unconstitutional attack on political speech.

"Our defense is going to be focusing on the fact that what we have now is an administration that has criminalized the free speech and advocacy of a prior administration, during the time that there is a political election going on," Lauro said on CNN.

Former prosecutors said such a defense could apply to some speech -- but not Trump's alleged crimes. "Fraud is not protected by the First Amendment," said Jordan Estes, a former Manhattan federal prosecutor now at law firm Kramer Levin Naftalis &Frankel. "The First Amendment does not mean you can say whatever you want."

While the First Amendment isn't often invoked as a defense in white-collar cases, it can be used as a valid defense to some criminal charges, including those that revolve around the conduct of protesters or accusations related to making threats. Still, there are limits to how much protection the First Amendment affords.

"You can say a lot of really awful things, but at a certain point, we've decided we are going to criminalize things that actually put people in fear of their own safety," said Joshua Ritter, a Los Angeles criminal defense attorney. "Even then, it's a difficult standard to meet, because we give such deference to the First Amendment."

Trump has previously tangled with the First Amendment in court, albeit in civil lawsuits. After Columbia University's Knight First Amendment Institute filed a 2017 lawsuit on behalf of Twitter users blocked by Trump, a federal appeals court ruled that the then-President's practice of blocking users violated the free-speech protections of the First Amendment. Justice Department lawyers had argued Trump's account was a personal one.

Trump in 2021 sued Twitter and other social-media companies, claiming they violated his First Amendment rights when suspending his accounts after he egged on his supporters to attack the Capitol on Jan. 6. In 2022, a federal judge tossed the lawsuit against Twitter.

The indictment unsealed this week addresses Trump's right to free speech. "The Defendant had a right, like every American, to speak publicly about the election and even to claim, falsely, that there had been outcome-determinative fraud during the election and that he had won," the indictment says.

Smith may have anticipated some of Trump's possible defenses, including his claims of protection by the First Amendment, and tailored his charging decisions accordingly, lawyers said. Prosecutors could have charged Trump with incitement of an insurrection, an uncommon criminal charge recommended by the House committee that investigated the Jan. 6 attack.

Instead Smith's team opted for more commonly used charges that were reliant on Trump's actions, not only his words, said E. Danya Perry, a former federal prosecutor. The indictment details how Trump leaned on officials in battleground states he had lost and pushed his own Justice Department to falsely claim election fraud.

"The First Amendment might have applied to an incitement count, but it doesn't apply to the counts that are charged," said Perry, now a defense attorney. "What is criminalized here is the conduct, not the speech."

At trial, Trump could also raise a defense familiar to fraud cases: that he acted in good faith when seeking to remain in power after he lost the election, defense attorneys said. Such a defense would likely involve Trump arguing that he took the actions in question because he truly believed the election was fraudulent.

If Trump were to claim in court that his speech was protected by the First Amendment and that he acted in good faith in seeking to overturn the election results, the two arguments could be at odds with each other, said John Fishwick Jr., a former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia. "If you say 'I'm a liar, and the First Amendment lets me do that,' then that undercuts your good faith defense," he said.

Credit: By Corinne Ramey

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Rebellions; Criminalization; Legal defense; Voter fraud; Attorneys; First Amendment-US; Public prosecutors; Freedom of speech
Business indexing term:	Industry: 54111 : Offices of Lawyers 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Location:	United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J
Classification:	54111: Offices of Lawyers; 92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058814
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-first-amendment-defense-trump-faces/docvi ew/2846058814/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-08
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Jan. 6 Keeps Pence in GOP's Doghouse --- Voters stay cool to ex-vice president for not abiding Trump's bid to retain power

McCormick, John . McCormick, John.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Mike Pence's last major act as vice president might doom his political future.

His certification of the 2020 election results during the early morning hours of Jan. 7, 2021, in defiance of then-President Donald Trump and after a mob attacked the Capitol, is the biggest reason his 2024 GOP presidential nomination bid is struggling.

Pence's actions play a starring role in Trump's indictment this week related to his effort to cling to power despite his 2020 election loss, reminding Republican primary voters how the former vice president acted against a former president who remains popular with many of the party's core voters. Trump pleaded not guilty to the charges Thursday.

Backers of the former president have never forgiven Pence, while anti-Trump Republicans still blame the former vice president for being a supplicant the previous four years.

As a result, neither wing of the GOP has backed a man who spent decades courting conservatives and would have been viewed as a top Republican contender in a pre-Trump world. Reporters often ask Pence more about Trump and related legal matters than his policy proposals.

While Pence was campaigning last month in Iowa, a voter confronted him and said he "changed history for this country," implying Trump won the election. Pence replied that he had no power under the Constitution to act. "President Trump was wrong about my authority that day and he's still wrong," he said.

Craig Robinson, a former Republican Party political director in Iowa, where the nomination process starts Jan. 15, said he felt sorry for Pence. "There is this disconnect between him and where the party currently is at," he said. "On paper, you can make this strong case for his presidential campaign, but in reality it has always been a nonstarter."

Robinson noted how the crowd at a key GOP fundraising dinner last weekend in Des Moines failed to respond much to Pence. "It was very tepid," he said.

Those receptions were notable because Pence, 64 years old, has spent decades courting evangelical voters.

Pence is a longtime promoter of limited government and ally to social conservative groups. He has backed some of the most restrictive abortion proposals put forward by the Republican presidential field.

None of it has paid off in any significant way. Pence is at 4.4% in the FiveThirtyEight.com average of national Republican primary surveys, which puts him in fourth place behind Trump, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and businessman Vivek Ramaswamy.

Trump, in a social-media post on Wednesday, again sought to diminish his former vice president. "I feel badly for Mike Pence, who is attracting no crowds, enthusiasm, or loyalty from people who, as a member of the Trump Administration, should be loving him," Trump wrote.

Pence spokesman Devin O'Malley pushed back against suggestions that the indictment has put the former vice

president in a worse position.
"This week might be a vulnerability for other candidates because they don't have the fortitude to say that Jan. 6 was wrong and that what the president was asking the vice president to do was wrong," he said. "But it's not a vulnerability for the vice president."
O'Malley emphasized that Pence has formally been in the race less than two months and more than five months remain before the Iowa caucuses. While campaigning on Jan. 6 isn't part of Pence's strategy, he said, it is also "something that we are not afraid of."
When one conservative interviewer asked Pence on Thursday about his "belief" that he had to certify the election results, Pence sternly pushed back: "It's not a belief. It's the law."
The indictment outlined how Pence spoke with Trump on Christmas Day 2020 and that the vice president had taken "contemporaneous notes" during the period between the election and Jan. 6 as the relationship between the two men deteriorated.
"You're too honest," Trump told Pence, according to the indictment, when Pence declined to go along with a plan to try to stay in power despite losing the election.
Pence's campaign has sought to capitalize on that quote this week by selling T-shirts and hats branded with the phrase "Too Honest."
Republican strategist Scott Jennings said the former vice president has little choice but to directly challenge Trump.
"He's obviously shifted strategy from trying to have it both ways on Trump to just being authentically honest about his views," Jennings said. "You know what they say: The only thing in the middle of the road is yellow lines and dead squirrels. So, his new tack is probably better."
Credit: By John McCormick

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Political campaigns; Nominations; Election results; Vice Presidents; Presidential elections; Voters
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Iowa
People:	Trump, Donald J; Pence, Mike
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAIC S: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058796
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-jan-6-keeps-pence-gops-doghouse-voters/docview/2846058796/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-05
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: High Court Rejects Tulsa's Bid On Tribal Sovereignty

Bravin, Jess . Bravin, Jess.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The Supreme Court Friday let stand a lower court order exempting American Indians from a range of local laws in Tulsa, Okla., the latest aftershock of the justices' 2020 ruling that recognized tribal sovereignty in most of eastern Oklahoma.

The court rejected an emergency request the city of Tulsa filed to stop implementation of a circuit court decision it said undermined public safety by preventing police officers from enforcing traffic laws against Indians. As is typical in emergency matters, the court's order was unsigned and didn't disclose how the justices voted.

In a statement accompanying the order, Justice Brett Kavanaugh wrote that Tulsa could continue to raise its arguments as appeals over the issue proceed in the lower courts. "As I understand it, nothing in the decision of the

Court of Appeals prohibits the City from continuing to enforce its municipal laws against all persons, including Indians, as the litigation progresses," he wrote, joined by Justice Samuel Alito.
Tulsa took comfort in that statement.
"As indicated by the Justices, the City will continue to seek clarification of these important legal issues with the District Court and, in the meantime, continue to enforce City ordinances against all persons within the City of Tulsa regardless of Indian status. We will also continue to work cooperatively with our tribal partners to protect the health and safety of our shared constituents," the city said in a statement.
Chuck Hoskin Jr., principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, one of the five tribes whose jurisdiction is at issue, said the Supreme Court's refusal to intercede left in place "tribal sovereignty and settled federal law -- reaffirming that states and municipalities do not have criminal jurisdiction over Indians in Indian Country." Hoskin added: "I'm calling for collaboration, cooperation and an end to the attacks on tribal sovereignty."
The court's 5-4 decision in 2020, McGirt v. Oklahoma, forced a restructuring of criminal justice in Oklahoma because in general only federal and tribal authorities -- not states -- can prosecute tribal members for crimes committed in Indian country, the legal term for reservations and other lands where the U.S. recognizes native sovereignty.
In June, a federal appeals court in Denver threw out a $150 speeding ticket a Tulsa police officer issued to Justin Hooper, a member of the Choctaw tribe, in 2018. The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reasoned that under the McGirt decision, neither the state of Oklahoma nor its political subdivisions could enforce their laws against tribal members within Indian country.
In its Supreme Court appeal, Tulsa argued that if it stands, the circuit court decision would throw local law enforcement into chaos. "Laws enacted for the protection of the health and safety of [Tulsa] residents are only enforceable by the City against some citizens but not others," the city's brief argued, with police officers required "to apply a complex Indian Country jurisdiction analysis to every traffic citation, every criminal citation."
In an affidavit, the city's deputy police chief said that following McGirt, "Indian citizens [have been] challenging TPD officers in the field, reflecting a sense of impunity to basic standards of conduct." The affidavit listed several incidents recorded by police video, such as a February 2021 traffic stop where a driver ticketed for going 78 miles an hour in a 50 mph construction zone responded by showing his Cherokee identification. "I thought this was my 'get-out-of-jail-free' card now, my Indian card," the driver said.
Credit: By Jess Bravin

DETAILS

Subject:	Jurisdiction; Sovereignty; Supreme Court decisions; Tribal society
Location:	United States--US; Oklahoma
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058787
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-high-court-rejects-tulsas-bid-on-tribal/docview/2846058787/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Business News: American Vacationers Shun U.S. for Europe

Sider, Alison . Sider, Alison.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Globe-trotting Americans have packed international flights this summer, leaving behind some domestic-focused airlines.

Americans are flocking to Europe. The allure of international travel has travelers swapping out shorter trips within the U.S. or to some nearby destinations in favor of longer journeys.

The number of passengers on domestic flights slid 2% in July from the same month in 2019, while the number of passengers on trans-Atlantic routes increased 14%, according to Airlines for America, a trade group that represents several major airlines.

Airline ticket prices reflect the shift. Domestic fares are down 11% from last year and tracking below 2019 levels, while

international fares have risen 11% from a year ago and are up 28% from 2019, according to Hopper, a booking app. The pivot is cutting into revenue for some U.S.-focused airlines that haven't seen demand build to the heights it reached last summer, according to airline executives. To cope, carriers are rejiggering schedules and trying out new routes to better match the emerging patterns. "The current setup is simply not favorable to a domestic-focused airline," Spirit Airlines Chief Executive Officer Ted Christie said Thursday as the carrier reported weaker-than-expected earnings.

Dan Plotinsky and his family usually fly to New England to visit relatives over the summer. With his oldest daughter graduating from high school, they instead took a family trip to Europe. Plotinsky's wife and daughters started in France, and he met them in London.

"I think we just decided, let's try something new," he said.

JetBlue Airways cautioned this week that it might see a loss in the third quarter and pared its guidance for the full year. Executives at Spirit, Frontier and Alaska Air have said in recent weeks that U.S. airfares have cooled as more of their customers have spent their vacation budgets on trips abroad.

"When we lose 5% of our people to go to Europe, that's a lot of customers," Frontier Chief Executive Barry Biffle said Tuesday.

Hotels are seeing a similar switch. Marriott International said that per room international revenue is expected to climb as much as 30% this year, while the U.S. and Canada increase more moderately. Hyatt Hotels said 27% of second-quarter rooms revenue at its hotels in Europe was from U.S. travelers, up from 21% in the same period in 2019.

Travel has been on a two-year upswing as easing Covid-19 restrictions unleashed a torrent of demand that has been stronger and more resilient than many industry observers expected. This summer's domestic slowdown is one of the first indications that the frenzied pace of the rebound could be moderating.

Credit: By Alison Sider

DETAILS

Subject:	Airlines; Air travel; Air fares; Hotels &motels; Americans abroad; International travel
Business indexing term:	Subject: Air fares Hotels &motels; Industry: 48111 : Scheduled Air Transportation 72111 : Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
Location:	United States--US; Europe
Classification:	48111: Scheduled Air Transportation; 72111: Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058776
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-business-news-american-vacationers-shun/docview/2846058776/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Colombia's Government, Leftist Rebels Begin Cease-Fire

Forero, Juan . Forero, Juan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

BOGOTA, Colombia -- President Gustavo Petro has embarked on a bilateral cease-fire with Colombia's oldest rebel group as part of a new strategy to negotiate with multiple rebel and drug groups.

Petro's so-called Total Peace strategy is centered on the idea of carrying out talks with the leftist National Liberation Army, a Cuba-inspired group fighting the state since 1964; remnants of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, that didn't participate in talks that ended in a 2016 peace accord and assorted narco-trafficking outfits.

The government and the National Liberation Army, or ELN, agreed to begin a six-month-long cease-fire that started Thursday, with a possible renewal if negotiations are on track. The government will curtail military operations during the talks.

"You don't make peace between armed sides," Petro, who was a member of the M-19 guerrilla group that disarmed in 1990, said earlier this week. "Peace happens in a Colombian society that is unarmed and that agrees to get along."

The U.S. on Wednesday joined other members at the U.N. Security Council to unanimously agree to authorize the world body to verify the cease-fire with the ELN. But a State Department spokesperson on Thursday said "we remain skeptical of the ELN's intention to adhere to the terms of the agreement and to cease hostilities against civilians."
Under Juan Manuel Santos, president from 2010 to 2018, Colombia negotiated with FARC for four years in an effort to end a 50-year guerrilla insurgency that had claimed tens of thousands of Colombian lives. At the same time, he aimed to weaken the group with military strikes. Military analysts say that strategy so hobbled the insurgency that it agreed to peace, disarming thousands of fighters and dismantling units steeped in trafficking cocaine to the U.S.
Petro has broken with that policy by proposing to rebel groups and cocaine-smuggling groups, such as the vicious Gulf Clan, that it would roll back military operations in exchange for negotiations. His peace team has been feverishly working to get negotiations started with the goal of reaching accords as fast as possible, officials said.
In past efforts, "negotiations have always been limited to one armed group, with the other groups left at the sidelines," said Danilo Rueda, the government's high commissioner for peace. "And that has led other groups to expand territorially."
Rueda said the government wants to achieve peace in the three years left in Petro's term. "That's the goal, to do it in this government, to show the country that talks, based on respect for life, will lead to the conditions for peace," Rueda said.
The government's plans, though, have faced serious challenges. Petro lifted the cease-fire with the Gulf Clan in March, after accusing the group of widespread violence. The army has now deployed thousands of troops against the group in northern Colombia. The group remains robust, Colombian government officials say, even though some of its top leaders have in recent years been killed or extradited to the U.S. in operations in which American intelligence was essential.
After the government accused another group made up of former FARC fighters, the so-called Central Staff, of killing four indigenous children, Petro ended the cease-fire in four provinces. Still, the attorney general's office has lifted warrants against top commanders so the government can begin talks with that group.
Credit: By Juan Forero

DETAILS

Subject:	Cocaine; Guerrilla forces; Rebellions; Peace negotiations; Insurgency; Drug trafficking; Truces &cease fires
Location:	United States--US; Colombia
People:	Petro, Gustavo
Company / organization:	Name: Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia; NAICS: 813940; Name: National Liberation Army-Colombia; NAICS: 928110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058769
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-colombias-government-leftist-rebels/docview/2846058769/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Expelled Democrats Win Back House Seats in Tennessee

Lukpat, Alyssa . Lukpat, Alyssa.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Two Tennessee Democrats who were expelled after leading gun-control chants on the floor of the state House of Representatives earlier this year won special elections to officially take back their seats.

The Democrats, Justin Jones and Justin Pearson, handily defeated challengers from other parties Thursday to win back the positions they lost in April, according to election records in Davidson and Shelby counties.

The men gained national profiles after Republicans in Tennessee's House of Representatives used their majority power to remove them from the chamber, a rare punishment for speaking out of turn on the House floor. Democratic

state officials in the Nashville and Memphis metro areas voted to send Jonesand Pearson straight back to the House on a temporary basis until Thursday's special elections.
"You can't expel a Movement! You can't expel Hope!" Pearson said in a tweet early Friday, adding, "We did it!!!!!"
Jones and Pearson had been expected to win the elections in majority-Democrat districts that include Nashville and Memphis, respectively.
Jones, in a Thursday night tweet, said, "Well, Mr. Speaker, the People have spoken. The FIND OUT era of politics is just beginning. See you August 21st for special session."
Jones, Pearson and their colleague Rep. Gloria Johnson had interrupted a House session in March for several minutes to call on their Republican counterparts to enact gun control measures. They later said they wanted to acknowledge the thousands of protesters marching on the state Capitol who were pressuring Republican leaders to make it harder to buy guns. Nashville days earlier had been rocked by a mass shooting that killed six people at a school.
The expulsion drew national attention in part because the Republican House voted to expel Jones and Pearson, who are Black, but not Johnson, their white colleague who narrowly avoided removal. It also highlighted a longstanding power struggle in the state between Republicans who control the government and Democrats in charge of the fast-growing cities.
Johnson said Friday she was glad Jones and Pearson were re-elected.
"They were unethically, potentially unconstitutionally, removed and so they are back where they are supposed to be and I am thrilled about it," she said.
Jones, Pearson and Speaker Cameron Sexton, the House's Republican leader, didn't return requests for comment Friday.
House Republicans previously said the trio's interruption had broken rules about decorum and displaying political messages.
Credit: By Alyssa Lukpat

DETAILS

Subject:	Mass murders; Special elections; State elections
Location:	Tennessee; United States--US; Nashville Tennessee
People:	Jones, Justin; Pearson, Justin J
Company / organization:	Name: House of Representatives; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058765
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-expelled-democrats-win-back-house-seats/docview/2846058765/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Stock Market's Optimism Faces Test As Normally Weak September Looms

Grant, Charley . Grant, Charley.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

September is traditionally the weakest month for U.S. stocks. This year, investors say the turning of the calendar should be especially worrying.

Stocks have risen sharply after last year's selloff, defying any number of risks along the way. The S&P 500 is up 17% so far this year, including a 3.1% increase in July that reflected gains across all 11 sectors. Wall Street's so-called fear gauge, the Cboe Volatility Index, is sitting well below historical averages.

If history is any guide, investors' optimism will soon be put to the test. The S&P 500 has lost an average of 1.1% in September dating back to 1928, making it the worst month for stocks' performance. It isn't just a few bad years dragging down returns: The broad index has risen less than 45% of the time over that period, also the worst month by that measure, according to Dow Jones Market Data.

There is no clear reason for what is known as the "September effect." But it is typically a month without the type of

news that can push stocks higher, such as major corporate earnings, said Jay Hatfield, chief executive officer of Infrastructure Capital Advisors.
"The basic theory is that good news almost always comes from the companies, and the bad news comes from random events." Hatfield said. He pointed to Fitch's recent downgrade of the U.S. credit rating as an example.
So far this year, investors have brushed off fears of high inflation, a significant decline in corporate earnings, a possible recession, a standoff over the U.S. debt ceiling and the largest bank failures since the global financial crisis.
But there are warning signs that this year's rally could lose steam. Valuations are above their recent norms, with the S&P 500 trading at 19.4 times forward earnings estimates, according to FactSet. The one-year average is 17.7 times. Inflated valuations alone don't cause stocks to drop, but they can make a decline more severe.
Meanwhile, the 10-year Treasury yield is at its highest level in nearly a year, making it less attractive to hold stocks instead of bonds. On the borrowing front, some fear the repercussions of the highest interest rates in 22 years have yet to take full effect in the economy. And many investors think the Federal Reserve will need to keep rates higher for longer, particularly with rising oil prices threatening to stoke inflation again.
"If we were to put the kibosh on the idea that the Fed is done, then we might have an issue," said James Bianco, president of Bianco Research.
U.S. economic growth accelerated in the second quarter from the first three months of the year, raising hopes that the Fed would manage to pull off a soft landing. Yet some bears think it is too soon to say the risk of a recession has faded.
"We've just been through the most aggressive hiking cycle in my career. It's a bit presumptuous to think we've felt all those effects," said Rob Williams, chief investment strategist for Sage Advisory Services. He said that the outlook is better for bonds than for stocks. Within stocks, he prefers more-defensive sectors such as consumer staples that tend to perform steadily even in a sluggish economy.
So far in August, the S&P 500 is down 2.4%, compared with its average gain of 0.67% for the month. The information technology sector, this year's best performer, is down about 4.3%.
The artificial-intelligence enthusiasm that has powered tech stocks higher could also sputter.
Chip maker Nvidia, whose shares have tripled this year, reports quarterly results on Aug. 23. The end of earnings season soon after could create a void of good news until the fall.
"Once Nvidia goes, then what's your catalyst?" asked Hatfield of Infrastructure Capital Advisors. He said he expects stocks to pull back in September, then rally again in the fourth quarter.
Credit: By Charley Grant

DETAILS

Subject:	Stock exchanges; Investments; Interest rates; Advisors; Recessions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Stock exchanges Interest rates Recessions; Corporation: NVidia Corp; Industry: 52321 : Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: NVidia Corp; NAICS: 334413, 513210
Classification:	52321: Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.11

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 5, 202 3
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2846058760
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-stock-markets-optimism-faces-test-as/docview/2846058760/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.S. Set to Put Troops On Ships to Deter Iran

Lubold, Gordon; Salama, Vivian . Lubold, Gordon; Salama, Vivian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The Pentagon is poised to offer armed sailors and Marines to commercial vessels transiting the Persian Gulf region to deter Iranian forces from attacking their ships, according to U.S. officials.

The U.S. military would put armed U.S. sailors and Marines on commercial vessels that are considered vulnerable to attack by Iranian forces, particularly those ships steaming through the Strait of Hormuz. Roughly one-fifth of the world's oil passes through that heavily trafficked but increasingly dangerous choke point.

The scale and scope of the new effort could mean hundreds of military personnel already deployed to the region would be offered to ship operators whose vessels are considered high risk. Before offering the additional security, military officials will consider the country to which the ship is flagged, the nationality of the owner, the composition of the crew and the nature of the cargo, according to an official.

Iranian ships have targeted certain commercial vessels for attack or seizure. That and other concerns about Iran's actions in the region have prompted the U.S. to pour more military forces into the region.

The Pentagon's recent actions in the region complicates efforts by some inside the administration to remove troops and weaponry from the Middle East, and instead focus military assets in the Indo-Pacific region to deter China.

The Pentagon and the White House declined to comment. The Iranian mission to the United Nations didn't respond to a request for comment.

Credit: By Gordon Lubold and Vivian Salama

DETAILS

Subject:	Armed forces; Military deployment
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92811 : National Security
Location:	Iran; United States--US
Classification:	92811: National Security
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399314
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-s-set-put-troops-on-ships-deter-iran/docview/2845399314/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Defense Team Hints at Possible Strategy Against Criminal Charges

Ramey, Corinne . Ramey, Corinne.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Former President Donald Trump pleaded not guilty Thursday to four criminal charges stemming from his efforts to reverse the results of the 2020 election.

The latest indictment, brought by special counsel Jack Smith and unsealed this week, accuses Trump of conspiring to subvert the will of voters by trying to upend the 2020 presidential vote, which was won by Joe Biden. Those actions, Smith alleges, led to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol by Trump's supporters.

Trump's lawyers have since taken to the airwaves and hinted at a multipronged strategy. They have said that they would seek to move the trial to a jurisdiction with a friendlier jury pool and that they could seek to delay the trial, citing his candidacy for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination.

Trump's lawyers have also laid out several possible arguments they could make to rebut Smith's charges.

First Amendment

Smith alleged that Trump and his supporters repeatedly made false claims about the integrity of the electoral process and the actual results of the election.

Trump's lawyer, John Lauro, has argued that Trump had a right to free speech when he made false claims about the election. The indictment is criminalizing a right enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution, Lauro has said. "This defense of Mr. Trump is not just for him, but also, in my mind, for all Americans who want to exercise free speech and take unpopular political positions," Lauro said.

Prosecutors appeared to pre-empt that argument by saying in the indictment that Trump indeed had a right to

contest an election, an acknowledgment some defense attorneys said was uncommon.
"This unusual tactic very effectively sets the table to explain all the reasons it is a crime to do what was done here, which was to engage in fraud and deceit to interfere with the lawful results and certification of a presidential election," said Barry Berke, a criminal-defense lawyer and partner at Kramer Levin Naftalis &Frankel.
Prosecutors will likely seek to show that Trump's behavior went beyond speech -- and that he took distinct actions, often alongside others, to overturn the election's results.
Advice of counsel
The former president might also argue that he was merely following the advice of his lawyers in trying to contest the election, so therefore didn't commit a crime. "You are entitled to believe and trust advice of counsel," Lauro said in a "Today" show interview.
Lauro said Trump had followed the advice of a lawyer, John Eastman, who advised him to press Vice President Mike Pence to alter the election results. Reliance on Eastman "eliminates criminal intent" on the part of Trump, Lauro added.
Acting in good faith
To establish that Trump had the criminal intent needed for a conviction, prosecutors will likely need to show that Trump didn't believe the election fraud claims he was espousing.
Trump could counter this by arguing he was acting in good faith and legitimately believed that he won the election when he sought to overturn the results. Prosecutors could likely counter this argument at trial by calling witnesses who provided advice to the former president.
In the indictment, prosecutors allege numerous people who Trump trusted, including Justice Department officials, Pence and senior White House lawyers, told him the election fraud allegations were unsupported. "The Defendant was notified repeatedly that his claims were untrue -- often by the people on whom he relied for candid advice on important matters," the indictment says.

Jan Wolfe contributed to this article.
Credit: By Corinne Ramey

DETAILS

Subject:	Speeches; Indictments; Election results; Legal defense; Voter fraud; Presidential elections; Attorneys; Trials; Freedom of speech; Criminal pleas
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399312
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-defense-team-hints-at-possible-strategy/docview/284539 9312/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Warner Bros. Discovery to Add News and Sports to Streaming

Flint, Joe; Glickman, Ben . Flint, Joe; Glickman, Ben.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Warner Bros. Discovery said it is working on bringing news and live sports to its streaming offerings in the U.S., a balancing act for an entertainment conglomerate looking to grow its streaming subscriber base without cannibalizing its ailing TV-network business.

Chief Executive David Zaslav said the company is in a position to turn its attention to news and sports now that its

new streaming service, Max -- which combined the company's two main streaming platforms, HBO Max and Discovery+ -- was launched in late May.
"News and sports are important differentiators. They're compelling and they make these platforms come alive," Zaslav said during a call with investors to discuss the company's second-quarter earnings. "You will hear from us on that soon."
The company also said it is making significant strides reducing its debt and said its streaming subscriber base shrank slightly in the latest quarter as a result of the launch of Max because of subscriber overlap.
Warner Bros. Discovery, whose assets include HBO, CNN, TNT and the Warner Bros. movie and TV studios, said it paid down $1.6 billion in debt during the quarter, lowering its debt load to $47.8 billion. Warner Bros. Discovery also announced a new debt tender offer for up to $2.7 billion.
Zaslav reiterated that the company expects to lower net leverage ratio -- net debt divided by the last 12 months of adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization -- to under 4 by year-end. At the end of last year's second quarter -- when the company reported its first results as a combined entity following the merger of Discovery and AT&T's WarnerMedia unit -- it had a net leverage ratio of 5.
The company's direct-to-consumer business -- a segment that includes Max as well as Discovery+, which still exists as a stand-alone streaming service -- lost 1.8 million subscribers since the end of the latest quarter. The losses are lower than the company had previously anticipated due to about four million overlapping subscribers of the two services.
The streaming services produced a smaller loss for the company but were still operating in the red, with an adjusted loss of $3 million.
Warner Bros. Discovery shares closed 2.7% higher Thursday.
"The migration to Max has gone exceedingly well," Zaslav said on the call. He said users spent more time on the new platform compared with its previous incarnations.
Zaslav declined to offer specifics or a timeline when it comes to making live sports available on streaming in the U.S. The company has sports rights for the National Basketball Association, National Hockey League and Major League Baseball.
"We have a real strategic plan that we're finalizing," Zaslav said, adding that its current deals give it flexibility in terms of offering sports via a direct-to-consumer platform.
Such a move has to be navigated carefully so as not to hurt the fees it collects from pay-TV distributors for its TBS and TNT networks, which currently are its primary sports hubs.
The use of CNN content on Max also is something the company has frequently said is a goal.
When Zaslav took the helm of the company in April of last year after Discovery's merger with AT&T's WarnerMedia was completed, one of his first moves was to shutter the just-launched CNN+ streaming service, believing it would be better to offer such content on a broad-based platform rather than a service devoted strictly to news.
For the quarter ended June 30, total revenue fell 4% on a constant-currency basis to $10.36 billion, missing analysts' estimates of $10.44 billion, according to FactSet.
Warner Bros. Discovery's loss narrowed to $1.24 billion, or 51 cents a share, from a loss of $3.42 billion, or $1.50 a share, a year earlier as the company continued to pay down its debt. Analysts polled by FactSet expected a loss of 35 cents a share.
The company's networks segment, which includes the likes of CNN, TBS, HGTV and the Food Network, saw revenue fall 5% compared with a year ago on a constant-currency basis. That decline was partially caused by a 13% drop in advertising revenue.
On Friday, representatives of the Writers Guild of America and the alliance representing major studios, networks and streamers are expected to discuss the possibility of returning to the negotiating table for the first time in roughly three months.
Credit: By Joe Flint and Ben Glickman

DETAILS

Subject:	Streaming services; Debt restructuring; Professional baseball; Streaming media
Business indexing term:	Subject: Streaming services Debt restructuring; Corporation: Warner Bros Discovery AT &T Inc Warner Media LLC; Industry: 51621 : Media Streaming Distribution Services, Social Networks, and Other Media Networks and Content Providers 71121 : Spectator Sports
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: CNN; NAICS: 516210; Name: Warner Media LLC; NAICS: 512110, 517111, 517112; Name: Warner Bros Discovery; NAICS: 512110, 516210, 517111, 517112; Name: AT &T Inc; NAICS: 517111, 517112
Classification:	51621: Media Streaming Distribution Services, Social Networks, and Other Media Networks and Content Providers; 71121: Spectator Sports
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics --Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399311
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/warner-bros-discovery-add-news-sports-streaming/docview/2845399311/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Doctors to Review Guidelines for Treating Transgender Youth

Sapsford, Jathon; Armour, Stephanie . Sapsford, Jathon; Armour, Stephanie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The American Academy of Pediatrics, the nation's premier association of pediatricians, plans to review the evidence for gender-affirming medical care and potentially amend its policies that help guide doctors and clinicians providing the treatment to transgender youth.

The exact scope of the review has yet to be determined, but it is expected to include an evaluation of medical interventions such as puberty blockers and hormones, which are in some cases used to delay puberty or boost physical features associated with a gender different from the patient's sex at birth.

The process, known as a systematic evidence review, typically looks at all relevant evidence behind any given treatment, adjusting for bias and other potential flaws. It will be conducted by an external organization, the AAP said. Its goal will seek to confirm best practices for treatments of transgender youth, adolescents and young adults, the AAP said. The association's board, voting in its headquarters in the Chicago area, approved the external review Thursday.

The vote comes after a number of Republican-run states introduced bans or other restrictions on gender-affirming care, saying the science doesn't support medical interventions. The systematic review "reflects the fact that the board is very concerned about the restrictions," said AAP Chief Executive Mark Del Monte.

The AAP issued a policy statement in 2018 supporting the use of gender-affirming care. The older policy was up for its mandatory, five-year review later this year. The board voted to reaffirm the policy, but officials said it could possibly be revised subject to the review.

The stakes are potentially significant, with the review coming as the nation's doctors face intense and growing scrutiny of their treatment of gender-diverse youth. The AAP is one of a number of medical associations whose guidelines for such treatments are cited in everything from court cases to insurance claims to media reports over whether medical interventions are appropriate for children.

In Europe, systematic evidence reviews have led to at least five European countries -- the U.K., Sweden, Finland, Norway and France -- to urge more caution in the use of puberty blockers and other medical interventions, noting that there isn't enough evidence to support claims that the benefits outweigh the risks. In the U.S., about 1.6 million people ages 13 and above identify as transgender, according to the Williams Institute at University of California, Los

Angeles. In recent months, the treatment of this community has become a focal point for the nation's politics.
Credit: By Jathon Sapsford and Stephanie Armour

DETAILS

Subject:	Puberty; Gender-affirming care; Physicians; Transgender persons
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399306
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-doctors-review-guidelines-treating/docview/2845399306/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Trading-Card War Sparks Antitrust Suit --- Panini accuses rival Fanatics of illegal push to dominate the collectibles field

Beaton, Andrew; Gottfried, Miriam . Beaton, Andrew; Gottfried, Miriam.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Sports collectibles company Panini America filed a federal antitrust suit against Fanatics, alleging that its new rival has attempted to monopolize the market for trading cards with its dramatic foray into the sector two years ago.

In a lawsuit filed Thursday in U.S. District Court in Florida, Panini alleged that Fanatics violated federal antitrust law with its aggressive move into the trading card business in August 2021. The complaint also accuses Fanatics of violating various state laws by interfering with Panini's business through actions such as allegedly disparaging the company to industry partners. Panini, known for producing football and basketball cards, is seeking unspecified damages.

Fanatics shocked the industry in 2021 by striking long-term exclusive deals with the unions representing players in the National Football League, National Basketball Association and Major League Baseball, along with the NBA and MLB themselves. Some of the agreements have yet to take effect and last as long as 20 years, which the lawsuit says is anticompetitive because of their unprecedented length and that they lock up three of the biggest leagues under one umbrella.

"What Fanatics has done is essentially lock out competition, literally, for decades in all three major sports trading card markets. That obviously hurts consumers," said David Boies, chairman of Boies Schiller Flexner, the law firm representing Panini. "Fanatics' behavior is the behavior of a typical monopolist."

The new deals instantly reordered the industry under Fanatics, the growing empire of chief executive Michael Rubin, whose business now includes not only sports merchandise and trading cards but also sports betting. Fanatics' trading card enterprise was valued at over $10 billion just a month after its launch, The Wall Street Journal previously reported.

Fanatics' sudden takeover blindsided hobbyists and the existing trading card powers alike. The development caused card maker Topps, which had a longstanding relationship with MLB and the MLB union, to call off its plan to go public via a special-purpose acquisition vehicle.

Panini -- which currently has deals with the NBA and NFL along with their unions and had overseen robust expansion in the market in recent years -- said in its lawsuit that it was also caught off guard and only learned of the deals when they were reported in the media.

"By combining long-term exclusive licenses for every Major U.S. Professional Sports League, Fanatics positioned itself to drive Panini and other potential competitors out of the market, and erected barriers to entry blocking their return," the complaint says. "A monopolistic outcome here will harm the public, consumers, and competition by allowing Fanatics complete control to set and raise prices for MLB player trading cards, NBA player trading cards, and NFL player trading cards."

In a statement, a Fanatics spokesperson called the lawsuit a "baseless last-gasp, flailing effort by a company that has lost touch with its consumers, is failing in the marketplace and has tried unsuccessfully for years to sell itself." It added:

"At Fanatics, we remain focused on innovation, and working to improve an industry that has been sleepily led by

Panini for years."
People familiar with Fanatics' thinking said Fanatics believes that Panini's business model is outdated and that the leagues and players unions struck deals with Fanatics because of its opportunity to grow the industry. The leagues and players will be able to recapture more revenue, including on the secondary market, with Fanatics, the people said. The leagues and unions also received stakes in the Fanatics trading card business when they struck their pacts.
In January 2022, Fanatics accelerated its move into trading cards when, shortly after acquiring MLB's rights, it bought Topps's trading-card business for $500 million, allowing it to begin its relationship with baseball immediately. Panini's deals in football and basketball last until 2026 and 2025, respectively.
Panini's lawsuit alleges that Rubin bragged to people in the industry that it would also force Panini to sell itself to Fanatics. The lawsuit says that Fanatics took various steps to exert a "pressure campaign" against Panini and that in May of this year, Rubin approached Panini and conveyed that it wouldn't stop.
Panini executives also say the bidding process for the rights was abnormal -- particularly in the way that they were excluded. Typically, they said, trading card companies are given the opportunity to pitch the leagues and their unions on why they're the right partner and that the negotiations are much closer to when the licenses expire. Panini had no such opportunity to bid for the rights Fanatics acquired, according to the lawsuit.
Panini America, a subsidiary of the Italian collectibles company Panini Group that has long had a relationship with soccer's FIFA World Cup, was formed in 2009 when it secured an exclusive deal with the NBA and purchased the assets of another trading card company that had nonexclusive rights to the NFL and MLB players unions.
The lawsuit says that "through superior innovation and competitive success," Panini achieved great results for the leagues and reliably increased revenue. According to figures from the company, its trading card business has grown from $200 million in 2017 to over $1 billion in 2022.
In May, data from the card grading company Professional Sports Authenticator said that over the last year baseball cards have taken the lead in order units, followed by football and basketball.
For years, Panini and Fanatics had a business relationship because the latter would provide the bulk of the player jerseys that would go into premium cards. But the lawsuit says that in May of this year, Rubin threatened that Fanatics would no longer supply those materials.
Credit: By Andrew Beaton and Miriam Gottfried

DETAILS

Subject:	Antitrust; Basketball; Trading cards; Professional sports; Soccer; Professional baseball
Business indexing term:	Subject: Antitrust; Industry: 71121 : Spectator Sports
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: National Football League--NFL; NAICS: 711211, 813990
Classification:	71121: Spectator Sports
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399295
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-trading-card-war-sparks-antitrust/docview/2845399295/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Trump pleaded not guilty to charges that he conspired to overturn the results of the 2020 election, appearing in a federal courtroom just blocks from the U.S. Capitol his supporters stormed on Jan. 6, 2021.

Israeli military reservists began skipping duty, following through on a threat from thousands of their peers to suspend service after the government moved to limit the Supreme Court's power.

A federal appeals court allowed the Biden administration to enforce its new asylum rules while litigation continues

over the policy, blocking a lower court decision that would have barred enforcement.

Russia is looking to buy more ammunition from North Korea to replenish its dwindling stockpiles amid Moscow's ongoing war in Ukraine, the U.S. said.

Striking Los Angeles hotel workers are calling for a levy on employers to subsidize the construction of affordable employee housing, saying inflation has eroded their previous wage increases.

The American Academy of Pediatrics plans to review the evidence for gender-affirming medical care and potentially amend its policies that help guide doctors and clinicians providing the treatment to transgender youth.

Islamic State said its little-known top leader had been killed, a confirmation that came months after Erdogan said the man died in the course of a Turkish intelligence operation in Syria.

DETAILS

Subject:	Election results; Presidential elections
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399294
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2845399294/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

For Some New Moms, a Difficult Reality --- Mood and anxiety disorders are common -- but for many, help is hard to find

Mutoh, Anna . Mutoh, Anna.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Jaclyn Ohmer couldn't wait to have a baby. Before she was pregnant, she bought onesies and beagle-shaped booties. She and her husband, her high-school sweetheart, found out they were having a son and prepared a Star Wars-themed baby room. The 26-year-old from Parma, Ohio, was ready for his arrival.

Things got harder after he was born in June of last year. Ohmer loved him but she often felt sad. She grew anxious waiting for his next cry. She wasn't sure she was fit to be a mom.

When he was shrieking one day, Ohmer had a terrifying thought: "If I put my hand over his mouth, he will be gone. He wouldn't have to live with me, or go through this."

She became increasingly fearful of hurting her baby -- and more convinced that her family would be better off without her. Ohmer tried to seek help, but help was hard to find.

Researchers estimate that one in five new mothers in the U.S. suffers from mood and anxiety disorders during pregnancy and up to a year after giving birth -- about 800,000 mothers every year. Yet studies show that a large majority of women who suffer from maternal mental-health disorders aren't able to get help.

A major cause is the piecemeal nature of the U.S. healthcare system, where no one medical professional takes responsibility for new mothers and their mental health. Obstetricians, usually the first medical point of contact for new mothers, often don't specialize in it. Pediatricians focus on the children. Many women seeking help go from

doctor to doctor, who struggle to find care amid a shortage of mental-health specialists.
"Obstetricians may not take ownership. Pediatricians may not take ownership. Psychiatrists may not take ownership," said Joy Burkhard, founder of Policy Center for Maternal Mental Health, a nonprofit organization. "All of them are punting the mother to each other, and moms fall through the cracks."
The U.S. is already the most dangerous place among high-income nations to give birth, with the highest rate of deaths related to pregnancy and childbirth, according to the World Health Organization. The number of women in the U.S. who died during pregnancy or shortly after recently grew to its highest rate since 1965, according to the National Center for Health Statistics, to 33 deaths per 100,000 live births.
Last September, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said mental-health disorders have become the leading cause of maternal death, contributing to nearly one in four pregnancy-related deaths. These include deaths due to suicide and drug overdose during pregnancy or within a year after birth.
Treatments that have been shown to be effective for maternal mental health, such as psychotherapy, are hard to get. New mothers can also face the stigma of being seen as an unfit parent and have their baby taken away, leaving some reluctant to seek help.
This week, the Food and Drug Administration is expected to announce a decision on zuranolone, the first pill to treat postpartum depression. If approved, the challenge "will be in making sure people can access it. Because that is the piece that new medication does not solve," said Dr. Nancy Byatt, a perinatal psychiatrist at UMass Chan Medical School.
In the struggle to find treatment, Ohmer was no exception.
Ohmer told her obstetrician at University Hospitals Health System that she often felt sad and anxious. Her OB said those feelings were normal for a new mother, and prescribed her anxiety medication.
Days later, Ohmer called her husband at work in a panic. She was having suicidal thoughts. Her OB sent her to the emergency room.
The ER didn't admit her because Ohmer didn't have a specific plan to end her life, according to Ohmer and her family. Instead, they told her to go see her primary care doctor at Cleveland Clinic, who set her up with a social worker. The social worker recommended an outpatient postpartum depression care center not affiliated with Cleveland Clinic. It had a one-year wait list.
Ohmer's anxiety worsened over the next two months, leading to nightly panic attacks and regular hallucinations. She found herself shuttled between doctors and hospitals. She repeatedly tried to overdose on her anxiety medication. She was eventually sent for both inpatient and outpatient care at Highland Springs, a general behavioral health facility near Cleveland.
She went for a month, but said she didn't feel any better. "Nobody in there could relate to her and talk to her about what she was going through," said Tiffany McBroom, 51, Ohmer's mother.
University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic and Highland Springs declined to comment, citing patient privacy.
"The whole time, we're trusting all these doctors with everyone saying, 'Oh, yeah, we're gonna help you,' but every time it's been a letdown," said Nick Ohmer, 25, Ohmer's husband.
Scientists aren't sure what causes postpartum depression and associated mood disorders, but one potential cause could be some women's sensitivity to fluctuating hormones. A recent study from the University of North Carolina School of Medicine suggests inflammation in neural pathways may contribute to the syndrome.
A growing number of Americans have been diagnosed with mental-health disorders, due in part to factors like increased screening and the toll of the pandemic. But therapists are in short supply. The shortage is even worse for those who focus on new mothers, doctors say.
Across the country, there are only three inpatient care facilities dedicated to maternal mental-health care, according to Postpartum Support International, a nonprofit organization, and nearly 30 more that offer outpatient care.
Brenda Encarnacion, 30, from Santa Clarita, Calif., was voted Most Likely to Know Everyone in high school. She had been working as an extra in movies but became a federal deportation officer because she wanted more financial stability so she could start a family with her husband, Mitchail Encarnacion, 31.

After their baby girl was born in October 2020, some friends said they saw a change in her mood, but thought it was normal stress. "She was hiding it very well," her father, Miguel Ayala, 57, said.
Mitchail Encarnacion noticed changes after three months when his wife stopped breast-feeding and she returned to work after maxing out her unpaid 12-week family leave. She would start crying while baking a pie or simply because she wore the "wrong pants," he said.
A trained paramedic, he noticed bruise marks on her legs, and one day saw his wife punching her limbs. He begged her to go see a therapist, he said. She began to see a general therapist once a week but stopped when she didn't find it helpful. At each pediatric visit for their daughter, staff routinely asked if she was feeling depressed or had suicidal thoughts, her husband said, but he didn't feel staff members were really engaging with her. "It was not even like a second, and obviously Brenda's going to be like, 'No.'"
One day Brenda told her husband that she felt worthless -- a sign that suggested she might be having suicidal thoughts, he said. He tried to convince her to leave her job, but they got into an argument because that would mean losing their health insurance.
The following morning, at around 5 a.m., Mitchail woke up to a text from Brenda. She apologized and cryptically told him she left so he couldn't stop her, he said. She told him that she loved him, and to make sure their daughter knew she loved her too.
In a panic, Mitchail rushed to the local train station that Brenda used for her commute. Her car was there, engine running, and the door unlocked.
He opened the car door and found his wife inside, dead.
"She shot herself in the heart," said Brenda's father.
Later that day, a package of hundreds of printed photos, downloaded from Brenda's phone, arrived at the family's home, Mitchail said -- sent by his wife.
Reasons for suicide are rarely clear or simple. Brenda had kept a lot to herself, said Jeriann Ledner, 32, one of her closest friends. "I have come to terms that she had the disease of postpartum depression, because that is not something that the Brenda we loved would have done," she said.
Her husband said he's now living with his parents, who help him take care of their daughter, and thinks every day about how he could have prevented his wife's suicide. He said he has since been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and severe depression.
Women who attempt suicide typically overdose or cut themselves, both of which can be reversed if caught in time, said Adrienne Griffen, founder of Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance, a nonprofit organization focused on health policy. Women who have recently given birth, however, often choose more lethal means of death, including jumping, hanging and shooting. "They are so desperate," she said.
The U.S. is the only high-income nation in the world that doesn't have paid maternity leave, according to the nonprofit Bipartisan Policy Center, and an estimated one in four women return to work within two weeks of giving birth. The stress of juggling a job during the physical and emotional changes of new motherhood puts women at higher risk for postpartum depression, studies have found.
The statistics are worse for Black women in the U.S. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, their mortality rate was 2.6 times as much as the rate for white women. Public-health experts have attributed the disparity in part to less access to healthcare, fewer economic and educational opportunities that contribute to maternal health and unintentional bias among healthcare workers.
Studies have found that Black mothers are more likely than white mothers to suffer from maternal mental-health disorders, and less likely to get help. Black women who do seek help are often labeled angry and emotional, said Da'na Langford, co-founder of Village of Healing, an Ohio maternal-health care provider run by Black women.
Only 5% of psychologists and 6% of psychiatrists are Black, according to industry groups.
Belinda Staley in New York said the stigma and difficulty of getting help had an impact on her sister, Denise Williams, a former supervisor at Costco and a single mother of two young daughters. Williams was "bubbly and could light up the room," said her sister, adding, "There was nothing Denise wouldn't do for her babies."

About a year after her first daughter was born in 2018, Williams began to change, Staley said, secluding herself in her room for hours at a time. Then she started asking, "Am I a great mom?" Staley said.
Williams' apparent depression grew worse when she was pregnant with her second child, Staley said. At times, she would wander outside at 2 a.m. with her toddler, said Charlene Magee, 50, Williams' aunt.
In 2021, when Williams was about six months pregnant with her second daughter, she went to a police station across the street seeking help and was sent to a hospital psychiatric ward for two weeks, Staley said.
Putting a woman with a maternal mental-health disorder into a general psychiatric ward is "like offering headache medication to somebody with a stomachache," said Kallen Thornton, manager of Gender Responsive Services at the Colorado Behavioral Health Administration, a state agency. In addition, she said, "It can damage her identity as a mother and motivation for recovery."
Williams had her second child a few months later. After she told a drugstore employee she wanted to kill herself and her children, emergency medical services took her to a hospital where she was handcuffed, shackled and labeled a prisoner under arrest in need of medical care, according to medical records. New York's child protective services took her children, and temporary custody was given to her sister. Williams was discharged three days later.
Ten days later, Williams' mother called an ambulance because Williams was acting erratically. She died at the hospital two days later, at age 29. The autopsy report said she had died of a pulmonary embolism, a blood clot that travels to the lungs.
Looking back at how Williams was treated, Staley said, "the help wasn't there for my sister."
Ohmer finally found help at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill's Center for Women's Mood Disorders, one of the three inpatient facilities in the U.S. for maternal mental health. While such facilities have existed in other countries for over 60 years, UNC was the first to open specialized inpatient care in the U.S. in 2011, said Dr. Samantha Meltzer-Brody, department chair of the center.
Two weeks after she got in touch with UNC, Ohmer, her husband and her mother drove the nine hours from Ohio to North Carolina. She was told she would stay anywhere between a week and 20 days.
Within a week, Ohmer passed an evaluation process to get brexanolone, the first drug approved by the FDA in 2019 specifically for postpartum depression. The 60-hour intravenous infusion treatment is made from a derivative of the hormone progesterone.
Patients need to be monitored during treatment because it can cause excessive sedation and sudden loss of consciousness, but it can start working within days. Speed of recovery is especially important for new mothers to achieve baby bonding, doctors say.
Without insurance, Ohmer's total treatment cost for three weeks at UNC, including the infusion and other therapy, would have been over $180,000. With insurance, she paid just under $1,500. The bill still added to the thousands of dollars in medical debt the family had accumulated.
After two days of the treatment, Ohmer's family noticed a difference. "Her voice had a lightness," said her mother.
Ohmer said she is still working through her mental-health challenges, but they feel much more manageable.
"Nobody cares about the mental state of moms until you hear about it on the news when they're already gone or the baby is gone," she said. "The lack of care, I just don't understand."
Credit: By Anna Mutoh

DETAILS

Subject:	Postpartum depression; Drug overdose; Womens health; Health care policy; Maternity &paternity leaves; Social workers; Families &family life; Pregnancy; Mental depression; Anxiety disorders; Mental health; Emotions; Suicidal behavior; Mothers; Pediatrics; Nonprofit organizations; Suicides &suicide attempts; Hospitals; Physicians

Business indexing term:	Subject: Maternity &paternity leaves Hospitals Physicians; Industry: 62111 : Offices of Physicians 62221 : Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals 62211 : General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Cleveland Clinic; NAICS: 622110
Classification:	62111: Offices of Physicians; 62221: Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals; 62211: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399292
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/some-new-moms-difficult-reality-mood-anxiety/docview/2845399292/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Russia Is Set To Buy More North Korean Munitions

Salama, Vivian . Salama, Vivian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Russia is looking to buy more ammunition from North Korea to replenish its dwindling stockpiles amid Moscow's ongoing war in Ukraine, the U.S. said Thursday.

An arms deal between North Korea and Russia would be a violation of several United Nations Security Council resolutions, said John Kirby, National Security Council spokesman.

The U.S. will continue to identify and stop Russian efforts to acquire ammunition from North Korea, or any other state that might be prepared to support the Kremlin's war in Ukraine, he said.

"This is yet another example of how desperate [Russian President Vladimir] Putin is becoming, because his war machine is being affected by the sanctions and the export controls," Kirby said. "He is going through a vast amount of inventory to try to subjugate Ukraine."

The revelation, which is based on declassified U.S. intelligence, follows a visit by Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu to Pyongyang last week seeking to reaffirm their military partnership.

Ammunition shortages have been a problem for both sides in the Ukraine war. President Biden last month warned that Ukraine was running out of ammunition. And Moscow has turned to Pyongyang for supplies, according to U.S. officials.

Earlier this year, the White House said Russia was negotiating a deal with North Korea to exchange weapons for food and other commodities.

The U.S. also has imposed sanctions and export controls on individuals who have allegedly attempted to facilitate arms deals between Russia and North Korea.

The Russian embassy in Washington, D.C., referred questions to the defense ministry in Moscow, which didn't respond immediately. The North Korean mission to the United Nations also didn't respond to a request for comment.

The U.S. has, in recent months, cited intelligence indicating a willingness by China and Iran to supply Russia with lethal aid. To date, the U.S. has said that there is no evidence China has followed through with those discussions.

Iran, meanwhile, has expanded its military trade with Russia, providing hundreds of drones to Moscow to pursue the war. Russia has used Iranian drones to attack Ukraine's electrical grid and other civilian infrastructure, according to Ukrainian and western officials.

Tehran repeatedly has denied that it has provided Russia with arms for use in the Ukraine conflict. Russia has denied that its forces have used Iranian-provided drones in the country.

The U.S., Britain and France have demanded that the U.N. investigate Russia's reported use of hundreds of Iranian-provided drones in the war, which would violate U.N. sanctions. It is unclear whether the U.N. would do so because it would face strong opposition from Moscow.

A large amount of munitions on both sides is being expended amid Ukraine's counteroffensive aimed at breaking the winter's stalemate and recapturing territory taken by Russian forces last year.

Some U.S. and European officials said they believe a successful Ukrainian offensive could pave the way for

negotiations between Kyiv and Moscow by the end of the year, and that China could help bring Russia to the table.
This weekend, senior officials from up to 30 countries are preparing to meet in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to talk about ending the war in Ukraine. Russia, however, won't be there, and the Saudis aren't expected to communicate outcomes.
Ukraine and European officials hope the process will lead to a major peace summit where the participants can sign off on a shared vision of how the war should end.
Credit: By Vivian Salama

DETAILS

Subject:	Military supplies; Ammunition; Sanctions; Export controls; Military sales
Business indexing term:	Subject: Sanctions Export controls
Location:	Iran; North Korea; China; Russia; United States--US; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399288
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-russia-is-set-buy-more-north-korean/docview/2845399288/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, includin g corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated: 2025-01-30

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: BOE Raises Interest Rate to 5.25% --- U.K. central bank signals it could be in the final stages of its long series of rises

Hannon, Paul; Dulaney, Chelsey . Hannon, Paul; Dulaney, Chelsey.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LONDON -- The Bank of England on Thursday raised its key interest rate for the 14th time in a row and said it might do so again as it tries to cool the fastest rise in consumer prices in the Group of Seven advanced democracies.

The U.K.'s central bank increased its bank rate to 5.25% from 5%, lifting it to its highest level since February 2008 and matching recent moves by both the Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank.

Like the U.S., the U.K.'s economy has proved surprisingly resilient during the past year, defying expectations that it would slip into recession following the surge in food and energy prices that followed Russia's invasion of Ukraine. However, economists warn that rising borrowing costs could push it into contraction.

The BOE began to raise its key interest rate before the Fed and the ECB, but the U.K.'s inflation rate has fallen less rapidly than that of either the U.S. or the eurozone. In June, U.K. consumer prices were 7.9% higher than a year earlier, compared with 5.5% in the eurozone and 3% in the U.S.

With further to go before it can be sure that inflation will fall to its 2% target, the BOE said it would raise its key interest rate again if there are signs that big wage increases are set to lead to additional price rises, particularly in the dominant services sector.

"I don't think it is time to declare it's all over, and we're sticking where we are," saidBOE Gov. Andrew Bailey." If we get more evidence of more persistent inflation, then we will have to react to that."

The BOE signaled that it might be in the final stages of its long series of rate rises.

The central bank forecast that inflation would be below its 2% target from mid-2025 if it were to raise its key rate to 6%, which financial markets viewed as the likely peak before Thursday's announcement.

The BOE also described its policy stance as "restrictive," meaning it is weakening activity and cooling inflation. Previous falls in the inflation rate largely have been because of energy prices, which aren't affected by BOE policy. That is a further indication that policy makers aren't convinced they need to push rates much higher to get inflation under control.

"They are suggesting that they are coming to the end of the rate-hiking cycle," said Mohit Kumar, chief European economist at Jefferies. "It could mean maybe one or two more rate increases, but they are not going to do a lot more."

The British pound and government bond yields fell after the decision but reversed course later alongside a rise in U.S. Treasury yields.

"I think the market has a bit of a quandary here," said Ben Nicholl, a portfolio manager at Royal London Asset Management. "The bank talked about a few different paths."
Investors pared bets on how high they expect the BOE to ultimately lift borrowing costs after the decision. Markets are pricing in a peak policy rate of about 5.75% by early next year, suggesting two more quarter-point increases. Expectations have fallen sharply since early July, when investors had anticipated rates to peak around 6.5%, according to interest-rate swaps markets.
Markets' attention is now shifting to what comes next after central banks end their most aggressive tightening cycles in decades. Investors believe the Fed is done raising rates after its 11th increase last month, while the ECB could deliver one more in September, according to swaps markets. All three central banks likely will keep rates on hold for nine to 12 months before moving to interest-rate cuts in 2024, Kumar said.
However, the BOE has underestimated the scale and persistence of the U.K.'s inflation problem since consumer prices began to rise rapidly in mid-2021. The BOE last week tapped former Fed Chair Ben Bernanke to conduct a review of its forecasting process, with the results expected to be published in spring 2024.
The economy has yet to feel the full force of the BOE's interest-rate increases. As Americans have done, Britons locked in ultralow rates on debt such as mortgages and auto loans in the decade-plus that followed the 2008 financial crisis. Though rates on some loans such as credit cards are rising along with interest rates, a chunk of consumer debt is still tied to the low rates of past years.
But unlike in the U.S., where interest rates on mortgages are fixed for between 15 and 30 years, British mortgages typically carry a fixed rate for between two and five years before being renegotiated, so a rising number of homeowners have been seeing their mortgage move to sharply higher interest rates.
Oxford Economics' Michael Saunders, who was a BOE rate setter until last year, estimates that the average interest rate on a U.K. mortgage loan rose by 0.9 of a percentage point through June from late 2021, compared with a likely total increase of 2.5 percentage points by the end of 2026.
"The BoE are likely to be aware that even if the policy rate and interest rates on new loans stop rising, the economy will face a powerful delayed monetary tightening through the refinancing of expiring fixed rate mortgages over the next few years," Saunders wrote in a note to clients.
Roughly three million households are expected to see their monthly mortgage payments rise by the end of the year, according to BOE data.
One of the BOE's nine rate setters voted against the increase, arguing that the lagged impact of previous moves would be enough to bring inflation down to the central bank's 2% target. Two rate setters voted for a larger, half-percentage-point rise, given that the central bank had underestimated inflation in the past.

Joe Wallace contributed to this article.
Credit: By Paul Hannon and Chelsey Dulaney

DETAILS

Subject:	Fixed rates; Interest rate swaps; Monetary policy; Borrowing; Mortgages; Inflation; Central banks; Inflation rates; Consumer Price Index; Eurozone; Loans; Energy prices
Business indexing term:	Subject: Fixed rates Interest rate swaps Monetary policy Borrowing Mortgages Inflation Central ban ks Inflation rates Consumer Price Index Eurozone Loans Energy prices; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	United States--US; United Kingdom--UK
Company / organization:	Name: Bank of England; NAICS: 521110

Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399286
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-boe-raises-interest-rate-5-25-u-k/docview/2845399286/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: SALT Deduction-Cap Battle Divides House Republicans --- Tax bill stalls as GOP lawmakers in areas with high levies seek changes

Rubin, Richard . Rubin, Richard.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The $10,000 cap on the state and local tax deduction is bedeviling Congress. Again.

Taxpayers who itemize deductions can get a federal break for state and local income- and property-tax payments. Republicans in 2017 limited that deduction to help pay for tax cuts, and the new restrictions largely pinched high-income people in high-tax states.

That decision split the GOP, divided Democrats who tried to repeal it, and just sparked yet another intraparty fight.

The latest dispute over what is colloquially known as the SALT cap pits a group of suburban Republicans against the rest of their party. The lawmakers, who largely come from competitive districts in high-tax states, say they will block a GOP tax bill unless the top tax writer, Rep. Jason Smith (R., Mo.), agrees to raise or scrap the $10,000 limit.

"In my district, if you own a home and you have a job, you hit the $10,000 cap," said Rep. Mike Garcia, a Republican who represents a Los Angeles-area district. "This issue and our ability to navigate the SALT is going to be what allows us to keep the majority."

In Congress, geography sometimes trumps ideology, and the SALT cap scrambles the usual partisan discourse regarding taxes. Republicans oppose raising taxes on top earners, but most support the cap because it reduces what they see as a federal subsidy for residents of high-tax states. Democrats who oppose the cap run into objections in their own party because the break mainly benefits high-income people.

The SALT cap, meanwhile, is most hated in suburban districts in high-tax states that have been among the hardest-fought races in recent elections. Those areas gave Democrats control of the House during the Trump administration and were pivotal in the shift to a narrow GOP majority last year.

Now the issue is complicating legislation that Smith and House GOP leaders want to pass that would reverse business-tax increases that Republicans baked into the 2017 law and that took effect in recent years. Without quick action by Congress, many small research-intensive companies face enormous tax bills because of a provision that changed how they deduct research costs.

While Smith's bill doesn't address the SALT cap, it would temporarily expand the standard deduction for individuals. That would make the $10,000 limit less important for some households.

Smith, who leads the House Ways and Means Committee, said he has been meeting with Republicans from high-tax states and is confident he has enough votes to get his bill through the House after Congress's summer break. It appears unlikely to become law as written. Democrats are open to business-tax changes but also want to expand the child tax credit in ways that Republicans oppose.

Smith suggested that SALT cap changes could be possible in an end-of-year bipartisan bill -- but not now."You don't vote against a bill because of what's not in it," Smith said.

The SALT fight has dogged lawmakers for years. In 2017, House Republicans considered eliminating the deduction before settling on the $10,000 cap. The House passed that bill with 12 Republicans opposed, but Smith and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R., Calif.) don't have that cushion now with their 222-212 majority.

"I'm going to continue to stand firm," said Rep. Nick LaLota (R., N.Y.), who represents eastern Long Island and is seeking a much higher cap, at least. "This is oxygen to many of my constituents. This is the one thing that cuts through all the partisan BS."

Garcia, the Los Angeles-area lawmaker, would prefer no cap but said he would settle for doubling it. Leaving it at $10,000, he said, would be "a continuation of this middle-finger mentality" toward his constituents.

In the 2018 election, suburban districts helped give Democrats the House majority -- and prompted a new SALT battle. Lawmakers from California, New Jersey and New York insisted on raising or repealing the cap in any tax

legislation, using a "No SALT, No Deal" rallying cry. The House eventually passed a bill with an $80,000 cap, but it flopped in the Senate and never became law.
Rep. Richard Neal (D., Mass.) was Ways and Means chairman then. He watches Republicans struggle now and describes himself as overjoyed."In the minority, they made it sound simple," he said. "They've now discovered that their majority hinges upon six people who really need some SALT relief."
Credit: By Richard Rubin

DETAILS

Subject:	Legislators; Tax increases; Fiscal policy; Tax deductions; State taxes; Tax reform; Federal legislation
Business indexing term:	Subject: Tax increases Fiscal policy Tax deductions State taxes Tax reform; Industry: 92112 : Legislative Bodies
Location:	Los Angeles California; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940; Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	92112: Legis lative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399285
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-salt-deduction-cap-battle-divides-house/docview/2845399285/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Wisconsin Supreme Court Swings to Left With New Justice

Yu, Isaac . Yu, Isaac.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Progressives gained control of Wisconsin's highest court Tuesday and appear ready to move quickly to pursue cases that could shift policy and political power in the state.

Janet Protasiewicz, elected in April after the most expensive contest for a state Supreme Court seat in U.S. history, was sworn in to the state's seven-member Supreme Court on Tuesday, creating a narrow liberal majority. The court, which came within one vote of nullifying Joe Biden's narrow win in Wisconsin during the 2020 election, has often been the ultimate stage of political clashes in a state evenly divided between Democrats and Republicans.

The newly created majority wasted little time, informing a top courts administrator Tuesday that he would be fired. On Wednesday, a liberal law group announced it would file a lawsuit challenging the maps of state legislative districts.

Positions on the court are technically nonpartisan, but many important rulings have broken along clear ideological lines. In recent elections political parties and advocacy groups have poured money into candidates' campaigns.

Before her election, Protasiewicz made her stances on issues such as abortion and redistricting clear, calling the state's legislative maps "rigged" for Republicans.

Abortion could come before the justices through a case from Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul, challenging the state's 1849 abortion ban. Potential suits addressing voting rights and public-sector unions could also reach the court in coming years.

The new court has the opportunity to transform the political landscape of Wisconsin through the redistricting lawsuit, filed on Wednesday by Madison-based nonprofit advocacy group Law Forward. The current maps have all but guaranteed Republicans a tight hold on the state Legislature, where they hold about two-thirds of seats in a state where voters are evenly divided. The court could decide the case before the 2024 election.

"The extreme partisan gerrymander is an affront against democracy. Every day it continues is a violation of the most fundamental rights of every Wisconsinite," said Jeff Mandell, an attorney and co-founder of Law Forward.

Rick Esenberg, founder of the conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law &Liberty, said Republicans in the state are concerned about potential decisions by the court. "We will be playing defense more than we have in the past," he

said.
Esenberg added that voters tend to swing between the two parties in Supreme Court elections, meaning the new majority's time in power "could be short-lived." Ann Walsh Bradley, a liberal justice, is up for re-election in 2025.
Credit: By Isaac Yu

DETAILS

Subject:	Law; Redistricting; Political power; Abortion; Voters; Judicial elections; Judges &magistrates
Location:	Wisconsin; United States--US
People:	Protasiewicz, Janet
Company / organization:	Name: Supreme Court-Wisconsin; NAICS: 922110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399283
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-wisconsin-supreme-court-swings-left-with/docview/2845399283/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Strikers Ask for Affordable Housing

Mai-Duc, Christine . Mai-Duc, Christine.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LOS ANGELES -- Delmy Cabanas and thousands of other hotel workers in this city have spent the past five weeks demanding higher wages, better health benefits and, in a less conventional ask for striking workers, help solving L.A.'s affordable-housing shortage.

"I want to spend more time with my kids," said Cabanas, a housekeeper who drives nearly four hours round-trip each day to her job at the Ritz Carlton hotel downtown from her home in Riverside.

Cabanas is a member of Unite Here Local 11, which represents 15,000 cooks, housekeepers, dishwashers, front-desk attendants and other hospitality workers in Southern California. Union leaders say that soaring housing costs have eaten away at wage increases they previously won, and that the hotel industry should bear some of the burden for addressing the problem.

In addition to an $11-an-hour wage increase over three years, union leaders are demanding employers institute a 7% fee, or a similar government tax, to build homes affordable to hotel workers and provide loans and other assistance to workers at risk of losing their housing. The union is also asking hotel owners to endorse a 2024 ballot measure in the city of Los Angeles that would require them to make vacant rooms available to homeless people.

"We are pushing the edge, but look, our members are living paycheck to paycheck more than ever, I would argue, because of the cost of housing," said Kurt Petersen, co-president of Unite Here Local 11.

Labor unions have increasingly demanded that employers take steps to address housing affordability in contract negotiations. Housing costs in and around many urban areas have outpaced wage increases, making it difficult for service workers and other low-income people to live close to where they work.

In the Los Angeles metro area, median monthly rents increased 24% to $2,100 between 2017 and 2022, according to rentals website Apartment List.

A worker in Los Angeles County would need to make $42.73 an hour to afford a typical two-bedroom apartment, according to 2023 data from the National Low Income Housing Coalition, an advocacy group. The minimum hourly wage for Unite Here hotel workers in Southern California is currently $19.

A group representing 44 L.A. area hotels filed unfair labor practice charges in July with the National Labor Relations Board, accusing Unite Here of bargaining in bad faith by making demands that have nothing to do with their members' labor contracts.

"They're asking for things that are beyond the hotels' control," Pete Hillan, a spokesman for the Hotel Association of Los Angeles, an industry group, said of the union's demands related to housing policy. "We cannot be held responsible for an issue that has been decades in the making because of failed policies."

Regarding the L.A. ballot measure, Hillan said forcing hotels to place unhoused people in rooms next to paying guests

would decimate business.
Petersen called the charges, which are pending, frivolous.
Keith Grossman, a lawyer representing the hotels, said they offered the union an immediate $2 hourly wage increase, with additional increases amounting to $4.25 per hour through 2027. Unite Here rejected that proposal, Grossman said. Petersen said hotel operators walked out of negotiations before his union could respond.
The two sides haven't met since July 18. Contracts covering some 15,000 hotel workers in Southern California expired at the end of June. Since then, union members have been holding rolling work stoppages.
Credit: By Christine Mai-Duc

DETAILS

Subject:	Workers; Strikes; Homeless people; Rentals; Affordable housing; Union leadership; Contract negotiations; Labor unions; Hotels &motels; Hospitality industry
Business indexing term:	Subject: Workers Strikes Affordable housing Union leadership Contract negotiations Labor unions Hotels &motels Hospitality industry; Industry: 81393 : Labor Unions and Similar Labor Organizations 72111 : Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
Location:	United States--US; Southern California; Los Angeles California
Classification:	81393: Labor Unions and Similar Labor Organizations; 72111: Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
Publication title:	Wa ll Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399281

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-strikers-ask-affordable-housing/docview/2845399281/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Florida Blocks AP Psych Courses

Ginger Adams Otis . Ginger Adams Otis.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Florida has "effectively banned" the Advanced Placement Psychology high-school course because it includes content on sexual orientation and gender identity, the College Board said Thursday.

The state's education department told school superintendents at a meeting that the AP Psychology curriculum violates Florida law, the College Board said.

Florida has emerged as a national model for socially conservative education with a series of recent legislation passed there that limits what can be taught in schools.

Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is seeking the Republican presidential nomination, has targeted what he considers the excessive influence of left-leaning ideas about race, gender and other cultural issues in classrooms.

Florida's Parental Rights in Education Act restricts teaching about sexual orientation and gender identity in public-school classrooms.

The law, often referred to as the "Don't Say Gay" law, was passed in 2022.

The governor's office referred a request for comment to the state's education department.

The Florida Department of Education said the AP course is still available to students.

"We encourage the College Board to stop playing games with Florida students and continue to offer the course and allow teachers to operate accordingly," the department said Thursday.

Credit: By Ginger Adams Otis

DETAILS

Subject:	Sexual orientation; State laws; Education; Gender identity; Advanced Placement program; Curricula

Location:	Florida; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: College Board-US; NAICS: 813410
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399278
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-florida-blocks-ap-psych-courses/docview/2845399278/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: India Restricts Imports of Electronics --- Move aims to boost local manufacturing and ease its

reliance on other countries

Roy, Rajesh . Roy, Rajesh.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW DELHI -- India is making it harder to import laptops, tablets and other consumer-electronics devices in a move intended to increase local manufacturing and address some security concerns, said government and industry officials.

Imports of laptops and other personal-computing devices will now require permits, making the import process more onerous, India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry said Thursday.

"There were concerns related to security of hardware in some of these imported products. So, in the digital security interest of India, we have taken this step," said an Indian government official with direct knowledge of the matter. "The fallout of this could also be that the companies start looking at local manufacturing."

The move is widely seen as aimed at getting more global electronics makers to sign on to the country's Make in India program, which offers incentives for manufacturing electronics and other high-tech goods locally, with eligible companies standing to recoup millions of dollars of their investments.

India initially targeted the program at smartphones, and has since expanded it to other areas, including drones, semiconductors and tech hardware.

Imports of computing devices covered under the new restrictions, which include computers and servers, totaled nearly $10 billion from January to December 2022, according to official data, or about 1.4% of India's overall imports last year.

India doesn't have prominent local personal-computer makers. Global companies such as HP and Dell Technologies manufacture locally in limited quantities. Apple, which makes iPhones in increasing numbers in India through its contract manufacturers, doesn't yet make MacBooks or iPads in the country.

Tarun Pathak, director at Counterpoint Research, said India has made remarkable progress in achieving nearly 100% local manufacturing of smartphones and televisions, but in the IT-hardware segment about two-thirds of sales rely on imported units.

Dell applied under an earlier version of the program to qualify for incentives for local laptop manufacture. In May, the government expanded funding to around $2 billion for manufacturing IT hardware, which covers laptops, tablets, all-in-one personal computers and servers, in a bid to sign on more global firms. This week it extended the deadline for manufacturers to apply under the program to Aug. 30.

India also has accompanied the incentives with tariffs or other import restrictions, which industry executives and analysts say could affect both manufacturers and consumers, given that local manufacturing for many types of electronics and components has yet to scale up.

"It's a knee-jerk reaction by the government. Industry is in a fix. They should have first done some consultation with us and not restricted the imports with immediate effect," said a senior executive at a leading consumer-electronics firm that also sells tablets and laptops. "This will impact business continuity."

The restrictions could lead to supply disruptions in the short term, particularly as the festival shopping season approaches, said Pathak, of Counterpoint, which puts the size of India's annual personal-computer market at about $8 billion.

HP leads the market for personal-computer sales in India, followed by Lenovo of China, according to market-research firm IDC.

Officials and industry executives say the incentive program has boosted Indian tech manufacturing. Trade data for

April to June showed that although overall exports were down, electronics exports -- especially of smartphones -- have grown substantially.
Credit: By Rajesh Roy

DETAILS

Subject:	Manufacturers; Smartphones; Manufacturing; Electronics; Portable computers; Personal computers; Computer industry; Incentives; Consumer electronics; Trade policy; Imports; International trade
Business indexing term:	Subject: Manufacturers Smartphones Manufacturing Computer industry Incentives Trade policy Imports International trade; Industry: 33411 : Computer and Peripheral Equipment Manufacturing 33521 : Small Electrical Appliance Manufacturing 33422 : Radio and Television Broadcasting and Wireless Communications Equipment Manufacturing
Location:	India
Classification:	33411: Computer and Peripheral Equipment Manufacturing; 33521: Small Electrical Appliance Manufacturing; 33422: Radio and Television Broadcasting and Wireless Communications Equipment Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399277
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-india-restricts-imports-electronics/docview/2845399277/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-04-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Amazon reported quarterly profit that trounced expectations, capping earnings reports from tech giants that showed improving health in areas from online retail to digital advertising after a stretch of slowing growth and mass layoffs.

Apple said revenue declined for the third consecutive quarter, the company's most prolonged sales slump since 2016 as the iPhone-maker continued to deal with declining demand for consumer devices.

Disney's ESPN is hunting for a strategic partner as it tries to bring order to the messy world of streaming and secure its own future.

U.S. stocks extended their recent slide, with the S&P 500, Dow and Nasdaq declining 0.3%, 0.2% and 0.1%, respectively.

The UAW is pressing the Detroit car companies to give its factory workers a 40% pay hike over four years, an increase that would be the largest in recent memory.

AB InBev said its U.S. sales, profit and market share fell sharply in the second quarter as consumers abandoned Bud Light after a promotion it did with a transgender influencer.

The Bank of England raised its key interest rate for the 14th time in a row, and said it may do so again as it tries to cool the fastest rise in consumer prices in the G-7.

KKR is in advanced talks to acquire Simon &Schuster for about $1.65 billion, according to people familiar with the situation, capping a yearslong effort by Paramount Global to sell the publisher.

DETAILS

Subject:	Profits
Business indexing term:	Subject: Profits
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399275
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2845399275/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Court Lets Asylum Policy Stay in Place

Caldwell, Alicia A . Caldwell, Alicia A.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A federal appeals court Thursday allowed the Biden administration to enforce its new asylum rules while litigation continues over the policy.

In a 2-1 ruling, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit agreed to a Biden administration request and blocked for now a lower court decision that would have barred the administration from enforcing its new policy.

The policy generally requires migrants coming to the U.S. border to have asked for protection in another country and have been denied, to be eligible to ask for asylum in the U.S.

Immigration lawyers and advocates have argued that because most Latin American countries have either fledgling or nonexistent asylum protocols, the rule is nearly impossible for migrants to follow, rendering the policy as a ban on asylum for most migrants caught crossing the border illegally into the United States.

The policy has been a pillar of President Biden's border enforcement efforts following the expiration of the Title 42 rule. Put in place by the Trump administration at the start of the pandemic, Title 42 allowed migrants to be quickly expelled at the border without a chance to ask for asylum.

Last week, U.S. District Judge Jon Tigar, who was appointed by President Barack Obama, ruled that the new policy violates U.S. asylum laws that allow for anyone who enters the country to ask for protection -- regardless of how they arrived.

In a dissent to Thursday's ruling, Judge Lawrence VanDyke said the Biden version of the asylum rule was nearly identical to the one proposed by the Trump administration and blocked by Tigar and later the Ninth Circuit.

"The Biden administration's 'Pathways Rule' before us in this appeal is not meaningfully different from the prior administration's rules that were backhanded by my two colleagues," wrote VanDyke, a Trump appointee. "This new rule looks like the Trump administration's Port of Entry Rule and Transit Rule got together, had a baby, and then dolled it up in a stylish modern outfit, complete with a phone app." Under the Biden rule, migrants need to use a cellphone app to apply for an appointment to request asylum at a legal border crossing.

The Department of Homeland Security said on Thursday: "We will continue to apply the rule and immigration consequences for those who do not have a lawful basis to remain in the United States."

Immigrant advocates who filed suit challenging the new rule said they would continue to fight the policy.

"The stay ruling doesn't say anything about the legality of the ban, and we are confident that we will prevail when the court has a full opportunity to consider the claims," said Katrina Eiland, deputy director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project, who argued the case.

Credit: By Alicia A. Caldwell

DETAILS

Subject:	Appointments &personnel changes; Federal court decisions; Immigration policy
Business indexing term:	Subject: Appointments &personnel changes

Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399264
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-court-lets-asylum-policy-stay-place/docview/2845399264/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.S. Sailors Charged With Spying --- Two men serving in Navy are accused of giving Beijing military intelligence

Youssef, Nancy A; Strobel, Warren P . Youssef, Nancy A; Strobel, Warren P.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Federal prosecutors charged two enlisted Navy sailors with providing military intelligence to China, including details of U.S. naval ships' operating systems and information about upcoming military exercises in the Pacific, officials said Thursday.

In both instances, according to unsealed federal indictments, a Chinese intelligence officer allegedly approached the junior sailors, suggesting that China is reaching deep within the military ranks in search of information about the Pentagon's effort to counter perceived threats from Beijing in the Asia-Pacific region.

China "stands apart in terms of the threat that its government poses to the United States," Randy Grossman, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California, said Thursday.

While both sailors' indictments were unsealed a day after they were arrested Wednesday in California, the amount and type of information they allegedly provided was different, according to the charging documents.

Jinchao "Patrick" Wei, a 22-year-old petty officer second class, served as a machinist's mate on the amphibious ship USS Essex. He faces four charges, including one that falls under the rarely used Espionage Act. Prosecutors allege that he was part of a conspiracy to send national defense information to Chinese officials.

The USS Essex currently is under maintenance at Naval Base San Diego, where Wei was arrested as he arrived to work, officials said. He has served in the Navy since July 2021, according to his public service record, and agreed to work with an unnamed Chinese intelligence officer less than a year after joining the Navy, according to the indictment. He continued spying for a year, prosecutors alleged.

Non-U.S. citizens can join the military if they are legally eligible to work, live in the U.S. and speak English. Wei, who was born in China, allegedly agreed to spy while he was applying to become a naturalized U.S. citizen, prosecutors said. When he became a U.S. citizen in May 2022, his Chinese handler congratulated him, prosecutors said. Wei told his handler he knew what he was doing would be considered spying, prosecutors said, but accepted several thousands of dollars in payments.

The second indictment charges a 26-year-old sailor, Wenheng "Thomas" Zhao, with allegedly sending photographs, videos and documents to an unnamed Chinese intelligence officer over a two-year period in exchange for just under $15,000. He is charged with conspiracy and receiving a bribe.

Zhao, who has been in the Navy since 2017, is a petty officer second class who worked as an electrician and held a secret clearance while he was based in a naval base in Ventura County, Calif. Among the information he allegedly sent were blueprints for a radar system operating on a U.S. military base in Okinawa, Japan.

In Zhao's case, many of the documents were classified CUI, or controlled unclassified information, or sensitive but not releasable, according to the charging document.

Neither Wei nor Zhao could be reached for comment and it wasn't clear whether they had legal representation.

It is unclear whether the same unnamed Chinese intelligence officer approached the sailors, but in both instances the operative allegedly told Wei and Zhao to destroy evidence to help them cover their tracks, officials said.

Liu Pengyu, a spokesperson for the Chinese Embassy in Washington, said that although China wasn't aware of the details of the cases, "the U.S. government and media have frequently hyped up cases of 'espionage' related to China." He added: "China firmly opposes the U.S. side's groundless slander and smear of China."

The Navy referred questions about the cases to the Justice Department, saying in a statement: "We take allegations of misconduct seriously, and the Navy is cooperating with the Justice Department."

Credit: By Nancy A. Youssef and Warren P. Strobel

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Conspiracy; Arrests; Military intelligence; Espionage; Armed forces; Public prosecutors; Sailors
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution 92811 : National Security
Location:	China; California; Beijing China; United States--US
Classification:	92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution; 92811: National Security
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399263
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-s-sailors-charged-with-spying-two/docview/2845399263/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Mississippi Ex-Officers Admit Rights Offenses

Bhattacharya, Suryatapa . Bhattacharya, Suryatapa.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Six white former law-enforcement officers in Mississippi pleaded guilty Thursday to federal civil-rights offenses against two Black men they assaulted during a home raid.

The charges were unsealed Thursday after the five former Rankin County sheriff's deputies and a former Richland police officer appeared in federal court in Jackson.

"The defendants in this case tortured and inflicted unspeakable harm on their victims, egregiously violated the civil rights of citizens who they were supposed to protect, and shamefully betrayed the oath they swore as law enforcement officers," Attorney General Merrick Garland said.

Officers burst into a home without a warrant Jan. 24 and assaulted the two men, Michael Jenkins and Eddie Parker. The officers held the men down and poured cooking oil, milk, alcohol and chocolate syrup on their faces and in their mouths, authorities said. The men were struck with objects including a sword, officials said, and were stunned with a Taser.

One officer placed a gun in Jenkins's mouth and fired, said U.S. Attorney Darren LaMarca.

The bullet lacerated Jenkins's tongue, broke his jaw and exited out his neck. "Thank God, he did live," LaMarca said.

The officers tried to cover up the incident, planting and fabricating evidence, threatening witnesses and lying to investigators, LaMarca said.

The Justice Department began investigating the officers in February after Jenkins's lawyer, Malik Shabazz, wrote to the department.

"Today is truly historic for Mississippi and for civil and human rights in America," Shabazz said after the guilty pleas were announced.

The six former law-enforcement officers -- Brett McAlpin, Christian Dedmon, Jeffrey Middleton, Hunter Elward, Daniel Opdyke and Joshua Hartfield -- pleaded guilty to all charges against them. Three also pleaded guilty to charges in an unrelated incident. The 16 total felonies include civil rights conspiracy, conspiracy to obstruct justice and obstruction of justice.

Jeff Reynolds, a lawyer for Opdyke, said his client "has taken responsibility for his wrongdoing." Lawyers for Hartfield said he will accept the consequences of his actions.

Lawyers for the other officers didn't respond to requests for comment. Sentencing for all six defendants is scheduled for November.

Credit: By Suryatapa Bhattacharya

DETAILS

Subject:	Obstruction of justice; Conspiracy; Civil rights; Criminal pleas; Police

Business indexing term:	Industry: 92212 : Police Protection
Location:	United States--US; Mississippi
Classification:	92212: Police Protection
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399255
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-mississippi-ex-officers-admit-rights/docview/2845399255/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Economic Slowdown Is Pending, Says Fed Bank Chief

Fernandez, Bob . Fernandez, Bob.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The impact of Federal Reserve interest-rate rises "should start to really hit around now," the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond said, adding that those who keep predicting a recession will eventually be right.

"No one banished the business cycle," Tom Barkin said at an event in Blacksburg, Va. "Most recessions come suddenly. Remember the pandemic or the global financial crisis. Unexpected shocks cause consumers and businesses to pull back in unison."

A recession now could be less severe than what was experienced in the 1980s or during the 2007-09 financial crisis, Barkin said.

"Recent large company layoff announcements have targeted administrative functions, not front-line workers," Barkin said. "These professionals may have a lower propensity to file for unemployment, be unemployed for shorter periods and often can leverage backup savings to bridge their consumption. Unemployment for those with a college degree runs at 2%."

Fed policy makers have raised interest rates 11 times to cool the economy since March 2022, seeking to bring inflation down to its 2% target. Recent government reports show inflation has fallen to 3%, an encouraging sign.

The Fed's next meeting to consider interest rates and inflation is set for September.

Forecasters have been predicting a recession for some time.

"So, why haven't we seen a recession?" he asked. "I think it's because the pandemic is still with us -- not the public health crisis, thankfully, but the economic dislocation it unleashed."

Credit: By Bob Fernandez

DETAILS

Subject:	Federal Reserve monetary policy; Inflation; Central banks; Economic crisis; Interest rates; Economic conditions; Pandemics; Recessions; Economic forecasting
Business indexing term:	Subject: Federal Reserve monetary policy Inflation Central banks Economic crisis Interest rates Economic conditions Recessions Economic forecasting; Industry: 92113 : Public Finance Activities 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Classification:	92113: Public Finance Activities; 52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399253
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-economic-slowdown-is-pending-says-fed/docview/2845399253/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits , government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Debt Problems Set to Remain --- Fitch's downgrade likely won't break Washington't tax and spending habits

Duehren, Andrew . Duehren, Andrew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Fitch Ratings chastised Washington policy makers this week for fighting too much, spending too much and cutting taxes too much.

Republicans and Democrats are likely to keep doing all three.

Fitch's downgrade of its U.S. government debt rating Tuesday only fueled more of the partisan bickering that the firm said was raising concerns about America's ability to tackle its swelling budget deficits. And as Congress prepares to hash out spending for next fiscal year, the two parties aren't considering the policies that could meaningfully address the problem: raising taxes or cutting spending on major programs such as Medicare or Social Security.

"There's no imminent signs of Congress having the political will to address our entitlement programs or the revenue that funds them and the rest of the government," said Shai Akabas, executive director of economic policy at the Bipartisan Policy Center. "It's a sign of worse things to come if we don't get our fiscal house in order."

Biden administration officials lambasted the Fitch decision, blaming the Trump administration for destabilizing the political system and pointing to their own deficit-reduction efforts. Republicans said Democrats' spending plans had knocked the economy off the track, doubling down on calls for cuts that the White House has rejected.

Helping enable Washington's deadlock is the markets' muted reaction to the downgrade -- and global investors' seemingly bottomless appetite for U.S. government debt. Gone are the days when so-called bond vigilantes stalked the Treasurys market demanding lower deficits. Even this spring's debt-ceiling fight had only a limited impact on trading in the roughly $25 trillion market.

In its report this week, Fitch pointed to projections for rising U.S. deficits as a sign of the country's troubled fiscal outlook. After dropping sharply last year, the gap between spending and revenue has grown by 170% in the first nine months of this fiscal year, according to Treasury data through June.

Factors driving the deficits' growth include higher net interest costs, a product of the Federal Reserve's interest-rate increases. The U.S. has spent $131 billion more on interest payments so far this fiscal year, a 25% increase from the prior year. Tax revenue has also dropped by 11% after surging last year.

Net interest costs are expected to reach an amount equivalent to 3.7% of U.S. gross domestic product in fiscal year 2033, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid -- which account for roughly two-thirds of all federal spending -- will also continue to get more expensive. CBO expects spending on Social Security to grow from 5.1% of GDP in 2023 to 6.0% in 2033. Spending on Medicare, Medicaid and other mandatory health programs will rise from 5.8% of GDP to 6.6% over the same period, per CBO.

While some lawmakers have floated ways to overhaul Social Security and Medicare, the topic largely remains a third rail for both Republicans and Democrats.

During this year's debate over raising the debt limit, for example, both parties shied away from considering cuts to Social Security or Medicare. The programs are hugely popular across the political spectrum. A lower credit rating isn't likely to change that fundamental political calculation.

"I don't think it should shape how people feel about debts and deficits. We've known we've had a long-term imbalance for decades and this doesn't change anything," said Ben Harris, a former top economist at the Biden Treasury Department.

Congress will have to act eventually. Social Security's trust fund will run out in 2034, meaning the government won't be able to pay the full amount of promised benefits, the government estimates. And Medicare's hospital-insurance trust fund will be able to cover all benefits until 2031. Lawmakers will be forced to act on taxes far sooner, in 2025, when many of the most popular of the Trump-era tax cuts are set to expire.

Credit: By Andrew Duehren

DETAILS

Subject:	Taxes; Medicaid; Fiscal years; Social security; Politics; Budget deficits; Medicare; Trust funds; Interest costs; Credit ratings; National debt

Business indexing term:	Subject: Taxes Medicaid Fiscal years Social security Budget deficits Medicare Trust funds Interest costs Credit ratings National debt
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Congressional Budget Office--CBO; NAICS: 921120; Name: Fitch Group; NAICS: 525990
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399251
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-debt-problems-set-remain-fitchs/docview/2845399251/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Islamic State Confirms Top Leader Is Dead

Malsin, Jared . Malsin, Jared.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ISTANBUL -- Islamic State confirmed on Thursday that its little-known top leader had been killed, the third time in less than two years thatthe extremist group's senior leader had met that fate.

In an audio statement attributed to its spokesman, the group said its previous leader, code-named Abu al-Husayn al-Qurayshi, had been killed in clashes with a rival militant group, Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which controls part of northwestern Syria.

The statement comes months after Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the same Islamic State leader had been killed in a Turkish intelligence operation in northern Syria.

The group named a new leader, Abu Hafs al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi. The organization's most recent top commander made no public statements during his time in charge of the group, according to extremism experts.

Islamic State seized control of huge swaths of Iraq and Syria in 2014, imposing brutal religious rule on millions of people and launching a global campaign of violent attacks on civilians. The group lost control of its last piece of territory in Syria in 2019 after years of overwhelming military operations by Iraqi and Syrian forces backed by U.S. air power.

The organization has persisted as an underground militant group that is still capable of lethal violence.

In early 2022, its militants carried out a prison break in eastern Syria that resulted in days of street-to-street fighting with U.S.-backed Syrian forces. Some 500 people died in the violence.

Islamic State has been unable to recapture its former momentum in Syria and Iraq, but also operates branches in Afghanistan and parts of Africa.

The group remains under pressure from a U.S.-led coalition of Syrian and Iraqi forces. In July the U.S. military said it killed an Islamic State leader in an airstrike in Syria.

Credit: By Jared Malsin

DETAILS

Subject:	Militancy
Location:	United States--US; Syria; Iraq
Company / organization:	Name: Islamic State of Iraq &the Levant--ISIS; NAICS: 813940
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399250
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-islamic-state-confirms-top-leader-is/docview/2845399250/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Gene-Edited Meat Brings Oversight Turf War

Whyte, Liz Essley . Whyte, Liz Essley.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The future of genetically modified bacon, steak and fish is at the center of a Washington food fight.
The White House is refereeing whether the Food and Drug Administration or the Agriculture Department should

regulate disease-resistant pigs, hornless cattle and faster-growing salmon -- gene edits that could also result in unintended consequences if not done carefully.
Food companies have sought gene-edited cattle and fish because they promise to grow bigger, faster and more resistant to climate change and viruses. Pork producers and other industry players have been pushing for USDA oversight, saying the agency would be faster and less expensive to deal with than the FDA.
Consumer and environmental groups, worried about safety, counter that the USDA is too close to industry and say the FDA brings the scientific expertise demanded by such a technical area.
Officials from both agencies met at the White House last week, a person familiar with the matter said. The White House referred requests for comment to USDA and FDA. USDA said discussions between the two agencies were ongoing and that it provides leadership based on the best available science. The FDA said it balances innovation and safety.
The FDA has been overseeing much of the sector to date. It has approved five products, including pigs safe for people with tick-derived meat allergies to eat. The agency also has deemed another 45 genetically modified animals as low-risk enough to not require approval.
Genetically engineered animals were a $4.2 billion market in 2020, expected to grow to $6.4 billion by 2027, according to estimates from Global Market Insights.
Pork producers and other companies say USDA, which already regulates gene-edited plants, should gain oversight as the technology matures and the animals become more common. FDA's oversight is too time-consuming and expensive, industry representatives say.
"We're only falling further and further behind some of our international competitors," said Andrew Bailey, a lobbyist for the National Pork Producers Council, a trade group.
It took the FDA nearly 20 years before approving AquAdvantage Salmon, a faster-growing version of the fish, which the agency cleared in 2015. The FDA said it took so long because it was the first product of its kind when the technology was nascent.
The FDA and its allies say the agency already has the legal authority as well as the expertise to avoid potential dangers.
"FDA has a clear public health mission," said Peter Lurie, president of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, a consumer advocacy group. "It's not obvious to me that USDA has the expertise in-house the way that FDA does."
Proponents of FDA oversight point to the hornless cattle engineered by Minnesota-based company Recombinetics as an example of the importance of the agency's oversight. The company hailed the cattle as a breakthrough advance for animal welfare, since farmers often put dairy cows through painful dehorning procedures. But FDA scientists in 2019 found the engineered cows had genes that could make the animals resistant to certain antibiotics.
Recombinetics said it didn't screen for those genetic effects at the time and should have. The company said it no longer uses those cattle cells or that technology, and it remains committed to responsible gene-editing to promote animal welfare and sustainability.
FDA allies say it has gotten fast and is trying to be faster. The agency has written new guidelines for the sector, but they have remained parked at the White House, awaiting approval for more than a year.
"Healthy programs evolve, and there are lessons learned," said Tracey Forfa, director of the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine, which oversees gene-edited animals. "We want to support innovation, but we also want to make sure that consumers know FDA has looked at all these things."
FDA supporters also worry USDA is too cozy with industry to safely regulate the sector, since part of the agency's mission is to promote U.S. agriculture. Bailey, the pork lobbyist, said USDA is known as a strong regulator in meat and poultry plants and has clear authority in food safety.
The Biden administration's most recent budget proposal suggests it is leaning toward picking USDA. The proposal included nearly $5 million and 25 new full-time employees for USDA to develop the expertise to regulate gene-edited animals.
Credit: By Liz Essley Whyte

DETAILS

Subject:	Pork; Lobbyists; FDA approval; Cattle; Animal care; Genetically altered foods; Federal regulation; Animal welfare
Business indexing term:	Subject: FDA approval; Industry: 81291 : Pet Care (except Veterinary) Services
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Department of Agriculture; NAICS: 926140; Name: Food &Drug Administration--FDA; NAICS: 926150
Classification:	81291: Pet Care (except Veterinary) Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399244
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-gene-edited-meat-brings-oversight-turf/docview/2845399244/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-10-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NORTH CAROLINA
Rep. Bishop Won't
Seek Re-Election
U.S. Rep. Dan Bishop, a vocal member of the Freedom Caucus that has become a foil to House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, said Thursday that he would run for North Carolina attorney general next year rather than seek to remain in Congress.
Bishop joined Congress in 2019 by narrowly winning a special election, after raising his profile in state politics as a chief sponsor of the controversial 2016 "bathroom bill."
Bishop's decision opens a seat within a 14-member delegation now evenly split between Democrats and Republicans. The Eighth Congressional District that Bishop currently represents stretches over all or parts of eight suburban and rural counties east of North Carolina's largest city and is solidly conservative.
-- Associated Press

PITTSBURGH
Death Sentence
Formally Imposed
The man who killed 11 congregants at a Pittsburgh synagogue was formally sentenced to death Thursday, one day after a jury determined that capital punishment was appropriate for the perpetrator of the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history.
U.S. District Judge Robert Colville imposed the sentence on Robert Bowers, a 50-year-old truck driver whose antisemitism led him to shoot his way into a place of worship.
"I have nothing specific that I care to say to Mr. Bowers," Colville said.
Bowers, from suburban Baldwin, ranted about Jews online before carrying out the attack at the Tree of Life synagogue on Oct. 27, 2018.
An appeal is expected, meaning that Bowers will likely spend years on federal death row even if the Justice Department lifts the moratorium on executions.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Synagogues; Capital punishment; Congressional elections; State laws

Business indexing term:	Industry: 92112 : Legislative Bodies
Location:	United States--US; North Carolina
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	92112: Legislative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399237
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2845399237/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-10-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Foreign Travelers Grow Scarce in China

Fan, Wenxin . Fan, Wenxin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Half a year after China lifted Covid-19 restrictions and reopened its borders, few international travelers are coming -- another sign of decoupling between China and the West that could have negative repercussions for a long time.
Foreign travelers' absence is particularly evident in major cities like Beijing and Shanghai, where the numbers of foreigners who visited in the first half of the year totaled less than a quarter of comparable figures in 2019, before the Covid pandemic.
Nationwide, just 52,000 people arrived to mainland China from overseas on trips organized by travel agencies during the first quarter, the latest period for which national data is available, compared with 3.7 million in the first quarter of 2019. As in past years, nearly half of the visitors came from the self-ruled island of Taiwan and the Chinese territories of Hong Kong and Macau, rather than farther-away places like the U.S. or Europe.
"The number of visitors from Europe, America, Japan and Korea are all dropping, substantially," said Xiao Qianhui, a director with the semiofficial China Tourism Association in a speech in May.
Fewer tourists and businesspeople from overseas means fewer opportunities for foreigners to see China and interact with locals, an important factor in reducing geopolitical tensions, experts say.
The dearth of visitors could also be contributing to less investment in China. Foreign direct investment fell to $20 billion in the first quarter, compared with $100 billion in last year's first quarter, according to an analysis of government figures by Mark Witzke at Rhodium Group, a research firm.
The drop in foreign investment and arrivals comes as China's economy stagnates, with a depressed housing market, record youth unemployment and widening fears the country could be slipping into deflation. The Chinese economy barely grew in the second quarter from the first three months of the year.
A shortage of available flights to China is partly to blame for the low arrival numbers, with carriers not yet restoring the same level of service they offered pre-Covid. But Chinese and overseas tourism experts say foreign visitors are also staying away because of deteriorating relations between China and the West, which has made them more wary of visiting.
In June, the U.S. government issued a travel advisory warning Americans to reconsider travel to mainland China because of what it called "the arbitrary enforcement of local laws," including exit bans and the possibility of wrongful detentions.
Friendly Planet Travel, a Pennsylvania-based boutique operator, used to send as many as 1,500 tourists to China a year. Since Covid, it hasn't had a single request, said Peggy Goldman, its founder and president.
When her team researched the destinations people are searching for online, "China is really at the bottom of that tracking," she said. "There was a lot of animosity around the subject of China."
The company has yet to put its China packages back online, although Goldman said she believes China will become popular again eventually.
Leisure travel from North America to China in the first half of 2023 was about 40% of the same period of 2019, according to Mondee Holdings, a travel technology company based in Austin. Mondee sold about half a million flights from North America to China in 2019 through travel agents and other intermediaries, roughly one-fifth of all air travel from North America to China that year.
Although business executives are still making inquiries about traveling to China, many now are focusing on risks,

whereas in the past, they wanted to find out how to expedite a visa, said Dan Harris, a partner in Seattle at Harris Bricken, a law firm that advises on investments in China.
"Companies are very, very concerned about their people going to China. Why wouldn't they be?" he said, pointing to news of China's recent investigations into Western due-diligence and other firms, which included government raids on global consultancies including Bain &Co. "People are not going to China unless they have to."

Liyan Qi contributed to this article.
Credit: By Wenxin Fan

DETAILS

Subject:	Travel; Tourism; International travel
Location:	China; United States--US; North America; Europe
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399234
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-foreign-travelers-grow-scarce-china/docview/2845399234/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Steelmakers Expand Despite Cooling Sales --- Nucor, U.S. Steel and others are predicting better demand from infrastructure, autos

Tita, Bob . Tita, Bob.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Steelmakers are investing in new plants, anticipating a big payoff from the steel needed for federal infrastructure projects, increased car production and new electric-battery facilities.

Nucor, Steel Dynamics and United States Steel are among the steelmakers making big investments in new or expanded plants that could add more than 12 million tons a year of capacity to make flat-rolled steel in the next couple of years. Steel shipments from domestic mills last year were nearly 90 million tons, down 5.5% from 2021, according to the American Iron and Steel Institute trade group.

Steel executives expect additional steel consumption will come from billions of dollars of infrastructure spending on road and bridge repairs, solar- and wind-energy facilities and higher automobile production.

Large, new plants to make semiconductors and electric-vehicle battery plants also are expected to lift the construction industry's appetite for metal.

Steelmakers' confidence in improving demand comes during a relatively soft period for the industry. Prices and demand for steel have been falling since spring after manufacturers and steel distributors bought steel early in the year to restock depleted inventories. Nucor, Steel Dynamics, Cleveland-Cliffs and U.S. Steel all recently reported lower sales and earnings in the quarter ended in June from a year earlier.

The U.S. benchmark price for coiled sheet steel has fallen 29% since April to $835 a ton, according to S&P Global Commodity Insights. The spot-market price has been unwinding for most of the past two years after record levels caused by steel shortages during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Stock gains for most steelmakers have lagged behind the broad market S&P 500 index's 18% return so far this year.

Steel executives expect funding will start to reach specific projects later this year, allowing orders for steel and other materials to follow. The construction and automotive industries are the biggest users of steel made in the U.S., the steel institute said.

Some buyers, particularly steel distributors, have become increasingly cautious on the assumption that inflation and an uncertain economy threaten to cool down the steel market further, according to some steel executives. Spending indicators for some crucial steel markets, such as warehouse construction, have recently signaled growing weakness, analysts said.

Ohio-based Cleveland-Cliffs, the largest supplier of automotive sheet steel, said its second-quarter steel shipments rose 15% from a year earlier to 4.2 million tons, but the company's average selling price for steel during the quarter

dropped 16%.
The company is now adding capacity to make special thin steel used in the motors of electric vehicles, as is U.S. Steel. Cleveland-Cliffs said steel demand from automotive customers has been rising as supply-chain problems that have held down vehicle production in recent years are resolved.
Nucor, which opened a mill in Kentucky to produce steel plate, said offshore wind-energy towers under development would help provide demand for the mill's output. About 250 tons of plate steel are needed for every megawatt of generating capacity in a giant wind turbine, the company said. One turbine could require nearly 2,000 tons based on an average generating capacity of 7.4 megawatts of electricity.
"It's a huge opportunity for plate," Al Behr, Nucor's executive vice president for plate and structural products, told analysts during the company's earnings conference call last week.
Nucor and Steel Dynamics use some of the steel they make to produce beams, joists and girders, roof panels, and reinforcing bars for concrete used in factories, roads and other nonresidential construction projects.
Indiana-based Steel Dynamics' steel-fabrication business, which accounted for 38% of its operating profit during the second quarter, said the order backlog for some building products extends into early next year. "We continue to have high expectations for that business," Steel Dynamics Chief Executive Mark Millett said during a call with analysts July 20.
The company also said automakers have stepped up production recently to build safety stocks of vehicles in case the coming negotiations with the United Auto Workers union result in a strike.
For the first time since the onset of the pandemic, North American auto production is expected to approach a normal year's volume, Cleveland-Cliffs CEO Lourenco Goncalves said. "Because automotive is so big for us, this is a game-changer," he said during a conference call last week.
Credit: By Bob Tita

DETAILS

Subject:	Infrastructure; Pandemics; Vehicles; Steel industry
Business indexing term:	Subject: Infrastructure Steel industry; Corporation: US Steel Corp Steel Dynamics Inc
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: US Steel Corp; NAICS: 331110; Name: Steel Dynamics Inc; NAICS: 331110; Name: Nucor Steel; NAICS: 331110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399233
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-steelmakers-expand-despite-cooling/docview/2845399233/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: New Lawyer Says Case Is Abuse of Power -- Lauro, who recently joined Trump team, sees charges as an attack on free speech

Wolfe, Jan; Fanelli, James . Wolfe, Jan; Fanelli, James.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

When former President Donald Trump appeared in a federal courthouse in Washington on Thursday, he was accompanied by the recently hired John Lauro, a seasoned trial lawyer retained exclusively to battle special counsel Jack Smith's sweeping indictment released this week.

"This case with President Trump is going to be a tough one because the government has something like 60 lawyers and investigators all aligned," Lauro said in an interview. "It is going to be a real courtroom battle, and we anticipate there may be over 100 witnesses called and the trial could last many, many months."

The indictment unsealed on Tuesday accuses Trump of a criminal scheme to stay in power after his November 2020 election defeat. He pleaded not guilty Thursday to charges including conspiracy to defraud the U.S. and conspiracy

against the rights of voters.
The unprecedented criminal trial of a former president will carry high stakes for Lauro, the Justice Department, and a country that is polarized by politics and approaching a presidential campaign in which Trump is the Republican front-runner to take on President Biden's re-election bid. A rematch between the former and current presidents is already reopening the divisive debate over Trump's false claims about the 2020 election, which are at the heart of the case against Trump.
Lauro, who said his political views "trend conservative," describes the case against Trump as emblematic of a concern he has had for years: the overcriminalization of American life. "We're in an era when prosecutors are really making up criminal theories that haven't been used before, and that has really scary consequences for all Americans," Lauro said. "That's a big concern of mine, and a reason I got involved in this case."
Before representing Trump, Lauro's most newsworthy engagement was his defense of former NBA referee Tim Donaghy, who admitted to betting on games he officiated. Donaghy was sentenced to 15 months in prison after pleading guilty to two federal charges.
A longtime contributor to Fox News, Lauro is no stranger to media interviews, and he plans to frequently appear on television as the case unfolds. Since the indictment was unsealed, Lauro has appeared on Fox News, CNN, and NBC's "Today" show, among other outlets. In his television appearances, Lauro has framed the case as an assault on free speech.
"This defense of Mr. Trump is not just for him, but also, in my mind, for all Americans who want to exercise free speech and take unpopular political positions," Lauro said. "What we're seeing in society now is you're getting censored or canceled or told you can't raise your voice and speak what you want."
Anticipating that defense, Smith said in the indictment that Trump is being prosecuted for "unlawful means of discounting legitimate votes and subverting the election results," not for his political speech.
"The Defendant had a right, like every American, to speak publicly about the election and even to claim, falsely, that there had been outcome-determinative fraud during the election and that he had won," the indictment stated.
"Indeed, in many cases, the Defendant did pursue these methods of contesting the election results. His efforts to change the outcome in any state through recounts, audits, or legal challenges were uniformly unsuccessful." By pressing those issues further, with the result being the assault on the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, the same day Congress was certifying Biden's victory, prosecutors argue, Trump broke the law.
Smith and Lauro share some history. Lauro, 65 years old, worked in the narcotics division at the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of New York in the late 1980s. Smith, the special counsel and Lauro's chief adversary in the Trump case, worked at the same U.S. attorney's office a decade later.
Lauro later practiced at the law firm Zuckerman Spaeder, but left to open his own office.
Patricia Pileggi, who worked with Lauro in the government, said lawyers often call him to brainstorm about their cases. Lauro provides his own clients with a clear picture of where they stand in their case, she added.
"John is very good at really assessing the evidence and making the decision of what is in the client's best interest to do," said Pileggi, a partner at law firm ArentFox Schiff.
Sean O'Shea, a partner at law firm Cadwalader, Wickersham &Taft, said Lauro is fearless in the courtroom, noting how he can remain unflappable even when a judge chews him out, sometimes unfairly, in front of a jury.
"I think the former president is in very good hands," O'Shea said.
Credit: By Jan Wolfe and James Fanelli

DETAILS

Subject:	Law firms; Trials; Public prosecutors; Freedom of speech; Speeches; Indictments; Political campaigns; Election results; Conspiracy; Presidential elections; Scandals

Business indexing term:	Subject: Law firms; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J; Lauro, John
Company / organization:	Name: Fox News Channel; NAICS: 516120
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution; 54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 4, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2845399230
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-new-lawyer-says-case-is-abuse-power/docview/2845399230/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jone s &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Bud Light's Struggles Cast Pall Over Its Summer Ad Campaign

Deighton, Katie . Deighton, Katie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Bud Light has continued losing ground with consumers during a busy season for the beer industry even as the brand runs its biggest yet summer advertising campaign.

Ads for the brand have appeared about 3,400 times on national television from June 1 through July 30, according to iSpot.tv, an ad-measurement company that tracks TV and streaming-video advertising.

In the same period last year, Bud Light ads ran 32 times on national TV, according to iSpot. The brand's TV commercials traditionally run more often in the fall, including during National Football League games.

Bud Light sales, meanwhile, remain in a slump.

U.S. retail-store dollar sales of the brand fell 26.1% in the week ended July 15 and 26.8% in the week through July 22, compared with their respective year-earlier periods, according to an analysis of NIQ data by Bump Williams Consulting.

And in the four weeks ended July 22, Bud Light accounted for 6.8% of U.S. retail-store beer dollar sales, compared with Modelo Especial's 8.8%.

Bud Light lost its crown as the top-selling beer in the U.S. to Constellation Brands' Modelo Especial in May.

Bud Light parent Anheuser-Busch InBev is entering its fifth month of trying to untangle itself from a boycott sparked by a social-media collaboration between Bud Light and transgender influencer Dylan Mulvaney.

Distributors continue to struggle to sell Bud Light into retailers and bars, beer industry analysts say, and Anheuser-Busch last month said it was laying off hundreds of workers at its U.S. offices, including corporate and marketing roles in St. Louis, New York and Los Angeles.

But the current ad campaign promoting Bud Light, which began in late June, is working hard to portray a sunnier image.

The comic effort, an extension of the "Easy to Drink, Easy to Enjoy" theme Bud Light introduced during the Super Bowl, features beer drinkers confronting summertime mishaps such as falling out of a hammock and burning bare feet on sun-scorched asphalt, but enjoying Bud Light with ease.

Anheuser-Busch CEO Michel Doukeris said on an earnings call in May that the company would triple Bud Light's U.S. media budget during the summer.

The result is the brand's biggest yet summer campaign, according to the company.

Investment in brand marketing -- emotion-led activity to educate or remind consumers about a brand, rather than promotions to drive revenue quickly -- often requires time to reap rewards, because consumers usually need to be exposed to a brand several times before they pay attention, said Stefanie Boyer, professor of marketing at Bryant University.

Bud Light's summer campaign is also aimed at a mass audience, which can be a trickier strategy to pull off than connecting with specific groups, Boyer said.

Bud Light has also been running promotions, including a weekly $10,000 giveaway and a $15 rebate program on large

packs timed around the July 4 holiday.
Some industry experts said any kind of marketing is unlikely to materially shift Bud Light's fortunes under current conditions.
Many Bud Light drinkers have felt insulted for myriad reasons, whether they disliked the Mulvaney promotion or believed the brand should have publicly supported the influencer after the backlash began, said Bump Williams, president and CEO of Bump Williams Consulting.
Others were offended at how the brand's previous campaigns were characterized by a marketing executive as featuring "fratty, sort of out of touch humor," Williams said.
"The Bud Light shopper who's left the brand has zero interest in coming back," Williams said, "so you can spend all the money you want, but until you fix the problem -- apologize and admit you made a mistake -- it's wasted money."
An Anheuser-Busch spokesperson said Bud Light remains the No. 1 beer in the U.S. for the year to date.
Consumers want Bud Light to "get back to what we do best: being the beer of easy enjoyment," Todd Allen, Bud Light's vice president of marketing, said.
Anheuser-Busch is scheduled to report its latest quarterly financial results on Thursday.
Credit: By Katie Deighton

DETAILS

Subject:	Marketing; Sales; Beer; Advertising campaigns; Breweries; Financial performance
Business indexing term:	Subject: Marketing Sales Advertising campaigns Breweries Financial performance; Corporation: Anheuser-Busch Cos Inc; Industry: 31212 : Breweries
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Anheuser-Busch Cos Inc; NAICS: 312120, 713110
Classification:	31212: Breweries
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994816
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-bud-lights-struggles-cast-pall-over/docview/2844994816/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Judge Imposed Tough Sentences Over Jan. 6

Wolfe, Jan; Bravin, Jess . Wolfe, Jan; Bravin, Jess.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan, the federal judge assigned to former President Donald Trump's latest criminal case, has been critical of the events on Jan. 6, 2021, and has imposed lengthy sentences on Trump supporters who stormed the Capitol that day.

At the same time, Chutkan, a former public defender, has shown a scrupulous concern for the rights of criminal defendants. During the final years of the Trump administration, she repeatedly frustrated Justice Department efforts to accelerate the execution of federal inmates. The Supreme Court reinstated the executions she had blocked.

Chutkan would oversee a trial in the case, which she hasn't yet scheduled. Trump will make his initial appearance in the case Thursday. That hearing is expected to be overseen by U.S. Magistrate Judge Moxila A. Upadhyaya.

The indictment unsealed on Tuesday, which accuses Trump of a criminal scheme to stay in power after his November 2020 election defeat, has been randomly assigned to Chutkan, a 2014 Obama appointee who was confirmed by the Senate on a 95-0 vote.

"The judge they drew is obviously not a fan of what happened on Jan. 6," said Douglas Berman, a professor of criminal law at the Ohio State University. "She's not inclined to give people involved the benefit of the doubt."

Chutkan attended George Washington University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She worked for more than a decade in the Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia, representing individuals accused of

murder and sex crimes.
From 2002 until her appointment to the federal bench in 2014, Chutkan practiced at Boies Schiller &Flexner, the law firm founded by liberal trial lawyer David Boies. In 2012, Chutkan volunteered with Lawyers for Obama, participating in event planning phone calls, according to a questionnaire she filled out as part of her judicial nomination.
In November 2021, Chutkan issued a 39-page decision that allowed the House Select Committee investigating the Jan. 6 assault on the Capitol to access telephone records, visitor logs and other White House documents that Trump wanted blocked.
Trump had sued the congressional committee and, in his complaint, accused the committee of "sending an illegal, unfounded, and overbroad records request" in order to "harass" him and his allies.
Chutkan rejected Trump's arguments. "While broad, these requests, and each of the other requests made by the Committee, do not exceed the Committee's legislative powers," she wrote in her decision.
In a memorable line from that ruling, Chutkan wrote: "Presidents are not kings, and Plaintiff is not President."
Chutkan has also drawn attention for imposing tough sentences on Jan. 6 rioters.
In October 2021, Chutkan handed down a 45-day jail sentence for a Texas man who prosecutors said should be given home confinement. That court hearing marked the first time that a judge overseeing the hundreds of Jan. 6 prosecutions imposed a sentence that was harsher than what the government asked for.
"There have to be consequences for participating in an attempted violent overthrow of the government, beyond sitting at home," the judge said to defendant Matthew Mazzocco at his sentencing hearing.
"The country is watching to see what the consequences are for something that has not ever happened in the history of this country before," the judge said.
Credit: By Jan Wolfe and Jess Bravin

DETAILS

Subject:	Court hearings &proceedings; Murders &murder attempts; Trials; Judges &magistrates; Criminal law; Criminal sentences
Location:	United States--US
People:	Chutkan, Tanya
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	009 99660

Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994814
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-judge-imposed-tough-sentences-over-jan-6/docview/2844994814/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Warehouse Rents Climb to a Record -- The surge comes even as demand for space weakens and vacancy rates rise

Young, Liz . Young, Liz.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Warehouse rental prices across the U.S. have never been as high as they were in the second quarter, when the average asking rent for industrial space reached $9.59 a square foot.

That was 16.1% higher than the same period last year, said commercial real-estate services firm Cushman &Wakefield, and extended a four-year run of rising leasing costs that has pushed the price of warehouse space up 50% since the spring of 2020, when exploding consumer demand driven by the pandemic sent the market for warehouses skyrocketing.

In some markets, rents are rising even faster. The average asking rent in the Tampa Bay, Fla., region jumped 32.2% in the second quarter year over year, according to real-estate services firm JLL.

Yet vacancy rates for industrial real estate also are rising, reaching 4.1% in the second quarter after bottoming out at close to 3% late in 2022, when experts said hot markets like Southern California were effectively full.

The rush to find storage sites has slowed to a crawl: Newly leased space fell by nearly 36% in the second quarter, according to Cushman &Wakefield, to 141 million square feet, as consumer spending pivoted from goods to services

and big retailers sought to burn off excess inventories.
The gap between falling demand and rising prices is in part the result of particular dynamics of the industrial real-estate market, experts say, where warehouse operators and their customers typically sign deals for three to five years, basing leasing decisions on long-term prospects rather than short-term market conditions.
Industry experts say the rising vacancy rates also disguise a fundamental factor driving the sector: The broader market for warehouse space remains extremely tight by historical standards, with availability still far below prepandemic levels.
The 4.1% vacancy rate last quarter was sharply higher than the 3.5% rate in the first three months of the year, but still well below the 5% average vacancy rate of 2020, according to Cushman &Wakefield.
Mehtab Randhawa, global head of industrial research at JLL, said companies are still competing for space in some cases, which is driving up rents even as shifting consumer spending and rising interest rates weigh on leasing decisions.
Suppliers to manufacturers that are opening production facilities in the U.S. are taking on warehouse space, for example, Randhawa said, helping replace some of the falling demand from e-commerce retailers.
Leasing has fallen "from the abnormal highs that we saw in 2021 and 2022 postpandemic," Randhawa said. "It's normalizing now."
Jason Price, senior research director for U.S. industrial at Cushman &Wakefield, said a flood of facilities built over the past year, as warehouse operators raced to keep up with demand, also is driving up the average rental rate. About 139.5 million square feet of industrial space wrapped up construction in the second quarter, some of it replacing older facilities with new sites better outfitted for automation and other contemporary logistics strategies.
"These are priced at a premium over the market average in most cases, and that just naturally pushes the recorded average asking rents upwards," Price said.
Even though average rental rates are rising, some companies are able to find better deals on space than they had the past few years, Price said. Tenants have "more options on the table for them, whether it's within new construction or previously existing product," he said.
Developers have recently been paring back projects amid declining leasing activity and rising interest rates, which could prolong a shortfall of logistics space and put additional pressure on asking rents, industry experts said.
Prologis, the world's largest builder of logistics properties, said construction starts were down about 40% in the second quarter across the U.S. markets where it operates.
"We see deliveries in 2024 falling short of demand, reducing vacancy over the course of next year," said Timothy Arndt, chief financial officer of Prologis, on an earnings call July 18.
Price said he expects rents will keep rising this year and next, but at a slower rate than they did at the height of the pandemic-driven demand.
"We're not projecting rents to revert downward at all," he said.
Credit: By Liz Young

DETAILS

Subject:	Vacancies; Consumer spending; Interest rates; Logistics; Industrial space; Pandemics; Leasing; Rentals; Warehouses
Business indexing term:	Subject: Consumer spending Interest rates Logistics Leasing Warehouses; Corporation: Cushman &Wakefield Inc; Industry: 49311 : General Warehousing and Storage 53231 : General Rental Centers 53113 : Lessors of Miniwarehouses and Self-Storage Units
Location:	United States--US

Company / organization:	Name: Cushman &Wakefield Inc; NAICS: 531210, 531312
Classification:	49311: General Warehousing and Storage; 53231: General Rental Centers; 53113: Lessors of Miniwarehouses and Self-Storage Units
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994813
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-warehouse-rents-climb-record-surge/docview/2844994813/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Synagogue Shooter Is Sentenced To Death

Maher, Kris . Maher, Kris.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

PITTSBURGH -- A federal jury decided Wednesday that Robert Bowers should be put to death for killing 11 people at the Tree of Life synagogue, the deadliest antisemitic attack on U.S. soil.

The verdict came more than 4 1/2 years after the massacre and following nine weeks of testimony that reopened wounds in Pittsburgh's Jewish community amid divisions over whether the death penalty should be imposed. Since late May, witnesses recounted the attack in graphic detail while experts for each side offered conflicting conclusions about Bowers's mental health.

"The evidence in this trial proved that the defendant acted because of white-supremacist, antisemitic and bigoted views that unfortunately are not original or unique to him," said U.S. Attorney Eric Olshan.

In June, the same jury found Bowers guilty of dozens of federal hate crimes after hearing testimony in which survivors of the Oct. 27, 2018, massacre recounted the attack and prosecutors played harrowing 911 calls in which people could be heard being shot and killed. Bowers, 50 years old, was found guilty of 63 counts, including 11 counts of obstructing the free exercise of religious beliefs resulting in death.

Wednesday's verdict, after 10 hours of deliberations over two days, provides a measure of closure for members of the Tree of Life, New Light and Dor Hadash congregations that worshiped at the synagogue in the city's Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

Several families of victims thanked prosecutors, those who testified and the jury.

"Returning a sentence of death is not a decision that comes easy, but we must hold accountable those who wish to commit such terrible acts of antisemitism, hate, and violence," said the family of Rose Mallinger, who was 97 when she was killed beside her daughter Andrea Wedner, who was also shot but survived.

Leaders of the New Light congregation said its members accepted the jury's decision even though they were divided about sentencing Bowers to death or life in prison.

At trial, prosecutors focused on Bowers's hatred of Jews and belief that they were evil, his premeditated plan to attack a synagogue, his murder of elderly and disabled worshipers, and his lack of remorse.

"To him the only good Jew is a dead Jew," Olshan said in his closing argument Monday, before reminding jurors that Bowers targeted people solely because of their faith.

Bowers's attorneys argued that he should be sentenced to life in prison because he was delusional and lacked the intent required by federal law for a capital sentence.

Credit: By Kris Maher

DETAILS

Subject:	Antisemitism; Criminal sentences; Capital punishment; Murders &murder attempts; Trials
Location:	United States--US
People:	Bowers, Robert
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994811
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-synagogue-shooter-is-sentenced-death/docview/2844994811/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Marines Switch Gears Amid China Tensions

Cherney, Mike . Cherney, Mike.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE SCHERGER -- On a recent morning, three tilt-rotor Osprey aircraft carrying some 18 U.S. Marines each took off from this remote air base in Australia's north. After landing about 700 miles away in a town called Bloomsbury, the Marines rushed out and took up positions along a dirt road near houses and farm animals.

The maneuver being practiced is part of the U.S. military strategy for confronting China, which U.S. officials believe is preparing for a possible invasion of Taiwan, the self-governing and democraticisland that Beijing claims as part of its territory.

After two decades fighting land wars in the Middle East, the Marines are now training for small, mobile and hard-to-detect teams to set up temporary bases and move from island to island in the Indo-Pacific, where the troops can then use rockets, aircraft and other weapons to deny any adversary use of pivotal waterways nearby. For the Marines, the Scherger air base, in Australia's tropical zone and not far from Papua New Guinea, imitates the climatic conditions the troops might face in flashpoints such as the disputed South China Sea and around Taiwan.

"We can't do what we have done for so long," Brig. Gen. Kevin Jarrard, assistant division commander of the 1st Marine Division, said shortly after Marines stormed out from the Ospreys during the training exercise in Australia. "We cut our teeth during the desert wars for 20 years -- where we really did not have to think much about operating some place where we didn't have complete air supremacy, and we really didn't have to think about managing our digital signatures at all."

The concept, called expeditionary advanced base operations, has similarities with the U.S.'s campaign against Japan in World War II, but there are new challenges. Rather than just fighting their way in, the idea is for Marines to be pre-positioned or stealthily deployed to areas within the range of China's missiles, aircraft and ships. That means U.S. troops would need to keep their electronic, thermal and physical footprints low -- and be able to move fast.

Allies such as Japan and the Philippines, which control many of the most advantageous locations for these small teams, would need to consent to the U.S. using their territory in a conflict,which isn't guaranteed. And the U.S. must figure out how to deploy, supply and provide medical care for troops over the Indo-Pacific's vast distances.

One point of tension for military planners is making sure the Marines have adequate firepower without making them easy to detect, said Ben Ho, an associate editor at the International Institute for Strategic Studies who focuses on future conflict and cyber power. Still, Ho said the concept, which seeks to deny China aerial and maritime superiority during a conflict, fits with the U.S.'s strategy of trying to deter Beijing from military action.

China says its foreign policy aims for peace, and its officials have accused the U.S. of stoking tensions in the region, though Beijing hasn't ruled out using military force to take Taiwan.

At Scherger, one of several remote military installations in Australia's north, the Marines practiced setting up a temporary base -- and using it to send troops farther afield. Soldiers slept in tents and ate military rations. A makeshift medical facility was covered in camouflage netting. At a briefing, officers used a map on the ground made from drink cans and power cords. Ospreys were parked on a tarmac nearby.

One goal was to understand better how far the Marines could project a credible force from their local home base -- which in this case was Darwin, a northern Australian city where Marines have been deploying annually for training. The drill called for the Marines to go from Darwin to Scherger, and then from Scherger to Bloomsbury, covering a distance of nearly 1,500 miles.

Col. Brendan Sullivan, a Marine regiment commander who is also the commanding officer of this year's deployment in Darwin, said, "Scherger is a great training venue. It's austere, so it mimics a lot of the challenges that we would encounter operating in a lot of other locations."

Credit: By Mike Cherney

DETAILS

Subject:	Aircraft; Military training; Digital signatures; Military exercises; Armed forces; Military strategy
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92811 : National Security
Location:	Australia; China; Beijing China; United States--US; Taiwan; Japan
Company / organization:	Name: Marine Corps-US; NAICS: 928110
Classification:	92811: National Security
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994810
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-marines-switch-gears-amid-china/docview/2844994810/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Extreme Heat Shuts Down Iran --- National holiday is ordered as officials advise those at risk to stay indoors

Sune Engel Rasmussen; Aresu Eqbali . Sune Engel Rasmussen; Aresu Eqbali.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

TEHRAN -- Neighborhoods across Iran's capital fell quiet Wednesday as temperatures topping 100 degrees bore down on the city.

Many residents stayed home after the government declared an emergency two-day shutdown, closing banks, exchange shops and government offices, and calling on private businesses to follow suit. In the north, roads leading out of the city to cooler regions were clogged with people seeking relief from the heat.

The national holiday, announced Tuesday, is an unusual response to the increasingly frequent heat waves hitting the country, which in the south have pushed temperatures above 120 degrees.

The health ministry advised children, the elderly and those with underlying health conditions to stay indoors. Other government departments pleaded with people to consume less electricity and refrain from using power-hungry devices except in the morning and late at night to ensure there was enough power to go around for Iran's nearly 90 million people.

Residents with holiday homes in the hills north of the capital and along the Caspian Sea bundled into cars after the two-day special holiday was announced. Grocery stores, restaurants and shopping malls largely stayed open, though traffic within Tehran was less than usual.

In a region scorched by global warming, Iran is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. It is dominated by an arid and semiarid climate, marked by low rain and snowfall.

While U.S. sanctions to some extent hamper Iran's ability to mitigate the impact of global warming, successive governments have failed to invest in climate initiatives such as solar energy or more efficient agricultural technology.

In the winter, when a lid of cold air captures the smog, Tehran is enveloped in a yellow haze emanating from antiquated cars belching exhaust.

Iranian authorities have warned that the western lake of Urmia, which was once the Middle East's largest lake but has been shrinking since the mid-1990s, is at risk of fully drying up if dam construction and other agricultural projects aren't halted. The Iranian government has dug a 20-mile tunnel to transfer water into the lake from a nearby basin.

Iran faces a conundrum, however, with dams and irrigation projects vital to assisting a struggling agricultural sector that has lost billions of dollars to the shocks of climate change.

In a climate zone like Iran's, each one-degree increase in temperature can reduce crop production by 10%, according to the United Nations.

The rest of Iran's economy -- hampered by U.S. sanctions -- is ill-equipped to adapt. In the year to March 2022, power outages cost the country $7 billion to $8 billion in non-oil exports, according to the country's Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture.

Credit: By Sune Engel Rasmussen and Aresu Eqbali

DETAILS

Subject:	Heat; State of emergency; Climate change; Weather
Location:	Iran; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994805
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-extreme-heat-shuts-down-iran-national/docview/2844994805/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-04
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Prolonged War Raises New Risks for Beijing; Prompts Slight Shift

Areddy, James T . Areddy, James T.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

China has given Russian President Vladimir Putin important diplomatic and economic backing for his war on Ukraine. But as the conflict drags into its 18th month with no clear sign of victory or capitulation on either side, Beijing faces an increasingly complicated set of risks that give it more incentive to push Moscow and Kyiv toward peace talks.

The shocking but short-lived rebellion by Russian paramilitary group Wagner in June has raised new questions about Putin's hold on power and the possibility of a future Russia without the autocrat whom China's leader Xi Jinping has called his best friend. It also has brought new focus to the risks of Beijing's support for Moscow.

Xi is expected to send peace envoy Li Hui to a Ukraine-backed international conference aimed at outlining the terms of a possible peace deal, according to European and U.S. officials. That would mark a significant shift, as Beijing stayed away from the group's first meeting in June.

This weekend's gathering in Saudi Arabia, aimed at outlining principles that should frame a possible peace deal, includes a range of world powers sympathetic to Kyiv and excludes Russia. The spokeswoman for Russia's Foreign Ministry on Wednesday said the meeting was "a hoax" intended to create an anti-Moscow coalition, according to Russian state news agency TASS.

Chinese participation would present a rare opportunity for U.S.-China engagement over the war as President Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, also is expected to attend. Participants will be watching for any sign that Beijing's thinking about the conflict, and its end, has evolved.

Beijing's flirtation with red lines set by the U.S. around wartime trade with Russia has strained its relations with the West and led to increased scrutiny, including in European capitals that China has sought to charm. And China continues to signal concern that nuclear weapons could be deployed -- both a veiled warning to Moscow and a threat to the West to limit support for Kyiv.

China's unease was on display last month at the United Nations General Assembly, when its deputy permanent representative, Geng Shuang, outlined stark concerns about the enduring war. "The Ukraine crisis has dragged on to this day with no signs of easing on the ground, military logic still prevailing, and slow progress in peace talks, which all point to a worrying prospect," he said, calling for peace talks to promote "an early cease-fire and political solution."

Geng's tally of the broader risks of the war contrasted with his U.N. presentation in March, when he blasted the U.S. for what he called "Russiaphobia."

In his latest presentation, Geng concentrated on issues such as food security. Days earlier Putin said Russia would pull out of a deal to permit safe Black Sea passage of Ukrainian grain. China has been the biggest market for that output.

"The sense one gets is that China's concerns remain around escalation and spillovers," said Manoj Kewalramani, a China-studies fellow at India-based think tank Takshashila Institution.

Beijing hasn't convinced the West that it can be seen as neutral in the conflict because of Xi's close ties to Putin. Distrust of Xi and China is widespread worldwide, according to a survey by Pew Research Center that said a median of 71% of respondents in 24 nations viewed it as not contributing to global peace and stability.

Credit: By James T. Areddy

DETAILS

Subject:	War; Peace negotiations; Truces &cease fires; International relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: International relations
Location:	China; Kyiv Ukraine; Beijing China; Russia; United States--US; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994776
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-prolonged-war-raises-new-risks-beijing/docview/2844994776/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not f ull text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: SEC Transparency Rules Put Private Equity, Hedge Funds on Edge

Kiernan, Paul . Kiernan, Paul.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Private-equity and hedge funds are bracing for what could be the biggest regulatory challenge in years to their business of managing money for deep-pocketed investors.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is preparing to adopt a rule package as soon as this month aiming to bring greater transparency and competition to the multitrillion- dollar private-funds industry, people familiar with the matter said. SEC Chair Gary Gensler has said he hopes to bring down fees and expenses that cost hundreds of billions of dollars a year.

Since the agency first proposed new rules for the industry last year, representatives of private equity, hedge funds and venture capital have met frequently with SEC officials to try to dissuade them, SEC meeting logs show. They have lobbied lawmakers to push back against the SEC's plans and formed a group to fight the final rules, which could differ from the proposal.

"This is probably the single largest and most impactful of all the things that the SEC is doing," said Drew Maloney, president of the American Investment Council, which represents private-equity firms such as Blackstone, Apollo Global Management and Carlyle.

Private funds are generally available only to wealthy individuals and institutional investors such as pensions and university endowments, which hope for returns larger than what they can get from traditional stocks and bonds. The SEC has long considered such investors sophisticated enough to fend for themselves with minimal oversight.

In recent decades, the SEC and Congress have repeatedly loosened regulatory and disclosure requirements for private funds and companies. This move -- combined with tougher rules for banks and years of low interest rates -- ushered in a boom in private fundraising that surpassed the public market in the years before the pandemic.

Gensler said in a recent speech that private funds' gross assets recently surpassed those of the commercial banking sector at more than $25 trillion. That is up from $9 trillion in 2012, according to SEC data.

Some policy makers have grown alarmed at the burgeoning size of the lightly regulated sector. They worry that private funds could pose risks to financial stability and to pension beneficiaries such as teachers and firefighters. Other concerns are that they might charge unfair fees or overvalue their holdings.

"Investors need increased transparency, more informative and useful data, and prohibitions on abusive and conflicted practices," Sen. Elizabeth Warren and seven other Democratic senators wrote in a May 15 letter urging Gensler to complete the rules.

The SEC's proposed overhaul would require private funds to provide investors with quarterly statements and annual audits, increase their liability for mismanagement or negligence, and prohibit them from giving some investors more-favorable terms than others.

In the 18 months since the SEC floated those ideas, private funds and their trade associations have fought to stymie the agency's plans.

They argued that the SEC rule would hurt minority and women-owned funds, which currently manage a tiny percentage of overall assets. After being lobbied by the American Investment Council on this concern last year, an industry official said, the House Appropriations Committee passed language encouraging the SEC to redo its economic analysis for the new rules.

Credit: By Paul Kiernan

DETAILS

Subject:	Transparency; SEC regulations; Private equity; Institutional investments; Hedge funds
Business indexing term:	Subject: Transparency SEC regulations Private equity Institutional investments Hedge funds; Industry: 52394 : Por tfolio Management and Investment Advice
Classification:	52394: Portfolio Management and Investment Advice
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994770
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-sec-transparency-rules-put-private/docview/2844994770/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Chinese Investors Warm to Sweetened Cash-for-Visa Program

Qi, Liyan . Qi, Liyan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A popular U.S. program that offers permanent American residency to foreigners who invest in qualified job-creating projects has sweetened the offer -- and attracted fresh interest from wealthy Chinese seeking a way out of their country.

Many Chinese are worried about their country's direction after three years of harsh Covid-19 restrictions, tougher ideological controls under Xi Jinping, rising tensions with the West and dimmer economic prospects. More people are leaving China, from all economic strata.

"I just want my daughter to have a better future, like any other parent," said a Chinese businessman from the wealthy coastal province of Zhejiang, who said he has researched qualifying projects for years but has hesitated to apply because of backlogs and other issues. He is now "cautiously optimistic" about the revamped program and hopes to root his daughter in the U.S.

The so-called EB-5 program was launched in the 1990s and has raised more than $40 billion. But despite the original intent to channel foreign investment into economically marginalized spots and create local jobs, much of the money flowed into flashy urban projects, such as Hudson Yards in New York City, sparking criticism in Congress. Cases of fraud and multiyear waits for EB-5 visas soured many investors on EB-5.

Last year, Congress reauthorized the program for five years, this time setting aside one-fifth of the annual 10,000 visas explicitly for rural projects. Each country gets no more than 7% of that 10,000-visa annual quota, which creates long backlogs for countries with large numbers of applicants, especially China.

The overhauled EB-5 program, which requires a minimum investment of $800,000 for certain projects, has drawn the attention of Chinese nationals, who in recent years were succeeded by Indians as the top participants. Many Chinese immigration agencies are advertising the revamped version of EB-5 as a golden era of investing in the U.S.

"There is now resounding, overwhelming interest bubbling up" from Chinese investors, said Evan Betzer, a partner at Great NY Regional Center, which arranges the financing for a real-estate project in Hudson, N.Y.

Participants in the visa program, which covers an applicant's spouse and children under age 21, don't have to live where they are investing. The program is designed to allow investors to recoup their money with a modest profit. In return for their investment, foreign investors hope to win a green card. For the developers, it means cheap financing and, for the town, new jobs.

The Hudson project aims to turn a vacant 70,000-square-foot building known as the Pocketbook Factory into a complex housing a hotel, offices and community spaces.

An old industrial town overlooking the Hudson River, Hudson has lost half its population since 1950. In more recent years, an influx of urbanites has driven up home prices. With an Amtrak train directly linking Hudson with New York City, the town and surrounding county have been attracting weekend visitors and second-home buyers.

About one-third of the capital for the $43 million Hudson project will be EB-5 financing, with the rest from federal and state tax incentives and other equity investors. Each EB-5 project has different financing-package ratios.

Across the U.S., high interest rates have prompted developers to take advantage of the lower funding costs through the EB-5 program, rolling out projects that include new broadband service in Northern Virginia and construction of homes for retirees in Hoschton, Ga.

The new EB-5 rules allow for easier conversion of immigration status from student or employment visas to permanent residents. The prospect of a fast-tracked green card seems to have reignited interest from investors. Several Chinese investors, including the one from Zhejiang province, said they were drawn to the revamped program because their kids are in the U.S. with student visas.

While the Hudson project is in the fundraising stage, the Hoschton development has already received EB-5 funding, with about half of such funds in the $650 million project coming from Chinese investors, according to Sam Silverman, founder of EB5AN, which helped finance the residential project in Hoschton, about 40 miles northeast of Atlanta.

For Chinese investors, "once they understand there's no [waiting] line in it, that's very compelling," Silverman said.

James T. Areddy contributed to this article.

Credit: By Liyan Qi

DETAILS

Subject:	Immigration policy; Passports &visas; Identification documents
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	China; New York City New York; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994769
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-chinese-investors-warm-sweetened-cash/docview/2844994769/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Crypto Law Delay Puts Billions in Tax Revenue at Risk

Rubin, Richard; Kiernan, Paul . Rubin, Richard; Kiernan, Paul.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Implementation of a law to catch crypto tax cheats is delayed inside the Treasury Department, putting billions of dollars in federal revenue at risk and frustrating members of President Biden's own party.

The department missed its first deadline to implement a 2021 law in time for the current tax year. Now, following further delays, it might be close to too late for tax year 2024.

Closing a gap that can make it easier for cryptocurrency investors to dodge taxes was projected to raise $28 billion over a decade, but declining cryptocurrency prices might have altered that figure. The tax rules are part of the administration's strategy of making crypto investors play by the same rules as others.

Now, Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D., Mass.) and three other senators are pushing the Biden administration to move quickly.

"These new rules were urgently needed when Biden signed them into law in 2021. Over the past two years, that urgency has only intensified," Warren, Bob Casey (D. Pa.), Richard Blumenthal (D., Conn.) and Bernie Sanders (I., Vt.) wrote to Treasury officials this week. "Given the chance, tax evaders and the crypto intermediaries willing to aid them will continue to game the system, exploit loopholes, and siphon off billions of dollars a year from the U.S. government. You must not give them that chance."

Last December, the Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service said that brokers wouldn't have to report any information until the administration issues final rules addressing questions such as the definition of a broker. More than seven months later, Treasury hasn't taken the first formal step of issuing a proposal, which would kick off a

monthslong -- or yearslong -- process before those final rules are done.
"Treasury is working diligently to issue these important and complex regulations soon," said Treasury spokeswoman Kristin Lynch.
"We're almost at the point where the delay is overshadowing the regs themselves," said James Creech, a San Francisco tax lawyer for accounting firm Baker Tilly. He said implementation for tax year 2024 would be an ambitious start date given the reporting systems that brokers will need to implement and test.
The tax rules were bitterly fought by the crypto industry when Congress wrote them into an infrastructure law in 2021. Some lobbyists said the law's definition of a crypto broker was too vague.
A broad definition of broker could create a liability for crypto businesses that can't comply, such as software developers, crypto miners and wallet providers, said Ji Kim, head of global policy at the lobbying group Crypto Council for Innovation.
A group of lawmakers, including Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D., Ore.), attempted to amend the law to narrow the definition, but those efforts failed. The rules, once implemented, will give the IRS more information about crypto investors' profits and will inform investors that the IRS knows they have made money.
It will also make tax compliance easier for crypto investors who want to meet their obligations, and clear rules could make the industry more mature and standardized, said Creech, the tax lawyer.
Credit: By Richard Rubin and Paul Kiernan

DETAILS

Subject:	Digital currencies; Fiscal policy; Tax revenues
Business indexing term:	Subject: Digital currencies Fiscal policy Tax revenues
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Internal Revenue Service--IRS; NAICS: 921130; Name: Department of the Treasury; NAICS: 921130
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994768
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-crypto-law-delay-puts-billions-tax/docview/2844994768/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Trump Charges Spur Familiar Reaction --- Republican 2024 field is divided while ex-president's base rallies behind him

McCormick, John; Levien, Simon J . McCormick, John; Levien, Simon J.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Donald Trump's legal woes may have deepened, but his standing in the Republican Party continues to show remarkable resilience amid a presidential race taking the U.S. into uncharted territory.

Tuesday's indictment by a federal grand jury in Washington charged Trump as responsible for efforts to reverse his 2020 election defeat and then prompting an attack by his supporters on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

The new charges divided the GOP field running against Trump for the 2024 nomination, while triggering key Republicans on Capitol Hill to rally to the former president's side. Among voters, the latest legal action appears likely to energize Trump's most ardent supporters and exacerbate national divisions as the presidential race heats up.

Rachel Cadena, a Republican insurance adjuster in Iowa, said the indictment is part of a pattern of corruption she sees in the federal government. "They are just trying to protect themselves because Trump is exposing it all," said Cadena, who plans to back Trump in the Jan. 15 caucuses that start the nomination process.

The roughly dozen candidates competing against Trump have so far been unable to knock the former president from his dominance in polls, even amid the legal jeopardy he faces. The new indictment is certain to dominate political news for days and make it even harder for his challengers to emerge from his shadow.

"Unlike the previous indictments, this could be a real political liability for the former president," said Republican

consultant Alex Conant, who led communications for Sen. Marco Rubio's 2016 presidential campaign and served as a spokesman in the second Bush White House. "But only if his Republican challengers actually try to exploit it."
That wasn't the initial approach taken by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, Trump's closest current challenger for the nomination. "I will end the weaponization of government, replace the FBI director, and ensure a single standard of justice for all Americans," he said in a tweet that made no mention of Trump or his actions after the 2020 election.
Businessman Vivek Ramaswamy repeated his pledge that if he is elected and the former president is convicted, he would pardon Trump.
Former Vice President Mike Pence said that the latest indictment, detailing an episode where he was a central character, would mean "more distractions" for the GOP. "Today's indictment serves as an important reminder: anyone who puts himself over the Constitution should never be President of the United States," he said.
Former Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, who is struggling to gain traction in the GOP primary race, said he has always thought Trump is "morally responsible" for the Jan. 6 attack. "Our system of justice will determine whether he is criminally responsible," he said.
Most of Trump's challengers have been reluctant to directly attack him because he enjoys solid support with roughly a third of GOP primary voters. That means contenders have to find a way to try to knock him from the lead without alienating his supporters.
The former president had already been indicted in New York in a hush-money case and in the federal case involving classified documents stored at his Florida estate. He is also expected to face charges over the 2020 election in Georgia. Court hearings for those cases are likely to be held in the midst of primary voting during the first half of next year.
Trump's lawyers plan to continue to seek extensions and delays, people familiar with his strategy have said, and think that if Trump can wrap up the nomination by May, as he did in 2016, he would have a stronger argument to delay court proceedings until after the election.
If Trump were to be both the clear nominee and convicted, the Republican presidential candidate heading into the July party convention and the November vote would be a felon, potentially facing jail time if his anticipated appeals failed.
While the indictment may embolden Trump's fans, it is unlikely to help him reach more centrist voters. About half of all voters say they think he has committed serious federal crimes, and a similar share think his actions after the 2020 election threatened American democracy, a New York Times/Siena College poll released this week showed.
Trump's legal troubles have taken a significant bite from his campaign bank account. New data made public Monday showed that his main political-action committee -- which has funded many of his legal expenses and those of allies snared in various investigations -- is running dry.
Credit: By John McCormick and Simon J. Levien

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Polls &surveys; Nominations; Indictments; Political campaigns; Criminal investigations; Presidential elections; Scandals; Voters
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	New York; United States--US; Florida
People:	Trump, Donald J
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940

Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994764
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-trump-charges-spur-familiar-reaction/docview/2844994764/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: World Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

CANADA

Prime Minister and

His Wife Separate

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his wife, Sophie Gregoire Trudeau, said on Wednesday that they have separated after 18 years of marriage.

The couple issued statements on their respective Instagram accounts. "Sophie and I would like to share the fact that after many meaningful and difficult conversations, we have made the decision to separate," said the 51-year-old leader. Her post was nearly identical.

The couple has three children: two boys, ages 15 and 9, and a 14-year-old daughter. The family will be together on vacation, beginning next week, his office said

The two met in June 2003 at a charity gala. Justin Trudeau, in the 2014 memoir "Common Ground," said they chatted and flirted for much of the evening. Months later, they went on a dinner date in Montreal. "I felt a giddy sense that Sophie would be the last woman I ever dated."

In 1977, Pierre Trudeau and his wife, Margaret Trudeau, announced their separation. "I remember the bad times as a succession of painful emotional snapshots," Justin Trudeau said in his memoir. "The demands imposed by the life my parents were leading affected them far more than the ordinary stress of parenthood."

-- Paul Vieira

TAIWAN

Dates Are Set

For Stop in U.S.

Taiwan's Vice President Lai Ching-te plans to stop in New York and San Francisco this month on his way to and from a formal visit to Paraguay, defying Chinese warnings.

Lai is scheduled to land in New York on Aug. 12 and depart for Paraguay the following evening as part of his seven-day trip to attend the inauguration of Paraguay's incoming president, Santiago Pena Palacios, on Aug. 15, said Alexander Yui Tah-ray, Taiwan's vice minister of foreign affairs. Coming the other way, Lai will arrive in San Francisco in the afternoon of Aug. 16 before flying back to Taiwan the next day, Yui said Wednesday in Taipei.

Stops by Taiwanese officials in the U.S., officially referred to as transits, are part of the deliberated arrangements made between Washington and Taipei to allow its leaders to engage with the other side on American soil after the two severed formal diplomatic ties in 1979.

Officials from both sides have long stuck to a boilerplate explanation for the stopovers, which they say are routinely arranged on "the principles of safety, comfort, convenience, and dignity."

The Taiwanese vice president's planned trip, first announced in July, nevertheless sparked an unusually strong reaction from Beijing.

-- Joyu Wang

DETAILS

Subject:	Autobiographies; Prime ministers
Location:	Paraguay; New York; United States--US; Taiwan; San Francisco California
People:	Trudeau, Justin

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994761
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-watch/docview/2844994761/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Stimulus Props Up Russian Economy

Cullison, Alan; Kantchev, Georgi . Cullison, Alan; Kantchev, Georgi.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Weeks after Russia invaded Ukraine last year, a White House official warned Moscow that a raft of U.S.-led sanctions could cut Russia's economy in half.

Last week the International Monetary Fund gave some upbeat news for the Kremlin, saying it now expects Russia's economy to grow 1.5% this year, supported by extensive state spending. That follows a shrinkage of 2.1% the year before, when Russia became the most sanctioned major economy in the world.

Economists expect the sanctions to cause Russia to stagnate in the years ahead, and the fault lines are emerging. But the West's failure to quickly bring the Russian economy to its knees for its invasion of Ukraine mirrors a larger stalemate on the battlefield there, despite a raft of Western lethal aid to Kyiv and economic support for the Ukrainian cause.

When they were unveiled, Biden administration officials called the sanctions the most consequential in history, and the initial shock and awe roiled Moscow's financial markets. But today the economy has muddled through enough for the Kremlin to support an attritional war that the U.S. had hoped to avoid.

Sanctions initially starved Russia of microchips and high-tech components last year, crimping its ability to produce precision-guided missiles. But Moscow has found loopholes through neighboring nations, and is bombing Ukraine daily with precision weaponry.

Russia's crude oil continues to flow, even if the lower prices it fetches have hit state coffers. Analysts say that the main effect of sanctions -- technological backwardness and an inability to modernize -- would hamper its economic growth in the long term.

"Sanctions have not destroyed the Russian economy just yet," said Sergei Guriev, a professor at Sciences Po in Paris and a former Russian government adviser. "They have started to constrain but not stop Putin's ability to finance this war."

Sanctions became an often-used foreign policy tool of the U.S. after it became an economic powerhouse in the previous century. They have had a mixed record, often falling short of causing a dramatic change in behavior, particularly in authoritarian states, say analysts.

How Russia has avoided collapse and eked out some growth within a year despite a Western economic blockade will be a case study for analysts pondering where sanctions make sense as a policy tool in the future.

Behind Russia's economic resilience has been a significant government stimulus, a shift to a war economy and an unprecedented rerouting of its trade to Asian partners, primarily China and India, analysts say.

The Biden administration defends the sanctions as vital to driving up the price that Russia pays for the war. The latest growth statistics mask the real pain being felt by the economy, said a senior administration official. "We are making Russia's economy less resilient and less capable of sustaining itself over time," the official said. "It's more difficult for them to run their war on Ukraine."

Government spending as part of gross domestic product has jumped by 13.5% in the first quarter compared with the same period last year, the highest growth rate in data going back to 1996. Economists attribute much of the growth in Russian industrial production this year to weapons and materiel. President Vladimir Putin has ordered the government to provide unlimited funding for the war machine.

The output of "finished metal goods" -- a line that analysts say includes weapons and ammunition -- rose by 30% in the first half of 2023 compared with last. Other lines associated with military output also have increased: Production of computers, electronic and optical products also rose by 30%, while the output of special clothing has jumped by 76%. By contrast, auto output is down more than 10% year-over-year.

"What we're seeing now is a massive boost in demand distribution via military-industrial complex and war beneficiaries, we can call it military Keynesianism," said Alexandra Prokopenko, a former Russian central-bank official who is a nonresident scholar at the Berlin-based Carnegie Russia Eurasia Center.

Continued global demand for Russian commodities also has bolstered the economy. This year, a European Union ban on most Russian oil imports has undermined its price. Meanwhile, Russian oil production has declined only slightly. That is because Moscow has found ways to sell its oil to Asia by creating a shadow fleet of tankers owned,

insured and chartered outside the West.
Credit: By Alan Cullison and Georgi Kantchev

DETAILS

Subject:	Gross Domestic Product--GDP; Economic growth; Embargoes &blockades; Sanctions; Economic conditions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Gross Domestic Product--GDP Economic growth Sanctions Economic conditions
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994759
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-stimulus-props-up-russian-economy/docview/2844994759/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Failing Dams Spark Local Response --- Grassroots group in Texas figures out how to fund a rebuild, a model others follow

Barrett, Joe . Barrett, Joe.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW BRAUNFELS, Texas -- On a sunny May morning four years ago, J Harmon was rousted out of bed by an emergency call: A 90-year-old dam near his home had failed, sending a torrent of water downstream and emptying the lake where he lived.

That afternoon, he got a second shock when he learned there was no money to fix it. The state entity that oversaw six aging dams on the Guadalupe River couldn't afford to rebuild them. One, the Lake Wood dam, had already failed in 2016, and two others had stopped working since 2019.

So Harmon decided to organize a campaign among affected property owners to rebuild the dam and save his community on Lake Dunlap -- blazing a trail for other lakes downstream. Over the next four years, Harmon's group set up a special taxing district for lakefront homeowners and partnered with the local river authority, which hired a contractor to build a new $40 million dam, and used revenue from hydroelectric power to help pay the debt.

"It's not just a bunch of hillbilly bumpkins" that made this happen, Harmon, a retired 66-year-old home builder, said on a recent day as he stood below the newly rebuilt dam, which is expected to begin refilling Lake Dunlap later this month. "Although when we first started, we did not know what we were doing."

More Americans might have to become dam experts in coming years as small dams around the country reach the end of their lives, putting countless people and the fate of entire communities at risk.

The average age of the 91,815 dams in the U.S. is 61 years, according to an inventory maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The number of dams that could lead to a loss of life if they failed has grown by about 20% to 16,000 over the last 10 years, according to a February report from the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. The report put the cost of needed repairs for dams not owned by the federal government at $157.5 billion.

While many people think of the giant federally built structures in the West when they picture dams, most are actually more modest projects, like the ones on the Guadalupe River, which were initially built by private developers before they were taken over by a state district.

"There's nothing unusual about having communities grow up around a lake that depends on infrastructure many, many decades old, where you kind of don't think about it -- you just think about the lake," said Robert Gilbert, chairman of the department of civil, architectural and environmental engineering at the University of Texas at Austin.

The Lake Dunlap dam and five others on the Guadalupe were built in the late 1920s and 1930s to provide hydroelectric power for the rural communities in the area. The state of Texas took them over in the 1960s and sells their power through the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. The dams don't generate enough electricity to fund a major rebuilding effort, said Darrell Nichols, general manager, and the authority isn't allowed to collect taxes.

"The function of these lakes has changed from what was lakes that were impounded for electric generation, to now being impounded for recreational use," he said.
That left financing the project largely up to the homeowners on the lake. Just a few days after the collapse, Harmon called a meeting of the Preserve Lake Dunlap Association.
It took about a year to settle on a plan to move forward, including hammering out a deal in which the river authority contributed electric revenue to help pay off the debt, helped secure low-interest financing and covered the costs of designing the new dam, Harmon said. It took another year to win over the community to set up a taxing district and two more to complete construction.
Larry Johnson, a 72-year-old former college president who was recruited by Harmon early on, became a key organizer. "It was the middle of Covid, we couldn't even have a meeting," Johnson said. "How could you get 612 homeowners to get on the same page?"
They divided the lakefront into 22 neighborhoods and appointed captains of each. "We had this joke of BYO lawnchair. All the meetings were outside," he said. "You can't get more grassroots than that."
Meanwhile, residents near other lakes were also wrestling with what to do. For one dam south on Lake McQueeney, the failure at Dunlap was a wake-up call. "It had been a little bit of a topic of discussion but nobody thought it was going to fail" until Dunlap went down, said Paul Mueller, a 62-year-old in the construction business, who lives on the lake.
Now, the McQueeney dam, which has yet to fail, and the one at Lake Placid, which became stuck in the down position in 2021, have just begun two-year rebuilding projects, using the funding plan at Lake Dunlap as a model.
Credit: By Joe Barrett

DETAILS

Subject:	Dams; Lakes; Hydroelectric power
Location:	Texas; United States--US; Guadalupe River
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994752
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-failing-dams-spark-local-response/docview/2844994752/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.S. to Pull Some Personnel From Niger

Salama, Vivian . Salama, Vivian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The State Department on Wednesday ordered the departure of non-emergency U.S. government employees and eligible family members from Niger over concerns that tensions could escalate after the military junta detained the country's elected president last week.

The State Department updated its advisory, which had previously warned American citizens to reconsider travel to Niger because of crime, terrorism and kidnapping. It is unclear how many Americans are currently living in Niger, and the State Department said it is working to assess what can be done to ensure all Americans are safe.

"The Department of State is ordering the temporary departure of non-emergency U.S. government personnel and eligible family members from the U.S. Embassy in Niamey," the department said. "Commercial flight options are limited. We updated our travel advisory to reflect this and informed U.S. citizens that we are only able to provide emergency assistance to U.S. citizens in Niger given our reduced personnel."

Earlier Wednesday, State Department spokesman Matthew Miller said the safety and security of embassy personnel and U.S. citizens overseas is the administration's highest priority, but said the situation at present in Niger's capital is "fluid" but "calm."

The State Department said the embassy in Niamey remains open for limited emergency services to U.S. citizens and that it would continuously re-examine the situation.

On Tuesday, European governments began evacuating their citizens from Niger after last week's coup in the West African country triggered a tense standoff between Moscow's allies in the region and countries that have worked more closely with the U.S. and other Western powers.

Last week, Secretary of State Antony Blinken expressed his support for embattled President Mohamed Bazoum and warned that Washington could cut support to Niger if the military held on to power.
Blinken spoke with Bazoum on Wednesday, one of several calls he has held with the embattled Nigerien leader since Bazoum was placed under house arrest. According to a readout from the State Department, Blinken reiterated U.S. commitment to "the restoration of the democratically-elected government."
Credit: By Vivian Salama

DETAILS

Subject:	Diplomatic &consular services; Government employees; Evacuations &rescues
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	United States--US; Niger
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994745
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-s-pull-some-personnel-niger/docview/2844994745/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Iraq Clamps Down on Money Laundering

Cloud, David S . Cloud, David S.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

BAGHDAD -- Iraq is trying again to crack down on money laundering and smuggling as the U.S. steps up pressure to stop dollars flowing to Iran and better isolate it from the rest of the world economy.

The dollar has served as almost a second currency in Iraq after the U.S. invaded in 2003, pumping greenbacks into the country to keep it functioning. Two decades later, Iraq still keeps its foreign reserves at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York, depositing the proceeds from its oil exports in its official accounts there.

Hundreds of millions of dollars a day flow through loosely-regulated Iraqi bank and currency-exchange shops, which U.S. officials say are rife with fraudulent transactions and money laundering. They say there is strong evidence that some of these dollars have been going across the border to Iran, providing Tehran with badly needed currency and some relief from stringent U.S. sanctions.

Others have been going into the hands of Iraqi officials or Iranian-backed militias operating in the country, or recipients in other Middle Eastern nations.

Now Iraqi authorities are expanding raids on currency traders and increasing air and land border checks following recent moves by Washington to curb the flow of dollars that have put pressure on Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed al-Sudani and the economy.

"It's a battle between the state, which insists on completely reforming the financial and banking system, and a group of smugglers and price manipulators who are thriving and working to obstruct reforms," Sudani said Tuesday.

The U.S. Treasury and Federal Reserve Bank of New York last month banned 14 Iraqi banks from dollar transactions after uncovering evidence they engaged in money laundering and fraudulent transactions. Four other Iraqi banks were banned from dollar transactions in November, when the Treasury and the Central Bank of Iraq also imposed tighter controls on wire transfers in dollars from Iraq.

Those moves have made it harder for Iraqis to move money out of the country, U.S. officials say.

Among the measures, Iraq's government is asking the country's central bank to ensure that dollar transactions are handled through a new electronic platform requiring detailed information about where the funds are going.

But Iraqi authorities face an uphill battle disrupting powerful networks of banks, currency traders and Iran-backed militias who control the illicit transactions. Many have the political clout to avoid arrest, and have proved resourceful

in finding ways around the efforts to halt the movement of dollars.
Sudani acknowledged that the Central Bank of Iraq should have taken action against Iraqi banks suspected of money laundering, instead of waiting for the U.S. Treasury to act. He also blamed currency traders for driving up the exchange rate for the Iraqi dinar, which has risen to 1,510 dinar to the dollar since the latest U.S. ban on Iraqi banks was imposed. The exchange rate was 1,470 dinar to the dollar last month.
Indeed, the increase in the exchange rate highlights the risk Sudani faces in complying with Washington's push to crack down on dollar smuggling: If he moves too aggressively, it could anger the many powerful interests in Iraq who benefit from the illicit dollar trade and drive up the exchange rate further, raising prices for ordinary Iraqis.
Dollar smuggling takes different forms, complicating the effort. In some cases, smuggling networks get dollars in cash from currency traders and carry them in vehicles to Iran, Turkey and other Iraq neighbors.
Shortly after Sudani's remarks Tuesday, Iraq's national-security service announced it arrested at least 23 people in several cases of money laundering and illegal dollar transactions. In Baghdad raids, authorities said they took down a major dollar-smuggling network, making 11 arrests and recovering $14 million in cash, a spokesman said.
Officers found $100 bills in shrink-wrapped bricks labeled "New York," inside a so-called "safe room" at one of the locations, a video released by the security service showed. The defendants "confessed to acting as traders with fake trading companies as a cover for smuggling currency abroad," the spokesman said.
In a separate case, Iraq's border authorities arrested a man recently at a crossing with Iran after $48,300 in cash was found hidden in his vehicle.
A far larger amount of dollars moves by wire transfers by Iraqi banks to accounts mostly in Dubai, where the ultimate recipient can be hard to trace.
"There are banks that act as banks only on the surface, but they do money transfers on the other side," Sudani said.
Credit: By David S. Cloud

DETAILS

Subject:	Bans; Smuggling; American dollar; Foreign exchange rates; Money laundering; Security services; Central banks; Militia groups
Business indexing term:	Subject: American dollar Foreign exchange rates Security services Central banks; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	New York; United States--US; Iraq; Iran
Company / organization:	Name: Central Bank of Iraq; NAICS: 521110
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994743
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-iraq-clamps-down-on-money-laundering/docview/2844994743/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. I n those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The latest federal indictment of Trump poses an unprecedented test of the Justice Department's ability to build a persuasive case not just for 12 jurors but also for the history books.
The former president's legal woes may have deepened, but his standing in the Republican Party continues to show remarkable resilience amid a presidential race taking the U.S. into uncharted territory.

A jury decided that Robert Bowers should be put to death for killing 11 people in 2018 at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, the deadliest antisemitic attack on U.S. soil.

The State Department ordered the departure of non-emergency U.S. government employees and eligible family members from Niger, where the junta detained the country's elected president last week.

Russia launched a wave of drone strikes on Ukraine's ports, intensifying attacks on the country's food-export infrastructure after Moscow withdrew from a Black Sea grain deal last month.

Implementation of a law to catch crypto tax cheats is delayed inside the Treasury Department, putting billions of dollars in federal revenue at risk and frustrating Democrats.

Taiwan Vice President Lai Ching-te plans to stop in New York and San Francisco this month on his way to and from a formal visit to Paraguay, defying Chinese warnings.

U.S. Capitol Police searched Senate office buildings on Capitol Hill in response to a report of an active shooter, which officials later said was a false alarm.

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994740

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2844994740/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

U.S. CAPITOL
Call About Shooter
Was False Alarm
U.S. Capitol Police searched Senate office buildings on Capitol Hill in response to a report of an active shooter, which officials later said was a false alarm.
The police said Wednesday that officers responded to a 911 call around 2:30 p.m. Capitol Police said in a tweet that anyone inside a Senate office "should be sheltering in place as the report was for a possible active shooter."
Capitol Police Chief J. Thomas Manger said officers found no shooter or anyone who had witnessed a shooter, but were continuing to investigate. He said the 911 caller who prompted the police response reported there was a shooter in the Hart office building and gave a description of a purported suspect.
"This may have been a bogus call," Manger told reporters around 4 p.m.
-- Talal Ansari

WISCONSIN
Suit Seeks to Toss
Legislative Maps
A lawsuit filed Wednesday asks Wisconsin's newly liberal-controlled state Supreme Court to throw out Republican-drawn legislative maps as unconstitutional.
The long-promised action is backed by Democrats and was filed by a coalition of law firms and voting-rights advocacy groups.
"The gerrymandered maps have divided our communities, preventing fair representation," said Jeff Mandell, board president of Law Forward, one of the groups that brought the lawsuit.
Republican Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu said Democrats were "counting on judicial fiat to help them gain

power." He accused them of "coming to collect" from the newly elected liberal Supreme Court justice.
-- Associated Press

SOUTH CAROLINA
Officer Killed as He
Saved Life on Track
A police officer was struck and killed by an Amtrak train Wednesday as he was saving someone who had called 911, authorities said.
A person on the tracks near downtown Easley who was having a mental-health crisis first called 911 around 5 a.m., Easley Police Lt. Ashley Anderson said. Officer Matthew Hare, 22, and his partner found the person about an hour later.
It wasn't clear exactly how Hare came to be struck by the train, but Anderson said at a news conference that he "died saving the life of someone he did not know. Officer Hare was a hero."
Hare's partner and the person on the tracks weren't injured. The person was taken into custody, but investigators didn't say why the person was being held, whether charges had been filed or what the person's name is.
-- Associated Press

CALIFORNIA
Rain Helps Battle
Against Wildfire
Firefighters aided by rain fought to contain a massive blaze that swept through the California desert into Nevada and is threatening the region's famous spiky Joshua trees.
The York Fire that erupted Friday is California's largest wildfire this year. As of early Wednesday it had burned through more than 128 square miles of land and was 30% contained, fire officials said.
Humid monsoonal weather conditions Tuesday afternoon brought brief but heavy rain, especially on the south end of the fire, and kept its spread to a minimum, fire officials said. Drier weather was expected to return Thursday.
The blaze ignited near the remote Caruthers Canyon area of the vast wildland preserve, crossed the state line into Nevada on Sunday and sent smoke further east into the Las Vegas Valley.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Fires; False alarms; Rain
Location:	California; Nevada; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 3, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844994739
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2844994739/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: In Ukraine, Amputations Evoke Scale of World War I

Pancevski, Bojan . Pancevski, Bojan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

In February, Ruslana Danilkina, a 19-year-old Ukrainian soldier, came under fire near the front line around Zaporizhzhia in southeastern Ukraine. Shrapnel tore her left leg off above the knee. She clutched her severed thigh bone and watched medics place her severed leg into the vehicle that took her to a hospital.

"I was holding the bone in my hands . . . there and then I realized that this was the end, that my life would never be the same again," Danilkina said.

Danilkina is one of between 20,000 and 50,000 Ukrainians who have lost one or more limbs since the start of the war,

according to previously undisclosed estimates by prosthetics firms, doctors and charities. The actual figure could be higher because it takes time to register patients after they undergo the procedure. Some are only amputated weeks or months after being wounded. And with Kyiv's counteroffensive under way, the war may be entering a more brutal phase.

By comparison, some 67,000 Germans and 41,000 Britons had amputations during World War I, when the procedure often was the only one available to prevent death. Fewer than 2,000 U.S. veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq invasions got amputations.

Ukraine's government didn't respond to a request for comment about the figures. Kyiv has kept precise casualty statistics secret so as not to demoralize the population. But even as a rough estimate, the number casts light on the staggering human cost of Russia's 17-month onslaught -- a cost that will linger for decades as a generation of invalids returns to civilian life.

Germany's Ottobock, the world's largest prosthetics manufacturer, which is working with Kyiv to help amputees, estimates the number of amputees at about 50,000 based on data from the government and medical partners.

At the lower end, the Houp Foundation, a Kyiv-based charity, puts the number of serious injuries caused by the war at 200,000. About 10% of serious injuries typically require amputations, according to the foundation.

Such numbers reflect how Russia wages the war, with heavy use of mines and artillery, missile and drone attacks targeting soldiers and civilians alike.

"My grandfather founded our company in 1919 to help . . . German soldiers returning from World War I wounded by artillery fire, who lost their arms, legs or eyesight -- this is exactly what we see in Ukraine," said Hans Georg Nader, Ottobock's chairman.

Danilkina had five operations before receiving an artificial leg from Ottobock with the help of Superhumans, a charitable foundation based in the Ukrainian western city of Lviv. She has since turned 20 and has been documenting her recovery on social media under the nickname Unbreakable Rusya.

On Monday, she received a more sophisticated leg called Genium X3 developed by Ottobock with the U.S. military that allows users to easily climb stairs or even walk backward.

Denys Kryvenko, a 24-year-old former steelworker from Kropyvnytskiy in central Ukraine, was drafted last year and lost both legs and his left arm in the grinding battle for the eastern Ukrainian city of Bakhmut in January.

Before the injury he was 6 feet 1 inch tall but now stands at 5 feet 6 inches on his artificial legs.

Both Kryvenko and Danilkina now work with Superhumans to help other amputees. Their social-network activism and media appearances have turned them into symbols of Ukrainian suffering and resilience.

Making enough artificial limbs, some of which cost more than 50,000 euros, about $55,000, isn't the main challenge: The bigger bottleneck is expert staff to care for amputees, each of whom needs a tailor-made prosthetic, Nader said.

Kyiv pays up to 20,000 euros for each military amputee, but civilians often struggle to afford treatment.

Ottobock grants a discount for Ukrainians, and provides free training for doctors and technicians there. Still, many patients must rely on charities to obtain prostheses.

Before the February 2022 Russian invasion, Ukraine had several thousand amputations annually, but its healthcare system is now overwhelmed, according to Ukrainian doctors and specialist clinics, with many patients waiting more than a year for a new limb.

Doctors in Lviv alone performed more than 53,000 surgeries in the past year, said Oleksandr Kobzarev, an executive with Unbroken, a network of medical rehabilitation centers.

Superhumans chief executive Olga Rudneva says her foundation only has the capacity to admit some 50 amputees each month. She estimates the number of amputees as at least 20,000 since last year.

Patients should get new limbs at the latest 90 days after amputation to avoid atrophy and other problems, Rudneva said, but many have waited for more than a year.

Young children among the amputees are particularly difficult to care for, she said, because they must change several prostheses by the time they become adults.

Oleksandra Paskal, 7, lost her leg in a Russian missile attack near Odesa in May 2022. Her mother Maria, who partially

lost her hearing in the explosion, says her daughter is woken at night by phantom pain in the lost limb -- a frequent neurological condition in amputees.
Dr. Jennifer Ernst, head of the Innovative Amputation Medicine department at the Hannover University Hospital in Germany, specializes in bionic surgery involving connecting nerves to prosthetic limbs. She recently operated on a soldier who lost both legs in an attack that killed his entire unit.
Like many Ukrainian patients evacuated abroad after serious trauma, the soldier had an antibiotic-resistant bacterial infection, forcing Ernst to remove significant pieces of leg tissue.
Despite successes -- one patient's arm was saved by a 3D-printed bone implant -- she says most have to be amputated because of advanced infections.
Last year, her clinic admitted a 16-year-old boy who lost an arm when a Russian missile hit a Kyiv metro station. The blast killed his younger sister but left their mother only slightly injured.
Out of 100 soldiers wounded within about 3 miles of the front line, 36% suffered very severe injuries, while between 5% and 10% of all deployed troops were killed, according to Ukrainian military estimates shared with a group of U.S. military surgeons. In comparison, only 1.3% to 2% of U.S. troops deployed in recent conflicts died in action.
Western military surgeons haven't seen such injuries on this scale since World War II, said Dr. Aaron Epstein, head of the Global Surgical and Medical Support Group of former military surgeons who train Ukrainian military medics.
While artillery and missiles were the main causes of amputation early in the conflict, some of the worst casualties now come from mines laid along the 600-mile front line.
Between 40 and 80 patients report to hospitals in the city of Zaporizhzhia with traumas each day, including amputees coming from the front line some 25 miles away, said Dr. Kostyantyn Mylytsya, medical director of the private KSM Clinic.
Mylytsya focused on cosmetic surgery before the war. Now his clinic treats and rehabilitates amputees. Such centers, he says, are needed "in every town across Ukraine; they must be as common as dentists."
A former British paratrooper serving in Ukraine's armed forces lost his foot in a mine explosion in June. He had been wounded in April 2022, a month after volunteering to fight, when a Russian cruise missile hit his unit's headquarters.
He spent five months in Ukrainian and British hospitals but returned to the southern front as soon as he could.
In June, his unit launched a nightly raid on Russian forces but suffered devastating losses. His team spent the night cowering in the basement of an abandoned school before attacking again.
They drove past destroyed Western Leopard tanks, Humvees and Bradley infantry fighting vehicles. The severed limbs of their comrades lay scattered on the ground.
The soldiers used broken sticks to tap their way forward to detect hidden mines. As he was setting up a machine gun near an abandoned Russian trench, the 28-year-old stepped on an antipersonnel mine.
"I screamed and fell in the direction of travel, and I was lucky not to hit another mine," he said.
He was evacuated to a field hospital where doctors saved his leg but cut off most of his left foot.
He said many in his unit were hospitalized after the raid. Most of the soldiers who accompanied them died.
Now, waiting for treatment in the U.S., he said he intends to return to his regiment -- even if only as an instructor.
"This war is horrendous and now I, too, am crippled . . . But I don't regret it," he said.
Credit: By Bojan Pancevski

DETAILS

Subject:	Invasions; Mines; Surgeons; Artillery; Prostheses; Amputation; Estimates; Physicians; World War I; Charitable foundations; Legs; Injuries; Hospitals; Military personnel; Armed forces
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92811 : National Security 62211 : General Medical and Surgical Hospitals 81321 : Grantmaking and Giving Services

Location:	Russia; United States--US; Germany; Kyiv Ukraine; Ukraine
Classification:	92811: National Security; 62211: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals; 81321: Grantmaking and Giving Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497724
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-ukraine-amputations-evoke-scale-war-i/docview/2844497724/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: BP Profit Falls as Prices Weaken for Oil, Gas

Strasburg, Jenny; Novik, Mari . Strasburg, Jenny; Novik, Mari.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LONDON -- British oil giant BP said its second-quarter profit dropped almost 70% from its year-ago bonanza, as lower commodity prices and weak refining margins hit results.

The oil major's profit missed market expectations and fell more sharply compared with roughly 50% declines recorded by bigger rivalsExxon Mobil, Shell and Chevron.

BP trimmed its quarterly share buyback to $1.5 billion from the $1.75 billion announced last quarter while modestly boosting its dividend.

The results come as energy heavyweights emerge from last year's record-breaking year of profits flush with cash but navigating lower commodity prices and a murky economic outlook in key markets, including China.

U.S. oil majors have signaled they could use billions of dollars in their war chests on big acquisitions in the oil patch. European counterparts, meanwhile, are trying to boost share prices through continued investor payouts in a bid to narrow their valuation gap with U.S. companies.

London-based BP said Tuesday that its underlying replacement-cost profit, a metric similar to net income that U.S. oil companies report, was $2.6 billion. That compared with the $3.5 billion average projection of 24 analysts compiled by BP and $8.5 billion in the year-ago period.

BP said maintenance activity at production sites and weak oil-trading results in the three months ended June 30 were partially offset by what it called exceptional natural-gas trading returns. Trading results can vary from trends in market prices, depending on the timing of customer agreements, the value of derivative contracts and other factors. The company also said it expects to produce more oil this year compared with last year.

BP's second-quarter net income fell to $1.8 billion from $9.3 billion in the same period last year, when Russia's war in Ukraine helped stoke prices of oil and gas amid supply worries. Net debt at the end of the second quarter was $23.7 billion, up from $22.8 billion a year earlier.

Chief Executive Bernard Looney said the continued share buybacks and the dividend boost reflect BP's confidence in its performance. Investors have been demanding that companies show they can continue to take advantage of oil-and-gas returns while maintaining cash payouts to shareholders.

BP said in its earnings statement Tuesday that it expects natural-gas prices to continue to be lower in Europe and Asia into the third quarter, citing higher-than-normal levels of gas storage on the European continent as countries sock away supplies ahead of winter.

"BP reported a weak set of numbers versus expectations," RBC Capital Markets analyst Biraj Borkhataria wrote in a research note, adding that the company looked to compensate by boosting its dividend and continuing share purchases.

Credit: By Jenny Strasburg and Mari Novik

DETAILS

Subject:	Natural gas; Financial performance
Business indexing term:	Subject: Financial performance; Corporation: BP PLC
Location:	United States--US

Company / organization:	Name: BP PLC; NAICS: 211120, 324110, 457110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497722
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-bp-profit-falls-as-prices-weaken/docview/2844497722/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Europe Begins Niger Evacuations As Tensions Grow

Bisserbe, Noemie; Faucon, Benoit; Steinhauser, Gabriele . Bisserbe, Noemie; Faucon, Benoit; Steinhauser, Gabriele.

FULL TEXT

European governments began evacuating their citizens from Niger on Tuesday after last week's coup in the West African country triggered a tense standoff between Moscow's allies in the region and states that have worked more closely with the U.S. and other Western powers.

The evacuations -- led by France, Niger's former colonial power -- show that European governments expect their citizens to be at higher risk in the country, which has been central to U.S. efforts to combat Islamist militants in the Sahel, the semiarid strip south of the Sahara.

Western officials worry that the military junta that detained Niger's elected president, Mohamed Bazoum, last week could develop closer ties with Russia, especially if France and the U.S. cut military aid to the junta. On Sunday, thousands of pro-coup protesters threw stones at the French Embassy in the capital, Niamey.

"Given the situation in Niamey, the violence that took place against our embassy the day before yesterday and the closure of airspace, which leaves our compatriots without the possibility of leaving the country by their own means, France is preparing the evacuation of its nationals and European nationals wishing to leave the country," the French foreign ministry said on Tuesday.

Italy's foreign minister, Antonio Tajani, said that his government would dispatch a flight to Niamey to help Italian nationals leave the country.

John Kirby, a spokesman for the White House National Security Council, said there were currently no plans to evacuate U.S. citizens from Niger. "We're watching this literally by the hour and if we have to make adjustments, we will make adjustments, we're just not there at this time," Kirby said.

The U.S. government has spent around $500 million arming Niger's military in recent years and has some 1,100 troops and drones stationed in the country.

The coup, led by Niger's powerful presidential guard, has revealed deep divisions among its West African neighbors, several of which have also seen their elected governments ousted by militaries in recent weeks.

Leaders from the Economic Community of West African States threw their weight behind Bazoum. The group imposed tough financial and trade sanctions on Niger and said that if the junta failed to reinstate Bazoum by the end of the week, they would consider a military intervention.

French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna on Monday denied claims by the Nigerien junta that Paris would participate in a military intervention. "France's only priority is the safety of its nationals," she said. Colonna blamed the junta and Russia for the attack on the French Embassy. "What we saw [on Sunday] was an organized, non-spontaneous, violent, extremely dangerous protest, with Molotov cocktails, Russian flags, anti-French slogans copied and pasted from what we can see elsewhere," she said. "So all the usual ingredients of destabilization in the Russian-African style."

French foreign ministry officials said they were in contact with the U.S. about the possible evacuation of American citizens.

Credit: By Noemie Bisserbe, Benoit Faucon and Gabriele Steinhauser

DETAILS

Subject:	Military aid; Evacuations &rescues; Coups d'etat; Diplomatic &consular services
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92812 : International Affairs

Location:	Russia; United States--US; France; Niger
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497718
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-europe-begins-niger-evacuations-as/docview/2844497718/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-03
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: New York Reopens Park Amid Lead Tests

Pulliam, Susan; Jones, Coulter . Pulliam, Susan; Jones, Coulter.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

New York state said a Wappingers Falls, N.Y., playground is safe to reopen after testing found no pattern of high lead in 25 samples at the site.

The state had temporarily closed the playground after a Wall Street Journal report last month showed several high lead readings at the park. Gov. Kathy Hochul said New York is continuing to investigate lead cables throughout the state.

The Journal reported that lead in the soil near a "Children at Play" sign measured more than 1,000 parts per million, based on tests by Jack Caravanos, an environmental public-health professor at New York University, who assisted the Journal in its research.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recommendation for the levels of lead it believes are generally safe in soil where children play is 400 parts per million.

Caravanos took 209 samples at Wappingers Falls for the Journal, with lead readings ranging from a high of about 1,634 parts per million to a low of about 16 parts per million. Those samples were taken in April and July.

Hochul last month asked three state departments to "immediately investigate" lead cabling in New York.

The Journal's investigation in July revealed that AT&T, Verizon Communications and other telecom companies have left behind more than 2,000 toxic lead cables on poles, under waterways and in the soil across the U.S. Testing by the Journal near such cables showed that dozens of spots registered lead levels exceeding EPA safety guidelines.

Hochul's office said the state's "scientific analysis found no evidence of elevated or widespread lead contamination in the area sampled. The multi-agency examination of the potential for lead-based telecommunication cables in New York State communities is ongoing."

Caravanos said New York should consider "more testing and still demand that the cable comes down."

Credit: By Susan Pulliam and Coulter Jones

DETAILS

Subject:	Lead content; Cables; Investigations; Playgrounds
Location:	New York; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Environmental Protection Agency--EPA; NAICS: 924110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497717
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-new-york-reopens-park-amid-lead-tests/docview/2844497717/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users , but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Physicist Accused of Plagiarism Faces Questions on Superconductivity Claims

Subbaram an, Nidhi . Subbaraman, Nidhi.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A physicist accused of fabricating data and plagiarizing portions of his Ph.D. thesis is facing doubts from his peers about his boldest claim: the discovery of a room-temperature superconductor.

Ranga Dias, a physicist at the University of Rochester, stunned colleagues and made headlines in March with news published in the prestigious journal Nature that the rare-earth metal lutetium combined with nitrogen and hydrogen was a superconductor at 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

The team dubbed the material "reddmatter" -- a reference to a fictitious cosmic substance in the 2009 movie "Star Trek" that formed black holes -- because, they said, the material transformed to a vibrant red as it got compressed.

Long sought by engineers and physicists, superconductivity at room temperature and regular pressure could

transform electronics and engineering by eliminating the loss of energy that occurs as current moves through wires. Materials with this quality need ultralow temperatures or crushing pressures to exhibit such "superconducting" behavior, making them expensive and impractical for widespread use.

Several physicists and labs, after scrutinizing data published in Dias's March study and experimentally repeating the team's methods, aren't convinced the group found the holy grail chased by condensed-matter physicists. One team did report superconductivity in one of two samples supplied by Dias's lab, but other physicists say their measurements could be the result of a loose electrical connection.

"We're absolutely still waiting for confirmation that superconductivity at room temperature exists," Douglas Natelson, a condensed-matter physicist at Rice University in Houston, said of the claims.

A spokesperson for Nature said the journal is assessing concerns that have been raised.

It is the latest cloud in a storm brewing over Dias and his work. Nature last year retracted his 2020 paper claiming superconductivity in another material after some physicists pointed to peculiarities in key data. A pair of physicists assembled evidence that suggested about a fifth of Dias's Ph.D. thesis at Washington State University matched text in other publications. And in July, the journal Physical Review Letters told Dias and his co-authors that a retraction of a 2021 study was necessary after an internal review confirmed data fabrication.

"Have I seen any data that confirms superconductivity? No, I haven't," said Dirk van der Marel, a physicist and professeur honoraire (emeritus professor) at the University of Geneva in Switzerland who analyzed past work by Dias and flagged inconsistencies.

Dias didn't respond to a request for comment.

Dias has, through a spokesperson, denied to other news outlets fabricating or manipulating data, or engaging in any scientific misconduct. Regarding his doctoral thesis, a University of Rochester spokesperson said Dias "has taken responsibility for these errors and is working with his thesis advisor at Washington State University to amend the thesis."

Washington State University administrators know about allegations around Dias's Ph.D. thesis, a spokesperson said. The university treats misconduct cases as confidential and didn't confirm if one had been opened.

The University of Rochester made two inquiries over the 2020 retracted Nature study but found "no evidence that supported the concerns," a spokesperson said, adding that university leaders are aware of the possible retraction of the 2021 study.

The March study was the second big superconductivity claim by Dias and collaborator Ashkan Salamat, a physicist at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. In 2020, they led a team that described superconductivity at room temperature in another material -- a combination of carbon, sulfur and hydrogen -- that was hit with a laser and crushed between diamonds to an extreme pressure similar to that within the Earth's core.

The results were lauded as breakthroughs. But the paper was retracted by publisher Nature in September 2022, after other physicists, including van der Marel, pointed to data they said didn't add up.

According to a retraction note posted on the website, the authors of the study, including Salamat, say the data in the Nature 2020 papers support its key claims, and disagree with a decision to retract the study.

Salamat didn't respond to a request for comment.

Months later, looking at the March data describing "reddmatter," Johns Hopkins University physicist Peter Armitage said he found inconsistencies.

A superconductor's signature is zero resistance below a specific temperature, at some level of pressure. A graph deep in the Nature study showed "reddmatter" drop to zero resistance at temperatures varying slightly as different magnetic fields were switched on.

When Armitage plotted the observations himself using data supplied in the study, he got a different curve, in which the resistance tapers gradually, rather than flattening out, he said. "This was a big problem," Armitage said.

"It didn't look anything like a superconductor," said Johnpierre Paglione, director of the Maryland Quantum Materials Center at the University of Maryland, who also examined the data.

The physicists were puzzled that Dias and his team appeared to subtract remaining resistance values to get to zero,

but Armitage, Paglione and other physicists say that step isn't justified.
But by measuring a sample from Dias's group, one team at the University of Illinois Chicago said they saw superconducting behavior, according to a paper posted ahead of peer review to the preprint server arXiv.
"We found very good agreement with what they reported in the Nature paper," said Russell Hemley, a materials chemist and physicist at UIC. When Hemley's group measured voltage across one sample under pressure, they saw a drop to zero in the temperature range Dias and team observed. A second sample didn't behave this way.
But Paglione and Natelson pointed to some artifacts in their resistance graphs -- telltale bumps and dips -- that made them suspect the zero resistance was because of incorrect electrical measurements under exacting conditions.
Paglione was puzzled that Hemley and team didn't show superconducting behavior in a variety of other ways. "If this was an observation in my lab, we would do every possible measurement to verify or disprove the claim of superconductivity, especially given the importance of this," he said.
Hemley said other tests are continuing.
Some labs that made the material and repeated experiments in the Nature paper say they didn't see superconductivity under nonextreme conditions.
Dias and Salamat are listed on multiple patent applications filed worldwide and have founded a company, Unearthly Materials, to make superconductors. The outfit has raised about $17 million in funding, according to the research firm PitchBook.
Credit: By Nidhi Subbaraman

DETAILS

Subject:	Physicists; Plagiarism; Temperature
Company / organization:	Name: University of Rochester; NAICS: 611310; Name: Washington State University; NAICS: 611310
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497713
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-physicist-accu sed-plagiarism-faces/docview/2844497713/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Prosecutions, Probes, Lawsuits Pile Up for Trump

Wolfe, Jan; Ramey, Corinne; Tau, Byron . Wolfe, Jan; Ramey, Corinne; Tau, Byron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Former President Donald Trump is having to answer to criminal charges at both the federal and state levels as he vies to secure the Republican nomination for 2024.

Here is a look at the status of some of the most prominent prosecutions, investigations and lawsuits involving Trump, in addition to the criminal indictment Tuesday brought by special counsel Jack Smith over the former president's efforts to reverse his 2020 election loss.

Mar-a-Lago documents probe

Smith indicted Trump on June 9 after an investigation into his handling of classified documents at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida. The charges marked the first time in history that the federal government has criminally charged a former president.

Trump faces charges including willful retention of national-defense information, withholding a record, false statements and conspiracy to obstruct.

On five of the counts, Trump was charged alongside his personal aide, Walt Nauta, who went to work at Mar-a-Lago after serving as a military valet in the White House. Nauta separately faces a false-statements charge. Both Trump and Nauta have entered not guilty pleas to all charges.

Federal Judge Aileen Cannon set May 20, 2024, as the date for the trial to begin, finding middle ground between prosecutors who wanted it to begin in December and Trump's defense team, which sought to have it start after the 2024 election.

Manhattan criminal case on Stormy Daniels payment

Trump was charged on April 4 with 34 felony counts of falsifying business records to hide hush money paid to suppress potentially damaging sexual allegations during his 2016 presidential campaign. He pleaded not guilty.

The case, which centers on Trump's alleged role in payments to porn star Stormy Daniels, marked the first time in American history that a former president has faced criminal charges.

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg secured the indictment through a grand jury that began in late January hearing from witnesses involved in the payment and its aftermath.

The charges of falsifying business records in the first degree are Class E felonies, the lowest level, and carry a maximum sentence of four years in jail, though first-time offenders usually receive much lighter punishment. A judge set a trial date of March 25, 2024.

New York state civil lawsuit alleging false valuation of real-estate assets

New York Attorney General Letitia James filed a lawsuit in September against Trump, three of his adult children and his company, alleging they engaged in a decadelong scheme to falsely value their assets and generated $250 million in ill-gotten gains. The lawsuit alleges that Trump's financial statements, which were provided to insurers and lenders, included false and misleading valuations, allowing him to reap favorable terms and other benefits.

James is asking the court for remedies that would effectively cripple the Trumps' ability to do business in New York.

Trump has denied wrongdoing and said the lawsuit by James, a Democrat, is politically motivated. A trial is set for October.

Georgia investigation into alleged election meddling

Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis has been investigating efforts by Trump and his allies to overturn Georgia's 2020 presidential election and has said she is nearing charging decisions.

Willis, a Democrat in Atlanta, initially launched the probe on the basis of a recorded Jan. 2, 2021, phone call in which then-President Trump urged Republican Brad Raffensperger, the state's top elections official, to find enough votes to overturn the election. Trump denies wrongdoing and has said the call was "perfect."

Trump has petitioned the Georgia Supreme Court to shut down the criminal investigation, saying his rights were violated by Willis and the judge who oversaw the process.

Civil suits related to Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol

Several Democratic lawmakers and Capitol Police officers are seeking to hold Trump accountable for the violence of Jan. 6, 2021, in a series of civil lawsuits.

A federal judge in Washington rejected Trump's immunity claims and allowed the lawsuits to proceed last year, prompting the former president to challenge the ruling to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. A three-judge panel heard arguments in December over whether Trump bears responsibility for the mental and physical harm caused by the assault on the Capitol.

Credit: By Jan Wolfe, Corinne Ramey and Byron Tau

DETAILS

Subject:	Attorneys; Trials; Political campaigns; Indictments; Court hearings &proceedings; Legal defense; Criminal investigations; Presidential elections; Scandals
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	New York; United States--US; Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J; Clifford, Stephanie (Stormy Daniels)
Company / organization:	Name: Mar-a-Lago Club; NAICS: 713910

Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497705
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-prosecutions-probes-lawsuits-pile-up/docview/2844497705/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Meta Acts to Block News in Canada --- Changes step up fight over law that sets revenue sharing for online content

Vieira, Paul . Vieira, Paul.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

OTTAWA -- After months of warnings, Meta Platforms said Tuesday it has started to block access to news links for Facebook and Instagram users in Canada, raising the stakes in a showdown over whether digital companies should finance news outlets.

"Changes will roll out over a few weeks," Meta spokesman Andy Stone wrote on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter. "As we've always said, the law is based on a fundamentally flawed premise. And, regrettably, the only way we can reasonably comply is to end news availability in Canada."

Meta and Alphabet-owned Google have taken a hard line against Canadian legislation, passed in June, that compels digital platforms to compensate media outlets for links. Internet law experts say this reflects the companies' concern about a contagion effect -- that every jurisdiction will try to mimic Canada's approach and get the Silicon Valley companies to help finance news-gathering.

The U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, for instance, approved proposed legislation that is similar in scope to what Canada approved.

Google has said it would remove links to Canadian news articles on its search function for Canadian users once authorities start enforcing the legislation, which is expected to happen late this year. Canadian officials say they believe they can address Google's concerns. A Google spokesman said Tuesday its warning remains in place.

Last month, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau likened the fight with Meta and Google to World War II. "They made the wrong choice by deciding to attack Canada," he said July 5. "Canadians will not be bullied by billionaires in the U.S."

Canadian Heritage Minister Pascale St-Onge said Tuesday Meta's decision was "irresponsible." She said the company currently faces no legal obligations because regulations have not yet been drafted.

Credit: By Paul Vieira

DETAILS

Subject:	Legislation
Business indexing term:	Corporation: Meta Platforms Inc
Location:	United States--US; Canada
Company / organization:	Name: Meta Platforms Inc; NAICS: 516210, 518210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Section:	Technology

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	284449 7702
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/meta-acts-block-news-canada-changes-step-up-fight/docview/2844497702/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: China Replaces Top Missile Commander

Gale, Alastair; Chun Han Wong . Gale, Alastair; Chun Han Wong.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

China ousted the commander of its missile force, a move that analysts said was intended to ensure loyalty to leader Xi Jinping in the arm of the military that controls nuclear-tipped missiles pointed at the U.S., and would play a pivotal role in any attempt to seize Taiwan through force.

The removal of Li Yuchao, a veteran of the People's Liberation Army Rocket Force, marked an abrupt end to an

unusually short stint in a key military post, and comes days after China replaced its foreign minister in another decision shrouded in mystery.

Li, who was appointed commander in January 2022, hadn't been seen in public for months. His ouster was confirmed at a ceremony a day before China celebrated the 96th anniversary of the founding of the PLA on Tuesday.

In a Tuesday commentary marking the anniversary, the official PLA Daily newspaper urged all military personnel to uphold Xi's status as the "core" of the Communist Party leadership, and to persist with efforts to enforce discipline and fight corruption within the armed forces.

At the Monday ceremony, Xi officially promoted the PLA Rocket Force's new commander, Wang Houbin, and its new political commissar, Xu Xisheng, to the rank of general, and presented them with their new rank insignia, according to the government-run Xinhua News Agency. The appointments of Wang and Xu, who have naval and air force backgrounds respectively, departed from a longstanding practice of placing China's strategic-missile force under the command of officers with experience in this service.

Taylor Fravel, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who has written extensively about China's military, said the decision to appoint officials from outside the Rocket Force suggests that the problems that were identified with Li were severe, and reflects the importance of the force as it undergoes a significant expansion amid deteriorating ties with the U.S.

Under China's Soviet-style political control over the military, the PLA maintains a dual leadership system whereby military units are headed by two officers typically of equal grade: A commanding officer with formal authority over combat decisions; and a political commissar who enforces party directives.

Xinhua's report didn't mention the previous commander, Li, or the former political commissar, who held the role since July 2020. China's Defense Ministry didn't respond to queries about Li's replacement.

Li's exit comes days after China abruptly removed its foreign minister, Qin Gang, just months after he took the job -- another change that Beijing made without explanation.

Coming so soon after Qin's removal, "the purge of former Rocket Force Commander General Li Yuchao . . . marks one of China's most profound leadership shake-ups in years," said Craig Singleton, a senior fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, a conservative-leaning Washington-based think tank.

Singleton said the recent brief armed uprising in Russia likely served as a reminder of the need to keep the military on a tight leash.

Credit: By Alastair Gale and Chun Han Wong

DETAILS

Subject:	Political leadership; Anniversaries; Military officers
Business indexing term:	Industry: 81394 : Political Organizations
Location:	China; United States--US
Classification:	81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497699
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-china-replaces-top-missile-commander/docview/2844497699/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Trump was indicted in an unprecedented criminal case accusing the former president of trying to subvert the will of American voters through his attempts to cling to power after he lost the 2020 election.

Ukrainian drones struck Moscow for asecond time this week, while unmanned boats attacked Russian ships in the Black Sea, Russian authorities said.

China ousted the commander of its missile force, a move that analysts said was intended to ensure loyalty to

President Xi in that arm of the country's military.

A congressional committee is investigating BlackRock and MSCI for facilitating American investment in Chinese companies the U.S. government has accused of bolstering China's military and violating human rights.

European governments began evacuating their citizens from Niger after last week's coup there triggered a standoff between Moscow's allies in the region and states that have worked more closely with the U.S. and other Western powers.

Myanmar's Suu Kyi, who was ousted from power in a military coup in 2021 and convicted in a series of cases brought against her by the junta, was pardoned for some of those offenses.

Died: Sheila Oliver, 71, trailblazing lieutenant governor of New Jersey.

DETAILS

Subject:	Coups d'etat
Location:	China; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497697

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2844497697/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

MARYLAND
Suit Over Use of
Cancer Cells Settled
The family of Henrietta Lacks and Thermo Fisher Scientific reached a settlement related to the unauthorized use of her cancer cells, which benefited labs and companies and proved invaluable for research for decades.
The two parties said they reached a confidential settlement in the case, originally filed by lawyers representing Lacks's family in 2021 in the U.S. District Court in Baltimore.
The story has come to represent the legacy of mistrust of the scientific and medical establishment within minority communities whose bodies have historically been used without their consent.
Lacks, a Black mother, sought treatment for cervical cancer at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore in 1951. She died from the disease that October at the age of 31. During her treatment, researchers took cells from her tumor sample without her knowledge or consent. Federal regulations requiring patient consent weren't yet in place.
Lacks's family was unaware about the use of her cells until the 1970s. They never received compensation stemming from the money earned by companies using the cells, lawyers representing Lacks's family said in their complaint against Thermo Fisher.
Lawyers representing Lacks's family argued in an amended complaint, filed in 2022, that Thermo Fisher profits from the HeLa cell line without compensating her estate.
Lawyers for Thermo Fisher had sought to dismiss the case, saying the statute of limitations had passed. They also said the commercial use of HeLa cells is legal.
-- Jennifer Calfas

MINNESOTA
Recreational Pot

Now Legal in State

Minnesota's legalization of recreational marijuana took effect on Tuesday, allowing people 21 and older to legally possess and grow their own marijuana for recreational purposes, subject to limits as the state establishes a legal cannabis industry in the coming months and years.

The Midwestern state is the 23rd in the country to legalize recreational marijuana. Surrounding states -- including Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota -- haven't legalized it.

At least two tribal nations in northwestern Minnesota are expects to open dispensaries for recreational marijuana this month. The Red Lake Nation and the White Earth Nation are using their tribal sovereignty to allow sales.

Most other businesses aren't expected to sell legal recreational marijuana until early 2025, as the state sets up a licensing and regulatory system for the new industry.

Dennis Buchanan, who owns The THC Joint in Minneapolis and two other cannabis-related businesses in the state, said he wasn't expecting to sell marijuana until 2025. Now, he expects to sell more marijuana-related accessories.

Minnesota restaurants, breweries and stores have already been selling drinks, gummies and candies that contain up to 5 milligrams per serving of hemp-derived THC -- the ingredient in marijuana that creates a high -- since last year when the state passed a law to allow it. Now, retailers can start selling marijuana seeds if they comply with labeling and other requirements set by the state.

-- Associated Press

LABOR MARKET

Job Openings Fall

But Remain High

The U.S. labor market is showing fresh signs of easing, with slowly falling job openings adding to figures that show the Federal Reserve is making progress in cooling the economy and lowering inflation.

Job openings declined by 34,000 to a seasonally adjusted 9.6 million in June from the prior month, the Labor Department said Tuesday, the lowest level since April 2021. Layoffs held nearly steady at 1.5 million in June.

Employers reported fewer openings in the transportation and warehousing industries. Openings also declined in state and local education and the federal government.

Job openings are down from a record of 12 million in March 2022. They remain well above prepandemic levels and exceed the six million unemployed people looking for work in June.

The numbers reflect a labor market that is gradually cooling but remains solid more than a year after the Fed began lifting interest rates to slow the economy and combat high inflation. The central bank raised interest rates last week to a 22-year high after skipping an increase in June.

Recent private-sector numbers from Indeed also show labor demand is easing steadily. Total postings on the job site for mid-July were down 16% from a year earlier, though those remain above prepandemic levels.

The quits rate -- or the number of job resignations as a share of total employment -- declined to 2.4% in June from 2.6% the prior month.

-- Christian Robles

DETAILS

Subject:	Cancer; Job openings; Interest rates; Attorneys; Labor market; Federal regulation; Consent; Marijuana
Business indexing term:	Subject: Job openings Interest rates Labor market; Industry: 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	Baltimore Maryland; United States--US; Minnesota

Classification:	54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497693
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2844497693/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Fitch Downgrades U.S.'s Credit Rating --- Firm warns of debt burden, dysfunction; Yellen calls the decision 'arbitrary'

Grossman, Matt; Duehren, Andrew . Grossman, Matt; Duehren, Andrew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Fitch Ratings downgraded the U.S. government's credit rating weeks after President Biden and congressional Republicans came to the brink of a historic default, warning about the growing debt burden and political dysfunction in Washington.

The downgrade, the first by a major ratings firm in more than a decade, is evidence that increasingly frequent political skirmishes over the U.S. government's finances are clouding the outlook for the $25 trillion global market for Treasurys. Fitch's rating on the U.S. now stands at "AA+", or one notch below the top "AAA" grade.

America's reputation for reliably making good on its IOUs has cast Treasury bonds in an indispensable role in global markets: a safe-haven security offering nearly risk-free returns. Treasurys serve as a critical benchmark for returns on stocks and other bonds, because investors generally demand greater yields on any other securities that they buy.

Few investors believe that Fitch's downgrade will immediately challenge that role. Still, it is the first time a ratings firm lowered its headline assessment of the U.S. government's propensity to pay its bills on time since Standard &Poor's in 2011 lowered its rating one notch below the top grade. That decision followed another tense debt-ceiling standoff in Congress.

Moody's, the other member of the three big U.S. ratings firms, continues to give the U.S. its strongest assessment.

Fitch said Tuesday that the downgrade reflects an "erosion of governance" in the U.S. relative to other top-tier economies over the last two decades.

"The repeated debt-limit political standoffs and last-minute resolutions have eroded confidence in fiscal management," the agency said.

Biden administration officials criticized Fitch's decision, blaming governance problems on the Trump administration and arguing that the U.S. was not at risk of missing its debt payments.

"The change by Fitch Ratings announced today is arbitrary and based on outdated data," Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said in a statement.

Administration officials said Fitch staff, in justifying their concerns over the U.S. political system, repeatedly raised the events of Jan. 6, 2021, when supporters of former President Donald Trump stormed the capital saying the 2020 election was stolen.

Trump was indicted Tuesday for his efforts to overturn his loss to Biden in that election. He has denied wrongdoing, and has repeatedly accused prosecutors of pursuing him for political reasons.

Congress passed legislation suspending the government's borrowing limit in early June, just days before the deadline Yellen had given for when the government would become unable to pay all of its bills on time.

The eventual compromise, which set caps on federal spending and raised the debt limit for roughly two years, came after months of deadlock between Democrats and Republicans. Republicans had demanded spending cuts in an echo of previous clashes over government borrowing, which Democrats resisted for months. During the impasse, Fitch said it was considering downgrading the U.S.

Fitch said it expects the general government deficit to rise to 6.3% of gross domestic product in 2023 from 3.7% last year. The expected deficit growth reflects cyclically weaker federal revenues, new spending initiatives and a higher interest burden, Fitch said. The firm expects the U.S. economy to slip into a recession later this year.

Presiding over the world's largest economy and in charge of its most important currency, the U.S. government is typically treated as among the safest borrowers anywhere. Banks and companies around the globe often think of U.S. Treasurys as if they are as reliable and liquid as cash -- a premise that relies on sacrosanct confidence in the government's ability to pay its bills.

On Wall Street, banks and investors are unlikely to step back abruptly from their reliance on Treasurys as a safe-haven benchmark following the actions of a single rating agency, said Luke Tilley, chief economist at Wilmington Trust. But moves such as Fitch's incrementally degrade the confidence that global financial markets place in the U.S. government's creditworthiness, he said.

"Rome wasn't built in a day, and it didn't fall apart in a day either," Tilley said in an interview in May, when the U.S. was facing an imminent default. "But if the two parties in Washington are going to force investors to rethink whether the U.S. will pay its bills, investors will do exactly that."

Dean Seal contributed to this article.

Credit: By Matt Grossman and Andrew Duehren

DETAILS

Subject:	Ratings &rankings; Scandals; Credit ratings; Politics
Business indexing term:	Subject: Credit ratings; Corporation: Fitch Group
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Fitch Group; NAICS: 525990
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497686
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-fitch-downgrades-credit-rating-firm/docview/2844497686/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. Stumbles Into Round of 16 --- The Americans are seeking to win a third straight Women's World Cup but face a difficult path

Bachman, Rachel . Bachman, Rachel.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Auckland, New Zealand -- U.S. women's national team players long inspired fear in opponents merely by appearing in their red-and-white-striped federation crest, its four stars representing a record four World Cup titles.

Those days are gone. After a harrowing 0-0 draw with Portugal on Tuesday in their final Women's World Cup group stage here, the U.S. women were reduced to survivors.

The U.S. limped into the knockout round with a second-place group-stage finish that puts them on a much more difficult path toward their goal of an unprecedented third straight title.

Tuesday's match was inches away from an even more calamitous outcome. Late in the match, Portugal's Ana Capeta rocketed a shot that ricocheted off the right post. If the ball had gone in and sent the U.S. to defeat, it would have eliminated the Americans, ranked No. 1 in the world, before even reaching the knockout round of a tournament they were favored to win.

Their listless performance here so far continues a steady decline that began at the Tokyo Olympics two years ago and continued with a series of troubling performances in international play over the past year. The rest of the world has closed the gap on the U.S. and now is threatening to end its dynasty.

The U.S. suddenly faces an uphill climb to another title. In the Round of 16 on Sunday in Melbourne, it's likely to face Sweden, a team it has struggled against in recent years. If the U.S. survives that test, it would then possibly face Japan, perhaps the hottest team in this tournament.

Japan has now become an unlikely role model for the Americans. In 2011, it became the only team to win the World Cup after finishing second in its group. That year -- the only other time the U.S. finished second in its group -- the Americans reached the final before losing to Japan in a penalty shootout.

The way the U.S. played Tuesday makes a return to the final this year seem like a far-off goal. As Portugal, ranked 21st in the world, controlled possession with precision passing, the U.S. played like 11 strangers.

"We missed some big chances," U.S. co-captain Alex Morgan said. "I did as well. We should have put some in the back

of the net and we didn't. We own that. We're not happy with the performance that we put out there, but at the same time, we're moving on."
The U.S. left the group stage having scored just four goals across three games -- on 58 shots. The U.S. beat Vietnam 3-0 and drew with the Netherlands 1-1.
As the U.S. played Portugal on Tuesday, the Netherlands powered past it in the Group E standings with a 7-0 pounding of Vietnam.
Making the U.S. situation even more dire: It will face its knockout game without midfielder Rose Lavelle. She's provided a spark for the U.S. even as she gradually ramps up after a knee injury but against Portugal, she received her second yellow card of the tournament and must serve a one-game suspension as a result.
U.S. coach Vlatko Andonovski shook up the lineup for Tuesday's match, inserting Lavelle at midfield in place of Savannah DeMelo and putting Lynn Williams in place of Trinity Rodman on the right wing. The U.S.'s inability to convert its scoring chances, however, continued. Again the U.S. women outshot their opponent, 13-5 -- and this time, had nothing to show for it.
The U.S. women struggled to move the ball when they had it, and struggled to get it back when they lost it. Portugal was patient and on target with the ball, holding it 43% of the match to the U.S.'s 39%. Portugal forward Jessica Silva tormented the U.S. on the right side with deft ball handling and pinpoint passing.
"They wanted it bad. They had full belief," U.S. co-captain Lindsey Horan said. "And I think we need a little bit more belief when we're playing. We need to be more calm. We need to be more poised."
It was a physical game, with players challenging hard for the ball and being knocked to the pitch.
U.S. forward Sophia Smith also received a yellow card, for a high kick that struck a Portugal player, and was subbed out for Megan Rapinoe in the 61st minute.
Sweden can secure the top spot in its group with a win or draw with Argentina on Wednesday -- and that is bad news for the U.S. Sweden handed the U.S. its worst-ever finish in any major tournament, knocking the Americans from the quarterfinals of the 2016 Rio Olympics by hunkering down in a defensive stance the U.S. couldn't penetrate.
At a group-stage game at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics, Sweden dominated the U.S., 3-0, en route to winning a silver medal, as the U.S. settled for bronze. In that game, Sweden's Stina Blackstenius scored twice, and she's back in this tournament, having scored in Sweden's 5-0 group stage romp over Italy.
The Swedes also have a dangerous weapon in Amanda Ilestedt, who's scored three times in two group-stage games despite playing center-back. That total is already halfway to Rapinoe's six goals scored across seven games to win the golden boot as the top scorer in the 2019 World Cup.
If the U.S. manages to beat Sweden, then it could then face a hot Japan squad in the quarterfinal. Japan, the 2011 champions, shut out its three group-stage opponents by a combined 11-0, including a 4-0 drubbing of Spain. The Japanese face an uneven Norway squad on Saturday in the Round of 16.
The lackluster showing so far will also raise questions about Andonovski, coaching in his first World Cup since taking over from Jill Ellis, who led the team to back-to-back titles. Andonovski assembled a 23-player team with 14 World Cup newcomers, then started a lineup in the opener that had never before played together.
"It's not good enough," Andonovski said of his team's performance on Tuesday, reciting the need to improve defensively, in the midfield and elsewhere. He insisted, however, that the U.S. has the pieces it needs to advance in this tournament.
"We have to stick to our principles. We have to stick to our game model and we have to stick to our philosophy," he said.
"We have executed our principles on both sides of the ball, offensively and defensively, against very good opponents with the group of players that we have here, and I have no doubt that we can execute it against good opponents going forward."
Credit: By Rachel Bachman

DETAILS

Subject:	Tournaments &championships; Women
Location:	Portugal; Sweden; Netherlands; United States--US; Vietnam; Japan
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.14
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Section:	Sports
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497683
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-stumbles-into-round-16-americans-are-seeking/docview/2844497683/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: House Panel on China Targets U.S. Firms

O'Keeffe, Kate; Driebusch, Corrie . O'Keeffe, Kate; Driebusch, Corrie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The world's largest asset manager and a top stock-market-index compiler are being investigated by a congressional committee for facilitating American investment in Chinese companies the U.S. government has accused of bolstering China's military and violating human rights.

The House of Representatives' Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party notified BlackRock and MSCI on Monday of the probes into their activities, according to letters viewed by The Wall Street Journal.

While the committee doesn't have lawmaking authority, it does have subpoena powers and has garnered bipartisan support for its initiatives. The goal of the investigation is to gather facts that would inform the U.S.'s China policies, including on American capital flows.

The panel told the companies that a review of just a sliver of their activities -- which aren't illegal -- showed that they are causing Americans to fund more than 60 Chinese companies that U.S. agencies have flagged on security or human-rights grounds.

By routing "massive flows of American capital" to such Chinese entities, the U.S. companies are "exacerbating an already significant national-security threat and undermining American values," said the letters, signed by the panel's chairman, Republican Rep. Mike Gallagher of Wisconsin, and its top Democrat, Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi of Illinois.

Across five funds, BlackRock has invested more than $429 million in such Chinese companies, the panel found.

BlackRock manages more than $9 trillion in assets and is entrusted by millions of Americans to invest their savings.

The firm said in a statement that it has engaged the committee directly to better understand its concerns. "The majority of our clients' investments in China are through index funds, and we are one of 16 asset managers currently offering U.S. index funds investing in Chinese companies," it added.

MSCI selects the securities that make up the indexes many investors use as a basis for their portfolios. There are more than $13 trillion of assets benchmarked to MSCI's products. In a statement, the company said it is reviewing the committee's inquiry. It has previously said that all of its index decisions are made after consultations with a range of global market participants.

The select committee on China, which was set up this year, is increasingly targeting the role of U.S. companies and financial institutions in fueling the rise of China. Its work exemplifies a shift in thinking in the White House and on Capitol Hill that once supported U.S. business ties with China but now sees some investment as counter to U.S. interests.

Like the Jan. 6 select committee that investigated the 2021 attack on the Capitol, the China panel aims to build a narrative in a way that is accessible to the public.

Last week, the Senate made progress on passing potential legislation that would require certain U.S. entities to notify the Treasury Department of investments in sensitive technologies in adversary countries such as China. Lobbying from the business community has so far quashed attempts to review or block such investments.

The China committee in July launched an investigation into U.S. venture-capital firms funding Chinese artificial-intelligence, semiconductor and quantum-computing startups.

The White House and a bipartisan coalition in Congress have deemed such investments especially harmful because of the operational expertise and critical relationships the U.S. venture capitalists offer their targets.

With this latest investigation into BlackRock and MSCI, the panel is broadening its focus by now also scrutinizing asset

managers and index compilers. Such firms would typically have little to no direct involvement with the Chinese companies in their portfolios or indexes, but they play a crucial role in directing large sums of Americans' retirement savings into their coffers. The panel said its review has shown that, "as a direct result of decisions" made by BlackRock and MSCI, Americans have been "unwittingly funding" an array of Chinese companies that operate against the interests of the U.S.

A representative from the Chinese Embassy in Washington said Monday that "politicizing economic, trade and investment issues runs counter to the principles of market economy."

Buying shares of Chinese companies has provided big returns in the past for investors. The optics of such investments have shifted, however, as U.S.-China tensions have escalated.

In 2018, MSCI added domestic Chinese stocks to Emerging Markets Index, sending billions of dollars flowing into those companies. The move came after pressure from the Chinese government, the Journal previously reported.

In addition to its passive funds invested in Chinese companies, two years ago BlackRock raised money for a Chinese mutual fund.

The committee, in its letters, called out BlackRock and MSCI for including in its funds or indexes companies featured on various U.S. government "red flag lists," such as a Pentagon list of Chinese companies operating in the U.S. that help China's military and a Department of Homeland Security list of entities involved in human-rights abuses in China's Xinjiang region.

It criticized the U.S. firms for investing in or including in indexes companies such as Chinese telecommunications giant ZTE, which the Federal Communications Commission has put on a list of national-security threats, and units of Aviation Industry Corporation China, a state-owned company known as AVIC that makes jet fighters for the People's Liberation Army. Representatives from AVIC and ZTE didn't respond to requests for comment.

Credit: By Kate O'Keeffe and Corrie Driebusch

DETAILS

Subject:	Bipartisanship; Investments; Index funds; Foreign investment; Congressional investigations
Business indexing term:	Subject: Index funds Foreign investment; Corporation: ZTE Corp MSCI Barra BlackRock Inc; Industry: 52591 : Open- End Investment Funds
Location:	China; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: ZTE Corp; NAICS: 334210; Name: MSCI Barra; NAICS: 523999, 541690; Name: BlackRock Inc; NAICS: 523940, 525910
Classification:	52591: Open-End Investment Funds
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497682
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-house-panel-on-china-targets-firms/docview/2844497682/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Mongolia Seeks Closer Ties to U.S. With Visit --- Country between China and Russia casts itself as Asian democratic outpost

Spegele, Brian . Spegele, Brian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

BEIJING -- Sparsely populated and sandwiched between two authoritarian powers, Mongolia is positioning itself as a resource-rich, democratic partner for the U.S. in Asia amid growing competition between Washington and Beijing over the minerals needed to pursue cleaner energy.

That push will be at the heart of a visit by Mongolia's prime minister to Washington this week, as his country attempts to draw itself closer to the West in a bid to diversify its economy without angering its powerful neighbors Russia and

China.
"The visit will be crucial in delivering a different understanding for the U.S. side about our democracy," Prime Minister Oyun-Erdene Luvsannamsrai said, speaking through an interpreter in an interview ahead of his visit.
During the visit that begins Wednesday, Oyun-Erdene is expected to meet with Vice President Kamala Harris and Secretary of State Antony Blinken. He is also slated to visit the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
Mongolia's rich mineral reserves as well as its unique geographic positioning are winning it increasing attention on the global stage. The Washington visit is the latest of several high-profile engagements by Oyun-Erdene, who welcomed French President Emmanuel Macron to Mongolia in May and sat down with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Beijing in June.
Mongolia was long a Communist country closely tied to the Soviet Union. Since transforming into a democracy in 1990, it has kept close links to both Russia and China, and relies on them for imports of electricity, fuel and other goods.
Courting the U.S. at a time of heightened tensions between Beijing and Washington carries risks for Mongolia, as China has shown itself willing to punish its smaller, landlocked neighbor for perceived slights. After Mongolia in 2016 welcomed a visit by the Dalai Lama -- the Tibetan spiritual leader whom China paints as a separatist -- Beijing raised fees on Mongolian mining products and caused traffic to back up at an important border crossing.
The risk of shortages of minerals such as copper that are used in electric-vehicle batteries, as well as solar and wind energy systems, is helping draw the U.S. and Mongolia closer, with Washington increasingly concerned about China's domination of the raw materials used in clean energy production.
While Mongolia's government says it has tens of millions of metric tons of such minerals in reserve, issues including a lack of infrastructure and corruption have held back foreign investment. In June, the State Department signed an agreement with Mongolia's government to help the country's resource sector attract foreign capital.
The next step, Oyun-Erdene said, would be forming partnerships with more international companies to jointly explore more of the country's mineral resources. He acknowledged the country's current data might not be trusted by international companies.
"We would like to be more open and transparent to our investors, especially Western partners and including the United States," Oyun-Erdene said, adding that he also has been discussing potential investment in the country with SpaceX founder Elon Musk.
Mongolia approved the use of SpaceX's Starlink satellite-internet service in July. Oyun-Erdene said that he and Musk recently discussed establishing training centers in Mongolia because of what the prime minister said were physical similarities between its Gobi Desert and Mars.
SpaceX didn't respond to requests for comment.
Geopolitically, Mongolia is among the developing countries that are treading carefully between the U.S. and its allies on one side and China and Russia on the other, as the war in Ukraine grinds on. Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, has abstained from votes at the United Nations that have condemned the invasion.
The prime minister in the interview called for a cease-fire and the start of negotiations as soon as possible, but said that Russian people shouldn't be blamed for the actions of their government.
"We're incredibly concerned about this tension because the challenges and consequences of this will be not just geopolitical but also economical," he said.
The prime minister's trip comes as Mongolia returns to economic health following a slowdown during Covid-19. The country's economic growth was just 1.6% in 2021.

Austin Ramzy and Matthew Thomas contributed to this article.
Credit: By Brian Spegele

DETAILS

Subject:	Mineral reserves; Minerals; Democracy; Prime ministers; International relations-US; Alliances
Location:	China; Mongolia; Beijing China; Russia; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Space Exploration Technologies Corp; NAICS: 336414, 336415
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497676
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-mongolia-seeks-closer-ties-u-s-with/docview/2844497676/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Small Timber Players Get a Way to Sell Carbon Offsets

Dezember, Ryan . Dezember, Ryan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

One of the country's largest forest-carbon firms is launching a platform to enable owners of Southern timberland to sell carbon offsets on properties as small as 40 acres, expanding a market that has mostly been limited toowners of vast wooded tracts.

Finite Carbon, which is majority owned by energy giant BP, said it would begin to enroll landowners in 13 Southern states in the program this month.

Landowners will be paid quarterly if they agree not to cut down trees for 20 years and then maintain a steady volume of standing timber on their property for another two decades. The trees must be big enough to be salable at the time the no-cut contract is signed.

Finite has arranged more than $900 million of forest-carbon deals for large U.S. landowners such as timberland investment firms and tribes, dispatching foresters to remote woodlands to measure trees and calculate how much carbon is held on properties that are tens of thousands of acres.

That is only economical for big tracts, so Finite is using Forest Service data, satellite imagery and computer programs to determine how many offsets smaller landowners can sell if they promise not to cut, said Finite Chief Executive Sean Carney.

Mercuria Energy Group agreed to buy the offsets through a Tennessee startup that the Swiss commodities trader backs called LandYield. Mercuria plans to hold some of the forest credits -- each representing a metric ton of sequestered carbon -- to offset emissions generated by its fossil-fuel businesses and to sell the rest to other companies looking to reduce their own carbon footprints, said Josh Fain, LandYield director of operations.

There are several ways to generate carbon offsets, which are awarded for reducing greenhouse gases. The most popular in the U.S. are associated with forgoing wood harvests so that trees can keep sucking carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as they grow.

Forest offset guidelines developed by regulators in California for the state's cap-and-trade emissions market have spread to unregulated markets. Firms such as Finite broker so-called voluntary offset deals between landowners and companies.

Credit: By Ryan Dezember

DETAILS

Subject:	Landowners; Carbon offsets; Timberlands
Business indexing term:	Industry: 11531 : Support Activities for Forestry
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	11531: Support Activities for Forestry

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497671
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-small-timber-players-get-way-sell/docview/2844497671/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Earnings Season Threatens Tech Stocks --- Investors say optimism in markets could evaporate if profits get squeezed

Miao, Hannah . Miao, Hannah.

FULL TEXT

U.S. stocks have stormed higher this year, but some investors say lackluster earnings projections threaten their ascent.

Stocks have rallied as the economy has proved more resilient than expected and investors bet the Federal Reserve could soon conclude its aggressive campaign of raising interest rates, which crushed stocks in 2022. Excitement about artificial-intelligence technology has also sparked a frenzy in markets, boosting megacap tech stocks such as Nvidia and Microsoft. The S&P 500 is up 19% this year, and the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite has gained 36%.

But while stocks have climbed, corporate profits have fallen. Companies in the S&P 500 are set to log a roughly 7% year-over-year decline in earnings for the second quarter, according to a FactSet blend of reported results and consensus analyst estimates. That would mark the largest quarterly earnings decline for the index since the second quarter of 2020 and a third consecutive quarter of declining profits.

Earnings expectations for the third and fourth quarters have dropped, too. At the beginning of the year, Wall Street analysts expected profits to grow by nearly 5% in the third quarter and almost 10% in the fourth quarter, according to FactSet. Now, they see increases of roughly 0.2% and 7.4%.

Investors say the optimism in the markets could soon evaporate if profits get squeezed further, calling into question the fundamental value of stocks. Market participants often use the ratio of a company's share price to its earnings as a gauge for whether a stock appears cheap or pricey. When the earnings side of the equation pulls back, that could make the market look overpriced.

"If we see profits start to fall, that could take some air out of equities," said Sandi Bragar, chief client officer at wealth-management firm Aspiriant.

Companies in the S&P 500 are trading at about 19.7 times their projected earnings over the next 12 months, according to FactSet, up from a multiple of roughly 17 at the beginning of the year and above the five-year average of 18.6.

By another measure of valuation, stocks haven't looked this expensive in more than a year. The S&P 500's cyclically adjusted price/earnings ratio, which compares the index's price relative to inflation-adjusted corporate earnings over the past 10 years, stood at 30.8 as of early July, the highest since April 2022.

Some investors anticipate earnings expectations to fall further as a potential recession looms and the Fed's rate increases make their way to companies' bottom lines.

So far this earnings season, companies are beating Wall Street projections at a greater rate than usual. With results in from about 60% of the companies in the S&P 500, 81% are topping analyst expectations, compared with the five-year average of 77%, according to FactSet.

Yet the stronger-than-expected reports aren't impressing investors. Shares of companies that have topped Wall Street's earnings expectations are rising 0.1% on average in the two days before their report through the two days after, according to FactSet. That compares with the five-year average of a 1% gain.

Microsoft last week reported quarterly results that beat analysts' top- and bottom-line estimates, but shares dropped 3.8% the next day as investors keyed in on the company's slowing revenue growth. Tesla topped Wall Street earnings expectations, yet the electric-vehicle stock sank 9.7% the following session, as Chief Executive Elon Musk warned that additional price cuts might be needed.

"When you have a momentum-driven rally, the markets expect perfection," said Anna Rathbun, chief investment officer at CBIZ Investment Advisory Services. "If there's bad news, you have more to lose."

A core concern for investors is just how much longer companies can protect profits by trying to pass on elevated costs to customers, who have stomached quarter after quarter of price increases. Net profit margins among companies in the S&P 500 are poised to fall to 11.4% for the second quarter, according to a FactSet blend of reported results and consensus analyst estimates, below the previous quarter's 11.5% and the year-earlier's 12.2%.

Consumer-products maker Procter &Gamble raised prices by 7% across its brands in the June quarter from a year earlier, propping up earnings. But sales volumes fell 1%, signaling some resistance from inflation-weary customers.
"At a certain point, consumers will balk. Something at some point will give. You can't indefinitely increase prices," said George Cipolloni, portfolio manager at Penn Mutual Asset Management.
Some investors say they are looking for value in areas of the stock market that haven't rallied as much as the megacap tech stocks.
"You don't necessarily have to pull out of stocks based on concerns about valuations. It's more a question of rotation within the U.S. equity market," said Marta Norton, chief investment officer for the Americas at Morningstar Wealth.
Norton said she is picking up shares of some materials companies, banks and communication-services companies that have more attractive valuations at current prices.
Others are looking abroad for stock-buying opportunities.
Credit: By Hannah Miao

DETAILS

Subject:	Stock exchanges; Stock prices; Profit margins; Investments; Technology stocks; Financial executives; Price cuts
Business indexing term:	Subject: Stock exchanges Stock prices Profit margins Technology stocks Price cuts; Industry: 52321 : Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	52321: Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2844497665
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/earnings-season-threatens-tech-stocks-investors/docview/2844497665/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Five Notable Passages in the Indictment

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Trump Didn't Believe
What He Was Saying
'Despite having lost, the Defendant was determined to remain in power. So for more than two months following election day on November 3, 2020, the Defendant spread lies that there had been outcome-determinative fraud in the election and that he had actually won. These claims were false, and the Defendant knew that they were false. But the defendant repeated and widely disseminated them anyway -- to make his knowingly false claims appear legitimate, create an intense national atmosphere of mistrust and anger, and erode public faith in the administration of the election.'
Trump Had a Right
To Contest Results
'The defendant had a right, like every American, to speak publicly about the election and even to claim, falsely, that there had been outcome-determinative fraud during the election and that he had won. He was also entitled to formally challenge the results of the election through lawful and appropriate means, such as by seeking recounts or audits of the popular vote in states or filing lawsuits challenging ballots and procedures. Indeed, in many cases, the Defendant did pursue these methods of contesting the election results. His efforts to change the outcome in any state . . . were uniformly unsuccessful.'
Trump, Others
Pressured the DOJ
'The defendant and co-conspirators attempted to use the power and authority of the Justice Department to conduct sham election crime investigations and to send a letter to the target states that falsely claimed that the Justice Department had identified significant concerns that may have impacted the election outcome[.]'
Trump Tied to Jan. 6

Attack on the Capitol

'[T]he Defendant sought to enlist the Vice President to use his ceremonial role at the certification to fraudulently alter the election results. The Defendant did this first by using knowingly false claims of election fraud to convince the Vice President to accept the Defendant's fraudulent electors, reject legitimate elector votes, or send legitimate electoral votes to state legislatures for review rather than count them. When that failed, the Defendant attempted to use a crowd of supporters that he had gathered . . . to pressure the Vice President to fraudulently alter the election results.'

Trump Is Accused

Of Exploiting Violence

'[A]t 2:25 p.m. the United States Secret Service was forced to evacuate the Vice President to a secure location. At the Capitol, throughout the afternoon, members of the crowd chanted "Hang Mike Pence!", "Where is Pence? Bring Him Out," and "Traitor Pence!" The defendant repeatedly refused to approve a message directing rioters to leave the Capitol, as urged by his most senior advisors . . . Instead, the Defendant issued two Tweets that did not ask rioters to leave the Capitol but instead falsely suggested the crowd at the Capitol was being peaceful[.]'

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Election results; Vice Presidents; Voter fraud
Location:	United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497662

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-five-notable-passages-indictment/docview/2844497662/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Parents Obsess Over Camp Photos --- Some scrutinize snapshots for any signs of sadness

Weiss, Tara . Weiss, Tara.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Summer sleep-away camps regularly post photos of boys and girls during games, meals and assemblies, reassuring parents their children are alive and having fun.

Many moms and dads aren't convinced. They scrutinize every pixel of their child's expression and body language for clues about their emotional state. These parents may want their children to gain independence at camp, but they can't help poring over photos to see if the kids are smiling, engaged in activities or circled by friends. Anything less -- a child walking alone or caught in a neutral expression -- triggers questions and deep analysis.

"It's an addiction," said Stacy Johnson, of Manalapan, N.J. Every morning, she scrolls through hundreds of photos looking for her 11-year-old daughter Liv, and her son Jace, 8. They go for seven weeks to Camp Chen-A-Wanda in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains.

Johnson is more concerned about Jace, a first-time camper. In a video from a dance party at Camp Chen-A-Wanda, she saw he wasn't joining the fun. She guessed he was sad because parent-visiting day had ended only a few hours earlier.

Dayna Solomon, of Brooklyn, was disturbed by a photo of her 13-year-old-son Jake, a camper at Susquehannock in Pennsylvania. The boy was shown walking under a bridge made by the outstretched arms of campers. She texted her husband, Seth.

"Hm. He doesn't look thrilled," she wrote.

"You're nuts," her husband replied. "He looks focused."

Photo-copter parents hover a far distance from their own parents, who generally dropped them at summer camp with the expectation of maybe a letter or two. Some camps now livestream sports tournaments and other special events on Instagram.

Heidi Green, a professional photographer in Manhattan who has two campers, created the Instagram account Spot

My Kid, which has 1,177 followers. She described her audience as "crazy camp parents who stalk, overanalyze and treasure every single sighting. (No matter how ridiculous.)" Parents share photos marked with circles and arrows that flag their child in a crowd.

"We're so desperate for a sign of life that we hold on to any little sign we can find, whether it's the back of our child's shoe, the top of their hat, their ear or them all the way in the back of a photo where we have to zoom in 100 times to see them," Green said.

Tracy Seiler's son Brody, 10, has been attending Camp Westmont in Pennsylvania since age 9, and he was joined this summer by his 7-year-old twin siblings Ryder and Emmy. As an experienced camp parent Seiler knew not to freak out when she saw a photo of Ryder standing alone at the camp carnival. A couple of summers ago, Seiler, of Marlboro, N.J., saw a similar photo of Brody and recalled obsessing that he had no friends.

"Those thoughts build anxiety, and they run away with you," said Stacy Fleischman, director of business development at Camp Specialists, a service that matches children with camps. She fields calls from clients who sometimes panic about what they infer from photos of their children. "They can make a parent who isn't anxious become anxious."

Tyler Hill Camp in Wayne County, Pa., employs photographers and videographers to document the daily lives of campers. Every age group has its own Instagram account. One videographer posts on TikTok, a new feature this year. The camp's opening day got half a million views.

"We live in a different world. Kids coming to camp today are connected to their parents 24/7. All of a sudden that stops and they have an insatiable appetite for knowing what's going on," said Wendy Siegel, the camp's co-owner and director with her husband, Andy. To keep pace with demand, the camp tries to capture at least two photos of each camper every day.

Six years ago, the clamor from parents about what they saw in camp photos prompted an email from Siegel that revealed some of the questions from moms and dads.

My son isn't smiling. Please go back and take another of him smiling.

Can you please make sure she knows that the blue tank top with the stripes is to wear at night -- not during the day?

Why is my son standing on the outskirts of the group? Do those boys not like him?

Siegel and her staff now remind parents that if there is a serious concern they will be in touch. Otherwise, she said, she advises them to embrace the philosophy that no news is good news.

Credit: By Tara Weiss

DETAILS

Subject:	Parents &parenting; Photographs; Children &youth; Sons; Camps
Location:	Pennsylvania; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497659
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/parents-obsess-over-camp-photos-some-scrutinize/docview/2844497659/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: World Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WEST BANK
Gunman Wounds 6
In Israel Settlement
A Palestinian gunman opened fire in an Israeli settlement east of Jerusalem on Tuesday, wounding six people before being shot and killed, Israeli police said.
The shooting at a mall in the sprawling Jewish settlement of Maale Adumim, in the occupied West Bank, was the latest in the most violent stretch of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the territory in nearly two decades.
Later on Tuesday, Palestinian health officials said the Israeli military shot and killed a 15-year-old Palestinian who allegedly tried to stab soldiers in the southern West Bank, near the city of Hebron.
The Islamic militant groups Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad praised the attack as "heroic" but stopped short of claiming responsibility.

Fighting between Israel and the Palestinians in the West Bank intensified early last year when Israel launched near-nightly raids into Palestinian areas in the West Bank in response to a spate of Palestinian attacks against Israelis.
-- Associated Press

HUNGARY
U.S. Imposes New
Travel Restrictions
The U.S. imposed new travel restrictions on citizens of Hungary over concerns that the identities of nearly one million foreigners granted Hungarian passports over nine years weren't sufficiently verified, according to the U.S. Embassy and a government official.
The restrictions apply to the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, which allows passport holders from 40 countries to enter the U.S. for business or tourism without a visa for up to 90 days.
The validity period of travel for Hungarian passport holders under the Electronic System for Travel Authorization was reduced from two years to one year, and each traveler will be limited to a single entry into the U.S. A senior U.S. government official said the change followed years of failed efforts by the U.S. to resolve the security concerns.
Hungary's government began offering a simplified naturalization procedure to those claiming Hungarian ancestry in 2011, even if they didn't live or intend to live in Hungary.
-- Associated Press

SWEDEN
Security Raised as
Qurans Are Burned
Sweden plans to step up border controls and identity checks at crossing points as its security situation deteriorates during a Quran burning crisis that has shaken the country as well as neighboring Denmark in recent weeks.
Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson said the measure were expected to be approved by his government on Thursday.
It is meant to prevent "people with very weak connections to Sweden" to come to the country "to commit crimes or to act in conflict with Swedish security interests," he said at a news conference in Stockholm on Tuesday.
A string of public Quran desecrations in Sweden and Denmark conducted by anti-Islam activists has sparked angry demonstrations in Muslim countries.
Last week, Sweden's domestic security service warned that the security situation has worsened after the recent Quran burnings in the country and protests in the Muslim world, both of which hurt the Nordic nation's image.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Passports &visas; Public officials; Quran
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	Sweden; Hungary; West Bank; United States--US; Denmark; Israel
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497653
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-watch/docview/2844497653/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2024-06-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Six Co-Conspirators Detailed in Indictment --- Members of Trump's circle under scrutiny for bids to spread lies, submit fake electors

Yu, Isaac . Yu, Isaac.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The indictment of Donald Trump for his alleged crimes in seeking to reverse the 2020 election casts a spotlight on a circle of attorneys and advisers who helped spread claims of fraud and attempted to block the certification of electoral votes on Jan. 6, 2021.

Six co-conspirators and their actions were described in the former president's second federal indictment, submitted Tuesday afternoon by special counsel Jack Smith. The six weren't named and none have been indicted. Smith said the investigation continues.

Descriptions in the document indicate that they are former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Trump lawyers John Eastman, Sidney Powell and Kenneth Chesebro and former Justice Department official Jeffrey Clark. A sixth person is described as a political consultant, whose identity is unclear.

Clark and a lawyer for Chesebro didn't return calls seeking comment. A lawyer for Powell declined to comment.

Rudy Giuliani

The indictment described co-conspirator 1 as an attorney who "was willing to spread knowingly false claims and pursue strategies" that Trump's re-election lawyers refused to.

Giuliani was an early ally to Trump's 2016 campaign and became the president's personal lawyer in 2018. Giuliani was the chief strategist of efforts to overturn the 2020 election in swing states, arguing a case on Trump's behalf in Pennsylvania court. He also admitted to making false statements to the Georgia state Senate, claiming election workers had used "suitcases" of unlawful ballots to commit fraud. Giuliani's claims were resoundingly rejected in state and federal court, and he faces multiple defamation lawsuits.

"Every fact Mayor Rudy Giuliani possesses about this case establishes the good faith basis President Donald Trump had for the actions he took," Giuliani adviser Ted Goodman said in a statement Tuesday.

John Eastman

The second co-conspirator is an attorney who the indictment said "devised and attempted to implement a strategy to leverage" Vice President Mike Pence's ceremonial role to block Joe Biden's 2020 victory.

A former constitutional law professor who once clerked for Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, Eastman promoted the notion that then-Vice President Mike Pence could single-handedly reject the electoral count on Jan. 6, 2021. He asserted without evidence that Biden won in Georgia because 66,000 underage people and thousands of felons voted illegally there.

Eastman also unsuccessfully advanced the fringe "independent state legislature" theory to lobby state legislators in swing states to appoint alternate, pro-Trump slates of electors.

Eastman's lawyer, Charles Burnham, said the indictment was misleading and meant to "cast ominous aspersions" on Trump's advisers.

Sidney Powell

The third co-conspirator is described in the indictment as an attorney whose "unfounded claims of election fraud" were privately acknowledged by Trump as "crazy."

Powell joined Trump's legal team soon after Election Day and quickly became the public face of efforts to cast doubts on the results. She regularly appeared on Fox News and other cable shows to promote her "unfounded" theories and talk about her lawsuits, including one filed against the governor of Georgia, according to the indictment. She was dismissed from the team by Giuliani weeks later but continued to be included in meetings with Trump and make television appearances.

Trump considered naming Powell a special counsel to oversee election-reversing efforts and, despite his comments of doubt, continued to publicly promote her theories.

Jeffrey Clark

The indictment describes the fourth co-conspirator as a Justice Department official who attempted to "open sham election crime investigations and influence state legislatures with knowingly false claims of election fraud," alleges the indictment.

Clark, a midlevel Justice Department bureaucrat, proposed sending a letter to officials in swing states asking them to

send slates of Trump-supporting electors, Justice Department officials testified at a hearing held by the House Select Committee that was investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol. A former environmental lawyer, Clark later promised to use the Justice Department's power to help Trump pressure state officials and open election investigations if Trump removed the then acting attorney general and nominated Clark to lead the Department of Justice instead. The plan failed when DOJ officials threatened to resign en masse.

Kenneth Chesebro

The fifth co-conspirator "assisted in devising and attempting to implement a plan to submit fraudulent slates of presidential electors," according to the indictment.

Chesebro, an attorney and Trump campaign adviser, was the original architect of the fake elector plot. His memo to Republican Party officials in his home state of Wisconsin on Nov. 18, 2020, is the earliest known proposal to nominate fake electors, which he then worked to replicate nationwide with Giuliani and others. Republicans from seven Biden-won states met on Dec. 14, 2020, to cast fake electoral votes for Trump, which Trump allies then attempted to deliver to Capitol Hill.

Political consultant

The indictment describes the sixth co-conspirator, whom the Journal hasn't identified, as a political consultant alleged to have "helped implement a plan to submit fraudulent slates of presidential electors." The co-conspirator is said to have crafted lists of attorneys in swing states who could assist with the fraudulent effort, and worked to confirm phone numbers for six U.S. senators who conspirators believed could help delay the certification of Biden's win.

Credit: By Isaac Yu

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Election results; State elections; Voter fraud; Criminal investigations; Presidential elections; Indictments; Attorneys
Business indexing term:	Subject: Attorneys; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 54111 : Offices of Lawyers
Location:	United States--US; Georgia
People:	Tru mp, Donald J; Clark, Jeffrey; Pence, Mike; Giuliani, Rudolph W; Powell, Sidney
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 54111: Offices of Lawyers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	009 99660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497652
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-six-co-conspirators-detailed-indictment/docview/2844497652/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-10-01
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: As Ex-President Leads GOP Rivals, His Legal Bills Drain 2024 Accounts

Gillum, Jack; Leary, Alex . Gillum, Jack; Leary, Alex.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Donald Trump's legal troubles haven't hurt him in the polls. But they are taking a significant bite from his campaign bank account.

The former president increasingly is crowding out rivals, with recent polling showing more than half of likely Republican presidential voters picking him for the nomination.

At the same time, his courtroom difficulties are draining the coffers fueling his candidacy, raising concerns among allies as he was indicted a third time Tuesday.

New data made public Monday showed that Trump's main political-action committee -- which has funded many of his legal expenses and that of allies snared in various investigations -- is running dry. Save America PAC had less than $4 million in the bank as of June 30, compared with more than $100 million a year before.

Nearly 90% of Save America's everyday expenses this year, or more than $20 million, accounted for legal-related

costs, a Wall Street Journal analysis of Federal Election Commission data shows. Some close to Trump's campaign say there is a sense of worry about the drain.
If that trend continues, Trump might have to dip into his own pockets or pull from other funds to pay his attorneys. He also could step up appeals to his supporters.
Trump isn't broke, however. His official campaign reported more than $22 million in the bank at the end of June, buoyed by more than $4 million in individual contributions. A super PAC backing his candidacy, called Make America Great Again, still has nearly $31 million to spend.
His chief Republican rival, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, has a solid war chest but has slipped in the polls. A super PAC supporting DeSantis reported $97 million cash on hand, driven by a relatively small amount of wealthy donors. Data show more than a third of contributions to the DeSantis super PAC were at least $100,000; the highest was $20 million.
Trump, already facing criminal charges from the Manhattan district attorney and the Justice Department, was indicted a third time Tuesday over his attempts to undo the 2020 election results. A similar investigation in Georgia is expected to soon result in charges.
In some ways, Trump and his campaign feel especially strong at the moment. About 54% of likely Republican voters say they would pick Trump, compared with 17% who would choose DeSantis, according to a recent New York Times/Siena College poll. None of Trump's most die-hard supporters thought he committed serious federal crimes, according to the poll. The former president has portrayed himself as a victim of politically motivated attacks, claims that have resonated with his supporters, who have continued to send him money. Rivals such as DeSantis are caught in an awkward spot of trying to take advantage of Trump's problems while echoing his condemnations of the justice system.
Trump spokesman Steven Cheung has said the extraordinary legal bills paid by Trump's PAC are necessary to protect the former president's employees from what Cheung called "financial ruin," saying that "the weaponized Department of Justice has continued to go after innocent Americans because they worked for President Trump."
Critics have said using those funds for legal expenses is illegal. Saurav Ghosh, director of federal campaign-finance reform at the nonpartisan Campaign Legal Center, assailed the practice as a "slush fund," and called it "a clear abuse of his donors, and further illustrates the extent to which he is willing to bend or break campaign finance laws to advance his personal interests."
Trump is establishing a new legal fund to offset expenses for staffers and associates called the Patriot Legal Defense Fund, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Anthony DeBarros contributed to this article.
Credit: By Jack Gillum and Alex Leary

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Indictments; Presidents; Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act 2002-US; Voters; Political finance; Legal fees
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
People:	Trump, Donald J
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497650
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-as-ex-president-leads-gop-rivals-his/docview/2844497650/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-02-22
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Key Moments Surrounding The Attack on The Capitol

Patterson, Scott . Patterson, Scott.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Jan. 6, 2021

1 a.m.: President Trump tweets: "If Vice President @Mike_Pence comes through for us, we will win the Presidency. Many States want to decertify the mistake they made in certifying incorrect &even fraudulent numbers in a process NOT approved by their State Legislatures (which it must be.) Mike can send it back!"

11:35 a.m.: A group of Proud Boys is gathered on the east side of the Capitol, according to videos of the scene.

11:57 a.m.: Trump takes the stage to address thousands of supporters. "We will stop the steal," he says. He tells supporters to march to the Capitol and promises to join them. He returns to the White House. Thousands of protesters head toward the Capitol.

12:53 p.m.: Then-Vice President Mike Pence releases a letter in which he says he doesn't have authority to overturn the will of voters.

Meanwhile, Trump supporters knock down the first row of barricades and the crowd begins pushing up the stairs toward a second line of barricades as thousands of protesters stream in from the rally on the National Mall. Within minutes, the small number of Capitol Police guarding the barricade retreat, giving protesters unrestricted access to the lower stairs and the west lawn of the Capitol.

12:57 p.m.: The first group reaches the west side of the Capitol and begins to clash with officers, shoving and yelling, "Traitors!"

1 p.m.: Pence and senators walk to the House chamber to begin the joint session to certify the Electoral College result.

1:11 p.m.: Trump concludes his speech at the Ellipse.

Around 2:10 p.m.: The crowd on the left side of the stairs on the west side of the Capitol storms past police. Within minutes, dozens and then hundreds of people begin pushing up the stairs. People start climbing the walls of the Capitol and flooding onto balconies.

2:24 p.m.: "Mike Pence didn't have the courage to do what should have been done to protect our Country and our Constitution," Trump tweets.

2:26 p.m.: Pence is evacuated to a secure location.

2:30 p.m.: The House is abruptly adjourned, and lawmakers are told to be prepared to hide under their chairs. The Senate chamber is evacuated.

2:44 p.m.: With rioters surging into the Capitol, an officer fires a shot outside the House chamber at a woman who was trying to climb through a glass entryway. Authorities later confirm Ashli Babbitt died from gunshot injuries.

4:17 p.m.: In a recorded statement, Trump tells protesters to go home. "You have to go home now, we have to have peace . . . we love you, you're very special," he says.

Shortly after 5 p.m.: Law-enforcement officers in riot gear position themselves for a concerted effort to clear the hundreds of protesters still encircling the Capitol. The crowd thins out significantly as 6 p.m. approaches.

6:01 p.m.: Trump tweets, "These are the things and events that happen when a sacred landslide election victory is so unceremoniously &viciously stripped away from great patriots who have been badly &unfairly treated for so long. Go home with love &in peace. Remember this day forever!"

Credit: By Scott Patterson

DETAILS

People:	Pence, Mike
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 2, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844497648
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-key-moments-surrounding-attack-on/docview/2844497648/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Small-Business Loan System Streamlined --- Overhaul eases the entry for nonbank lenders, prompting worry about defaults

Simon, Ruth; Rudegeair, Peter . Simon, Ruth; Rudegeair, Peter.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The federal program for small-business lending is undergoing its biggest makeover in decades.

The Small Business Administration is simplifying loan requirements, automating more of the process and expanding the pool of nonbank lenders licensed to issue SBA loans. The moves, many of which take effect Tuesday, will make it easier for financial-technology firms to participate.

SBA officials say they want to boost credit to small businesses that have struggled to get financing as banks favored bigger commercial borrowers. But the changes -- and the decision to couple relaxed requirements with new lenders -- have drawn criticism from the industry and members of Congress, who say the revisions could jeopardize the program by increasing loan defaults.

"These are the most sweeping changes I have seen in my 40-year career," said Tony Wilkinson, chief executive of the National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders, a trade group for current SBA lenders. One of lenders' most important jobs is to say no when it is appropriate, he added, rather than give small-business owners loans they can't repay.

"Our system is not broken," Wilkinson said. "I don't know what they are trying to fix."

Legislation sponsored by Senate Small Business Committee Chairman Ben Cardin (D., Md.) and co-sponsored by ranking member Joni Ernst (R., Iowa) would direct the SBA to conduct annual stress tests of licensed small-business lending companies, which aren't overseen by federal banking regulators, and add guardrails and speed bumps to the processing of loans by new nonbank licensees. The legislation would also make permanent a pilot program aimed at helping underserved borrowers secure small-dollar loans.

SBA loans are crucial for many entrepreneurs, who generally can borrow as much as $5 million to start, buy, expand or run a small business. Banks and other approved financial institutions make the loans. Typically, the SBA promises to cover as much as 85% of losses.

The SBA is authorized by Congress to guarantee as much as $34 billion in loans annually through its main lending program. Lenders issued $26 billion of these loans in the most recent fiscal year, the SBA said.

"There's $8 billion that went underutilized," at the same time small businesses often say they can't get a loan, said a senior SBA official. The agency said the program hasn't kept pace with changes in how loans are made and has missed the opportunity to take in new types of lenders.

To qualify for the SBA's guarantee, lenders must adhere to standards that can make the process cumbersome for borrowers and unattractive to some lenders.

Natalie Freihon, founder of Strange Bird Hospitality, turned to the SBA for financing after the costs of opening her fourth restaurant in New York state were higher than she expected. Freihon said she worked on her application with an adviser for three months before borrowing $350,000 from a high-cost lender.

"I just ran out of time," said Freihon, who still hopes to take out an SBA loan to pay off the debt, which carries a 28% interest rate. "The whole SBA process is so time-consuming," she said. "Much more so than what I have had to do for a traditional loan, for investors, for leases or anything."

Thousands of banks and credit unions are certified to make SBA loans, but a small group issues most of them.

Under the new SBA rules, lenders can use their own standard credit policies to make SBA loans of as much as $500,000 instead of following government guidelines. Lenders are encouraged to check a box to indicate why borrowers can't get credit elsewhere, a crucial program requirement, instead of providing a detailed written explanation.

"What we are saying is do not make SBA loans that wouldn't otherwise fit your general underwriting and credit criteria," the senior SBA official said. The SBA is taking over some basic prescreening tasks, such as fraud checks.

Some changes could make it easier for entrepreneurs to qualify for financing. For example, lenders will be able to give more weight to profit forecasts for younger, growing businesses and rely less on past performance on loans of as much as $500,000.

Other changes reduce or eliminate the down-payment requirement for some borrowers and cut the chances they will have to provide a lien on their homes or other collateral. Lenders don't have to determine whether borrowers can

draw on their own wealth or that of family members to meet their funding needs.
The SBA would add three nonbank lenders to the 14 already licensed to make SBA loans above $350,000. Adding new fintech and other nonbank lenders has drawn criticism from industry participants, who say those lenders are under less federal supervision than banks.
Credit: By Ruth Simon and Peter Rudegeair

DETAILS

Subject:	Commercial credit; Bank technology; Small business loans; Entrepreneurial finance
Business indexing term:	Subject: Commercial credit Bank technology Small business loans Entrepreneurial finance
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Small Business Administration; NAICS: 921130
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015552
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-small-business-loan-system-streamlined/docview/2844015552/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated: 2025-01-30

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Former Hunter Biden Business Associate Testifies

Levien, Simon J; Linskey, Annie; Tau, Byron . Levien, Simon J; Linskey, Annie; Tau, Byron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- A former business associate of Hunter Biden testified Monday to Congress that President Biden and his son were in near daily communication and that the younger Biden would occasionally put his father on speakerphone at business dinners and in other situations, according to lawmakers present for the closed-door briefing.

The associate, Devon Archer, said Joe Biden and his son never discussed business on these calls, only engaging in casual conversation about such things as the weather. But the testimony paints a more detailed picture of how Hunter Biden may have highlighted his close relationship with his father as part of his pitch to potential clients, and raises fresh questions about how much Joe Biden was aware of his son's overseas business ventures.

Republicans have been probing whether Joe Biden had any involvement in his son's business dealings. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R., Calif.) said Republicans are set to pursue an impeachment inquiry of President Biden to boost their investigatory powers. The White House has said Biden was never in business with his son.

Archer appeared Monday in front of a GOP-led panel probing the business dealings of Biden's son, the latest in a long-running political drama about the younger Biden's globe-trotting consulting and investment work for Ukraine's Burisma energy company and a variety of foreign entities in places including China.

Archer testified that Joe Biden was put on the phone to help Hunter Biden sell what he called "the brand," according to Rep. James Comer (R., Ky.), who chairs the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

Comer said Archer testified that there were about 20 phone calls including Joe Biden. The calls took place while Joe Biden was vice president and included one during a dinner in Paris with a French energy company and another in China with Jonathan Li, the CEO of Chinese private-equity firm BHR.

Archer's testimony "confirms Joe Biden lied to the American people when he said he had no knowledge about his son's business dealings and was not involved," said Comer.

Hunter Biden's legal team downplayed the importance of the testimony. "It's well known that Hunter and his father speak daily," said attorney Abbe Lowell. "What Mr. Archer confirmed today was that when those calls occurred during Hunter's business meetings, if there was any interaction between his father and his business associates, it was simply to exchange small talk," he said.

The White House has denied that President Biden was a party to his son's business dealings. White House spokesman Ian Sams said the GOP probe amounted to an "evidence-free wild goose chase" and that the testimony Monday didn't show any wrongdoing. While running for president, Joe Biden said he had "never spoken to my son about his overseas business dealings."

Rep. Dan Goldman (D., N.Y.), also on Oversight, said Republicans had failed to show any involvement by President Biden in his son's activities. "This investigation is a complete waste of time," he said.
Archer's testimony was "very, very consistent that none of those conversations ever had to do with any business dealings or transactions," Goldman said.
Goldman also said that it wasn't always clear that Joe Biden was aware that he was on speakerphone with Hunter Biden's associates.
Rep. Andy Biggs (R., Ariz.), another member of Oversight, said Archer testified that only pleasantries were exchanged when Joe Biden was on the phone. Still, Biggs said he was confident that the testimony implicated Biden in his son's business activities.
Archer's testimony covered a period when he and Hunter Biden served on Burisma's board of directors. Comer said that Archer testified that Burisma's owner "placed constant pressure on Hunter Biden" to "get help from D.C." to tamp down Viktor Shokin, a Ukrainian prosecutor who was investigating Burisma for corruption. Joe Biden had called for the ouster of Shokin because he and others thought that the prosecutor wasn't aggressive enough.
Archer didn't respond to questions on his way out of the hearing Monday afternoon.
Credit: By Simon J. Levien, Annie Linskey and Byron Tau

DETAILS

Subject:	Testimony; Presidents; Scandals; Congressional investigations
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	China
People:	Biden, Hunter; Biden, Joseph R Jr; Archer, Devon
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015545
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-former-hunter-biden-business-associate/docview/2844015545/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: China's Tech Woes Grow Amid U.S. Curbs --- Export restrictions seek to stall Beijing's ambitions in AI and supercomputing

Strumpf, Dan; Leong, Clarence . Strumpf, Dan; Leong, Clarence.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

HONG KONG -- China's tech sector is showing the strain from last year's sweeping U.S. export restrictions, which seek to stall Beijing's ambitions in cutting-edge industries such as artificial intelligence and supercomputing.
Semiconductor imports to China are falling. Chinese companies say they are struggling to get key components and machinery. And chipsets that have been remodeled to make them less powerful so they fall within U.S. rules are now threatened by the possibility of additional restrictions.
The distress signals show Washington's nine-month-old policy of denying Beijing access to the most advanced semiconductors and the tools to make them is starting to bite, despite loopholes and workarounds keeping some key components flowing.
The restrictions also show the obstacles facing China in developing domestic alternatives for some of the most sought-after foreign semiconductor technologies.
"The controls appear to be making it harder and costlier for China to gain certain inputs," said Emily Benson, a senior fellow specializing in trade and technology at the Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank.
Customs data released by Beijing in July highlighted the reality for Chinese buyers of high-end chips: Imports of semiconductors fell by 22% in value terms during the first six months of 2023 from a year earlier. Imports of chip-

manufacturing equipment dropped by 23%.
Leading chip-manufacturing regions accounted for the lion's share of the decline in semiconductor imports. Taiwan, home to Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., the world's largest chip maker, accounted for about 40% of the drop in China's chip imports during the first five months of the year. South Korea, home to Samsung, SK Hynix and other chip giants, accounted for almost one-third. The U.S. restrictions affect foreign companies that use U.S. chip-making tools -- which virtually all of them do.
There are likely other factors at play behind drooping semiconductor imports. China's economy is slowing amid weaker global demand. Beijing has also invested heavily in domestic technology industries in a push for greater self-reliance, though that will take time to bear fruit. In the meantime, China lacks the ability to make the most advanced chips, with key elements in their supply chain controlled by the U.S. and its allies.
Japan on July 23 restricted the export of crucial semiconductor-manufacturing equipment, following curbs announced by the Netherlands.
Last month, the largest listed subsidiary of Inspur, China's top maker of servers used to develop AI, issued a warning to investors: Citing tight supply, the company said it is struggling to get chips critical to powering its AI servers, the powerful machines used in laboratories and tech companies to develop advanced AI.
Unable to access the latest chips, China's AI contenders risk falling behind in a sector that Beijing has said it aims to lead the world in by 2030. UBS said it expects global demand for AI products to reach $300 billion by 2027, up from $28 billion last year.
Other Chinese companies are facing challenges getting parts. In late June, China's leading maker of memory chips, Yangtze Memory Technologies, urged suppliers to show "integrity" and deliver machinery parts it had already purchased.
The U.S. export rules announced last Oct. 7 included caps on the power of certain processors used in AI applications and in supercomputers, as well as restrictions on the types of chip-making machinery, components and software China can import.
While selling top-end chips and tools to Chinese buyers may no longer be an option, some Western companies are benefiting from China's accelerating buildup of domestic chip capacity. ASML, the Dutch maker of lithography machines that are critical to chip making, posted a 27% rise in second-quarter revenue, driven in part by sales to China.

Yoko Kubota in Beijing contributed to this article.
Credit: By Dan Strumpf and Clarence Leong

DETAILS

Subject:	Manufacturing; Semiconductors; High technology; Artificial intelligence
Business indexing term:	Subject: Manufacturing Artificial intelligence
Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US; Taiwan
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015537
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-chinas-tech-woes-grow-amid-u-s-curbs/docview/2844015537/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-p rofits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-11-10
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Ultrasound Therapy Can Aid Drug Delivery

Roland, Denise . Roland, Denise.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Ultrasound, the decades-old technology known for giving early glimpses of unborn babies, could hold a key to a problem that has long challenged drug developers: getting medicines to hard-to-reach places to treat diseases like Alzheimer's and cancer.

A cutting-edge approach that combines ultrasound waves with tiny bubbles of inert gas injected into the

bloodstream can get more chemotherapy to tumor cells and enable drugs to breach the blood-brain barrier, one of the most stubborn frontiers in the human body. It is also being explored as a new way to deliver gene therapy.
"There's an extremely wide variety of where this sort of drug delivery or augmentation with ultrasound and bubbles can take us," says Flemming Forsberg, professor of radiology and director of ultrasound physics at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. The effectiveness of drugs in treating diseases like cancer, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's is often limited by poor penetration into tissues, he says, whether in the brain or in tumors in other parts of the body.
To get to the places they are needed, many drugs must move from the bloodstream into surrounding tissue. The medicines have to travel through the thin walls of the capillaries, the body's smallest blood vessels, and reach the target cells. This is tougher in some parts of the body than others. Some tumors are surrounded by dense networks of connective tissue that are hard to penetrate. In the brain, the capillary-wall cells are so tightly packed that they form a barrier that the vast majority of drugs can't get through.
The new approach relies on targeted ultrasound waves that cause vibrations in tiny bubbles that are injected into the bloodstream. The resulting force -- which some compare to the way an opera singer's voice can make a wine glass quiver and even shatter -- disrupts the surrounding capillary walls and tissue, temporarily creating microscopic gaps that have been shown to ease the passage of drugs in early human studies.
Some key questions must be explored as research progresses, says Seung-Schik Yoo, a researcher at Brigham and Women's Hospital and associate professor of radiology at Harvard Medical School who has done work in this area. One is ensuring that the disruption doesn't cause any lasting damage to tissues. Another is figuring out how frequently the procedure can be applied -- and if there is a limit to the number of applications.
The procedure takes place during drug dosing or soon after. Typically, the microbubbles are injected intravenously while ultrasound, similar to the type used for fetal imaging, is applied at the target site for around five minutes. In one cancer trial, for instance, the microbubbles and ultrasound are administered around an hour after chemotherapy begins, so that the drug is at a high concentration in the blood at the time of the procedure.
While the microbubbles flow throughout the bloodstream, the disruption in tissue only occurs in the part of the body exposed to the ultrasound wave. The effect is temporary, lasting for as little as an hour, and the microbubbles remain in the blood for only around five minutes. The tiny size of the bubbles means they don't pose a risk of causing dangerous blockages in blood vessels, researchers say.
Early human trials are producing encouraging results. In a smallstudy of patients with glioblastoma -- a type of brain cancer -- researchers found that using the technology in treatment with carboplatin, a powerful chemotherapy, resulted in six times the amount of the drug in brain tissue that was exposed to the targeted ultrasound compared with unexposed brain tissue. In patients treated with paclitaxel, another cancer drug, levels were 3.7 times higher where the procedure was applied. Under normal circumstances, both drugs are seldom used to treat brain cancer because so little can get across the blood-brain barrier, according to Adam Sonabend, associate professor of neurological surgery at Northwestern University, who was involved in the trial.
In the glioblastoma trial, a small device developed by French company Carthera was used to avoid the difficulty of passing ultrasound through the skull bone, which weakens the power of the sound waves, according to the company's chief scientific officer, Michael Canney. The ultrasound-emitting device is embedded in titanium mesh used to reconstruct a small gap in the skull after surgery to remove the tumor, and sits directly above the brain. It emits ultrasound waves when connected to a power source via a syringe-like mechanism. The bubbles and the drugs are injected into the arm by intravenous infusion.
Exact Therapeutics, a Norwegian company, recently told investors that liver tumors in two patients in a Phase 1 clinical trial that were exposed to ultrasound plus microbubbles during chemotherapy shrank more than those without the ultrasound. The trial is still under way at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London, and the results haven't yet been peer-reviewed.
The company has developed a formulation of microbubbles mixed with tiny oil droplets. When exposed to a particular frequency of ultrasound, they combine to temporarily form slightly larger bubbles in capillaries near the target tissue. They press directly against the capillary walls and stay there for longer, strengthening and prolonging

the disruptive effects that allow drugs to pass into the target tissue, Exact Therapeutics Chief Executive Per Walday says.
Credit: By Denise Roland

DETAILS

ERIC Subject:	Patients; Cancer; Narcotics; Radiology; Barriers; Brain
Subject:	Drugs; College professors; Blood-brain barrier; Blood vessels; Brain cancer; Bubbles; Tumors; Cancer therapies; Ultrasonic imaging; Chemotherapy; Medical technology; Medical screening
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015535
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-ultrasound-therapy-can-aid-drug-delivery/docview/2844015535/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2024-07-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Judge Calls Trump's Complaints Meritless

Wolfe, Jan; McWhirter, Cameron . Wolfe, Jan; McWhirter, Cameron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A judge rejected Donald Trump's effort to halt the criminal investigation he faces in Georgia, saying the former president's allegations of prosecutorial misconduct are meritless.

The ruling Monday by a state court judge, which follows a similar decision from the Georgia Supreme Court in early July, ends a long-shot bid by Trump to derail Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis's investigation into interference in the November 2020 presidential election.

Monday's ruling was issued by Fulton County Superior Court Judge Robert McBurney, who oversaw a special grand jury investigation used to advance Willis's investigation.

A Willis spokesman declined to comment on the ruling. Willis, an elected Democrat in Atlanta, has been investigating alleged election interference by Trump and his allies for more than two years. She said in April that she plans to announce charging decisions this summer, and has told local law-enforcement leaders to prepare for the "significant public reaction" her announcement could trigger.

Credit: By Jan Wolfe and Cameron McWhirter

DETAILS

Subject:	Criminal investigations; Judges &magistrates
Location:	United States--US; Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015534
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-judge-calls-trumps-complaints-meritless/docview/2844015534/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: California To Probe Cars' Data Collection

Tau, Byron; Stupp, Catherine . Tau, Byron; Stupp, Catherine.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

California's new privacy regulator said Monday it is embarking on its first-ever enforcement action: a review of the privacy practices of connected automobiles.

The California Privacy Protection Agency -- created under a ballot initiative in 2020 and the only regulator in the nation solely dedicated to privacy issues -- will examine the growing amalgamation of data collected by smart vehicles and whether the business practices of the companies collecting that data comply with state law.

"Modern vehicles are effectively connected computers on wheels. They're able to collect a wealth of information via built in apps, sensors, and cameras, which can monitor people both inside and near the vehicle," Ashkan Soltani, the agency's executive director, said.

U.S. regulators' scrutiny of the data lags behind such efforts in Europe, which has forced automakers to update software to limit the collection and protect the privacy of consumers.

Porsche provides a menu on vehicle dashboards where European drivers can give or withdraw their consent for the

company to collect personal data or share it with third-party suppliers.
Regulators in Europe also have opened investigations into how the auto industry uses personal information from cars such as location data.
In February, Tesla agreed to offer a software update in Europe to change camera settings in cars after the Dutch privacy regulator investigated the company. Tesla disabled vehicles' external security cameras by default until a driver turns on the function to record activity outside a car andchanged the camera settings so they only save the last 10 minutes of footage recorded from outside the cars, compared with one hour of footage they previously had saved.
The Dutch regulator also said it was a privacy violation for the cameras to extensively record people outside of cars without their knowledge. The Tesla update also included features to warn people inside and outside of cars that the external cameras are recording. Headlights blink if the cameras are recording, and a message is displayed on a touch screen inside the cars.
Automobiles represent the latest frontier for regulators, raising fresh questions about who will control the data generated by vehicles as they move through the world.
Numerous companies are in a position to access the data -- including the automakers themselves, companies that make or run in-car navigation or infotainment systems, satellite radio companies and in-vehicle security and emergency services providers. Insurance companies have also been encouraging consumers to share information about their driving behavior, sometimes in exchange for a discount.
All the data has commercial potential. In some cases, it can be used by insurers in determining how to set rates, evaluate risk and gauge safe driving behavior.
It also can be used in urban planning and traffic studies; to help make real-estate decisions such as where to open a franchise or outlet; or be used in economic forecasting. In some cases, data brokers make vehicle data available for sale -- stripping it of personal information such as names.
Law-enforcement agencies also can now obtain the historical location of suspects, usually with a warrant. The sensors on modern cars have raised national-security concerns as well.
China in 2021 banned certain officials from owning or driving Tesla vehicles citing concerns that data the cars gather could be a source of national-security leaks, The Wall Street Journal has reported.
Credit: By Byron Tau and Catherine Stupp

DETAILS

Subject:	Software; Personal information; Cameras; Automobile industry; Privacy; Automobile safety; Vehicles
Business indexing term:	Subject: Automobile industry; Industry: 33611 : Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing
Location:	California; United States--US; Europe
Classification:	33611: Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015526
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-california-probe-cars-data-collection/docview/28 44015526/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Europe Returns to Slow Growth, but Headwinds Loom

Hannon, Paul . Hannon, Paul.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Rising borrowing costs and stagnating Chinese demand for European goods could pave the way for another miserable economic winter for the eurozone this year.

These headwinds, which include the Ukraine war and high inflation, mean the region is likely to keep underperforming the U.S. for now, according to fresh data and recent sentiment surveys.

After briefly shrinking at the end of last year, the currency area's economy returned to growth in the three months through June, show data released by the European Union's statistics agency Monday. The combined gross domestic product of the 20 countries that use the euro grew at an annualized rate of 1.1% in the second quarter. That modest pickup mirrored an acceleration in U.S. economic growth during the same period, and contrasted with a slowdown in China. But the eurozone partly benefited from a freak 13.7% increase in Ireland, whose GDP has gyrated following the fortunes of large U.S. drug companies domiciled on the island.

The eurozone economy is unlikely to return to the rates of growth it recorded before Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent energy and food prices surging and shattered business and household confidence.

"The near-term economic outlook for the euro area has deteriorated, owing largely to weaker domestic demand," European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde said Thursday. "High inflation and tighter financing conditions are dampening spending."

Eurostat didn't provide a breakdown of the factors driving the return to growth, but figures from individual countries indicate that consumer spending held up better than during the winter months, when high energy bills left households with less to spend on other goods and services.

In a separate release, Eurostat said the annual rate of consumer-price inflation fell to 5.3% in July from 5.5% in June to reach its lowest level since the month before Russia's invasion.

With wages rising faster than in recent decades, some parts of Europe may soon follow the U.S. in seeing a return to growth in real wages. And despite unusually high temperatures, southern Europe is seeing a return to prepandemic levels of international tourism.

Credit: By Paul Hannon

DETAILS

Subject:	Gross Domestic Product--GDP; Eurozone; Economic growth; Economic conditions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Gross Domestic Product--GDP Eurozone Economic growth Economic conditions
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Ukraine; Europe
Company / organization:	Name: Eurostat; NAICS: 926110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finan ce

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015523
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-europe-returns-slow-growth-headwinds/docview/2844015523/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Coup Leaders in Niger Detain Ministers -- Arrests could impede diplomacy by African and Western nations to resolve the crisis

Faucon, Benoit; Steinhauser, Gabriele . Faucon, Benoit; Steinhauser, Gabriele.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Coup leaders in Niger on Monday arrested several ministers and senior members of the party of detained President Mohamed Bazoum, dealing a blow to efforts by African nations to find a diplomatic solution to the crisis that has shaken one of the U.S.'s main counterterrorism allies as Russia's African allies declared their support for the junta.
Among those arrested were oil minister Mahamane Sani Mahamadou -- the son of Bazoum's predecessor, Mahamadou Issoufou -- and Mining Minister Ousseini Hadizatou, as well as Foumakoye Gado, president of the executive committee of the Nigerien Party for Democracy and Socialism, said people familiar with the arrests. The country's interior, defense and transport ministers were arrested last week, they said.
"The aim of the arrests was to decapitate the [NPDS] to avoid the organization of mass protests," said a senior member of Bazoum's party. "They also want to use them as hostages in case of military intervention."
The arrests are bound to complicate efforts by the African leaders -- supported by Washington and Niger's former

colonial power France -- to restore Bazoum to power. At stake is how much the U.S. can continue its military involvement in Niger, a key American hub for counterterrorism operations and drone flights between Libya, Mali and Nigeria.

On Monday, the State Department said it didn't believe the coup had succeeded yet. Were the State Department to determine a coup successfully took place, U.S. laws would restrict American defense aid to Niger. The U.S. has spent more than $500 million equipping and training Niger's military since 2012. The country hosts American commandos who have advised Nigerien special forces during combat missions against local affiliates of al Qaeda and Islamic State. About 1,100 U.S. troops are stationed in Niger.

Neighboring Nigeria and other West African countries are considering using military force to return the president to power. A senior State Department official declined to say whether the U.S. supports an intervention, saying it is a tricky question in part because an attack on Niger's presidential guard could endanger Bazoum.

At an emergency summit on Sunday, leaders from the Economic Community of West African States said they would give Niger's military junta, which is led by Gen. Omar Tchiani, the head of the presidential guards, one week to back down. Failing that, the leaders of the group, known as Ecowas, said they would take more forceful measures to return Bazoum to power.

The West African leaders also announced painful financial and trade sanctions, including the suspension of the sale of electricity and fuel to Niger.

But the bloc's decision is facing opposition from other military leaders in the region who also came to power through coups and are siding with Russia. In a joint statement late Monday, Burkina Faso and Mali said they support the Niger junta. They said they would assist the coup plotters in Niamey, the capital, if they are attacked. "Any military intervention against Niger will be considered as a declaration of war against Burkina Faso and Mali," said in the statement.

On Saturday, the European Union and France said they had suspended financial support for Niger's government.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Monday called for "the rapid restoration of the rule of law in the country."

Credit: By Benoit Faucon and Gabriele Steinhauser

DETAILS

Subject:	Arrests; Counterterrorism; Political leadership; Coups d'etat; International relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: International relations; Industry: 81394 : Political Organizations
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Mali; France; Nigeria; Niger; Burkina Faso
People:	Bazoum, Mohamed
Classification:	81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015522
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-coup-leaders-niger-detain-ministers/docview/2844015522/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Strikes Kill Six More Ukrainian Civilians -- - Residents are angry, resilient as Russia continues attacks far from front lines

Lovett, Ian . Lovett, Ian.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

KRYVIY RIH, Ukraine -- When Tetiana Kucher heard the first explosion Monday morning, she stepped onto her balcony and snapped a photo of the smoke billowing up about a mile away -- the type of scene she has grown used to after 17 months of war.

The next missile hit her building, killing at least six including a mother and her 10-year-old daughter, who lived down the hall.

"Everything was shaking," said Kucher, 55 years old. "Dishes were falling down."
More than a year into the war, Russian missiles and shells are chewing away at Ukrainians going about their daily business in cities miles from the front lines. Russia says it is targeting military facilities, but the strike in the industrial city of Kryviy Rih in central Ukraine is the latest of several attacks in the past week that killed civilians and damaged infrastructure. The port city of Odesa repeatedly has been hit by Russian missiles, which damaged its cathedral, as well as critical infrastructure for exporting grain. At least four people were killed by shelling in the southern city of Kherson on Monday.
"The enemy has been stubbornly attacking cities, city centers, shelling civilian objects and housing," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky wrote on Telegram. "But this terror will not frighten us or break us."
The missile ripped a 50-foot hole in the apartment block and damaged buildings up to a quarter-mile away. More than 70 people were hurt, Ukrainian officials said.
Hundreds of volunteers descended on the area, sweeping up glass and handing out water. A dozen structures were damaged by the explosion. Businessmen in shirt sleeves carried plywood to cover broken windows.
Victims, meanwhile, were trying to get on with their lives.
Kucher and her husband stood across the street from their building, waiting in line to get plastic covers for their shattered windows. They weren't sure when they would be allowed back inside, and Kucher was still wearing the pink socks and blue plastic slippers she had on when they ran out of the building.
They would stay with her mother tonight, they said, but planned to move back when they could. "It's our home," Kucher's husband, Serhiy Kukol, said. "It's hard to think about leaving home."
Yana Panyuta suffered minor injuries: The blast threw her against the wall of her home, located behind the apartment building, and she was briefly knocked unconscious. When she came to, she knew the drill. She found her mother and their dog, and got everyone out of the area. A few hours later, she was at the school, registering as a victim in hopes of receiving compensation later. All 14 of the windows in her home were blown out.
Viktoria Lupiychuk, 42, and her mother also were waiting to register. The women, along with Lupiychuk's 12-year-old daughter, spent most of the war in Poland, but returned to Kryviy Rih a few months ago, hoping the acute threat faced in the war's early days was now over.
When she read of missile strikes in other areas, she thought, "It's terrible, but you don't think a missile will hit your building."

Nikita Nikolaienko contributed to this article.
Credit: By Ian Lovett

DETAILS

Subject:	Missiles; Cities; War; Military engagements; Casualties; Civilians
Location:	Russia; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015518
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-strikes-kill-six-more-ukrainian/docview/2844015518/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Panel Wants FBI's Spy-Tool Use Curbed

Volz, Dustin . Volz, Dustin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Bureau of Investigation's access to a controversial intelligence trove of intercepted emails, texts, and other electronic data should be curtailed following serial missteps that have damaged public and congressional trust in the surveillance tool, a White House panel of intelligence advisers has concluded.

The recommendation and others made by the panel come as a challenge to the Biden administration, which has spent months aggressively lobbying lawmakers to preserve the spying program, which is set to expire at the end of the year. Democrats and Republicans have said the program, while valuable to national security, threatens Americans' privacy.

At issue is the FBI's access to a cache of data collected under what is known as Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence

Surveillance Act. The President's Intelligence Advisory Board, which consists of current and former officials and security experts, recommended the FBI's searches be limited to foreign intelligence purposes, as is the standard at other U.S. intelligence agencies that can access the intercepted data, and no longer allow hunts for evidence of a crime in non-national-security cases.

While critical of past FBI abuses of the database, the board warned that not renewing the surveillance power, as some lawmakers have threatened, would be catastrophic by blinding intelligence agencies to myriad threats facing the U.S. "If Congress fails to reauthorize Section 702, history may judge the lapse of Section 702 authorities as one of the worst intelligence failures of our time," it said.

It wasn't clear whether President Biden would embrace the recommendation or the others made by the board. A senior administration official said the White House received the proposals within the past few weeks and regarded them as potentially acceptable -- including the limit on non-national-security searches, which typically occur fewer than a couple dozen times a year.

"We look forward to reviewing the board's recommendations for how we can secure this critical national security authority and to working with Congress to ensure its reauthorization," Biden's national security adviser Jake Sullivan and deputy national security adviser Jon Finer said in a joint statement.

Section 702 is due to expire at the end of the year, unless Congress renews it. Top Biden administration officials have said the program -- classified details of which were revealed 10 years ago by former intelligence contractor Edward Snowden -- is among the most vital national security tools in their possession, critical to preventing terrorism, thwarting cyberattacks and understanding the aims of adversaries such as China and Russia.

It allows the National Security Agency to siphon streams of electronic data from U.S. technology providers such as Meta and Apple. The data, collected in intelligence repositories, can then be searched without a warrant by spy agencies including the FBI, which has a robust counterintelligence mission.

Though intended for the communications of foreign national-security suspects living overseas, the database also holds information about Americans, gathered, for example, when a person living in the U.S. communicates with an intelligence target living overseas. Searches of U.S. data are the chief concern of lawmakers considering overhauls.

Other recommendations made by the board include creating a requirement that the FBI and other agencies adopt a rule that all searches of U.S. content be signed off by two individuals -- a standard that already exists at the NSA.

The board also urged the administration to seek a new certification from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court for counternarcotics purposes, though the justification is largely redacted. The Biden administration has publicly discussed Section 702's value to combating fentanyl trafficking, but a more explicit permission to use the tool for counternarcotics could broaden its utility, officials say.

The board was critical of the FBI's history of wrongfully plumbing American data in the Section 702 trove, which have included improper searches of George Floyd protesters and sitting lawmakers, and said reforms needed to be adopted and codified in law.

The FBI has made significant improvements in the past two years by adopting a series of internal changes, the board said, but those were "insufficient to ensure compliance and earn the public's trust."

An FBI spokeswoman said the bureau looked forward to engaging with Congress on the substance of the board's report -- but didn't say whether it would accept the recommended limitations.

Credit: By Dustin Volz

DETAILS

Subject:	Intelligence gathering; Surveillance; National security; Legislators; Intelligence services; Data collection
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92112 : Legislative Bodies

Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
Classification:	92112: Legislative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015516
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-panel-wants-fbis-spy-tool-use-curbed/docview/2844015516/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Leading economic indicators of manufacturing and services activity in China were weak in July, evidence the world's second-biggest economy is losing momentum even as authorities demonstrate limited appetite to reverse the trends. China's tech sector is showing the strain from last year's sweeping U.S. export restrictions, which seek to stall Beijing's ambitions in cutting-edge industries such as artificial intelligence and supercomputing.

The eurozone economy returned to modest growth in the three months through June, but persistent headwinds could portend another difficult economic winter for the region this year.

Major U.S. stock indexes ended July's final trading session higher, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow notching monthly gains of 3.1%, 4% and 3.3%, respectively.

The extra reward for holding stocks instead of bonds has fallen to its lowest level in 20 years, threatening a recent hot streak for major indexes.

CVS Health said it is shedding about 5,000 jobs to help reduce costs as the retail pharmacy giant sharpens its focus on healthcare services.

Private-equity firms Francisco Partners and TPG agreed to buy New Relic in a deal that values the software company at about $6.5 billion.

Fox is closing Fox Bet, the broadcaster's sports-betting venture, after it failed to grow as quickly as more dominant competitors in the U.S. online-gambling market.

DETAILS

Subject:	Drug stores
Business indexing term:	Subject: Drug stores; Industry: 45611 : Pharmacies and Drug Retailers
Location:	China; United States--US
Classification:	45611: Pharmacies and Drug Retailers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015514
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2844015514/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: DeSantis Would Press Ban of TikTok

Leary, Alex . Leary, Alex.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

CONCORD, N. H. -- Republican presidential candidate Ron DeSantis said that if elected he would look at a national ban of TikTok, the widely popular video sharing app, citing a growing threat to the U.S. from China.
"I am inclined to not want TikTok in the United States," DeSantis told The Wall Street Journal in an interview here following the release of his economic plan that identifies confronting Beijing as a leading priority. "I think it's creating a security vulnerability for us. I think they are mining a lot of data."
The Florida governor also said he would work to oust Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell before his post expires in 2026 and said he would support rules governing how the central bank sets interest rates.
On TikTok, owned by China's ByteDance, DeSantis also cited the effect the service can have on children, calling it "very very toxic." But he stressed he wouldn't go as far as the Restrict Act, a bipartisan measure introduced in the Senate that would allow the president to take action against an array of foreign software and services from U.S. adversaries.
"At the end of the day I don't want big brother to be getting into everybody's apps," he said. "It's about vulnerabilities to our country."
It isn't clear whether the U.S. government actually could ban TikTok, which says it has roughly 150 million American users. Lawmakers in both parties see the app as a danger because of concerns that users' data could be transferred to the Chinese government.
In 2020, then-President Donald Trump tried to ban TikTok by executive order. Two federal judges expressed doubt that the president had the power to do so. The Biden administration withdrew Trump's order while continuing to scrutinize the app.
DeSantis also said he would support government aid for critical sectors, again in the context of growing competition with China, singling out national security. Congress last year carved out $52 billion for the semiconductor industry and research.
"I wouldn't get carried away," he said, saying the government didn't want to play venture capitalists with future technologies. "But I do think in things that are a matter of national survival we can be thoughtful of how we're incentivizing these industries to be here in the United States."
DeSantis is seeking to regain footing in the Republican presidential primary after stumbles that have eroded his status as the top challenger to Trump. DeSantis has added a flurry of stops in early-voting states and has turned to releasing policy proposals.
His economic plan calls for:
Revoking China's permanent normal trade relations status.
Banning the import of Chinese goods made from stolen intellectual property.
Restricting pension-fund managers from considering factors such as climate change in investment decisions.
Making universities responsible for student loans and allowing those loans to be discharged through bankruptcy.
The U.S.-China trade status is rooted in a 1999 U.S.-China pact struck when Beijing prepared to join the World Trade Organization, and it provides the most favorable trade terms and tariff rates. Trump levied huge tariffs on Chinese-made goods in an attempt to gain leverage, but his trade deals didn't stimulate U.S. manufacturing in their first few years.
DeSantis also would seek to bar companies from sharing critical technologies with China -- which the Biden administration already has taken steps toward -- and provide incentives for the repatriation of U.S. capital from China through tax abatements and other measures to secure the supply chain.
DeSantis has increasingly criticized the Federal Reserve and Powell, accusing it of fueling inflation. Interest-rate hikes, he has said, have hurt average Americans.
Last week, the Fed resumed interest-rate increases, bringing them to a 22-year high. Inflation has retreated from a 40-year high hit last summer, with the consumer-price index climbing 3% in June from a year earlier. That is well below the June 2022 peak of 9.1%.
Trump nominated Powell, who was given a second term under President Biden. His chairmanship expires in 2026.
Credit: By Alex Leary

DETAILS

Subject:	Government aid; Bans; Interest rates; Presidential elections; International relations-US; Economic planning; Normal trade relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: Interest rates Economic planning Normal trade relations; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	China; Beijing China; United States--US
People:	DeSantis, Ron
Company / organization:	Name: TikTok Inc; NAICS: 518210
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015510
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-desantis-would-press-ban-tiktok/docview/2844015510/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON
U.S. Space Command
To Stay in Colorado
The Biden administration will keep the headquarters for U.S. Space Command in Colorado Springs, Colo., reversing a Trump-era plan to move it to Huntsville, Ala. The decision is likely to complicate a dispute with a Republican senator over a hold on military confirmations.
"This decision is in the best interest of our national security and reflects the president's commitment to ensuring peak readiness in the space domain over the next decade," said Adrienne Watson, a spokeswoman for the National Security Council.
The announcement comes as the Biden administration has been battling with Sen. Tommy Tuberville, a Republican from Alabama, over a Pentagon policy that pays for women to travel to other states to obtain reproductive healthcare, including abortions, if the state to which they are assigned doesn't allow access to those services.
Tuberville has placed a hold on all U.S. military senior officer confirmations -- more than 280 -- as a way to pressure the Pentagon to suspend the policy.
-- Gordon Lubold

PITTSBURGH
Jury to Deliberate
On Death Penalty
A federal jury will begin deliberating Tuesday morning on whether Robert Bowers will receive the death penalty for killing 11 people at the Tree of Life synagogue in 2018, the deadliest antisemitic attack on U.S. soil.
The jury heard closing arguments Monday.
The jury has been hearing testimony since May in the three-part trial. In June, the jury found Bowers guilty of dozens of federal hate crimes after hearing three weeks of graphic testimony in which survivors of the Oct. 27, 2018, massacre recounted the attack inside the synagogue.
Bowers, 50, was found guilty of 63 counts, including 11 counts of obstructing the free exercise of religious beliefs resulting in death.
In July, the same jury heard further evidence and determined that Bowers should be eligible to receive a death

sentence.
Most recently, in the trial's third and final phase, jurors heard victim impact statements from survivors and family members of those killed, as well as hearing from defense witnesses.
-- Kris Maher

DETAILS

Subject:	National security; Capital punishment
Location:	Colorado; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015502
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2844015502/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-08-01
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Fox to Wind Down Its Sports-Betting Site --- Venture struggled to attract customers and failed to grow as quickly as rivals

Feuer, Will; Sayre, Katherine . Feuer, Will; Sayre, Katherine.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Fox is closing Fox Bet, the broadcaster's sports-betting venture, after it failed to grow as quickly as more dominant competitors in the nascent U.S. online-gambling market.

Fox and its partner, FanDuel owner Flutter Entertainment, said Monday that they would wind down Fox Bet between July 31 and Aug. 31. Fox Bet said it had stopped accepting bets.

The decision to shut Fox Bet comes amid a reckoning among sports-betting companies that are under pressure to turn a profit. Companies are cutting costs after years of extensive spending on marketing campaigns as new states legalized sports betting.

Sports-betting app FanDuel, which leads the U.S. in market share, has become a prized asset for global gambling company Flutter, while Fox Bet has struggled to attract customers.

FanDuel and its rival DraftKings have more than 70% of the online sports-betting market, according to Eilers &Krejcik Gaming, an industry consulting firm, leaving little room for other companies. Brands with familiar casino names such as Caesars and BetMGM have trailed behind.

Fox Bet, meanwhile, has been near the bottom, holding less than 1%.

Fox Bet was available in Colorado, Michigan, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The business also operated a free-to-play game, called Fox Bet Super 6. Fox said it would retain future use of the brands, and plans to offer a new Fox Bet Super 6 game later this summer. Fox and News Corp, the parent of Wall Street Journal publisher Dow Jones, share common ownership.

Online sports betting in the U.S. generated $7.5 billion in revenue last year, while online casino games produced about $5 billion. Flutter has said it expects the online gambling market to grow to $40 billion by 2030.

Last year, Flutter reported that its U.S. operations including FanDuel and Fox Bet had $3.2 billion in revenue and a $313 million loss in earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

Fox still has the option to buy an 18.6% stake in FanDuel. Chief Financial Officer Steve Tomsic told analysts on a February conference call that Fox would like to see Fox Bet grow, but that Flutter was ultimately responsible for investing in it.

Fox launched Fox Bet in 2019 through a partnership with the Stars Group. As part of the deal, Fox bought a roughly 5% stake in the Stars Group for $236 million, and won the right to buy a 50% stake in the company's U.S. business within 10 years.

Shares in Fox rose 0.6% to $33.45 on Monday. Flutter shares added 0.9% in London trading.

Credit: By Will Feuer and Katherine Sayre

DETAILS

Subject:	Online gambling; Sports betting
Business indexing term:	Industry: 71329 : Other Gambling Industries
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Fox Entertainment Group Inc; NAICS: 512110, 516120
Classification:	71329: Other Gambling Industries
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015501
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/fox-wind-down-sports-betting-site-venture/docview/2844015501/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-02
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Republican 2024 PACs Raise Cash By the Tens Of Millions

Gillum, Jack; DeBarros, Anthony . Gillum, Jack; DeBarros, Anthony.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Political groups supporting Republican presidential contenders on Monday reported having tens of millions of dollars in the bank to help their favored candidates, while also footing the bill for expensive advertising, polling operations and -- in the case of former President Donald Trump -- millions more in legal fees.

Never Back Down, the super PAC supporting Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, reported nearly $97 million on hand at the end of June. Make America Great Again, Trump's super PAC, reported cash of about $31 million. The two super PACs topped the field of presidential-hopeful committees reporting fundraising and expense totals to the federal government.

The fundraising of those so-called super political-action committees, which can raise unlimited sums and buoy campaigns with independent expenditures on ads, are among the biggest advantages the GOP has in its effort to win back the White House.

But the former president's fundraising apparatus appears to be burning through cash. Three Trump-related entities -- his super PAC, joint fundraising committee and leadership PAC -- collectively spent more than $100 million during the first half of the year, Federal Election Commission data show. That figure can include transfers to other groups affiliated with Trump's presidential run.

DeSantis's Never Back Down was the target of a complaint by a campaign-finance watchdog, which argued DeSantis and a state group violated federal law by transferring millions to it. Representatives for DeSantis and the PAC didn't return inquiries seeking comment.

Super PACs let individuals and corporations contribute unlimited sums to help a candidate. They're barred from coordinating with the campaigns they support.

A Trump political action committee spent at least $21 million on legal fees as of the end of June, an initial review showed Monday. Previously, people familiar with the matter said the former president's group spent about $40 million. A Trump campaign spokesman didn't return a request for comment.

Credit: By Jack Gillum and Anthony DeBarros

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Political advertising; Elections; Legal fees; Political action committees--PAC; Political finance
Business indexing term:	Industry: 81394 : Political Organizations
Classification:	81394: Political Organizations

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015494
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-republican-2024-pacs-raise-cash-tens/docview/2844015494/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-07-14
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: College Applicants Scramble After Court's Ruling

Korn, Melissa . Korn, Melissa.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

SirNira Davis-Burke is stumped about how to proceed with her college applications this fall.

The rising senior at Parkway Center City Middle College in Philadelphia planned to check the box noting that she is African-American. She anticipated writing her application essay about lessons her grandfather taught her as he battled multiple sclerosis. And she set her sights on a mix of predominantly white and historically Black colleges to study nursing.

Now, she isn't so sure about any of it.

Should she focus her essay instead on something tied to her experience as a Black woman? Could she somehow hurt her chances by doing so? How will schools use the information in that check box? Do they still want someone who looks like her on campus?

"Part of me wants to leave race out of it. I want people to know me outside the color of my skin. The other part of me is kind of like, 'Maybe you should write about this because you are already at the lower end of the totem pole,'" Davis-Burke said, referring to the social and economic challenges faced by Black women in American society.

Colleges are scrambling this summer to respond to a Supreme Court ruling that sharply curtails how they can consider an applicant's race in admission decisions.

That leaves rising high-school seniors looking at the most selective schools in uncharted territory. Most college applications go live on Aug. 1.

Yvonne Espinoza, an independent college counselor in Austin, Texas, said some of her clients of color initially thought their applications would be dismissed by admissions offices if they mentioned their race. "Like they needed to somehow conceal that, or it would be a disadvantage to talk about their life experiences if it related to culture or race," she said.

The Common Application will keep an optional check box in which students can mark their race or ethnicity, but this year offered to send schools applications that omit that section, if so requested.

Admissions directors say that even though a school can't consider race itself as a factor to tip the scales on whether an applicant gets in, some essay prompts not only allow but outright encourage more discussion about their backgrounds, a nuanced way to give applicants an opportunity to mention how their race shaped them.

"I don't have a playbook, here's the words you can use, here's the words to not use," said Paul Harris, a college counselor at Alamo Heights High School in San Antonio. He said students of color "now kind of have to subtly signal to an admissions office, 'Here's how I'm going to make your campus a more diverse place.' We're all kind of winking and nodding at each other, but we can't really say anything."

That is an outsize burden to place on a subset of applicants, said Aasiyah Beamon, a rising senior at Lincoln College Preparatory Academy, a public magnet school in Kansas City, Mo.

"It's now put onto the student to display all the struggles that they went through and relive that trauma of growing up in an underprivileged community or a marginalized community," said Beamon, a Black woman aiming to study neuroscience at some of the nation's most selective colleges.

J.D. Ross, a rising senior at West Potomac High School in Belle Haven, Va., is sticking to a months-old plan of writing his main essay about supporting a family member with mental-health and substance-abuse issues. He said that was a formative experience.

Some schools, including the University of Virginia, Lehigh University and University of Vermont, are using optional supplemental essays to invite further reflections on what shaped an applicant's identity or how that identity can contribute to the campus community. Ross said he doesn't think much about how being Hispanic has shaped his identity, in part because he lives in a community in Alexandria, Va., where he says diversity is the norm. But if any of the schools to which he is applying for engineering programs offers that extra essay, he said, he will still write it.

Those tasked with advising applicants are itching for more guidance themselves.

Sam Bigelow, director of college counseling at the private Middlesex School in Concord, Mass., said he is curious how

the new standard will allow for him to include in reference letters information about students' identities and experiences the same way he did before the Supreme Court's ruling.
"There's so many question marks here," Bigelow said. "I'm eager for some nuts and bolts."
Colleges issued a flurry of statements in the wake of the Supreme Court ruling declaring their continued commitment to diversity, but rising seniors are worried they will show up on campus a year from now and see a very different mix of students than they had hoped for.
Beamon, the student from Kansas City, is rethinking her list of target schools.
She was heartened by the messages from schools, but she still is worried she will arrive at college and find "there's no one there that I can relate to."
Credit: By Melissa Korn

DETAILS

ERIC Subject:	School Counselors; Engineering Education; Magnet Schools; College Applicants; Essays; Community Relations
Subject:	Supreme Court decisions; Students; College admissions; Schools; College campuses; Admissions policies; Applications
Location:	United States--US; Kansas City Missouri
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Aug 1, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jo nes &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2844015486
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-college-applicants-scramble-after-courts/docview/2844015486/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-07-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Fear of Deflation Deepens in China as Growth Stalls

Douglas, Jason; Xie, Stella Yifan . Douglas, Jason; Xie, Stella Yifan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Signs of deflation are becoming more prevalent across China, heaping extra pressure on Beijing to reignite growth or risk falling into an economic trap it could find hard to escape.

While the rest of the world tussles with inflation, China is at risk of experiencing a prolonged spell of falling prices that -- if it takes root -- could eat into corporate profits, sap consumer spending and push more people out of work. Its effects would ripple across the globe, easing prices for some products that countries like the U.S. buy from China, but would also deprive the world of important Chinese demand for raw materials and consumer goods, while also creating other problems.

Prices charged by Chinese factories that make products ranging from steel to cement to chemicals have been falling for months. Consumer prices, meanwhile,have gone flat,with prices for certain goods -- including sugar, eggs, clothes and household appliances -- now falling on a month-over-month basis amid weak demand.

Most economists think China will probably avoid a deep and lasting period of deflation. Its economy is growing, albeit sluggishly, and the government has unveiled a variety of small stimulus measures which could help more. Earlier in July, Liu Guoqiang, a Chinese central bank official, dismissed concerns that China is slipping toward deflation.

But some economists see alarming parallels between China's current predicament and the experience of Japan, which struggled for years with deflation and stagnant growth.

In the 1990s, a collapse in stock markets and real-estate values in Japan pushed companies and households to drastically cut back spending to service burdensome debts -- a so-called balance-sheet recession that some see taking shape in China today.

Data released Thursday showed industrial profits are sinking and average new home sale prices fell in June.

If China were to tip into protracted deflation, it has another big problem: Traditional methods of fighting it are either unpopular in Beijing, or lack potency due to the country's heavy debt load and other issues. Beijing is wary of large deficit-financed spending programs which could juice growth and push prices higher, while big debts mean consumers and businesses are reluctant to borrow and spend.

"The big concern is whether the policy tools that they have will have much traction in terms of trying to avert deflation, or deal with deflationary pressures once they arrive," said Eswar Prasad, a professor of trade policy and economics at Cornell University and a former head of the International Monetary Fund's China division.
For the global economy, extended deflation in China might help cool inflation elsewhere, including the U.S., since its factories make up such a large share of the world's goods.
However, a flood of cut-price Chinese exports on global markets could squeeze out rival exporters in some countries, hurting jobs and investment in those economies. Chinese export prices for steel and chemicals fell by about a third during the 12 months through June.
A deflationary spell in China would also likely mean weaker Chinese demand for food, energy and raw materials, which big chunks of the world rely on for export earnings.
"The market is underestimating the deflationary impact on the global economy," said Frederic Neumann, chief Asia economist at HSBC in Hong Kong.
Consumer prices in the U.S. rose 3% in June from a year earlier, a sharp slowdown from the 8% annual rate a year earlier. Annual inflation in the European Union last month was 6.4% as the region continues to feel the squeeze from high energy and food prices.
In China, annual consumer-price inflation in June was zero. Producer prices fell in China last month by 5.4% from a year earlier. Subdued consumer spending is one big reason.
But weak price pressures are also a payback of sorts for China's experience during the pandemic, when exports rocketed on Western demand for gym equipment, home improvement supplies and other goods.
The demand surge helped push Chinese producer prices up 12% between the start of 2020 and their peak in April 2022, according to an index calculated by Moody's Analytics.
When governments lifted lockdowns and Western demand eased, the trend reversed. Producer prices began falling on a year-over-year basis in October and have kept falling every month since.
Chinese factories, which expanded to meet Western demand during the pandemic, now face overcapacity. The hope was that Chinese consumers would step into the breach and soak up excess inventories as export markets dried up. But that hasn't happened, and as more businesses pivot toward selling into the domestic market, the downward pressure on prices is building.
Credit: By Jason Douglas and Stella Yifan Xie

DETAILS

Subject:	Raw materials; Consumers; Exports; Deflation; Global economy; Pandemics; Profits; Inflation; Consumer spending; Consumer Price Index; Economic conditions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Consumers Exports Deflation Global economy Profits Inflation Consumer spending Consumer Price Index Economic conditions
Location:	Beijing China; United States--US; China; Japan
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681719
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-fear-deflation-deepens-china-as-growth/docview/2843681719/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: China's Shein and Temu Ramp Up Feud in U.S.

Shen, Lu . Shen, Lu.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Shein and Temu, two of the fastest-growing shopping platforms in the U.S., have taken the gloves off in a globe-spanning fight that accentuates a strong reliance on China that both companies are trying to play down.
Fashion retailer Shein, with its $5 pants and $9 dresses, seemed indomitable in its quick rise to become the top fast-fashion company in the U.S. Then came Temu, an online marketplace backed by Chinese e-commerce firm PDD

Holdings, which has soared in popularity since its U.S. launch in September.
The two companies have slapped lawsuits on each other in U.S. courts, alleging corporate dirty tricks, including trademark infringement and bullying suppliers to pick sides.
Less publicly, the dispute is playing out on the ground in China, where most of their supply chains and back offices are. The firms are fighting for suppliers and workers and are demanding long hours as part of a competition to get cheap goods to win over thrift shoppers in the U.S. -- their biggest market.
Both Shein and Temu have sought to distance themselves from China amid rising geopolitical tensions between Washington and Beijing, with some U.S. lawmakers pushing for a blanket ban on Chinese apps.
Shein, which doesn't sell in China, has relocated its headquarters from the eastern Chinese city of Nanjing to Singapore. Temu says it is based in Boston and has removed from its website mentions of its links to Shanghai-based PDD.
In the most recent salvo, Temu's antitrust lawsuit against Shein in federal court in Boston on July 14 alleges Shein forced Chinese clothing manufacturers into signing exclusive agreements with the online fashion retailer and threatened them with fines and penalties if they worked with Temu.
Temu also claimed that Shein sent fake notices of copyright infringement to disrupt Temu's sales. Some garment makers have asked Temu to remove their products from the site "to appease Shein," it added.
"We believe this lawsuit is without merit, and we will vigorously defend ourselves," a Shein spokesperson said.
Shein, which made its debut in the U.S. in 2017, fired the first legal shot in December in federal court in Illinois, alleging that Temu had stolen Shein's trademarks and copyrighted images and impersonated Shein on social media.
Temu "strongly and categorically rejects all allegations," a spokesperson said.
"These tit-for-tat lawsuits between Shein and Temu undermine both companies' efforts to look less Chinese, when each already has a target on its back from Congress," said Kevin Xu, a tech investor not invested in either company.
Shein, which sells to more than 150 countries, was recently valued at $66 billion and posted $23 billion in revenue last year. Since Temu came into view, Shein has consistently lost U.S. market share to its rival, data from Earnest Analytics shows.
Shein's sales growth accelerated in the first half of 2023 from the second half of 2022, Executive Vice Chairman Donald Tang said in a letter he sent to investors last Wednesday. The letter, viewed by The Wall Street Journal, said Shein brought in the highest first-half income in the company's history.
Shein's success is rooted in the agile supply chain it pioneered, placing orders in small quantities to test market appetite and replenishing orders as needed. Recently, Shein has ventured beyond fashion and lifestyle, adopting a Temu-style marketplace model for big-ticket items and household products that are a staple of its rival.
Outside China, Shein has been on a hiring spree and building supply-chain and logistics infrastructure. The company has explored the possibility of hiring a leader for its U.S. operations, people familiar with the company said.
Founded in 2015, Nasdaq-listed PDD started in China by selling heavily discounted, generic household staples and quickly rose to rival Alibaba and JD.com. It launched Temu in 25 markets in less than a year.
So far, Temu has focused on getting shoppers to swipe and buy. Its monthly user base in the U.S. is three times that of Shein, according to mobile-insights consulting firm GWS. Temu users spend 23 minutes a day on average on its app, longer than Shein users, at 15 minutes, GWS said.
Current and former Shein employees in China said Temu last year poached aggressively from Shein, especially those in supply-chain and operations positions. PDD's head count, which includes Temu and its Chinese sister platform, Pinduoduo, numbered 13,000 at the end of 2022. Shein has more than 11,000 workers.
On Chinese job-seeking site Maimai, users say Shein has offered financial incentives to pull longer hours and requires some employees to clock at least 242 hours a month.
The companies are also fighting for suppliers throughout China that constantly compare profitability across platforms.
Credit: By Shen Lu

DETAILS

Subject:	Fines &penalties; Suppliers; Retailing industry; Electronic commerce
Business indexing term:	Subject: Suppliers Retailing industry Electronic commerce; Industry: 45411 : Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses
Location:	China; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: SHEIN (online fashion retail); NAICS: 458110; Name: Temu LLC; NAICS: 454110
Classification:	45411: Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681708
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-chinas-shein-temu-ramp-up-feud-u-s/docview/2843681708/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-02-06
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Yellow, one of the oldest and biggest U.S. trucking businesses, shut down, wrecked by a string of mergers that left it saddled with debt and stalled by a standoff with the Teamsters union.

Home insurers are insuring less and charging more as they try to claw their way back to profitability after losing money in five of the past six years, analysts and insurance agents say.

Signs of deflation are becoming more prevalent across China, heaping extra pressure on Beijing to reignite growth or risk falling into an economic trap it could find hard to escape.

Hedge-fund manager Boaz Weinstein is locked in a fight with BlackRock over control of several investment products it runs, a battle that could upend part of the mutual-fund world.

U.S. households are earning an additional $121 billion from income on investments annually versus a year ago as interest rates hover at their highest level in more than two decades.

Walmart paid $1.4 billion to buy the remaining shares of Flipkart owned by Tiger Global, further cementing its control of the Indian e-commerce giant.

Apple, Amazon.com and Starbucks will report earnings this week, offering insights into where consumers are spending their money as inflation eases and interest rates rise.

DETAILS

Subject:	Interest rates
Business indexing term:	Subject: Interest rates
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023

column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681707
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2843681707/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Leave No Pet Behind: Bringing Soldiers' Furry Friends Safely Home

Donati, Jessica . Donati, Jessica.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- When U.S. ambassador to Sudan John Godfrey was huddled in Khartoum dodging bullets and airstrikes, there was one question he hadn't expected: How much did the embassy staff's cats and dogs weigh?
Navy SEALs, who were dispatched to save diplomatic personnel from the clashes that had erupted between feuding Sudanese generals, had agreed to evacuate pets as part of their mission. The only stipulations were that the four-legged passengers fit in carry-on bags and that their weight was counted down to the pound.
"The rule of thumb was basically that it had to fit on your lap. We were very fortunate that we didn't have any outsized pets at the time," a senior U.S. official said.
The Sudan escape marked a lucky break for the cats and dogs of the U.S. mission in east Africa -- and another chapter in the growing history of military and diplomatic pet evacuations.
In Vietnam, the U.S. military used working dogs to sniff out explosives and detect enemy forces hiding in rivers and forests. But when America withdrew in 1975, the dogs were classed as equipment and left behind. The unfitting fate led to the creation of Robby's Law in 2000, which allows retired dogs to be brought home and adopted if possible.
After the Sept. 11 attacks, the U.S. and its allies launched wars targeting al Qaeda and other extremist groups across the world. As new fronts opened in the war on terror, so did efforts to rescue the animals that U.S. military and diplomatic personnel befriended in countries where they were deployed.
"If you go to anyone that has served in a war, they're not open about the horribleness of war but they'll talk about the dog or cat that they were feeding," said Michelle Smith of Puppy Rescue Mission, a nonprofit that brings home about 300 animals a year from U.S. military bases around the world.
The military has generally cooperated with nonprofits to help soldiers and other personnel bring home their pets. In June, the Defense Department announced new rules that allowed relocating military personnel to be reimbursed for pet travel expenses.
Louise Hastie, a British veteran of the Iraq war, began rescuing cats and dogs after completing her military service. Through nonprofit War Paws, she is often the first port of call for British and American soldiers in Syria, where the locations of personnel are supposed to stay highly classified.
Hastie says she has smuggled so many cats and dogs out of Syria that she now knows exactly the bases and military installations where everyone is located, often alarming military leaders stationed there. "The soldiers will contact me and they will say, I've got this dog, or I've got this cat, but I can't tell you where it is," Hastie says of soldiers in Syria. "The minute they say that, I'm like, yeah, I know where you are."
Animal-rescue groups in war zones often come under fire for saving pets when human lives are at stake. But advocates argue that cats, dogs and other animals can provide life-changing comfort to the human survivors of war.
Despite widespread public support and enthusiasm for diplomatic and military rescues, nonprofits say donations have fallen as the focus has shifted away from places such as Afghanistan and Syria.
"People do not care about Afghanistan anymore," said Charlotte Maxwell-Jones, the director of Kabul Small Animal Rescue.
In Sudan, the rescue was carried out by the U.S. government rather than a nonprofit, though the State Department kept the operation low profile.
Credit: By Jessica Donati

DETAILS

Subject:	Animals; Evacuations &rescues; Diplomatic &consular services; Military bases; Cats; Pets; Military personnel; Armed forces; Nonprofit organizations
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92811 : National Security 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	Sudan; United States--US; Afghanistan; Syria

Classification:	92811: National Security; 92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681703
Document URL:	https:/ /www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-leave-no-pet-behind-bringing-soldiers/docview/2843681703/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: State Law Restricting Book Access Is Blocked

Ginger Adams Otis . Ginger Adams Otis.

FULL TEXT

A federal judge has temporarily blocked Arkansas from enforcing portions of a law that would restrict what books can be made available to children.

U.S. District Judge Timothy L. Brooks issued a preliminary injunction Saturday against two sections of Act 372, which was signed by Republican Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders in late March.

Act 372, which was set to take effect Aug. 1, would make it a criminal offense to distribute, provide or show content deemed "harmful to minors" to anyone under 18 years old. Librarians and booksellers found to have violated the law could face criminal charges, with penalties including up to a year in jail.

The law has been challenged by a coalition of plaintiffs that includes the Central Arkansas Library System in Little Rock, Ark.

The group said in a lawsuit filed in early June that the sections are overly broad and vague, and violate the Constitution's First and 14th Amendments.

The law would create a new process to challenge library materials and could potentially force libraries and booksellers to create adult-only spaces to avoid criminal prosecution, the coalition said. Some places might opt to not carry titles that could be challenged, plaintiffs said.

Judge Brooks in his decision said "balance of the equities and the public interest here decidedly favor the plaintiffs. "The defendants, which include 28 Arkansas prosecutors and a Crawford County judge, will suffer no harm if the preliminary injunction is granted pending a final disposition, he said.

Sanders's office said it supports laws that "protect kids from having access to obscene content." The Arkansas Attorney General's office didn't respond to a request for comment.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Arkansas, which represents some of the plaintiffs, commended Judge Brooks's ruling while calling it a regrettable necessity. "We are committed to maintaining the fight to safeguard everyone's right to access information and ideas," said Holly Dickson, executive director of ACLU of Arkansas.

Attempts to ban some books from public libraries have increased in recent years, according to the American Library Association. There were 1,269 efforts to censor books and other resources in libraries in 2022, according to the group. The efforts have reached communities across the U.S. Voters in one Michigan town defunded a library over a dispute related to LGBT content. A Texas county considered closing its public libraries after a federal judge ordered more than a dozen recently removed books to be returned to shelves.

Elected officials, parents and conservative groups including Moms for Liberty say they are advocating for book removals because the titles are inappropriate for children and students. The push has also followed directives and legislation from state leaders.

Those who oppose the bans say they are a disservice to students and threaten First Amendment rights.

Judge Brooks's ruling "highlights the importance of the First Amendment in protecting books, booksellers, publishers, authors, librarians and libraries as essential to our democratic society," said attorney Michael Bamberger, who represents some of the plaintiffs challenging Act 372.

Credit: By Ginger Adams Otis

DETAILS

Subject:	Injunctions; Librarians; Library materials; Public libraries; Children &youth; First Amendment-US; Book challenges; Federal court decisions; Library associations

Business indexing term:	Industry: 51921 : Libraries and Archives
Location:	Arkansas; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: American Civil Liberties Union--ACLU; NAICS: 541110, 813311
Classification:	51921: Libraries and Archives
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681700
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-state-law-restricting-book-access-is/docview/2843681700/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Congress Faces Crunch Over Spending Cuts

Hughes, Siobhan; Wise, Lindsay; Harrison, David . Hughes, Siobhan; Wise, Lindsay; Harrison, David.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R., Calif.), who all year has tangled with his party's hard-line fiscal conservatives, heads into August recess with the unfinished business of funding government. When Congress returns in September, it has only about a dozen legislative days to pass funding bills to avoid a partial government shutdown by Oct. 1.

The House speaker closed out the July work period by steering passage of the first of 12 appropriations bills, a measure funding the Veterans Affairs Department and the construction of military facilities and related housing. Conservative Republicans balked at voting for a planned bill funding the Food and Drug Administration and agricultural priorities, forcing House Republican leaders to pull the bill from the schedule.

"September is going to be very busy," House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R., La.) told reporters recently. "We will be working through August to get as many agreements as we can, so that when we come back, everybody is going to be buckling up and working hard."

While shutdown politics have become an annual feature of spending talks, this round promises to be particularly unpredictable. Fiscal conservatives say McCarthy hasn't done enough to cut spending and have threatened to use their votes to block movement in the House, where McCarthy can afford to lose only a handful of party members because of the GOP's thin 222-212 majority. Any House bill would then need to be worked out with the Senate, narrowly controlled by Democrats who have called proposed cuts harsh and nonstarters.

Rep. Garret Graves (R., La.), a negotiator for McCarthy, said the House speaker was trying to accommodate fiscal conservatives' concerns about total discretionary spending in fiscal 2024, but that he could make concessions only if he could be sure that he wouldn't lose other necessary votes.

"All of us are committed to savings that help put this country on a financially sustainable trajectory, but, you know, that 218 margin is obviously really important," Graves said, referring to the votes needed for a win. "And so just trying to find that right balance is what everybody's been working on."

A partial government shutdown would trigger furloughs for hundreds of thousands of government workers, but border security, issuance of benefit checks and other critical functions would continue.

Avoiding a government shutdown is only one of the must-do items before the fiscal year ends Sept. 30. Congress must also reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration, pass a farm bill and reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program so that home sales in flood-prone areas can continue. The House is due to return Sept. 12 and has four-day legislative sessions for each of the three weeks before Sept. 30. The Senate is due to return Sept. 5.

The most consequential task is to appropriate money to keep the government running. McCarthy and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D., N.Y.) recently met to discuss appropriations bills, but neither would say if they discussed trying to pass at least some individual spending bills by the end of September.

Another option is to pass a so-called continuing resolution, which keeps the government funded at the prior year's levels to provide more time past Oct. 1. That move would require nearly universal Republican support, or else McCarthy would have to risk his speakership by relying on Democratic votes to get the bill to the floor for a vote.

Schumer hasn't passed any of the 12 appropriations bills through his chamber, but the Senate Appropriations Committee has advanced all of them with large bipartisan margins, agreeing to total discretionary spending of $1.59

trillion as spelled out in this year's debt-ceiling law.
"We are passing important bipartisan legislation," Schumer said. "If the House of Representatives would look at how we're working here in the Senate and emulate us a little more, they could be far more productive."
Credit: By Siobhan Hughes, Lindsay Wise and David Harrison

DETAILS

Subject:	Appropriations; Government shutdowns; Bipartisanship; Veterans; Funding; Deficit financing; National debt; Government spending
Business indexing term:	Subject: Appropriations Government shutdowns Deficit financing National debt Government spending
People:	McCarthy, Kevin
Company / organization:	Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120; Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681699
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-congress-faces-crunch-over-spending-cuts/docview/2843681699/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Your Health: Summer Is Seeing A Covid Bump

Reddy, Sumathi . Reddy, Sumathi.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Summer is bringing us hot days, vacations -- and a Covid bump.

If you are surprised to learn that your neighbor, co-worker or kid's best friend just tested positive for Covid-19, don't be. Measures of Covid rates including virus levels in wastewater, ER visits, test positivity and hospital admissions are increasing nationally, according to the most recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data. The good news is that we are starting from very low rates.

Doctors are watching the current trends for clues to Covid's yearly pattern going forward. Other respiratory viruses such as flu and RSV typically start spreading in the fall and peak in the winter. Covid, a much newer virus that has mutated a lot since emerging a few years ago, so far has had winter surges as well as summer bumps, like we're seeing again this year.

One possible factor: Heat waves are sending people fleeing for air-conditioned indoor spaces, where Covid transmits more easily compared with outside. Summer travel might also play a role, as people crowd into airports and bring their germs along with them crisscrossing the world.

"We are in a very warm year and people are spending a lot of time indoors," said Dr. Luis Ostrosky, chief of infectious diseases and epidemiology at UTHealth Houston and Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center. "People are congregating in air-conditioned settings and that is providing an opportunity for transmission."

Covid-19 hospitalizations as of July 15 are up 10.3% from the previous week, according to CDC data. Emergency department visits are up 7% and test positivity rose to 6.3% from 5.8%. Hospital admissions include both people hospitalized for Covid as well as those who test positive when they come in to be treated for something else. Deaths remain low.

Overall, Covid rates are still near historic lows, a CDC spokeswoman noted. And for most people, Covid is far less dangerous than it once was.

"Because we may start seeing seasonality patterns like we do with other respiratory diseases, I think how big this wave gets this summer will be very telling," says Katelyn Jetelina, a scientific adviser to the CDC and White House and author of the "Your Local Epidemiologist" newsletter.

There is no new Covid strain behind current cases. A mix of XBB variants, which are offshoots of Omicron, play the largest role, say scientists and doctors.

Covid mutates faster than influenza, so it's changing more quickly and able to better evade people's immunity from

prior infections, says Jetelina.
Covid-tracking data isn't as comprehensive as it once was. Many people aren't testing at all, and use home rapid tests if they do, which typically don't get reported to health authorities.
Since the federal government formally declared the end of the pandemic as a public health emergency in May, labs no longer are required to submit data on Covid-19 testing. Instead, the CDC testing positivity data comes from more than 400 labs that voluntarily submit data.
Wastewater testing provides some regional clues. In Houston, wastewater measures have tripled over the past three weeks, says Ostrosky at UTHealth Houston and Memorial Hermann. "That's always a precursor to what we're going to be seeing clinically," he notes.
Already, the hospital and clinic have seen roughly double the number of people testing positive for Covid-19 over the past two to three weeks, Ostrosky says.
The most recent data from Biobot, a Cambridge, Mass., wastewater epidemiology company, shows a 17% increase nationally in the level of the virus that causes Covid for the week ending July 26 compared with the prior week. "It's been this consistent uptick over the past several weeks," says Mariana Matus, CEO and co-founder of Biobot.
The Midwest led the way with levels 40% higher for the week ending July 26 compared with the previous week. Levels were 13% higher in the Northeast and 15% higher in the South and Western states.
Overall, wastewater virus levels are still low, says Matus. Wastewater concentrations were three times higher last summer.
Caitlin Rivers, an epidemiologist at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, says Covid trend rates don't necessarily warrant changing behaviors if you're young and healthy.
But elderly people and those who are immunocompromised might want to keep a closer eye on the numbers and act more cautiously, including masking in crowded indoor spaces, if they continue to rise for another month.
"It's not like we are deep in a wave," says Rivers. "It's just heading in a direction that's making us pay closer attention."
Credit: By Sumathi Reddy

DETAILS

Subject:	Influenza; Emergency medical care; Viruses; COVID-19 diagnostic tests; Epidemiology; Patient admissions; Disease control; Disease transmission; COVID-19; Hospitals
Business indexing term:	Subject: Hospitals; Industry: 62211 : General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
Classification:	62211: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.12
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Section:	PERSONAL JOURNAL
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681696
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/your-health-summer-is-seeing-covid-bump/docview/2843681696/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Mother, Daughter
Kidnapped in Haiti
A woman from New Hampshire who works for a nonprofit organization in Haiti and her young daughter have been reported as kidnapped as the U.S. State Department issued a "do not travel advisory" in the country and ordered nonemergency personnel to leave there amid growing security concerns.
Alix Dorsainvil, a nurse for El Roi Haiti, and her daughter were kidnapped on Thursday, the organization said on Saturday.
El Roi, which runs a school and ministry in Port-au-Prince, said the two were taken from campus. Dorsainvil is the wife of the program's director, Sandro Dorsainvil.
A State Department spokesperson said Saturday it is "aware of reports of the kidnapping of two U.S. citizens in Haiti,"

adding, "We are in regular contact with Haitian authorities and will continue to work with them and our U.S. government interagency partners."
In its advisory Thursday, the department said that "kidnapping is widespread, and victims regularly include U.S. citizens."
It said kidnappings often involve ransom negotiations.
-- Associated Press

OHIO
Man Convicted of
Abuse of a Corpse
An Ohio man has been convicted of abuse of a corpse and evidence tampering in the case of a Kentucky teenager whose body was found in Ohio a decade after she disappeared.
Jurors in Clermont County deliberated for more than nine hours over two days before convicting 35-year-old Jacob Bumpass last week of both charges he faced in the death of 17-year-old Paige Johnson of Florence, Ky. Defense attorneys immediately vowed to appeal the verdict and seek a new trial.
Johnson's remains were found in 2020 by a hiker in East Fork State Park, near the area investigators had searched after the teen disappeared in September 2010. A cause of death was never determined.
Authorities had questioned Bumpass, a friend, at the time and believed he was the last person to have seen her alive.
Prosecutors cited DNA evidence and records indicating the defendant's phone was pinged by a cell tower.
Defense attorney Louis Sirkin posed the idea that Johnson's body was planted in the area sometime after her disappearance.
Bumpass is scheduled for sentencing Sept. 7.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Kidnapping
Location:	United States--US; Ohio; Haiti
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660

Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681694
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2843681694/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: The Warm Glow of Drinking -- Without the Hangover

Wernau, Julie . Wernau, Julie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

What if you could indulge in your favorite cocktails with no hangover or other ill effects?

That's one of the goals for researchers working to make one of the world's oldest vices less harmful. Some are developing hormone shots to help people sober up quickly. Others are working on alcohol substitutes that target receptors in the brain that affect happiness, while dodging those that make imbibers slur and weave.

"Alcohol is like playing the piano with boxing gloves on. You hit too many keys," says David Orren, managing director of GABA Labs.

The London-based company is developing a synthetic alcohol that it says will bring pleasurable effects without hangovers, health problems or slurred speech. Its basis is gamma-aminobutyric acid, an amino acid that targets receptors in the front of the brain that trigger the relaxation and sociability alcohol brings, while avoiding the chaos it wreaks on the body.

Dr. David Nutt, the chief scientific officer of GABA Labs, says his interest in alcohol and GABA receptors first began nearly 40 years ago when his research led him to discover the interaction between the two. A psychiatrist and neuropsychopharmacologist, he spent two years as chief of section of clinical science in the National Institute of

Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism at the National Institutes of Health and has long argued that alcohol causes more harm to society than other drugs.
GABA receptors are the first contact for alcohol in the brain, opening up and relaxing people, Nutt says. But alcohol then also floods the brain with other neurotransmitters that can cause nasty aftereffects.
Creating a substance that targets only the GABA receptors allows the brain to then turn on dopamine and serotonin naturally as the pleasures of the evening take off, he says. "It feels like what a glass of wine feels like. It feels relaxing. It makes you a bit more chatty, a bit more socially engaged with people," he says of the product GABA Labs is developing, dubbed Alcarelle.
The company is working to raise about GBP 8 million (around $10.3 million), with an aim to complete food-safety testing in the U.S. by mid-2026, where it will launch ahead of European and U.K. markets. "Only inventors are allowed to use it at this stage," Nutt says.
Along the way, Orren and Nutt say, there was a lot of self-testing, with many earlier iterations in which they felt nothing. Both remember the day they had a glass of their latest iteration of Alcarelle and knew they'd finally gotten it right. "It feels like a warm glow," Orren says. "You're being you. And you're being with somebody that's being them. You're being real."
The company says it has a U.S. partner in place to help find volunteers to test the product, a project manager, and it has identified a number of laboratories to help produce Alcarelle once the funding is in place.
As part of the testing, the company will weigh the effects of mixing Alcarelle with real alcohol or using it at excessive amounts, Nutt says.
The synthetic alcohol is a tasteless ingredient formulated to be added to versions of nonalcoholic drinks from beer to wine and spirits, the inventors say. It could be added to drinks produced without alcohol or those where alcohol has been removed.
Some consumers, concerned about health effects, have moved to consume less alcohol. The pandemic contributed to a spike in drinking in 2020, research has shown, but alcohol consumption has since retreated.
In addition to its addictive properties, alcohol can cause various harmful effects beyond hangover headaches and loss of motor control. With an enzyme called alcohol dehydrogenase, the liver breaks down ethanol into a toxic compound called acetaldehyde, a carcinogen. The NIH says the substance contributes to more than 200 health conditions.
What about when someone drinks too much? Researchers from UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and Howard Hughes Medical Institute at Rockefeller University in March demonstrated that inebriated mice injected with a stress hormone sobered up in one to two hours -- more than twice as quickly as inebriated mice without the shot.
They tested it on inebriated mice that had passed out on their backs. The first time the mice came out of their booze-induced slumber after being injected with the hormone, researchers were shocked. A research assistant at the Dallas laboratory leapt up and declared it a miracle.
"This is one of those experiments that you never think will work," says Steven Kliewer, a biologist at UT Southwestern Medical Center and a co-author on the study published in the journal Cell Metabolism. "It was a career-defining moment."
Credit: By Julie Wernau

DETAILS

Subject:	Laboratories; Alcohol; Brain research; Medical research; Laboratory animals
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681688
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-warm-glow-drinking-without-hangover/docview/2843681688/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News --- THE OUTLOOK: Fed's Effect on Inflation Subject to Debate

Timiraos, Nick; Fairless, Tom . Timiraos, Nick; Fairless, Tom.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Recent good news on inflation has ignited a debate over how much central banks' interest-rate increases are responsible.

The answer matters for where inflation and interest rates are headed. The Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank in the past week lifted their benchmark interest rates to 22-year highs and left the door open to additional increases.

If higher rates weren't responsible for the progress on inflation to date, that suggests central banks may be able to lower them before a painful recession sets in.

Central banks generally see their influence on inflation coming through higher rates damping the demand for goods, services and workers, which leads to higher unemployment. That in turn puts downward pressure on prices and wages.

Only the second part of that sequence has occurred. Inflation fell to 3% in the U.S. in June, according to the Fed's preferred gauge, the personal-consumption expenditures price index, down from 7% one year earlier. Yet the unemployment rate, at 3.6% in June, has held steady for the past year.

In the eurozone, inflation declined to 5.5% in June, the lowest level in nearly 18 months, and unemployment has drifted to the lowest in more than 25 years.

There are competing explanations for this.

One camp argues that inflation has been mostly driven by supply shocks that are going away on their own -- much as a postwar surge in the late 1940s unwound by itself. The ripple effects gave the illusion of broader, more persistent price increases.

Take the auto market. Sellers weren't able to meet pent-up demand two years ago, leading to huge price increases, which in turn spawned higher prices later on for car repairs and auto insurance.

Similarly, a surge in household formation during the pandemic sent up housing prices and rents.

The first camp attributes most of the recent decline in inflation to the ebbing of these one-time supply disruptions, not rate increases, which are supposed to work through the labor market. "It's calling into question a lot of the old assumptions," said Lindsay Owens, executive director at the Groundwork Collaborative, a liberal think tank.

A second camp, which includes most economists, disagrees. They say monetary policy kept demand for goods, services, and labor lower than otherwise, taking pressure off strained supply chains and allowing price pressures to ease.

Interest rates can also influence behavior. The prospect that central bankers would risk a recession to bring down inflation may have influenced expectations of price- and wage-setters, including corporate executives who plan annual budgets for investment and hiring.

Jamie Dimon, chief executive of JPMorgan Chase, warned one year ago of an economic "hurricane" as central banks accelerated rate increases. "You'd better brace yourself," he said in June 2022, and pledged the bank would be "very conservative" with its balance sheet.

"Inflation is coming down precisely because the Fed avoided more excess demand growth, and they anchored inflation expectations," said Angel Ubide, head of economic research for global fixed income at Citadel, a hedge-fund firm.

Inflation would be higher now if not for Fed rate increases, "and maybe still rising," said Karen Dynan, an economist at Harvard University.

In 2021, supply-chain constraints meant even marginal increases in demand led to unusually large price increases. The reverse might be true now: Marginal decreases in demand can bring down prices faster, particularly if more supply is becoming available.

The car market illustrates how monetary policy has been transmitted. Rising rates raised monthly payments, damping demand and robbing sellers of pricing power. In addition, since March, banks appear to be rejecting more car-loan applications.

"That's leading to a new group of people getting squeezed out of the market, and therefore, it's playing a role putting

downward pressure on prices," said Julia Coronado, founder of economic-advisory firm MacroPolicy Perspectives.
In Europe, economic growth has stalled since late last year. Business surveys in the past week suggest that growth is weakening sharply, especially in manufacturing, which is most sensitive to interest rates.
The net share of banks reporting increased loan demand declined to a record low in the three months through June, according to an ECB survey of banks. Credit growth to households is the lowest since mid-2016.
Asked at a news conference on Thursday about the transmission of ECB rate increases to growth and inflation, President Christine Lagarde said that in the financial system, "a lot has been transmitted. A lot. We know that. In the economy at large, not as much yet."
A report published by German insurer Allianz identifies three different forces on the U.S. inflation rate since the second quarter of 2022. Higher inflationary pressures from consumption growth, strong labor markets and government spending added 4 percentage points; fading supply-chain disruptions subtracted five points, and Federal Reserve actions subtracted another five. The net impact was that inflation fell 6 percentage points, whereas it would have fallen only one point without the Fed's actions.
Fed Chair Jerome Powell said rate increases are "working about as we expect, and we think it'll play an important role going forward" in bringing down prices for the most labor-intensive services.
Credit: By Nick Timiraos and Tom Fairless

DETAILS

Subject:	Monetary policy; Inflation; Interest rates; Central banks; Unemployment; Housing prices; Recessions; Labor market; Consumption; Federal Reserve monetary policy
Business indexing term:	Subject: Monetary policy Inflation Interest rates Central banks Unemployment Housing prices Recessions Labor market Consumption Federal Reserve monetary policy; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank 92113 : Public Finance Activities
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank; 92113: Public Finance Activities
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681681
Document URL:	https://www. proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-outlook-feds-effect-on-inflation-subject/docview/2843681681/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: GOP Candidates Make Their Cases in Iowa

McCormick, John . McCormick, John.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

DES MOINES, Iowa -- As the campaign of Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis struggles and former President Donald Trump braces for a third indictment, Iowa Republicans on Friday evening looked to see what else is on the menu.

The top two polling candidates in the GOP presidential primary race were among 13 White House hopefuls who spoke at a Republican fundraising dinner that served as a key audition stage. Iowa launches the nomination process with its Jan. 15 caucuses.

The challenges faced by Trump and DeSantis could prompt some Republicans to look harder at alternatives, including Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina.

"Tim Scott is ready for a moment," said David Oman, a dinner attendee who is a past Iowa GOP chairman and has led previous presidential campaigns in the state. "He's made a very good impression."

In his dinner remarks, Scott highlighted social issues and themes of patriotism. "As president of the United States, I will make sure that the truth of my life continues to disprove the lies of the radical left," he said.

The county party leaders, state legislators and activists who attended the Lincoln Dinner are almost certain to participate in the caucuses. The wooing got personal one floor below the main convention center hall following a dinner where more than 1,200 dined on broiled chicken, mashed potatoes and cheesecake with strawberries amid candidate speeches.

The majority of the candidates appeared after dinner in breakout rooms where they competed to offer the best afterparty event. Some provided pizza and beer, while others served popcorn, cookies and other snacks. Trump offered his guests ice cream after they stood in a long line to shake his hand and pose for photos.

In the suite sponsored by the super PAC backing DeSantis, baseballs were available to throw at Bud Light cans, a nod to the fight he and other conservatives have picked with Anheuser-Busch InBev following a company marketing campaign that featured a transgender social-media personality. North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum offered cattle-roping lessons.

The evening marked the first time Trump and DeSantis have attended the same event in Iowa. Almost the entire room stood and applauded when Trump took the stage as the dinner's final speaker. He listed what he views as his accomplishments in office and said it is "hard to do that quickly," given speakers at the dinner were strictly limited to 10 minutes each.

The former president criticized DeSantis within the first 150 seconds of his speech and later rattled off poll results showing him with a sizable lead. "I wouldn't take a chance on that one," he said of DeSantis.

The Florida governor didn't directly address Trump, but he did suggest that he would likely fail again against President Biden in a general election. "We're not getting a mulligan on 2024," DeSantis said. "We either win this election and make good on all the promises that we're making, or the Democrats are going to throw this country into a hole that's going to take us a generation to come out of."

For speakers at the dinner who went over the 10-minute limit, the microphone was cut off and music was played. That happened to former Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson but not before he highlighted Trump's legal challenges. "You will be voting in Iowa while multiple criminal cases are pending against former President Trump," he said.

Will Hurd, a moderate former Texas congressman and Trump critic who is engaged in a long-shot bid, was heavily booed when he directly criticized the former president and highlighted the party's losing record under his leadership. "Donald Trump is running to stay out of prison," Hurd said. "The truth is hard. But if we elect Donald Trump, we are willingly giving Joe Biden four more years in the White House."

Dinner attendee Anita Ilg, a 61-year-old small-business owner from DeWitt, Iowa, said she has already decided to support Trump in the caucuses. "He is promises made, promises kept, and he keeps taking bullets for us," she said.

Other Iowa Republicans said they have had enough of Trump and want the party to move on. Jon Peterson, a 50-year-old who lives in Ottumwa said he is trying to decide between DeSantis, Scott or businessman Vivek Ramaswamy. "He's not loyal to some of the people who worked hard for him," said Peterson, citing Trump's treatment of former Vice President Mike Pence, following a DeSantis event Friday in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Credit: By John McCormick

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Political campaigns; Election results; State elections; Presidential elections; Candidates; Breweries
Business indexing term:	Subject: Breweries; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 31212 : Breweries
Location:	United States--US; Florida; Iowa
People:	Trump, Donald J; Tim Scott; Biden, Joseph R Jr
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 31212: Breweries

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681674
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-gop-candidates-make-their-cases-iowa/docview/2843681674/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Trump PAC Spent Millions on Legal Fees

Leary, Alex . Leary, Alex.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Donald Trump's political committee has spent more than $40 million this year on legal fees as he and a constellation of advisers have been swept into various investigations, people familiar with the situation said.

The spending highlights the legal peril facing the former president, who is bracing for a third indictment as early as this week over his attempts to undo the 2020 election results. Trump remains the GOP front-runner in the 2024 presidential nominating contest. He has vowed to stay in the race even if convicted.

Trump's Save America PAC is expected to file a Federal Election Commission report on Monday showing about $40.2 million in legal fees, the people said. The amount was first reported by the Washington Post.

Scores of people affiliated with Trump have faced legal costs because of the investigations he has faced since leaving the White House. The former president has been indicted in New York in a hush-money case; he has been indicted in the case involving classified documents stored at his Florida estate; and he is expected to face charges over the 2020 election, both in Washington and in Georgia.

"The weaponized Department of Justice has continued to go after innocent Americans because they worked for President Trump," Trump spokesman Steven Cheung said. To protect them from financial ruin, the leadership PAC contributed to their legal fees to ensure they have representation against unlawful harassment, he said.

Trump has raised tens of millions of dollars, much of it in small donations, from supporters as he casts himself as a victim of political persecution. Critics, including some Republican presidential candidates, say he has exploited those people with false claims.

"He's making regular Americans pay his legal fees. It's outrageous," former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said Sunday on CNN. "This is not the kind of person we want as our nominee because, by the way, Joe Biden will be the president again if Donald Trump is the nominee."

The campaign of Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis also called attention to the spending on Sunday, noting the $40 million exceeds the $36 million Trump's campaign has raised since becoming a candidate late last year.

Anthony DeBarros and Jack Gillum contributed to this article.

Credit: By Alex Leary

DETAILS

Subject:	Political campaigns; Nominations; Election results; Presidential elections; Legal fees
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	Florida; United States--US
People:	Trump, Donald J
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681664
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-trump-pac-spent-millions-on-legal-fees/docview/2843681664/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases recor ds will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Niger Coup Plotters Warned --- West African leaders impose economic sanctions to squeeze the military junta

Hinshaw, Drew; Faucon, Benoit . Hinshaw, Drew; Faucon, Benoit.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

West African leaders said they would consider a military intervention to oust coup plotters in Niger and restore democratic rule in a vast Saharan country that they worry could become Russia's newest security partner in the region.

At an emergency summit in the Nigerian capital of Abuja on Sunday, leaders from the Economic Community of West African States said Niger's new military junta had one week to return the country's elected president, Mohamed Bazoum, to power. The regional group, known as Ecowas, also laid out banking and economic sanctions to squeeze the military junta, which on Wednesday detained Bazoum and his family and suspended the country's constitution.
"In the event the authorities' demands are not met within one week [Ecowas will] take all measures necessary to restore constitutional order in the Republic of Niger," Omar Alieu Touray, president of the Ecowas commission, said after the meeting. "Such measures may include the use of force."
Earlier in the day, thousands of protesters in Niger's capital, Niamey, marched to the embassy of France -- the country's former colonial ruler -- waving Russian flags, throwing stones and lighting a fire.
"FRANCE LEAVE," read several of the crowd's homemade placards. The French military keeps about 1,500 troops in Niger.
The threat of several West African countries intervening with military force in Niger presents an escalation after years of coups that have brought Russian-friendly governments to power inseveral other nationsin the region.
Since 2020, military leaders have seized power in Mali and Burkina Faso -- once two of France and the U.S.'s closest counterterrorism partners in West Africa -- shifting those countries' allegiances toward Moscow.
The coup in Niger verges on a step too far for Nigeria, Africa's most populous country and biggest economy. Nigeria's war on its own internal Islamist insurgencies depends on cross-border coordination with Niger.
Washington, which has spent more than $500 million equipping and training the local military, also risks losing a partner in the region; U.S. laws restrict such aid to countries under military rule. The European Union stands to lose the cooperation of a country that has helped slow the movement of asylum seekers north to Libya and on toward Italy.
Aside from threatening military force, the West African leaders announced a series of banking and trade restrictions that reflected their hope that the junta around Gen. Omar Tchiani, who earlier this week declared himself Niger's new leader, doesn't have the full support of the country's military.
The new government of Nigerian President Bola Tinubu is hoping economic pressure, combined with the threat of force, can get the coup leaders to climb down, a senior Nigerian official said.
On Saturday, the spokesman for the junta, Col. Maj. Amadou Abdramane, appeared on state television, saying he wanted to remind "Ecowas, or any other adventurer, of our fierce determination to defend our homeland."
Both the U.S. and Europe have made Niger the centerpiece of their fight against the spread of Islamic State and al Qaeda in Africa's Sahel. The country hosts U.S. drones and U.S. commandos, who have trained Nigerien special forces, advised them during combat missions, and equipped them with everything from tents and radios to surveillance planes and armored personnel carriers.
By contrast, Mali in 2021 hired mercenaries from Russia's Wagner group, while Burkina Faso earlier this year kicked out French troops.
French President Emmanuel Macron condemned the violence at his country's embassy and warned France would respond "immediately and uncompromisingly" to any attack on its citizens, military, diplomats and diplomatic compounds. Immediately after the coup, other protesters in Niamey also came up in support of Bazoum, according to footage posted of his political party's social-media accounts.
Security has been reinforced at the French embassy, the foreign ministry in Paris later said.
Beyond threatening a possible military intervention, the Nigeria-led group of 15 countries said it would immediately freeze the government's bank accounts in the region's central banks, and in commercial lenders.
The bloc would also impose a no-fly zone, and travel bans and asset freezes targeting the plotters if they don't restore Bazoum to power, it said.

Gbenga Akingbule and Noemie Bisserbe contributed to this article.
Credit: By Drew Hinshaw and Benoit Faucon

DETAILS

Subject:	Commercial credit; Diplomatic &consular services; Sanctions; Presidents; Trade restrictions; Political leadership; Coups d'etat; International relations; Political power; Democracy
Business indexing term:	Subject: Commercial credit Sanctions Trade restrictions International relations; Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92812 : International Affairs 81394 : Political Organizations
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Nigeria; Niger; Africa; Mali; France; Burkina Faso
Company / organization:	Name: Economic Community of West African States--ECOWAS; NAICS: 928120
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92812: International Affairs; 81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681659
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-niger-coup-plotters-warned-west/docview/2843681659/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated: 2025-01-30

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Saudi Arabia to Host Ukraine Peace Talks

Norman, Laurence; Kalin, Stephen . Norman, Laurence; Kalin, Stephen.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Saudi Arabia is set to host peace talks among Western countries, Ukraine and key developing countries, including India and Brazil, early next month, as Europe and Washington intensify efforts to consolidate international support for Ukraine's peace demands.

According to diplomats involved in the discussion, the meeting would bring senior officials from up to 30 countries to Jeddah on Aug. 5 and 6. It comes amid a growing battle between the Kremlin and Ukraine's Western backers to win support from major developing countries, many of which have been neutral over the Ukraine war.

Ukraine and Western officials hope the efforts could culminate in a peace summit later this year where global leaders would sign up to shared principles for resolving the war. They hope that those principles could frame future peace talks between Russia and Ukraine to Kyiv's advantage.

A summit this year, however, wouldn't include Russia, which has shunned any serious talk of peace and has held on to maximalist demands for any settlement, including annexation of territory its forces don't currently control. It comes as the war appears to have reached a stalemate, with neither side able to gain meaningful territory in recent months.

The meeting follows on from a gathering of senior officials in Copenhagen in late June, attended by Brazil, India, Turkey and South Africa. U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan dialed into the meeting. Ukraine and several major European countries also participated.

For the Jeddah meeting, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine have invited 30 countries, including Indonesia, Egypt, Mexico, Chile and Zambia. It isn't yet clear how many will attend, although the countries that took part in the Copenhagen talks are expected to do so again.

The U.K., South Africa, Poland and the EU are among those that have confirmed attendance.

For now, Sullivan is expected to attend, according to a person familiar with the planning. The White House declined to comment.

Saudi Arabia is trying to play a larger role in diplomacy on Ukraine, after the White House accused it last year of siding with Russia in keeping oil prices high -- thus bolstering Moscow's finances. It has facilitated the exchange of prisoners of war and hosted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky at an Arab summit in May.

Western diplomats said that Saudi Arabia was picked to host the second round of talks partly in hopes of persuading China, which has maintained close ties to Moscow, to participate.

Riyadh and Beijing maintain close ties. Earlier this year, China helped negotiate a recent thaw between Saudi Arabia and its regional foe, Iran, months after the Saudis hosted Chinese President Xi Jinping at an Arab summit.

Despite claiming to be working on a peace plan for Ukraine, China sat out the Copenhagen meeting. People involved

in the talks said Beijing isn't expected to attend but that it hasn't ruled it out.
The Saudi meeting comes at a critical moment in the fight between Russia and Ukraine's Western backers for global support.
The U.S. and Europe have pushed for a global condemnation of Russia's decision earlier this month to pull out of a United Nations-brokered deal aimed at easing the export of grain from Ukraine, a move that pushed grain prices up for poor countries.
At a meeting this month, top European and Latin American leaders expressed "deep concern on the continuing war against Ukraine." Last month, the U.S. and India concluded defense deals aimed at weaning New Delhi off arms purchases from Russia.
European officials had hoped to narrow the differences between Ukraine and the developing countries on how to end the war quickly enough to hold a peace summit by the fall. But that timing appears ambitious.
Credit: By Laurence Norman and Stephen Kalin

DETAILS

Subject:	Developing countries--LDCs; Peace negotiations
Business indexing term:	Subject: Developing countries--LDCs
Location:	China; Beijing China; Brazil; Russia; United States--US; South Africa; Saudi Arabia; India; Ukraine; Europe
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.18
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681657

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-saudi-arabia-host-ukraine-peace-talks/docview/2843681657/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

An Insider Case Stars Paramours and Pilots

Fanelli, James; Ramey, Corinne; Luhnow, David . Fanelli, James; Ramey, Corinne; Luhnow, David.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The globe-trotting billionaire Joe Lewis, longtime owner of the London soccer club Tottenham Hotspur, spent the evening of July 25, 2019, with a woman who was then his girlfriend, dining on room service at the Four Seasons hotel in Seoul. U.S. prosecutors say he also fed her confidential information about coming disclosures by a life-sciences company that she used to make stock trades that ultimately netted her hundreds of thousands of dollars.

That tip and others that Lewis, 86, allegedly passed along to paramours, personal pilots and a poker buddy have placed him in the crosshairs of U.S. insider-trading rules. They have also made him an unusual defendant because of his advanced age, foreign residency, outsize wealth and apparent lack of personal motivation to secure insider profits himself.

Lewis, a resident of the Bahamas, surrendered in Manhattan last week and was charged with 16 counts of securities fraud and three counts of conspiracy. He is also facing civil charges from the Securities and Exchange Commission. A federal judge released him on a $300 million bond, a likely record figure that eclipsed the $250 million bond package for the onetime crypto darling Sam Bankman-Fried, who lived in a resort Lewis co-owned before being extradited to the U.S. on fraud charges.

During a brief court appearance, Lewis sat stoically next to his lawyer and only spoke once to plead not guilty. His bond was secured in part with his yacht Aviva, a 322-foot vessel he is no longer allowed to board, because of travel restrictions imposed by the court. His lawyer, who didn't respond to a request for comment, said the government had made an "egregious error in judgment" in charging Lewis.

The prosecution sets a new marker for the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan. Lewis is among the office's most prominent insider-trading targets in years.

"Federal prosecutors have spent much of 2023 bringing cases targeting crypto," said Mark Bini, a former prosecutor and a partner at the law firm Reed Smith. "This high-profile indictment appears to be a shot across the bow that insider trading remains a top priority."

Raised in a gritty neighborhood of East London, Lewis left school at 15 to work as a waiter at his father's pub business. He later greatly expanded the business into tourist-themed restaurants.
In the late 1970s, having sold the family business, Lewis relocated to the Bahamas and has since spent most of his time there, running Tavistock Group, an international private investment firm he founded with a portfolio that includes hundreds of companies in agriculture, sports, resort properties and life sciences. He built a reputation as a currency trader, reportedly making hundreds of millions of pounds off the collapse of the British pound in 1992 and the Mexican peso in 1994. His success as a heavyweight currency speculator earned him the nickname of "The Boxer" in markets for his almost-namesake Joe Louis. In 2007, he invested heavily in Bear Stearns, ultimately losing hundreds of millions of dollars after the bank's demise.
Decades ago Lewis bought about a third of Tottenham Hotspur, a North London club in the Premier League. He eventually built up his stake to a majority.
He was the longest-serving owner in the league until recent months, when he gave majority control to a family trust. It couldn't immediately be determined whether Lewis knew about the insider-trading probe when he made the changes to Tottenham's control.
The league this year tightened its rules regarding ownership, disqualifying a person or company subject to government sanctions or found to have committed crimes including violence, corruption, tax evasion and fraud.
The indictment against Lewis describes a life of luxury and jet-setting, peppered with access to confidential information about his investments, from cancer-therapy clinical trials to the impact of flooding on an Australian cattle-ranch business.
Mentioned is an episode in September 2019, when an officer of Boxer Capital, a biotech investment fund of which Lewis is majority owner, visited Lewis on the Aviva, then docked in California. Prosecutors said that while on the yacht, the Boxer official received a confidential update about promising clinical-trial results for a cancer treatment developed by Mirati Therapeutics, a publicly traded oncology company in which Lewis invests. The official allegedly shared the news with Lewis over dinner.
About a week later, authorities said, Lewis called Carolyn Carter, a Virgin Islands actress and beauty-pageant winner who was then his girlfriend, and told her to buy Mirati. "All good &all confirmed," Carter said in an email to Lewis, after buying 16,400 shares of the company, using almost all the funds in her brokerage account, according to the indictment.
The next month, prosecutors said, Boxer gave Lewis another Mirati update, about the coming announcement of the trial results, and this time he tipped off his two longtime pilots. "Boss is helping us out and told us to get ASAP," one of the pilots messaged a friend. The friend replied with four clapping emojis, the SEC said in its civil suit.
U.S. authorities said the tips kept coming. Before the Mirati announcement, Lewis told his executive assistant and several friends -- including a poker buddy in Argentina and someone with whom he was romantically involved -- to buy the stock, prosecutors said.
The day after Mirati announced its encouraging trial results, its stock closed up more than 16%. Carter, the pilots, the assistant and the friends all sold their stock.
Carter, who didn't respond to a request for comment, wasn't charged in the criminal case but was named in the SEC civil case.
Insider-trading law has evolved over decades based on court precedent. Years ago Lewis might have avoided insider-trading charges because individuals who gave inside information often wouldn't be held liable if they didn't receive any financial gain, said Seth Taube, a former prosecutor and SEC enforcement attorney. "Unless you made money on inside information or received some real benefit, you normally had a get-out-of-jail card," said Taube, general counsel at the consulting firm McKenna &Associates.
By 2016, he said, that loophole was closed after the Supreme Court ruled that prosecutors didn't have to show that tipsters received something of value for passing along inside information.
"Giving a gift of trading information is the same thing as trading by the tipper followed by a gift of the proceeds," Justice Samuel Alito wrote for the court.

Ryan Dube and Dave Michaels contributed to this article.
Credit: By James Fanelli, Corinne Ramey and David Luhnow

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Insider trading; American dollar; Public prosecutors; Fraud
Business indexing term:	Subject: Insider trading American dollar; Industry: 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Location:	United States--US; Bahamas
People:	Lewis, Joe (investor)
Classification:	92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681655
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/insider-case-stars-paramours-pilots/docview/2843681655/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Guitar Maker Finds Groove in New Workforce

Kesling, Ben . Kesling, Ben.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NAZARETH, Pa. -- For nearly two centuries, workers have hand-built guitars and other acoustic instruments here in the Lehigh Valley, with applicants sometimes waiting years for apprenticeships. But over the past decade, economic changes have put C.F. Martin in the odd position of having to compete for workers.

The area, filled with farms and small towns, is near New York City and always had the potential to serve as a mid-Atlantic business hub. In recent years, the e-commerce boom has packed the valley with fulfillment centers and warehouses, adding to existing manufacturing and supercharging the region with jobs that require little education or training and offer pay better than an entry-level job at Martin.

Learning to be a luthier -- a maker of stringed instruments such as violins and guitars -- is more like a guild apprenticeship than a job, and it takes time to gain the expertise needed for higher-paying positions at the factory.

Martin was founded in 1833 and is widely credited with first using steel strings on guitars and pioneering the dreadnought-style guitar, an instrument with a bigger sound that has become what many consider the iconic American guitar. It is a profit-sharing company that is still family-run and is highly regarded for its craftsmanship -- a great Martin is in many ways a modern-day Stradivarius.

"Being a luthier definitely has craftsmanship at the core, so finding people who bring the passion for craftsmanship -- and the discipline -- has become a little bit harder," said Thomas Ripsam, Martin's chief executive officer.

New employees start by learning to work on particular parts of the instrument, spending about three months under the supervision of luthiers before being allowed to work independently on a part.

Alayna Wellington sat at her work bench on a recent day surrounded by pictures of her family and the ever-present smell of rosewood, mahogany and fresh-cut spruce. She bent and glued into place guitar binding -- the decorative strip that runs along the outside seam of the guitar -- a task she now handily accomplishes unsupervised with her four years of experience.

Wellington, 30 years old, who has lived in the Lehigh Valley her whole life, had never heard of Martin before she took a public tour of the factory and was smitten.

"Everyone seemed happy," she said. "I initially took a pay cut to work here."Wellington said she plans on staying because she is now making more money than she would at a comparable job somewhere else.

This is the sort of craft that, once learned, lends itself to lifetime employment at the factory. Talk to an employee on the floor, and she might point out an uncle or a spouse working in another department.
But all that stability is just the sort of thing many among a new generation of workers aren't interested in or don't expect to find. A survey done last year by the McKinsey consulting firm found that 18- to 24-year-olds are more likely than other generations to report having more than one job or independent work, and 77% of them are looking for new work at any given time.
"Gone are the days of people who want to start with the company and put 35 years in," saidTony Iannelli, CEO of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce.
Many young workers expect first jobs to be transient and grab the biggest hourly paycheck they can or find a position that lets them make the most of work-life balance, he said. Low-commitment warehouse jobs or gig work can be appealing.
The Lehigh Valley has seen an influx of big-city commuters who have driven up housing costs and cut into the close-community feeling of the area, said Martin Executive ChairmanChris Martin IV.
Like other businesses in the valley that make and sell tangible goods, Martin faces increases in costs of raw materials and competition from foreign markets.
Chris Martin said that a few years ago he had to face the reality that profit-sharing isn't as immediately attractive to a new generation of workers as the higher hourly wages the new warehouses were paying.
"We had to confront the reality that they're paying more," he said. An annual profit-sharing bonus doesn't pay the monthly bills, he came to realize. And so the company boosted its hourly wage.
Wages for entry-level production co-workers currently range from $17 to $29 depending on the role and experience, said Ripsam. "In addition, we provide profit-sharing, which we believe adds up to a competitive total compensation," he said.
Credit: By Ben Kesling

DETAILS

Subject:	Guitars; Employment; Wages &salaries; Musical instruments
Business indexing term:	Subject: Employment Wages &salaries
Location:	Lehigh Valley
Company / organization:	Name: C F Martin &Co; NAICS: 339992
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 31, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843681653
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-guitar-maker-finds-groove-new-workforce/docview/2843681653/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Business News: Walkouts by Writers and Actors Delay Emmys

Jurgensen, John . Jurgensen, John.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The ripple effects from a historic work stoppage in show business have hit the Emmys. The awards telecast scheduled for Sept. 18 on Fox has been postponed due to the continuing labor strikes by screen actors and writers, according to people familiar with the situation.

Organizers for the Emmys, which honors achievements in television, faced the prospect of a nonevent without the participation of writers who pen material for the telecast's host and presenters, and without actors, who are forbidden by union rules to promote the work of studios they're striking against, a boycott that includes accepting trophies on national television.

Fox and the Academy of Television Arts &Sciences, which oversees the Emmys, have not yet settled on a new airdate, according to the people familiar.

Members of the Writers Guild of America have been on strike since May 2. The Screen Actors Guild joined them on the

picket lines July 14. Both unions are in a contract fight with major studios, represented by the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, as they push for higher pay, increased residuals and protections against encroachments on their work by generative artificial intelligence.

Neither side knows when or how the labor stalemate will be resolved. But its impact on the entertainment calendar is coming into focus for the fall, when the industry typically revs up.

The fall television season, when broadcasters roll out new and returning series, traditionally begins immediately after the Emmy Awards. This year, networks have postponed many scripted series and loaded up on reality shows that don't rely on union writers and actors.

Major film festivals in Venice (starting Aug. 30) and Toronto (starting Sept. 7) recently announced their lineups, but are expected to be dimmed affairs without movie stars attending their red-carpet premieres. If the strikes drag on through the fall -- as many in Hollywood expect they will -- the cascade could swamp the broader awards circuit. Much of the entertainment ecosystem feeds off the parade of galas that kicks off in November and December, leading up to the Academy Awards, currently set for March 10.

Studios, without access to the talent they depend on to promote splashy releases, have already postponed some potential awards contenders. Among them: "Challengers," an anticipated tennis drama starring Zendaya, Mike Faist and Josh O'Connor, which studios MGM and Warner Bros. had planned to unveil at the Venice Film Festival. That premiere was scratched, and the film's public release date was pushed to next April.

The Emmys postponement follows a strike-altered Tony Awards in June. Playwrights convinced the Writers Guild of America that disrupting CBS's telecast would hurt business on Broadway. The Tonys went on without scripted bits, relying primarily on its live performances. Many presenters and winners expressed solidarity with striking writers.

When nominees for the 75th annual Primetime Emmy Awards were announced earlier in July, "Succession," "The Last of Us," "The White Lotus" and "Ted Lasso" received the most nods.

Credit: By John Jurgensen

DETAILS

Subject:	Emmy awards; Motion pictures; Strikes; Actors
Business indexing term:	Subject: Strikes
Company / organization:	Name: Writers Guild of America; NAICS: 813410, 813930
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal , Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310276
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-business-news-walkouts-writers-actors/docview/2843310276/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Great Power Rivalry Looms Over Grain Deal

Malsin, Jared; MacDonald, Alistair . Malsin, Jared; MacDonald, Alistair.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

ISTANBUL -- Russia's decision to pull out of a deal allowing Ukrainian grain to be exported globally is a high-stakes gamble by President Vladimir Putin that risks diplomatic tensions with two of his country's most influential partners, China and Turkey.

Russia's move to choke off Ukraine's massive grain exports will further cripple its adversary's economy and could boost Russia's own grain export revenue by sending global grain prices higher. But it comes with a major cost by putting economic pressure on China, the largest recipient of Ukraine grain under the deal, and straining relations with Turkey, another major buyer that helped broker the 2022 pact between Russia and Ukraine.

Moscow's moves are part of a renewed attempt by Putin to play diplomatic hardball with both adversaries and partners as the war in Ukraine drags on. In addition to backing out of the deal, Russia launched a wave of missile strikes on Ukraine's Black Sea ports and grain-export infrastructure and threatened to attack civilian ships in the waterway, heightening tensions around the sea's strategic shipping lanes. Russia moved a warship into a shipping corridor in the southern Black Sea this week, the British Defense Ministry said.

Putin has ignored requests by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to negotiate a return to the pact, according to diplomats and analysts.
The clock is ticking to try to renew the deal. By September, Ukraine's grain harvest will begin to pile up in storage, making it harder to export in time and putting pressure on Erdogan and other leaders to get a resumption of the agreement done in time.
The Black Sea Grain Initiative remains one of the few diplomatic breakthroughs of the war. Under the deal, Ukraine exported more than 32 million tons of grain, helping to bring down the price of food around the world and ease concerns about a deepening of a global hunger crisis.
The United Nations, which helped broker and oversee the deal, and the U.S., China and others have called on Russia to return to the pact.
"Recently we have seen an escalation in the Black Sea and it's very worrying," said a Western diplomat familiar with the efforts.
The U.K. Defense Ministry, in an intelligence update on Wednesday, said the grain deal helped protect the Black Sea area from getting dragged into the conflict, but added risks are rising.
Moscow said it refused to renew the deal, demanding that Western countries do more to facilitate Russian food and fertilizer exports under the terms of a separate agreement it signed with the U.N. last year. Russia claims Western sanctions have hurt its own agriculture industry, although exports are expected to hit a record this year.
Russia's cancellation of the deal came after Erdogan made moves that signal a new tilt in his foreign policy away from Moscow and toward the West, said analysts and diplomats. Erdogan angered Russia when he returned to Ukraine a group of Ukrainian military commanders who were living in Turkey under the terms of a prisoner exchange last year, and signaled his approval for Sweden to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
Moscow's exit from the deal also has put pressure on Russia's relationship with China, the Kremlin's most influential international partner. About a quarter of the grain that flows through the Black Sea Initiative has gone to China.
"China is signaling publicly that it very much wants to see the Black Sea Initiative continue," said Caitlin Welsh, an expert in food and water security at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a U.S. think tank.
Russia has said that it will replace any lost Ukrainian grain on global markets. But while it has the reserves of wheat to do that it won't be able to replace the amounts of Ukrainian corn that goes to China, Welsh said. Ukraine typically accounts for more than a quarter of all Chinese corn imports and a large slice of barley purchases, says the Ukrainian Grain Association.

Chao Deng and Oksana Pyrozhok contributed to this article.
Credit: By Jared Malsin and Alistair MacDonald

DETAILS

Subject:	Exports; Diplomatic &consular services; International relations; International trade; Food supply; Grain; Trade relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: Exports International relations International trade Food supply Trade relations; Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	China; Russia; Turkey; United States--US; Black Sea; Ukraine
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310272
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-great-power-rivalry-looms-over-grain/docview/2843310272/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Science of Success: Barnes &Noble Turns the Page --- America's largest bookstore chain once inspired the big, bad retail behemoth in a beloved rom-com. Its new CEO wants to fashion it as a scrappy indie outpost -- 596 of them, to be exact.

Cohen, Ben . Cohen, Ben.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

New York -- Barnes &Noble was once the enemy of independent bookstores. Now it's trying to be more like them. And no place better explains the improbable reinvention of the biggest American bookstore chain than the Barnes &Noble on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

That shop in one of the world's greatest book markets has been a battleground since the day it opened three decades ago. It might be the most iconic of the chain's 596 locations: It's the store that helped inspire the mega-store run by Tom Hanks's character in the classic romantic comedy "You've Got Mail."

It also has been the site of a grand experiment for much of the past year. The chain invested millions of dollars to rebuild this Barnes &Noble into a model for its other stores to emulate as the company transforms into a bookseller for the modern age.

"You don't want to go too crazy in a Barnes &Noble because one of the joys of this store is that everybody comes in here," said James Daunt, the chief executive since the company was taken private in 2019. "But do I think this can be a really interesting bookstore that is much, much more interesting than it currently is? Oh my goodness, yes."

He would know. Daunt was a respected independent bookseller in London before he found himself running chains in both the U.K. and U.S. He was exactly the sort of person who could make Barnes &Noble interesting.

His plan to save the company and its bookstores is to combine the power of a big chain with the pleasure of a beloved indie. By shifting control of the process to individual store managers across the country, Daunt is giving local booksellers permission to do things they were never able to do before. They have discretion over purchasing, placement and even pricing. He wants Barnes &Noble locations to feel welcoming but not overwhelming -- a chain store should be more inviting and less intimidating than a truly independent shop -- and that means he needs the people who run them to make sensible decisions for their markets. "It's only inexcusable if it's not interesting," he said.

The Barnes &Noble on the Upper West Side was incoherent the first time he showed me around last winter. Viola Davis's memoir was next to Franz Kafka's diaries. Judd Apatow's comedy interviews sat near a spiritual biography of George H.W. Bush. John le Carre was inches from Geena Davis.

I thought Daunt might pull the books off the shelf and rearrange them himself, but the whole point of his approach is that the CEO shouldn't be the one making those calls. A bookstore exists to serve readers -- not publishers, not investors and definitely not the bloke running Barnes &Noble.

Barnes &Noble used scale and uniformity to its benefit in the 1990s and 2000s, but those advantages have since become liabilities. Bookstores don't have to be the same from one to another. They shouldn't be, either. The best managers know the books they sell and the customers who buy them -- and what works on the Upper West Side might not work in West Des Moines.

The idea behind the new Barnes &Noble is to make the national chain more like a collection of 596 local indies. The famous one in my neighborhood used to symbolize the company's past. Now it offers a peek at its future. "If we can do it here," Daunt said, "we can do it anywhere."

Daunt agreed to give me before-and-after tours of the Upper West Side turnaround project, so we met in January and made plans to return when the shop was ready. By the time we met again in June, the vision he described had come to life.

The major renovation was necessary because the mission of bookstores has changed since this one opened in 1993. Back then, someone who wanted a specific book would visit their favorite brick-and-mortar store. Now anyone in need of that book probably visits Amazon.

This profound shift in consumer behavior prompted Barnes &Noble to reconsider the very purpose of a Barnes &Noble.
A physical bookstore competing against a $1.4 trillion online everything store must give people the stuff they know they want and the stuff they didn't know they wanted.
"We're here to help people browse," Daunt said.
But first the Upper West Side location had to be a place where people wanted to spend time browsing. The bleak floor tiles were ripped out for sleek light wood. The drab carpet in that dumpy forest green was replaced with something less '90s. The repainted walls were warmed up with splashes of pink. The space was designed to be cozier and brighter -- and to keep you wandering around.
The most important change is apparent from the moment you step inside. The cash registers in the front of the store were shoved to the back. The magazines inexplicably occupying prime real estate on the ground floor were stuffed upstairs next to the relocated cafe. They had to be moved to make space for more books.
A lot more books.
James Daunt already had a job when he became the CEO of Barnes &Noble. In fact, he had two.
He got his start in the business in 1990, when he founded Daunt Books, a London indie known for its impeccable taste. His boutique eventually became a group of nine shops across England that he still oversees. Then he surprised the industry by taking the top job at Waterstones, the Barnes &Noble of the U.K. After inheriting a troubled chain with roughly 300 stores in 2011, he nursed the company back to profitability. Waterstones was bought in 2018 by the activist hedge fund Elliott Management, which kept Daunt in charge and took aim at Barnes &Noble itself.
The poorly managed chain was ripe for a takeover after cycling through CEOs and losing half of its annual revenue even after its rival Borders failed. Elliott paid $475 million in the deal and tapped Daunt to lead another unlikely comeback.
Daunt, 59, speaks quietly, as if he were in a library, but the insight at the heart of his management philosophy is worth screaming from the rooftops: find people who are passionate about books and let them sell books as they see fit. This sounds rather obvious when he says it. But entrusting a chain to someone who not long ago was running a posh store in Central London was a radical act of corporate desperation.
"I think it had to almost die before anyone was prepared to risk that," Daunt said as we strolled around the Barnes &Noble on the Upper West Side. "It's no coincidence that I took over Waterstones when it died and I took over this place when it was barely breathing."
One way to measure the health of a bookstore is the return rate -- the percentage of unsold books that retailers ship back to publishers. The lower, the better.
Waterstones and Barnes &Noble both had return rates between 20% and 25% when he started. It's down to 3.5% at Waterstones. Barnes &Noble's is 9%, Daunt said. His target is 5%.
Not everyone is thrilled about his plans to make Barnes &Noble a more efficient business, which publishers fear will translate into the nation's largest chain purchasing fewer books. The managers of individual stores having more control over what they stock and how they price it means the publishers have less. Others in publishing are skeptical that local tastes matter as much in a business increasingly driven by national bestsellers.
As a privately held company, Barnes &Noble doesn't report financial results, but it's clear that it's no longer near death. While the number of locations has decreased 5% since the acquisition, the chain is now expanding and plans to open 45 stores this year, including some that closed and reopened with smaller footprints.
Coming from London, where there are several dozen Waterstones locations, Daunt was dismayed to find only seven Barnes &Nobles in his "extraordinarily un-bookstored" new city.
"That's not because New Yorkers don't buy books," he said. "It's because the bookstores went out of business."
Even the bookstores in movies couldn't afford to stay in business. In the 1998 rom-com "You've Got Mail," Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan play rival Upper West Side booksellers Joe Fox and Kathleen Kelly, and she closes the Shop Around the Corner when his Fox &Sons Books chain opens down the street and promises "cheap books and legal, addictive stimulants."

But it's quaint to think of a bookstore with an espresso bar as the villainous corporate bully now that Amazon is so big it makes Walmart look small.
Every bookstore these days is the Shop Around the Corner -- even a Fox Books superstore.
The CEO of Barnes &Noble was standing in the front of a busy store that was completely unrecognizable from six months earlier.
He was surrounded by books.
There were 87,756 in stock on a recent day, including 2,000 titles on the ground floor alone, which Daunt estimated to be "a ton more" than before. There were piles of bestselling fiction, nonfiction and mysteries. There were popular cookbooks and children's books hugging the columns where shoppers naturally gravitate. There was an upstairs level that stretched across the building on a full city block. And there was still an entire wall of bare shelves waiting to be lined. "We need more books," said Victoria Harty, the assistant store manager.
But swarming Barnes &Noble shoppers with books wasn't enough. The books themselves also had to be optimized for discovery. Many covers face outward instead of spines. Handwritten staff picks float off shelves. Neatly curated tables are organized in clever ways that transcend algorithmic recommendations.
Jason Byrnes, the store's manager, went to elementary school in the neighborhood, so this was his childhood bookstore long before it was his office. After working in other Barnes &Nobles around Manhattan and Brooklyn, he was recruited back to the one where he grew up. It turned out having the authority to make his own decisions was more stimulating, gratifying and way more fun than taking orders from a machine.
"I didn't realize how bored I was," Byrnes said.
To run hundreds of stores the way he runs the one with his name, Daunt needs to recruit more full-time employees and pay them to stick around. They won't become model booksellers overnight. Many won't be booksellers forever. But most can grow to be great at one part of the job and show their peers at nearby stores how they do it. The person studying data to order books at one Barnes &Noble in Atlanta can train inventory specialists at other stores in the area more effectively than an executive from corporate headquarters. It's a brilliant formula when it works: Daunt likes to say that the less he does, the smarter he looks.
But to look around a Barnes &Noble with him is to see the questions worth thinking about in every nook of the bookstore. What is the optimal table density? Does "Life" by Keith Richards belong with other memoirs or music books about the Rolling Stones? How should the history section be arranged?
"This was a store that had history arranged A-to-Z," Daunt said last month. "Now it's chronological."
A bookstore should be intuitive enough for a child to navigate but compelling enough that adults don't mind getting lost. Because this one has an eccentric layout over 28,000 square feet -- books on two floors, gifts and toys on the mezzanine -- Byrnes and his team made it a priority to improve the flow. They reconfigured the map based on customer feedback. On the upstairs level, where toddlers run around and teens flirt after school, they moved entire sections around. "Then moved them again and moved them again," he said. Rows of books became rooms of books. Displays on the side of bookcases were treated like vertical tables. Shelves grew two rows taller to "reclaim the air" without reducing inventory, Daunt said.
The CEO has learned from his decades of experience that there is a direct correlation between how a bookstore looks and how it performs.
"It's really peculiar if good bookstores don't sell more books," he said. "They always do in the end."
The real question is how many more. Daunt expects this Barnes &Noble's sales to double from their 2019 levels by 2026.
But the remodeled store is already seeing a sales uptick because of the shrewd decisions of its booksellers. By the front door is a table of literary historical fiction that includes "The Weight of Ink" by Rachel Kadish and "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks, paperbacks that had been hiding upstairs because they were published several years ago. Harty moved them downstairs. She knew they would interest highbrow Jewish readers on the Upper West Side more than the median shopper in the average market. She was right. They went from selling one copy a month to 20.
"One of the first things we did when we first got here was to start building the tables," Byrnes said. "To watch the titles

we brought in consistently show up as our top-selling books was very satisfying."
Daunt and I were standing by that table last month when a shopper walked past us with a Daunt Books tote bag -- the ultimate sign that something unexpected is happening at Barnes &Noble.
"We're giving them what I think they recognize as a really good bookstore," Daunt said.
But I was curious for one more opinion of the Barnes &Noble on the Upper West Side. So a few weeks ago, I emailed Joe Fox himself: Tom Hanks.
As it happens, Hollywood's most famous bibliophile recently published his first novel, which is featured on its own table in this chain bookstore that's beginning to feel like an indie.
"I've never been in the newly transformed B&N," Hanks wrote, "but I approve the concept."
Credit: By Ben Cohen

DETAILS

Subject:	Bookstores; Romances; Chain stores; Books; Electronic book readers
Business indexing term:	Subject: Bookstores Chain stores; Corporation: Barnes &Noble Inc; Industry: 45921 : Book Retailers and News Dealers
Location:	United Kingdom--UK
People:	Daunt, James; Hanks, Tom
Company / organization:	Name: Barnes &Noble Inc; NAICS: 459210
Classification:	45921: Book Retailers and News Dealers
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2843310270
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-science-success-barnes-amp-noble-turns/docview/2843310270/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Houston Faces Heat's Economic Cost

Wolfe, Rachel; Omeokwe, Amara . Wolfe, Rachel; Omeokwe, Amara.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

HOUSTON -- Houstonians pride themselves on how they tolerate heat. This summer, the heat has become intolerable.

Businesses and residents in America's fourth-largest city have moved much of life indoors, changing work and spending habits. Some residents say they are reminded of quarantining during the pandemic's early days: ordering in groceries, avoiding social commitments and looking for ways to stay entertained from the couch.

The result is a dent to the local economy that could become an annual pattern if summers stay hotter for longer.

"This year is different, people are staying home," said Barbara Stewart, a professor of human development and consumer sciences at the University of Houston.

At Buffalo Bayou Brewing, a taproom and restaurant in the Heights neighborhood, fewer people are coming to the restaurant during the day, said Jonathan Horowitz, chief revenue and strategy officer. Earlier this month, the restaurant purchased two new portable cooling units to put behind the rooftop deck's bar to better keep staff cool.

He estimates revenue during the heat wave is down roughly 10% compared with the same time in 2022.

"It seems like the time frame of this kind of heat has expanded beyond what it used to be," Horowitz said. "We always had 100-degree days, but when you have 100-degree days for two months straight, that's different."

Employees at small- and medium-size businesses in the tourism, arts and entertainment and sports and recreation industries in Texas averaged 19.6 hours on the job a week between mid-June and mid-July, a 20% decline from the average during comparable weeks from 2019 to 2022, according to an analysis from Luke Pardue, an economist at payroll platform Gusto.

If the weather pattern so far this summer continues through August, Texas' gross state product this year will be reduced by roughly $9.5 billion, making a small dent in the state's growth rate, according to Ray Perryman, an

economist and president at the economic research and analysis firm the Perryman Group. That estimate assumes average temperatures in the state this summer will be roughly 2.6 degrees above the long-term average since 1900, Perryman said.
Samuel Westry, a real-estate agent in the greater Houston area, said some of his clients have been reluctant to attend property showings in person. Technology, such as virtual visits, have helped business continue, but it is harder to get people to buy without a face-to-face visit, he said.
The weather has also made it tough to look presentable.
"God forbid the air conditioner is out at a house that I'm showing or the electricity is off," he joked, adding that he has been keeping an emergency towel and deodorant in the car.
Darrell Ard owns the West Montgomery Auto Repair shop in the Northside neighborhood. He said he has been slammed with Freon top-offs and air-conditioner repairs.
The Houston Health Department has given out air conditioners and set up manned cooling centers so people without air conditioning can take refuge from the heat. Danny Perez, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation, said the heat had caused two road buckles and some pavement failures in the Houston area. The cost to the state to repair the road buckles totaled roughly $400,000, according to data provided by Perez.
The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which manages the state's electrical grid, said peak energy demand has reached new highs five times so far this summer. Most recently, peak demand reached 82,592 megawatts on July 18, compared with the record before this summer of 80,148 megawatts in July 2022.
At Aire Serv of River Oaks, co-owner Hector Jimenez said service requests are up about 12% from this time last year. "We're stretched to capacity," he said.
The company has struggled to retain technicians as the prospect of working in blistering sun and 110-degree-plus attics collides with a shortage of skilled workers.
Miguel Jimenez, whose parents own Aire Serv, said he is working 10- to 12-hour days with few days off.
On a recent Thursday in the East End neighborhood, the younger Jimenez fixed a leaking unit for the Blanding family, who was hunkered down in the living room with the curtains drawn.
"I usually enjoy the quiet and stillness of summer, but I don't want to be here anymore," said Benjamin Blanding, a 42-year-old math professor at San Jacinto College.
The family postponed a coming vacation to Goose Island State Park when they saw the heat index would reach 108 degrees.
After delivering the Blandings their $600 bill, Jimenez hopped back in the car for a quick unit tuneup at an Airbnb where Alvin Moore was staying. A lifelong Southerner, the 27-year-old Moore had planned to spend his time in Houston enjoying the golf courses and soccer fields.
Lately, he has been hard-pressed to find anyone willing to play."The course is mostly empty," he said.

Higher Temps Curb Growth
A 2019 research paper found that, on average, each one-degree Fahrenheit increase in the mean summer temperature leads to a 0.154 percentage-point decrease in the annual growth rate of gross state product. The decline is roughly double in Southern states, said Bridget Hoffmann, an economist at the Inter-American Development Bank and one of the paper's co-authors.
They also found that higher summer temperatures negatively affect output growth in a range of industries, including agriculture, construction, finance and insurance, while boosting it in the utilities and mining industries.
Credit: By Rachel Wolfe and Amara Omeokwe

DETAILS

Subject:	Heat; Growth rate; Restaurants; Economists; Neighborhoods

Business indexing term:	Subject: Restaurants Economists; Industry: 72251 : Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Location:	Texas; United States--US
Classification:	72251: Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Publication title:	Wa ll Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310263
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-houston-faces-heats-economic-cost/docview/2843310263/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: World Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

VATICAN
Pope: Fight
Climate Change
Pope Francis urged governments to do more to battle climate change and protect "our common home," as improving weather conditions Friday helped firefighters contain wildfires in southern Europe.
Francis, who has been outspoken on environmental issues, sent condolences to Greece, where wildfires recently killed five people, including the pilots of a water-dropping aircraft. The pope noted that successive heat waves have exacerbated the dangers of the summer fire season. He offered his prayers for firefighters and emergency personnel in particular.
-- Associated Press

BOLIVIA
Yuan Adopted
For Trade
Bolivia is now using the yuan to pay for imports and exports, becoming the latest country in South America to regularly use the Chinese currency in a small but growing challenge to the hegemony of the U.S. dollar for international financial transactions in the region.
Between May and July of this year, Bolivia conducted financial operations amounting to 278 million Chinese yuan ($38.7 million), which accounts for 10% of its foreign trade during that period, Economy Minister Marcelo Montenegro said on Thursday.
-- Associated Press

PHILIPPINES
Boat Exceeded
Its Capacity
The skipper of a Philippine ferry which flipped over in a lake in an accident that killed 27 people set sail despite knowing that his vessel was filled beyond capacity, the coast guard chief said Friday.
Forty-three passengers were rescued after the M/B Aya Express capsized in Laguna de Bay on Thursday, officials said. Officials continued to search the lake Friday.
Two coast guard inspectors allowed the ferry to sail after being shown a manifest which listed only 22 passengers and three crew members, said coast guard chief Admiral Artemio Abu.
-- Associated Press

SYRIA
U.N. Impasse
Spurs Warning
An impasse at the United Nations over a border crossing with Syria's last rebel-held enclave is putting 4.1 million Syrians there in danger, the president of the International Rescue Committee warned this week. David Miliband's comments came after the U.N. Security Council failed to renew the mandate for the Bab al-Hawa border crossing

between Syria and Turkey.
The council didn't adopt one of two rival resolutions on the crossing. Russia, a top ally of the Syrian government in Damascus, vetoed a Swiss-Brazilian compromise resolution backed by Western countries.
-- Associated Press

TAIWAN
U.S. Prepares
Aid Package
The U.S. is set to announce $345 million in military aid for Taiwan, two U.S. officials said Friday.
It would be the Biden administration's first major package drawing on America's own stockpiles under a new policy intended to speed up military aid to help Taiwan counter China.
The package includes man-portable air-defense systems, or Manpads, intelligence and surveillance capabilities, firearms and missiles, according to the officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive matters ahead of the announcement.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	International trade; Military aid; Forest &brush fires; Evacuations &rescues; Boating accidents &safety
Business indexing term:	Subject: International trade
Location:	Bolivia; Syria; United States--US; Taiwan
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2843310258
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-watch/docview/2843310258/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Kim Flaunts North Korea's Newest Weapons

Yoon, Dasl; Martin, Timothy W . Yoon, Dasl; Martin, Timothy W.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

SEOUL -- Flanked by Russia's defense minister and a Chinese Politburo member, Kim Jong Un smiled as North Korean missiles capable of reaching the U.S. mainland rumbled through the streets of Pyongyang.

The scene from a Thursday evening North Korean military parade reflected a new bravado from Kim, the 39-year-old dictator who has labeled his country a nuclear power.

During similar celebrations in prior years, Pyongyang had toned down its displays of nuclear firepower when officials from Moscow and Beijing were present, or did so at the risk of upsetting its two allies who could vote for fresh sanctions at the United Nations Security Council. But lately the three countries have rallied together -- and around their shared grievances against the U.S. and its allies. North Korea has conducted dozens of illegal missile tests in recent years, though China and Russia have repeatedly blocked efforts to hold the Kim regime accountable.

North Korea's Thursday military parade celebrated the 70th anniversary of the cease-fire that brought an end to fighting in the 1950-53 Korean War. The country showcased its newest intercontinental ballistic missiles -- named the "Hwasong-17" and "Hwasong-18" -- as well as new attack and spy drones.

As part of the festivities, Kim invited the first foreign delegations to North Korea since the pandemic, with the Russians led by Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and the Chinese headed by Politburo member Li Hongzhong.

North Korean Defense Minister Kang Sun Nam warned the country's adversaries. "Now, the question is not if a nuclear war will occur on the Korean Peninsula, but rather who will ignite this nuclear war and when," he said, according to a state media report published in Korean.

Shoigu, in a meeting with Kim, discussed developing "strategic and tactical collaboration" with North Korea in the field of defense and security, said Pyongyang's state media.

China has little incentive to cross North Korea now, as the U.S. increases its military presence in the region, while a collapse of the Kim regime would create instability on China's borders.
North Korea is suffering through one of its worst food shortages in decades, with its economy bitten hard by sanctions and border restrictions that remain in place because of Covid-19 fears. The country's weapons accomplishments are one of the few areas that Kim can tout with pride.
State media reports published on Friday stressed North Korea had bolstered its military capability following the fight against "imperialist war maniacs," referring to the U.S. In recent months, the Kim regime has lashed out against the U.S., South Korea and Japan over their improved military ties.
Kim's five-year weapons strategy focuses on drones, tactical nuclear arms and other modern advances, as well as a push into cyber, said Kim Young-jun, who advises the South Korean government on national-security issues. That brings advantages because these areas are often less costly and more efficient than conventional military capabilities, he said.
Credit: By Dasl Yoon and Timothy W. Martin

DETAILS

Subject:	Nuclear war; Missiles; Truces &cease fires; Anniversaries
Location:	North Korea; China; Russia; United States--US
People:	Kim Jong Un
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310256

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-kim-flaunts-north-koreas-newest/docview/2843310256/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NORTH CAROLINA
UNC Bars Race
In Admissions
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has banned the consideration of race in its admissions and hiring processes, a response to the recent Supreme Court case involving the school. The board of trustees specifically established that the university can't use application essays or other proxies to consider students' race.
The resolution, passed Thursday, follows last month's Supreme Court ruling that found race-conscious admissions unconstitutional in cases that named UNC and Harvard College. Board chair David Boliek Jr. said the changes take effect immediately.
Citing the Supreme Court decision, the board updated the school's nondiscrimination policy, saying that applicants must be evaluated "based on his or her experiences as an individual -- not on the basis of race."
-- Megan Tagami

WASHINGTON, D.C.
McConnell Will
Finish Term
Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has repeatedly said he was "fine" since he froze up midsentence during a press conference on Wednesday. And now his office is trying to tamp down speculation that he might not fill out his term as leader because of his health.
His office said McConnell appreciates the continued support of his colleagues and "plans to serve his full term in the job they overwhelmingly elected him to do."
The statement, earlier reported by Politico, comes after McConnell, 81 years old, has suffered health problems in recent months. At his weekly press conference, he froze and stared vacantly for about 20 seconds before his GOP

colleagues standing behind him grabbed his elbows and asked if he wanted to go back to his office. He later returned and answered questions as if nothing had happened.
-- Associated Press

PENTAGON
Prosecutions
Are Revamped
President Biden signed an executive order on Friday giving decisions on the prosecution of serious military crimes, including sexual assault, to independent military attorneys, taking that power away from victims' commanders.
The order formally implements legislation passed by Congress in 2022 aimed at strengthening protections for service members, who were often at the mercy of their commanders to decide whether to take their assault claims seriously.
Members of Congress, frustrated with the growing number of sexual assaults in the military, fought with defense leaders for several years over the issue.
Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D., N.Y.) spent about a decade in an uphill battle to revamp how the military handles sexual assaults and get the legislative changes passed that were codified through Biden's order.
-- Associated Press

MICHIGAN
Ford Recalls
F-150 Pickups
Ford is recalling more than 870,000 newer F-150 pickup trucks in the U.S. because the electric parking brakes can turn on unexpectedly.
The recall covers certain pickups from the 2021 through 2023 model years with single exhaust systems. Ford's F-series pickups are the top-selling vehicles in the U.S.
The company says in documents posted by government safety regulators Friday that a rear wiring bundle can come in contact with the rear axle housing. That can chafe the wiring and cause a short circuit, which can turn on the parking brake without action from the driver, increasing the risk of a crash.
Drivers may see a parking brake warning light and a warning message on the dashboard.
The company says it doesn't know of any crashes or injuries caused by the problem.
-- Associated Press

DALLAS
Alda Auction
Aids Charity
The combat boots and dog tags Alan Alda wore while playing the wisecracking surgeon Hawkeye on the beloved television series "M*A*S*H" sold at auction Friday for $125,000.
Alda held on to the boots and dog tags for more than 40 years after the show ended but decided to sell them through Heritage Auctions in Dallas to raise money for the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University in New York to helping scientists and doctors communicate better.
The buyer's name wasn't released.
Alda, 87, said he wore the boots and dog tags for the 11-season run of the show about a Korean War medical unit. The show's final episode, which aired in 1983 and was written and directed by Alda, was the most watched TV show in U.S. history.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Press conferences; Fund raising; Supreme Court decisions; Sex crimes; Political leadership
Business indexing term:	Industry: 81394 : Political Organizations
Location:	United States--US
People:	Alda, Alan
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Classification:	81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310255
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2843310255/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-29
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Biden Ignores Perils Of Embracing His Son

Linskey, Annie . Linskey, Annie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Schmoozing at a state dinner for the Indian prime minister. Strolling past a bank of cameras before taking off in Marine One for Camp David. Waving to crowds from the White House balcony on the Fourth of July.

All presidential staples. But in each instance, it wasn't President Biden doing the schmoozing or the strolling or the waving. It was Hunter Biden.

Taken together, they capture how closely and squarely in the spotlight President Biden has kept his scandal-plagued son.

That proximity worries some Biden allies who see it as a reminder of the presidential son's lingering legal woes.

Hunter Biden was ready on Wednesday to acknowledge guilt on misdemeanor tax charges and likely avoid prison time, as well as skirt a gun charge. After prosecutors and defense attorneys disagreed over whether Hunter Biden could face additional charges, the judge gave them 30 days to provide more information.

All the while, House Republicans are ramping up their investigation into whether son and father inappropriately profited from the family's power.

"If the world was controlled by political consultants, I don't think [Biden] would do some of the things he's done," said David Axelrod, who was Barack Obama's top political strategist. "But he's acting as a father, not a candidate, and signaling his unshakable loyalty to his son."

For the president, the decision to keep Hunter Biden close grows from a fatherly concern for a son with a history of substance abuse, several people close to the president said. They note that the president, like the parents of many people who have struggled with addiction, is always worried about the potential for a relapse. They also say that Joe Biden frequently invites his extended family on trips and to White House events.

Given the deep bond between father and son, aides said they are loath to bring up concerns regarding Hunter Biden.

Republicans have been more blunt: "There's a number of places I probably would not have had invited him to," said House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R., Calif) in an interview. On Fox News this past week, McCarthy signaled the House is on a clear course to pursuing an impeachment case against President Biden, citing claims of corruption tied to his son's overseas business dealings, though the speaker later tempered those comments.

Hunter Biden also accompanied his father on a trip to Ireland earlier this year, traveling by Air Force One and appearing with the president at several stops. He also attended a state dinner for French President Emmanuel Macron.

Some have seized on Hunter Biden's appearance at a more recent state dinner held at the White House for Narendra Modi, the Indian prime minister. It was attended by Attorney General Merrick Garland, and it happened to be two days after the Justice Department came to the tentative deal that collapsed. Republicans have denounced the accord as a sweetheart deal.

Asked the following day about Hunter Biden's attendance at the state dinner, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said: "I'm just not going to get into family discussion -- personal family discussion."

There is a limit to the bond. Jean-Pierre on Thursday said "no" when asked if there was any possibility that Joe Biden

would pardon his son.
Hunter Biden has written extensively about his relationship with his father, crediting him with saving his life when, as vice president, Joe Biden showed up at his adult son's Washington apartment and insisted he get help for his addiction. "He never abandoned me, never shunned me, never judged me, no matter how bad things got," Hunter Biden wrote in his 2021 memoir. "As busy as Dad always was, he never, ever gave up on me."
In a section of the book focused on his decision to join the board of Burisma, the Ukrainian energy company, Hunter Biden wrote that he has apologized repeatedly for causing his father so many political headaches.
"He responded by saying how sorry he was for putting me on the spot, for bringing so much heat onto me," Hunter Biden wrote. "That's the biggest political debate my dad and I had for months: Who should apologize to whom?"
House GOP investigators are seeking to tie President Biden to Hunter Biden's work overseas, including in Ukraine and China. The White House has repeatedly said the president wasn't involved in his son's businesses, and Hunter Biden has said that he had a longstanding agreement not to talk about deals with his father. None of The Wall Street Journal's reporting has found that Joe Biden benefited from his son's business activities.
Recent days showed what is in store for the GOP's attacks. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R., Ga.) displayed during a committee hearing explicit photos of Hunter Biden that she said came from his laptop, in an unsubstantiated attempt to accuse him of sex trafficking.
Sen. Chuck Grassley (R., Iowa) released a Federal Bureau of Investigation document in which Hunter Biden was described by an informant as "not smart" and the alleged recipient of millions of dollars in payments in exchange for his political connections. Democrats criticized the document's release and said many of its claims had been previously debunked.
On Monday, Hunter Biden's former business associate Devon Archer is set to go before the House Oversight Committee for a transcribed interview in which GOP investigators are expected to press him on business deals that involved Hunter Biden and other family members. Among other business connections, the pair served together on the board of Burisma.
The president has repeatedly said he is proud of his son and supports his efforts to turn his life around. Beyond Hunter Biden's efforts to move past his addiction problems, the two share a bond forged by a 1972 car accident that killed Joe Biden's first wife and daughter. His two young sons, Hunter and Beau, survived the crash. Beau Biden died in 2015 of brain cancer, leaving the president with one surviving son who at the time seemed to be losing his yearslong battle with addiction.
White House aides and allies of the president say they have little concern over the potential for Hunter Biden's woes to drag down his father's approval rating, which has been hovering just above 40% for months.
They add that recent elections show that Hunter Biden has had little impact on the president with independent voters and that most Democrats pay little attention to the twists and turns of GOP investigations into his past.
"They tried and tried and tried to make the Biden family [an] issue in 2020 -- and lost," said Sen. Chris Coons (D., Del.), a national co-chair of Biden's re-election campaign. "They tried again harder to make Hunter in particular an issue in 2022," he added, saying the result was a poor showing in the midterms. "So by all means, try again."
Some Republicans tread carefully on matters relating to the president's son.
"One thing you never heard me do is get overly critical about his defense of Hunter," Sen. Kevin Cramer (R., N.D.) said about Biden. "I've never faulted him for his love for his son, his expressions of support." Cramer's adult son also struggled with addiction and died in 2018 after he was hospitalized for liver and kidney failure.
The Bidens' emphasis on the importance of family also has put pressure on the president to acknowledge that he has a seventh grandchild, a young girl in Arkansas whom Hunter Biden says he fathered while in the throes of drug addiction. After weeks of speculation, on Friday the president and first lady Jill Biden said in a statement that the girl, named Navy, is family.
"Our son Hunter and Navy's mother, Lunden, are working together to foster a relationship that is in the best interests of their daughter, preserving her privacy as much as possible going forward," the Bidens said in the statement. "This is not a political issue, it's a family matter," according to the statement.

House Republicans, who gained subpoena power when they won the majority in the midterms, are moving toward compelling testimony from allies of Hunter Biden and are seeking the names of collectors who purchased his artwork and the amount paid for the paintings. In recent years, Hunter Biden has pursued an art career and is selling paintings via a New York art gallery. Asking prices have been as high as $500,000.

Republicans, and some ethics lawyers, have raised questions about whether the art sales could become an avenue for supporters of the president to funnel money to his family. With input from the White House Counsel's Office, Hunter Biden and his gallery devised a blind purchasing system. The gallery sets prices, handles sales and doesn't disclose names to Hunter Biden, according to Abbe Lowell, one of Hunter Biden's lawyers.

As these fights gear up, those close to the White House expect a more robust response from Hunter Biden than during the 2020 campaign, where he played a minimal role. "He's not going to sit back and passively take the smears, attacks, and lies from certain Republicans in their glass houses," said Michael LaRosa, a former aide to Jill Biden.

Lindsay Wise, Jack Gillum and Simon J. Levien contributed to this article.

Credit: By Annie Linskey

DETAILS

Subject:	Art galleries &museums; Addictions; Politics; Families &family life; Presidents; Scandals; Prime ministers; Elections; Social life &customs; Criminal investigations
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 71211 : Museums
Location:	United States--US
People:	Biden, Hunter; Biden, Joseph R Jr
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 71211: Museums
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310245
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/biden-ignores-perils-embracing-his-son/docview/2843310245/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-08-23
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Lawmaker Requests Hearing on Lead Cables

Ramachandran, Shalini . Ramachandran, Shalini.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A House lawmaker requested a congressional hearing about lead-sheathed cables that telecom companies have left behind across the U.S.

In a letter addressed to the chairs of the House Energy and Commerce and the House Transportation and Infrastructure committees, Rep. Pat Ryan, a New York Democrat, asked that the chief executives of major telecom companies answer questions about, among other things, the location of lead cables and plans for mitigating any risk.

A Wall Street Journal investigation recently revealed that AT&T, Verizon and other telecom companies have left behind more than 2,000 toxic lead cables on poles, under waterways and in the soil across the U.S. Journal testing near such cables showed that dozens of spots registered lead levels exceeding Environmental Protection Agency safety guidelines.

"These mostly obsolete and, in many cases, abandoned, cables have been leaching lead into unsuspecting communities," Ryan said in the letter.

In response to the Journal's reporting, AT&T, Verizon and USTelecom, an industry group, have said they don't believe cables in their ownership are a public-health hazard. The companies said they are cooperating with the EPA. USTelecom said it is engaging with policy makers "on this important matter to share relevant information as it becomes available."

A spokesman for Rep. Cathy McMorris-Rodgers (R., Wash.), chair of the House Energy &Commerce Committee, said the panel has requested information from providers, "who we expect to act quickly and responsibly." Rep. Sam Graves (R., Mo.), chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, didn't respond to a request for comment. USTelecom said Friday the industry "prioritizes the health and safety of its communities and workers." AT&T said it is "providing information requested to the EPA." Verizon didn't respond to a request for comment.
Credit: By Shalini Ramachandran

DETAILS

Subject:	Cables; Lead content
Business indexing term:	Corporation: AT &T Inc Verizon Communications Inc
Location:	United States--US
People:	Ryan, Pat
Company / organization:	Name: Verizon Communications Inc; NAICS: 513210, 517111, 517112; Name: AT &T Inc; NAICS: 517111, 517112; Name: Environmental Protection Agency--EPA; NAICS: 924110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310240
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-lawmaker-requests-hearing-on-lead-cables/docview/2843310240/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

OFF DUTY --- Adventure &Travel: Have a Lovely Time (At the Last Minute) --- Summer's almost over, but don't succumb to procrastinator's panic: These beat-the-clock strategies let you score an excellent vacation before it's (actually) too late.

Kronsberg, Matthew . Kronsberg, Matthew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Walking the Camino de Santiago is, for many, the trip of a lifetime. It's a spiritual and physical milestone, the culmination of months, if not years, of preparation. For author and actor Andrew McCarthy and his son, Sam, the monthlong, 500-mile trek along the ancient Camino Frances across northern Spain, was indeed a monumental experience. Rigorously planned? Not so much. Just two days elapsed between the time Sam agreed to go and the moment the pair boarded a plane to Spain. "I knew [Sam] would change his mind if I didn't move quickly," said McCarthy.

He isn't the only one plotting trips at warp speed. In the second quarter of 2023, one third of all leisure travelers surveyed by market research firm Omnitrak made their travel decisions within two weeks of departure (up from 28% in 2022). And more than half did so within a month. "These are 'carpe diem' travelers who seize the opportunity to travel at a moment's notice," said Omnitrak's president Chris Kam.

If you've seized zilch so far this summer, take heart, said Jack Ezon, founder of New York-based luxury travel planners Embark Beyond. Encouragingly, he reports that the best time to book peak season is either way in advance -- like six months -- or super close-in, like seven to 30 days. This year, waiting paid off more than ever. The average airfare in June was 18.9% cheaper than it was last year, and 8.1% less than just a month prior.

All this makes right now the perfect time to rethink how, why and where to travel at the last minute. Upend your trepidation about getting stuck in the worst room or having to eat dinner at a convenience store. Consider the following points, then, as McCarthy put it, "Just go."

Be ambitious in your own way

There are many paths, and timelines, to Santiago de Compostela -- not all of them as long as the iconic Camino Frances route that McCarthy recounts in his new book, "Walking with Sam." If you have only one or two weeks, "it makes sense to consider the less trafficked routes," said Joe Curro, Jr., of American Pilgrims on the Camino, a

nonprofit group in Olympia, Wash., that offers guidance on doing the pilgrimage. Presuming you maintain a typical pace of 12 to 15 miles a day, he says, you should be able to complete the Camino Ingles "in about six days." Advance reservations for lodging are rarely necessary. The network of simple albergues and inns on the Camino are well suited to house those booking on the fly. And don't get too hung up on packing, said McCarthy. "You're passing through towns everyday and can get everything you need along the way. There's nothing you can't MacGyver."

Be less ambitious and relax

Eric Verkerke would never call tiki drinks and surfing lessons in Hawaii a consolation prize, but they weren't his plan, either. The California-based co-founder of Emergence Creative and his fiancee were planning a Tahiti trip this summer, until he realized his passport had expired. After navigating a Kafkaesque, and ultimately fruitless, quest for an "emergency" renewal, the couple recouped what they could on their Tahiti getaway and put together an escape to Oahu for their time away. They bunked at the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort &Spa, and between learning to ride the waves with Moniz Family Surf and drives to Lanikai and Waimea Bay beaches, they sipped tiki cocktails at the Skull &Crown Trading Co., and had one of the "best meals we've had in years" at Senia. It was a departure for the couple who typically seek out adventure in remote spots. "It forced us to be a little less ambitious and just relax," Verkerke said.

Beat the Influencers

If you'd started planning a trip to Paris for this summer months ago, you wouldn't be nesting at La Fantaisie, a new hotel in the ninth Arrondissement that just launched in July. According to general manager Guillaume Sauge, the plan has been to "open our capacity gradually." As he points out, "availability is easier the first months" before news spreads. For hotels like La Fantaisie with a cool pedigree -- Swedish architect Martin Brudnizki designed it and Michelin three-star chef Dominique Crenn conceived its restaurant Golden Poppy -- the best time to book is while the paint is still fresh. Wing-it travelers know this hack, according to Tisha Neufville, owner of Atlanta-based Neufville Travel. "[I have] a good number of clients who definitely geek out over staying in completely new hotels," she said. While the advantages include discounted opening rates, better staff-to-guest ratios and the bragging rights that come with beating the influencers, Neufville reminds clients there's a trade-off: Not all amenities may be in place.

Beat the Weather

It's no secret that summer is the low season in the Caribbean. Concern about hurricanes and volatile weather often lead hotels like Cobblers Cove in Barbados to discount rooms for those willing to risk a washout. But procrastinators have the advantage of consulting an extended weather forecast to mitigate much of that risk, said Scott Keyes from Going, a website that sends subscribers alerts about deals on flights. "If you book a flight a week or two out, you have a much clearer idea of whether or not a hurricane is in store," he said. It's advice he's taken himself. "One of my favorite trips was to the Dominican Republic in September. It wasn't too hot. It was balmy at night. You didn't see nearly the number of tourists you see at Christmas and New Years."

Skip the Wait

Demand so outstrips supply at some hot spots that landing a table or a bed requires the foresight of booking months in advance. That's the strategy employed by most guests at the Milkweed Inn deep in the Hiawatha Forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. But two or three times a month, cancellations happen, said the inn's chef and co-owner Iliana Regan. For last-minute trippers ready to pounce, monitoring an inn's social-media accounts or submitting a request to be put on a wait list can reduce a year's wait to a few weeks. Likewise, while last-minute flights, especially to Europe in the midst of peak summer travel, can be prohibitively priced, travel-with-miles rewards might help you secure a prime seat closer to a departure date, said Clint Henderson, managing editor of news at the Points Guy. "A colleague snagged a [Lufthansa] first-class seat two weeks ago, just 36 hours before departure."

Anchors Up

In search of a last-hurrah Labor Day adventure? Your ship just came in at the following destinations:

ALASKA

Cruise lines have their full fleets back in Alaska, making 2023 one of the most cost-effective times to visit the nation's

49th state via ocean liner. One such value offering? Holland America's seven-day "Glacier Discovery" explores the Inside Passage, a web of waterways, departing from Vancouver, British Columbia, aboard the Noordam with stops in Juneau, Skagway and Glacier Bay National Park. Aug. 20-27, 2023. From $329, HollandAmerica.com

THE MEDITERRANEAN

Like a highlight reel of European hot spots, this seven-night "Experience the Mediterranean" voyage on the Celebrity Edge starts (and ends) in Barcelona and visits Cannes, Portofino, Florence/Pisa and Rome. How else could you bundle Gaudi, the Promenade de la Croisette and the Leaning Tower without the hassle of flying? Aug. 26-Sept. 2, 2023. From $1,099, CelebrityCruises.com

THE CARIBBEAN

If you're planning a surprise trip on Virgin Voyages, why not use its "Jen A.I." gimmick, and have Jennifer Lopez deliver the news to your lucky companion via a personalized video email? Book the five-night "Dominican Daze," a sun-fueled round trip from Miami on Virgin Voyages' Scarlet Lady ship with stops in the Dominican Republic's Puerto Plata and the Beach Club at Bimini in the Bahamas. Pack plenty of reef-safe SPF. Sept. 1-6, 2023. From $1,820, VirginVoyages.com

EAST INDONESIA

Act fast to secure a 20%-off spot on a seven-night Indonesia-Bali voyage aboard Aqua Expeditions' 15-room Aqua Blu, a luxury ocean explorer yacht. Visit Komodo National Park, which spans Rinca, Padar and its namesake island (the hangout zone of komodo dragons), a dive-friendly refuge rich with marine species. April through October is the dry season for this pocket of the world, translating to good weather. Aug. 26-Sept. 2, 2023. From $8,960, AquaExpeditions.com

BAHAMAS

Can't commit to a full week on the water? Consider a fast and furious four-night jaunt aboard the MSC Seaside that begins and ends at Florida's "Space Coast," near Orlando, with stops in the Bahamas and Ocean Cay Marine Reserve. Build your optional-excursion days around a visit to the Kennedy Space Center, shipwreck snorkeling, wave-runner tours or soaking up the sun on the deck of a catamaran. Aug. 27-31, 2023. From $239, MscCruisesUsa.com

-- Dana Wood

My Favorite Last-Minute Trip / Planning is important but sometimes the best getaways are on the fly

TONY GOLDWYN, Actor/Director. Currently in 'Oppenheimer'

"My wife Jane and I made a last-minute journey to Scandinavia. We rented a cool apartment in central Stockholm near the Royal Palace and the Nobel Prize Museum. The food scene in Copenhagen is justifiably famous -- great and totally casual is the Broens Gadekokken food court on the waterfront. We took a day trip to the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art and stopped by Kronborg Castle, the inspiration for Elsinore in Shakespeare's Hamlet."

TAN FRANCE, Designer, stylist, TV personality and author

"My husband, Rob, and I went on a trip to Iceland. We stayed by the whale fjords in an Airbnb with a hot tub on the edge of the lake. Just before nightfall, we would watch the sun go down -- one of the most beautiful things I've seen. We also stayed at the Retreat in Grindavik. It's connected to the Blue Lagoon, a tourist hot spot, but an experience like no other. There's a cafe nearby called Hja Hollu -- everything they made was gorgeous. We were obsessed."

KRISTEN KISH, Chef and new host of 'Top Chef'

"My brother took my mom and dad to Yellowstone in an RV. I flew from Boston to Jackson Hole, Wyo., rented a car and met them. It was the most beautiful landscape. I loved that I didn't have to be this polished version of myself and shower every day. We grilled hot dogs and ate crackers and avocados. We had no cell service. I can't remember the last time I didn't answer one email for five days. I had the greatest sleep of my entire life."

ALISA REYNOLDS, Chef and star of Hulu's 'Searching for Soul Food'

"I have an American friend who has a vineyard at Orsolino 28, an art foundation in Moncalvo, Italy. We hang out in the garden, bicycle through rolling hills and eat amazing fresh pasta, lobster, breads, delicious burrata. Her husband takes a bowl of peaches, crushes them and pours Champagne and ice on them. It's refreshing and delicious. And of

course we drink copious amounts of wine. What I love most is that it's just peaceful."
JOHN CHO, actor. Currently in 'The After Party' on Apple TV +
"During our stay in New Zealand our family took a trip to the Bay of Islands. There are 144 small islands and it was tremendous fun to kayak with the kids and briefly be the only human beings on a particular uninhabited piece of rock. We felt like wet Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin. Among the highlights: a ferry ride accompanied by multiple pods of dolphins and a visit to Te Kongahu Museum of Waitangi."
-- Glynis Costin
Credit: By Matthew Kronsberg

DETAILS

Subject:	Travel; Planning; National parks; Hotels &motels
Business indexing term:	Subject: Hotels &motels; Industry: 71219 : Nature Parks and Other Similar Institutions 72111 : Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
Location:	Spain; Tahiti; Dominican Republic; Bahamas
Company / organization:	Name: Virgin Voyages; NAICS: 483112
Classification:	71219: Nature Parks and Other Similar Institutions; 72111: Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	D.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310235

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/off-duty-adventure-amp-travel-have-lovely-time-at/docview/2843310235/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Tighter Standards Proposed For Fuel Economy

Felton, Ryan . Felton, Ryan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Federal regulators are proposing stricter fuel-economy standards for light-duty cars and trucks, saying the revamped rules would save consumers money at the pump and reduce pollution.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on Friday proposed new fuel-economy standards for model years 2027 to 2032, regulating how far vehicles in the U.S. must travel on a gallon of fuel. Automakers would have to sell a portfolio of light-duty cars and trucks averaging 58 miles a gallon by 2032, up from the 49 miles a gallon now required in model year 2026.

The agency's proposal doesn't mandate that automakers offer electric vehicles, but would likely force the industry to sharply increase EV sales in order to comply.

"Consumers will save overall," said Ann Carlson, NHTSA's acting administrator, in a conference call with reporters.

Automakers are confronting several hurdles in their efforts to electrify their lineups and sway consumers to choose EVs. The addition of millions of electric cars on U.S. roadways in coming years, for example, would require a massive build-out of charging stations.There are also questions around how quickly U.S. car buyers will warm to battery-powered cars, which today account for about 7% of U.S. sales.

In April, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed separate rules that govern tailpipe emissions. Meeting those rules likely would require two-thirds of new vehicles sold to be electric by 2032, according to the Alliance for Automotive Innovation, which represents major car companies.

The lobbying group criticized the EPA proposal when it came out, calling it unreasonable and not achievable. On Friday, it said it would review NHTSA's proposal for fuel economy, and said it was encouraged that the two federal agencies appear to have tried to sync their proposals.

NHTSA said it would take comments on the proposal for the next 60 days before finalizing the rules.

Credit: By Ryan Felton

DETAILS

Subject:	Energy efficiency; Automobile industry; Electric vehicles; Trucks; Fuel economy standards
Business indexing term:	Subject: Automobile industry; Industry: 33611 : Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration--NHTSA; NAICS: 926120; Name: Environmental Protection Agency--EPA; NAICS: 924110
Classification:	33611: Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310229
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-tighter-standards-proposed-fuel-economy/docview/2843310229/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and pu blic libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated: 2025-01-30

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Friday's Markets: Dow, S&P 500 Extend Wins To Third Week

Miao, Hannah . Miao, Hannah.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

U.S. stocks rebounded Friday to cap off a week of gains, as soft inflation data boosted investor sentiment and shares of big tech companies powered the indexes higher.

The S&P 500 rose 1%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average about 177 points, or 0.5%. The Nasdaq Composite jumped 1.9%

All three major indexes locked in weekly gains, with the S&P 500 and Dow each logging a third consecutive positive week. The Dow on Wednesday clinched a winning streak of 13 trading days, its longest streak since 1987.

This year's market rally has picked up steam as the U.S. economy has proven more resilient than expected, bolstering investor optimism in the likelihood of a soft landing in which the Federal Reserve gets inflation under control without triggering a recession. The S&P 500 is now up 19% in 2023, after falling 19% in 2022.

"The market is really starting to price in this idea that we can actually hit a soft landing that seemed so elusive just a couple months ago," said Matt Bush, managing director of macroeconomics and investment research at Guggenheim Partners.

Friday wrapped up a packed week for markets that included the Fed's latest policy meeting, fresh economic data and many high-profile quarterly earnings reports.

The Fed this past week raised interest rates by a widely anticipated quarter percentage point to the highest level in 22 years. Fed Chair Jerome Powell said the central bank would decide whether to keep lifting rates in future meetings based on how the economy -- and in particular, inflation -- is faring.

New economic reports released Friday showed a cooling in price and pay pressures. The personal-consumption expenditures price index, the Fed's preferred inflation gauge, rose 3% in June from the year earlier, down from a 3.8% rise the prior month, the Commerce Department reported Friday. A separate report on wages released Friday from the Labor Department showed a slowdown in employer spending on compensation.

Investors also parsed corporate earnings results at the midpoint of the second-quarter reporting season. With second-quarter results reported from about half of the companies in the S&P 500, 80% have topped analysts' consensus earnings estimates, according to FactSet. That is above the five-year average of 77%.

"The fact that earnings are actually turning out not to be as bad as feared is also supporting the market," said Erik Ristuben, chief investment strategist at Russell Investments.

Shares of Meta Platforms and Alphabet both rose Friday and gained more than 10% this past week after each company reported accelerating sales growth. Those megacap tech stocks are heavily weighted in the S&P 500 and boosted the communication services sector, which was the best-performing segment of the broad stock index on

Friday.
Intel gained 6.6% after it reported a return to profit on the back of a resurgent PC market. Meantime, Chevron and Exxon Mobil shed 0.5% and 1.2%, respectively, after the oil giants' quarterly profits dipped from last year's records. In other corporate news, Ford shares dipped 3.4% after the company warned of steeper-than-expected losses in its electric-vehicle business. Tesla rose 4.2% and Rivian added 3.4%.
Credit: By Hannah Miao

DETAILS

Subject:	Dow Jones averages; Stock exchanges; Inflation; Interest rates; Economic indicators
Business indexing term:	Subject: Stock exchanges Inflation Interest rates Economic indicators; Industry: 52321 : Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Location:	Un ited States--US
Classification:	52321: Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310221
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-fridays-markets-dow-s-amp-p-500-extend/docview/2843310221/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: French Gates Will Stay With Foundation

McKay, Betsy; Glazer, Emily . McKay, Betsy; Glazer, Emily.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Melinda French Gates has decided to continue as co-chair of the Bill &Melinda Gates Foundation, working alongside her now ex-husband Bill Gates to manage one of the world's largest and most influential philanthropies.

French Gates and the Microsoft co-founder had agreed that she would resign and exit with additional funds for her own philanthropic work if after two years following their divorce either one decided joint leadership wasn't working. Their divorce was finalized in August 2021.

French Gates has recently told people about her decision to stay as co-chair and trustee. Spokespeople for the Gates Foundation and Pivotal Ventures, the company that French Gates runs, confirmed Friday that she is remaining in her posts at the foundation.

The Gates Foundation, as one of the world's largest philanthropies, wields tremendous influence in global health and development, particularly in polio eradication, new treatments for tuberculosis, agricultural development for small-scale farms, and gender equality.

Credit: By Betsy McKay and Emily Glazer

DETAILS

People:	Gates, Melinda
Company / organization:	Name: Bill &Melinda Gates Foundation; NAICS: 813211
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023

Publisher:	Dow J ones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310213
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-french-gates-will-stay-with-foundation/docview/2843310213/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: The Challenge to Wrest Control of Wagner's Vast War Empire

Frank, Matt; Grimaldi, James V; Barry, Rob; Rust, Max; Dapena, Kara . Frank, Matt; Grimaldi, James V; Barry, Rob; Rust, Max; Dapena, Kara.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The Kremlin is attempting one of the most complex corporate takeovers in history, seeking to seize control of the Wagner paramilitary group's sprawling global empire.

Founded by businessman-turned-warlord Yevgeny Prigozhin, Wagner is made up of dozens of companies that fight

Russia's war in Ukraine and provide security to government leaders in Syria and across Africa, where they also operate gold and diamond mines and act as an informal diplomatic arm of the Russian government.
An intricate corporate structure of shell companies conceals Wagner's operations outside of Russia and blurs its ties to the Kremlin, making it difficult to hold the Russian state accountable, according to European and U.S. Treasury sanctions, corporate registries, documents and emails from banks and a law firm posted on the internet, customs records collected by the private vendor ImportGenius and nonprofit investigative organizations and think tanks in the U.S., Canada and Europe.
After years of denying connections, President Vladimir Putin admitted to financing the group and said the state had paid it the equivalent of about $950 million in the past year.
Now, after Wagner's aborted mutiny last month and Prigozhin's disappearance, Putin is trying to rein in the group. Its vastness will make that difficult.
The status of the Wagner network in Africa is in flux following Wagner's mutiny, with little clarity yet about who is in control. In a video recorded after the mutiny at Wagner's new base in Belarus, Prigozhin said Africa would be a focus for the group.
The Journal contacted Prigozhin, the Kremlin and all companies identified as linked to Wagner. None responded to requests for comment.
Credit: By Frank Matt, James V. Grimaldi, Rob Barry, Max Rust and Kara Dapena

DETAILS

Subject:	Mercenaries
Location:	Africa; Russia; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Wagner Group Russia; NAICS: 928110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2843310211
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-challenge-wrest-control-wagners-vast/docview/2843310211/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases recor ds will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- Business News: Biogen to Buy Maker of Rare-Disease Drug --- The $7.3 Billion deal for Reata is a fresh sign of company's turnaround efforts

Walker, Joseph; Kellaher, Colin . Walker, Joseph; Kellaher, Colin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Troubled drugmaker Biogen will pay $7.3 billion in cash to acquire Reata Pharmaceuticals, owner of a new rare-disease treatment with the potential to be a blockbuster.

Biogen, a biotech stalwart that specializes in treating neurological disease, is attempting a turnaround after stumbles in recent years that have hobbled its stock price and sales growth and led to the hiring of a new chief executive late last year.

The company announced the deal on Friday, days after saying it planned to eliminate 1,000 jobs, about 11% of its workforce, to reduce its operating expenses and focus on higher-return drug launches and research programs.

Analysts said Reata was an obvious takeout target for Biogen, but worried that Biogen is paying too much to get the deal done.

Biogen will pay $172.50 a share for Reata, a nearly 59% premium to Thursday's closing price of $108.55 for the Plano, Texas-based company. The $7.3 billion price tag includes debt. Biogen expects the deal will close in the fourth quarter.

Reata earlier this year won Food and Drug Administration approval for Skyclarys as the first U.S. treatment for the genetic disorder Friedreich's ataxia, a rare genetic disease that damages the nervous system, including the spinal cord and parts of the brain. Patients have an average life expectancy of 37 years, according to Biogen.

Analysts predict that Skyclarys could have more than $1.1 billion in annual sales in 2028, but that its success hinges on securing additional regulatory approvals to sell the drug in Europe and to pediatric patients in the U.S.

"$7.3B is a hefty price to pay for a drug to fit their needs that likely needs a riskier EU approval to break into blockbuster status," Brian Skorney, an R.W. Baird analyst, said in a note. "We like the broad strokes of the deal but see the price as challenging."

CEO Christopher Viehbacher said on Friday that Biogen's sales force would accelerate the launch of Skyclarys. The drug's marketing will be handled by the Biogen sales force responsible for Spinraza, a treatment for a rare form of muscular atrophy that is prescribed by many of the same doctors who treat patients with Friedreich's ataxia, Viehbacher said.

"Commercial execution in the rare disease space is a very distinct skill set built up over time," Viehbacher said on a conference call with analysts.

Skyclarys was approved in February, but only became available recently in the U.S. because of manufacturing problems that the company has since resolved.

The FDA's approval was controversial because of concerns about the quality of a clinical trial that regulators said last year wasn't sufficient to prove the drug's effectiveness. The agency finally agreed to approve the drug after making the unconventional decision to accept additional data from Reata that was collected from patients outside of controlled clinical trials.

Biogen, based in Cambridge, Mass., said it plans to fund the deal with cash on hand, supplemented by the issuance of term debt, adding that it expects to complete the acquisition by the end of the year.

Credit: By Joseph Walker and Colin Kellaher

DETAILS

Subject:	FDA approval; Ataxia
Business indexing term:	Subject: FDA approval; Corporation: Biogen Inc
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Food &Drug Administration--FDA; NAICS: 926150
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310201
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-business-news-biogen-buy-maker-rare/docview/2843310201/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-16
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Niger General Declares Himself Leader -- African nations, West consider how to respond to the ouster of the president

Faucon, Benoit . Faucon, Benoit.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The head of Niger's presidential guard declared himself the leader of a new junta Friday after deposing a president who was a key ally to the U.S. in the fight against extremism.

Meanwhile, in a sign that Russia could seek to exploit the turmoil in Niger, Yevgeny Prigozhin, the head of Russian paramilitary group Wagner, hailed the coup plotters.

The military coup against democratically elected President Mohamed Bazoum threatens to disrupt the U.S. strategy for fighting Islamist militants as they expand across western Africa.

In an address on state television, Gen. Abdourahamane Tiani, the commander of the presidential guard in Niger, said he was in charge of a junta of military officers that removed Bazoum this week.

Tiani cited setbacks in the country's counterterrorism efforts to justify Bazoum's removal. "We can't continue with the same approach without witnessing the gradual disappearance of our country," he said. But people briefed on the coup said Tiani initially took the president hostage early Wednesday at his residence after a dispute over Bazoum's plans to dismiss him and reduce benefits to his soldiers. That dispute escalated into an attempted coup, they said. Key generals later sided with the presidential guard, saying they wanted to avoid bloodshed. But it was unclear until now who was heading the new junta, and the situation remained fluid.

Bazoum has refused to resign and has been speaking to Western diplomats from his residence, say people briefed on his situation.
Meanwhile, the army generals who removed him are still squabbling over who ultimately would run the country and whether or not they should ally with Russia or its mercenaries, say the people. "There is still a ray of hope" the president could be reinstated, said a person close to him.
Western security circles fear the coup against Bazoum, who got large-scale military and economic support from the U.S. and France, potentially could hand Russia a strategic advantage as Moscow tries to widen its influence in the region.
Late Thursday, Prigozhin, who was behind a failed rebellion against Russia's army command last month, hailed the coup in Niger. Following the unsuccessful mutiny at home, Prigozhin has said he wanted to focus on Wagner's operations in Africa.
Wagner fighters have gained a foothold in four nations on the continent, including Mali, and are trying to enter Burkina Faso and Chad, three of Niger's neighbors. Western officials have said there is no evidence Russia -- which has condemned the plotters -- or Wagner were involved in the coup.
Bazoum, who was elected in 2021, was an ally in a U.S. campaign to take on al Qaeda and Islamic State. Niger hosts U.S. drones and American commandos, who have trained Nigerien special forces and advised them during combat missions against the insurgents.
The junta has faced international condemnation, including from regional power Nigeria, France, the former colonial power, and the U.S. French President Emmanuel Macron said sanctions should be imposed on the junta when the Economic Community of West African States, to which Niger belongs, meets Sunday.
Credit: By Benoit Faucon

DETAILS

Subject:	Presidents; Coups d'etat; Political leadership
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 81394 : Political Organizations
Location:	Africa; Russia; United States--US; France; Niger
People:	Tiani, Abdourahamane; Bazoum, Mohamed
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843 310196
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-niger-general-declares-himself-leader/docview/2843310196/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: In Southwest, Hot Pavement Causes Severe Burns

Toy, Sarah . Toy, Sarah.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

David Villela stepped barefoot into the 110-degree Las Vegas heat in June for just a couple of minutes. When he got back inside from closing his gate, his left foot felt like it was on fire.

He plunged it into a bucket of cold water. A huge blister formed on the sole, then burst, leaking fluid and blood.

Villela, 37 years old, was taken to University Medical Center of Southern Nevada, where a burn specialist diagnosed a third-degree burn that would require several surgeries and a skin graft.

Streets in the Southwest are so hot that some people who touch them even briefly are getting serious burns. Villela is among scores of patients injured in the U.S. this year by touching surfaces that are baking under the bright sun and record temperatures. Burn centers in the Southwest are reporting a rise in injuries to people who touch hot door handles, walk barefoot on scorching surfaces or fall on sun-scalded pavement.

"We call it pavement burn season," said Dr. Syed Saquib, medical director of the UMC Lions Burn Care Center in Las

Vegas and one of Villela's doctors.
Pavement burns are among the most severe injuries he sees, often resulting in worse injuries than exposure to flames, boiling water or chemicals. About a third of patients in his 16-bed unit are being treated for burns from pavement, which can heat up to around 170 degrees on a hot day, he said.
Pavement burns are riskiest to people who can't get up immediately after falling on the hot ground, doctors said, such as elderly people who might faint from dehydration. Patients with conditions that cause loss of feeling in their feet are also at risk, they said.
People should stay indoors on hot days if they can and wear shoes, socks and a hat before going out. They should drink plenty of water and let people know where they will be, doctors said.
Villela was in the hospital for two weeks, undergoing surgeries in which doctors removed dead tissue from his foot. He was discharged in late June but returned to the hospital in early July because his wound wasn't healing properly.
He has been there ever since, undergoing additional surgeries and wound therapy. In a few weeks, when more tissue has grown back, he will get a skin graft."I'm looking to make a full recovery and keep living a normal life," he said.
It could take another month or so for Villela to fully heal, Saquib said. Villela, who has Type 1 diabetes, might not have felt his left foot burning until it was too late, his doctor said. Villela had his right leg amputated earlier this year because of complications from diabetes.
Johnny Sandoval, 37, was taking a smoke break outside Phoenix City Hall on a blistering day in May when he had a seizure and fell onto a metal plate. By the time security personnel found him, he had suffered third-degree burns on his left arm and right hand.
He was admitted to the ICU at Valleywise Health Medical Center. A few days later, surgeons at the Arizona Burn Center at Valleywise removed dead tissue from his arm and hand and took skin from his right thigh to graft over the wounds.
Sandoval said he was given oxycodone and fentanyl to control the pain of the burns, but nothing prepared him for the excruciating bandage changes on each of the six days he was recovering in the hospital.
"It literally felt like someone was peeling my skin off of me every time," he said.
Sandoval began having panic attacks before each bandage change. His doctors prescribed an antianxiety medication. He learned to change his own bandages at home.
He sees a physical therapist twice a week, working to regain the full range of motion in his arm and hand. He wears long sleeves and a glove when he goes outside to protect his scarred skin from sunburns he can't feel. He is also taking anti-seizure medications to prevent falling again.
The Arizona Burn Center has hospitalized around 50 patients with heat-related contact burns this summer, said Dr. Kevin Foster, the center's director. Two have died. Last year, 85 patients were hospitalized at the center for contact-burn injuries in June, July and August. Seven died.
Many patients are elderly people who fall onto hot concrete and can't get up, Foster said. He and his staff have also seen people with substance-use disorder who passed out and ended up on the hot ground for hours. The center often treats people for symptoms of heat-related illness on top of the burns, he said.
"It's worse than any other summer I've seen," he said.
Credit: By Sarah Toy

DETAILS

Subject:	Hospitals; Plastic surgery; Diabetes; Burns; Convulsions &seizures; Older people; Skin &tissue grafts; Physicians; Weather; Asphalt pavements; Concrete pavements
Business indexing term:	Industry: 62211 : General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
Location:	United States--US; Arizona; Las Vegas Nevada

Classification:	62211: General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310192
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-southwest-hot-pavement-causes-severe/docview/2843310192/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-07-31
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

EXCHANGE --- How Japan's Policy Shift Could Affect U.S. Markets

Goldfarb, Sam; Yoon, Frances . Goldfarb, Sam; Yoon, Frances.

FULL TEXT

The Bank of Japan made an important change to its monetary policy on Friday, signaling that it would tolerate higher yields on longer-term Japanese government bonds.

The bank said that a 0.5% cap on 10-year government bond yield was now a suggestion, not a rigid limit, and that the new hard cap was 1%.

The BOJ has been an outlier among the world's major central banks in not aggressively raising interest rates to fight inflation, and investors around the world have been closely attuned to any shifts in its policy.

Here's what Wall Street is watching:

What does the move mean for bond markets?

Reports on Thursday that the BOJ would lift its yield cap initially drove down prices on U.S. Treasurys, lifting their yields. The reason: Japanese investors own over $1 trillion in U.S. Treasurys, and rising yields on Japanese bonds could attract some of that money.

Even though Japanese bonds will still offer lower yields than U.S. Treasurys, the increase could matter to Japanese investors, who already have reason to buy domestic bonds to avoid the risk of unfavorable currency moves.

Why are some analysts worried about what comes next?

So far, the market impact of the BOJ's move has been relatively modest, in part because the policy change itself wasn't that large. However, some analysts still see it a step toward abandoning yield targets entirely, which could have larger ramifications.

Their big worry is any change in policy that causes Japanese investors to not just stop buying foreign bonds but also sell them outright, causing a substantial and abrupt increase in global bond yields.

That in turn could drag down U.S. stocks, since higher bond yields push up borrowing costs and, all else equal, reduce the incentive to own riskier assets.

How could the shift hit currency markets?

Ultralow yields on Japanese government bonds have long provided an incentive for traders to borrow yen to buy dollars, weakening the yen and strengthening the dollar. Hedge funds, however, have already started to unwind that trade, and that could gather steam if Japanese interest rates rise -- causing the yen to rebound further against the dollar.

Could this derail the Japanese stock rally?

Foreign investors have flocked to Japanese stocks this year, lured by an economy that has expanded faster than the U.S., a stock exchange that has pushed companies to improve their valuations -- and a central bank pursuing a much more growth-friendly policy than others around the world.

One upside from the BOJ's move is that the country's banks could make greater profits on their lending.

Nonetheless, rising yields could mean higher funding costs for Japanese firms, and would tend to lower investors' valuations of future profits.

What does this mean for growth around the world?

The BOJ's move is a reminder that while the Federal Reserve may be at or near the end of its interest-rate campaign, other central banks are still intent on tightening policy. The BOJ might be just starting on its journey.

In the end, the purpose of tighter monetary policy is to slow down economic activity, which could eventually drag on riskier assets around the world.

In fact, while Treasury yields climbed after the BOJ news, some analysts argued that the move might drag them lower over time, with slower global growth increasing the appeal of safer assets like bonds.

Credit: By Sam Goldfarb and Frances Yoon

DETAILS

Subject:	Yen; Monetary policy; Investments; Central banks; Interest rates; American dollar; Treasuries; Government bonds
Business indexing term:	Subject: Yen Monetary policy Central banks Interest rates American dollar Treasuries Government bonds; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.11
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310188
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/exchange-how-japans-policy-shift-could-affect-u-s/docview/2843310188/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

OFF DUTY --- Design &Decorating -- A Matter of Life and Decor: My Love/Hate Relationship With the Doe in My Garden

Slatalla, Michelle . Slatalla, Michelle.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

I don't have anything against deer -- except when they treat my garden like it's an all-you-can-eat buffet in Las Vegas. Sadly, one big fat smelly deer thinks my yard is the "Bacchanal" spread at Caesars Palace. She starts with an appetizer of rose buds. Then she hits the heirloom gladiolus and scarfs down the young fruit on the espaliered apple tree. Worst, she makes a palate cleanser of my husband's precious lemon tree.

Which caused a recent crisis -- and forced me to examine my relationship to nature.

The other evening at twilight I heard my husband muttering about "the last straw" before going into the closet for an oversize slingshot designed to fling tennis balls for dogs to retrieve. By the time I caught up to him, he was on the front porch poised like William Tell. Only he wasn't aiming for the apple -- he was aiming for the deer.

"Wait!" I shouted, jumping in front of him. "Stop -- look!"

Standing behind the mother deer were two white-spotted fawns. They could have starred in a "Bambi" remake with their enormous, innocent, limpid eyes. At that moment I would have gladly ripped my husband's stupid lemons from the highest branches and fed them to the darling, sweet babies by hand.

"Take whatever you need, honey," I whispered to the mother.

Across America, deer are creating problems in gardens like mine. In the past century the deer population has exploded, up from 500,000 white-tailed deer in the early 1900s to 15 million today, according to Cornell University's Wildlife Damage Management Project. Not to mention mule deer, the other species common to western states like California, where I live. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife estimates that half a million of those are chomping their way across the state, including the doe and fawns who have set up housekeeping beneath my orange tree.

"I'm very conflicted about the deer," I told Brett Furnas, a California Department of Fish and Wildlife researcher who studies deer-population trends. "On one hand, they're so graceful and lovely. On the other hand, they're eating everything in my neighborhood. Why are there so many?"

"It's partly because there's not a lot of hunting in Marin County, and not that many mountain lions. And the main predator of deer is mountain lions," Furnas said, apparently unaware of my husband and his slingshot. He added, perhaps to cheer me up, "but over the past 10 years, the size of the deer population has remained pretty steady."

That is good news, I suppose. But I still have a long list of complaints I would like to submit to them: 1) Are you aware your hooves carry seeds and scat, introducing invasive plants and bacteria into my landscape? 2) Must you eat saplings? and 3) Can you please, please leave my husband's lemons alone?

I wish the deer and I could have a friendly conversation. However, most of our past interactions have been limited to my trying to scare them away (yelling, clapping loudly, waving my arms). In response, they gaze at me with tender compassion as I am clearly a lunatic. Other efforts, like spraying so-called deer repellent on plants, accomplishes

nothing except to make the plants smell like rotten eggs.
For advice I called Christian Douglas, a landscape designer near me in San Rafael, Calif., who specializes in mixing edibles and native plants.
"I don't see the deer decimating the gardens you design in my neighborhood. What's your secret?" I asked.
"Well, first realize that we are living in their habitat, not the other way around," Douglas said, pointing out that deer have roamed the earth for more than 12 million years. People? Not so long.
"I guess they have a right to live somewhere," I mumbled, starting to feel bad about all the clapping and yelling.
"What if the deer made a list of complaints about us?" Douglas continued, ticking off a few human innovations -- cars, roads and guns -- that might irk them. "So. We need to learn to live together, which means making the right choices when we garden. You can't complain they're eating your roses because rosebuds to deer are like candy."
Instead, he suggested, I should install deer-resistant plants like salvia and rosemary and lavender, thyme and catmint. "Anything aromatic, they tend not to like," he said.
"What about my roses?"
"Fences. Walls. Physical barriers. A solid fence because if they can't see what's on the other side they typically won't jump over it," he said.
"And that always works?"
"Yes. Well. Usually."
"Usually?" I asked.
"OK, one time in my own garden, they breached an old fence and overnight destroyed several hundred square feet of food I was growing," Douglas said.
Is it any comfort that George Washington had the same problem? In the late 18th century, the first president fenced 18 acres to create a "deer park" at Mount Vernon. "He loved seeing deer -- who doesn't love to admire fawns in their natural habitat?" said Dean Norton, director of horticulture at the historic Virginia estate.
Unfortunately, a portion of the stockade fence fell and the herd escaped into the garden, where they roamed, like beloved pets, causing devastation while Washington was away running the country. In frustration, the gardener "told the land manager, 'The deer or the plants, which is it going to be?'" said Norton.
It seems President Washington was as conflicted as I am. He wrote to friends saying he didn't want to sic his hounds on the deer because he loved them. Also, he did not have a slingshot that fired tennis balls. "We know the park was gone long before Washington died. But the deer survived," Mr. Norton said. "They became naturalized."
There you have it. In the end, the deer survive. I was still deciding whether to fortify my own garden when I saw one of the little fawns had an injured leg and was skipping awkwardly on three legs behind its mother. Oh no!
I phoned one of the world's pre-eminent deer veterinarians, Dr. John Fletcher, who lives in Scotland. (This, by the way, cost $50, I learned from a text message AT&T sent me.)
"Don't worry, if it's a fracture, deer have an amazing ability to recover," said Dr. Fletcher, author of "Gardens of Earthly Delight: The History of Deer Parks" (Windgather Press, 2011). "I've seen a compound fracture with the bone sticking through the skin heal in six months. Besides, there isn't a thing you can do but keep your fingers crossed."
I planted another rose bush, right next to where the fawns sleep.
Credit: By Michelle Slatalla

DETAILS

Subject:	Animal populations; Fractures; Design; Gardens &gardening; Tennis equipment; Landscape architecture
Business indexing term:	Industry: 54132 : Landscape Architectural Services

Location:	California; United States--US
Classification:	54132: Landscape Architectural Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	D.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310180
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/off-duty-design-amp-decorating-matter-life-decor/docview/2843310180/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government instit utions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-07-29
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Pay, Price Pressures Are Easing

Omeokwe, Amara . Omeokwe, Amara.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Pay and price pressures showed fresh signs of retreating from the economy, adding to evidence that inflation is moving closer to the Federal Reserve's goal.

Employers spent 4.5% more on wages and benefits in April to June from a year earlier, the Labor Department said Friday. That marked a slowing from a 4.8% increase the prior quarter. The employment-cost index also posted its smallest quarterly increase in two years.

The personal-consumption expenditures price index, the Fed's preferred inflation measure, rose 3% in June from a year earlier, the Commerce Department said, down from a 3.8% rise the prior month.

Wage growth and inflation remain elevated and faster than the Fed would prefer. But Friday's figures offered the clearest signs yet of a long-anticipated slowdown in price pressures.

Credit: By Amara Omeokwe

DETAILS

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310179
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-pay-price-pressures-are-easing/docview/2843310179/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-29
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Facebook Bowed to U.S. Pressure on Covid Posts

Ryan, Tracy . Ryan, Tracy.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Facebook removed content related to Covid-19 in response to pressure from the Biden administration, including posts claiming the virus was man-made, according to internal company communications viewed by The Wall Street Journal.

The emails show Facebook executives discussing how they managed users' posts about the origins of a pandemic that the administration was seeking to control. "Can someone quickly remind me why we were removing -- rather than demoting/labeling -- claims that Covid is man made," asked Nick Clegg, the company's president of global affairs, in a July 2021 email to colleagues.

"We were under pressure from the administration and others to do more," responded a Facebook vice president in charge of content policy, speaking of the Biden administration. "We shouldn't have done it."

The discussion took place three months after Facebook, which is owned by Meta Platforms, decided to stop banning posts asserting that Covid-19 was man-made or manufactured, in light of increasing debate about the virus's origin.

The email, and a number of other such internal company communications, were obtained by the Republican-led House Judiciary Committee, which has been investigating what GOP lawmakers say is the Biden administration's improper efforts to censor Americans' speech on social media about Covid and other topics.

The White House says its discussions were aimed at promoting the adoption of vaccines and other public-health goals.

"We have consistently made it clear that we believe social-media companies have a critical responsibility to take account of the effects of their platforms that they have on the American people, while making independent decisions about the content of their platforms," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said at a Thursday briefing.

Asked to comment for this article later Thursday, a White House spokesperson pointed to those comments.

Facebook has long said that its content-moderation decisions are independent and not made with regard to politics. A spokesman declined to comment for this article.

The emails viewed by the Journal, which haven't been previously reported, date to the spring and summer of 2021, when the White House was mounting a nationwide push for Americans to get vaccinated for Covid-19. Part of that push included a public and private campaign to get Facebook to more aggressively police vaccine-related content.

Administration officials had come to believe that many Americans were hesitant to get vaccines because of false information they saw on Facebook. "They're killing people," President Biden said that July.
The tongue-lashing caused Facebook to re-evaluate its policies about Covid-19 content -- discussions that involved high-level company officials including Clegg and then-Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg, the emails viewed by the Journal show.
Following the president's "killing people" comment, the Facebook vice president circulated a memo assessing the difference between Facebook's content policies and the Biden administration's demands -- some of which the company appeared ready to push back on.
"There is likely a significant gap between what the WH would like us to remove and what we are comfortable removing," the Facebook vice president said.
As one example, the executive listed the White House's desire that the company take action against humorous or satirical content that suggested the vaccines aren't safe.
"The WH has previously indicated that it thinks humor should be removed if it is premised on the vaccine having side effects, so we expect it would similarly want to see humor about vaccine hesitancy removed," the vice president wrote.
"I can't see Mark in a million years being comfortable with removing that -- and I wouldn't recommend it," Clegg wrote in a subsequent email, an apparent reference to CEO Mark Zuckerberg.
In some of the emails, Facebook executives expressed concern that removing posts in which Americans expressed hesitation about getting vaccinated could actually make them less likely to get a shot.
"There may be risk of pushing them further toward hesitancy by suppressing their speech and making them feel marginalized by large institutions," said one draft memo to Facebook leadership, included in an April 2021 email. Removing such posts could also fuel conspiracy theories about a coverup related to the safety of vaccines, the draft memo said.
At the same time, Facebook officials appeared to feel pressure to address the White House's concerns. As Clegg prepared to meet the U.S. surgeon general about vaccine misinformation in late July 2021, he emailed colleagues: "My sense is that our current course -- in effect explaining ourselves more fully, but not shifting on where we draw the lines . . . is a recipe for protracted and increasing acrimony."
By August 2021, Facebook executives were emailing each other about new planned changes to their Covid content policies. One change increased the punishments faced by users who ran afoul of content policies and had accounts on both Facebook and Instagram, another social-media platform owned by Meta, the emails show.
For example, the company had previously removed the Instagram account of Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a vaccine skeptic now turned presidential candidate. But his Facebook account hadn't faced the same punishment because it hadn't posted the same content, the emails show.
Under the new policy, Kennedy's Facebook account wouldn't be recommended to other users, a Facebook executive explained in an August email describing how the company was following up on the Biden administration's requests.
Rep. Jim Jordan (R., Ohio), chair of the House panel, said "these documents begin to reveal the pressure that Facebook and other social-media companies were under to alter their content-moderation policies and remove protected speech to appease the federal government, particularly the Biden White House."
Credit: By Ryan Tracy

DETAILS

Subject:	Electronic mail systems; Speeches; COVID-19 vaccines; Social networks; User generated content
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social networks; Corporation: Facebook Inc

Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Facebook Inc; NAICS: 516210, 518210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 29, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2843310174
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-facebook-bowed-pressure-on-covid-posts/docview/2843310174/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2024-12-18
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: First Smart Gun to Hit Market Faces Test

Elinson, Zusha . Elinson, Zusha.

FULL TEXT

Sasha Wiesen sleeps with a .40-caliber handgun in a safe by his bed. The commercial real-estate broker from Florida recently preordered a new type of firearm he hopes will make the safe unnecessary.

The new weapon is the Colorado startup Biofire's 9mm Smart Gun, which can only be fired if it recognizes an authorized user with a fingerprint reader on the grip or a facial recognition camera on the back.

"I'm usually an early adapter," said Wiesen, 46 years old. "It might be the gadget part of me that made me buy it, but it's also the safety aspect."

Guns that use technology to ensure that they can only be fired by their owners, called smart guns, have been developed and debated since the 1990s. The Biofire Smart Gun will be the first widely available for sale if it ships in December as planned.

Proponents tout smart guns as a way to reduce accidental shootings and firearm thefts. Gun-rights supporters have been wary, in part over concern that governments could outlaw sales of weapons that don't have smart-gun technology.

Earlier efforts to bring smart guns to market have failed, largely because of pressure from gun-rights activists or because they didn't work as promised.

As with other technologies such as electric cars that changed long-established products, the question for smart guns is whether they can work at least as well as the traditional versions they replace and find customers behind affluent early adopters.

The Biofire Smart Gun costs $1,499. Similar handguns without high-tech features typically cost between $400 and $800.

Many gun owners remain skeptical about a firearm with high-tech features, said Michael Schwartz, executive director of San Diego County Gun Owners.

"For most of our members, the primary purpose for owning a firearm is self-defense, so simple is better," he said. "It has to be 110% reliable."

Biofire founder Kai Kloepfer, 26, has been working on the technology since he was a teenager. He said he had built the fingerprint and facial-recognition systems so that if one function doesn't work because a person's hands are wet or the person's face isn't yet in view, the other will.

Biofire was founded in 2014 and has raised $30 million in funding from sources including venture capitalist Ron Conway, who has promoted smart-gun technology since the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in 2012, and Peter Thiel's Founders Fund. The school shooting in Newtown, Conn., left 20 children and six adults dead.

Kloepfer said thousands of people had placed preorders for the Smart Gun, which is only available online, but declined to give a specific number.

During a media demonstration earlier this year, the Biofire gun malfunctioned. Kloepfer said the weapon jammed -- but there were no issues with its fingerprint or facial-recognition systems.

Kloepfer said he wasn't a fan of smart-gun mandates, which some gun-control supporters have pushed in an effort to spur sales.

New Jersey has a law, opposed by Second Amendment groups, mandating that all stores offer a smart gun for sale once one hits the market. Kloepfer said he wouldn't submit the Biofire Smart Gun to the state's Personalized Handgun Authorization Commission, which would make the law go into effect. "We've taken a very strong anti-mandate stance for smart guns," he said. "I firmly believe that this has to be a choice."

The firearms manufacturer Colt was among the first companies to develop a smart gun, in the 1990s. The Colt Z-40 was designed to fire only when the shooter wore a bracelet that emitted a coded radio signal. But it didn't work during a demonstration for The Wall Street Journal, and gun owners boycotted the company over its decision to

develop it. The Z-40 never made it to market.
A German company, Armatix, developed a .22-caliber smart pistol in the 2010s that used a radio-frequency identification watch worn by the owner. But gun shops dropped plans to carry it in 2014 after objections from gun-rights activists.
In addition to stressing the pointlessness of smart-gun thefts, advocates for the weapons have argued that they could prevent children from accidentally firing their parents' firearms or teens from using them in school shootings or suicides. A 2003 study by gun-violence researchers found that 37% of accidental shootings could have been prevented by such technology.
A 2019 study by the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health found that gun-owners who already stored their guns safely were 50% more likely to buy a smart gun, suggesting that their impact might be limited. The study also found that while about eight in 10 gun owners supported the sale of smart guns, two in 10 were likely to buy one.
Other startups are working on smart guns. Tom Holland, president of Kansas-based Free State Firearms, said his company was using a radio-frequency identification ring worn by the user.
"When people hear about the fingerprint swipe, it's like, Oh, God, I can't open up my cellphone half the time," Holland said of the technology used by Biofire.
Holland said Free State plans to introduce the gun early next year. He said the weapon is being tested by half a dozen police agencies and that he has received a handful of preorders from consumers.
Wiesen, who previously worked in law enforcement, said he was drawn to the Biofire Smart Gun's customizable aesthetics as much as its safety features. He ordered his in all-white.
"There's something when you're at the range and shooting your gun, there's a cool factor involved," he said.
Credit: By Zusha Elinson

DETAILS

Subject:	School violence; Radio frequency; Firearm laws &regulations; Firearms; High technology
Company / organization:	Name: BioFire Diagnostics Inc; NAICS: 334516
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770960
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-first-smart-gun-hit-market-faces-test/docview/2842770960/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Brazil Denies U.S. Extradition Request for Alleged Spy

Magalhaes, Luciana; Radnofsky, Louise . Magalhaes, Luciana; Radnofsky, Louise.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

SAO PAULO -- Brazil's government has denied a request from the U.S. to extradite alleged Russian spy Sergey Cherkasov, the Justice Ministry said Thursday.

The decision on what to do with the 37-year-old, who was indicted in the U.S. in March, is preliminary and subject to review by Brazilian authorities, a top government official said Thursday. The U.S. has charged Cherkasov with acting as a foreign agent, visa fraud, bank fraud and wire fraud.

Brazilian authorities, who said they didn't immediately notify the U.S. of the decision, declined to elaborate on the reasons for the denial. The U.S. Justice Department declined to comment.

The denial is a blow to hopes that Cherkasov could be included in a prisoner exchange between the U.S. and Russia to free Americans the Biden administration considers wrongfully detained in Russia, including Evan Gershkovich, a reporter for The Wall Street Journal who has been jailed in Moscow's Lefortovo prison for nearly four months.

A U.S. citizen accredited to work as a journalist in Russia, Gershkovich is being held on a charge of espionage that he and the Journal vehemently deny. The Biden administration says Gershkovich isn't a spy, and it has designated him as wrongfully detained.

The extradition denial, reported Wednesday by Brazilian news site Metropoles, comes on the heels of a court ruling Monday to cut Cherkasov's prison sentence -- for document fraud -- from 15 years to five years. The court's reasoning

was that Cherkasov's crime was a single continuous act, rather than different offenses, which entitled him to a shorter sentence.
Brazilian and U.S. authorities say Cherkasov is a native of the Russian city of Kaliningrad. He was arrested in 2022 in Sao Paulo, convicted in the same year and is in a Brasilia prison.
Cherkasov's lawyers told the Journal they have asked the court to let him finish his sentence outside of prison.
Prosecutor Janice Ascari confirmed she was told of the court's decision to reduce his penalty, and said her office might appeal.
The Justice Ministry also said it was suspending plans to carry out Cherkasov's extradition to Russia, which had been conditionally agreed to by Brazil's Supreme Court. Moscow requested his extradition last year, saying he is wanted on drug-trafficking charges.
Cherkasov remains under investigation in Brazil for alleged espionage, Brazil's Supreme Court said. Brazil's justice minister, Flavio Dino, tweeted on the denial of the U.S. extradition request, saying Cherkasov would remain jailed for now. Paulo Ferreira, one of Cherkasov's lawyers, said his client admitted to using false personal documents but denied he is a Russian spy.
Credit: By Luciana Magalhaes and Louise Radnofsky

DETAILS

Subject:	Criminal sentences; Prisons; Espionage; Extradition; Fraud; International relations-US
Location:	Brazil; Russia; United States--US
People:	Cherkasov, Sergey
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770959

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-brazil-denies-u-s-extradition-request/docview/2842770959/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Steve Wynn Agrees To Stay Out of Nevada Gambling

Sayre, Katherine . Sayre, Katherine.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Former casino magnate Steve Wynn, an inventor of the modern Las Vegas Strip, has agreed to an effective ban from Nevada's gambling industry in a settlement over his alleged sexual misconduct against former employees.

Wynn, who resigned as chairman and chief executive of Wynn Resorts in 2018, also has agreed to pay the state a $10 million fine, according to an agreement with Nevada gambling regulators posted on the Nevada Gaming Control Board's website. The Nevada Gaming Commission approved the settlement Thursday.

He left the company after The Wall Street Journal published an article detailing allegations of sexual misconduct by Wynn toward employees. The allegations included that Wynn paid $7.5 million to settle a claim by a manicurist at the Wynn Las Vegas salon who claimed he forced her to have sex. Wynn, 81, sold his remaining stake in Wynn Resorts -- which operates the Wynn and Encore casinos on the Strip -- in March 2018.

Wynn didn't admit to any wrongdoing in the settlement agreement. He has denied the accusations, saying the idea he would ever assault a woman was preposterous.

Wynn and the Nevada Gaming Control Board, the state's investigative unit overseen by the Gaming Commission, signed the settlement agreement July 17. Wynn's attorney, J. Colby Williams, declined to comment Thursday. The settlement only impacts Wynn's dealings in Nevada.

Under the settlement, Wynn must remain "entirely removed from any direct or indirect involvement" with Nevada gambling companies including financing, advertising and consulting.

Nevada gambling regulators have argued that Wynn's alleged misconduct damaged the reputation of the state's most prized industry.

The settlement, which is linked to a complaint filed by the Nevada Gaming Control Board in October 2019, allows for Wynn to have passive ownership of 5% or less in a publicly traded company registered with Nevada gambling regulators.

Regulators sought to revoke Wynn's status as a person suitable to hold a casino license, a key requirement to do business in the industry. Wynn's attorneys challenged the state's authority over him, saying he had already left the industry and was willing to stay out.

Under the new agreement, Wynn could be found unsuitable and be ordered to pay more fines if he violates the terms of the settlement.

The commission also is penalizing Wynn himself, in part because its 2019 investigation found "a pattern of Mr. Wynn recklessly engaging in sexual conduct with subordinate employees, which even if it was consensual as maintained by Mr. Wynn, is oblivious to the significant power imbalance between the CEO of a major gaming company and subordinate employees."

The Nevada Gaming Commission in 2019 levied a $20 million fine against Wynn Resorts -- the largest fine in the state gambling industry's history -- after the company admitted to having ignored complaints by employees.

Credit: By Katherine Sayre

DETAILS

Subject:	Agreements; Gambling industry; Employees; Bans; Settlements &damages; Sex crimes
Business indexing term:	Subject: Gambling industry Employees; Corporation: Wynn Resorts Ltd; Industry: 71329 : Other Gambling Industries
Location:	Nevada; United States--U S
People:	Wynn, Steve (developer)
Company / organization:	Name: Gaming Commission-Nevada; NAICS: 926150; Name: Wynn Resorts Ltd; NAICS: 721120
Classification:	71329: Other Gambling Industries
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper

Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770954
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-steve-wynn-agrees-stay-out-nevada/docview/2842770954/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Meta Squabbles With Researchers on Blame for Polarization

Horwitz, Jeff . Horwitz, Jeff.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A multiyear research collaboration between Meta Platforms and a group of scholars about social media's effects on politics stumbled into a disagreement over the conclusions before the results were even announced.

Four peer-reviewed papers from the research effort were published in the journals Science and Nature on Thursday, the beginning of what is expected to be many more based on data that Meta provided to the independent researchers.

The research examined the role of Meta's Facebook unit in politics during the 2020 election and analyzed questions such as whether the platform plays a role in polarization. Meta has long disputed the claims of those, including some of its own researchers, who say it exacerbates divides in part by how it filters information that people see.

The studies covered in the first four articles had different focuses. They broadly showed the influence that Facebook holds over what information users consume on the platform but said, in part, that it isn't clear such content affects their political views and behavior.

An embargoed statement from Meta said the studies refute accusations that its platforms play a key role in polarizing users and inflaming political discourse. That prompted the company's academic partners, officials at Science and an independent observer brought in to oversee the research effort to say that Meta was overstating or mischaracterizing some of the findings.

Meta said it took issue with the title of Science's print package on the findings, "Wired to Split," which it says falsely characterizes the work. Representatives of the publication said Meta and outside researchers had asked for a question mark to be added to the title to reflect uncertainty, but that the publication considers its presentation of the research to be fair.

Using data gathered over several months around the 2020 U.S. elections, one paper found that Facebook Pages and Groups had played an outsize role in spreading false news stories among American conservatives on the platform.

Others of the studies found that there was no clear effect on users' political opinions or behavior when researchers experimented with changes to how Facebook delivers posts to users. Those experiments included temporarily restricting reshared content in users' feeds, which tend to be more political than those recommended by Facebook's algorithms, and temporarily showing users posts in chronological sequence rather than the algorithmically determined order Facebook usually uses.

Meta said that no other tech company has given researchers similar data access and that the studies added to a growing body of research refuting the idea that "key features of Meta's platforms alone" cause harmful polarization.

That statement was from a blog post by Nick Clegg, Meta's global affairs president, that the company prepared for publishing alongside the findings.

While the research won't settle every debate about social media and democracy, Clegg wrote, the papers published Thursday undermine claims that the company's algorithms "serve people content that keeps them divided."

That characterization of the papers in Meta's statement triggered disagreement.

The leaders of the academics, New York University professor Joshua Tucker and University of Texas at Austin professor Talia Stroud, said that while the studies demonstrated that the simple algorithm tweaks didn't make test subjects less polarized, the papers contained caveats and potential explanations for why such limited alterations conducted in the final months of the 2020 election wouldn't have changed users' overall outlook on politics.

"The conclusions of these papers don't support all of those statements," said Stroud. Clegg's comment is "not the statement we would make."

Science warned Meta earlier this week that it would publicly dispute an assertion that the published studies should be read as largely exonerating Meta of a contributing role in societal divisions, said Meagan Phelan, who oversees the communication of Science's findings.

"The findings of the research suggest Meta algorithms are an important part of what is keeping people divided," Phelan told Meta's communications team Monday, according to an excerpt of her message. She added that one of the studies found that "compared to liberals, politically conservative users were far more siloed in their news sources, driven in part by algorithmic processes."

In response, Meta slightly altered Clegg's blog post but stood by its characterization of the findings, saying disagreements over research interpretation are normal.

Credit: By Jeff Horwitz

DETAILS

Subject:	Research; Researchers; Algorithms; Science; Politics; Social networks; Social research
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social networks; Corporation: Meta Platforms Inc
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Meta Platforms Inc; NAICS: 516210, 518210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770950
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-meta-squabbles-with-researchers-on-blame/docview/2842770950/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW YORK
Syracuse

Diocese Settles
The Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse on Thursday announced a $100 million settlement with people who say they were sexual-abuse victims as part of its bankruptcy proceedings.
Catholic dioceses around the state are dealing with a surge of lawsuits after New York temporarily suspended the statute of limitations to give people who say they were victims of childhood sexual abuse the ability to pursue decades-old allegations.
"I can tell you as shocking as the settlement amount may seem to leaders of our own parishes and other Catholic entities, more appalling and heart-rending to me is the pain and mistreatment experienced by the survivors of child and adult sexual abuse at the hands of those they thought they could trust," Bishop Douglas Lucia wrote in an open letter Thursday.
-- Associated Press

OBITUARY
Original Eagles
Member Dies
Randy Meisner, a founding member of the Eagles who added high harmonies to such favorites as "Take It Easy" and "The Best of My Love" and stepped out front for the waltz-time ballad "Take It to the Limit," has died, the band said Thursday.
Meisner died Wednesday night in Los Angeles of complications from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, the Eagles said. He was 77.
The bassist had endured numerous afflictions in recent years and personal tragedy in 2016 when his wife, Lana Rae Meisner, accidentally shot herself and died. Randy Meisner had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and had severe issues with alcohol, according to court records.
The baby-faced Meisner joined Don Henley, Glenn Frey and Bernie Leadon in the early 1970s to form a quintessential Los Angeles band and one of the most popular acts in history.
-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Sex crimes; Scandals; Sexual abuse
Location:	Los Angeles California; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770940
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2842770940/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: DOJ Launches Probe Into Memphis Police

Timms, Mariah . Timms, Mariah.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The Justice Department will open a sweeping civil-rights investigation into the Memphis Police Department, Attorney General Merrick Garland said Thursday, more than six months after the fatal police beating of Tyre Nichols.
Investigators with the Justice Department's civil-rights division will examine whether Memphis officers routinely violate citizens' rights, including whether the city's police use excessive force, engage in unconstitutional stops, searches and arrests or discriminate based on race.
"These disparities are not new here in Memphis," said Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. "They do warrant a full investigation."
Nichols, a 29-year-old FedEx worker, was pulled over by police on Jan. 7. He died in a Memphis hospital three days later. Body-camera footage released by the city showed Nichols was repeatedly struck by officers.
His death prompted a nationwide call for review of the department.
Memphis police officers regularly escalate interactions with the public, even using excessive force "punitively" when they perceive a citizen to be "insolent," several residents reported to the Justice Department, Clarke said. Citizens also reported a practice of racially discriminatory policing in traffic stops, she said.

Memphis officials said Thursday they will fully cooperate with the investigation.
The department previously said it would examine the role of special police units like the now-disbanded Scorpion crime-fighting unit in Memphis, members of which pulled over Nichols. That review, which stopped short of launching an exhaustive investigation and came at the request of city officials, can yield resources and recommendations for the department. It will go on parallel to the "pattern or practice" probe announced Thursday.
Thursday's announcement could be the first step toward a court-enforceable settlement spelling out specific changes the Memphis police department must make to improve its force, if constitutional violations are found.
Five former Memphis police officers pleaded not guilty in February to second-degree murder and other charges in connection with Nichols's death. Their cases are ongoing.
Credit: By Mariah Timms

DETAILS

Subject:	Excessive force; Attorneys general; Criminal investigations; Murders &murder attempts
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92213 : Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Company / organization:	Name: Police Department-Memphis TN; NAICS: 922120; Name: Department of Justice; NAICS: 922130
Classification:	92213: Legal Counsel and Prosecution
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publicationsubject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770933

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-doj-launches-probe-into-memphis-police/docview/2842770933/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Venezuelans Defy U.S. Border Rules --- Desperate refugees are flocking north to escape dire economic conditions

Hackman, Michelle; Forero, Juan; Perez, Santiago . Hackman, Michelle; Forero, Juan; Perez, Santiago.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

New border-enforcement measures by the Biden administration have decreased illegal crossings, but millions of Venezuelan refugees across Latin America, many of them heading north, still pose a challenge to the U.S.

More than 7.3 million Venezuelans have left their country, making them the biggest refugee group, ahead of Ukrainians and Syrians who fled their war-torn homelands.

About 6.4 million have settled up and down Latin America, a recent report by the Migration Policy Institute shows.

Many are now on the move, escaping Venezuela's economic crisis or the countries where they went, discouraged by a lack of jobs and, in some cases, facing hostility. More than any other nationality, Venezuelans are flowing north through Central America, and many are attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border despite the tougher consequences, government data show.

The number of Venezuelan migrants trekking through Panama's Darien Gap, a crucial corridor for U.S.-bound Venezuelans, is expected to hit 200,000 people this year, 50,000 more than in 2022, according to Panamanian authorities. That would be half of the 400,000 people from all countries that Panamanian migration authorities said they expect this year. Last year the total, including Venezuelans, was 284,000.

"We are running from our country, running to find a livelihood," said Eusebio Castillo, a 41-year-old Venezuelan, at the edge of the Darien Gap recently.

Castillo, headed to the U.S., said he tried to make it in Ecuador and Colombia before giving up. Without working papers, he said, he could barely make ends meet.

"You can't even live day to day. You live a calamity," said Castillo, a former army sergeant. "I want stable work, a dignified job."

The Biden administration's border measures -- a series of carrots and sticks designed to redirect migrants away from the border in favor of several newly created legal options to enter the U.S. -- have overall had the intended effect. Illegal border crossings have dropped since May 11, when a pandemic-era measure known as Title 42 expired.

But a program the administration launched in January targeted at migrants from three autocracies -- Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela -- hasn't worked as well for Venezuelans as it has for the other two nationalities.

Under that program, would-be migrants can apply to move to the U.S. on a two-year work permit as long as they find a private sponsor, a path meant to prove more alluring than trying to cross illegally. Though Venezuelans have made use of that program, 78,000 have still attempted to cross illegally since it was launched, compared with just under 10,000 Cubans and about 5,000 Nicaraguans.

Venezuelan migrants say that attempts to enter illegally reflect their desperation. Migration officials note that many Venezuelans are still fleeing their own country, where poverty afflicts the majority of people and a slight improvement in the economy in 2022 turned out to be short-lived. A de facto dollarized economy makes it hard for poor Venezuelans to make ends meet. The majority of Venezuelans, earning local currency, struggle with inflation that economists say tops 400%.

Others had long considered their displacement temporary, but are now dismissing the idea of going home.

"We're at a moment where many Venezuelans are realizing that they may be displaced forever, and some are looking for opportunities where perhaps life could be a little bit easier in the future," said Andrew Selee, president of the Migration Policy Institute, a nonpartisan Washington, D.C., think tank, and a co-author of its recent report.

As people lose hope of ever being able to return, Selee said, reaching the U.S. is a more appealing option. Jobs are more plentiful and lucrative, making it possible to send money to relatives back in Venezuela, where a third of households rely on remittances to survive, according to the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington. Frozen relations between the two governments mean Venezuelans found ineligible for asylum in the U.S. can't easily be deported to their home country. And the more Venezuelans who succeed in the U.S., Selee said, the more they pass the word on to others hoping to try.

In May, 18-year-old Melany Melesio joined a group of neighbors from her hometown of Maracay in central Venezuela and trudged through the Darien Gap. Five months' pregnant and struggling to get by on the $20 a week she earned as a vendor, she left her country because she said she wants her baby to grow up in the U.S. "I want him to have a better life, an education," she said. "I want to give him everything I never had."

Credit: By Michelle Hackman, Juan Forero and Santiago Perez

DETAILS

Subject:	Migration; Employment; Noncitizens; Immigration policy; Refugees; Border patrol; Economic conditions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Employment Economic conditions
Location:	United States--US; Venezuela; Latin America; Darien Gap
Company / organization:	Name: Migration Policy Institute; NAICS: 813940
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspap er
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770926
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-venezuelans-defy-u-s-border-rules/docview/2842770926/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-05-21
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: In St. Petersburg, Putin Courts African Leaders At High-Profile Summit

Simmons, Ann M; Steinhauser, Gabriele . Simmons, Ann M; Steinhauser, Gabriele.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

At a two-day meeting in St. Petersburg that began Thursday with top officials from dozens of African nations, Russian President Vladimir Putin is under pressure to reassure some of Russia's closest allies that his war in Ukraine hasn't

compromised the Kremlin's ability to provide military and political support to the continent.
Putin is meeting with officials from 49 African nations, according to the Kremlin -- a summit that comes at a particularly delicate time for Russian-African relations.
While Putin has looked to some African nations as crucial allies in the face of Western isolation, a recent threat to his leadership at home and his decision last week to withdraw from an international deal that facilitated grain exports from Ukraine could erode that relationship.
Meanwhile, Moscow could struggle to retain its status as the biggest supplier of munitions to African nations given the enormous demands the Ukraine conflict is placing on the Russian arms industry.
These pressures come as both the U.S. and China are working to increase their influence on the continent. Indeed, Chinese and U.S. trade and investment in Africa far outstrips that from Russia, whose much smaller economy is now further constrained by Western sanctions and the war effort.
"Since the invasion of Ukraine and sanctions . . . we have seen Russia really ramp up its engagement in Africa," said Joseph Siegle, director of research at the National Defense University's Africa Center for Strategic Studies in Washington, D.C. "The summit is a very high-profile opportunity and symbol to show that Russia isn't isolated, it maintains many friends and can conduct business as usual."
Relations between Africa and Moscow have shifted in the wake of the war, with many African nations reluctant to condemn the invasion -- a conflict that has weighed on the economies of some poor countries.
Some African nations -- that share in Putin's antagonism to a U.S.-led world order -- are eager to buttress Moscow in return for its continued support of their autocratic regimes. Others have adopted a neutral stance on the war, similar to many developing countries worldwide.
At the United Nations, African countries have been split on whether to support or abstain on various resolutions condemning Russia's aggression in Ukraine.
The gathering is conspicuously smaller than the 2019 Russian-African summit. More than 40 heads of state attended that meeting, compared with 17 the Kremlin said are attending this week.
The current summit, initially scheduled for four days, was shortened to two days. Roscongress, the event's organizer, didn't respond to a request for comment to explain the reason for the truncated agenda.
Earlier this month, Putin pulled out of a summit with other major emerging markets set to be hosted by South Africa in August because of a warrant for his arrest for alleged war crimes in Ukraine issued by the International Criminal Court. South Africa would have been obliged to arrest him upon his arrival.
The fate of a U.N.-brokered grain deal will be a central topic at the summit. Last week, Russia pulled out of the agreement with Ukraine and Turkey that permitted Ukraine -- one of the biggest producers of farm goods -- to ship corn, wheat, sunflower oil and other goods from its ports.
Russia's withdrawal caused wheat futures prices to rise 3.4% to $6.84 a bushel in Chicago and rattled African nations that have struggled with food insecurity and soaring agricultural prices since the 2022 start of the Ukraine war.
Credit: By Ann M. Simmons and Gabriele Steinhauser

DETAILS

Subject:	Summit conferences; International relations
Business indexing term:	Subject: International relations
Location:	Africa; Russia; United States--US; South Africa; Ukraine
People:	Putin, Vladimir
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.

First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770925
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-st-petersburg-putin-courts-african/docview/2842770925/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to use rs, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: High Court Says Work On Pipeline Can Restart

Harrison, David . Harrison, David.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Supreme Court said work can resume on the long-stalled Mountain Valley Pipeline, temporarily blocking a lower-court decision and potentially moving the project closer to completion as a legal fight continues.

Earlier this month, at the request of environmental groups, the Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in Richmond, Va., halted work on the project while it sorted out whether it could still rule on challenges to the project.

A provision in the bipartisan debt-ceiling bill signed into law last month stripped the lower court of its jurisdiction over the natural-gas pipeline and mandated that it be completed. The provision fulfilled a longstanding goal of Sen. Joe Manchin (D., W.Va.).

Following the bill's enactment, the company behind the pipeline, Equitrans Midstream, asked the Fourth Circuit to dismiss two pending lawsuits against the pipeline.

The environmental groups behind the suits argued that stopping legal challenges before the Fourth Circuit violated the constitutional principle of separation of powers, in effect giving Congress the power to decide the outcome of judicial proceedings.

The Fourth Circuit agreed to pause the project while it sorted out the effect of the debt-ceiling law, prompting Equitrans Midstream to seek the Supreme Court's intervention.

As is typical in emergency orders, the Supreme Court didn't explain its ruling. There were no noted dissents.

The order didn't dismiss the legal challenges to the pipeline entirely, allowing project opponents to continue making their case before the Fourth Circuit. The appellate court was scheduled to hold a hearing on the topic Thursday.

The 303-mile Mountain Valley Pipeline in West Virginia and Virginia has aroused controversy ever since it first was proposed almost a decade ago. Opponents, including adjacent landowners and environmental groups, have challenged the project's environmental permits, delaying the project for years.

Last year, the Biden administration struck a deal with Manchin: He would agree to provide the pivotal vote for the administration's climate bill, and in exchange the White House and Senate Democratic leaders would support Manchin's efforts to get the pipeline finished.

"The Supreme Court has spoken and this decision to let construction of the Mountain Valley Pipeline move forward again is the correct one," Manchin tweeted in response to the ruling. "I am relieved that the highest court in the land has upheld the law Congress passed and the president signed."

Credit: By David Harrison

DETAILS

Subject:	Pipelines; Supreme Court decisions
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Equitrans Midstream Corp; NAICS: 486210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.

Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770921
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-high-court-says-work-on-pipeline-can/docview/2842770921/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: House Panel, Zuckerberg Spar Over Documents

Ryan, Tracy . Ryan, Tracy.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The GOP-led House Judiciary Committee on Thursday threatened a vote on whether to recommend holding Meta Platforms' Mark Zuckerberg in contempt of Congress unless he turned over internal company documents, part of a long-running debate about the proper relationship between government officials and social-media companies. Republicans say Meta and other social-media companies are censoring conservative views, sometimes under pressure from the government. Democrats say the government must work with the companies to respond to election manipulation and other threats. The tensions have already led to a court fight that threatens to upend how the

government and social-media companies deal with perceived online threats. Meta, the owner of Facebook and Instagram, now finds itself front and center of that debate.

On Thursday afternoon, Rep. Jim Jordan (R., Ohio) said in a tweet that the vote had been canceled because Meta had begun producing documents. "To be clear, contempt is still on the table and WILL be used if Facebook fails to cooperate in FULL," he said.

Jordan, chair of the Judiciary Committee, late last year asked Meta to turn over internal documents about its content-moderation decisions -- often controversial calls about whether to ban accounts or suppress posts. The panel issued a subpoena for the documents in February.

Meta said Wednesday it has "delivered over 53,000 pages of documents -- both internal and external -- and have made nearly a dozen current and former employees available to discuss external and internal matters, including some scheduled this very week."

Republicans say the company has been withholding internal communications between Meta employees about how to respond when the government asked it to take down or suppress certain content. The company started turning over some of those documents Thursday, Jordan said.

Credit: By Ryan Tracy

DETAILS

Subject:	Social networks; Contempt of Congress
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social networks; Corporation: Meta Platforms Inc
People:	Zuckerberg, Mark
Company / organization:	Name: Meta Platforms Inc; NAICS: 516210, 518210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.7
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2842770914
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-house-panel-zuckerberg-spar-over/docview/2842770914/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Defense Bill Is Passed by Senate

Wise, Lindsay; Levien, Simon J . Wise, Lindsay; Levien, Simon J.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The Democratic-led Senate passed its version of the annual defense-policy bill with broad bipartisan support, putting the legislation on a collision course with the Republican-controlled House, which narrowly voted earlier this month to add contentious provisions that would restrict abortion access and transgender healthcare for troops.

The vote was 86-11.

"What's happening in the Senate is a stark contrast to the partisan race to the bottom we saw in the House, where House Republicans are pushing partisan legislation that has zero chance of passing," said Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D., N.Y.), ahead of the Senate vote. Schumer noted that the Senate process included votes on 98 amendments, many of them bipartisan.

"This is really important for our country," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.).

The Senate's National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2024, or NDAA, does share some central similarities with the House-passed version: Both would authorize $886 billion in spending on national security, including a 5.2% pay raise for service members and the Defense Department's civilian workforce, and green light $300 million in security assistance for Ukraine.

But senators largely sidestepped the polarizing social issues that had roiled the House a few weeks earlier, when members of the ultraconservative Freedom Caucus demanded and won amendment votes related to abortion and transgender care for service members.

Both amendments narrowly passed the House, mostly along party lines. One would overturn a Pentagon policy allowing troops leave and travel funds for reproductive healthcare -- including abortion -- and the other would prevent the Defense Department or Tricare, the military's healthcare program, from providing gender-related

surgeries and hormone treatments for transgender people.
Lawmakers will work behind closed doors to negotiate a compromise that combines the House and Senate NDAAs.

Charles Hutzler, Ryan Tracy, Andrew Duehren and Kristina Peterson contributed to this article.
Credit: By Lindsay Wise and Simon J. Levien

DETAILS

Subject:	Bipartisanship; Abortion; Transgender persons; Defense spending
Company / organization:	Name: Department of Defense; NAICS: 928110; Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770912
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-defense-bill-is-passed-senate/docview/2842770912/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Courtroom Reversal Raises Hunter Biden's Legal Peril --- GOP relishes judge's refusal to sign off on plea deal; Democrats play down the delay

Gurman, Sadie . Gurman, Sadie.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A federal judge's upending of Hunter Biden's plans to wind up his legal troubles before his father's 2024 re-election campaign has heightened the legal peril for President Biden's son and could give the president's political opponents fresh ammunition in their scrutiny of the first family.

In an extraordinary courtroom drama, the judge expressed concerns about a proposed plea deal under which the younger Biden would have likely served no prison time in exchange for a guilty plea on two tax charges, and avoided a gun charge by agreeing to remain drug-free and never own a firearm again.

Instead of the carefully choreographed way most plea deals roll out, U.S. District Judge Maryellen Noreika refused to approve either the tax or the gun agreement, saying they contained "atypical provisions" and needed further study. And Justice Department lawyers left open the possibility that the president's son could face additional charges, including related to his foreign lobbying, prompting a disagreement with defense attorneys.

The Justice Department has long been investigating whether Hunter Biden or a Ukrainian consulting firm, Burisma, that hired him should have registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act. But prosecutors have faced challenges in pursuing any such charges, including that Hunter Biden routinely hired third parties, such as lobbying and law firms, rather than getting personally involved in making things happen in Washington.

The issue of whether the Justice Department would continue to press such issues or whether his plea agreement meant the end of legal scrutiny for Hunter Biden came to a head at Wednesday's hearing. During a brief recess, Biden's lawyer, Chris Clark, could be heard telling prosecutor Leo Wise: "OK, then rip it up. We didn't realize what we were agreeing to."

After a five-year investigation and with a plea agreement signed weeks ago, the two sides entered the courtroom on very different pages. When Noreika asked what would happen if she rejected the plea, Wise said they would try Biden on the tax charges and raised the possibility of additional charges related to his taxes.

"I am not aware of any additional charges that could validly be brought," Clark, told the judge. "We've spent five years in meeting after meeting -- 10-hour meetings -- going through my client's taxes on a line-by-line basis, and this was the disposition both parties came to."

The judge asked if the continuing investigation could yield additional charges such as violations of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

"Yes," Wise replied.

Noreika gave both sides 30 days to provide additional information. At that point, Biden could plead guilty and formalize the agreements he had negotiated. If the judge declines to approve the deal, he would likely proceed to a court trial.

White House spokeswoman Karine Jean-Pierre said President Biden wouldn't pardon his son. She declined to

comment further on the case or any contact between the president and his son. "I'm just not going to speak to any private conversation that the president has with his family," Jean-Pierre said.
Democrats played down the delay in Hunter Biden's case. "No one should interfere with this politically, ideologically, and let justice go forward," said Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D., N.Y.).
Rep. James Comer (R., Ky.), who chairs the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, praised Noreika's refusal to sign off on the agreement. "I've been saying for days that the judge should reject the plea deal. It's obvious that the president's son committed many more crimes than what he was charged by the U.S. attorney of Delaware," Comer said Wednesday. Comer pledged to double down on the investigation he is conducting from his Oversight position into the Biden family.
"There are a lot of folks who don't like the deal, and that initial reaction might have heightened the prosecutors' unwillingness to really say this is a package deal that settles everything," said Douglas A. Berman, a law professor at the Ohio State University.
On Monday, Hunter Biden's onetime business associate Devon Archer is expected to be interviewed by the Oversight committee. A person close to Archer expected him to testify that Joe Biden wasn't substantially involved in any of Hunter Biden's business dealings. The committee has been focused on the financial dealings of the president and his family. The White House has repeatedly said the president and his son were never in business together.
Republicans have sought to show that foreign governments and foreign interests funneled money to Joe Biden via his son in an attempt to buy influence. Hunter Biden received more than $8 million from 2014 to 2019 from Ukraine, China and Romania, according to IRS officials.
Credit: By Sadie Gurman in Wilmington, Del., and Annie Linskey and Byron Tau in Washington

DETAILS

Subject:	Agreements; Criminal pleas; Presidents; Court hearings &proceedings; Plea bargaining; Criminal investigations; Lobbying; Firearms; Congressional committees; Federal court decisions
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 92112 : Legislative Bodies
Location:	United States--US
People:	Biden, Hunter; Biden, Joseph R Jr
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 92112: Legislative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States

Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770911
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-courtroom-reversal-raises-hunter-bidens/docview/2842770911/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Norfolk Southern Doubles Ohio Derailment Costs

Fung, Esther . Fung, Esther.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Norfolk Southern raised its estimate on costs associated with the East Palestine, Ohio, train derailment to $803 million, a move that sent its profit sharply lower in the second quarter.

The updated cost forecast Thursday was more than double the estimate that the Atlanta-based railroad operator provided earlier this year.

Executives said that the bulk of the costs are from the environmental cleanup, and added that there might be additional legal costs, fines and penalties in the coming quarters. These are difficult to estimate, they said.

"This is going to take a little bit more time," said Mark George, chief financial officer of Norfolk Southern, during an earnings conference call. "We've got a lot more visibility now than we did in [the first quarter]."

On Feb. 3, dozens of railcars, including some tankers carrying hazardous materials, derailed in East Palestine, just miles from the Ohio-Pennsylvania border. The accident spawned a complex cleanup and environmental-monitoring

effort that involves local, state and federal agencies.
George said that the company expects cleanup activity to continue into October, and then moderate after that. So far, the company said it has paid $287 million in derailment-related costs.
Norfolk Southern said it is making claims from its insurance policies and seeking recoveries from other parties.
In late June, the company sued a number of parties in federal court, including the chemical shipper and the owners of railcars that derailed. Federal transportation-safety investigators have said an overheated wheel bearing on a railcar was the likely cause of the derailment. The complaint "seeks to ensure that others responsible for the safe transport of their railcars and their chemicals contribute resources to the effort."
In the most recent quarter, Norfolk's profit from railway operations fell by more than half to $576 million from the prior year. Revenue dropped 8% to $3 billion, missing analysts' expectations of $3.1 billion, Norfolk Southern added.
The company's shares rose less than 1% Thursday.

Sabela Ojea contributed to this article.
Credit: By Esther Fung

DETAILS

Subject:	Fines &penalties; Insurance policies; Costs; Railroad accidents &safety
Business indexing term:	Subject: Insurance policies Costs Railroad accidents &safety; Corporation: Norfolk Southern Corp
Location:	United States--US; Ohio
Company / organization:	Name: Norfolk Southern Corp; NAICS: 482111
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2842770909
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-norfolk-southern-doubles-ohio/docview/2842770909/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Grimace Shake Is a Frozen Asset, Powering McDonald's Sales Rise

Haddon, Heather . Haddon, Heather.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Grimace delivered for McDonald's.

A meal celebrating the "birthday" of the retro purple mascot last month helped drive McDonald's U.S. same-store sales up 10.3% in its second quarter from a year earlier.

Consumers trying the meal's Grimace shake and then posting video clips of their reactions on TikTok translated into a surprising boost for the chain, according to McDonald's. The burger company has outperformed many of its U.S. rivals this year with new marketing campaigns and a focus on core menu items such as burgers and chicken.

McDonald's said menu price increases and more customer orders also helped boost its U.S. sales.

Chain executives Thursday, however, said that the macroeconomic picture remains challenging around the world, with inflation hurting restaurant operators and customers.

"There continues to be a lot of pressure on consumers," McDonald's chief financial officer Ian Borden told investors Thursday.

Company shares closed up 1.2% to $295.19.

Inflation is still high but starting to moderate for McDonald's restaurants, the company said. U.S. prices remain elevated from before the pandemic after restaurants pushed through increases last year in response to escalating costs for food, materials and labor, McDonald's said.

McDonald's said it is planning to build more restaurants this year and is experimenting with new types of formats. The chain said Thursday that it would start a new concept, called CosMc's, named after an alien mascot featured in past McDonald advertisements. McDonald's will open some of the smaller-format sites in a handful of areas early next year, the company said.

The burger company's U.S. sales during its second quarter benefited from a tribute meal to Grimace, which turned 52 years old on June 12. Videos of customers drinking the signature Grimace Milkshake and pretending to die went viral, with posts tagged #grimaceshake generating billions of views on TikTok.

The chain has had recent successes with its marketing and meals tied to celebrities. Its Cactus Plant Flea Market Box, a Happy Meal geared toward adults, generated U.S. sales last year.

Chicago-based McDonald's on Thursday reported net income of $2.3 billion for the quarter ended June 30, up 94% from a year earlier. Earnings per share were $3.17 when adjusting for charges related to layoffs conducted by McDonald's earlier this year and other one-time items. Analysts polled by FactSet expected $2.78 a share.

The burger company reported $6.5 billion in sales for the most recent quarter, exceeding analysts' expectations of $6.3 billion.

Credit: By Heather Haddon

DETAILS

Subject:	Stock prices; Sales; Restaurants; Mascots
Business indexing term:	Subject: Stock prices Sales Restaurants; Corporation: McDonalds Corp; Industry: 72251 : Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: McDonalds Corp; NAICS: 533110, 722513; Name: TikTok Inc; NAICS: 518210
Classification:	72251: Restaurants and Other Eating Places
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2842770902
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-grimace-shake-is-frozen-asset/docview/2842770902/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Short Burst Of Exercise Cuts Risks For Cancer

Abbott, Brianna . Abbott, Brianna.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

To reduce your cancer risk, you don't need to make it all the way to the gym: You could start by bringing in the groceries.

People who recorded just under four minutes of daily vigorous movement had a roughly 17% reduced cancer risk compared with people who didn't log any high-intensity movement, a study published in the journal JAMA Oncology concluded. The link was stronger for cancers in which exercise has previously been connected to lower risks, including breast, colon, endometrial and bladder cancer.

The study followed more than 22,000 people who reported that they didn't exercise but logged minute-long bursts of activity such as walking uphill or carrying shopping bags. It adds to evidence tying physical activity to better health, even when the movement is modest.

"Short bursts of vigorous activity are clearly important for cancer risk at the population level," said Elizabeth Salerno, a biobehavioral scientist at the Siteman Cancer Center at Washington University in St. Louis, who wasn't involved in the research. "It's never too late to get moving in small ways, whether that be parking farther away at the store or taking the stairs."

Study participants who moved vigorously during the day might have beenat lower risk for cancer to begin with, said William McCarthy, adjunct professor of health policy and management at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, who wasn't involved in the study.

"I would not assume that adults adverse to structured physical activity should be satisfied with running up the stairs several times a day as an effective cancer-prevention alternative," he said.

Exercise has been linked to lower risk of several cancers, and health groups recommend adults get at least 150

minutes of moderate exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous exercise each week to see a benefit.
Researchers used activity data from UK Biobank, a database of health information from people in the U.K., including data from wearable fitness trackers. The average age of the 22,000 nonexercisers in the study was 62.
Credit: By Brianna Abbott

DETAILS

Subject:	Exercise; Physical fitness; Cancer
Location:	United Kingdom--UK
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770898
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-short-burst-exercise-cuts-risks-cancer/docview/2842770898/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Senate Republicans Back McConnell After Health Issue

Wise, Lindsay . Wise, Lindsay.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republicans closed ranks around Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, brushing off questions about his ability to continue in his job after he froze for about 20 seconds at a press conference on Wednesday.

The incident had raised concerns about the well-being of the 81-year-old Kentucky Republican, who has been Senate Republican leader since 2007. In January, he became the longest serving Senate leader in history, having driven the party's policy priorities and political strategy through more than 16 turbulent years of intense polarization on Capitol Hill.

Recently, McConnell has been laser focused on promoting aid for Ukraine in its war with Russia, and has tried to steer the Republican Party away from the America-first isolationism championed by former President Donald Trump.

At his weekly press conference on Wednesday, McConnell stopped speaking abruptly and briefly left before returning to take questions. He said he was fine and laughed at a question about who might succeed him as leader. Later, he met with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R., Calif.), attended a Major League Baseball reception, returned to the Senate floor for votes and chatted with colleagues. On Thursday, he met with the prime minister of Italy, gave a speech on the Senate floor, voted, met with constituents and attended lunch with other GOP senators.

McConnell suffered a concussion in March, which resulted from a fall at a hotel during a private dinner. McConnell also suffered a rib fracture. His office declined to comment Thursday on whether McConnell had seen a doctor after the Wednesday incident. It also declined to comment on media reports that he has fallen two previous times, but confirmed that McConnell, who had polio as a child, sometimes uses a wheelchair at the airport as a precaution in crowded spaces.

"He's still playing four dimensional chess up here when it comes to politics, and I think he's in amazing shape, all things considered, right now," said Sen. Roger Marshall (R., Kan.), an obstetrician-gynecologist.

Sen. Bill Cassidy (R., La.) said he is not aware of any conversations in the Republican conference to plan a post-McConnell era.

Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R., Wyo.) said McConnell hasn't given his colleagues any sign that he is on his way out, and she said there is no need to talk about replacing him. "I fully support him," Lummis said. "I know that when he feels that he wants to throw in the towel, he'll let us know, and I have complete confidence that he is going to keep us informed."

Even some Republican senators who have been known to butt heads with McConnell wouldn't say he should step aside because of his age or health.

Sen. Rick Scott (R., Fla.), who unsuccessfully challenged McConnell as leader in November, stayed away from speculation about future leadership. Asked whether he is still interested in the Senate GOP leader job, Scott said, "I'm not thinking about that right now. I've got an election."

"I didn't vote for him for leader, so you know, if you're asking me what my preference is, my preference would be for different leadership," said Sen. Josh Hawley (R., Mo.), who voted for Scott over McConnell last year. "But that doesn't

really have anything to do with his health at the moment," Hawley said.
Credit: By Lindsay Wise

DETAILS

Subject:	Press conferences; Political leadership
Business indexing term:	Industry: 81394 : Political Organizations
People:	McConnell, Mitch
Company / organization:	Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120; Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	81394: Political Organizations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770897
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-senate-republicans-back-mcconnell-after/docview/2842770897/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World-Wide

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Trump and his aides sought to have surveillance footage from Mar-a-Lago deleted so it couldn't be turned over to a grand jury, special counsel Smith alleged in new charges related to the former president's retention of classified documents after he left the White House.

This week's military coup in Niger threatens to disrupt the entire U.S. strategy for fighting Islamist militants as they expand across western Africa, and potentially hand Russia a strategic advantage as it tries to widen its own influence in the region.

Russia opened a two-day meeting in St. Petersburg with top officials from dozens of African nations as Moscow looks to reassure allies about its support for the continent.

The Senate passed its version of the annual defense-policy bill with broad bipartisan support, putting the legislation on a collision course with the House, which narrowly voted earlier this month to add contentious provisions.

The Justice Department will open a sweeping civil-rights investigation into the Memphis Police Department, Garland said, more than six months after the fatal police beating of Tyre Nichols.

Brazil's government has denied a request from the U.S. to extradite alleged Russian spy Sergey Cherkasov, the country's Justice Ministry said.

The Supreme Court said work can resume on the long-stalled Mountain Valley Pipeline, overturning a lower-court ruling and potentially moving the project closer to completion as a legal fight continues.

DETAILS

Location:	Russia; United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770892
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2842770892/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2024-10-11
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: ECB Raises Interest Rate to 22-Year High

Fairless, Tom . Fairless, Tom.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

FRANKFURT -- The European Central Bank raised its key interest rate by a quarter percentage point but signaled it might soon pause its yearlong campaign of rate increases, sending the euro tumbling.

The ECB's rate rise, its ninth in a row, took the bank's deposit rate to a 22-year high of 3.75% from below zero a year ago. It echoed a quarter-point raise by the Federal Reserve a day earlier, though eurozone rates remain clearly below the Fed's benchmark rate of 5.25% to 5.5%.

The ECB's signaling underlines the dilemma it faces compared with the Fed. Inflation is higher in the eurozone than in the U.S., and growth is much weaker, partly reflecting the shock of Russia's war in Ukraine. The ECB needs to balance the risk that inflation stays too high for too long against the threat of recession, which has stalked the bloc for months.

The euro tumbled more than a cent against the dollar, to just below $1.10, and the yields on eurozone government debt fell, as investors concluded that the ECB would be cautious about further rate rises. The euro's slide was exacerbated by data showing the U.S. economy grew faster than expected last quarter, which lifted the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies.

ECB President Christine Lagarde acknowledged that the outlook for the eurozone economy has deteriorated, particularly in the manufacturing sector. "We have an open mind as to what decisions will be in September and subsequent meetings," Lagarde said.

That ambiguity reflects the uncertainty facing Europe's central bankers as the growth outlook darkens, inflation declines at different speeds in different places, and past rate increases hit household and business spending with a lag.

Around the world, central banks are signaling that interest rates are approaching a peak after more than a year of aggressive rate increases. But they are wary of declaring victory over inflation, which has proven a more stubborn foe than expected in the past two years.

While the U.S. economy is growing robustly, the eurozone has been stalling since late 2022. Business surveys point to more pain ahead, especially in Germany, the currency area's largest economy. Bank lending is deteriorating, with demand for business loans at a low.

Europe's economic headwinds should help tame inflation, which declined to 5.5% in the eurozone in June, the lowest level in nearly 18 months, though still far above the ECB's target of 2%.

Credit: By Tom Fairless

DETAILS

Subject:	Inflation; Interest rates; Central banks; American dollar; Eurozone; Monetary policy
Business indexing term:	Subject: Inflation Interest rates Central banks American dollar Eurozone Monetary policy; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Location:	United States--US; Europe
Company / organization:	Name: European Central Bank; NAICS: 521110
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770886
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-ecb-raises-interest-rate-22-year-high/docview/2842770886/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publi cation may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business &Finance

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Faster economic growth in the U.S. this spring raises the prospect of a longer postpandemic expansion despite the Fed pushing interest rates higher. GDP grew at a 2.4% annual rate in the second quarter, topping expectations.

The ECB raised its key interest rate by a quarter percentage point but signaled it might soon pause its yearlong campaign of rate increases, sending the euro tumbling.

U.S. regulators plan to make large banks bolster their financial footing, moves that could have an outsize effect on companies that rely on types of fee income targeted by the new rules.

The EU opened an antitrust probe into whether Microsoft is abusing its dominant position by bundling its Teams videoconferencing app with its Office productivity software.

The Dow fell 0.7%., ending a streak of 13 consecutive winning sessions, while the S&P 500 and Nasdaq retreated 0.6% and 0.5%, respectively.

Sequoia Capital pared back the size of two major venture funds, including its cryptocurrency fund, as part of a downsizing the firm is undertaking amid a broad startup downturn.

Intel swung to a quarterly profit after two quarters of record losses, boosted by a turnaround in the PC market.

Ford raised its profit outlook for the year but warned of steeper-than-expected losses in its EV business.

Volkswagen is investing $700 million for about 5% of Chinese EV maker XPeng. VW cut its delivery targets as supply-chain issues persist.

DETAILS

Subject:	Profits
Business indexing term:	Subject: Profits
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
column:	Business &Finance
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770885
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-amp-finance/docview/2842770885/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Microsoft Draws Scrutiny Over Hack --- A breach disclosed this month allowed China to spy on top American officials

Volz, Dustin; McMillan, Robert . Volz, Dustin; McMillan, Robert.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Microsoft is attracting renewed scrutiny and accusations of negligent security over a hack that allowed China to spy on top Biden administration officials, as some security researchers say the breach may be worse than initially suspected.

The Chinese hack, disclosed earlier this month, compromised the unclassified Microsoft email inboxes of senior State Department officials, including the U.S. ambassador to China, as well as Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo and others, according to U.S. officials.

Full details about the attack, including how it began, aren't publicly known, but it has prompted a number of congressional inquiries. On Thursday a leading lawmaker on cybersecurity issues, Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), asked for three separate federal probes of Microsoft's "negligent cybersecurity practices" that he said enabled a Chinese espionage campaign against the U.S. government.

"Even with the limited details that have been made public so far, Microsoft bears significant responsibility for this new incident," Wyden said in the letter, which is addressed to Attorney General Merrick Garland, Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan and Jen Easterly, the director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.
Microsoft said the hackers obtained access to an obscure but critical part of its infrastructure called an MSA digital signing key, which was then used to gain access to customer data. The company has explained aspects of the hack in blog posts but said how it unfolded is currently unknown. The tech company also said it would make certain tools that can help spot cyberattacks free, after its tiered payment system for those services drew criticism following the hack.
A Microsoft spokesman said that the company is working with government agencies and is committed to sharing information aboutthe hack. "This incident demonstrates the evolving challenges of cybersecurity in the face of sophisticated attacks," he said.
"These signing keys are the most precious secret that you have," said Ami Luttwak, co-founder of the cloud-security company Wiz, in an interview. "It's like you have a printing machine to all of the passports in the world: You can become anyone that you want."
Researchers at Wiz said that the digital key that was obtained had been issued in 2016 and wasn't taken out of service until a few weeks after the attack was discovered.
The Microsoft spokesman said the Wiz findings presented "hypothetical attack scenarios" that the company hasn't observed.
MSA keys can be used to gain access to Microsoft's consumer products, but because of a flaw in Microsoft's cloud, the hackers were able to use the stolen key to access government and corporate accounts, according to Microsoft.
Security experts and Wyden questioned several Microsoft practices, including apparently allowing the same MSA key to be used for years.
"Federal cybersecurity guidelines, industry best practices, and Microsoft's own recommendations to customers, dictate that encryption keys be refreshed more frequently, for the very reason that they might become compromised," Wyden said.
Digital certificates also played a role in Russia's SolarWinds hack, discovered in 2020. Wyden also faulted Microsoft for its role in that incident.
Although experts praised Microsoft for providing some details about the Chinese hack, some have called for more disclosure, saying it is needed to determine the extent of the damage and whether it could happen again.
"My concern here is that we don't know how the key got away," said Karim El-Melhaoui, principal security architect with security company O3 Cyber.
In his letter, reviewed by the Journal, Wyden asked the Justice Department to investigate whether Microsoft violated federal law relating to cybersecurity standards for government contractors. He also asked the FTC to investigate Microsoft's privacy and data-security practices, including whether the alleged security lapses at issue in the hack began before the expiration in December of a 20-year consent decree the agency imposed following an earlier security incident.
Finally, the senator asked the Cyber Safety Review Board to review the cyber-espionage campaign and why Microsoft's apparent security shortfalls weren't previously discovered by government audits.
"Holding Microsoft responsible for its negligence will require a whole-of-government effort," Wyden said.
The letter is the latest effort by lawmakers and cybersecurity experts to gain a fuller understanding of the hack, allegedly state-sponsored. U.S. officials have sought to play it down as routine espionage between adversarial nations.
Some cybersecurity specialists have deemed it an unusually powerful and impressive compromise of Microsoft's cloud-based email infrastructure. A separate bipartisan letter signed by 14 senators, sent Wednesday and earlier reported by Newsweek, asked the State Department's chief information officer for an unclassified briefing on the hack by early September.
Wiz believes that the hackers could have been able to steal data in addition to emails, such as Microsoft Teams chat

messages and SharePoint documents.
The U.S. hasn't formally linked the attack to China, though Microsoft attributed it to a Chinese hacking group and officials and lawmakers have said Beijing is responsible. China has denied the allegations.
Credit: By Dustin Volz and Robert McMillan

DETAILS

Subject:	Electronic mail systems; Infrastructure; Hackers; Espionage; Negligence; Cybercrime; Cybersecurity
Business indexing term:	Subject: Infrastructure; Corporation: Microsoft Corp
Location:	China; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Microsoft Corp; NAICS: 334610, 513210; Name: Federal Trade Commission--FTC; NAICS: 926150
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770879
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-microsoft-draws-scrutiny-over-hack/docview/2842770879/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-06-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: China and Russia Help Kim Mark Korean War Anniversary

Yoon, Dasl . Yoon, Dasl.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

SEOUL -- North Korea welcomed senior officials from China and Russia to celebrate the anniversary of the end of armed conflict in the Korean War, the latest expression of the three countries' tightening bonds as the U.S. military boosts its presence in the region.

Thursday marked the 70th anniversary of the truce that ended three years of fighting in the Korean War. North Korea held an evening military parade in downtown Pyongyang, where the country flaunted its latest intercontinental ballistic missile, dubbed the Hwasong-18, and other new advances, state media reported.

As part of the celebrations, Kim Jong Un, North Korea's 39-year-old dictator, welcomed groups this week led by Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and a Chinese Politburo member, Li Hongzhong. All three attended the military parade.

North Korea had sealed off its borders since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. The only outsider formally allowed into the country since then was the new Chinese ambassador to Pyongyang, who came earlier this year. Even North Korean nationals, such as laborers in Russia, have been prevented from entering their home country because of pandemic fears.

Facing an increasing U.S. military presence in the region, Pyongyang has deepened its alignment with Beijing and Moscow for a much-needed economic lifeline and a shield against international punishment for its illegal weapons tests. China, Russia and North Korea increasingly have stuck up for each other, as they increase confrontations with the U.S. and its allies.

Despite North Korea launching more than 100 ballistic missiles since last year, China and Russia have blocked U.S.-led efforts at the United Nations Security Council for additional sanctions.

On July 27, 1953, the U.S.-led United Nations Command, North Korea and China signed the armistice that ended military hostilities in the Korean War. A peace treaty wasn't signed, meaning the North and South technically remain at war.

In Pyongyang's account, the country fended off an invasion by U.S. forces, with July 27 celebrated as "Victory Day." But U.S. and South Korean historical records show North Korean leader Kim Il Sung initiated an attack on the South. The Chinese army, aided by the Soviet air force, backed North Korea during the war.

South Korea doesn't consider July 27 to be a holiday, referring to it as the anniversary of the armistice.
Credit: By Dasl Yoon

DETAILS

Subject:	Korean War; Pandemics; Armed forces; Anniversaries
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92811 : National Security
Location:	North Korea; China; Russia; United States--US
Classification:	92811: National Security
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.16
Publication year:	2023
Publicationdate:	Jul 28, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842770877
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-china-russia-help-kim-mark-korean-war/docview/2842770877/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28

Database: ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Climate Change Hits Mediterranean Farms --- Rising sea levels, dry spells and heat waves are disrupting food production

Stancati, Margherita; Dalton, Matthew . Stancati, Margherita; Dalton, Matthew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

EBRO DELTA, Spain -- So much seawater is seeping into the paddy fields of this rice-growing region that Montserrat Servulo is considering replacing at least some of the crop with seaweed and clams.

"There is too much salt here," said the 56-year-old farmer, standing on the edge of a field where she grew rice until last year. It is now filled with patchy grass and mud. "Last year wasn't a good year, but at least we had something."

Rising sea levels, dry spells and heat waves are disrupting food production in the Mediterranean, a region whose diet is regarded as a cultural treasure.

This year, prolonged drought and the scorching heat have hit agricultural production especially hard, wreaking havoc from the olive groves of Spain to the wheat fields of Algeria, reducing yields and pushing farmers to consider switching to hardier crops.

The recent heat wave has affected food production in other ways, too. Cows are producing less milk and bees are less willing to forage for pollen, with honey production down 70% compared with last year in Italy, according to Coldiretti, the country's agricultural trade association.

The climate is changing faster in the Mediterranean than in most places on Earth. Average temperatures here have risen by about 1.5 degrees Celsius since the dawn of the industrial age, more than in all other regions except the Arctic. The problems farmers face in the Mediterranean offer a preview into the challenges of feeding a hotter planet.

The Ebro Delta, where paddy fields are spread over about 20,000 hectares, is so vulnerable because it is coming under the pressures of rising sea levels and drought. Seawater from the Mediterranean is reaching deeper inland than it used to, and there isn't enough freshwater from the Ebro River to flush out the excess salt from the fields. Because of a prolonged drought, the river was running so dry this year that, for the first time, the water supply to the delta was interrupted for long periods.

The result is what some farmers here say is shaping up as the worst harvest they have seen. "If we manage to harvest 30% of what we did last year, it will be a lot," says Servulo, who grows rice varieties used to make beer, breakfast cereal and paella.

Short-term solutions include processing more wastewater and covering up canals to limit how much water evaporates. Creating buffer zones to counter coastal erosion, such as through artificial beaches, also could help. But that won't solve the problem everywhere.

Scientists aren't optimistic. The latest report by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says the effects of global warming in the Mediterranean Sea's coastal countries are likely to intensify in the coming decades.

Scientists at IRTA, the Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology of Spain's Catalonia region, are helping farmers adapt to climate change, including by studying fish, seaweed and clam varieties best suited to replace paddy fields in the Ebro Delta wetlands.

"We are developing the technology so that when there is need, we can easily transfer it. We need to have data from two-three years of production cycles to show [farmers] it's a credible, feasible opportunity. If not, they will abandon these areas," said Enric Gisbert, who oversees the aquaculture division of IRTA. "What is happening here will probably happen in other deltas of the Mediterranean."

In Algeria and Morocco, fields of wheat, barley and other staple crops along the country's Mediterranean coast have turned yellow well before harvest time, dried out by a persistent lack of rainfall.

"There is no water. We can't work," said Mohammed Bahout, 80, whose family grows wheat and barley west of Algiers.

Some are trying to make the most of the changing climate. In southern Italy, farmers are growing tropical fruit such as mangoes. The cultivation of fruits such as bananas, mangoes and avocados has increased threefold in Italy over the past five years, and now covers some 1,200 hectares of farmland in Italy's southernmost regions of Sicily, Calabria and Puglia, according to Coldiretti.

In the Languedoc wine country in southern France, vineyards have been stifled by months of drought and now a heat wave.

"We have rarely seen a period this long without rain," said Christophe Bousquet, president of Languedoc's wine growers group. "The grapes aren't very pretty."

Languedoc wine growers are searching for ways to protect their livelihood from the growing impacts of climate change. Bousquet, who owns a vineyard in La Clape, a territory on the Mediterranean, is allowing the grass to grow around his vines to hold more moisture in the soil when it does rain. They also are looking into planting different grape varieties that can better withstand drought and heat. That is a risky change, Bousquet said, and new vines take years to grow -- time he says they don't have.

"The problem is, time is against us," he said. "The evolution of the climate in the Mediterranean is happening much faster than anticipated."

Jose Bautista contributed to this article.

Credit: By Margherita Stancati and Matthew Dalton

DETAILS

Subject:	Rice; Agricultural production; Drought; Harvest; Climate change; Wheat; Farms; Barley; Food supply
Business indexing term:	Subject: Food supply; Industry: 11114 : Wheat Farming
Location:	Italy; Algeria; Spain; Mediterranean Area
Classification:	11114: Wheat Farming
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.18
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023

Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842339005
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-climate-change-hits-mediterranean/docview/28423 39005/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Niger's Military Says President Removed

Phillips, Michael M; Faucon, Benoit . Phillips, Michael M; Faucon, Benoit.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NAIROBI -- A group of military officers in the West African country of Niger claimed Wednesday they had overthrown an elected president, shaking one of the most-reliable U.S. allies in the fight against al Qaeda, Islamic State and Boko Haram.

Speaking on state television late Wednesday, a Nigerien officer said a group called the National Council for the Salvation of the Fatherland had seized power and removed President Mohamed Bazoum.

"We, the defense and security forces. . .have decided to put an end to the regime that you know," said the coup's

spokesman, Col. Amadou Abdramane.
Abdramane, flanked by nine other officers, cited a continuous deterioration in the security situation. He announced the country's borders had been sealed and a curfew put in place but pledged to respect human rights.
The claim by coup leaders suggests a rebellion that started in the early hours of Wednesday has gained significant traction. Disgruntled presidential guards rebelled against Bazoum, who was democratically election in 2021, and encircled his residence, according to a person close to the president. "It was an expression of discontent that escalated into a coup attempt," the person said.
Loyal army units were negotiating with the coup plotters outside of Bazoum's home, pressing them to surrender their weapons, the person said. The president's office issued a tweet saying the army and national guard were "ready to attack the elements of the presidential guard" if they don't back down.
The armed revolt against Niger's elected leader drew international condemnation.
U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan urged rebellious presidential guard members to "release President Bazoum from detention and refrain from violence."
The chairman of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, accused the plotters of a "total betrayal of their republican duty."
The 15-nation Economic Community of West African States issued a statement saying its executive commission "condemns in the strongest terms the attempt to seize power by force and calls on the coup plotters to free the democratically-elected President."
Niger's ambassador in Washington, Kiari Liman-Tinguiri, labeled the uprising an "attempt to undermine the functioning of our democracy." He added in a tweet: "No compromise with the crooked officers of the presidential guard."
Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the U.S. was "gravely concerned" with developments in Niger following a call he held with Bazoum.
The U.S. sees Niger under Bazoum as a firewall against the spread of Islamist militants in the Sahel, the semiarid band just south of the Sahara. Niger also is a rare ally in a region where several countries have turned against Washington and its Western partners and instead developed closer ties to Russia and Wagner Group mercenaries.

William Mauldin and Vivian Salama contributed to this article.
Credit: By Michael M. Phillips and Benoit Faucon

DETAILS

Subject:	Presidents; Coups d'etat
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Niger
People:	Bazoum, Mohamed
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023

Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338999
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-nigers-military-says-president-removed/docview/2842338999/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Russian Attacks on Drones Fuel Tensions

Gordon, Michael R; Youssef, Nancy A . Gordon, Michael R; Youssef, Nancy A.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

While the world's attention has been focused on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, new Russian attacks against U.S. drones have made Syria a fraught arena for military competition between Moscow and Washington.

The risk of confrontation was underscored Wednesday when a Russian jet fighter dropped flares that damaged the wing of a U.S. MQ-9 Reaper drone as it flew over northwest Syria, U.S. officials said.
The incident followed one on Sunday when another MQ-9 was damaged in what U.S. officials believe is a concerted Russian effort to pressure the U.S. military to pull back from Syria.
Both of the U.S. drones were able to return to base.
Drones haven't been the only aircraft Russian pilots have harassed in recent weeks. On July 16, a Russian fighter maneuvered so close to a U.S. turboprop aircraft that the American crew was put at risk when it had to fly through turbulent jet wash, according to a statement by Lt. Gen. Alexus Grynkewich, the top U.S. Air Force general in the Middle East.
Following the Sunday episode, the Pentagon publicly complained that the Russian harassment of the U.S. drone was unprofessional and released a video that showed the encounter. The Americans' hope that the Russians might hold back after the U.S. highlighted their Sunday action, which damaged the propeller of a MQ-9, was frustrated by the new confrontation Wednesday.
A Russian military official on Wednesday put the blame on the U.S., saying that the American drone had made a "dangerous approach" toward a pair of Russian jets, prompting the aircraft to respond defensively by releasing the flares. "The U.S. continues to misinform the world community," Rear Adm. Oleg Gurinov said.
Credit: By Michael R. Gordon and Nancy A. Youssef

DETAILS

Subject:	Aircraft; Drones; Armed forces; Military engagements; International relations-US
Business indexing term:	Industry: 33641 : Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing 92811 : National Security
Location:	United States--US; Syria; Russia
Classification:	33641: Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing; 92811: National Security
Publicationtitle:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338995
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-russian-attacks-on-drones-fuel/docview/2842338995/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-27
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: DeSantis Campaign Retools Amid Struggles --- Florida governor plans more positive, personal message after slip in polls

Leary, Alex . Leary, Alex.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Ron DeSantis and his allies are shifting gears as his struggling Republican presidential campaign faces questions about whether he has veered too far to the right and failed to tell a positive story about himself and his vision for the country.

The Florida governor is slipping in polls, and his second-place status to front-runner Donald Trump is now under threat. On Tuesday the DeSantis campaign said it laid off nearly 40 staff members, roughly the total number employed by Trump's campaign. It also plans to slash travel and event costs as it seeks to reassure supporters of his readiness for the national stage.

A super PAC supporting DeSantis will launch a new wave of advertising Monday that is expected to carry an uplifting message and detail his personal biography, according to people familiar with the decisions. Also next week, the candidate is expected to give a speech in New Hampshire focused on the economy -- the No. 1 issue for voters -- part of a policy rollout that aims to go beyond recounting what he has done as governor.

DeSantis was fundraising in Tennessee on Tuesday when he was involved in a car accident. He wasn't injured. In the coming days, the campaign is planning more stripped-down events in early-voting states, putting him in more direct contact with voters.

Some Republicans, including prominent DeSantis donors, have been put off by the harder-edge message he has

promoted, effectively arguing he is more conservative than Trump on a range of issues, from abortion and immigration to transgender issues. While those issues animate core Republicans, the sharp tone and intense focus on the right have concerned some GOP strategists and donors.

"He's decided to be a mini Trump," said Sarah Longwell, a GOP operative who has been at the forefront of efforts to defeat the former president. Rather than trying to consolidate voters who want to move on from Trump and attract others open to an alternative, she added, DeSantis has "decided to wrestle Trump for his most committed voters. It makes no sense."

"It was always going to be incredibly hard because Trump's got such a unique brand that has been burned into the electorate," said New Hampshire based GOP strategist Jim Merrill, who is not currently affiliated with a candidate. "Gov. DeSantis has a really good story to tell without trying to out-Trump Trump."

Chris LaCivita, a senior strategist for Trump, said DeSantis's approach was doomed from the start."Trump has a demonstrated record from the perspective of conservatives that is unassailable," he said.

The Trump campaign began attacking DeSantis well before the governor officially entered the race -- attacks that went largely unanswered. Trump has been indicted twice already this year, and a third could come as soon as this week over his attempts to undo his loss in the 2020 election. Those legal woes could hurt him in a general election, but they have only solidified his position among GOP voters and drawn in millions of dollars in donations while forcing rivals to defend him against prosecutors.

The new advertising from the pro-DeSantis Never Back Down committee is expected to mirror earlier messaging that portrayed him as a leader of a movement while touching on his biography: the son of working-class parents, a man who played baseball at Yale, got a law degree at Harvard, joined the Navy and is now raising three young children with his wife, Casey.

The group said it has learned to be more effective in its ad placements, targeting television as well as cheaper streaming platforms and text messaging.

"A lot of these early-primary-state voters know him as an effective governor, but they don't know as much about him as an individual," said Nick Iarossi, a Florida lobbyist involved in the DeSantis campaign.

The campaign says there is time for a reset, with many voters not paying close attention. The first GOP debate Aug. 23 -- which Trump has threatened to skip -- is a major opportunity to reach voters.

Warning signs are flashing in Iowa, which holds the first nominating contest and is viewed as critical to the DeSantis campaign. A Fox Business poll released Sunday showed Trump at 46% among likely Iowa GOP caucus-goers, with DeSantis at 16% and South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott at 11%.

A New Hampshire poll from late June similarly indicated the governor has lost steam, though remains in second. DeSantis's support has dropped below 20% in FiveThirtyEight's average of national Republican primary polls.

Credit: By Alex Leary

DETAILS

Subject:	Primaries &caucuses; Polls &surveys; Political campaigns; State elections; Governors; Presidential elections; Voters; Political advertising
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	New Hampshire; United States--US; Florida; Iowa
People:	DeSantis, Ron
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940

Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338993
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-desantis-campaign-retools-amid-struggles/docview/2842338993/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2023-07-27
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

NCAA's Interest in Gambling Is Growing --- The association has eased its penalties and has indicated it wants to profit on legal wagering

Diamond, Jared . Diamond, Jared.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Virginia Tech linebacker Alan Tisdale says he never meant to violate the NCAA's policies on gambling. He used a smartphone app to bet around $400 on the NBA Finals last year, partaking in an activity that has become ubiquitous on college campuses.

Tisdale quickly learned that the rules for athletes were severe and unyielding. Even though he self-reported his transgression, he received an initial suspension of nine games. The penalty was reduced to six games on appeal, but Tisdale still missed half of a football season simply for placing a legal wager on a professional sport he didn't play.

"You don't look at the NCAA rulebook 24/7," Tisdale said. "The majority of the time you assume you know right from wrong. It's legalized -- but not for athletes."

As Tisdale now prepares for his final year with the Hokies, it appears the NCAA has realized that perhaps his punishment didn't fit the crime. Sports betting is permitted in most of the country and especially popular among students, who now can -- and frequently do, data shows -- place wagers in their dorm rooms within seconds.

So more than five years after the Supreme Court ruled that states have the right to legalize sports gambling, the NCAA is adapting to a changing world. The result is a more nuanced approach to gambling that in some circumstances even allows college athletes to bet on sports without being suspended at all.

When the new rules were announced, Tisdale said his girlfriend and mother both reached out to tell him the news. The changes won't give him back the time on the field that he lost. But they will help the next Tisdale -- and considering the state of sports betting in America, there will be a next Tisdale.

"It's a step forward," Tisdale said.

All of this comes as the NCAA itself has signaled that it, too, wants to participate in the legal gambling boom.

Last month, at a University of Arizona-hosted event called the Future of College Athletics, NCAA President Charlie Baker left little doubt about the association's interest in gambling, saying, "We have a major opportunity to get into the sports betting space."

It's a significant shift that emphasizes the increasingly complex relationship between the explosion of legal sports gambling and the youngest people allowed to participate in it.

"We'd be naive to believe that [gambling by athletes] isn't occurring," said Alex Ricker-Gilbert, the Jacksonville athletic director and the chair of the NCAA committee that ratified the updated regulations late last month. "If we ultimately have a penalty where they completely lose their eligibility, they lose a season for engaging in the act, it's going to be hard to be legitimate in their eyes as people to go to if they're struggling with something."

Officially, college athletes are still prohibited from betting on any sport offered by the NCAA at any level, even seemingly innocuous activities like a tournament bracket pool or picking squares at a Super Bowl party.

"That's still very much the message," said Jerry Vaughn, the NCAA's director of academic and membership affairs.

The new rules, however, distinguish between bets that "threaten the integrity of our competition" and those that don't, Vaughn said.

In practice, this means that players who bet on their own team or other teams at their schools still face the possibility of a permanent ban from college sports. Players who bet on their own sport at other schools would face a half-season ban.

The punishments for other types of gambling -- such as wagers on professional sports -- are far more lenient and depend on how much money is involved.

For violations in which the total amount wagered is $200 or less, the guidelines call only for mandatory gambling prevention education and no loss of eligibility. Suspensions start at 10% of a season for bets above $200 and up to

$500, ultimately climbing to 30% of a season for bets over $800. Only when the wagering "greatly exceeds $800" will additional penalties be considered.
Previously, a suspension of one full season was standard in most cases for sports gambling. Under the new rules, Tisdale would've missed just one game.
It's no secret that, for the NCAA, legal sports betting also represents a largely untapped resource to drive massive amounts of revenue. The American Gaming Association released a survey in March that concluded that about 68 million American adults planned to wager $15.5 billion on the NCAA men's basketball tournament.
Baker's remark last month about the NCAA's interest in gambling "raised a lot of eyebrows," "because the NCAA was the last bastion of the old-school" view of sports gambling, said Keith Whyte, the executive director of the National Council on Problem Gambling,
Sports betting is especially prevalent among young adults. In a recent NCAA survey of more than 3,500 18- to 22-year-olds, 58% of them said they have participated in sports betting. Of the respondents who lived on a college campus, two-thirds were bettors, and they tended to bet at a higher frequency. The NCAA plans to commission an athlete-only survey in the coming months.
Clint Hangebrauck, the NCAA's managing director of enterprise risk management, said that some research suggests that the risk for problem gambling is even higher for athletes than their peers in their age cohort.
"What naturally makes them great athletes -- their competitive nature, their drive, their ability to take risks -- actually works against them from a sports betting standpoint," Hangebrauck said.
More than 40 athletes across multiple sports at Iowa and Iowa State are currently being investigated for gambling. There is no evidence, however, of match fixing or any other suspicious wagering on games involving those schools. If any of those athletes are punished, it would be in accordance with the new guidelines.
"They're recognizing that their zero-tolerance approach doesn't work in this world," Whyte said of the NCAA. "They're also bowing to the reality that there's a great deal of gambling on campus."
Credit: By Jared Diamond

DETAILS

ERIC Subject:	Guidelines; Zero Tolerance Policy; Eligibility; College Athletics
Subject:	College sports; Student athletes; Gambling; Schools; College basketball; Sports betting
Location:	United States--US; Iowa
Company / organization:	Name: National Collegiate Athletic Association--NCAA; NAICS: 813990
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.14
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Section:	Sports
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338985
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/ncaas-interest-gambling-is-growing-association/docview/2842338985/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-07-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Airbus Hits New Supply-Chain Hurdle --- Engine recall comes as jet maker tries to cement its narrow- body supremacy

Katz, Benjamin . Katz, Benjamin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

LONDON -- Airbus faces another high hurdle in delivering its bestselling jets as it races to solidify a commanding lead over rival Boeing.

Airbus has been working to rapidly increase output of its bestselling A320 family of aircraft as it seeks to deliver on a backlog that stretches out into the early 2030s. Many of those planes are powered by a type of Pratt &Whitney engine that the engine maker said this week will need to be recalled and inspected.

Pratt said it would need to inspect 1,200 of its geared-turbofan engines after it discovered a fault in the metal that

could lead to cracking. Both Pratt and Airbus have said the issue doesn't impact the safety of the aircraft.
The recall could further slow Airbus's plans for higher production rates of the jet. With the affected engines being taken out of service, Pratt will need to hold on to more of its new engines for a spare-engine pool. It keeps those reserves for planes needing engine maintenance. That in turn means it can provide fewer engines needed by Airbus for new aircraft deliveries.
Airbus Chief Executive Guillaume Faury on Wednesday said the company was sticking to its existing plan to deliver 720 commercial aircraft this year but was assessing what knock-on impacts the recall would have on deliveries over the next two years.
"It will be a lot of work for Pratt &Whitney and to some extent for us" to set up maintenance facilities, uninstall the engines and conduct the inspections, Faury said on a call with reporters. "When it comes to 2024, 2025 there's a lot of work to be done on the indirect potential consequences."
The company posted a 20% drop in net income to 1.53 billion euros, or about $1.69 billion, in the first half. The fall was due in part to higher spending on preparing its factories for production increases, it said.
Sales rose 11% to 27.7 billion euros, primarily driven by an increase in deliveries of new commercial jets.
The recall could affect airlines' busy summer schedule. European discount airline Wizz Air said Wednesday that 12 of its engines are included in the first set of recalls and will lead to a "mid-single digit" reduction in capacity growth over the summer. The reduction could lead to higher ticket prices which in turn should offset any impact on profit, the company said.
"Obviously it's a very critical situation for customers, that's something we take very serious," Faury said.
After the no-fly days of the pandemic, airlines are back in the air and ordering lots of new planes. The Airbus A320 has been a popular option. Many airlines previously canceled orders for the A320's main rival, the Boeing 737 MAX, after two fatal crashes and a long grounding.
That has supercharged Airbus's share in the single-aisle market, the industry's most profitable segment. But production challenges have been holding Airbus back from fully capitalizing on its advantage.
Airbus repeatedly pushed back efforts to reach an ambitious production goal: delivering 75 of its A320 aircraft a month in 2026. At the onset of the pandemic, it cut that rate back to about 40 a month.
The company on Wednesday said the target is "now the key reference point for the company and the supply chain," adding that it would make "tactical adjustments" to its production planning to meet the goal.
Boeing is aiming to increase monthly production of the MAX to 38 this year. The company is targeting a rate of 50 a month by 2026, it said on Wednesday in its own earnings announcement.
Airbus's delays in increasing production led to monthslong waits for its airline and lessor customers. Frustrated Airbus sales teams, meanwhile, can't promise plane deliveries for the rest of this decade amid Airbus's long and growing backlog of orders.
"For Airbus, we see this as adding further stress to the production ramp," Chloe Lemarie, an analyst at Jefferies, wrote in a note.
One of the biggest production holdups is the supply of engines.
Both Pratt &Whitney, a unit of RTX, formerly Raytheon, and CFM International, a General Electric joint venture, have struggled to meet Airbus's aggressive production ambitions.
Pratt's geared turbofan engine is billed as a new technology that delivers a step-change in fuel efficiency. But the new design has been underperforming, particularly in dry and arid conditions, most notably in India and the Middle East. That has required Pratt to take engines off for maintenance earlier and more regularly than expected -- a separate problem to the more recent recall.
Pratt's problems have already led to fallout with some of its biggest customers. India's Indigo Airlines previously switched from Pratt to GE's rival engine. The airline hasn't yet announced an engine option for the 500-jet mega-order it placed last month for the Airbus model.
Pratt on Tuesday said the recall would begin with the inspection of 200 engines. The remaining 1,000 turbines will be inspected by the end of next year.

Credit: By Benjamin Katz

DETAILS

Subject:	Aircraft industry; Production increases; Pandemics; Supply chains; Production planning; Engines; Airlines
Business indexing term:	Subject: Aircraft industry Supply chains Production planning Airlines; Corporation: Airbus SAS; Industry: 48111 : Scheduled Air Transportation 33641 : Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing 33361 : Engine, Turbine, and Power Transmission Equipment Manufacturing
Location:	India
Company / organization:	Name: Pratt &Whitney; NAICS: 333515, 333517, 333611, 336412, 541330; Name: Airbus SAS; NAICS: 336411, 336412, 336413
Classification:	48111: Scheduled Air Transportation; 33641: Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing; 33361: Engine, Turbine, and Power Transmission Equipment Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338974
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-airbus-hits-new-supply-chain-hurdle/docview/2842338974/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow J ones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-10-01
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

China Pressured Expert Firms In '22 Covid Policy Leak Probe

Feng, Rebecca . Feng, Rebecca.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

China's heightened scrutiny of the expert-network firms that investors and international businesses rely on for information about the country began much earlier than is commonly believed.

Last autumn, in a previously unreported investigation, national-security agents showed up at some of those firms looking to track down leaks around China's highly sensitive Covid policies and vaccine strategy. The investigators asked people at one consulting firm in Shanghai if they had arranged meetings or calls with experts who had inside knowledge of the country's healthcare policy, according to a person familiar with the matter.

The investigators presented a list of names of experts, as well as times and dates of meetings at which those individuals spoke, the person said. The list included a former policy researcher at a regional outpost of China's National Health Commission, the person said, adding that the investigators wanted to know who had been asking for the information and what the consulting firm's clients wanted to know.

The national-security visits show that Beijing's concerns about information leakage around crucial policy decisions were building months before authorities rattled the foreign business community with raids on expert-network firm Capvision. Those raids were touted in a news program on state television in May that alleged some Western countries have stolen intelligence and information in sectors such as military, economy and finance.

Chinese medical experts' insights were highly sought after by international and domestic investors in the second half of 2022, when Chinese stocks were unusually volatile and speculation was rife that China's leadership was considering changes to a strict zero-Covid regime that had battered commercial and economic activity.

It isn't known if the investigations into Covid leaks are continuing. China's State Council Information Office didn't respond to a request for comment.

Chinese authorities' crackdown on the loosely regulated expert-network industry has sent a chill through what had been a booming business, where clients paid as much as $10,000 per hour to gain an information edge.

In the U.S., expert-network firms have at times been caught up in major insider-trading cases, where paid consultants provided confidential information to hedge funds that traded on it. Such activities flouted the Securities and

Exchange Commission's rules around selective disclosure, leading to convictions of employees of expert-network firms and fund managers.
In China, people who have interacted with paid experts say some of them aren't as cognizant of what they can or can't disclose in private conversations with investors.
The recent investigations and raids on expert-network firms will deter investors from trying to get information about China, which could also make foreigners less eager to invest in Chinese companies, said Andrew Collier, managing director of Orient Capital Research in Hong Kong.
The worry is that "if they ask any questions, their people could be thrown into jail," he said.
Collier said China's sharpened focus on national security also carries "an implied threat that any interaction with the West can be potentially dangerous for the state."
The recent pattern of tougher enforcement has included a raid on U.S. due-diligence firm Mintz, questioning of staff at consulting firm Bain, the arrest of a Japanese pharmaceutical executive and a drumbeat of official warnings about espionage.
Capvision didn't respond to a request for comment. Bain, which previously said it is cooperating with Chinese authorities, said it has no additional comment.
Financial institutions, including banks and brokerages, have been among the biggest clients of Capvision and other expert-consulting firms. Hedge funds and asset managers will routinely pay to get tips, nonpublic information and unique insights that could help them profit from trading stocks.
Last fall, the question was Covid, and expert-network firms were peppered with requests from asset managers and financial institutions, according to people familiar with the matter. The most sought-after experts were those who could speak about China's Covid-19 policies and vaccine-approval process, which would help determine how quickly the country could open up.
The value of such information was made clear during a Citigroup event in early November in Hong Kong, where a former China government chief scientist spoke at an investment conference for the global bank's clients.
Shortly after the markets opened on Nov. 4, Citigroup chief China economist Yu Xiangrong interviewed Zeng Guang, a former chief scientist at the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention.
Zeng, who left his government post sometime in 2021, said he didn't represent any organization and that his views were his own. "Everything we talk about today should be internal communication only," he said, adding it shouldn't be shared online or with the media, according to a recording of the webinar that was reviewed by The Wall Street Journal.
Zeng then said he was optimistic that changes to China's zero-Covid policy were imminent. He added that 90% of the Covid tests in China would be soon eliminated and that the border between Hong Kong and mainland China would open soon.
On the day Zeng spoke, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index -- which is driven mainly by Chinese stocks -- surged 5.4%, while mainland China's Shanghai Composite Index rose 2.4%. A Citigroup spokesman said the bank had no comment.
Zeng's comments were on the money. The following week, China shortened mandatory quarantine times and eased other pandemic-control measures. He declined to comment.
Credit: By Rebecca Feng

DETAILS

Subject:	COVID-19 vaccines; Investigations; Health care policy; Hedge funds; Securities markets; Stocks; Consulting firms; Financial institutions; COVID-19

Business indexing term:	Subject: Hedge funds Securities markets Stocks Consulting firms Financial institutions; Corporation: Citigroup Inc; Indu stry: 52394 : Portfolio Management and Investment Advice
Location:	United States--US; China; Hong Kong China
Company / organization:	Name: Capvision; NAICS: 541611; Name: Citigroup Inc; NAICS: 551111
Classification:	52394: Portfolio Management and Investment Advice
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.10
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338971
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/china-pressured-expert-firms-22-covid-policy-leak/docview/2842338971/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Front-Line Medics Battle to Save Lives -- In a war of attrition, getting Ukrainian soldiers care near the fighting is critical

Luxmoore, Matthew . Luxmoore, Matthew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

A badly wounded Ukrainian soldier was rushed into a front-line medical facility this week and hoisted onto an operating table.

His screams filled the room as medics stripped off his clothes and pressed gauze deep into a leg wound where a large piece of shrapnel from a Russian artillery round had lodged. The medics stopped the bleeding, saving his life.

It was a typical scene at one of dozens of similar medical facilities near the front lines of Ukraine's counteroffensive in the south, where its units are launching deadly assaults against well-fortified Russian positions and suffering heavy casualties to gain yards of ground.

A small team of medics here work around the clock under the constant threat of bombardment, lacking gas or running water, to deliver emergency care and stabilize patients before they are sent to hospitals away from the front.

With the counteroffensive largely stalled, the steady flow of wounded soldiers to this small facility reflects the scale of the losses in a war that has turned into a brutal battle of attrition.

"When the broader offensive doesn't work, you move to local attacks, through small advances along tree lines, one kilometer here, 500 meters there," said Maj. Oleksiy Pasternak, a military planner in one of the Western-trained brigades. He said small-scale attacks save lives by keeping units mobile and avoiding massive enemy fire.

But after 18 months of fighting, both countries' professional armies have been hollowed out, leaving units composed heavily of mobilized troops with little training, commanders say. Many are in territorial-defense units not designed to form the first line of attack. That is leading to even more casualties.

"It was always going to be really tough, because these units didn't have enough time to train," said Rob Lee, a senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute. "And then they're put into one of the most difficult combat environments possible."

Less than 6 miles away from this medical facility in the Zaporizhzhia region, Ukrainian trenches come under relentless Russian fire. Explosions ring out constantly, and the building housing the facility has come under direct fire. Plastic film covers its blown-out windows, and discarded bandages and debris litter the floor. The surrounding village is deserted.

Roman Oleksenko, the coordinator of the facility, says the center is located in a place where medics can administer care to wounded soldiers within the so-called "golden hour" -- the period immediately after an injury in which emergency treatment is most likely to prevent death.

When they receive news that one of the brigades involved in the counteroffensive has gone on the assault, the medics begin preparing for casualties. Oleksenko said the rate of casualties -- between 50 and 70 on average each day -- is taking a toll.

"The days, the nights, every day seems the same," said the 43-year-old, who has worked on the front lines of the war against Russia and its proxy forces since 2014. "Some days we have a heavily wounded soldier screaming on every operating table."

Unexpectedly dense minefields have posed a major challenge. Many soldiers arrive with mangled limbs after stepping

on mines, and amputations are common.
On Monday, Pvt. Oleksandr Varava was brought in with shrapnel in his right shoulder and both arms. His unit of Ukraine's territorial defense forces was defending positions near the village of Priyutne when they came under fire. Two men in his company were killed immediately and more than a dozen were wounded, he said. "They have seemingly endless supplies of everything, and it's constantly raining down on us," Varava said of the Russians.
The soldier with shrapnel in his leg was part of a reconnaissance unit manning a position in a tree line when he came under fire. Oleksiy Davydov, a medic who evacuated him, said the soldier begged him to remove the tourniquet wound tightly around his leg. He refused.
"The tourniquet hurts more than the wound itself," Davydov said as he watched the operation. "But I know it's saving his life."
At the medical facility, the medics removed the tourniquet and used gauze and coagulants to prevent blood loss, before carrying the patient to a van that transported him to a hospital in Zaporizhzhia, the regional capital. If the shrapnel had severed a key artery, Oleksenko said, the soldier would have become another of many thousands of Ukrainians to have lost a limb in the war.
Vyacheslav Volkov, a surgeon in the 23rd Brigade serving at the center, said that on Sunday alone, four soldiers came in with their feet blown off after stepping on mines. They told him half the sappers, combat engineers who hunt for mines, in their unit were wounded or dead.
"We're paying a high price. So many young men are becoming cripples for life," Volkov said. "But what choice do we have? If we don't fight, our nation will cease to exist."
Credit: By Matthew Luxmoore

DETAILS

Subject:	Emergency medical care; Health facilities; Assaults; Military personnel; Casualties; War
Location:	Ukraine; Russia
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338970
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-front-line-medics-battle-save-lives/docview/2842338970/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

ProQuest document link

World-Wide

FULL TEXT

Hunter Biden pleaded not guilty to tax charges, a stunning reversal after a judge said she wasn't yet prepared to accept a deal the president's son had reached with prosecutors to plead guilty.

Israel's Supreme Court said it would hear a petition challenging the constitutionality of a judicial-overhaul law, setting up a possible showdown between the court and the government.

The Justice Department and EPA are investigating the potential health and environmental risks stemming from a sprawling network of toxic lead-sheathed telecom cables across the U.S.

Giuliani said he wouldn't contest the claim by two Georgia election workers who are suing him for defamation that he falsely accused them of manipulating votes in the 2020 presidential election.

A group of military officersin Niger claimed they had overthrown the country's president, shaking one of the most reliable U.S. allies in the fight against al Qaeda, Islamic State and Boko Haram.

McConnell abruptly stopped speaking during a news conference and was briefly escorted away, raising questions about the Senate minority leader's health four months after his hospitalization for a concussion.

Kevin Spacey was found not guilty of sexual assault against four men by a U.K. court, closing out a series of sexual misconduct trials that have dogged the actor for years.

Died: Sinead O'Connor, 56, provocative Irish singer.

DETAILS

Subject:	Sex crimes
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
column:	World-Wide
Section:	What's News
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338969
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-wide/docview/2842338969/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-28

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON
Social Security
Chief Picked
President Biden on Wednesday nominated former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley to lead the Social Security Administration.
If confirmed, O'Malley would run one of the biggest social programs in the nation and grapple with the uncertainty over its funding. Roughly 70 million people -- including retirees, disabled people and children -- receive Social Security benefits.
"As governor, he made government work more effectively across his administration and enhanced the way millions of people accessed critical services," Biden said.
O'Malley served as Maryland's governor from 2007 to 2015 and was Baltimore mayor for two terms. He also ran as a Democratic presidential candidate in 2016 but has ruled out running in the future.
Social Security is financed by payroll taxes collected from workers and their employers.
-- Associated Press

NORTH CAROLINA
Three Marines
Found Dead
Three U.S. Marines found unresponsive in a car at a North Carolina gas station died of carbon monoxide poisoning, the local sheriff's office said Wednesday.
Deputies from the Pender County Sheriff's Office found the men Sunday in a privately owned car outside a gas station in Hampstead. Autopsies performed Wednesday by the North Carolina Office of Medical Examiner determined all three deaths were from carbon monoxide poisoning, according to the sheriff's office.
"I am saddened by the timeless and tragic death of these three young men, who served our country honorably," Sheriff Alan Cutler said.
The lance corporals were identified by the U.S. Marine Corps as Tanner J. Kaltenberg, 19, of Madison, Wis.; Merax C. Dockery, 23, of Pottawatomie, Okla.; and Ivan R. Garcia, 23, of Naples, Fla. They were stationed at nearby Camp Lejeune.
-- Associated Press

MICHIGAN
Conversion
Therapy Barred

The scientifically discredited practice of so-called conversion therapy, which aims to "convert" LGBTQ people to heterosexuality or traditional gender expectations, is now banned for minors in Michigan under legislation signed Wednesday by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Michigan becomes the 22nd state to outlaw conversion therapy, which state lawmakers defined as any practice or treatment by a mental-health professional that seeks to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity. That doesn't include counseling that provides assistance to people undergoing a gender transition.

Whitmer, who is the mother of a member of the LGBTQ community, said banning the "horrific practice" of conversion therapy was necessary to make Michigan a place "where you can be who you are."

-- Associated Press

DETAILS

Subject:	Carbon monoxide poisoning; Sheriffs; LGBTQ people; Social security; Gender identity
Business indexing term:	Subject: Social security; Industry: 92212 : Police Protection
Location:	Maryland; United States--US; North Carolina; Michigan
Classification:	92212: Police Protection
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338968
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-watch/docview/2842338968/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: McConnell Says He Is OK After Appearing Unwell

Wise, Lindsay . Wise, Lindsay.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell stopped speaking abruptly during the opening remarks of his weekly news conference and was briefly escorted away, raising questions about his health four months after his hospitalization for a concussion.

A McConnell aide later said the 81-year-old felt lightheaded for a moment, and noted that he came back to participate in the question-and-answer section of the news conference. Still, the incident startled fellow lawmakers and brought into the open lingering concerns regarding his injury and how long he plans to remain as the Republicans' Senate leader.

After McConnell's return to the news conference, a reporter asked him about the incident and whether it was related to his concussion in March, which resulted from a fall at a hotel during a private dinner. McConnell also suffered a rib fracture.

"No, I'm fine," McConnell said.

He went on to answer a series of questions about government spending bills, redistricting, impeachment and Hunter Biden.

When a reporter asked if McConnell had someone in mind to succeed him when he is no longer conference leader, the Kentucky Republican laughed and left the lectern, ending the news conference.

McConnell speaks softly at such events and sometimes needs to have reporters' questions repeated for him by fellow lawmakers. His answers have been cogent since returning to work after recovering from his fall.

On Wednesday, the first indication that McConnell might be unwell came within moments of his opening remarks.

He suddenly stopped speaking and looked straight ahead for about 20 seconds.

Eventually Sen. John Barrasso (R., Wyo.), a doctor, approached McConnell and quietly asked if he had anything else to say to the press. McConnell stepped back from the lectern and Sen. John Thune of South Dakota, the No. 2 Senate Republican, took over.

Afterward, Barrasso told reporters he had walked down the hall with McConnell. "I just wanted to make sure

everything was fine with him. It is," he said.
He said McConnell had spoken at a closed-door GOP lunch earlier in the day, leading the discussion.
But Barrasso added, "I've been concerned since the first time, since he was injured a number of months ago. I continue to be concerned."
Pressed to clarify what his concerns were, Barrasso said he had no new concerns, and that McConnell had made a remarkable recovery.
"He's doing a great job of leading our conference and he was able to answer every question that the press asked him today," he said.
Sens. Thune, Barrasso and Texas' John Cornyn are all seen as potential successors to McConnell.
Credit: By Lindsay Wise

DETAILS

Subject:	Press conferences; Concussion
People:	McConnell, Mitch
Company / organization:	Name: Senate; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338965
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-mcconnell-says-he-is-ok-after-appearing/docview/2842338965/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-27
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: UFO Risks Cited in Hearing on Capitol Hill

De Avila, Joseph . De Avila, Joseph.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Former military and intelligence officials testified to a congressional panel Wednesday that they have seen UFOs and said they could pose risks to national security.

The former officials called for the U.S. government to share what it knows about the phenomena.

Two of the witnesses, former U.S. Navy fighter pilots, said they have seen "unidentified anomalous phenomena," or UAP, a phrase the government uses to refer to what are commonly known as UFOs.

One of the pilots testified that encounters with UAP are common among military aircrews and commercial pilots.

A former intelligence official also testified at the hearing that he believes the U.S. government has hidden from the public that it possesses aircraft of a nonhuman origin.

Wednesday's hearing, by a House Oversight subcommittee, is Congress's latest push for information around UAP, which have long fascinated the public. The federal government has begun disclosing some information about UAP. It has set up task forces to investigate the phenomena and plans to release more findings.

Witness David Grusch, a former member of a U.S. Air Force panel on UAP, has said the federal government has withheld information about the recoveries of aircraft of nonhuman origin from Congress and the public.

Grusch told lawmakers Wednesday that during the course of his work with a UAP task force, he was informed of a UAP crash-retrieval and reverse-engineering program that had existed for decades. When he tried to learn more about that program, he was denied access, he said. He reported what he learned to his superiors and to multiple inspectors general, he said.

The Pentagon's UAP task force, the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office, hasn't been able to substantiate claims that any federal programs have possessed or reverse-engineered extraterrestrial materials, a spokesperson for the Defense Department said.

"The Department is fully committed to openness and accountability to the American people, which it must balance with its obligation to protect sensitive information, sources, and methods," the spokesperson said.

The All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office has also said it found no credible evidence of extraterrestrial activity.

Credit: By Joseph De Avila

DETAILS

Subject:	Aircraft; Task forces; Extraterrestrial life; Unidentified flying objects--UFO
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.4
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 202 3
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338957
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-ufo-risks-cited-hearing-on-capitol-hill/docview/2842338957/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-27
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: U.S. Climate, Manufacturing Goals Collide --- With billions in tax incentives at stake, 'Made in America' definition disputed

Duehren, Andrew . Duehren, Andrew.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The Biden administration's plans to quickly reduce carbon emissions are colliding with its pledge to revitalize manufacturing in the U.S.

The Inflation Reduction Act unleashed billions in tax breaks and credits for producing clean energy, purchasing electric vehicles and developing new low-carbon technology. Many of the incentives require companies to source materials for the projects from the U.S., setting off a lobbying campaign to shape how the Biden administration defines "made in America."

The debate pits some U.S. manufacturers and lawmakers, who want to strictly enforce the law's requirements that many parts and materials come from the U.S., against automakers and foreign allies who warn that could make it more expensive to deploy technology lowering carbon emissions.

In the latest salvo, a group of the largest steelmakers in the U.S., as well as the United Steelworkers union, criticized the Treasury Department's proposed approach to a bonus tax credit for clean-energy projects that rely largely on U.S.-made metal and components. They argue that the department's treatment of a key component of solar panels would let firms use steel from abroad and still qualify for the 10% credit, which would be available on top of other subsidies for building solar and wind farms.

"If the current Guidance were to be made final, it would significantly damage U.S. domestic steel producers, putting at risk 1.5 million tons of production and jeopardizing the livelihoods of millions of Americans who depend on our industry," wrote the union and the companies, including U.S. Steel and Nucor.

The group sent the letter, which was viewed by The Wall Street Journal, to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Internal Revenue Service Commissioner Daniel Werfel on Tuesday.

"We're going to refine and look at the comments that we get, but directionally, we're seeing firms make decisions to make investments in the United States to get access to the domestic-content boost," Wally Adeyemo, deputy Treasury secretary, said.

China is the dominant supplier of many clean-energy products, as well as the largest global producer of steel by far. The Biden administration is seeking to reduce U.S. dependence on China in key areas, but it has at times found its goals at odds as it irons out the details of tax incentives offered under the IRA.

President Biden has made rebuilding American manufacturing a central talking point in his re-election bid. He has courted unions such as the United Steelworkers, who endorsed him in 2020, and he has tried to win back rank-and-file union members who moved toward the Republican Party in recent years.

At the same time, lowering carbon emissions is another priority for the Biden administration. Imports from China are often cheaper for companies trying to stand up new clean-energy facilities in the U.S. The domestic-sourcing rules have also unnerved allies in Europe and Asia, who say the subsidies for U.S.-made components will hurt their products.

"There's a general theme where they are clearly trying to balance the two goals, but the leaning has historically been towards decarbonization," said Kevin Book, managing director at ClearView Energy Partners.

Other battles over IRA subsidies have involved electric vehicles. For example, for consumers to get the full $7,500 tax credit to buy an EV, much of the minerals in its battery must come from the U.S. or a country with a free-trade agreement with the U.S.

Many close allies, however, don't have traditional free-trade agreements with the U.S. To get around that, administration officials crafted a special deal with Japan for minerals used in clean-energy technologies, and they are in talks with others about similar arrangements.

Sen. Joe Manchin (D., W.Va.), whose support was critical to the passage of the climate law, has repeatedly lambasted Treasury's implementation of the electric-vehicle tax credit, including criticizing its decision to consider Japan a free-trade partner.

Automakers, including Ford Motor, have pushed for looser interpretations, including a requirement that none of an EV battery's minerals or components be linked to a "foreign entity of concern," which could potentially include any Chinese company. Ford has joined with China's Contemporary Amperex Technology to build a battery factory in Michigan.

Yellen said in a recent interview that the climate law's goals of reducing emissions and boosting domestic production can be difficult to navigate.

"We want to see a lot of electric vehicles be on the road," she said. "But having more resilient supply chains is also clearly a goal of the legislation, and sometimes the two things do come into tension."

Battle Over Solar Component Classification

The Treasury Department's classification of photovoltaic trackers, which rotate solar panels so they follow the sun's movement over the course of the day, is key for the U.S. steel industry.

In guidance released in May, the department said those trackers were a "manufactured product," meaning they could include foreign metals and still potentially qualify for a bonus tax credit.

U.S. steelmakers want the metal used to build the trackers to instead be deemed as "iron and steel products," which must come from the U.S. in order for the project to be eligible for the incentive. "Categorization of tracking systems as manufactured products would permit many of the structural steel components of new solar projects in the U.S. to be imported from China," the companies said.

The Solar Energy Industries Association, which represents companies that develop solar farms, praised Treasury's guidance when it was released in May. The group's CEO said Treasury's approach would "spark a flood of investment in American-made clean energy equipment and components."

Credit: By Andrew Duehren

DETAILS

Subject:	Trade agreements; Clean technology; Carbon; Electric vehicles; Automobile industry; Energy; Manufacturing; Tax incentives; Steel products; Tax credits; Subsidies; Inflation Reduction Act 2022-US
Business indexing term:	Subject: Trade agreements Automobile industry Manufacturing Tax incentives Tax credits Subsidies Inflation Reduction Act 2022-US; Industry: 33611 : Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing
Location:	United States--US; China; Japan
Company / organization:	Name: United Steelworkers of America; NAICS: 813930
Classification:	33611: Automobile and Light Duty Motor Vehicle Manufacturing

Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.2
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338954
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-climate-manufacturing-goals-collide-with/docview/2842338954/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: DOJ and EPA Probe Telecoms Over Lead

Ramey, Corinne; Ramachandran, Shalini; Pulliam, Susan . Ramey, Corinne; Ramachandran, Shalini; Pulliam, Susan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The Justice Department and Environmental Protection Agency are investigating the potential health and environmental risks stemming from a sprawling network of toxic lead-sheathed telecom cables across the U.S.

The Justice Department's civil inquiry, by the U.S. attorney's office for the Southern District of New York, is in preliminary stages and focuses partly on whether telecom companies had knowledge of the potential risks to their workers and future environmental impact when they left behind the lead cables, according to a person familiar with the inquiry.

The EPA's enforcement office, using the agency's authority under the "Superfund" law, on Wednesday directed AT&T and Verizon Communications to provide inspections, investigations and environmental sampling data, including future testing plans, about their lead cables and related lead infrastructure within 10 days. Under the EPA's "Superfund" law, the agency can compel or undertake major environmental cleanups in certain cases.

A Wall Street Journal investigation recently revealed that AT&T, Verizon and other telecom companies have left behind more than 2,000 toxic lead cables on poles, under waterways and in the soil across the U.S. Journal testing near such cables showed that dozens of spots registered lead levels exceeding EPA safety guidelines.

The EPA takes "the issues raised in these articles very seriously and will move expeditiously under our statutory authorities to protect the public from potential legacy pollution," the agency said.

"We are collaborating with the EPA and will provide any information requested, including our recent testing in Lake Tahoe and Michigan," an AT&T spokesperson said.

Verizon said it hasn't been contacted by the Justice Department. A Verizon spokesman said: "As we have said from the beginning, we remain committed to the factual and scientific-based analysis of the issues. We will continue to have a proactive and constructive dialogue with the EPA as we jointly work to better understand the facts and consider any potential actions."

In a letter to AT&T reviewed by the Journal, the agency specifically asked for information relating to, among other things, AT&T's lead-sheathed cables in Bayou Teche, La., cited in the Journal investigation. The EPA said such data is "needed to evaluate the nature and extent of releases or threatened releases of lead from telecommunications cables, splice boxes, and associated equipment, whether abandoned or in use."

The EPA sought data from Verizon on three lead-sheathed cable sites. It said it would begin independent sampling in Coal Center, Pa., and West Orange, N.J., and coordinate with New York state to review samples in Wappingers Falls, N.Y., all locations cited in the Journal articles.

The EPA said a priority will be "evaluating areas with vulnerable communities and sites closely linked with children, such as schools and playgrounds." The EPA saidits Office of Land and Emergency Management and regional offices are coordinating with state environmental agencies to assess potential contamination at the sites identified by the Journal.

The Journal also has reported that AT&T has previously noted the potential risks from its lead cables in industry safety presentations in 2010 and 2013. Current and former workers at telecom companies stemming from Ma Bell said they learned how to handle lead work on the job and didn't receive respirators or regular blood testing, the Journal has reported.

In response to the Journal's reporting, AT&T, Verizon and USTelecom, an industry group, have said they don't believe cables in their ownership are a public health hazard or a major contributor to environmental lead. They said they follow regulatory safety standards for workers dealing with lead.

In a statement Wednesday, a USTelecom spokesperson said the industry "prioritizes the health and safety of our communities and workers" and continues to "engage with policy makers on this important matter."

In an earnings call Wednesday, AT&T Chief Executive John Stankey said the company is "working cooperatively with the Environmental Protection Agency to provide them the information needed to conduct a thorough assessment of the issue using the most up-to-date reliable science."

AT&T has said the 2010 and 2013 presentations were about worker safety and aren't "an acknowledgment that lead-clad cables pose a general public health issue. As reflected in these presentations, we follow best practices to maintain this legacy infrastructure in a way that's safe for all based on established science."
After the Journal's articles, AT&T disclosed last week that lead-clad cables represent less than 10% of its copper footprint of roughly two million sheathed miles; analysts have estimated that to be about 200,000 miles of lead cable.
AT&T has expanded blood lead testing offered to workers after the Journal's articles.
On Tuesday, Verizon Chief Financial Officer Tony Skiadas said in an earnings call that "it's far too soon" to project the financial impact that aging lead-sheathed cables might have on the telecom giant. Verizon said lead-clad cable makes up a small percentage of the less than 540,000 miles of cables in its copper-wire network, though that accounting excludes two previously acquired companies with records the company is still reviewing.
Wall Street research analysts have estimated that lead cables make up roughly 15% to 20% of Verizon's legacy footprint, totaling at least 81,000 miles of lead.
Last week, Gov. Kathy Hochul directed three state departments to "immediately investigate" lead cabling in New York, directing telecom providers to provide an inventory of all lead cable locations in the state. Gov. Hochul also directed state inspectors to conduct sampling for lead in the Wappingers Falls, N.Y., playground where a lead cable and contamination were identified by the Journal.
"We will hold the telecommunication companies responsible and take swift action to remediate any problems," Gov. Hochul said in a statement.
Rep. Pat Ryan, a New York Democrat, wrote to Verizon, AT&T and USTelecom demanding they remove the lead cables.

Drew FitzGerald, Coulter Jones and John West contributed to this article.
Credit: By Corinne Ramey, Shalini Ramachandran and Susan Pulliam

DETAILS

Subject:	Public health; Workers; Lead content; Cables; Investigations; Environmental protection; Lead poisoning
Business indexing term:	Subject: Workers; Corporation: AT &T Inc Verizon Communications Inc
Location:	New York; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Verizon Communications Inc; NAICS: 513210, 517111, 517112; Name: AT &T Inc; NAICS: 517111, 517112; Name: Environmental Protection Agency--EPA; NAICS: 924110; Name: Department of Justice; NAICS: 922130
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.

Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338949
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-doj-epa-probe-telecoms-over-lead/docview/2842338949/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Affordable Midwestern Cities Lead Emerging Housing Index

Friedman, Nicole . Friedman, Nicole.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Lafayette, Ind., held its spot at the top of The Wall Street Journal/Realtor.com Emerging Housing Markets Index for the third straight quarter as affordable Midwestern cities continue to attract home-shopping demand.

Three Indiana metro areas topped the index in the second quarter -- Lafayette, Fort Wayne and Elkhart -- followed by Bloomington, Ill., and Sioux City, Iowa.

Elevated mortgage rates have slowed the housing market in the past year and a half by making purchases more expensive for many buyers and by discouraging homeowners from listing their houses for sale. Existing home sales, which make up most of the housing market, fell 18.9% in June from a year earlier, according to the National Association of Realtors.

While the higher rates have discouraged many buyers, the persistent low inventory of homes for sale means the market is still competitive for buyers who are shopping.
The top-ranked markets in the second quarter had faster home sales than the market as a whole, according to Realtor.com. Across the top 20 markets in the index, the number of homes for sale rose by 16% on average in the year ended in June, below the national increase of 40%.
The index identifies attractive metro areas for home buyers seeking an appreciating housing market, a strong local economy and appealing lifestyle amenities. News Corp, parent of the Journal, operates Realtor.com.
Sixteen of the top 20 markets in the second-quarter index had median home listing prices in June below the national median of $445,000.
People are moving to the Lafayette area, which has about 225,000 residents, because of its strong job market, said Tamara House, a real-estate agent at Re/Max at the Crossing in Lafayette.While inventory has increased in recent weeks, "demand is still extremely high," she said.
The Wall Street Journal/Realtor.com Emerging Housing Markets Index ranks the 300 biggest metro areas in the U.S. In addition to housing-market indicators, the index incorporates economic and lifestyle data, including real-estate taxes, unemployment, wages, commute time and small-business loans.
Credit: By Nicole Friedman

DETAILS

Subject:	Real estate sales; Inventory; Homeowners
Business indexing term:	Subject: Inventory
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Wall Street Journal; NAICS: 513110, 516210
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English

Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338946
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-affordable-midwestern-cit ies-lead/docview/2842338946/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Giuliani Concedes Statements Were False

Wolfe, Jan . Wolfe, Jan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Former Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani said he wouldn't contest the claim by two Georgia election workers who are suing him for defamation that he falsely accused them of manipulating votes in the 2020 presidential election.

In a carefully worded statement filed in federal court late Tuesday, Giuliani said he didn't contest that his statements about Wandrea "Shaye" Moss and her mother, Ruby Freeman, were false and "carry meaning that is defamatory."

The declaration doesn't end the lawsuit. Giuliani said in the filing that he "believes he still has legal defenses" in the case, including that "his statements are constitutionally protected statements or opinions." Giuliani said he would also contest that he owes damages to the two women.

"Mayor Rudy Giuliani did not acknowledge that the statements were false but did not contest it in order to move on to the portion of the case that will permit a motion to dismiss," said Ted Goodman, a political adviser to Giuliani.

On election night in 2020, Moss and Freeman were among the poll workers who tabulated ballots at State Farm Arena in Atlanta. Using selectively edited video footage, Giuliani spread a theory that Moss and Freeman removed ballots from suitcases underneath tables. Then-President Donald Trump also pushed the false claims.

Georgia election officials debunked the claim. Security footage showed that counting hadn't ended for the evening, and that the "suitcases" were standard ballot containers.

In a December 2021 lawsuit, Moss and Freeman said Giuliani tarnished their reputations and caused them to receive a wave of death threats.

Michael J. Gottlieb, a lawyer for Moss and Freeman, said Wednesday that Giuliani's stipulation is a breakthrough in the litigation.

"Giuliani's stipulation concedes what we have always known to be true -- Ruby Freeman and Shaye Moss honorably performed their civic duties in the 2020 presidential election in full compliance with the law; and the allegations of election fraud he and former President Trump made against them have been false since day one," said Gottlieb, a partner at Willkie Farr &Gallagher LLP.

The defamation lawsuit is one of several legal problems faced by Giuliani, a former New York City mayor.

Earlier this month, a District of Columbia-based disciplinary panel recommended Giuliani be disbarred for his "frivolous" efforts on behalf of then-President Trump to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

Giuliani is also a target of a continuing criminal investigation into alleged election interference in Georgia.

Credit: By Jan Wolfe

DETAILS

Subject:	Election results; Voter fraud; Presidential elections; Defamation; Litigation; False information
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices
Location:	United States--US; Georgia
People:	Trump, Donald J; Giuliani, Rudolph W
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338937

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-giuliani-concedes-statements-were-false/docview/2842338937/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-27
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: Four-Day Workweek Wins Praise

Fuhrmans, Vanessa . Fuhrmans, Vanessa.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Findings from one of the largest experiments with a four-day workweek offers new ballast for people hoping to adopt the same schedule: The longer people worked in new, more efficient ways, the shorter their workweeks became.

The results come from a series of four-day-workweek trials conducted in the U.S., Canada, the U.K. and Ireland over the past 18 months. Dozens of companies ranging from design agencies to manufacturers and nonprofits tested the four-day concept, an approach that is gaining traction as employers and employees rethink the traditional ways of work. Workers were given a paid day off a week but the same workload to see whether they could get as much done working more effectively.

After six months, workers said they had less burnout, improved health and more job satisfaction, and had cut their average work time by about four hours to 34 hours a week. Those who continued the schedule a full 12 months reduced working times even further, to about 33 hours a week, researchers say. Meanwhile, they continued to report better mental and physical health and work-life balance.

The idea of working less than the conventional 40 hours over five days a week has been kicked around for years but has found new momentum recently. Some employers and policy makers are exploring whether a four-day week can improve employee well-being and loyalty and help them compete for workers.

Up to now, most studies of four-day weeks examined the short-term effects. The new findings are the first that look across multiple companies over a longer, 12-month period. They suggest that businesses and employees both benefit in the long run as workers get accustomed to shorter weeks, companies and researchers say.

Most companies didn't ask workers to "speed up and cram five days of tasks into four," said Juliet Schor, an economist and sociologist at Boston College whose team helped conduct the study with the nonprofit advocacy group 4 Day Week Global. Instead, they reduced meetings and dedicated more time to uninterrupted focus work, she said.

Companies in the U.S. and Canada recently concluded a smaller pilot program of a four-day week led by the same

researchers, and similar trials are in the works in Australia, Brazil and elsewhere. In a U.K. trial involving 61 British companies last year, the majority of the participants said they would stick with the four-day week after logging sharp drops in worker turnover and absenteeism while largely maintaining productivity.

The vast majority of jobs are likely to stick to the conventional five-day schedule for the foreseeable future. Most companies trying shorter weeks are small employers. And some workers in four-day experiments report struggling to get everything done in that time.

Jenise Uehara, chief executive and co-owner of Search Engine Journal, a digital marketing publication that participated in one of the U.S. trials, said she proposed moving to a four-day workweek last year. Some of the company's three dozen remote employees had become overwhelmed with the increase in work, and turnover was rising.

As part of the experiment, the company declared a "meeting bankruptcy," wiping all meetings from the calendar for a month, then thinking about which were really necessary.

Within six months, the company's turnover had dropped, productivity held up, and clients didn't notice the business had moved to a four-day week, Uehara said. The company plans to continue operating on the four-day week, with staff taking Fridays off.

Credit: By Vanessa Fuhrmans

DETAILS

Subject:	Workers; Working hours; Employers; Employees; Workweeks; Productivity
Business indexing term:	Subject: Workers Working hours Employers Employees Workweeks Productivity
Location:	United States--US; Canada; United Kingdom--UK
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.5
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2842338935
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-four-day-workweek-wins-praise/docview/2842338935/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Fed Lifts Rates to Highest Level in 22 Years --- Powell says too soon to tell if latest rise is the last one needed in inflation battle

Timiraos, Nick . Timiraos, Nick.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Reserve resumed lifting interest rates Wednesday with a quarter-percentage-point increase that will bring them to a 22-year high.

Fed Chair Jerome Powell said it was too soon to tell whether the hike would conclude a series of increases aimed at cooling the economy and bringing down inflation. The central bank would decide whether to keep lifting rates based on how the economy fares in the months ahead, "with a particular focus on making progress on inflation," he said at a news conference.

The unanimous decision to raise the benchmark federal-funds rate to a range between 5.25% and 5.5% follows a brief pause in increases last month. It marks the 11th rate rise since March 2022, when they lifted rates from near zero.

Markets were mixed after the Fed decision. The S&P 500 finished about flat Wednesday, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq moved slightly lower. The benchmark 10-year Treasury yield fell to 3.850% after climbing Tuesday to 3.911%.

At their previous meeting in June, officials held rates steady but penciled in two more increases this year. Fed officials are scheduled to meet three more times this year, with the next meeting in September.

Powell's mission going into the meeting was likely to keep market expectations of another rate rise later this year "priced as a coin flip," said Daleep Singh, a former executive at the New York Fed who is now chief global economist at PGIM Fixed Income. "Pricing the next set of decisions as a coin flip maximizes flexibility for the Fed to react to incoming data."

Inflation has retreated from a 40-year high hit last summer, with the consumer-price index climbing 3% in June from a

year earlier. That is well below the June 2022 peak of 9.1%, when gasoline prices reached a U.S. record average of $5 a gallon.
Fed officials have been concerned that underlying price pressures may prove more persistent as a solid labor market allows workers to bargain for higher pay, making it harder to get inflation down further.
Core consumer prices, which exclude volatile food and energy categories, in June posted the smallest monthly gain in more than two years, according to the Labor Department's consumer-price index. But core prices rose 4.8% in June from a year earlier, a still-elevated level. Fed officials are focused on core inflation because they see it as a better predictor of future inflation.
Powell didn't rule out another rate rise at the central bank's September meeting, but he emphasized how much the central bank had already done along with the amount of time it can take for monetary policy to cool inflation.
"We've come a long way. Inflation repeatedly has proved stronger than we and other forecasters have expected, and at some point that may change," Powell said. "We have to be ready to follow the data, and given how far we've come, we can afford to be a little patient, as well as resolute, as we let this unfold."
Powell also said the Fed's influential staff no longer was forecasting a recession to begin this year, as they had in March, May and June, and instead was projecting a "noticeable slowdown" in growth.
The Fed seeks to keep inflation at 2% over time, as measured by its preferred gauge, the personal-consumption expenditures price index. The Commerce Department will release the June update for that index on Friday.
The Fed fights inflation by slowing the economy through raising rates, which causes tighter financial conditions such as higher borrowing costs, lower stock prices and a stronger dollar. The fed-funds rate influences other borrowing costs throughout the economy, including rates on mortgages, credit cards and auto loans.
The Fed boosted interest rates aggressively in 2022 and then slowed the pace at the end of the year. Holding rates steady in June offered a way to further dial down the pace of increases and study the effects of those rapid moves, particularly after fears that banking stress this spring might further constrain credit.
"For this last part of the tightening cycle, it makes sense to stretch it out over time. They are fine-tuning. They don't know the exact destination. It makes sense to do that slowly," said Angel Ubide, head of economic research for global fixed income at Citadel, a hedge-fund firm.
Officials had signaled disagreement in recent months over how to sequence their recent moves. While all 11 voting members of the policy-setting Federal Open Market Committee agreed to last month's decision to hold rates steady, some of the 18 voting and nonvoting officials would have supported a rate rise at the June meeting, according to a written account released earlier this month.
A few Fed officials have suggested they might prefer to raise rates again at the central bank's September meeting, while one had endorsed a longer pause. Others who think the impact of the Fed's rate increases has yet to take full effect are more likely to favor waiting until November or December to decide whether another increase will be appropriate.
"We think this will be the last hike" because inflation will continue to slow and the labor market will soften, said Matthew Luzzetti, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank. But the economy has continued to defy expectations of such slowing for a year, creating a risk that the Fed lifts rates again, he said.
Even if Wednesday's increase marked the finish line, there was little incentive for Powell to validate those expectations until officials see more evidence that inflation and economic activity has slowed.
A slowdown in core inflation over the coming months could create a new conundrum for the Fed if officials see reasons to think the improvement will be short lived -- for example, because wage growth stays firm.
"This is the old, 'be careful what you wish for,'" said Richard Clarida, who served as Powell's second-in-command from 2018 until January 2022.
Economists have debated over the past year to what extent slowing labor demand will require joblessness to rise or whether most of the adjustment can occur as companies reduce job openings but not head count.
"A lot of the debate on the labor market is beside the point," Clarida said. "If I was still over there, what I would worry about is the following: If we don't get a deceleration in wages and we don't get a pickup in productivity, then we're

not going to hit our inflation target."
Credit: By Nick Timiraos

DETAILS

Subject:	Inflation; Interest rates; Central banks; Consumer Price Index; Federal Reserve monetary policy
Business indexing term:	Subject: Inflation Interest rates Central banks Consumer Price Index Federal Reserve monetary policy; Industry: 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank 92113 : Public Finance Activities
Location:	United States--US
People:	Powell, Jerome
Classification:	52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank; 92113: Public Finance Activities
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338929
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/fed-lifts-rates-highest-level-22-years-powell/docview/2842338929/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2024-08-28
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Colleges Rethink How to Screen Applicants --- Limit on how schools can consider race triggers new essay prompts, software

Korn, Melissa . Korn, Melissa.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Colleges are rethinking what information they ask from applicants -- and even which words they use to extract those details -- as they react to last month's Supreme Court ruling that dramatically limited how they can consider race when selecting students.

Schools are also making changes to where they scout for potential students, how application files get reviewed, and longstanding policies governing which groups of candidates get preferential treatment. School officials say they remain committed to enrolling a diverse class of students, even if the tools they can use have changed.

They have to move quickly; most applications go live on Aug. 1.

The Supreme Court forced a tectonic shift in college admissions when it said schools could no longer take race into account when assessing applicants or give preference to applicants based on race. But Chief Justice John Roberts said in the majority opinion that colleges can still consider applicants' discussions of how race affected their lives, "so long as that discussion is concretely tied to a quality of character or unique ability that the particular applicant can contribute to the university."

Rice University, Colorado College, Hampshire College and Lehigh University say they are tweaking their essay questions in light of the ruling.

"The idea is to provide a vehicle for students of all backgrounds and all contexts to feel as though they can tell their story in a way that the rest of the application might not allow them to do," said Dan Warner, Lehigh's vice provost for admissions and financial aid.

Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, N.Y., will use Roberts's own words in its new essay prompt: "Drawing upon examples from your life, a quality of your character, and/or a unique ability you possess, describe how you believe your goals for a college education might be impacted, influenced, or affected by the Court's decision."

The Wall Street Journal asked more than 50 selective colleges and universities which changes they are making to their applications, fall recruiting calendars or other elements of their admissions process -- including the use of binding early-decision programs and the practice of giving extra credit to athletes or children of alums.

About 35 said they were still reviewing the ruling and weren't ready to discuss firm plans. A few said they were advised

by legal counsel not to speak publicly about potential changes.
Art Coleman, managing partner and co-founder of EducationCounsel, a legal and policy consulting firm that works with schools, said the court ruling didn't provide guidance on how schools can recruit, whether race can still be considered for financial-aid awards, or what might justify looking at race in other elements of the process.
"You open the door and you're stepping into blank space," Coleman said. "The fear of litigation is real."
Edward Blum, the conservative activist behind the lawsuits that led to the Supreme Court decision, sent letters earlier this month reminding 150 schools to heed the new legal limitations.
Much of the work schools are doing is behind the scenes, including updating software programs to ensure that those reviewing applications can't see whether an applicant filled in the optional check box listing their race or ethnicity or how the racial mix of the admitted class is shaping up midcycle.
Some offices are also revising staff guidelines to defend against what they see as nearly inevitable allegations of violating the law. They may include reminders that the notes readers put on applications should focus on why someone's unique perspective or experience might enrich the campus community, rather than just that they would bring diversity.
In light of the limitations the ruling puts on giving special consideration to students of color, many college-access advocates are pushing schools to stop giving preferential treatment to the kids of alums, who at many schools are overwhelmingly white and wealthier than the general applicant pool.
The U.S. Education Department opened an investigation this week into the use of donor and legacy admissions at Harvard, one of two schools named in the Supreme Court affirmative-action cases. The probe comes in response to a civil-rights complaint filed against Harvard after the ruling that alleged legacy preferences disproportionately benefit white applicants and disadvantage students of color.
On Wednesday, Sens. Jeff Merkley (D., Ore.) and Chris Van Hollen (D., Md.) and Rep. Jamaal Bowman (D., N.Y.) reintroduced legislation to stop universities from giving preferential treatment to children of alumni and donors. They say their aim is to ensure equity in the admissions process.
In recent weeks, Wesleyan University and the University of Minnesota said they would no longer give any extra consideration to legacy applicants; Minnesota also won't take into account whether an applicant has ties to school staff. They join a small but growing roster of institutions ignoring legacy status, including the University of Illinois, Johns Hopkins University and Amherst College.
"The Supreme Court said you can't use race affiliation. Why should you be able to use family affiliation?" said Wesleyan President Michael Roth.
Roth said that while he is concerned about potential financial fallout, the school previously rejected most legacy applicants and still received plenty of donations.
Credit: By Melissa Korn

DETAILS

ERIC Subject:	Admission Criteria; Court Litigation; College Admission; Minority Group Students
Subject:	Supreme Court decisions; Software; Students; College admissions; Schools; Litigation; Admissions policies
Location:	United States--US
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 27, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2842338927
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-colleges-rethink-how-screen-applicants/docview/2842338927/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2024-07-15
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Stocks Shrug Off Signals of Recession

Langley, Karen . Langley, Karen.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Stocks have floated higher as Wall Street dials back its recession forecasts. Some investors aren't ready to call the all-clear.

They point to worrying economic signals, lofty equity valuations and the possibility that the Federal Reserve continues raising interest rates or keeps them elevated longer than the market anticipates. The S&P 500, meanwhile, has advanced 19% this year even as analysts expect 2023 corporate earnings to come in flat.
"There's not a lot of leeway for bad news right now in equities," said Mike Mullaney, director of global markets research at Boston Partners.
Investors are all but certain that the central bank will raise interest rates by a quarter percentage point Wednesday. Their focus is on the future: any sign of whether Fed officials expect to lift rates higher from there.
Not long ago, brutally hot inflation and the Fed's plans to fight it made the prognosis for markets and the economy appear bleak.
Since the early 1950s, every episode of significant U.S. disinflation, each of which was driven at least partly by Fed tightening, has been accompanied by recession, according to Deutsche Bank research. That has been bad news for stocks: In recessions since the late 1940s, the S&P 500 has fallen a median of 24%, according to the bank's research.
Last year the stock market seemed to be signaling such a contraction, with the S&P 500 sliding 25% from its high in January 2022 to its low in October.
Many investors expected more of the same at the start of 2023. Instead, stocks roared higher out of the gate.
The S&P 500 emerged last month from its longest bear market since the 1940s and has now climbed 28% from its bottom. It ended Tuesday at its highest close since April 2022.
Inflation has cooled and the economy keeps motoring along. The jobs market remains robust, with the unemployment rate hitting a 53-year low earlier this year before ticking up just slightly. Americans have been spending more at retail businesses. Economists are raising estimates for gross domestic product in the second and third quarters.
"There's an actual chance here the Fed could stick the landing," said Dryden Pence, chief investment officer at Pence Capital Management.
Still, there are reasons for concern.
The Conference Board said last week that its leading economic index fell for a 15th consecutive month, signaling slowing economic activity ahead.
That is the index's longest streak of declines since a span from the spring of 2007 through early 2009. The U.S. economy fell into a recession in December 2007 and didn't exit until June 2009.
The bond market is flashing another warning sign. Normally, longer-term U.S. Treasurys carry higher yields than shorter-term ones, paying investors for the risk that interest rates rise or inflation accelerates.
When the longer-term yields are lower, it often suggests that investors think the Fed will need to cut rates to resuscitate the economy.
The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note has been lower than that of the 2-year Treasury for more than a year, the longest streak since a span ending in 1980, according to Dow Jones Market Data.
There also have been glimpses of weakening in the market for bank loans. Loan officers at U.S. banks told the Federal Reserve earlier this year that they had tightened lending standards for households and businesses and also seen lower demand from borrowers. Tighter lending conditions can weigh on economic growth as firms pull back on investment and hiring and consumers have less money at their disposal.
Hans Olsen, chief investment officer at Fiduciary Trust, said he finds the stock market's rally perplexing given the warning signs from various economic indicators. His firm sold U.S. stocks in April and is holding more cash than usual to protect against a market downturn, he said.
"When you looked at that data set, you went, hold on here, this kind of looks like a classic slowdown in an economy that eventually slides into some form of contraction," Olsen said.
Such concerns come as the stock market is boasting rich valuations relative to history. The S&P 500 traded early this week at 19.7 times its projected earnings over the next 12 months, up from 16.8 at the end of last year and above a 10-year average of 17.7, according to FactSet.
Although there is no rule that valuations can't stay elevated or climb even higher, some investors worry that the high

price tag makes the market more vulnerable to a pullback.
And while inflation has cooled notably, easing in June to its slowest pace in more than two years, it remains well above the Fed's 2% target. Central bank officials may not be satisfied without lifting rates again later this year or keeping them high for an extended period. And that could have unpredictable consequences.
"Everyone's sort of come to peace with a higher fed-funds rate," said Katie Nixon, chief investment officer at Northern Trust Wealth Management. "I don't think we've quite come to grips with what the implications of staying at that level for a prolonged period of time might mean for the economy and certainly for the markets."
Credit: By Karen Langley

DETAILS

Subject:	Stock exchanges; Investments; Securities markets; Economic conditions; Federal Reserve monetary policy; Gross Domestic Product--GDP; Inflation; Interest rates; Central banks; Economic growth; Financial executives; Recessions
Business indexing term:	Subject: Stock exchanges Securities markets Economic conditions Federal Reserve monetary policy Gross Domestic Product--GDP Inflatio n Interest rates Central banks Economic growth Recessions; Industry: 92113 : Public Finance Activities 52111 : Monetary Authorities-Central Bank 52321 : Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Location:	United States--US
Classification:	92113: Public Finance Activities; 52111: Monetary Authorities-Central Bank; 52321: Securities and Commodity Exchanges
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.1
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News

ProQuest document ID:	2841737993
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/stocks-shrug-off-signals-recession/docview/2841737993/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: World Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

UKRAINE
U.S. Citizen
Injured in War
A U.S. citizen freed last year from Russian detention was injured while fighting in Ukraine, the U.S. State Department said Tuesday.
Trevor Reed, who was released in April 2022 in a prisoner swap, has been evacuated to Germany with the help of a nongovernmental organization and is receiving medical care, State Department spokesman Vedant Patel said.
"Mr. Reed was not engaged in any activities on behalf of the U.S. government," Patel said. "We have been incredibly clear, warning American citizens, American nationals not to travel to Ukraine, let alone participate in fighting there."
The U.S. had designated him as wrongfully detained. In 2022, about two months after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Reed was exchanged for Russian citizen Konstantin Yaroshenko, who was sentenced to 20 years in prison in 2010 for conspiracy to smuggle cocaine into the U.S.
Reed, a 32-year-old onetime student at the University of North Texas who served in the Marines, was sentenced by a Russian court in 2020 to nine years in prison after being found guilty of assaulting two police officers.
-- Brett Forrest

BELGIUM
Eight Guilty in
Terror Attacks
Eight men were found guilty on Tuesday in connection with a series of bombing attacks that killed more than 30 people and injured hundreds of others at the Brussels main airport and a metro station in 2016.
The verdict followed a trial that lasted for seven months. Sentencing is expected to take place later this year.

The two terrorist attacks, claimed by the Islamic State terror group and the deadliest in Belgium's peacetime history, took place on the morning of March 22, 2016.
Six men were found guilty of murder in a terrorist context, according to Belgian news agency Belga. Two others were found guilty of membership in a terrorist group, and two were acquitted in a high-security trial that took place in the former headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
On the day of the attack, suicide bombers Najim Laachraoui and Ibrahim el-Bakraoui detonated bombs at the city's international airport, killing 16 people. About an hour later, el-Bakraoui's brother, Khalid, detonated an explosion at a Brussels subway stop, killing another 16 people.
Belgian authorities arrested Mohamed Abrini, who had been wanted in connection with the Paris attacks of 2015 that killed 130 people, and named him as a third airport bomber, who fled after not triggering his device.
-- Laurence Norman

DETAILS

Subject:	Criminal sentences; Suicide bombings; Terrorism; Airports
Business indexing term:	Subject: Airports; Industry: 48811 : Airport Operations
Location:	United States--US; Ukraine
Classification:	48811: Airport Operations
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737983

Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-watch/docview/2841737983/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, an d public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Business News: U.K. Mogul Indicted On Insider Charges

Ramey, Corinne . Ramey, Corinne.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

British billionaire Joe Lewis was indicted in New York on insider-trading charges Tuesday for allegedly sharing confidential information about companies in which he invested with personal assistants, romantic partners and his pilots.

The tips by Lewis, the owner of the English Premier League soccer club Tottenham Hotspur, allowed these friends and associates to reap millions in profits, prosecutors said. Lewis faces 19 criminal charges, including securities fraud and conspiracy.

David Zornow, a lawyer for Lewis, said his client had come to the U.S. voluntarily to face the charges. "The government has made an egregious error in judgment in charging Mr. Lewis, an 86-year-old man of impeccable integrity and prodigious accomplishment," Zornow said.

Damian Williams, U.S. attorney in Manhattan, said Lewis "used inside information as a way to compensate his employees or to shower gifts on his friends and lovers."

From 2013 to 2021, prosecutors said, Lewis engaged in multiple schemes to violate securities laws, including through submitting false filings to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Lewis also learned confidential information about clinical trials and company announcements, which he then shared with associates, according to an indictment. In one case, he provided his pilots loans of $500,000 each, then encouraged them to buy stock in oncology company Mirati Therapeutics before the news of a clinical trial became public, prosecutors said. Mirati didn't respond to a request for comment.

Credit: By Corinne Ramey

DETAILS

Subject:	Indictments; Professional soccer; Scandals
Business indexing term:	Industry: 71121 : Spectator Sports
Location:	United States--US
People:	Lewis, Joe (investor)
Classification:	71121: Spectator Sports
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737982
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-u-k-mogul-indicted-on-insider/docview/2841737982/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Kyiv's Offensive Tests Biden's Strategy

Lubold, Gordon; Gordon, Michael R; Strobel, Warren P . Lubold, Gordon; Gordon, Michael R; Strobel, Warren P.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

The slow pace of Ukraine's counteroffensive against entrenched Russian invaders is dimming hopes that negotiations for an end to the fighting could come this year and raising the specter of an open-ended conflict, according to Western officials.

A potential stalemate would test President Biden's stated strategy of pouring billions of dollars in military aid into Ukraine, to enable Kyiv to negotiate with Russia from a position of strength. It could also challenge the West's continuing ability to supply weaponry that is already in short supply, and provide political fodder to those opposing U.S. support for the war.

"Obviously it's easier to provide more support when things are going well," said John Herbst, a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and an advocate of expanding military assistance to Kyiv. But the Biden administration doesn't have much choice other than to continue providing weapons, he said.

Backing away from Ukraine and allowing even a partial Russian victory "would be the signature failure of Biden foreign policy that would dwarf the Afghan withdrawal," added Herbst, who is now at the Washington-based Atlantic Council think tank.

Biden has staked his foreign-policy credentials on a conflict that he describes as a battle between democracy and authoritarianism. He has directed more than $43 billion in security assistance to Kyiv, but is facing challenges in Congress from some members of the Republican Party.

As Biden moves toward a presidential contest next year, Russian President Vladimir Putin has more of an incentive to try to outlast the West. Two top contenders for the Republican nomination -- former President Donald Trump and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis -- have suggested they might temper military support for Ukraine.

Russia has also shown little inclination to negotiate. With the invasion of Ukraine bogged down, Putin is facing critics inside his country who say he hasn't pursued the war aggressively enough.

"The Russians are more than happy to talk about Ukraine's capitulation," said Thomas Graham, a distinguished fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. "I don't think they are seriously interested in any talks about a resolution of the Ukraine crisis short of that at this point."

Ukraine's counteroffensive, launched at the start of June, is aimed at retaking some of the nearly 20% of Ukrainian territory occupied by Moscow. While Ukraine has seized back some territory, it hasn't yet achieved a breakthrough that might force Russia to the negotiating table.

With neither Russia nor Ukraine inclined to negotiate, the White House has few options for now but to stay the course, hoping for an eventual battlefield breakthrough against entrenched Russian forces -- or new political cracks in Moscow.

U.S. officials acknowledge the counteroffensive is going slowly, but say it is too soon to assess the effectiveness until Ukraine commits more of its combat brigades.

The question is whether the U.S. and its allies have the resolve to continue support, or even expand it, if the offensive

continues to fall short of expectations.
Speaking last week at the Aspen Security Forum, Canada's Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland openly worried about the ability of Western allies to stay the course. "My biggest fear for Ukraine, actually, is us," she said.
Credit: By Gordon Lubold, Michael R. Gordon, and Warren P. Strobel

DETAILS

Subject:	Invasions; Military aid; International relations; War; Peace negotiations; Government spending
Business indexing term:	Subject: International relations Government spending
Location:	Kyiv Ukraine; Russia; United States--US; Ukraine
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.10
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737975
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-kyivs-offensive-tests-bidens-strategy/docview/2841737975/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corpo rations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.

Last updated:	2025-01-30

LINKS

Business News: Earnings Watch

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

3M
Accord Shows
Suit Progress
3M said a more than $10 billion settlement to resolve contamination claims related to so-called forever chemicals showed progress in its efforts to resolve litigation that weighed on its stock.
The St. Paul, Minn., maker of consumer and industrial products agreed last month to settle allegations by about 300 cities that 3M-manufactured PFAS chemicals tainted drinking water. 3M reported a quarterly loss of $6.84 billion, which included a charge of $10.3 billion related to the settlement. The loss of $12.35 a share compared with a profit of $78 million, or 14 cents a share, a year earlier. Adjusting for one-time expenses, including the settlement charge, it reported per-share earnings of $2.17, down from $2.45 a year earlier but surpassing analysts' expectations, according to FactSet.
The stock rose 5.3%.
-- John Keilman and Ben Glickman

UNILEVER
Higher Prices
Give a Boost
Unilever benefited from sharply higher prices again in the second quarter, but its finance chief said the company is past peak inflation.
Chief Financial Officer Graeme Pitkethly said consumers in North America are "starting to show signs of caution," even as inflation eases, and Unilever is fighting stronger competition from store brands in ice cream and salad dressings.
Pitkethly attributed U.S. consumers' caution to the drop in government support, saying this caused "a very rapid drop off in excess savings."
Shares were up more than 4.5% in London trading after the company's results beat analysts' expectations.
Overall, sales for the second quarter were 15.74 billion euros, equivalent to $17.42 billion, down slightly from a year earlier. The company doesn't disclose quarterly profit figures.
-- Saabira Chaudhuri and Joe Hoppe

LVMH
Americans Buy
Less Bling
Luxury-goods conglomerate LVMH said sales fell slightly in the U.S. -- a key driver of its postpandemic boom.
The owner of Louis Vuitton and Dior reported double-digit sales growth in all its other key geographies, helping it post

strong revenue and profit growth. It said less-affluent buyers of luxury goods in the U.S. have been cutting back on purchases as the economy shows signs of strain. Chief Financial Officer Jean Jacques Guiony said it was experiencing "a little bit of pressure with the American consumer" as so-called aspirational luxury customers cut back.
Overall, LVMH said organic sales rose 17% in the second quarter, compared with a year earlier. Revenue was 42.24 billion euros, or about $46.66 billion, for the six months to June 30, a rise of 15%. Net profit rose 30% to 18.48 billion euros. Its operating margin came in at 27.4%.
-- Nick Kostov

SNAP
Revenue Falls
Amid Ad Woes
Snap, owner of Snapchat, said second-quarter sales slid 4% from a year earlier to $1.1 billion, narrowly beating expectations from analysts surveyed by FactSet.
Snap extended an unprecedented revenue slump to a second straight quarter as it worked to retool its ad platform amid industry weakness in digital ads. Snap's net loss in the latest quarter narrowed by more than 10% from a year ago to $377 million, which beat analysts' expectations. It said it hit a record number of active advertisers in the quarter and its average daily active users grew about 14% year over year to 397 million.
Snap said revenue for the current quarter could come in anywhere from flat to down around 5%.Shares plunged more than 15% in after-hours trading Tuesday. The stock closed at $12.51 before the results were announced.
-- Lindsey Choo

DETAILS

Subject:	Perfluoroalkyl &polyfluoroalkyl substances; Sales; Consumers; Net losses; Corporate profits
Business indexing term:	Subject: Sales Consumers Net losses Corporate profits; Corporation: Unilever PLC
Location:	United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Unilever PLC; NAICS: 311421, 311512, 311520, 311941, 325611, 325620
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	B.3
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance

ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737970
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/business-news-earnings-watch/docview/2841737970/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-02-07
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Housing Vouchers Split New York --- Mayor and city council spar over the best way to free up space in shelters

Ailworth, Erin . Ailworth, Erin.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

NEW YORK -- The thousands of migrants coming to New York City each month are prompting officials to grapple with another issue: an existing homelessness problem.

After a dip during the pandemic, the population of the shelter system has reached a record high, city data show, exceeding the previous record set in 2019. Advocates and legislators are hoping an expanded system of city housing vouchers can help put more residents in permanent housing -- and cut down on ad hoc solutions such as converting warehouses and office buildings to shelters.

The city's shelter population began surging last year, particularly after Republican governors of border states began busing migrants to cities such as New York and Chicago. More than 90,000 migrants have arrived in New York City since spring 2022, and nearly 61% remain in either traditional shelters or various relief centers.

The migrant crisis has already cost the city $1.4 billion, Mayor Eric Adams has said, and the city expects to spend at

least $2.9 billion on the matter this fiscal year.
The vouchers have become a flashpoint, leading to arguments between Adams and his fellow Democrats on the city council. The council voted July 13 to expand the program, overriding an Adams veto.
"Every New Yorker at the lowest income levels that we can help avoid eviction through the use of [city housing] vouchers is another crisis averted," Speaker Adrienne Adams said at the council meeting where the veto was overturned. "This proactive approach stops forcing people into shelters."
Christine C. Quinn, CEO of Win, a nonprofit agency that has city contracts to operate shelters for families with children, said the system was already showing strain.
"There was a problem -- a significant, significant problem -- before the asylum seekers arrived," said Quinn, a former council speaker.
Last week, Mayor Adams said the city had more than 105,000 people in its care -- including nearly 55,000 migrants -- and that shelters were so full the city would soon implement a 60-day limit on shelter stays for adult asylum seekers.
The mayor argued the city can't afford such an expansion of its social safety net, which he says will cost $17 billion over five years. The changes, he said, could inadvertently give priority to people struggling with their rent over those who are already homeless, who he said would be "at the back of the line."
The voucher program has served an estimated 9,300 households over the previous 12 months, according to the Citizens Budget Commission, a nonpartisan watchdog. The commission didn't support the council's override, calling further expansion unaffordable.
Danielle Jeffries and her husband, Ansar, used a voucher to move into an apartment complex in Queens just a few days before Thanksgiving. The 48-year-old said that while she knows the mayor is juggling several crises, whatever he and other city officials can do to help others like her, they should.
"The ones that are trying to survive and trying to live and everything -- yeah, we need these vouchers," Jeffries said.
Jeffries, a beautician, said she and Ansar, a landscaper, landed in New York City's shelter system after her husband's parents died and they couldn't keep up with the taxes on his parents' house, which they also lived in.
Their new home is part of the Rockaway Village tower complex, which is dedicated to low-income households and was developed by a nonprofit. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr., who lived in the Queens neighborhood of Far Rockaway in his youth, said he is glad to see a former vacant parking lot be used for affordable housing.
The couple qualified for the voucher in part because they had spent at least three months in the city's shelter system. Adams in mid-June issued an emergency rule ending the 90-day shelter requirement. Two weeks later, Adams said 500 households that would have otherwise had to stay in a shelter for three months had already been approved for the voucher.
Lawmakers wanted to end the 90-day requirement and also eliminate a work requirement, while loosening income restrictions to qualify.
Adams vetoed the council's package of bills, arguing the plan would allow people not at meaningful risk of homelessness to qualify for vouchers before those more in need.
The mayor announced plans last week to place a 60-day limit on shelter stays for adult asylum seekers. He said the city would distribute fliers at the U.S. southern border telling people to consider going elsewhere.
"We have no more room in the city," Adams said last week.
Credit: By Erin Ailworth

DETAILS

Subject:	Mayors; Vouchers; Councils; Homeless people; Households; Shelters; Noncitizens; Housing; Immigration

Business indexing term:	Industry: 92111 : Executive Offices 62422 : Community Housing Services
Location:	New York City New York; New York; United States--US
Classification:	92111: Executive Offices; 62422: Community Housing Services
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737967
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-housin g-vouchers-split-new-york-mayor/docview/2841737967/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

U.S. News: Congressional Maps Ruling Could Sway House Control

Vielkind, Jimmy; Zitner, Aaron . Vielkind, Jimmy; Zitner, Aaron.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

New York's highest court is set to weigh in on a new set of congressional maps in the state, a ruling that analysts say could position Democrats to pick up as many as five U.S. House districts in the closely held chamber.

New York Republicans on Tuesday appealed the most recent ruling in a Democratic lawsuit that seeks to throw out district lines that were in place for last year's elections and helped the GOP pick up a net three seats in the deep blue Empire State. Democrats said those maps, drawn under judicial supervision, were only meant to be in place for 2022.

If the state's high court -- the New York State Court of Appeals -- agrees, political analysts say it would make it harder for the GOP to keep its already narrow majority.

"The House nationally has become a game of inches," said David Wasserman, U.S. House Editor for the nonpartisan Cook Political Report. "So, every seat that can be won through redistricting is a critical seat for the majority."

New York would help Democrats offset Republicans' expected redistricting advantage in North Carolina and possibly Ohio. The effort in the Empire State is a priority for House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, a Brooklyn Democrat who denounced the map drawn by a special master last year in response to a GOP-backed lawsuit.

Court arguments in New York likely won't be held before September, when the Court of Appeals is next scheduled to convene. Any new districts drawn by the state's Independent Redistricting Commission or the legislature will also be subject to challenge.

The legal saga began when New York used a different process for this cycle of redistricting, which occurs once a decade.

New York voters amended the State Constitution to create the independent commission, tasked with drawing lines for the state legislature and U.S. House. The IRC was supposed to forward maps to state lawmakers for their consideration; lawmakers would be able to draw the lines themselves if they rejected two sets of IRC maps.

Lawmakers voted down one set of IRC maps, but the commission failed to produce a second set for legislators to consider. So Democrats who control New York's state senate and assembly drew a set of House maps, which analysts said would have favored a delegation of 22 Democrats and four Republicans.

In response to a prior Republican lawsuit, the high court previously found that Democratic-drawn map violated a state constitutional prohibition against gerrymandering. In a 4-3 ruling, the court in April 2022 ordered a special master to draw a new map. Elections based on that map yielded 11 GOP House members from New York; Republicans in Washington have 222 seats, while Democrats have 212.

A group of Democratic plaintiffs sued over the new map in June 2022, arguing that the process should start again because the IRC didn't fulfill its duty of drafting two sets of maps. Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul filed a brief supporting the effort, and House Democrats cheered a midlevel ruling this month that said the court-drawn maps were only meant to be in place for 2022.

The same Republican voters who sued in 2022 have intervened in the current case. They previously argued that the current maps should stay in place until the next Census is released. GOP lawyers filed a two-page notice of appeal of the midlevel ruling on Tuesday.

Credit: By Jimmy Vielkind and Aaron Zitner

DETAILS

Subject:	Maps; Redistricting; Appeals; Voters; Legislators; Apportionment; Congressional elections
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92112 : Legislative Bodies
Location:	New York; United States--US
Company / organization:	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940; Name: Democratic Party; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92112: Legislative Bodies
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.6
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737946
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/u-s-news-congressional-maps-ruling-could-sway/docview/2841737946/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Russian Jet Damages U.S. Drone in Syria --- American officials call confrontation an effort to curtail operations in region

Gordon, Michael R . Gordon, Michael R.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

WASHINGTON -- A Russian jet fighter damaged a U.S. MQ-9 Reaper drone over Syria by releasing flares close to the American aircraft, the U.S. military said Tuesday.

The confrontation took place Sunday morning local time and follows similar episodes that U.S. officials say are part of a Russian campaign to pressure American forces to cut back on their military operations in the region.

The U.S. drone managed to limp back to its base in the region but its propeller was damaged, according to U.S. officials who issued photos and video of the encounter.

According to a statement issued Tuesday by Lt. Gen. Alexus Grynkewich, the top U.S. Air Force commander in the region, the episode occurred when the Russian plane flew within a few meters of the drone, which was on a mission against Islamic State, and released flares from a position directly overhead.

"One of the Russian flares struck the U.S. MQ-9, severely damaging its propeller," he said. "Fortunately, the MQ-9 crew was able to maintain flight and safely recover the aircraft to its home base."

The Russian Embassy in Washington didn't respond to a request for comment.

That confrontation was similar to a March incident over the Black Sea in which a Russian Su-27 jet fighter struck the propeller of an American MQ-9 surveillance drone. That drone crashed into the water below.

U.S. and Russian fighters have never traded blows in the skies over Syria, but tensions between the two militaries in the region have increased since Moscow's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

The Russia moves and Iranian threats to shipping in the Persian Gulf come as the Pentagon has sought to shift its focus to China and to defending Europe against potential Russian threats. That had led the Pentagon to temporarily move a modest number of air and naval forces back to the Middle East.

Earlier this month, the Pentagon said that it was sending more U.S. aircraft to the region, including advanced, F-35 fighters, as well as a guided-missile destroyer and two amphibious warships with Marines.

The U.S. has about 900 troops in Syria that are assisting a local partner, the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, combat the remnants of Islamic State.

Russia dispatched military forces to Syria in 2015 to back Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in the fight against the Syrian opposition.

U.S. and Russian military commanders have established a "deconfliction" channel to reduce the risk of unintended clashes, but the communications line has been used in recent months to trade complaints about each side's operations in the region.

Credit: By Michael R. Gordon

DETAILS

Subject:	Invasions; Armed forces; Drones; Military aircraft; Military exercises
Business indexing term:	Industry: 92811 : National Security 33641 : Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Syria
Company / organization:	Name: Department of Defense; NAICS: 928110; Name: Islamic State of Iraq &the Levant--ISIS; NAICS: 813940
Classification:	92811: National Security; 33641: Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.10
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737945
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-russian-jet-damages-u-s-drone-syria/docview/2841737945/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: Court Revamp Heightens Security Concerns

Cloud, David S; Lieber, Dov . Cloud, David S; Lieber, Dov.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

Months of internal turmoil surrounding a judicial overhaul pushed through Parliament by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have left Israel facing a challenging security environment, with questions about its military readiness, a growing threat from the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militant group along its northern border and strained ties with Washington, its biggest ally.

Hassan Nasrallah, leader of the Lebanese political and militant group Hezbollah, said Israel is a "regional power whose faith, awareness and self-confidence have started to deteriorate into the crisis it's experiencing today."

The legislation passed Monday that restricts Israel's Supreme Court moved beyond being a domestic political issue after thousands of military reservists threatened to refuse to report for duty in protest, a potentially damaging blow to a military that is highly dependent on volunteers with years of experience serving as fighter pilots, intelligence analysts and special-operations troops.

Though it remains to be seen how many will follow through, an Israeli military official said Monday that limited numbers of reservists have stopped showing up for training. The impact of their decision might not be felt for months, but senior military officials warned Netanyahu that the legislation is harming unity in the ranks and could affect its long-term readiness for battle.

Netanyahu, in a speech Monday night, called on protesters to leave the military out of "any political controversy."

"We all know that the IDF relies on dedicated reservists who love this country," he said, referring to the Israel Defense Forces. "Calls for refusal to serve harm the security of every citizen of the state."

The reservists say they aren't opposing a political position but what they view as legislation that would undermine democracy.

The IDF has 169,000 active- duty troops and 465,000 reservists and remains the Middle East's most formidable force, supplied with some of the most advanced drones and other weapons from Israel's technology sector and from the U.S., which provides Israel with $3.8 billion in annual military assistance.

If reservists in military jobs requiring highly developed skills stop volunteering for duty and training, the IDF would still have the capability to handle most threats. In a security crisis, many of the reservists who have pledged to quit likely would return to duty, analysts said. The real impact probably would be more long-term, they said.

"The IDF relies on the fact that Israel is a small country where everyone who is not an ultra-Orthodox Jew agrees to serve," said Michael Koplow, chief policy officer at the Israel Policy Forum, an American-Jewish group. "Once that gets broken, I think it's going to be very hard to fix it."

The measure seeks to restrict use of a legal standard known as reasonableness by the Israeli Supreme Court, which has in the past struck down government or executive decisions by asserting that they were decisions that are "extremely unreasonable." Supporters say the doctrine allows the courts to overrule the will of elected officials for political purposes.

Hezbollah in particular has become increasingly aggressive along Israel's northern border, say Israeli security officials.

They say Hezbollah is quietly building up forces in key locations along the border.
Hezbollah has grown bolder in part due to the perception by Iran and Hezbollah that Israel is internally weak because of prolonged political unrest, say analysts and Israeli security officials. Iran might still hesitate to try to strike Israel directly with suicide drones or other weapons, but it could unleash its proxy forces.
The months of turmoil sparked by the judicial overhaul also have coincided with a deadly conflict with Palestinian militants in the West Bank. The Israeli military has conducted frequent raids in Palestinian cities and refugee camps, with bloody confrontations ensuing with well-armed militants.
Credit: By David S. Cloud and Dov Lieber

DETAILS

Subject:	Legislation; Militancy; Politics; National security; International relations-US; Military readiness; Legal reform
Location:	Iran; Israel
Company / organization:	Name: Hezbollah-Party of God; NAICS: 813940; Name: Israel Defense Forces; NAICS: 928110
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737941
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-court-revamp-heightens-security/docview/2841737941/se-2?accountid=14681

Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2023-07-26
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

World News: U.S. Allies in Asia Snub Alaskan Natural Gas

Davis, River; Lebrun, Sylvan . Davis, River; Lebrun, Sylvan.

ProQuest document link

FULL TEXT

TOKYO -- Japan and South Korea have rebuffed U.S. overtures about joining a proposed $44 billion Alaska natural-gas project that would be one of the biggest energy investments in American history.

The snubs have put a roadblock in front of a liquefied natural gas project that recently has made strides. Washington says exporting gas from Alaska would strengthen global security by giving Asian nations an alternative to Russian gas.

The plan, called Alaska LNG, features an 807-mile pipeline that would carry natural gas from fields north of the Arctic Circle to the southern part of the state, from which it would be shipped primarily to Japan, South Korea and other countries in Asia.

The project won a green light from the Energy Department in April and aims to begin operating by roughly 2030. Under federal law, it is eligible for more than $30 billion in loan guarantees.

After more than a decade of planning, the project is closer than ever to launching, said Sen. Dan Sullivan (R., Alaska). The next step, he said, is lining up buyers in Asia. "That private sector component is really important and that is happening as we speak," he said.

But people familiar with the plans of several top prospective buyers in Japan and South Korea said the companies said they weren't interested in investing in the project or signing contracts to purchase its gas. Energy officials also have given Alaska the cold shoulder.

Potential buyers aren't confident in the project's timeline, said officials at companies and in Japan's government. They believe Asian countries will have other sources of stable natural-gas supplies by 2030, although the gas market is volatile and competing projects also carry risks.

Moreover, the Asian buyers are concerned about the lack of major investment commitments by big U.S. energy companies, these officials said. Exxon Mobil handed over the project to the state of Alaska in 2016. It has remained involved in other ways, such as advising on how the project could be made more competitive.

During the past year, officials from Alaska Gasline Development, the company behind Alaska LNG, and other advocates have pitched the project to Japanese and Korean government leaders and potential buyers at meetings in Tokyo, Seoul and Washington, D.C.

The community of Nikiski on Alaska's Kenai Peninsula south of Anchorage would serve as the endpoint of the gas

pipeline. At a facility in Nikiski, the gas would be chilled to liquid form at minus 260 degrees Fahrenheit and loaded onto tankers.
Japan and South Korea, both U.S. allies, are two of the world's biggest importers of liquefied natural gas. Both still rely on Russian LNG in part to keep the lights on.
Alaska's U.S. senators, both Republicans, and U.S. ambassadors in Japan and South Korea representing the Biden administration say the project would link the U.S. and allies more closely while sidelining Russia.
"It is imperative that our allies in Asia, Korea and Japan, get off of Russian oil and gas," said Sullivan.
Japan buys about 10% of its LNG supply from Russia's Sakhalin-2 project. With current contracts set to expire by roughly the end of this decade, it is in the market for new suppliers. For Japan, buying from Alaska "means long-term energy reliability from the number-one reliable ally," said Rahm Emanuel, the U.S. ambassador in Tokyo.
Shipping LNG to Japan from the Middle East or from the U.S. Gulf Coast via the Panama Canal typically takes several weeks. From Alaska, LNG can be shipped to Japan in seven days and to South Korea in eight, with "zero strategic choke points," he said.
However, LNG consumers in Asia say they are looking for supply contracts that could provide gas in the next three to four years, when supply conditions are predicted to remain particularly tight. Other projects in places such as Canada and the Gulf Coast promise to deliver faster, they say.
Japanese officials said the further out a project's timeline extends, the greater the worry that it would bump up against the country's commitment to have zero net carbon emissions by 2050.
"People are so unsure about the future of LNG. As of now they see huge demand, but what will happen 10 years or 15 years from now remains a question mark," said Tatsuya Terazawa, head of the government-affiliated Institute of Energy Economics Japan.

Slow Going
For Project
After starting major permitting efforts in 2014, the Alaska LNG project struggled for years to make progress. At the time, other U.S. export projects were fueling a boom in global natural-gas supply.
In 2019, Alaska Gasline Development said it was scaling back operations while evaluating the project's viability.
"The most important thing for buyers is evaluating how feasible an LNG project is, and with Alaska LNG, we've seen too little progress for too long," said an official in charge of LNG projects at one of Japan's top importers.
Credit: By River Davis and Sylvan Lebrun

DETAILS

Subject:	Energy economics; Energy industry; Liquefied natural gas; Diplomatic &consular services; Guaranteed loans; International economic relations; International relations-US
Business indexing term:	Subject: Energy economics Energy industry Guaranteed loans International economic relations; Industry: 92812 : International Affairs
Location:	Russia; United States--US; Alaska; Asia; Japan; South Korea
Classification:	92812: International Affairs
Publication title:	Wall Street Journal, Eastern edition; New York, N.Y.
First page:	A.9

Publication year:	2023
Publication date:	Jul 26, 2023
Publisher:	Dow Jones &Company Inc.
Place of publication:	New York, N.Y.
Country of publication:	United States
Publication subject:	Business And Economics--Banking And Finance
ISSN:	00999660
Source type:	Newspaper
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	2841737938
Document URL:	https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/world-news-u-s-allies-asia-snub-alaskan-natural/docview/2841737938/se-2?accountid=14681
Copyright:	Copyright 2023 Dow Jones &Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Full text availability:	This publication may be subject to restrictions within certain markets, including corporations, non-profits, government institutions, and public libraries. In those cases records will be visible to users, but not full text.
Last updated:	2025-01-30
Database:	ProQuest Central

LINKS

Database copyright © 2025 ProQuest LLC. All rights reserved.

Terms and Conditions Contact ProQuest