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# **Morning Briefing**

**Europe Edition** 

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**Good morning.** President Joe Biden has decided to block the sale of US Steel to Japan's Nippon Steel. Take a peek at the 2024 returns of the biggest hedge funds. And Luke Littler goes through to the World Darts Championship final. <u>Listen to the day's top stories</u>.

**President Joe Biden** decided to <u>block the sale of US Steel to Nippon Steel</u>, people familiar said. An official announcement is expected today. The Washington Post earlier reported senior advisers raised concerns the move may hurt relations with Japan and tried to sway him.



Ken Griffin. Photographer: Patrick T. Fallon/AFP

**Smart money.** Multistrategy funds of all sizes produced mostly double-digit gains in 2024. Millennium, a giant in the industry, jumped 15%, people familiar said, while Ken Griffin's Citadel returned 15.1%. In contrast, the Vanguard S&P 500 ETF gained 23% while Bitcoin surged 120%, even after a year-end dip.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu <u>authorized a delegation to travel to</u>

Qatar for ceasefire talks with Hamas. It may be the last effort to secure a deal before

US President-elect Donald Trump takes office.

The FBI found no evidence that <u>linked deadly attacks in New Orleans</u> and Las Vegas on New Year's Day, despite similarities. Both men rented the vehicles used in the attacks through the Turo app and both had a US Army background.

**South Korean** anti-corruption investigators <u>failed to arrest impeached</u>
President Yoon Suk Yeol after facing resistance from his security team and about a thousand protesters gathered outside his residence.

#### Watch the Video



South Korea Fails to Arrest Impeached President Yoon

### The Big Take



## **Zyn's Online Hype Risks Leading to the Nicotine Pouches' Downfall**

Zyn represents success for Philip Morris' "smokeless" strategy and also a major challenge: How can the company sell cigarette alternatives that aren't so tempting it gets in trouble for hooking kids?

### **Read the Story**



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An exc 1,500 g Be one **Opinion** 



School boys watch their classmates playing the Eton Wall Game in 1928. Source: London Express/Hulton Archive

**Labour's education agenda** smacks of pettiness, writes Martin Ivens. Raising the ghosts of resentment around private schools <u>has risks for Keir Starmer's government</u>, but the party knows there are still votes to be had in class antagonism.

### **More Opinions**

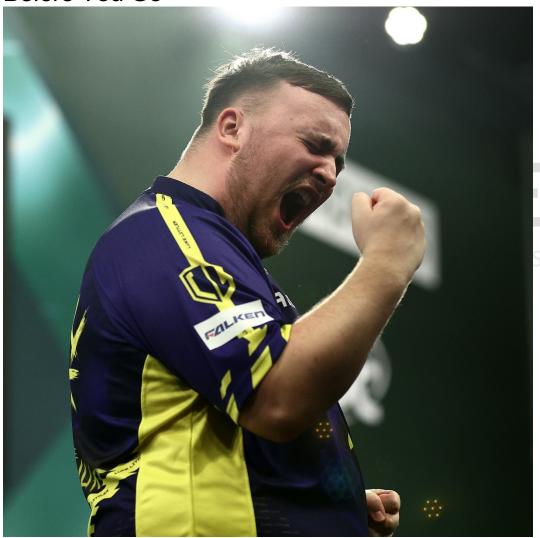


Chris Hughes
The UK No Longer Offers Easy Money for Buyout Bidders



Mihir Sharma
India and China Should Admit Their Economies Are
Intertwined

## Before You Go



Photographer: James Fearn/Getty Images

**Luke Littler is in the final** of the World Darts Championship. He's up against Michael van Gerwen at Alexandra Palace tonight, with a chance to become the sport's youngest-ever winner at 17.

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