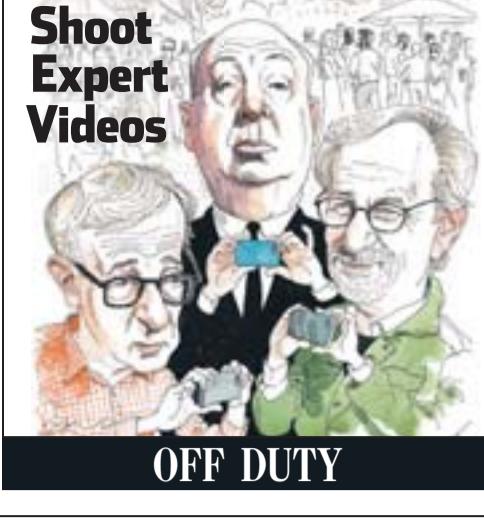


REVIEW

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

WSJ



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WEEKEND

★★★★ \$4.00

DOW JONES | News Corp

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, MAY 13 - 14, 2017

WSJ.com

What's News

World-Wide

A massive cyberattack disrupted computer systems in dozens of countries, an assault experts said relied on a software vulnerability that the NSA had allegedly exploited earlier. **A1, A6**

◆ Trump is considering broad changes to his communications team and strategy, which he blames for failing to contain the controversy over his firing of Comey. **A1**
◆ A Treasury Department unit will share financial records with a Senate inquiry into possible ties between Russia and Trump. **A4**

◆ The Justice Department last month requested banking records of Manafort as part of probes related to Trump's ex-campaign associates. **A5**

◆ An initial U.S.-China trade framework shows Trump is willing to accept a limited deal with Beijing in a bid for more substantive agreements later. **A6**

◆ Sessions is scuttling an Obama-era policy to avoid charges carrying mandatory minimum sentences against nonviolent drug offenders. **A3**

◆ America's main military ally in Syria agreed to let Islamic State fighters escape from a battle without conferring with its U.S. partners. **A7**

Business & Finance

◆ Uber faces the threat of a federal criminal probe into its development of driverless cars, a crucial initiative for the highflying ride-hailing business. **A1**

◆ Better consumer spending and confidence point to a pickup in growth, and are a striking counterpoint to dismal earnings from brick-and-mortar retailers. **A2**

◆ Investors sold shares of those retailers, pressuring stocks and contributing to the S&P 500's first weekly decline in a month. **B13**

◆ Anthem said it would give up on its deal for Cigna, setting the stage for a court battle over billions in potential damages. **B1**

◆ Amazon is making a major push into furniture and appliances, including building at least four warehouses to handle bulky items. **B1**

◆ The average base pay for college grads rose 3% this year to \$49,785, the highest level in at least a decade. **B1**

◆ Some OPEC members are pushing for a broader effort to reduce oil output, six months after reaching a deal to cut production. **B12**

◆ Chinese brokerages were told to avoid processing large orders to sell stock ahead of a summit. **B10**

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The Questions Of a Lifetime

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Hackers Launch Global Assault

By Robert McMillan in San Francisco and Jenny Gross and Denise Roland in London

and divert ambulances as a result of the cyberattack. Brazil's social security agency shut down its systems after being hit, and the foreign ministry said it turned off its servers as a preventive measure. Russian

antivirus vendor Kaspersky Lab ZAO said the malware appeared in 74 countries and hit Russia hardest.

The malware believed to be behind the attacks encrypts data on infected computers and essentially holds it for ransom, demanding money from users in return for their files. Known as WannaCry or Wanna Decryptor, the so-called ransomware program homes in on vulnerabilities in

Microsoft Windows systems.

The attack appears to exploit a vulnerability in Windows for which Microsoft issued a patch on March 14. Several cybersecurity specialists said the same vulnerability was targeted in software released in April by a hacking group calling itself "Shadow Brokers," which said it had stolen the attack code from the NSA.

The NSA has declined to comment on the authenticity of

the Shadow Brokers documents. Spokespersons for the CIA and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence declined to comment on Friday's cyberattack.

A Microsoft spokeswoman said in addition to the March patch, the company added new protections to its free antivirus

Please see HACK page A6

◆ Corporate lag in software updates played a role..... A6



The injured son of an Egyptian engineer who was killed last month in a Palm Sunday attack in Tanta, Egypt, in his hospital room.

CHRISTIANS ARE LEAVING THE MIDDLE EAST

Fueled by civil war and the rise of extremists, the exodus deepens the dominance of Islam

BY MARIA ABI-HABIB

TANTA, Egypt—Like the Jews before them, Christians are fleeing the Middle East, emptying what was once one of the world's most-diverse regions of its ancient religions.

They're being driven away not only by Islamic State, but by governments the U.S. counts as allies in the fight against extremism.

When suicide bomb attacks ripped through two separate Palm Sunday services in Egypt last month, parishioners responded with rage at Islamic State, which claimed the blasts, and at Egyptian state security.

Government forces assigned to the Mar Girgis church in Tanta, north of Cairo, neglected to fix a faulty metal detector at the entrance after church

guards found a bomb on the grounds just a week before. The double bombing killed at least 45 people, and came despite promises from the Egyptian government to protect its Christian minority.

As congregants of the Tanta church swept the grounds of debris and scrubbed blood from the walls, a parishioner waved his national identity card: "This ID says whether we are Muslim or Christian. So how did that suicide bomber get into my church? If this identification isn't for my protection, it's used for my discrimination."

By 2025, Christians are expected to represent just over 3% of the Mideast's population, down from 4.2% in 2010, according to Todd Johnson, director of the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Mass. A century before, in 1910, the figure was 13.6%. The accelerating decline stems mostly from emigration, Mr. Johnson says, though higher Muslim birthrates also contribute.

The exodus leaves the Middle East overwhelmingly dominated by Islam, whose rival sects often clash, raising the prospect that radicalism in the region will deepen. Conflicts between Sunni and Shiite Muslims have erupted across the Middle East, squeezing out Christians in places such as Iraq and Syria and forcing them to carve out new lives abroad, in Europe, the U.S. and elsewhere.

"The disappearance of such minorities sets the stage for more radical groups to dominate in society," said Mr. Johnson of the loss of Christians and Jews in the Middle East. "Religious minorities, at the

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Please see EXODUS page A10

New Parents

Drop the Mike

*

U.S. boys named Michael dip to 76-year low

BY JANET ADAMY

American parents don't want their sons to be like Mike anymore.

Michael had been one of the most popular male monikers in American history, having held the No. 1 spot on the federal list of top baby names for 43 out of 44 years, the longest boys reign of the 20th century.

New federal figures released Friday show Michael losing fashion, with fewer than 14,000 U.S. baby boys getting the name last year, the lowest level on record.

Please see NAMES page A10

Amid Retail Gloom, Signs of Growth

A retail sales report Friday showed the largest gain in three months in April, though it highlighted the shift in spending from malls and storefronts to online, a trend that has hurt big-name retailers. **A2, B13**

Change from a year earlier in retail sales by sector



Notes: Seasonally adjusted. Department-store sales exclude leased departments.

Source: Commerce Dept.

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Uber Faces Probe Over Driverless Car Effort

BY JACK NICAS AND GREG BENINGER

Uber Technologies Inc., already plagued by a string of scandals, now faces the threat of a federal criminal probe into its development of driverless cars, a crucial initiative for the highflying ride-hailing business.

A new shadow of uncertainty was cast over the autonomous-vehicle program when a federal judge this week recommended the U.S. investigate the possibility that Uber and a top executive stole from Google parent Alphabet Inc. 14,000 files, many related to a laser sensor technology used in driverless cars.

The order, which legal analysts said is rare if not unprecedented in a civil trade-secrets case, could result in executives

facing criminal prosecution, a startling turn of events for a project Uber has called "existential" to its future.

Uber, which has called Alphabet's claims unfounded, declined to comment on the referral to federal prosecutors. Alphabet and attorneys for the Uber executive at the center of the case, Anthony Levandowski, didn't respond to requests for comment. The U.S. attorney's office in San Francisco declined to comment.

The high-stakes legal battle has pitted two Silicon Valley heavyweights against each other in a fight that has drawn lots of public attention. A potential federal probe combined with Alphabet's lawsuit from earlier this year could debilitate an autonomous-vehicle program that is critical to

Please see UBER page A5

U.S. NEWS

THE NUMBERS | By Jo Craven McGinty

Taking the Temperature of Planting Time



Any gardener knows that setting out plants in the spring is like burying dollar bills in the backyard. Annuals die. Perennials may perish. The investment pushes up daisies.

But since 2012, the nation's 80 million gardeners have been aided by an improved U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Hardiness Zone Map, the standard for determining which plants are most likely to thrive at a location. The color-coded map displays a single statistic for each area of the country: the average coldest temperature of the year.

Winter extremes are a major reason perennials die, and choosing plants that can successfully overwinter helps prevent expensive losses.

"That is what has become the standard bellwether," said Christopher Daly, director of the Prism Climate Group at Oregon State University, which designed the map in partnership with the USDA Agricultural Research Service.

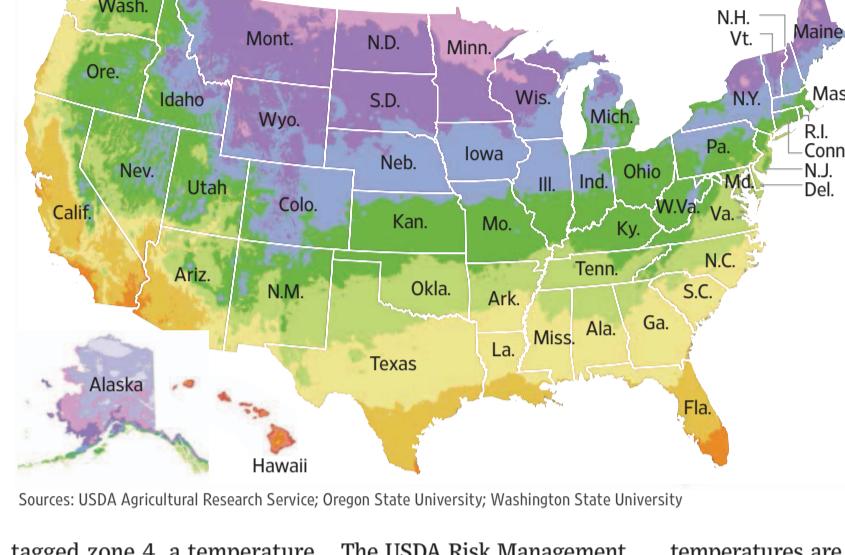
The latest version of the map, which dates to 1927, uses more data and accounts for topographical features that weren't considered in the past, omissions that caused some areas to be placed in the wrong zone.

The Southern Sierra Nevada, whose chilly 14,000-foot peaks weren't acknowledged previously, used to be labeled zone 8. It's now

Some Like It Hot

The Plant Hardiness Zone Map, used to determine which plants are most likely to thrive at different locations, is based on data including 30 years of daily readings taken at 7,983 weather stations.

Average annual minimum temperature



Sources: USDA Agricultural Research Service; Oregon State University; Washington State University

tagged zone 4, a temperature shift of at least 30 degrees.

Other changes were less extreme. In general, the map is 5 degrees warmer, which the mapmakers primarily attribute to the improved data, but even modest differences matter to cold-sensitive plants and the pocketbooks of those who grow them.

Home gardeners spend \$407 a year on average, and many rely on the map to plan their landscapes. Plant nurseries, whose perennial sales exceed \$570 million annually, use it to time their shipments.

The USDA Risk Management Agency, which provides \$1.4 billion in nursery insurance, consults it to help decide who's eligible for coverage.

The map divides the U.S. into 13 zones whose lowest average temperatures differ by 10 degrees and 26 half zones that differ by 5 degrees. Temperatures across the map range from minus 60 degrees Fahrenheit in zone 1a in parts of Alaska to 70 degrees Fahrenheit in zone 13b in parts of Puerto Rico.

The map's average low

temperatures are based on 30 years of daily readings collected at 7,983 weather stations from 1976 through 2005.

Most of the data were collected by the National Weather Service, but the map also incorporates readings from the Snow Telemetry Data Collection Network, which primarily assesses snowpack at high elevations; the Remote Automated Weather Stations, which mainly observe wildfire conditions at middle elevations; and Canada and Mexico, whose data were used to improve es-

temperatures along the borders, where the U.S. had few weather-reporting stations.

The map accounts for terrain like coastal areas that tend to be warmer and higher altitudes that tend to be cooler. It also adjusts for relatively isolated pockets, such as deep valleys where frigid air pools and locations shielded from the harshest winds.

To achieve its level of detail, the map divides the country into 12.1 million cells that are about a half-mile-square. The mapmakers determined the lowest average tempera-

ture of each typically by examining data from 25 weather stations within a 30- to 50-mile radius, weighted to reflect how well the conditions at those locations matched the conditions of the cell.

In contrast, the 1990 map, which the current map replaced, divided the country into 11 zones and used only 13 years of temperature data.

While the USDA map focuses on the cold, other maps consider different conditions. The American Horticulture Society heat-zone map documents the average number of days with temperatures over 86 degrees.

Once the designers completed the new USDA map, it was reviewed by experts including horticulturists, agrometeorologists, climatologists, plant scientists and representatives from public gardens and the nursery industry. When they noticed anomalies, the mapmakers revisited the data.

"There was an area around the White Mountains in New Hampshire that someone said looked too cold," said Kim Kaplan, a spokesperson for the Agricultural Research Service.

In another first, the map is online and interactive. Users can view the country, a state, a region, or they can drill down to their ZIP Codes. And with 20,000 visitors each day in the spring, the site has blossomed into a perennial attraction.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

U.S. WATCH

PENNSYLVANIA

Amtrak Engineer Charged in Crash

The Amtrak engineer who caused the 2015 derailment in Philadelphia that killed eight people and injured 200 others was charged late Friday with involuntary manslaughter and other criminal counts, Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro said.

The filing of charges against engineer Brandon Bostian came a day after a judge ordered charges brought over the objection of prosecutors in Philadelphia. Mr. Shapiro said the charges go beyond those called for by the judge.

The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office had cited a lack of evidence in announcing it wouldn't charge Mr. Bostian, who accelerated the passenger train to 106 miles an hour in a curve with a speed limit of 50 mph. Mr. Bostian's attorney declined to comment Friday.

—Scott Calvert

LOS ANGELES

Former Sheriff Gets 3-Year Prison Term

Former Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca was sentenced to three years in federal prison Friday for obstructing a federal investigation into violent abuses by his jail guards. The sentencing marked a stunning fall for Mr. Baca, 74 years old, who commanded the nation's largest sheriff's department for 15 years.

The case against Mr. Baca was the culmination of a federal investigation into the sheriff's department, which has produced 20 convictions of former Baca subordinates. An attorney for Mr. Baca didn't respond to requests to comment.

—Zusha Elinson

STORMS

Ignored Warnings Prove Fatal in Floods

Despite public-service announcements, warning signs, barriers and even gates at flood-prone crossings, the majority of flood deaths in America involve people trying to drive through water on flooded roads.

Data compiled by Shea shows that 595 Americans have died in floodwater since 2011. A few fell into rivers or drowned while fishing on flooded waterways. But 61% of victims died in vehicles, often after driving around barriers or ignoring signs warning them to turn back.

—Associated Press

very strong report," Ms. Swonk said.

The report highlighted the continuing shift in consumer spending from shopping malls and storefronts to online, a trend that has pressured many big-name retailers. In April, nonstore retailer sales—a category that includes online shopping—jumped 1.4% from the prior month, while sales at department stores rose 0.2%. Over the past year, nonstore sales rose 11.9% and department-store sales fell 3.7%.

Macy's, J.C. Penney and Kohl's each reported sales declines for their fiscal first quarters. "We're not banking on a rebound in consumer spending for the remainder of the year," said Karen Hoguet, Macy's finance chief. The retailer has experienced nine straight quarters of same-store-sales declines, but Ms. Hoguet exhorted, "don't count us out. We're not dead."

On the brighter side, the chains noted that business improved in March and April after a weaker-than-usual February. Penney Chief Executive Marvin Ellison said sales excluding newly opened or closed locations turned positive in March and April after "the very difficult month of February."

Like other retailers, HSN—the former Home Shopping Network—has seen customer behavior change in recent years. President Bill Brand said about half of HSN's sales now come via the web and mobile devices.

"Maybe fewer people are watching TV," he said.

Friday's report on retailing offered an early but incomplete look at consumer spending in the current quarter; it excluded outlays on most services including medical care and housing. It showed sales rose in April at home-improvement stores and restaurants, but fell at grocery and clothing stores.

—Suzanne Kapner, Eric Morath and Ben Eisen contributed to this article.

months, but are projected to rise over the next 10 years.

A photo with a U.S. News article on Thursday about efforts to repeal methane regulations from the Obama administration showed gas being flared at an oil-pumping site. The photo caption incorrectly said it was a drilling site.

CORRECTIONS & AMPLIFICATIONS

Average monthly department store sales last year were \$7.3 billion lower than they were in 2000. By comparison, average monthly non-store retail sales have risen by \$35 billion over the same period. A Markets article on Friday about retail sales incorrectly described these figures as annual sales.

Long-term costs associated with an aging population are expected to continue pushing up the U.S. budget deficit, as rising government spending outpaces revenue growth. A U.S. Watch article on Thursday about April's budget surplus mischaracterized the expected trajectory of government revenues. Annual revenues have declined in recent

Readers can alert The Wall Street Journal to any errors in news articles by emailing wsjcontact@wsj.com or by calling 888-410-2667.

U.S. NEWS

Sessions Toughens Policy for Drug Cases

BY BETH REINHARD

In a move expected to swell federal prisons, Attorney General Jeff Sessions is scuttling an Obama administration policy to avoid charges carrying long, mandatory-minimum sentences against less-serious, nonviolent drug offenders.

Mr. Sessions' new guidelines revive a more-aggressive charging policy created under President George W. Bush that tasked federal prosecutors with charging "the most serious readily provable offense."

"This policy affirms our responsibility to enforce the law, is moral, and just and produces consistency," Mr. Sessions wrote in the memo, which was distributed to federal prosecutors late Thursday.

It is the latest and most significant step by the new administration toward dismantling President Barack

The new sentencing guidelines flow from the administration's law-and-order tack.

Obama's criminal-justice legacy. And it goes against a trend in state capitals toward recalibrating or abandoning the mandatory-minimum sentences popularized during the "war on drugs."

In a sign of a growing bipartisan movement to reduce incarceration, the Justice Department memo drew criticism from across the political spectrum, including conservative voices like the Freedom Partners, a business coalition, and Republican Sen. Mike Lee of Utah. "To be tough on crime we have to be smart on crime. That is why criminal justice reform is a conservative issue," Mr. Lee said in an indirect swipe at Mr. Sessions' new policy on Twitter.

The author of the defunct charging policy, former Attorney General Eric Holder, issued a harsh rebuke. "It is dumb on crime," he said. "It is an ideologically motivated, cookie-cutter approach that has only been proven to generate unfairly long sentences that are often applied indiscriminately and do little to achieve long-term public safety."

Federal prosecutors, who often rely on the threat of harsh sentences to make their cases, applauded the move, arguing the tough penalties are necessary to keep the public safe. Lawrence Leiser, president of the National Association of Assistant U.S. Attorneys, said the new policy "will restore the tools that Congress intended Assistant U.S. Attorneys to have at their disposal to prosecute drug traffickers and dismantle drug trafficking enterprises."

Detractors of Mr. Obama's policy on mandatory minimums say it was too soft on drug offenders who could be carrying as much as a kilogram of heroin, 5 kilograms of cocaine or 1,000 kilograms of marijuana—all of which come with sentences of at least 10 years. Under Mr. Obama, such offenders could avoid that mandatory-minimum sentence if they didn't use a weapon, supervise other drug dealers, sell drugs to a minor or belong to a gang.

Mr. Sessions, a former U.S. attorney and state attorney general in Alabama, handed prosecutors some wiggle room in the new guidelines, saying they may seek exceptions to charging the "most serious readily provable offense" if they document the reasons and obtain a supervisor's approval.

Mr. Sessions has hinted for months that the new policy was coming and suggested that lighter sentencing was helping fuel a surge in violent crime and opioid use.

Critics of the administration's "tough on crime" agenda say the uptick in violence in the U.S. is largely fueled by a higher murder rate in a handful of big cities, particularly Chicago. That calls for a more-targeted approach, they say.

In Chicago, Police Go High Tech

Program uses software and other tools to try to stop crimes before they happen

BY SHIBANI MAHTANI

CHICAGO—In a stuffy room crammed with computer screens, a group of police officers monitored high-tech tools that could hold the key to calming surging crime in this city's most violent neighborhoods.

On one screen, they watched a live feed from a surveillance camera of a drug deal happening on a nearby street corner. "We're building a case," one officer said.

With a few clicks, they can pull up mug shots of known gang members to try to identify the dealers, or run a check on the license plates from nearby cars.

Maps on the adjacent screen track shots fired in real time, bypassing 911. On another screen, color-coded squares mark locations where a computer algorithm has predicted a homicide, shooting or robbery might happen next.

"This is our new one-stop shop," said Chicago Police Deputy Chief Jonathan Lewin, who heads the department's technology solutions. "We have never tracked this information with this specific granularity."

The Chicago Police Department hopes its new Strategic Decision Support Centers—modeled on efforts in Los Angeles and New York that have curbed crime in recent years—can help stem the surge of violence that has brought national attention to the city.

After Chicago recorded 762 homicides and over 4,000 shootings last year, President Donald Trump threatened to "send in the Feds" if the city was unable to quell the bloodshed.

The center in Englewood, on the city's South Side, is one of six that have been set up so far this year in the city's most violent neighborhoods under a new \$6.8-million program.

Early results show promise. In Englewood and Harrison, on the West Side—the two districts responsible for over a third of 2016's violence—shootings have fallen by 30% and 39%, respectively. Citywide, the drop is 15%, even in the face of a recent surge in shootings by gangs using high-powered weapons that can penetrate police armor.

There is no data yet on whether the technology has helped the clearance rate. But police point to success stories.



Lt. Laura West leads a discussion about anticrime technology at the Chicago Police Department District 007 earlier this week.

Brain Center

Chicago neighborhoods using new predictive technology have seen a sharper drop in gun violence than the city as a whole. Change from 2016, year to date, through May 7:

Homicides

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Englewood | -15% |
| Harrison | -30% |
| All of Chicago | -5% |

Shooting Incidents

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Englewood | -30% |
| Harrison | -39% |
| All of Chicago | -15% |

Shooting victims

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Englewood | -38% |
| Harrison | -36% |
| All of Chicago | -12% |

In one case, a sergeant monitoring a surveillance camera saw a man grabbing an object in the front waistband of his pants. Correctly guessing that it was a gun, he instructed officers in the area to stop and search the man, who was out on parole and was arrested on a gun charge.

Chicago police worked with the Los Angeles Police Department, which has been experimenting with an algorithm to forecast crime since late 2011. Their software, PredPol, pulls historic crime data to predict where something might happen next.

Police Shouldn't Lean Too Heavily On Data, Critics Say

Chicago's new high-tech program, which uses surveillance, data and software to try to predict where crimes will occur, has met with skepticism among some academics. They note that the idea of predicting where crime will happen isn't all that different from focusing on hot spots where crimes have happened before.

"The evidence for predictive policing is not very strong yet," said David Weisburd, a leading criminologist and professor at George Mason University who developed the hot-spot theory in the mid-1990s.

Civil-liberties advocates worry about police following algorithms to target people for arrest or questioning. "People should be concerned that they will be stopped because the computer told the police to stop them," said Matt Topic, a

lawyer with Loevy & Loevy who has sued the Chicago Police Department over civil-rights violations.

Critics say that Chicago police are leaning heavily on data because they are unable to get cooperation from the community in identifying and solving crimes. Earlier this year, a Justice Department probe found that the police had a history of using excessive force. The percentage of homicides solved last year was 29%, less than half the national average—in large part because too few witnesses are coming forward.

Chicago police official say the tools will make officers more present on the worst blocks and therefore bolster public trust.

"Officers are not just riding along and looking for things now," said Kevin Johnson, commander of the Englewood district. "They are targeting specific areas and seeing specific results; it affects how they see themselves and their role."

—Shibani Mahtani

predictive tool, HunchLab, among others, to build out the Strategic Decision Support Centers. Every officer in the district has to spend time at the center, says Kevin Johnson, commander of the Englewood district, so they can understand how the technology works.

Chicago has also invested

heavily in ShotSpotter, which detects gunshots as they happen and feeds that information into the police department's technology platform. ShotSpotter, which is used by law enforcement in over 90 cities across the world, including New York, Minneapolis and Miami, allows police to respond immediately to a shooting and know the exact location, rather than waiting for a 911 call.

The New York City Police Department, which is rolling out the technology across all five boroughs, says ShotSpotter helped police recover 57 guns and make 55 arrests in 2016.

"We're still seeing many shots-fired incidents, as they go unreported to police, but ShotSpotter alerts us to them," said Jessica Tisch, the NYPD's deputy commissioner of information technology.

Police in Minneapolis say ShotSpotter, which covers about 4 miles of the city, has helped them recover eight times more casings since the technology was rolled out in early 2008.

In Chicago, the centers are helping police get illegal guns off the streets. "We are responding better to crime and are more visible in these areas," said Englewood's Commander Johnson. "Citizens are telling us they want us there, they are telling us to help in these problem areas."

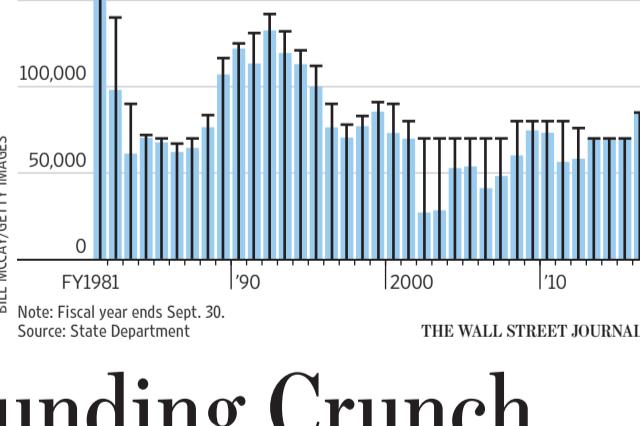
—Zolan Kanno-Youngs contributed to this article.



A New Home

Annual refugee arrivals to the U.S.

250,000 refugees



Note: Fiscal year ends Sept. 30.

Source: State Department

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Jewish nonprofit HIAS serving a Thanksgiving dinner to refugee families in Philadelphia in 2015.

Refugee Agencies Face a Funding Crunch

BY IAN LOVETT

for refugees already here.

"We've been asked by the State Department to cut our budget twice already," said Mark Hetfield, president of HIAS, a Jewish nonprofit that resettles refugees in the U.S. HIAS has instituted a hiring freeze. "You can't manage a program like this."

A State Department official said that the pace of arrivals has been adjusted to levels "consistent with our operational capacity under available funding."

In the last fiscal year, the federal government allocated more than \$554 million for refugee admissions, and 84,994 refugees were resettled. More than \$227 million of that money was distributed to the nine resettlement agencies, most of them religiously affiliated, that help newcomers

adjust to the U.S.

Mr. Trump's executive order, which has been put on hold by a federal judge, not only seeks to pause all refugee arrivals for four months, but also to cap the refugee ceiling at 50,000. It would be the lowest refugee ceiling since the Refugee Act of 1980 was passed, though actual refugee

arrivals fell below 50,000 for several years under President George W. Bush following the Sept. 11 attacks.

Refugees continue to arrive, but less than half as many make it into the U.S., on average, than under President Barack Obama. Between Jan. 20, when Mr. Trump took office, and May 7, 13,224 have been settled in the U.S., a rate of 122 a day. By contrast, 30,017 refugees entered under Mr. Obama between Oct.

1 and Jan. 19, a rate of 270 refugees a day.

The administration has appealed two federal court orders blocking the executive order. Meanwhile, a bipartisan group of senators sent a letter to the Trump administration this month, asking for an explanation for the slowdown in refugee arrivals.

Resettlement agencies had been hoping 2017 would be a banner year. In September, Mr. Obama announced he would raise the number of refugees allowed into the country to 110,000, the highest total since 1995. Many agencies began staffing up.

World Relief, one of the resettlement agencies, began adding case workers in the fall, expecting a huge influx of refugees. At the organization's 25 offices, case workers shopped

herd refugees through all aspects of life in America. They pick them up at the airport; set up housing; advise them on jobs; and help enroll children in school.

However, each World Relief office has gone from settling between five and 15 families a week to one or two, said Matthew Soerens, the organization's U.S. director of church mobilization. The organization is now laying off about 150 people and closing five offices.

Some conservatives critical of federal spending on refugees are embracing the cuts. "Refugee resettlement on a mass scale is simply morally wrong—it's a misallocation of resources," said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, which advocates for less immigration into the U.S.

U.S. NEWS

Senate Panel to Get Records on Russia

Treasury financial-crimes monitor will share information on possible Trump ties

BY SHANE HARRIS
AND CAROL E. LEE

WASHINGTON—A Treasury Department unit that specializes in combating money-laundering will share financial records with an expanding Senate probe into possible ties between Russia and President Donald Trump and his associates, according to people familiar with the matter.

The Senate Intelligence Committee requested the records from Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCEN, late last month, these people said. The people familiar with the matter didn't specify the nature of those records. One person said that without them, though, the committee wouldn't be able to reach a conclusion on whether there was collusion between Trump associates and Russia during last year's campaign.

Sen. Ron Wyden (D., Ore.), a member of the intelligence committee and the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, said in an interview Friday that he is particularly interested in information about shell companies, money-laundering and the use of property transfers that may be germane to the committee's Trump investigation.

Representatives for FinCEN and Sens. Richard Burr (R.,



A Senate Intelligence Committee hearing Thursday on Capitol Hill. The panel has requested financial records on possible ties between Russia and President Trump.

N.C.) and Mark Warner (D., Va.), the intelligence committee chairman and vice chairman, declined to comment.

Possible ties to Russia, which dogged Mr. Trump during the campaign and so far in his presidency, resurfaced as a major political issue this past week after Mr. Trump fired Federal Bureau of Investigation Director James Comey. Critics suggested that sudden move was an effort to interfere with the agency's probe of potential Russian interference in the election, which both Moscow and Mr. Trump have dismissed. Mr. Trump has said he

fired Mr. Comey because he wasn't doing a good job.

On Capitol Hill, there is a separate House committee probe of alleged Russian interference to go along with the Senate investigation.

"We are confident that when these inquiries are complete, there will be no evidence to support any collusion between the campaign and Russia," a White House spokesman said. Mr. Trump has repeatedly dismissed the FBI probe into the matter.

A former senior U.S. official indicated that federal investigators are examining whether

Russian investments in any of Mr. Trump's properties or business ventures could be traced back to Russian government sources, including Russian officials who might own banks that were lending money to Mr. Trump.

FinCEN receives hundreds of reports each day from financial institutions flagging suspicious activity, and it is tasked with making sure banks and other companies comply with rules to do so. It provides the data to law-enforcement agencies, and its own analysts examine the data to identify suspicious patterns of the flow

of funds around the world. After the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, for instance, the agency took the lead in tracking terrorist-financing sources and using financial records to help reveal the structure of terrorist networks.

On April 26, Messrs. Burr and Warner requested FinCEN provide the same records obtained by the FBI, which has its own access to the information, in its Russia probe.

The Senate intelligence panel's request was made because investigators, who have been reviewing U.S. intelligence reports about Russian

interference in the 2016 election, came across information that led them to inquire about Mr. Trump's business ties, these people said. It marks an escalation for the committee's probe from its focus on intelligence reports that were used to conclude Russia had meddled in the 2016 elections, as well as documents the committee is seeking from some of Mr. Trump's associates.

The inquiry could also include businesses owned by or associated with Mr. Trump's family members.

—Richard Rubin contributed to this article.

Tax Returns Show Few Ties, Lawyers Say

BY RICHARD RUBIN

WASHINGTON—President Donald Trump's lawyers released a two-month-old letter on Friday stating that 10 years of his tax returns show little income, investments or debt from Russian sources beyond items known to the public.

Unlike previous presidents or candidates, Mr. Trump hasn't released any tax returns, and the one-page letter makes no suggestion that more releases are coming. The letter provides no independent verification of the president's business relationships, and its conclusions are carefully worded and incomplete, tax lawyers said.

Democrats have been pressing Mr. Trump to disclose any financial ties to Russia amid investigations of possible links between his presidential campaign and the country.

The one-page letter dated March 8 states there are a "few exceptions" to the state-

TRUMP

Continued from Page One
scored the degree of difficulty.

One tweet addressed the criticism of his press office in the wake of Mr. Comey's dismissal, defending conflicting explanations coming out of the White House and asserting that it is inevitable that some statements made during briefings won't always be correct.

"As a very active President with lots of things happening, it is not possible for my surrogates to stand at podium with perfect accuracy!" he tweeted. "Maybe the best thing to do would be to cancel all future 'press briefings' and hand out written responses for the sake of accuracy???"

In another tweet, Mr. Trump created a new problem for his press team. In an NBC interview on Thursday, the president said Mr. Comey told him that he was not under investigation, an assertion that associates close to the former director denied.

On Friday, the president tweeted that the director "better hope that there are no 'tapes' of our conversations before he starts leaking to the press!"

Mr. Comey couldn't be reached for comment.

Democrats on Capitol Hill immediately demanded the White House turn over any recordings. At the White House briefing later in the day, Mr. Spicer said the message was "not a threat" and that he was unaware of any tapes of the dinner meeting. He declined to say whether Mr. Trump recorded it.

A senior White House aide said the delayed response was part of a pattern from the communications team, which also was slow to organize a defense when the president's first travel ban in January prompted protests across the country.

Botched communication has been a central issue in a rocky week for the Trump administration. The president's an-



President Trump said he is considering abolishing the century-old practice of daily press briefings.

Comey Won't Speak To Intelligence Panel

WASHINGTON—Ousted FBI Director James Comey declined an invitation to appear in front of the Senate Intelligence Committee next week as part of the panel's attempt to probe the circumstances of his abrupt firing this week by President Donald Trump.

A spokeswoman for committee Chairman Richard Burr confirmed that Mr. Comey wouldn't speak before the panel in a closed-door session

on Tuesday, as requested. Mr. Comey hasn't ruled out testifying, but the Tuesday appearance won't happen.

The Senate Intelligence Committee is conducting a wide-ranging investigation into alleged Russian interference in the 2016 election, and is looking at sensitive questions about whether anyone in Mr. Trump's orbit coordinated with Russia.

Russia and Mr. Trump have denied any wrongdoing.

Separately, lawmakers are pushing for other top Justice Department officials to appear on Capitol Hill.

—Byron Tau

nouncement Tuesday that he was firing Mr. Comey, who was heading an investigation into the Trump campaign's ties to Russia, blindsided his press office and set off a scramble to defend the act.

In the following days, the White House was forced to shift three times its own explanation for how the president came to terminate Mr. Comey. The evolution ended when Mr. Trump on Thursday said in the

NBC interview that he fired Mr. Comey because he was a "showboat."

Mr. Comey's departure won't end the Russia probe or likely the public-relations challenges for the White House.

Rod Rosenstein, the deputy attorney general whose critical assessment of the FBI director was initially—and inaccurately—cited as the reason for the firing, is scheduled to brief the full Senate on the matter

WASHINGTON WIRE

COMEY FIRING

Interviews Scheduled For FBI Candidates

Attorney General Jeff Sessions is scheduled to interview candidates to be the next FBI director on Saturday, including Sen. John Cornyn (R., Texas), according to people familiar with the matter.

Other candidates expected to be interviewed on Saturday include Michael Garcia, who was the U.S. attorney in Manhattan in the George W. Bush administration and is now a state appellee.

late court judge in New York, and Alice Fisher, who also served in a senior Justice Department role in the Bush administration, the people said. FBI Acting Director Andrew McCabe is also slated to be interviewed on Saturday, the people said.

Judge Garcia declined to comment. The others or their representatives couldn't be reached for comment.

The search for a permanent director for the Federal Bureau of Investigation comes days after former director James Comey's firing on Tuesday.

—Aruna Viswanatha

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

New CEO Named as DNC Aims to Rebuild

The Democratic National Committee on Friday named as its new CEO Jess O'Connell, the first significant position filled by DNC Chairman Tom Perez since his election in February.

Ms. O'Connell is widely known as a strong manager and fundraiser in Democratic politics. She comes to the DNC from Emily's List, where she served as executive director for the political-action committee that seeks

to elect female candidates who support abortion rights. She also served as director of operations for the 2008 Hillary Clinton campaign. Under Ms. O'Connell, Emily's List raised \$90 million for candidates during the 2016 election cycle.

"I'm ready to jump in and help make this organization more inclusive, effective and influential," Ms. O'Connell said.

In recent years, the party's political and fundraising infrastructure fell into a sclerotic state. Mr. Perez has pledged to rebuild and restructure the DNC.

—Reid J. Epstein

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JACQUELYN MARTIN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. NEWS

Ex-Trump Adviser's Bank Data Sought

The Justice Department last month requested banking records of Paul Manafort as part of a widening of probes related to President Donald Trump's former campaign associates and whether they colluded with Russia in interfering with the 2016 election, according to people familiar with the matter.

By Michael Rothfeld, Mark Maremont and Rebecca Davis O'Brien

In mid-April, federal investigators requested Mr. Manafort's banking records from Citizens Financial Group Inc., the people said. It isn't clear whether Citizens is the only bank that received such a request or whether it came in the form of a subpoena. Federal law generally requires that a bank receive a subpoena to turn over customer records, lawyers not connected to the investigation said.

Citizens gave Mr. Manafort a \$2.7 million loan last year to refinance debt on a Manhattan condominium and borrow additional cash, New York City real-estate records show. The Wall Street Journal couldn't ascertain if the Justice Department request is related to that transaction or whether the bank has turned over his records.

Separately, investigators for New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman as well as Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. also have been examining real-estate transactions by Mr. Manafort, who has spent and borrowed tens of millions of dollars in connection with property across the U.S. over the past decade, people familiar with the matter say. The request for Mr. Manafort's banking records and the New York inquiries haven't previously been reported.

Mr. Manafort hasn't been accused of wrongdoing and has said any suggestion he coordi-

nated with Russia is unfounded. Mr. Manafort's spokesman, Jason Maloni, said: "I don't know anything about a subpoena. But if someone is leaking details of a confidential investigation, that is a serious crime."

The inquiries indicate how the examination of Mr. Trump's campaign officials may be heating up.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has said it is scrutinizing whether Trump associates coordinated with Russian hackers in interfering with last year's presidential campaign. Those associates include Mr. Manafort, who was Mr. Trump's campaign chairman for a short time, former national security adviser Mike Flynn, and former advisers Roger Stone and Carter Page, according to the Journal and other outlets.

None of the aides have been charged with any crime. All have denied any wrongdoing. Mr. Trump and his staff have

Federal investigators requested Paul Manafort's banking records in mid-April.

dismissed allegations of Russian collusion, and Russia has denied meddling in the election.

Mr. Manafort has offered to cooperate with and testify before congressional committees investigating potential Russian influence in the election, Mr. Maloni said.

Mr. Manafort, through a spokesman, has said the loans from a former campaign adviser were straightforward and proper. He has said all his real-estate transactions were transparent, including those in which purchases were made through corporate entities that were clearly connected to him.

Now, Cruz Strives for Unity

BY KRISTINA PETERSON AND REID J. EPSTEIN

WASHINGTON—Sen. Ted Cruz, an impassioned conservative firebrand, has never been known around the Senate for his willingness to compromise—quite the opposite. But as the chamber's Republicans begin writing a new health-care bill, he is trying to change that.

The Texas Republican reached out to more-centrist GOP colleagues this year to form a small working group searching for enough common ground to squeeze a health-care bill overhauling the Affordable Care Act through the Senate, where GOP leaders can lose no more than two Republicans.

Even as the firing of former Federal Bureau of Investigation Director James Comey rocked the Capitol this week, Senate Republicans met behind closed doors almost daily to hash out the policies that will shape their own health-care bill.

Mr. Cruz's efforts at finding consensus have surprised many Senate GOP lawmakers and aides. Their first impression of Mr. Cruz was set in his first year in the Senate, when his opposition to the implementation of the ACA helped lead to the partial government shutdown in 2013. That image has changed little since then.

"It's a 'you live long enough, anything can happen' moment," Sen. Lindsey Graham (R., S.C.) said Tuesday of Mr. Cruz's budding interest in GOP consensus.

"It would be a first for Sen. Cruz," added Sen. Chris Murphy (D., Conn.).

The 13-member Senate working group on health care got its start when Mr. Cruz met with Sen. Lamar Alexander (R., Tenn.), chairman of the chamber's health committee, in February. Mr. Cruz's focus is primarily on driving down the cost of premiums, but he reached out to Republicans interested in cushioning the House bill's steep Medicaid cuts, including Sens. Rob Portman of Ohio, Tom Cotton of Arkansas and Cory Gardner of Colorado, as



Sen. Cruz, known for his fierce opposition—sometimes to his own party—is trying to build consensus.

well as fellow conservative Sen. Mike Lee of Utah.

"The majority in the Senate is only 52 votes and the only way to pass a real repeal bill is to bring the conference together and get to common ground," Mr. Cruz said.

Later, other committee chairs and GOP leaders joined the group, which moved its weekly meetings from Mr. Cruz's office to that of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.).

The group's importance has grown since the House passed its own health-care bill last week, shifting pressure to the Senate to deliver on the first major item on President Donald Trump's legislative agenda.

If just two Republicans defect, Vice President Mike Pence would have to cast a tie-breaking vote to pass the bill under a special process tied to the budget, and three defections would kill the legislation.

Mr. Cruz's cooperation could help ease that difficult Senate math. The Texas Republican has often banded together with Mr. Lee and Sen. Rand Paul (R., Ky.) to oppose Senate leaders. But on Monday, Sen. John Cornyn (R., Texas), the second-ranking Senate Republican, said Mr. Cruz was being "constructive" on health care.

Convening a working group on a thorny political issue plays against the go-it-alone conservative brand Mr. Cruz has built during four years in the Senate and an unsuccessful presidential run. It places him in the position of forging compromise among his colleagues and gives him some responsibility for producing a finished project.

Mr. Cruz is up for re-election next year and already has a Democratic opponent: Rep. Beto O'Rourke. Democrats have been gaining strength in Texas, though many analysts believe the party will face difficulty

winning statewide battles there for several years at least.

For the 46-year-old Mr. Cruz, who hasn't ruled out running for president again, health care is an opportunity to reboot his reputation as a congressional bomb-thrower who cared little about whether his proposals were signed into law. Being a central figure in the health-care talks allows him to start rewriting an image largely defined by his opposition to Republican leaders including Mr. McConnell, whom Mr. Cruz accused of telling a "flat-out lie" during a 2015 Senate floor speech.

After shouldering much of the blame for the 2013 government shutdown, Mr. Cruz now sees the effort to rewrite American health-care policy as an opportunity to make the bill the most conservative legislation that can attract 50 votes in the Senate.

—Stephanie Armour contributed to this article.

FROM PAGE ONE

UBER

Continued from Page One
Uber's future.

Uber is racing to roll out driverless cars in part because it holds potential to bolster a business that is valued by investors at nearly \$70 billion but lost at least \$2.8 billion last year. The company and other technologists believe autonomous vehicles can cut travel time and save lives by eliminating human error. And for Uber, the technology could greatly reduce its biggest expense: paying drivers.

But Uber risks losing key engineering talent at the firm, not to mention the patina of being cutting edge, if its self-driving auto development is curtailed.

"This is a big deal," said Rutgers University law professor Michael Carrier, who specializes in intellectual property. "There are lots of trade-secret cases filed and litigated everyday; it's the most common type of IP case. But very few make it to the stage that they could constitute a criminal investigation."

A potential federal probe adds to the trouble for Uber, which is already facing another federal criminal investigation into the use of software tools allegedly used to trick regulators in sting operations, as well as claims from a former employee that its workplace ignores sexism and sexual harassment. Uber has said it is investigating the harassment claims and has declined to comment on the criminal probe into the software program known as "Greyball."

Lawyers and law professors said the order late Thursday by U.S. District Judge William Alsup in San Francisco suggests he believes there is strong evidence of trade-secret theft and that federal investigators may be able to uncover more evidence than Alphabet's attorneys.

Attorneys for Uber and Mr. Levandowski, the former head of Google's driverless-car program, have repeatedly fought efforts to turn over some documents.

Judge Alsup wrote in his order Thursday that the evidence thus far led him to refer the case to federal prosecutors.



The court takes no position on whether a prosecution is or is not warranted," he wrote.

The legal analysts said Mr. Levandowski is most at risk of criminal charges because he allegedly downloaded the 14,000 files from Alphabet's servers before he quit the company in January 2016, and then allegedly took them to Uber after the ride-hailing firm bought his startup for \$680 million in stock seven months later.

Uber—and potentially its executives—could also face criminal charges if there is evidence they knew of Mr. Le-

vandowski's alleged theft, the analysts said, but it is unlikely Uber would be charged if Mr. Levandowski isn't.

"The person most likely to be charged is the person who actually took the information," said Villanova University law professor Michael Risch.

Mr. Carrier said criminal charges would be tried under the Economic Espionage Act, which carries penalties for such cases of up to 10 years in prison for individuals. For companies, fines could be imposed up to three times the value of a stolen trade secret.

Uber has plenty of cash in the bank—about \$7 billion left from fundraising, the company

said recently. But while Uber had \$6.5 billion in revenue last year, its losses totaled in the billions of dollars as it spends heavily to recruit drivers and keep riders' fares low.

Judge Alsup also ruled Thursday that Alphabet's suit against Uber must head to a jury trial instead of private arbitration, keeping it in the public eye. And he also temporarily blocked a limited part of Uber's driverless-car program, though the scope of the injunction is unclear because the order is sealed.

The Alphabet case was referred to the U.S. attorney in San Francisco, Brian Stretch, who is likely to turn case documents over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to evaluate and investigate further, said Christopher Broderick, an IP attorney at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips.

Some analysts speculated that Judge Alsup tapped federal prosecutors to ensure an appropriate investigation into Mr. Levandowski's actions. Alphabet's employment agreement with Mr. Levandowski requires it to resolve disputes with him in private arbitration, where it has less power to force the disclosure of evidence.

Mr. Levandowski and his attorneys have repeatedly invoked his Fifth Amendment rights in the case, citing the possibility of criminal charges. In a five-hour deposition by Alphabet attorneys last month, Mr. Levandowski repeated the same sentence 393 times: "On the advice and direction of my counsel, I respectfully decline to answer."

Very few [cases] make it to the stage that they could constitute a criminal probe.

WORLD NEWS

U.S. Sees China Trade Deal as Opening Act

U.S. pins hopes for more concessions on agreement to improve market access

By WILLIAM MAULDIN

An initial trade framework between the U.S. and China shows that President Donald Trump is willing to put aside his tough rhetoric and accept a limited deal with Beijing in a bid for more substantial agreements down the road.

The pact, announced Thursday, is aimed at allowing U.S. beef exports to China, opening up credit-card payment systems there and potentially selling American liquefied natural gas to the energy-hungry country. It avoids the more divisive trade issues in the steel and aluminum industries.

Still, the agreement is significant in that it shows how the Trump administration is ready to emphasize cooperation and open markets, as opposed to imposing the across-the-board tariffs Mr. Trump talked about in his campaign.

While parts of the deal are the result of talks originating in the Obama administration, officials characterized it as a down payment on potentially greater economic accomplishments with Beijing.

"Both sides also identified other issues that will require significant effort to resolve and achieve progress on, still within the 100-day period," Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said, referring to a plan Mr. Trump agreed to in April with Chinese President Xi Jinping for achieving, within 100 days, a set of economic openings between the two countries.

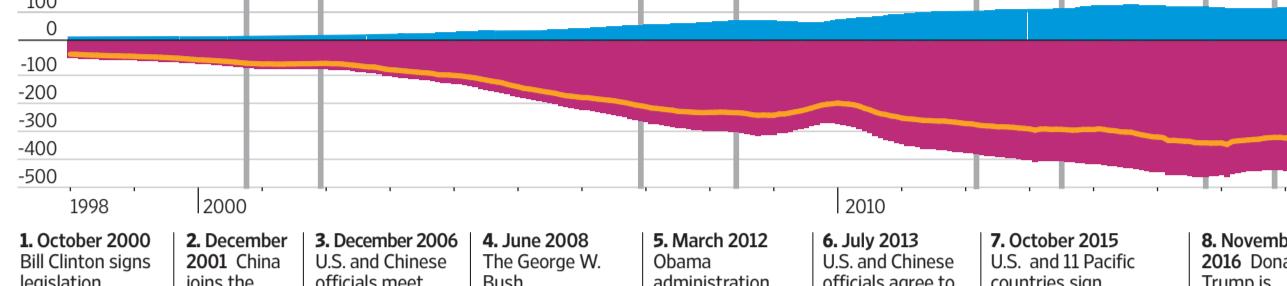
Mr. Trump's softer tone toward China in recent weeks is seen partly as an effort to gain cooperation over North Korea, but also part of an effort to give economic negotiations a chance to bear fruit, current and former officials say.

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Trade Trials

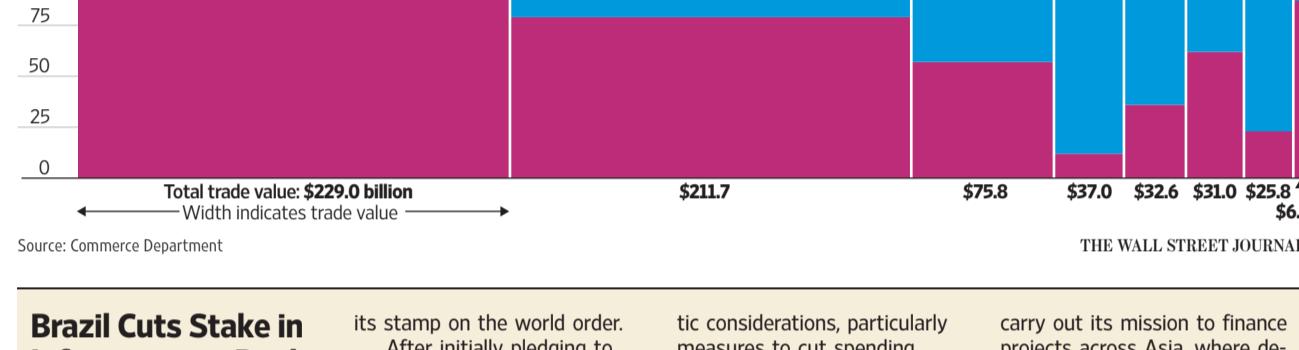
The trade framework the Trump administration announced Thursday with China is the latest in a series of deals that have so far succeeded in boosting trade but not in balancing U.S. imports and exports.

U.S. trade with China, 12-month rolling total ■ U.S. exports to China ■ U.S. imports from China ■ Trade balance



| | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| 1. October 2000 Bill Clinton signs legislation granting China permanent normal trade relations, paving the way for Beijing to enter the World Trade Organization. | 2. December 2001 China joins the WTO, cementing import tariffs often higher than those of developed countries. | 3. December 2006 U.S. and Chinese officials meet in the first Strategic Economic Dialogue to discuss important economic and trade issues. | 4. June 2008 The George W. Bush administration begins talks with China on a bilateral investment treaty, or BIT, to open up closed Chinese markets to U.S. investment. | 5. March 2012 Obama administration files WTO case against China over rare-earth metals, one of more than a dozen the administration brings against Beijing. | 6. July 2013 U.S. and Chinese officials agree to restart stalled talks on the investment treaty. China continues to block investment from numerous sectors, preventing a deal. | 7. October 2015 U.S. and 11 Pacific countries sign Trans-Pacific Partnership, in part to put pressure on China, not included in the deal. Donald Trump later pulls the U.S. out of the TPP, which was never ratified by Congress. | 8. November 2016 Donald Trump is elected after a campaign promising better trade deals and potential tariffs on China. |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|

Note: Imports shown as negative to illustrate trade balance



Source: Commerce Department

ization.

Still, Mr. Trump can now market the progress with China as an economic win and a welcome distraction from political headwinds back home. Mr. Trump touted the agreement Friday on Twitter as "REAL news," distinct from the domestic firestorm that captured public attention in recent days.

The shift toward potential cooperation with Beijing—and away from confrontation—isn't lost on some of Mr. Trump's hawkish trade advisers during the campaign.

"The best time to judge this administration's China policy is going to be a year or two from now to see what has actually happened," said Peter Navarro, now head of the new White House Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy.

Mr. Ross portrayed the talks as an effort to win quick concessions after previous administrations achieved little progress in long-running talks on a more comprehensive treaty.

At the same time, the administration has launched wide-ranging investigations into steel and aluminum that could be used—with a final decision from Mr. Trump—to pressure Beijing over its exports of low-price steel and aluminum, which American producers blame for hollowing out U.S. metal production.

The focus on opening up individual markets drew cautious support from business groups and U.S. lawmakers, who expressed hope that the Trump administration will work to achieve broader economic gains. "The real work lies ahead," the U.S. Chamber of Commerce said.

"Most of this is about additional talks," said Sen. Ron Wyden, the top Democrat on the Senate committee that oversees trade. "At this point we need a lot more detail to really answer," he said in an interview, emphasizing that the U.S. trade representative, Robert Lighthizer, should be a big part of future negotiations.

—Chuin-Wei Yap contributed to this article.

◆ China opens the door to wary card companies..... B11

Brazil Cuts Stake in Infrastructure Bank

BEIJING—Brazil is slashing its planned stake in China's landmark infrastructure development bank, a move that adds to the growing pains for Beijing's efforts to create alternative global institutions to place

its stamp on the world order.

After initially pledging to take nearly 32,000 shares—valued at more than \$3 billion—when signing as a founding member of the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank** in 2015, Brazil informed the AIIB in recent months it will subscribe to 50 shares, people familiar with the matter said. The decision was based on domes-

tic considerations, particularly measures to cut spending.

Brazil's much smaller stake doesn't challenge the bank's functioning overall, these people said. An AIIB spokeswoman confirmed Brazil's decision and said that, despite the move, demand to join the bank is robust.

Other countries are pledging to take shares, leaving the bank well-capitalized and able to

carry out its mission to finance projects across Asia, where demand for infrastructure investment is estimated at more than \$1 trillion annually.

On Saturday, AIIB was set to announce a crop of new members, after approving 13 applicants—from Canada to Peru—in March, bringing total participants to 70.

—Brian Spegele

brought some American manufacturers. But the tariffs would have raised the prices consumers pay for everything from cellphones to clothing, and diminished commerce between the two countries, with the possible result of a trade war.

Since he became president, Mr. Trump has avoided threats

of broad tariffs, which his aides have described as a strategy to win concessions from China and other countries.

The deal addresses a series of trade irritants, ranging from clearing a backlog in China's slow approval of American genetically modified seeds to giving Beijing a dead-

line for resuming beef imports from the U.S.

The agreement the Trump administration worked out with Beijing, part of what the administration hopes will be a bigger pattern of opening Chinese markets, appears to be just an understanding between the two governments. One

country could fail to honor the plan, or a political shift could undermine it—with no spelled-out repercussions. "None of these are enforceable in the same sense as a WTO type of case," said Chad Bown, a trade expert at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, which backs trade liberal-

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Mr. Trump's softer tone toward China in recent weeks is seen partly as an effort to gain cooperation over North Korea, but also part of an effort to give economic negotiations a chance to bear fruit, current and former officials say.

The kinds of tariffs Mr. Trump pledged in 2016 on the more than \$400 billion in goods China sends the U.S. actually would likely have

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WORLD NEWS

U.S., Syria Partner At Odds on Battle Deal

BY BEN KESLING

WASHINGTON—America's main military ally in Syria agreed to let Islamic State fighters escape from a key battle this week without conferring with its U.S. partners, who targeted the extremists as they tried to flee, Pentagon officials said Friday.

The unusual deal and U.S. response exposed a disconnect in the anti-Islamic State coalition on the eve of a pivotal offensive to retake Raqqa, the extremist group's biggest Syrian stronghold. It called into question whether the U.S. military will honor battlefield commitments made by its partners, and came as President Donald Trump this week signed off on plans to provide direct arms to Kurdish fighters leading the military coalition.

The U.S.-backed forces' deal with Islamic State helped end a monthslong battle for Tabqa Dam, a strategic site the extremist group has held since late-2013. The Syrian Democratic Forces allowed about 70 Islamic State fighters safe passage if they dismantled hidden bombs and gave up their heavy weapons, said Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman.

The SDF made the deal to protect civilians and ensure that Islamic State didn't destroy the dam, Capt. Davis said. But the U.S. military didn't take part in the deal or agree to ensure safe passage for Islamic State fighters, Capt. Davis said. As the fighters left, the U.S. military tracked them and targeted those who could be killed without potential harm to civilians, he said.

Capt. Davis declined to answer whether the U.S. is bound in any way when an ally like the SDF make an agreement on the battlefield.

A Populist Storm Stirs in Italy

BY GIOVANNI LEGORANO
AND MANUELA MESCO

ROME—Europe's establishment breathed a sigh of relief after the pro-European Union centrist Emmanuel Macron was elected French president this month. But another populist storm is brewing in Italy, where the euroskeptic 5 Star Movement has remained strong.

Fueled by discontent with slow growth, high unemployment and disillusionment with mainstream politicians, 5 Star has won local elections in Rome, Turin and elsewhere, partly on the strength of its leaders' call for a referendum on Italy's use of the European single currency.

Pollsters say about 30% of Italian voters support the movement founded by comedian Beppe Grillo, a level of popularity that has stood firm despite a series of high-profile stumbles, especially by its mayor in Rome. The self-described association of free citizens has replaced the center-left Democratic Party at the top of most polls ahead of national elections to be held by May 2018.

Now, the group that has flouted the rules of the game for establishment parties in Italy is experiencing growing pains as it prepares for the possibility of taking power.

Mr. Grillo and 5 Star waged a successful campaign to block constitutional changes sought by former Democratic Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi, effectively forcing him from office in December. Since then, a caretaker government has run Italy.

The movement has vowed to institute tougher anticorruption laws and deliver a minimum guaranteed income for all working-age and retired Italians if it emerges from upcoming elections as head of a minority government or in a governing coalition with other euroskeptic parties.

The movement's message resonates in a nation where

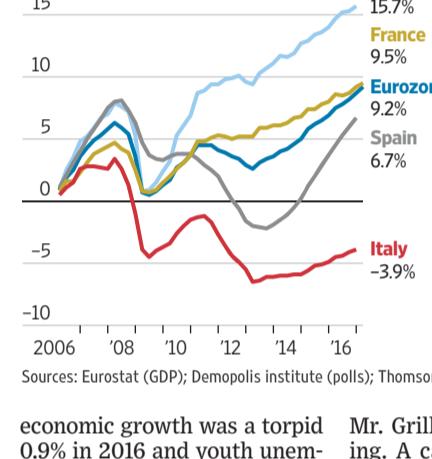


Beppe Grillo, founder of the 5 Star Movement, next to Rome's Mayor Virginia Raggi during a demonstration in the city in November.

Rising Star

Italy's populist 5 Star Movement has gained ground amid the country's slow recovery from the financial crisis, worrying investors and pushing up bond yields relative to neighboring France.

Cumulative change in GDP since 1Q 2006

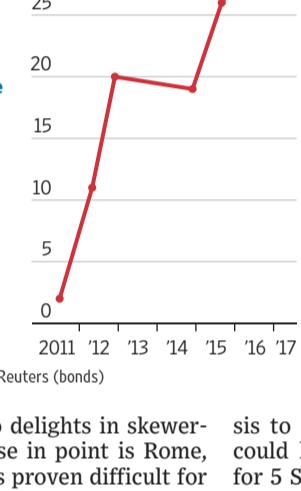


Sources: Eurostat (GDP); Demopolis institute (polls); Thomson Reuters (bonds)

economic growth was a torpid 0.9% in 2016 and youth unemployment is running at 34%, compared with 24% in France.

Still, it remains unclear whether the movement is a viable national alternative to the traditional parties in Italy that

Support for 5 Star Movement



Spread over 10-year German bond yields



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Mr. Grillo delights in skewering. A case in point is Rome, which has proven difficult for its 5 Star mayor to manage.

Voters in the Italian capital elected Virginia Raggi in a landslide last year, but since then she has lurched from cri-

sis to crisis, tarnishing what could have been a showcase for 5 Star-style rule.

5 Star resembles less a traditional political party than the Occupy protest movement that stormed onto the international scene in 2011. But as it

debates over how to prepare for national office, it is faced with a dilemma: What makes it popular—its commitment to bottom-up decision making and direct democracy—also makes it unwieldy and often ineffective. Its candidates are chosen by an online vote of the movement's 20,000 card-carrying activists. That has often produced candidates with no experience or qualifications to run government.

Also, its penchant for slogans, many improvised by Mr. Grillo, has led to sweeping promises that are too costly or ambitious to fulfill quickly—or simply otherworldly.

In Rome, Ms. Raggi's pledge to build a cable car from the city's center to relieve congestion has become bogged down in debate among both government agencies and neighborhood groups.

It recently unveiled its foreign-policy platform, a mix of pacifist bromides and protectionism echoing the nationalist, anti-EU position of France's Marine Le Pen.



Turkey's Prime Minister Binali Yildirim, center, was in London this week for a Somalia conference.

Turkey to Pursue Promises Of Security From the U.S.

BY MARGARET COKER
AND GRAINNE McCARTHY

LONDON—Turkey's prime minister said his nation is looking for more promises from U.S. President Donald Trump to ensure Turkey's national security, as the two allies meet next week to discuss their alliance in fighting terror in the Mideast.

The scheduled visit by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey to the White House on Tuesday is designed to reset relations that have soured in the past couple of years, in part due to different strategic goals in Syria and disagreements over domestic Turkish politics.

Both Mr. Erdogan and Prime Minister Binali Yildirim in different news conferences on Friday sought to play down the announcement this week by Mr. Trump's administration that the U.S. would arm a Syrian Kurdish militia that Turkey and others view as a branch of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK. Both Turkey and the U.S. have designated the group a terror organization because of its bloody decadeslong insurgency for autonomy against

Turkey.

The Syrian fighters, called the YPG, will be the vanguard force in the operation to retake Raqqa, Islamic State's de facto capital in Syria and one of its last urban footholds in that country.

"We believe the U.S. is making a mistake and this mistake will be seen sooner or later and felt by Turkey."

"We believe the U.S. is making a mistake and this mistake will be seen sooner or later."

The cost of those mistakes are paid by people in the region," Mr. Yildirim said.

In London, where he was attending a donors' conference on Somalia, Mr. Yildirim struck a note of pragmatism and conciliation on the YPG issue. He said U.S. officials have explained that the need to arm the YPG was one of "necessity," not choice, due to the urgency among U.S. military planners to start the campaign for Raqqa and de-

stroy Islamic State.

Turkey believes that the tactical move will result in more instability in Syria, as it believes the YPG's goal of Kurdish autonomy will undermine the territorial integrity of its Mideast neighbor. Turkey also fears that a strengthened YPG will create blowback in Turkey's fight against the PKK at home.

The prime minister said U.S. officials are working to smooth over the disagreement by deepening intelligence-sharing with Turkey in its fight against the PKK.

Mr. Trump was the first Western leader to congratulate Mr. Erdogan on last month's controversial referendum giving him more power, while other Western allies have been more circumspect, citing concern about what they view as a weakening of democratic institutions and a widening crackdown against Mr. Erdogan's political foes.

Turkey's government hopes past disagreements can be put behind them and the strategic partners can strengthen their ties, both economically and on national security, Mr. Yildirim said.



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WORLD NEWS

Fatima Visit Highlights Catholic Dilemma

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

Pope Francis arrived in Portugal on Friday to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of reported apparitions of the Virgin Mary at Fatima—honoring the sort of grassroots devotion that can bolster the Catholic faith but also pose challenges for the Vatican.

Apparitions and similar experiences can spur deep piety among believers yet draw skepticism or even ridicule from Catholics and non-Catholics alike. The church accepts the apparitions at Fatima as what it terms “worthy of belief,” and it is examining several dozen similar claims, mostly in Africa and Eastern Europe.

“Pope Francis has a deep devotion to Mary, but he is cautious when it comes to apparitions and supposed messages because he sees a spiritual danger,” said John Thavis, author of “The Vatican Prophecies” and a longtime Vatican reporter.

“He doesn’t want Catholics to be obsessing over apparitions or hunting for supernatural signs or waiting for the latest communication,” he said.



Pope Francis visited Fatima to mark the 100th anniversary of the first reported apparition there.

The pope has hinted at skepticism over one claim the church has been reviewing for years, of ongoing daily visions in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, which have spawned a local pilgrimage industry.

The Virgin Mary, he said in November, is “not the head of the post office who sends a different letter every day.”

In Fatima, Pope Francis

plans to canonize as saints two of the three shepherd children—Francisco Marto and his sister Jacinta—to whom the Virgin is believed to have appeared 100 years ago on Saturday. Both died in the next few years; the third, their cousin Lúcia Santos, died in 2005. Three years later, Pope Benedict XVI cut short the usual five-year waiting period

to initiate the normally lengthy process that could lead to Lúcia’s canonization.

Devotees believe that Mary appeared to the children—in the form of a woman clothed in white and “brighter than the sun”—a total of six times in May to October 1917.

The last apparition drew tens of thousands of onlookers, some of whom said they

How the Church Vets Apparitions

The Catholic Church has approved a number of reported apparitions of the Virgin Mary over the centuries, but the vast majority don’t make the cut.

The primary responsibility for authenticating a reported apparition lies with the local bishop. If a bishop finds a claim particularly credible—or if he thinks it needs to be debunked to prevent misleading the faithful—he can appoint a panel of experts, including theologians, experts in church law and psychologists, to investigate it.

Their investigation follows

guidelines set by the Vatican’s doctrinal office in 1978. They examine the mental health, moral fitness and piety of the visionary; the doctrinal orthodoxy of any alleged messages from Mary; and whether the apparitions have borne “spiritual fruit”—by inspiring prayer or works of charity, for example. “Evidence of a search for profit or gain” counts heavily against authenticity.

The bishop has the power to declare an apparition “worthy of belief,” authorizing public devotion associated with it, but such decisions are rare and typically a long time in coming. The bishop can refer the question to the national bishops’ conference and the Vatican.

—Francis X. Rocca

saw the sun spinning and changing colors and appearing to fall to the earth.

Fatima, one of the most popular pilgrimage sites in the Catholic Church, regularly draws about four million devotees a year, underscoring the power of apparitions of Mary as an inspiration to popular piety.

In Medjugorje, the Virgin

has supposedly appeared every day since 1981 to at least one of a group of six visionaries. Up to 2.5 million people visit the area every year, sustaining a large local hotel, restaurant and souvenir industry. Some of the visionaries have gone on international tour, with the Virgin appearing to them in the U.S. and other locations.

Maduro Linked to Cash Payouts

BY ANATOLY KURMANAEV AND PAUL KIERNAN

CARACAS, Venezuela—A Brazilian political consultant received \$20 million of under-the-table funding for work on Hugo Chávez’s 2012 re-election campaign, most of it in bags of cash handed over by the late Venezuelan president’s associate and later successor, Nicolás Maduro, according to testimony made to Brazilian authorities.

Mônica Moura and her husband, João Santana, a couple whose marketing strategies helped keep Brazil’s leftist

Workers’ Party in power for 13 years, were enlisted by Brazil’s former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva to work on his friend Mr. Chávez’s campaign, Ms. Moura said in the testimony made public this month.

Mr. Maduro, then Venezuela’s foreign minister, personally handed Ms. Moura \$11 million in cash in his Caracas office, she said in the testimony given in court to Brazilian prosecutors in exchange for a reduced sentence on corruption charges. Brazil’s two largest construction companies, **Odebrecht SA** and **Andrade Gutierrez**, which are under investi-

tigation in Brazil for allegedly paying bribes to Mr. da Silva, wired her an additional \$9 million to an offshore account, Ms. Moura said.

Venezuelan law bans all foreign donations to political campaigns. The country’s electoral council didn’t respond to a request to comment on whether Mr. Maduro declared the \$11 million payment, as required by law. Mr. Maduro’s office and Venezuela’s information ministry didn’t respond to a request to comment. A lawyer for Mr. da Silva said Friday the accusations proved nothing.

The deputy leader of Pakistan’s Senate escaped an assassination attempt Friday when a suicide bomber targeted his convoy in the southwestern Baluchistan province, killing 25 people and wounding dozens more, government officials said.

The blast struck soon after Abdul Ghafoor Haideri’s convoy left an Islamic religious school in the town of Mastung, not far from the provincial capital of Quetta, according to a local government official.

PAKISTAN Senate Deputy Survives Bombing

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GERMANY Berlin Presses Turkey On Held Journalist

Germany pressed Turkey for access to a German journalist who has been detained in the

country since late last month, amid rising tensions between the two North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies.

The German Foreign Ministry said Mesale Tolu was detained in Istanbul on April 30 and placed under formal arrest a week later. German authorities said they were never informed of her detention.

“This case that has appeared now worries us,” said Steffen Seibert, spokesman for Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany.

Turkish officials haven’t publicly confirmed Ms. Tolu’s detention, and the Interior Ministry didn’t respond to requests to comment.

—Ruth Bender

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM BAUMOL

1922 — 2017

Economist Diagnosed the Disease of Higher Costs

BY JAMES R. HAGERTY

William Baumol made his name as an economist by explaining why the costs of health care, education and some other services rise much faster than most other things.

The bad news, he warned, was that they probably will keep soaring. The good news: We still should be able to afford quality schools and health care, though they will remain political flashpoints.

Dr. Baumol’s insight in the 1960s was that costs inevitably rise fastest for things that are difficult to automate, including medical care, garbage collection and the live performance of a Mozart string quartet.

It came to him in the middle of the night.

“It was 4 in the morning,” he recalled in an oral history. “I suddenly woke up and said I know why those costs are going up! I got up, wrote down a few notes, and went to sleep again.” His theory became known as Baumol’s Cost Disease.

Dr. Baumol, who taught economics at Princeton and New York University for more than six decades, died May 4 at his home in Manhattan. He was 95.

In his 90s, Dr. Baumol was still writing economic papers. He was the co-author, with Alan Blinder, of a long-lived economics textbook, and was known for his wood carvings and computer paintings.

An interest in the arts led to his breakthrough. In the mid-1960s, he and William Bowen, later president of Princeton, studied the economics of drama, orchestras and other performing-arts groups. The rising costs of a night at the opera, they found, were related to the productivity, or output per hour, of the economy as a whole.

In some areas, such as manufacturing, productivity tended to grow fast as machines allowed each hu-



man to produce more. That allowed manufacturing firms to pay their employees more without necessarily raising prices. When wages increase in one part of the economy, they tend eventually to rise in others. The arts, for instance, need to pay enough to keep actors and musicians from switching to more lucrative fields. As their wages rise, the cost is passed on in the form of higher ticket prices.

Dr. Baumol realized the same applied to bigger sectors of the economy, such as education and health care. Some automation was possible, but it came much more slowly than in other realms. It wasn’t a matter of greedy hospital and school administrators, he said, but of the difficulty of squeezing more work out of each nurse or teacher.

Television sets and computers got cheaper, and people found themselves spending a larger share of income on schools and health.

This disease is “survivable,” Dr. Baumol wrote. As overall increases in productivity make a nation richer, it can afford to pay more

for health and educational services, he argued. But the government might have to spend more to help the poor afford them, and that stokes political clashes.

Dr. Baumol wrote about other topics, including policies to promote competition and innovation.

William Jack Baumol was born Feb. 26, 1922, and grew up in the South Bronx section of New York. His parents were immigrants from Eastern Europe, and his father ran a laundry business.

The younger Mr. Baumol studied economics and art at the College of the City of New York, where he found the economics department “very mediocre.” After serving in the Army in Europe during World War II, he worked at the U.S. Agriculture Department, helping allocate grain to poor countries. He then enrolled at the London School of Economics, where he earned a doctorate.

Though he stressed the importance of rising productivity to improve living standards, Dr. Baumol also warned against worrying about short-run trends in that area. “We do have fluctuations, and people tend to think that because we’ve slowed down for five years we’re going to hell immediately,” he said in an oral history recorded in August 2000.

Dr. Baumol is survived by his wife of 75 years, the former Hilda Missel, two children and two grandchildren.

“Later in life my father had several visits to the hospital,” said Dr. Baumol’s son, Daniel. “People showed up expecting to commiserate but instead found themselves drawn into a lively discussion on, perhaps, inaccuracies in Shakespeare’s depictions of historical figures.”

◆ Read a collection of in-depth profiles at WSJ.com/Obituaries

T. GARY ROGERS

1942 — 2017

Failed Restaurateur Succeeded in Ice Cream

By the time he turned 30 in 1972, T. Gary Rogers had earned a Harvard M.B.A. and worked for the consulting firm of McKinsey & Co. Surely,

Mr. Rogers felt, he had the skills to launch a fine-dining chain in California and Texas.

Yet “we just flew right into the wall,” he recalled later.

After that business failed, Mr. Rogers was down to about \$2,000 of savings and had four sons to feed.

Mr. Rogers and his business partner, William F. “Rick” Cronk, rebounded by acquiring Dreyer’s, a tiny maker of ice cream in Oakland, Calif., in 1977 for \$1 million. They expanded rapidly and eventually supplied the

Dreyer’s and Edy’s brands across the U.S. In 2002, they agreed to sell the company to Nestlé SA in a deal valued at more than \$3 billion.

He also was on the boards of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, Levi Strauss & Co. and Safeway Inc., rising to chairman in each case.

Dogged optimism made him successful, he said. His years on the rowing crew at the University of California, Berkeley, convinced him people were capable of far more exertion than they knew.

Mr. Rogers died May 2 while playing tennis at his home in Oakland. He was 74.

—James R. Hagerty

JAMES KETELSEN

1930 — 2017

CEO Focused on Improving Schools

James Ketelsen had the misfortune of heading a conglomerate, Tenneco Inc., from 1978 to 1992, when that structure was losing favor on Wall Street. He earned more praise for leading another cause: encouraging students at poorly performing high schools in the Houston area to get their degrees and pursue further education.

In the 1980s, Houston-based Tenneco produced oil and gas, owned energy pipelines and built Navy ships. It made farm machinery, car mufflers, chemicals and corrugated boxes. Mr. Ketelsen resisted Wall Street calls for a breakup. “You can’t run a business on the basis of some outsider’s ideas and the whims of

Wall Street,” he told the New York Times in 1985. “You have to run your business with the eye toward building long-term values.”

The Iowa native was struck by the high dropout rate at many schools in his adopted city of Houston. He and his wife, Kathryn, provided scholarships and in the early 1990s founded Project GRAD to strengthen schools and steer students toward education likely to lead to jobs. That organization provides mentoring and sends high-school students to college campuses each summer to help them find opportunities.

Mr. Ketelsen died April 27 in Houston. He was 86 and had Parkinson’s disease.

—James R. Hagerty

SPORTS

PSYCHOLOGY

The Golfer's Delusion



BY BRIAN COSTA

CONSIDER the recreational golfer eyeing the green, armed with better technology than the sport has ever seen. Laser-guided binoculars report the precise yardage to the flagstick, while GPS devices instantly give the distances to the front, middle and back of the green.

Yet new data suggests that even players who know with increasing ease how far they must hit the ball are still dogged by a persistent psychological flaw: They think they will hit the ball farther than they actually do.

Forty percent of approach shots land short of the green, eight times the percentage that land behind the green, according to a study of more than six million such shots recorded by Arccos, a shot-tracking system based on sensors attached to clubs.

The data isn't merely an indication of golfers' collective ability. It reveals a persistent—and tough to overcome—cognitive bias that causes most players to regularly choose the wrong club.

"You end up making decisions based on your best shots," said Arccos chief executive Sal Syed. "That's not smart."

Jeff Beglane, a 31-year-old insurance adjuster in Westford, Mass., with a 12 handicap, said if he is 150 yards out, he will likely

Coming Up Short

New data shows that most golfers overestimate how far they hit the ball



Note: Percentages do not equal 100 due to rounding

Source: Arccos Golf

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

pull out his 9-iron. His reasoning: That's about how far the ball travels when he hits a 9-iron flush.

"Then I leave it 20 yards short and I'm like, hmm, why did it land short?" he said.

The answers can include variables such as wind and elevation changes. Mostly, though, the disappointing result is due to the inability of most players to hit their best shot consistently. "In reality, how many times have I hit that shot, and how many times have I attempted it?" Beglane said. "But in the moment, you're not thinking about that."

David Dunning, a psychology professor at the University of Michigan, said the tendency reflected in the Arccos data is consistent with a phenomenon he has studied for two decades: why people overestimate their ability.

In 1999, he co-authored a study that found that people tend to hold overly favorable views of their abilities in a wide range of social and intellectual disciplines. The study attributed incompetence, in part, to the inability of the incompetent to recognize their lack of ability. But the tendency isn't limited to the deeply flawed.

In a separate 1992 study, engineers at two Silicon Valley software firms were asked how they ranked relative to their co-workers. Forty-two percent of engineers at one firm and 32% of engineers at the other firm rated themselves in the top 5% of performers. Similar mathematical impossibilities have been found in informal surveys of students at business schools.

"When we think about ourselves and how good we are, we think about our potential—the person we're going to be, the golfer we're going to be after we take enough lessons," Dunning said. "People tend to give a little bit too much weight to the positive side of their history and discount too much the negative side."

Even depth perception can be skewed by wishful thinking. Dunning co-authored a 2009 study that found that people tend to perceive desirable objects as being closer to them than undesirable objects placed at the same distance.

What confuses some golfers is that, in many respects, confidence is essential. Players are told to visualize their best shot and swing free of self-doubt. But choosing a club requires a more pragmatic assessment of potential outcomes.

"You'd like to swing always with total confidence," said golf psychologist Bob Rotella. "But with

your strategy decisions, you're probably better off erring on the side of being more conservative."

Technological advancements only recently enabled this to be easily quantified.

Syed, 36, launched Arccos shortly after getting his MBA from Yale in 2012. The company's sensors work in tandem with GPS and Bluetooth technology to log the start and end point of every shot in relation to the hole.

The company declined to say how many users it has, but said the shots in its database were hit by male and female players of all age and ability levels, and included only those where the player had an unobstructed shot at the green.

This persistent cognitive bias regularly causes players to choose the wrong club.

Initially, the system was designed merely to give golfers better data. By knowing, for instance, the actual average distance hit with an 8-iron over time, players could theoretically make better club choices. The company says the average user has improved his or her handicap by more than three strokes.

But a new version of Arccos to be released later this month goes a step further. In collaboration with Microsoft, it will essentially look to do the job that was once the domain of the caddy—making recommendations on strategy—using machine learning.

Syed said Arccos will offer real-time club recommendations on nearly every golf hole in the world based on a range of factors. Among them: data on how a player has fared with each club, how similar players have played similar holes in the past, the dimensions of a given hole and even weather conditions.

"This is the equivalent of a play being called in the NFL by a computer," Syed said.

Replacing human decision-making to such an extent is likely to be viewed with some initial skepticism. When asked about Arccos's data on approach shots, Rotella noted that not all of them that came up short represented a mistake. At times, he said, if the hole is near the front of the green, it can be better to miss short than long.

But clearly, golfers are not plagued by underestimating their ability. In the Arccos study, only 5% of approach shots landed past the back edge of green, while 37% landed on the green, 9% landed left and 10% landed right.

"One advantage of that cognitive bias is you feel good about it," Syed said. "When we tell you that you actually don't hit a 7-iron 150 yards, you hit it 138, it might crush you. But once you internalize that information, you're going to make better decisions."

NBA

POPOVICH: COACH OF EVERY YEAR

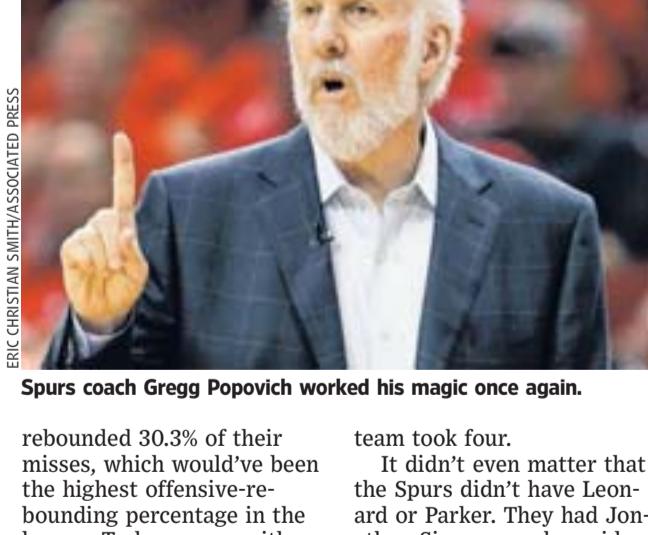
BY BEN COHEN

THE NBA'S Coach of the Year is usually someone whose team has overachieved that season, which explains why San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich has only won the award three times. That's as much as anyone in NBA history—and yet most coaches would say it's not enough. They would say Popovich should win every year. It's simply impossible for a team to overachieve when overachieving is the expectation.

The Spurs' series win over the Houston Rockets in the Western Conference semifinals, especially the Game 6 blowout Thursday night without stars Kawhi Leonard and Tony Parker, was their latest overachievement. It was about as Spurs-y as the Spurs get.

San Antonio has been great under Popovich for two decades. But what they did this year without retired Tim Duncan was nothing short of basketball sorcery. Even crazier is how they did it. Their strategies bucked the trends of modern basketball they helped create.

This was the season, for example, the NBA stopped caring about offensive rebounds. But in their series against Houston, the Spurs



Spurs coach Gregg Popovich worked his magic once again.

rebounded 30.3% of their misses, which would've been the highest offensive-rebounding percentage in the league. To keep pace with Houston's explosive offense, the Spurs needed all the scoring opportunities they could find, and they found them in a place the league had stopped looking.

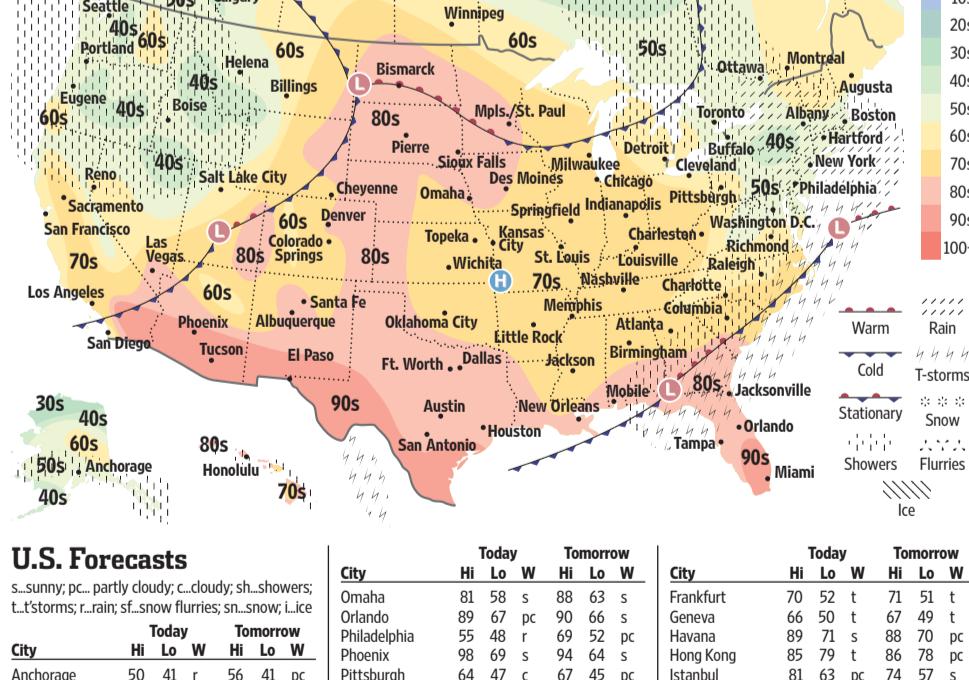
The Spurs also took more shot attempts from the inefficient mid-range than any team this season. The Spurs now rely on this ostracized part of the court because that's where power forward LaMarcus Aldridge likes playing. Aldridge, who scored 34 points on Thursday, took seven mid-range shots. The entire Rockets

team took four.

It didn't even matter that the Spurs didn't have Leonard or Parker. They had Jonathan Simmons, who paid \$150 for an open tryout with their D-League affiliate only four years ago, and he made James Harden's life miserable. They also had the 39-year-old, balding Manu Ginobili, who blocked Harden's buzzer-beating shot in Game 5 while recovering from the shock of throwing down an off-handed slam dunk earlier in the game. "That," Ginobili said, "was very unexpected."

But that's the thing about the overachieving Spurs. The unexpected is their expectation.

Weather



U.S. Forecasts

Sunny; pc... partly cloudy; c... cloudy; sh... showers; t... storms; r... rain; sf... snow flurries; sn... snow; l... ice

| City | Today | | | Tomorrow | | |
|-----------------|-------|----|----|----------|----|----|
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
| Omaha | 81 | 58 | s | 88 | 63 | s |
| Orlando | 89 | 67 | pc | 90 | 66 | s |
| Philadelphia | 55 | 48 | r | 69 | 52 | pc |
| Phoenix | 98 | 69 | s | 94 | 64 | s |
| Pittsburgh | 64 | 47 | c | 67 | 45 | pc |
| Portland, Maine | 54 | 42 | c | 50 | 43 | r |
| Portland, Ore. | 56 | 46 | sh | 59 | 44 | sh |
| Sacramento | 72 | 46 | s | 73 | 47 | pc |
| St. Louis | 79 | 77 | s | 85 | 62 | s |
| Salt Lake City | 63 | 44 | s | 72 | 55 | s |
| San Francisco | 64 | 49 | s | 63 | 49 | pc |
| Santa Fe | 80 | 47 | s | 77 | 47 | pc |
| Seattle | 56 | 46 | s | 56 | 47 | sh |
| Sioux Falls | 80 | 56 | s | 81 | 56 | s |
| Wash. D.C. | 57 | 50 | r | 75 | 54 | pc |
| City | Today | | | Tomorrow | | |
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
| Frankfurt | 70 | 52 | t | 71 | 51 | t |
| Geneva | 66 | 50 | t | 67 | 49 | t |
| Havana | 89 | 71 | s | 88 | 70 | pc |
| Hong Kong | 85 | 79 | t | 86 | 78 | pc |
| Istanbul | 81 | 63 | pc | 74 | 57 | s |
| Jakarta | 90 | 74 | pc | 97 | 66 | c |
| Jerusalem | 84 | 59 | s | 88 | 63 | s |
| Johannesburg | 51 | 38 | r | 55 | 42 | s |
| London | 64 | 51 | pc | 64 | 51 | pc |
| Madrid | 69 | 48 | pc | 75 | 50 | pc |
| Manila | 97 | 80 | pc | 97 | 80 | c |
| Melbourne | 60 | 43 | pc | 60 | 45 | pc |
| Mexico City | 76 | 56 | pc | 77 | 55 | pc |
| Milan | 75 | 57 | t | 77 | 55 | t |
| Moscow | 52 | 32 | c | 56 | 35 | s |
| Mumbai | 95 | 85 | s | 93 | 86 | s |
| Paris | 64 | 49 | pc | 65 | 50 | t |
| Rio de Janeiro | 83 | 70 | s | 90 | 72 | pc |
| Riyadh | 101 | 76 | c | 101 | 77 | pc |
| Rome | 73 | 54 | pc | 74 | 54 | pc |
| San Juan | 89 | 76 | pc | 89 | 78 | pc |
| Seoul | 73 | 54 | t | 70 | 52 | s |
| Shanghai | 88 | 66 | s | 83 | 65 | pc |
| Singapore | 86 | 79 | c | 86 | 80 | c |
| Sydney | 72 | 58 | pc | 67 | 58 | sh |
| Taipei | 84 | 73 | t | 86 | 73 | pc |
| Tokyo | 69 | 62 | r | 74 | 62 | pc |
| Vancouver | 57 | 45 | sh | 57 | 46 | sh |
| Warsaw | 65 | 47 | pc | 67 | 48 | t |
| Zurich | 67 | 51 | t | 66 | 48 | t |

International

| City | Today | | | Tomorrow | | |
|-----------|-------|----|---|----------|----|---|
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
| Amsterdam | 64 | 50 | t | 63 | | |

IN DEPTH

EXODUS

Continued from Page One
very least, have a moderating effect."

Ahmed Abu Zeid, Egypt's foreign ministry spokesman, denied the government discriminates against Christians. "The presidency has been keen since day one to treat the Egyptian society as one nation, and one fabric," he said, adding that the government is doing all it could to protect the minority and fight terror.

President Donald Trump expressed his confidence in President Abdel Fattah Al Sisi's commitment to protecting his Egyptian population in a call between the leaders last month.

Christian activists in Egypt say Washington's ally in the war on terror has long discriminated against the minority, with recurring bouts of mob violence directed against Christians by their Muslim neighbors often leading to no arrests or charges in the courts. Christians have been barred from some government jobs, such as the state intelligence services, and laws make it virtually impossible to build or restore churches.

The exodus of Christians from the Mideast started about a century ago, with many heading to the U.S. for jobs as America opened its doors to migrants. Later waves stemmed from conflict, such as Lebanon's civil war, and from fresh economic hardship, such as the U.S.-led sanctions in the 1990s that hobbled Iraq.

At the start of the 21st century, as wars waned, the oil business flourished in the Gulf region and a financial crisis hit the West, the Christian outflow ebbed.

Then in 2011, the outlook darkened dramatically. What started as hopeful revolutions across the Mideast largely degenerated into strife, civil war and the rise of extremist groups.

The outbreak of Syria's multi-sided civil war in 2011 prompted about half of the country's Christian population of 2.5 million to flee the country, according to Christian charities monitoring the flow. Many escaped to neighboring Lebanon, an anomaly in the region with Christians wielding political power and worshiping freely.

In Iraq, the instability that started in 2003, when a U.S. invasion toppled Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, deepened more than a decade later when Islamic State took over about one-quarter of the country. Iraqi church officials and the religion's political representatives say only one-fifth of the country's Christians remain of the approximately 1.5 million before 2003, according to estimates based on church attendance and voter rolls that identify religion.

Even though Iraqi forces have gained the upper hand over Islamic State, the country's Christians show no sign of returning to homes they fled.

In northern Iraq, blue and white charter buses crisscross neighborhoods of recently liberated Mosul, returning Muslim families displaced by Islamic State. They drive through Christian areas without stopping. For the first time in nearly two millennia, Iraq's second-largest city, once a melting pot of ancient religions, lacks a Christian population to speak of.

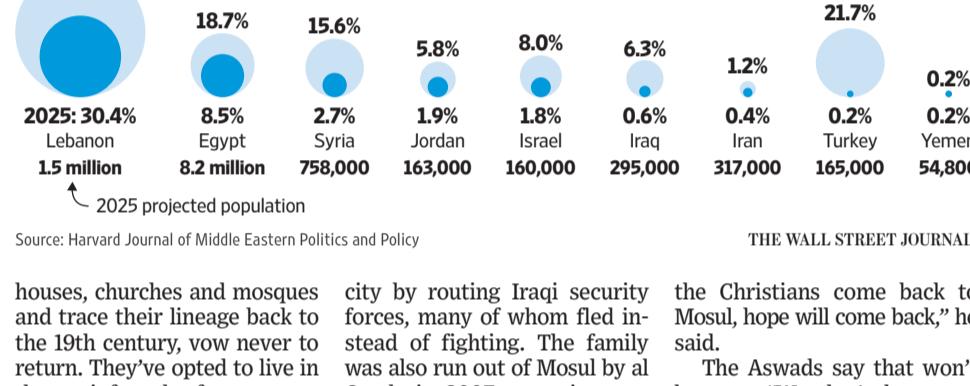
The Al-Aswad family, a clan of masons who built the city's



A man walks in the debris-strewn Saint Elias church in a rebel-held area of Harasta, near Syria's capital of Damascus, in November.

Losing Faith

Most Middle Eastern countries are seeing their Christian populations, as a percentage of total population, plummet.



Source: Harvard Journal of Middle Eastern Politics and Policy

houses, churches and mosques and trace their lineage back to the 19th century, vow never to return. They've opted to live in the rat-infested refugee camps of Erbil in northern Iraq, where they await updates on their asylum application to Australia.

A Christian charity has given them a small apartment until June, at which point they will have to return to the refugee camps to live in a converted cargo shipping container.

"We call it the cemetery," said Raghd Al-Aswad, describing how the cargo containers are covered with dark blue tarps to protect against the rain. "It looks like dead bodies stacked side by side with a giant hospital sheet on top of them."

Mrs. Aswad fled Mosul with her husband, three children and in-laws in June 2014 when Islamic State took control of the

city by routing Iraqi security forces, many of whom fled instead of fighting. The family was also run out of Mosul by al Qaeda in 2007, returning two years later.

Before the Aswads fled Mosul the last time, they left a bag of family photo albums with their Muslim neighbor, Ahmed Abou Hassan, for safekeeping. It was a risk for Mr. Hassan under Islamic State rules, one he says he gladly took.

Mr. Hassan couldn't protect the Aswad home itself from the extremist group, which used it to house their fighters. The neighborhood was liberated in January. A recent visit by a reporter showed that the windows were broken, furniture destroyed. Weeds covered a cherished garden and tangerine tree.

Mr. Abou Hassan yearns to see his old friends again. "When

the Christians come back to Mosul, hope will come back," he said.

The Aswads say that won't happen. "We don't have any more trust," said Raghida's husband, Adwer. "This wasn't the first time. The next time we might die."

The Iraqi government says it is working to secure Mosul and other Christian areas so the minority can return.

"Terrorism has affected everyone and for sure the Christians as well," said Sa'ad Al-Hadithi, a spokesman for the prime minister's office. "The Iraqi government is working to alleviate all concerns by encouraging Christians to stay in Iraq since they are an indigenous group."

Today, more Arab Christians live outside the Middle East than in the region. Some 20 million live abroad, compared

with 15 million Arab Christians who remain in the Mideast, according to a report last year by a trio of Christian charities and the University of East London.

In 1971, Egyptian Coptic Christians had two churches in the U.S. Today there are 252 Coptic churches, according to Samuel Tadros, a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute's Center for Religious Freedom.

Mr. Tadros estimates that some one million Copts have fled Egypt since the 1950s, many to the U.S., Canada, U.K. and Australia.

Mr. Trump has indicated he would welcome more Christian refugees from the Middle East. His initial efforts to overhaul immigration policies have been blocked by the courts amid criticism his executive orders would discriminate on the basis of religion.

The Arab Christian diaspora in the U.S. has already emerged as powerful in politics and business. Dina Powell, Mr. Trump's influential deputy national security adviser, is of Egyptian Coptic origin.

With the near-depletion of the Christian population in the Middle East and the recent flight of the Kurdish minority Yazidis from Islamic State, followed just a few decades after the flight of its Jews, many fear for the region's future—not only because of the rise of radicalism but the loss of talent needed for sputtering economies.

Killed in the Palm Sunday attack at the church in Tanta was Mina Abdo, an engineer who left Egypt over a decade ago with his family, in part to allow his wife Yvonne to pursue her profession of gynecology.

Christian Egyptians have had a hard time getting work in her field since the 1970s when a fraudulent police report emerged accusing the sect of plotting to outnumber Muslims by performing abortions on unsuspecting Muslim women, or secretly slipping them birth control.

The document has been likened to the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, a fabrication used to discriminate against Europe's Jews a century ago.

The family returned to Tanta after celebrating Holy Week for years in their adopted home of Kuwait City. In Egypt, they could sit under a steeple, which their church in Kuwait lacks because official churches are banned there. Mr. Abdo and his son, Kerollo, 11, took the front pews in Mar Girgis, which had a good view of the altar, where many of the family had been baptized and married.

When the suicide bomber detonated his vest that morning, the explosion mangled the same front pews, killing Mr. Abdo instantly. His body shielded his son, Kerollo, who survived but suffered shrapnel wounds to his face and right leg.

Two days after the attack, at a nearby hospital, Mrs. Abdo and her 14-year-old daughter, Miriam, tended to Kerollo. Mother and daughter wore the sweaters Mr. Abdo packed for their trip back home. Miriam wore her father's crucifix, his wedding ring and hospital identity tag hanging off the thick gold chain—possessions the hospital put in a plastic zip-lock bag when Mr. Abdo was pronounced dead on arrival. His remains would stay in Egypt.

When asked whether she'd return, Mrs. Abdo hesitated. "I love Egypt. I love my memories here. But I'm scared now," she said. "We will come back for visits, we must. My husband is buried here."

—Dahlia Kholia in Cairo and Awadh Altaie in Erbil, Iraq, contributed to this article.



Miriam Abdo, 14 years old, right, wears her father's crucifix and wedding ring and a hospital identity tag. He was killed in a Palm Sunday suicide attack at a Christian church in Tanta, north of Cairo. Miriam's younger brother, above with their father, suffered shrapnel wounds to his face and leg.



DAVID DEGKEY/GETTY REPORTAGE FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (2)

worked as a Social Security Administration actuary in the 1990s and was irritated by his name's ubiquity. "If the teacher called on Michael, you always had to say which one," he says.

When his wife became pregnant with their first child in 1996, Mr. Shackleford used a 1% sample of Social Security card applications to determine which baby names were the most common—and avoid them. His pet project morphed into today's rankings, which tally the 1,000 most-popular names U.S. parents choose each year.

"It was a personal goal of mine to kill it," Mr. Shackleford says. "By itself it's a fine name, but if any name becomes too popular, it just ruins it."

Michael rose to prominence after World War II, fueled by its revered status as an archangel. Its transcendent demographic appeal—chosen by whites and blacks, the wealthy and the working class—helped make it the country's most-selected male baby name from 1954 to 1998 (save for a brief dethroning by David in 1960).

"It was an available 'M' name

that sounded nicely American," says Michael Chabon, the 53-year-old Pulitzer Prize-winning author. In keeping with Jewish tradition, he got the name in part to pay homage to his maternal grandfather, Morris.

Few names rival Michael's historic dominance. The Generation X juggernaut Jennifer held No. 1 from 1970 to 1984, and sits at No. 273 in the most recent rankings. John topped the boys' list from 1880, the first year of government records, to 1923, but ranks No. 28 on the new list.

The rankings Mr. Shackleford spawned have helped the top names turn over faster. They account for a smaller share of the children born in a given year than they did a generation ago.

In 1954, the year Michael first clinched the top spot, 4.3% of American baby boys got the name. By 1998, just 1.8% of males born that year were named Michael.

In the latest rankings, it accounts for a mere 0.7% of boys born last year. Because the top names have lost their grip, it edged up to No. 8 from No. 9 in 2015 despite about 400 fewer

male babies being named Michael this past year.

"Michael was No. 1 for so long that it is both a dad name and a grandpa name, and historically you need to go back four generations for a name to sound cool again," says Pamela Redmond, co-creator of Nameberry, a baby-naming website.

Part of Michael's longevity

'I'm distressed,' said presidential loser Michael Dukakis about the slide.

comes from the string of celebrities who kept the name fresh through the late 20th century, when Michael Jackson dominated pop music charts and Michael Jordan soared on the basketball court. The snappy nickname Mike held its own appeal for many. Mr. Jordan's Gatorade ad campaign urged consumers to "Be Like Mike."

"He just could not say no to

the name Michael," says Michael Tyson, the 26-year-old daughter of former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson. "I do think I might even name my daughter Michael."

Mr. Chabon went by Mike until a college girlfriend convinced him to embrace Michael. "I guess I didn't seem Mike-like to her," he says. "It was a little too much like the guy who was there to repair your sprinkler system."

Despite Michael's popularity, the U.S. has never had a president named Michael. "Should I have researched that first before announcing my candidacy?" asked Mr. Dukakis. "No wonder I lost."

There hadn't even been a vice president with the name until this year, when Michael Richard Pence—best known as Mike—took office.

Asked whether Mr. Pence liked having the commonplace moniker, the vice president's press secretary pointed toward a clue: Mr. Pence's son is also named Michael.

Mr. Shackleford, who now runs a gambling consulting

business, appears to have helped knock Michael off its perch. It lost its No. 1 spot the year after the government first published the name data. But Mr. Shackleford's rankings didn't prevent him from falling into a trendy naming trap.

When Mr. Shackleford's second child was born in 2002, he and his wife selected Aidan, the name of a character on the hit show "Sex and the City." It seemed like a safe bet for novelty, occupying No. 114 in 2000.

"I like John Corbett as an actor—I loved the show 'Northern Exposure'—so that may have had something to do with it," Mr. Shackleford says of the man who played Sarah Jessica Parker's boyfriend Aidan.

Other parents flocked to the name, and its more common spelling, Aiden, hit peak popularity at No. 9 on the list in 2011. Now 15, Aidan Shackleford says he shared the name with a boy in the bell choir and others in grades below him.

"The very thing that I was trying to help people avoid doing happened to me," the elder Mr. Shackleford says.

NAMES

Continued from Page One
cord since 1940. It clocked in at No. 8 on the Social Security Administration's annual roster, a list where Noah took the No. 1 boys' spot and Emma topped the girls' rankings.

Behind Michael's demise is a generation of American parents who prize individuality and don't want their children sharing names with classmates like they did. Phonetic trends have made hard consonants and names ending in "N" soar up the baby-name list.

"I'm distressed," says 83-year-old Michael Dukakis, the failed 1988 presidential contender and former Massachusetts governor, upon learning of Michael's fading popularity.

"I'm looking at some of these names now, and I don't know where these mothers get them," adds football legend Mike Ditka, 77, who shares the name Michael with his father and a son.

The slide marks a victory for Michael Shackleford, 51, who

OPINION

THE WEEKEND INTERVIEW with Barbara Oakley | By James Taranto

A Polymath Mastered Math—and So Can You

When Barb Oakley was growing up in the 1960s and early '70s, nobody took her for a future engineer. "I just rode horses all the time," she says when I ask what interested her as a girl. She was especially indifferent to math. At age 7, she lagged her classmates in learning the multiplication tables. "Because math is so sequential, if you fall off anywhere along the way, it's hard to get back on. I just came to the conclusion at that time that I really couldn't do math," she says. "I flunked my way through elementary, middle and high school math and science."

Eventually she figured out she had underestimated herself. Today she is on the engineering faculty at suburban Detroit's Oakland University, where she earned a master's and doctorate in the 1990s. She was such a standout student that her professors recruited her: "Oakland was like, 'Hey, someone is retiring here right now. You need to hurry through your Ph.D. fast, because this position's coming open.'"

The author of 'Mindshift' on the science and practice of learning—and finding love at the South Pole.

Her progression from desultory student to respected scholar led her to a sideline in the study of learning itself. She's published two books on the subject, "A Mind for Numbers: How to Excel at Math and Science (Even If You Flunked Algebra)" (2014) and the new "Mindshift: Break Through Obstacles to Learning and Discover Your Hidden Potential." Neuroscientist Terrence Sejnowski has helped her understand how the brain works; together they developed a massive open online course, "Learning How to Learn," which by some measures is the world's most popular MOOC. In addition to her Oakland affiliation, she is a distinguished scholar of global digital learning at Ontario's McMaster University.

An Air Force brat, Ms. Oakley (then Barbara Ann Grim) enlisted in the U.S. Army right out of high school. "I always wanted to learn a language, since I couldn't do math and science," she recalls. She studied Russian, first at the Defense Language Institute, then on military scholarship at the University of Washington. There she earned a bachelor's degree in Slavic languages and literature and, thanks to ROTC, an officer's commission.

"I was all set to go into military intelligence, and they instead

commissioned me as a signal corps officer," she says. Her work entailed supervising the installation of telephone systems. She knew how to do the job—"this needs to hook to that"—but had no idea "what was going on behind this hooking to that." Her colleagues did. "I didn't understand what a frequency was and what electromagnetic waves were," she says. "I was working with all these West Point engineers, so I was really not very good at my job."

When she left the Army at age 26, "I realized that I'd sort of boxed myself in a corner career-wise." Her only expertise was Russian fluency—not terribly marketable even during the Cold War. But she remembered her engineer colleagues from the Army. "They had great careers open for them, and I didn't," she says. "Here I was, always boxing myself off and saying I couldn't do math and science. So I decided to try it."

Again she enrolled at the University of Washington, where she started with "remedial high-school algebra, and slowly began working my way up." It was a struggle at first: "Sometimes I'd look at the pages and think: Did they deliberately write this to make it so that nobody could ever understand it?" She tells me some of her old textbooks have "dimples" where she stabbed the pages with a fork.

She skipped some terms to work during fishing season as a translator on Soviet trawlers in the Bering Sea: "I have some very good drunk-Russian stories." She took off the 1983-84 academic year to work as a radio operator on the other end of the Earth, at the Amundson-Scott South Pole Station. But she gradually improved her skills and earned a bachelor's in electrical engineering at 31 after five on-and-off years of school.

By trial and error, Ms. Oakley had learned how to learn: "The higher I went, it started to gradually make more and more sense." Her language experience proved valuable. "The way you learn intensively for a language is very similar to learning well in math and science," she says. But that isn't the predominant view among American educators. "In learning math and science through K-12, it's long been held that practice and repetition will kill your creativity," she says. "One mistake we make in the school system is we emphasize understanding. But if you don't build those neural circuits with practice, it'll all slip away. You can understand out the wazoo, but it'll just disappear if you're not practicing with it."

Yet while focus and practice are important, so is relaxation: "There's two different networks in your brain. One is [active] when



ZINA SAUNDERS

you're focusing, and the other is a much broader network." She describes the latter network, which operates during "neural resting states," with a simile: "It's like a librarian: 'Hmmm, I'll put this book here, and I'll put this marking on it so I can look it up later.'

Thus sometimes the way to solve a problem is to *stop* paying attention to it. "It's perfectly normal to look at something, . . . not understand it, and have to go away from it and let that other mode sort of cogitate in the background making connections, so that when you come back and look at it a second time, it will make sense."

Ms. Oakley notes that "many, if not most," of her engineering colleagues "are from countries that have educational systems completely antithetical to the education system in the United States." In places like China and India, "practice and repetition and rote and memorization are really important parts of education." She sees value in both methods: "There are real benefits for Western approaches—that it really does help with creativity. And there are also real benefits to Asian approaches—that it builds a solid foundation in the most difficult disciplines, math and science. The best education would actually be a combination of both approaches."

Learning beyond the classroom is the subject of her new book. She defines a "mindshift" as "a change in your outlook that occurs through intensive learning"—such as her own mastery of math and engineering. The book is filled with

advice for people who are considering a career change or who seek to develop "an attitude of lifelong learning," even in retirement.

"I got to travel all around the world and meet people who had made these kind of interesting, really sort of mind-boggling changes," she tells me. One of them is Ali Naqvi, a Pakistani professional golfer turned marketing executive with Ogilvy & Mather in London. "He's found that his past, which seems to be completely disconnected, is actually very relevant to what he's doing." Some of the ways are obvious—Ogilvy "does a lot of sports marketing, and he understands that world"—and others less so. "When you make a mistake in golf, you have to let it go, and move ahead, and do not think about these past mistakes," she says. "He trained himself in that, and he's found that it's very helpful in the business world."

Mr. Naqvi was like the younger Ms. Oakley, in that "he couldn't do math either, then, through MOOCs and so forth, he learned." That enabled him to master search-engine optimization, "the most mathematical of all the marketing stuff."

Another of her case studies is Mr. Sejnowski, her MOOC co-instructor. In the late 1970s he was a theoretical physicist studying relativity at Princeton, the "bastion" of the field. His future seemed bright, but he worried that the capital costs of physics research—building supercolliders and the like—were so great that, in Ms. Oakley's words, "there's not going to be a way to really make progress in his lifetime." He switched to neuroscience. "Everybody was

like, 'You're nuts. Why on earth would you give up something like that?'" she says.

In her book, Ms. Oakley draws on Mr. Sejnowski's expertise: "That allows me to talk about what's going on from a neuroscientific perspective about, for example, how 1,400 new neurons are born every day in the hippocampus, and here's what you can do to help nurture them. Learning actually serves as a sort of trellis to allow those new neurons to survive and thrive and grow."

She also interviewed ordinary people who'd made a "mindshift." Claudia Meadows was a bus driver who suffered from depression. She "hit bottom and decided to use learning to try to get herself really out of it—not just drugs and so forth, but to really try to reprogram her brain. And by golly, she did it."

How do you strengthen your mind as you age? Some of the answers are what you'd expect. Physical exercise helps encourage neuron growth. Some forms of meditation improve creativity, while others sharpen focus. In one study, "reading a book for around 3½ hours a week was shown to extend the lifespan . . . by something like two to three years." Learning a foreign language "gives a workout to the very centers of the brain that are most affected by the aging process, so it's super healthy."

Others are surprising. "Action videogames are incredibly helpful in keeping you sharp," Ms. Oakley says. "They've been shown by research—top-notch research—to make a big difference in your attentional centers." Videogames even improve eyesight. "You can drive better; you'll catch if some little animal is darting in from the side," she says. "Fine print on a medicine bottle—you can see it better if you're working with these action videogames."

Ms. Oakley's own sense of play is evident when she talks about her husband of 33 years, Phil Oakley, who worked as the South Pole Station's garage manager. On New Year's Eve 1983, three weeks after they met, he proposed "at the true South Pole, at the stroke of midnight. . . . Three weeks after that, we got married, as soon as we got off the ice in New Zealand."

She remembers their time at the pole fondly. "It was kind of fun. You could actually run around the world in a few seconds," she says. "We would go out on dates to the garbage dump, because there's like nothing to do there. I like to joke that we started global warming."

Mr. Taranto is the Journal's editorial features editor.

These Days, You Can't Make It Anywhere in New York, New York



Taxes aside, New York has always seemed to me the perfect city to grow old in. There are doormen to help with packages; handymen and building superintendents to shovel the snow, take out the trash, and unclog the drains; restaurants of all kinds to deliver dinner; elevators so you don't have to climb stairs; interesting streets to walk while you can; excellent doctors and hospitals (a bit harder to access now, thanks to President Obama's raid on Medicare); and—I used to say—taxis to whisk you to midtown in 15 minutes. That last point is no longer true, and it's no small inconvenience to those for whom subway stairs are an impediment.

Blame two mayors, Michael Bloomberg and Bill de Blasio. The former, who led the city from 2002-13, had real accomplishments, from Gotham's continuing drop in crime, to rezoning the city, to the No. 7 subway extension. But Mr. Bloomberg also held some zany urbanist notions. He pushed to reduce traffic with London-style congestion pricing, and when that effort failed, he reportedly decided to reduce the number of cars in Manhattan by slowing them maddeningly.

His administration pedestrianized Times Square, legalized rickshaws, and proliferated bike lanes. Because Mr. Bloomberg's name is on the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health—thanks to his countless millions in donations—the mayor seemed to assume special expertise on the subject. Along with banning big sodas and limiting where New Yorkers could smoke, he tried to induce exercise by installing a raft of rental Citi Bikes.

Mayor de Blasio doubled down on this traffic eccentricity. In 2014 a taxi turning left at West 97th Street hit and killed a 9-year-old boy, Cooper Stock, as he was crossing with the light, holding his father's hand. The death was an outrage, worsened by the noncriminal penalty levied on the taxi driver. He paid only a \$500 fine and had his license suspended for six months, when he should have been frog-marched off to jail. After all, you take on heavy responsibility when you steer a ton of metal through crowded city streets, and killing a child who has the right of way in a crosswalk is not an accident.

When a taxi once hit me in similar circumstances—but fortunately with no injuries—the driver didn't even get a ticket and drove off fuming that the cops had wasted his time. The City Council has now made it a misdemeanor for a driver to hurt a walker or cyclist who has the right of way, though that should include merely hitting him. And killing or seriously injuring someone should be a felony. Driver accountability is the key to traffic safety.

Instead, Mr. de Blasio's response to Cooper's utterly unforgivable death was to slow the city's traffic still further, lowering speed limits from 30 to 25 miles an hour, turning some avenues from four lanes to two, and timing the change of streetlights so as to prevent drivers from building up speed.

The result is that it now takes more than twice as long to get from uptown to midtown by cab. New York jumped from the world's eighth-most-congested city to its third last year, according to the traffic-analyst firm Inrix. The average commuter spent the equivalent of two entire workweeks in traffic jams, and the city overall lost \$16.9 billion in time, fuel and so on.

Mr. de Blasio has launched a Swedish-style campaign for "Vision Zero," a call to end traffic fatalities. Motorist deaths fell last year, to 67 from 81 in 2015, but deaths of pedestrians

play a part, since I now witness frustrated drivers ignoring red lights—something I never saw before in Gotham.

Moreover, what is the rationale for the bike lanes, which in residential neighborhoods seem to be used almost entirely by delivery boys? Citi Bikers shuttle mostly between Grand Central Terminal and Times Square or the Port Authority Bus Terminal, and half their trips last less than 10 minutes (and 98% less than 45 minutes), according to New York University's Rudin Center for Transportation. Wouldn't recreational cyclists rather use the bike lanes in the parks? What is the point of slowing traffic down so radically if pedestrian and cyclist deaths rise? Mayor Bloomberg's wild-eyed traffic commissioner even proposed recently to

pedestrianize Fifth Avenue in midtown.

As November's mayoral election approaches, a powerful promise for some candidate would be to make traffic flow freely again: rip out Times Square's pedestrian mall (rarely full), rip out most of the bike lanes and evict Citi Bike, while policing vigilantly to keep pedestrians safe. New York isn't reserved for young people on bicycles. It's also for businesspeople and old people, who take cabs (and now Ubers and Lyfts) when they can't take the subway—and who pay a lot of the city's taxes.

Mr. Magnet is editor at large of City Journal and author of "The Founders at Home" (W.W. Norton, 2013).

The Case for Brevity

By Carol Quillen

Good commencement addresses are by definition short. Yet prestigious speakers often drone on so long that graduates retreat to their happy places in mental self-defense.

In 1962, the speaker at Davidson College went on for more than an hour—changing school tradition in the process. The college announced shortly thereafter that future commencements would focus on students. The president would speak briefly, and then graduates would cross the stage one by one to accept their diplomas.

Today's commencement ritual aims to connect students with graduates everywhere through a shared sense of hope and obligation. Outside speakers function as inspirational

role models, offering lofty if platitudinous coming-of-age advice. If they are sufficiently eloquent and famous, they also bring the school publicity and bragging rights.

What the trend forgets is that these ceremonies are also local events. Each is centered on a class and the individual human beings who compose it at one moment in time.

At Davidson, where I have given five commencement addresses—none longer than 12 minutes—the question of inviting an influential guest periodically arises. I get it. Throughout the year extraordinary thinkers speak at our college. Why not at commencement? In our close-knit campus, students often feel they've heard enough advice from me. As my sixth commencement approaches, I have been thinking specifically about what insiders like me can offer graduates.

My answer is that we are best at keeping the spotlight where it belongs. Davidson graduates have spent four years here, strengthening the community, developing humane instincts and disciplined and creative minds for lives of leadership and service. The faculty and staff who line the sidewalk where the students march know not only their names, but also their struggles, accomplishments and plans. This day is about students. Any speaker is a bit player.

So I will speak briefly and with gratitude on May 21 about how these students—Judith and Jada, Nate and Jack—have left Davidson stronger, wiser and more humane than they found it. Then I will yield the stage to those to whom the day, and the future, belong.

Ms. Quillen is president of Davidson College.

OPINION

REVIEW & OUTLOOK

A Week in Trump's Washington

The Washington spectacle continues in the aftermath of President Trump's firing of FBI Director James Comey, and unlike Ringling Bros. it won't be closing soon. As a service to readers, we thought we'd sort the fact from the suspicion, hyperventilation and bluster and sum up what we've learned from the latest tumultuous week in the Trump Presidency.

• *Whatever Mr. Trump's calculations, Mr. Comey's departure is good for the FBI, the Justice Department and the country.* The President and White House first said Tuesday that he had acted based on the recommendation of his top two Justice officials. On Thursday he told NBC News that he was going to fire Mr. Comey anyway, and that he had the FBI's Russia-Trump probe on his mind.

The two aren't mutually exclusive, but with Mr. Trump who knows? He often acts on one impulse then changes his explanation later. The main problem of his Presidency is that he treats his own statements as a form of public entertainment rather than acts of persuasion to build public trust. This is self-destructive, but it means everyone else has to discount what he says and focus even more than with most politicians on the substance of what he does.

Mr. Comey's political calculations—most of them aimed at preserving his personal standing—had damaged the bureau. His dismissal sent a message that the FBI director is politically accountable through the Attorney General and Deputy AG.

• *Rod Rosenstein deserves better treatment—from Democrats and Mr. Trump.* The Deputy AG's memo on Mr. Comey's 2016 behavior is persuasive and a public service. It bears the hallmark of a straight shooter concerned with the accountability that is essential to a credible rule of law.

Democrats are now saying they don't trust him, though a chunk of the memo quoted what Democratic legal veterans had written. They should be pleased to have someone of recognized integrity in such a crucial Justice role. So should Mr. Trump, whose initial public statements appeared to load the responsibility for Mr. Comey's dismissal on Mr. Rosenstein.

The Washington Post report that Mr. Rosenstein threatened to resign has since been contradicted—it doesn't sound like his M.O.—but Mr. Trump should still apologize to him.

• *The various Russia probes will continue with even more vigor.* Acting FBI director Andrew McCabe, a Comey loyalist, told Congress this week that he has seen no attempt to interfere with its investigation. He said the FBI has ample resources for the job and that he wasn't aware of a request by Mr. Comey for more. This contradicted another media report.

If Mr. Trump hoped to cover something up, sacking the FBI director is exactly the wrong way to do it. Every G-man with a mediocre lead will leak if he thinks politicians are trying to sit on evidence. The next FBI director will be watched like a Russian agent for any hint of po-

litical favoritism. The House and Senate intelligence committees have also been given new impetus for thorough investigations.

• *There still is no serious evidence of Trump-Russia collusion during the 2016 campaign.* The worst detail so far is Michael Flynn's denial (he says he forgot) that he had met with the Russian ambassador.

The various other names who've flashed as targets of media suspicion are small-timers (Carter Page) or Beltway bandits (Paul Manafort) who look more like mercenaries than conspirators.

Perhaps such evidence will emerge. If it does, Mr. Trump's Presidency isn't likely to survive. If it doesn't, he could emerge politically stronger for having his denials vindicated.

• *Mr. Trump's FBI nominee had better be someone independent and outside the Trump orbit.* Mr. Trump has rebounded from other mistakes with good hires—see H.R. McMaster as national security adviser after Mr. Flynn's flameout. He needs to ace the FBI pick now to neutralize Democratic opposition and reassure bureau agents on the case. We've suggested former Treasury official Stuart Levey, but no political hacks allowed.

• *The Trump White House is a mess, but then we knew that.* The chaos and self-serving leaks after the Comey firing make the Bill Clinton White House look like a model of discipline and decorum. If Trump aides aren't trashing each other, they're trashing the boss, who doesn't seem to mind humiliating them as he has spokesman Sean Spicer. Then there was this week's leak—dumped to reporters favored by the Stephen Bannon team—that Mr. Trump is unhappy with General McMaster, who apparently suffers from being too capable.

The historical analogy isn't Richard Nixon, whose advisers were effective in their abuses until they were finally discovered. This is more like Jimmy Carter—outsiders who arrived to drain the swamp and are swamped by incompetence. The blundering over the Comey decision and aftermath raises serious doubts that this White House has the focus and discipline to manage tax reform.

• *The main source of dysfunction is the man at the top.* The President is his own worst enemy—impulsive, thin-skinned, undisciplined, by now readers know the story. Every time his supporters think he might finally be appreciating the weight of the job, or the gravity of a President's words, he goes on a Twitter rant.

Rather than focus on his agenda, he keeps the Russia pot boiling by railing against critics. Health care—what's that? He faults his communications team for mistakes, but they are usually based on incomplete information or an attempt to clean up the boss's effusions.

Mr. Trump has assembled many able advisers and officials who are trying to serve the country and steer the mercurial President from his own worst instincts. If Mr. Trump won't heed their counsel, he really will turn into Jimmy Carter.

In Praise of Edison Jackson

As if we needed another example of civility gone off the rails at America's institutions of higher learning, the treatment given Education Secretary Betsy DeVos this week at Bethune-Cookman University deserves special mention.

Edison O. Jackson, the president of Bethune-Cookman, a historically black institution of higher education, invited Mrs. DeVos to be the schools commencement speaker. As she began, many students screamed at her and turned their backs to the stage. So it

went for nearly the whole speech.

President Jackson, let it be noted, defended the Secretary at her side, and the school's faculty stood onstage in solidarity with him.

The irony here is that Mrs. DeVos has dedicated her adult life to improving educational opportunities for inner-city black children, specifically so they can qualify for a higher education and the lifetime of benefits that brings.

We are reaching the limits of political polarization when it turns this self-defeating.

Chris Christie's Insurance Heist

Rhabilating drug users—and one of the lowest gubernatorial approval ratings in the country—doesn't come cheap. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie is trying to do both with pricey new anti-addiction programs, but he'd teach more respect for the rule of law if he wasn't also raiding a private state health insurer to pay for it.

Opioid abuse has devastated the Garden State, with heroin overdose rates more than double the national average in 2015. In January Mr. Christie introduced a slate of anti-drug programs, as well as reforms to limit the supply of opioids and increase access to treatment. The mystery is why he's turning these admirable goals into an Elizabeth Warren-style antibusiness shakedown.

Mr. Christie's target is Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, the state's largest insurer and a nonprofit. Earlier this year, Mr. Christie demanded the private company hand over \$300 million from its more than \$2 billion capital reserve fund. Horizon offered \$135 million, but the Governor rejected the offer.

"It is obscene that an insurance company in this state that calls themselves a nonprofit sits on nearly \$3 billion of your money, in surplus," Mr. Christie told union members in March. A former registered lobbyist in Trenton for banking and health care, the Governor assailed the company for refusing to help drug addicts while paying its "lobbyists millions and millions of dollars."

Last month Mr. Christie gave a speech pro-

posing a coercive bill that would require Horizon to post executive salaries and bonuses online, in addition to adding four government-appointed seats to its board.

The bill would empower the government to assess Horizon's reserves and put any "excess surplus" into a "New Jersey Quality Health and Wellness Fund."

This echoes language from state Assembly leaders in 2005 when they tried to take \$300 million from Horizon's reserves. The state treasurer warned at the time that the proposal "was illegal and would be mired in the courts for years." Mr. Christie must have missed that warning because he recently mused, "I don't know who could be opposed to something like this."

Horizon's 3.8 million members might not be hot on the idea, especially when shrinking reserves lead to higher insurance premiums. The company estimates that a \$300 million heist would raise premiums for a family of four by an average \$1,744 a year, though some could face an even higher bill.

Horizon isn't some corporate scofflaw. It paid more than \$200 million in state taxes for 2016, and randomly vilifying companies helps explain why New Jersey ranked 50th out of 50 on the Tax Foundation's 2017 state business climate index. A spokesman for Mr. Christie declined comment.

Reversing the wasted human potential that is heroin use is commendable, but even the Democrats who control the state legislature appear skeptical of Mr. Christie's extortion. One Elizabeth Warren is more than enough.

The Governor wants to grab a company's 'excess' profits.

effect that debt can have on a family. Despite what Sen. Sasse suggests, 20-to-30-year-olds are less materialistic than their parents, choosing to put the money they do spend toward experiences, like travel and social events, rather than material goods.

JOSH CARSON
Denver

It is disconcerting that Sen. Sasse attributes this generation's failings to their access to "incredible wealth and . . . creature comforts." A significant portion of the children and youth in our society live in poverty, denied access to wealth and creature comforts. The single mother struggling to make ends meet is illustrating a significant work ethic to her children, but her ability to allow them to travel is limited, and her children see meager rewards for the staggeringly hard work she does.

JENNIFER GRAHAM
Arlington, Texas

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Helping Adolescents Become Mature Adults

I have co-opted Sen. Ben Sasse's parenting mission statement ("Perpetual Adolescence and What to Do About It," Review, May 6), and I suggest one additional theme that we discuss in our home: Humbly acknowledge your privilege. Mr. Sasse's Nebraska family enjoys an annual income of at least \$174,000. His children will access, by virtue of his position as a U.S. senator, networks and relationships that most children will not. Acknowledging how privilege benefits some doesn't undercut the truth that industry and sacrifice are essential ingredients of maturity. Being born into an upper-middle-class, white family undeniably charts his children on a different course, one with opportunities not available to all. I hope his children, and mine, never lose sight of how the world tips in their favor and that they use whatever power this ultimately affords them to seek out ways to level the playing field.

MICHELLE WOSTER
Minneapolis

I kicked my kids out as soon as possible with one maxim: "The way to live is to have the best possible things—and the fewest possible things."

BILL KLEIN
Springfield, Ill.

Prolonged childhood among today's 20-to-30-year-olds isn't the result of bad parenting. It's the result of our parents' bad adulting and our desire not to follow in their footsteps. In this context, millennials' slow march to adulthood is simply an exercise in the turtle and the hare. We take longer to choose our spouses because we are more aware of the weight of the decision. We change jobs every two years because we recognize that with each new experience we come closer to finding our true calling. We save better because we've seen the straitjacket

In 1900, when life expectancy was in the 40s in the U.S., children moved very fast into adulthood. As life expectancy has lengthened, so adolescence has lengthened. Americans (and Canadians) have sensed this biological change and have altered their treatment of young people accordingly. The young stay longer in education, they are called "kids" well into their 20s and they often delay parenthood until middle age. Until they are approaching 40, neither standard business practice nor normal society will voluntarily give them the authority or the deference that members of my generation in Europe were able to win in our 20s or even late teens. The last time a U.S. student was routinely called Mr. or Miss by a professor or college staff member was before Sen. Sasse was born.

P.B. LYNDON
Vancouver, British Columbia

America Need Not Worry About South Korea

Your May 6 editorial "A Korean Election Nail-Biter" gives a misguided impression that President Moon Jae-in "would hamper U.S. efforts to increase pressure on the North to give up its nuclear program" and that Mr. Moon furthermore enjoyed an election boost from President Trump's "off-hand remark" on North Korea.

Pressuring North Korea to give up its nuclear and missile programs is one of Mr. Moon's top priorities. He made it clear during his campaign that the Korea-U.S. alliance will continue to be the main pillar of his administration's foreign policy. He has pledged to immediately begin working closely with Mr. Trump to develop and execute a joint plan to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue.

Mr. Moon thinks it essential to have an early summit with Mr. Trump to reaffirm the robustness of their alliance and clarify their common position going forward.

Mr. Moon's proposal contemplates a formal peace process that goes hand in hand with denuclearization to give all sides the vision of a final

solution. Mr. Moon has declared unequivocally that North Korea's renunciation of nuclear weapons and commitment to a denuclearized Korean Peninsula is the indispensable first step to the restart of engagement.

Tuesday's election, triggered by the impeachment and removal of President Park Geun-hye, was first and foremost a vote on how to turn the page on the corruption that plagued the Park government and address the socioeconomic injustices that have accumulated over the past two conservative governments. A rigid, hard-line policy against North Korea during the past decade has only yielded more missile and nuclear tests.

The claim that Mr. Trump's "off-hand remark in the thick of a South Korean election" ended up helping Mr. Moon gives too much credit to U.S. influence and underestimates the political maturity of one of America's few democratic allies in the region.

CHUNG EUI-YONG
Foreign-policy adviser
to President Moon Jae-in
Seoul

Battle Over the Worth of an M.B.A. Continues

There's another reason that the M.B.A. has lost its allure ("M.B.A. Loses Global Allure," Business News, May 4). With the misguided focus on candidates with five years or more of experience, the elite M.B.A. programs are no longer attracting the "best and brightest talent." The best potential candidates simply have no need to return to Wharton or Stanford or Harvard. This leaves these so-called elite schools with having to pick over candidates whose careers have stalled or

Peary the Explorer Is No Hero to the Greenland Inuit

Edward Rothstein's "Exhibition Review: At the Birth of Anthropology" (Life & Arts, May 8) points out the condescension exhibited by the early anthropologists, but exploitation was also rampant. Frederic W. Putnam's sponsorship of Robert Peary's Greenland expedition burnished their reputations and vastly increased Peary's wealth. But it caused a huge loss to the Inuit of Greenland when Peary took three meteorites that were the only source of metal for them. The Inuit used the metal to fashion tools for hunting and skinning animals.

Peary presented the meteorites to his wife who sold them to the American Museum of Natural History for several thousand dollars. One can still see them at the museum.

PAM HUNTINGTON
New York

President Trump's rhetoric regarding immigration clearly doesn't help, but that doesn't mean the best and brightest are dropping like flies. It could be that a greater number of marginal students are discouraged. The international-student applicant pool for U.S. business graduate schools remains enormous and is the envy of higher-education programs around the world.

RAY PARKER
Annapolis, Md.

Pepper ... And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"Even if the ocean dried up, we'd still have skateboarding."

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OPINION

The Questions of a Lifetime

By David Epstein

Why are we in America?" was the first substantive question I ever asked. It was 1939. I was 4 years old and speaking to my father, Yudie, in a San Antonio neighborhood not far removed from the frontier. He responded by writing a poem, in Yiddish, about how he left a Lithuanian shtetl in 1922 to join his siblings in America. My mother Sonia came from Poland, via Mexico, a few years later. When I got older, I joked that I thought everyone in Texas spoke Yiddish.

"Will there still be news after the war?" I asked my father during World War II. Each day he drove my brother William and me to our local public elementary school. There was no radio in the car, so my father wouldn't leave the house until he'd heard the latest news about the war.

'Why are we in America?' I asked when I was 4. The next eight decades have provided many answers.

I was always worried we'd be late. We usually arrived just before the tardy bell. I learned later that news would not only still exist but that the concept of news is elastic and ever-expanding, going well beyond great wars.

"What were the causes of the American Civil War?" asked a professor at Harvard College while I was a student there in the mid-1950s. Similar lofty questions filled the air in Harvard Yard, at the dining tables in Adams House, and in well-worn lecture halls. "Were the Dark Ages really without learning and culture? What were the consequences of the closing

of the American frontier? What is the Greek idea of tragedy? Why do the righteous suffer and the evil prosper?" Science posed different questions with precise answers, about how to create compounds, measure weights, and understand mass and acceleration.

"Do I want to be a doctor?" I asked myself in 1957 during the summer after college graduation. I'd been accepted to several medical schools. No, I decided, I wanted something else. At Harvard Law School, the interrogative Socratic Method was applied in such a way that previously confident students were resigned to humiliation.

"Aye, aye sir," is the answer of a junior officer in the U.S. Coast Guard, aboard ship or on shore. Follow orders, rules, and military etiquette. I served my country by doing as I was told. No questions asked.

"Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country," said President Kennedy in 1961. I took his command literally. Moving to Washington, I became an assistant U.S. attorney. I asked a prosecutor's questions in my effort to learn and present affirmative facts or to challenge those offered by the defense. Eventually I asked legal questions in courtrooms as a civil litigator, in classrooms as a law professor, and in conference rooms as an arbitrator.

"Who is America's most obscure president?" I asked Ellen Robinson in May 1971. It was our second date. She answered that this was the same



Saluting the flag in the 1940s.

question that she asked her dates. "If we have that much in common, we should get married," I said. Ten weeks later we did. Our marriage is in its 46th year and has produced five children and 12 grandchildren. (For the record, I say Franklin Pierce was most obscure; Ellen says Chester Alan Arthur.)

"What's in this week's Torah?" my then 5-year-old son once asked me during our traditional Sabbath-eve dinner. I made dinner-table questions a feature of family life in order to divert the children from their antics and introduce content to our discussions. One week, I forgot to raise any topics. The child's question led me to write an article. That generated an

offer from a major publisher to write a book. I co-authored "Torah With Love: A Guide for Strengthening Jewish Values Within the Family." A reviewer wrote, "This is one of those books which can change lives." Years later, an author referred to our book as a "classic."

"I wonder what we are missing right now?" is the question I asked Ellen during the week-long celebration of Harvard's 350th anniversary in 1986. The dean of the John F. Kennedy School of Government had just noted that in 1936, at the Harvard centenary, not a single one of the speakers made reference to conditions in Europe. Three years later the Continent was consumed by war, the consequences of which would take 50 years to resolve. I attest that in 1986 none of the academic, political and cul-

tural leaders who spoke offered a single thought to suggest that Europe was again on the verge of world-changing events. Three years later, in 1989, the Berlin Wall, the physical symbol of the divide between freedom and totalitarianism, fell. In 1991, the "evil empire" itself, the Soviet Union, collapsed.

"Where shall we go?" I asked each of my children when they were teenagers and ready for a one-on-one trip with Dad. Our eldest, Jeremy, chose communist Europe, and we contemplated the blessings of freedom and the meaning of democracy from both sides of the then-still-standing Berlin Wall. Asher chose New Zealand and Australia during

the latter's 200th celebration of the arrival of the First Fleet. When Barack and I set off to see the Roman Empire, our shared reading assignment was Edward Gibbon's "Decline and Fall." On our trip to Turkey, Dina and I walked up to the ruins of Troy while listening to "The Iliad." My trip with Kira, the youngest, took us across a broad swath of the new South Africa, conceived by Nelson Mandela.

"What do you know now that you didn't know then?" I asked my childhood, high school, and college friends when we reconnected during a yearlong, cross-country 80th-birthday celebration in 2015. We talked about lessons learned, not current events. We talked about resilience after being battered by life, adjustments to a changing world, disappointments and satisfaction in family, career, and community.

"Are you depressed?" an exercise therapist asked me after an unexpected four-way coronary artery bypass surgery during that same 80th birthday year. "No, am I supposed to be?" I responded. I was actually amazed at what medical science had done for me.

"What bedrock principles and values would you like to pass on to your descendants?" My answer: integrity is not negotiable; never stop learning; cling to the aspirations of the Declaration of Independence and defend the restraints of the Constitution; salute the flag; and pass along these values to the next generation.

Oh, and ask substantive questions.

Mr. Epstein is a lawyer in Washington, D.C. and a self-styled "minor American playwright." This essay is adapted from his contribution to a collection published for the 60th reunion of the Harvard College Class of 1957.

Peggy Noonan is away.

\$697,177 for a 'Climate-Change Musical': You Call That Science?

By Henry I. Miller

Research is the lifeblood of technological innovation, which drives economic growth and keeps America competitive. Government-funded scientific research runs the gamut from studies of basic physical and biological processes to the development of applications to meet immediate needs. Unfortunately, the definition of what constitutes "science" has gradually expanded to include sociology, economics and woo-woo "alternative medicine." Much of the spending on these disciplines by the nation's two major funders of nonmilitary research, the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, is systematically shortchanging taxpayers.

The NSF, whose mission is to ensure U.S. leadership in areas of science and technology that are essential to economic growth and national security, frequently funds politically correct but low-value research projects.

A few doozies include the veiling-fashion industry in Turkey, Viking textiles in Iceland, the "social impacts" of tourism in the northern tip of Norway, and whether hunger causes couples to fight (using the number of pins stuck in voodoo dolls as a measure of aggressive feelings). Research funding in the geosciences, including climate change, is certainly legitimate, but not when it goes to ludicrous boondoggles such as a climate-change musical that cost \$697,177 to produce.

The primary culprit is the NSF's Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences, known as SBE. Underlying its ability to dispense grants is the wrongheaded notion that social-science projects such as a study of animal depictions in National Geographic and a climate change musical are as important as research to identify early markers for Alzheimer's disease or pancreatic cancer.

In January President Obama

signed the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, which accomplished little with respect to setting funding priorities other than endorsing the only two criteria NSF had previously used to evaluate grant applications—the "intellectual merit" of the proposal and its "broader impacts" on society. The bill's lead proponent, House Science Committee Chairman Lamar Smith, had wanted to include a "national interest" criterion defined by several factors including improving economic competitiveness, health, national security, the STEM workforce and scientific literacy.

In the end the national interest standard was retained, but only to provide examples of how grant applicants can satisfy NSF's "broader impacts" requirement. In other words, SBE will continue funding marginal research by social scientists—what a former NSF official characterized as "the inmates running the asylum."

As for the NIH, most of its budget—currently about \$32 billion, with another \$2 billion in the just-

approved omnibus spending bill—goes to fund grant proposals from researchers all over the country. The proposals are not judged by their merits across all disciplines, but are divided by categories of research—

Research is often a wise investment of tax dollars—but agencies also fund ridiculous boondoggles.

cancer, aging, eye, etc. But one institute that is the brainchild of politicians—the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (formerly the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine)—on average does far-less-significant work than the others, but receives a significant amount of grant funding.

NCCIH's stated mission is "to define, through rigorous scientific investigation, the usefulness and safety of complementary and integrative

health interventions and their roles in improving health and health care." But "complementary and integrative" often means implausible and poorly designed, because peer review at this institute permits the funding of such projects.

One study supported by the center found that cranberry juice cocktail was no better than a placebo at preventing recurring urinary-tract infections. Other supported studies include "Long-Term Chamomile Therapy of Generalized Anxiety Disorder," "The Use of Narrative in Public Health Research and Practice" and "Restorative Yoga for Therapy of the Metabolic Syndrome."

The more credible studies in research fields funded by NCCIH could be administered more effectively by other NIH components, such as the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke or the National Institute of Mental Health, where they would undergo more rigorous peer review.

In 2016, NIH could afford to fund fewer than 20% of the investigator-initiated research grant proposals

it received. That NCCIH is still allowed to spend \$124 million annually is an affront to the NIH-funded researchers who are at the cutting edge of their disciplines and face increasing difficulty getting federal funding for studies that rank highly on scientific merit.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has projected that China will overtake the U.S. in research and development spending by around 2019. If the U.S. is to remain competitive in medical and scientific innovation we must increase overall spending—and also be more discerning about the nation's research priorities. A good first step would be for the scientific community to demand that politicians forego political correctness and prioritize funding for research that is in America's best interest.

Dr. Miller, a physician and molecular biologist, is a fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He was founding director of the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Biotechnology.

The Russia Circus Will Drag On Without Comey



Here's how the Russia inquiry would have played out, we believe, before the firing of James Comey. Mike Flynn would have been rung up on lobbying charges, probably related to Turkey, not Russia. The government might

have found a tax bill to lay against Paul Manafort related to decade-old payments from a Russian oligarch. And surely Carter Page jaywalked or double-parked or used an expired MetroCard on his way to a meeting about some business deal that would have violated sanctions if it had any

chance of coming to fruition. Mr. Comey was an imperfect FBI chief. His political hypervisibility alone made him a liability to the agency he loved. But as even President Trump seemed to recognize during his NBC interview on Thursday, Mr. Comey was also the president's best bet for bringing the Russia investigation to an expeditious end in a way that would relieve Mr. Trump of the main charge, supported by no evidence, that his campaign colluded with Russia.

This charge, let's remember, first entered the public domain in a big way from the mouth of Clinton campaign chief John Podesta, seeking to distract from his own crass error in letting his email be hacked.

Then Harry Reid tried to spring an October surprise by releasing a letter to the FBI that made reference to claims circulated by retired British agent Christopher Steele, author of a notorious opposition research file on Mr. Trump.

A word on opposition research: It usually consists of public records, press accounts, documented personal history. When a researcher like Mr. Steele makes clear he wants only the most sensational, undocumented tall tales, it's not surprising that his so-called sources oblige him with tall tales. As many Americans have come to understand, "wiretapping" nowadays means sifting through already-collected raw communications data stored in an NSA computer. Yet though the Steele file has been in government hands since last summer, no corroboration seems to have been forthcoming.

That Vladimir Putin disliked Hillary Clinton was not Mr. Trump's

doing. That Russian agents likely played a role in stealing Democratic emails was not his doing either. And who benefited electorally is clear only through a generous helping of the hindsight fallacy. Hillary lost, so of course it helped Trump—this is the lazy reasoning. Yet there is simply no way of knowing how many votes the Trump-Putin miasma cost Mr. Trump.

He was a flawed FBI chief but the best bet for quickly closing out the phony hunt for 'collusion.'

investigation in which peripheral and incidental connections to Russia were being used to sustain a national conversation about treasonous collusion that never took place.

But then a problem with certain Never-Trummers was that, from early on, they were writing less about Trump than about an idealized version of themselves. Even before the campaign was over, they were issuing anticipatory elegies to themselves as lone, courageous voices on Trump flaws that were apparent to everyone.

Worse than self-referential, this emptied the world of interest. Mr. Trump is surely going to be, like every president, a mixed bag. But you have to throw out your whole understanding of the Trump phenomenon, you have to lose sight of the colossal, meaningful accident that landed him in the presidency, to prefer the story of a Kremlin conspiracy.

Mr. Trump is right if he thinks many root for his failure simply for the benefit of their own reputations. But he should have more confidence in the ability of the public to discount the circus. His Comey miscalculation (so we believe it was) will be survivable if he wants to survive it. Mr. Trump still exudes a preternatural confidence that he's going to figure it all out eventually. That's not the worst trait in a president.

And give him credit: At least the Comey firing maintained his penchant for bold action. Mr. Trump's job now is to put the FBI's Russia investigation visibly back on track so he can exhibit nonchalance about it and get on with promoting his tax plan.

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Gerard Baker
Editor in Chief

Matthew J. Murray
Deputy Editor in Chief

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EDITORIAL AND CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS:

1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y., 10036

Telephone 1-800-DOWJONES

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Cowardice and denial now suffuse the Clinton camp, and sadly Mrs. Clinton herself. Don't kid yourself about this. An incompetent Democratic campaign, with an unattractive candidate, let the GOP steal back an election that Republicans had practically gifted to Democrats by nominating Mr. Trump. Nobody associated with this failure has a future if they can't rewrite the story as one of Russian collusion.



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BUSINESS & FINANCE



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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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DJIA 20896.61 ▼ 22.81 0.1% NASDAQ 6121.23 ▲ 0.1% STOXX 600 395.63 ▲ 0.3% 10-YR. TREAS. ▲ 20/32, yield 2.331% OIL \$47.84 ▲ \$0.01 GOLD \$1,226.20 ▲ \$3.50 EURO \$1.0932 YEN 113.35

Anthem Ends Cigna Pursuit

Insurers' ill-fated
\$48 billion tie-up hits
dead end, but battle
over damages looms

BY ANNA WILDE MATHEWS
AND BRENT KENDALL

Anthem Inc. said it would finally give up on its ill-starred deal for Cigna Corp., setting the stage for a rancorous court battle between the companies over billions in potential damages.

The fight will play out in a Delaware court where each company has sued the other, both alleging breaches of their merger agreement. Late Thursday, a Delaware judge denied Anthem's request to keep Cigna locked in the \$48 billion deal as Anthem continued trying to overcome antitrust rulings

against the combination—but he also signaled that Anthem appeared to have a good chance of proving its case that Cigna had violated their pact.

Anthem and Cigna originally unveiled their deal in July 2015, amid a frenzy of health-insurer deal-making that aimed to consolidate the top of the industry into a few behemoths that could wield enormous negotiating heft. But behind-the-scenes conflict between the two partners quickly set in, even as they publicly moved forward with their combination.

Last year, the Justice Department filed an antitrust suit to block the deal, which would have created a company with a huge footprint in commercial insurance. A federal judge ruled against the merger in February and an appeals court upheld that decision last month. Anthem had sought to appeal that

verdict to the Supreme Court.

But Anthem said Friday that it was giving Cigna notice that it was terminating the merger agreement. Anthem immediately reiterated its argument that its erstwhile partner sabotaged the deal, and it said Cigna isn't entitled to the \$1.85 billion breakup fee laid out in the merger agreement. The bigger insurer said it would seek to claim "massive damages" against Cigna.

Cigna, for its part, wants the \$1.85 billion and an additional \$13 billion in damages from Anthem. In a statement Friday, Cigna said it believed Anthem didn't use its "reasonable best efforts" to get regulatory approval, and as a result the acquisition was blocked. Cigna said it seeks the damages against Anthem "for the harm that it caused Cigna and its shareholders." It also said it

would ramp up its share repurchases in the wake of the deal's formal termination.

Jeffrey S. Jacobovitz, an antitrust lawyer with Arnall Golden Gregory LLP, said it isn't uncommon for there to be hard feelings between merging companies when a deal goes sour, "but you never really see bad blood like you've seen here." The situation "was highly unusual, particularly for two companies that wanted to get married, at least at the start," Mr. Jacobovitz said. The hostilities appeared even deeper than in a normal hostile-takeover transaction, he added.

The Delaware judge who will oversee the dueling Anthem and Cigna suits, Vice Chancellor J. Travis Laster, of the Delaware Chancery Court, said in his Thursday decision that *Anthem* page B2

Major Money

Graduates entering these professions can expect to command attractive starting salaries.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Software Developer | \$65,232 |
| Engineer | \$63,036 |
| Actuary | \$59,212 |
| Scientist/Researcher | \$58,773 |
| Environmental professional | \$56,660 |
| Insurance underwriter | \$54,252 |
| IT systems administrator | \$54,087 |
| Registered nurse | \$53,518 |
| Product development specialist | \$52,868 |
| Human resources administrator | \$50,263 |

Average base pay for college grads: \$49,785 ►

Source: Korn/Ferry International

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

BY KELSEY GEE

This spring's crop of college graduates has an extra reason to celebrate: Not only are grads entering one of the strongest job markets in years, but starting salaries are rising, too.

The average base pay for college grads this year ticked to the highest level in at least a decade, to \$49,785, according to an analysis of more than 145,000 entry-level positions by the Hay Group division of executive-search firm Korn/Ferry International, up 3% from last year.

Adjusted for inflation, today's salaries are 14% higher than in 2007 before the start of the recession, and reflect overall strength in hiring as the national unemployment rate hovers at a 10-year low. The firm has analyzed entry-level pay from just the past decade, but a spokeswoman said that given longer-term salary trends, this year's grads will likely be the highest earning class in recent history.

"This has been the best year for students that I've seen since coming here," said Thomas Ward, executive director of the career-services center at Adelphi University, in Garden City, N.Y., who joined the school in 2008. Some students at the school are fielding multiple job offers, allowing students to be choosier about where they ultimately land, he said. "It's very rewarding."

Starting salaries in software-development roles climbed 5% in the past year to \$65,232, while engineers are expected to earn \$63,036 on average, up 1%. Also near the

top of this year's list of highest-earning grads are actuaries, at \$59,212, and entry-level scientists and researchers, at \$58,773.

While graduates who find jobs in San Francisco and New York are expected to take home higher paychecks than their peers in Los Angeles, Chicago and Atlanta, all major metro areas saw big jumps in average salary for entry-level degree-holders, according to the Korn/Ferry research.

Ben Collins, a senior set to graduate this Sunday from Saint Bonaventure University in New York, is starting as a tax analyst at accounting firm Ernst & Young next month. The 22-year-old finance major declined to say what salary he was offered but said it was on par with his friends' and peers' entry-level pay packages. "Almost everyone I know has a job, which feels good," said Mr. Collins.

However, not all students have a job in hand on graduation day. A survey of Adelphi seniors shows that two-thirds have received at least one job offer, but Mr. Ward cautioned that only 30% of the class had responded to the survey so far. He said it takes most graduates six months to land a full-time gig. A separate survey of 1,000 college seniors by consulting firm Accenture PLC released this week found only 15% had received a job offer before graduating.

Young Americans without a college diploma face a tougher career path. College graduates over 25 earn about twice as much as adults with a high-school diploma or some college, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Wayfair and Williams-Sonoma are the leading online sellers of furniture in the U.S. Above, a new Wayfair facility in Perris, Calif.

Amazon Steps Up Furniture Sales

BY BRIAN BASKIN
AND LAURA STEVENS

Amazon.com Inc. wants to furnish your home.

The online retail giant is making a major push into furniture and appliances, including building at least four massive warehouses focused on handling bulky items, according to people familiar with Amazon's plans.

With that move, the Seattle-based retailer is taking on two companies that dominate online furniture sales—Wayfair Inc. and Pottery Barn owner Williams-Sonoma Inc. Furniture is one of the fastest-growing segments of U.S. online retail, growing 18% in 2015, second only to groceries, according to Barclays. About 15% of the \$70 billion U.S. furniture market has moved online, re-

searcher IBISWorld says.

But even the biggest players in online furniture are struggling to get the market right. Unlike established categories such as books and music or even apparel, retailers are still hammering out basic concepts like how much variety to offer on their sites and the most efficient ways to deliver couches and dining sets to customers' homes.

While Amazon has been selling furniture for years, it has lately decided to tackle the sector more forcefully.

"Furniture is one of the fastest-growing retail categories here at Amazon," Veenu Taneja, furniture general manager at Amazon, said in a statement. He said the company is expanding its selection of products, with offerings in

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SEARCHER IBISWORLD

INTELLIGENT
INVESTOR

By Jason Zweig

Put a Fork In Stock Pickers

Propaganda dies hard.

Even as evidence continues to mount that stock

pickers have underperformed the market averages, active managers insist that they will make a comeback. Analysts at Bank of America Merrill Lynch found earlier this month that 63% of active fund managers investing in large U.S. stocks outperformed their benchmarks in April, the best since February 2015.

Stock pickers claim that the rise of market-matching index funds, along with artificially low interest rates, have driven all stock prices up, making it unusually hard to pick winners. But active managers, they say, will prove their worth again.

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WEEKEND PROFILE

Bill Hinman has worked on initial public offerings and other transactions that involved Apple Inc. founder Steve Jobs, Google Inc. founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin, and Facebook Inc. chief executive Mark Zuckerberg.

Mr. Hinman, 61 years old, a former partner at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in Palo Alto, Calif., is the first SEC director in years to come from Silicon Valley rather than New York, Boston or Washington.

He will direct the SEC's Corporation Finance division, which oversees IPOs and the voluminous disclosures that explain the businesses to investors. New

commission chairman Jay Clayton, at his Senate confirmation hearing in March, called for scaling back requirements on listed firms, saying the government should make it "more attractive" to go public.

Mr. Clayton's tenure could mark a shift for public companies, which have faced mounting regulations since the U.S. dot-com bust and Enron Corp. accounting scandal of the early 2000s along with the Dodd Frank financial-overhaul law of 2010.

The U.S. now has a deficit of more than 5,000 listed companies, compared with the number predicted by its level of wealth and investor rights, according to research

by economists Craig Doidge, Andrew Karolyi and René Stulz.

In an interview, Mr. Hinman said he didn't believe the decline in the number of public companies could be blamed entirely on regulation. But he said spurring more public offerings is a worthy goal of regulators, because investors benefit from the detailed public disclosures.

He also expressed interest in expanding the 2012 Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act. The law, passed with bipartisan support, was hailed as the first sign that Washington understood how the internet could be used to help smaller companies raise money without turning to Wall Street.

"To the extent the SEC can make it more attractive and efficient to raise capital here, we are going to want to do that," he said.

Some of the companies Mr. Hinman has worked with or helped take public over the past two decades diverged from the traditional

Please see HINMAN page B2

SEC Draws From Silicon Valley

Bill Hinman worked on major tech deals before joining the agency to encourage more public offerings

BY DAVE MICHAELS



RYAN DONAHUE FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Bill Hinman was involved in Mexico's debt restructuring, which led to work in Brazil and Argentina.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Used-Truck Glut Hurts Operators

BY JENNIFER SMITH

A glut of used big rigs is weighing down trucking companies already mired in a prolonged slump in the freight market.

Many fleets bought scores of new trucks when transportation demand was booming a few years ago. Then U.S. manufacturing activity flagged and import growth slowed as retailers rang up disappointing sales. Freight volumes started stalling out in late 2015, leaving too many trucks competing for cargo.

Large long-haul trucking companies typically run a truck for three to five years, then trade it before the warranty expires. Repair and maintenance costs tend to skyrocket after 500,000 miles.

Now, trucking companies are trying to trade in vehicles following one of the steepest plunges in used-truck prices since the recession. Some carriers are "upside down" on trucks in their fleets, meaning they owe more on a vehicle than it is worth.

Large carriers such as **Swift Transportation Co.**, **Knight Transportation Inc.** and **Werner Enterprises Inc.** have said the soft market for used trucks has put a dent in their businesses, even as cargo volumes have begun to recover. Last year, some fleets wrote down the value of trucks that are many companies' main assets. Over the past two years, the average retail price for a used Class 8 sleeper, the heavy-duty



Some carriers have had to write down the value of trucks that in some cases are their main asset.

tractor used for long-haul routes, has plunged about 22% to about \$49,000 in March, according to J.D. Power Valuation Services. That translates into a decrease of some \$140 million across a fleet of 10,000 trucks.

"A lot of these fleets are upside down at the time of trade. It's forcing companies to keep their equipment longer," said Trevor Pasman, corporate used-truck manager at Kenworth Sales Co., a commercial-truck dealer based outside Salt Lake City.

Some carriers that expanded their fleets now are cutting the number of trucks they run. That feeds more vehicles into the market and works to keep used-truck val-

ues down.

Last month, Ryder System Inc., a commercial-truck operator with a large leasing and commercial-rental division, reported first-quarter earnings fell 32% from a year earlier.

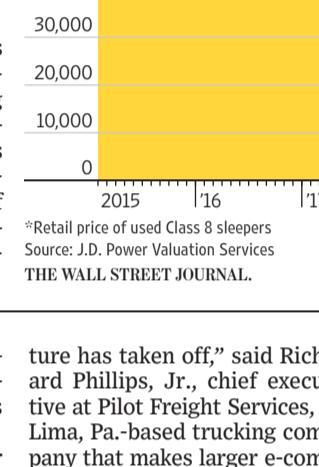
The company blamed in part the soft used-vehicle market, as well as weaker-than-expected demand for commercial-vehicle rentals.

While used-vehicle prices are showing signs of bottoming out, the supply of used big rigs is expected to remain substantial into 2020, said Chris Visser, senior commercial-truck analyst at J.D. Power.

If freight demand fails to improve pricing will remain depressed.

Downshift

Average price of used big rigs*



*Retail price of used Class 8 sleepers

Source: J.D. Power Valuation Services

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HINMAN

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model of a public firm. He advised Apple in the 1990s on the deal that brought Mr. Jobs back to the company, which involved the purchase of Mr. Jobs' other company, NeXT Software Inc.

In 2004, he also worked on Google's IPO, which used a Dutch auction instead of the traditional process of using investment banks to sell its stock. The process was designed to yield an opening price that more accurately reflected the value of the company.

That outcome could mean that investors who secured shares through the auction couldn't quickly unload them

Mr. Hinman helped take public Facebook and e-commerce company Alibaba.

for a profit, because the stock was less likely to rocket higher during first-day trading. Mr. Hinman urged the company to disclose the risk in plain English, telling auction buyers they could be victims of a "winner's curse": On one hand they had secured shares of a hot IPO, and on the other they could lose money if they tried to sell them immediately.

"Bill turned a seeming bug into a feature," said Michael Grimes, head of technology banking at Morgan Stanley, which was the lead bank on the deal.

Mr. Hinman grew up in upstate New York. His mother was a telephone operator for the Crouse-Hinds Company, a specialty manufacturer of electrical equipment, and his father was a billing clerk for the Oscar Mayer Company.

After studying as an undergraduate at Michigan State University and graduating from Cornell University Law School, he joined the bank regulatory group at Shearman & Sterling LLP's New York office.

for its part, Cigna argues

In 1989, Mr. Hinman was involved in Mexico's debt restructuring, a deal that led to several more years of work in Brazil and Argentina.

Burned out from constant travel, he relocated to California in 1994 to focus on technology clients, partly because it would allow him to work with clients that were close to home. Mr. Hinman bought a house in Montana several years ago in anticipation of retirement and doing more fly-fishing and skiing.

"If you practice in Silicon Valley you don't have to travel as much because you have a lot of great companies in your backyard," he said. "The companies innovate in products and services and that carries over to how they raise capital and run themselves."

Over the past five years, Mr. Hinman helped take public Facebook and Chinese e-commerce company Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., whose 2014 listing was the biggest IPO ever. Alibaba's deal was especially complex because it involved a giant Chinese firm that had to satisfy regulators and investors in both China and the U.S.

Mr. Hinman worked on the transaction with Mr. Clayton, who represented the banks that sold Alibaba's shares to the public.

In Silicon Valley, he has watched big, private companies put off IPOs in favor of raising more cash from private investors.

Companies raised \$2.1 trillion in private placements of stocks and bonds in 2014, compared with about \$1.35 trillion for public sales of equity and debt, according to SEC figures. The collapse in U.S. listings has happened as fast-growing startups such as Uber Technologies Inc. have been able to get the cash they need from venture capitalists.

Some market participants say they don't see the problem that Mr. Clayton has said he wants to solve. "The real question is do small-growth companies have access to capital, and they do," said Robin Graham, managing director and head of technology, media and communications at Oppenheimer & Co. "It's just in the private markets."

for its part, Cigna argues

that Cigna breached the deal terms. The record in the antitrust proceedings indicates that "Cigna did not oppose the antitrust lawsuit fully or vigorously, as it was required to do," he said. However, he said it was a "tossup" whether Anthem would be able to prove that Cigna's actions led to the deal's failure to win antitrust approvals.

The judge also wrote that if Anthem's account of Cigna's behavior is correct, "then the damages it can recover from Cigna are potentially massive. ... At this point, in my view, a damages award is the only real-

istic form of relief."

A long and bitter legal road lies ahead, as the two sides spar over who did what to whom and rehash the troubled history of their deal.

The fight is already intensely personal, with Anthem accusing Cigna's chief executive, David Cordani, along with others at the company, of working against the deal after Mr. Cordani was at one point offered a postmerger position that fell short of the scope he thought was due him. "Furious that he was not being provided with all of the postmerger powers that he desired, Cordani walked out of the meeting and never again would meet with [Anthem CEO Joseph R.] Swedish one-on-one," Anthem said in a filing.

Anthem said that Mr. Cordani was later offered broader

AMAZON

Continued from the prior page
cluding Ashley Furniture sofas and Jonathan Adler home décor, and is adding custom-furniture design services. Amazon is also speeding up delivery to one or two days in some cities.

The retailer already has an approximately 17% market share in the broader home-furnishings category, according to Morgan Stanley, and it is continuing to gain. The segment includes smaller items, too, such as cookware and towels.

While Amazon has disrupted industries from publishing to fashion with free and fast shipping and app-based one-click buying, furniture can be a tough sector to crack.

For one, it costs a company more to deliver a couch and other big items because they take up more space, meaning a driver makes fewer deliveries on his or her daily route. Also, furniture customers typically want "white glove" services,

extras like bringing the piece into the home, setting it up and removing trash.

Shoppers are still generally willing to pay for furniture delivery, but some retailers and logistics companies say they are facing growing pressure to ship online orders faster.

Wayfair offers free shipping on orders over \$49, but delivery times can range from one or two days to just over two weeks.

Pottery Barn charges on a sliding scale based on price, with delivery costs running above \$100 for more expensive items. Furniture sold and shipped directly by Amazon is free for Prime members and on orders over \$25, while items sold by third-party sellers may cost extra.

To guarantee two-day shipping to 99% of consumers, a retailer or logistics company would need up to a dozen large warehouses spread around the country, plus around 110 smaller facilities to stage deliveries to customers' homes, said Troy Cooper, chief operating officer at XPO Logistics.

Rising sales may be helping reduce the cost burden for online furniture retailing. Costs go up for transportation companies as deliveries get more spread out and infrequent.

Amazon is expected to rely on XPO and other third-party logistics providers to manage distribution centers and handle delivery of furniture and appliances for the near future, even as it brings more of its logistics in-house in other parts of its business, people familiar with the company's plans say. Amazon declined to comment on its delivery plans.

XPO declined to comment on its relationship with Amazon.

Rising sales may be helping reduce the cost burden for online furniture retailing. Costs go up for transportation companies as deliveries get more spread out and infrequent.

"Just in the last year, furni-

ture has taken off," said Richard Phillips, Jr., chief executive at Pilot Freight Services, a Lima, Pa.-based trucking company that makes larger e-commerce deliveries. The company's No. 1 business-to-consumer shipment has shifted to furniture, from TVs.

Pilot is one of many logistics companies building out nationwide networks to handle bulky items as retailers look for cheaper ways to ship furniture and appliances ordered online. XPO made 12 million home deliveries last year, up from 9 million in 2015. Estes Express Lines, one of the largest U.S. trucking companies, started a "final mile" service in December after noticing retailers were mixing in more home deliveries.

These companies are filling in part a void left by United Parcel Service Inc. and FedEx Corp., whose executives have complained about bulky items gumming up distribution centers designed to process millions of small packages at lightning speed.

"You go for what is the largest segment of the market," said Carl Asmus, senior vice president for e-commerce at FedEx. "The sweet spot is not necessarily refrigerators."

Boston-based Wayfair started building out its own delivery network about a year and a half ago, said Chief Executive Niraj Shah. The company got into doing its own deliveries because it is vital to retaining customers. "We built it primarily to drive quality, but secondarily it certainly gets you cost benefits at scale," he said.

He said he isn't worried about Amazon. The giant retailer is hardly a new entrant to the space, and it is hard to get the customer-service side of the equation right, he said.

Wayfair on Tuesday reported a nearly 30% increase in first-quarter revenue compared with a year earlier. The company's shares rallied 21% to a record high.

The bigger insurer said it would seek 'massive damages' against Cigna.

lion termination fee." Anthem said Cigna hired lawyers specifically to focus on ensuring it could get the termination fee, and it undermined Anthem's arguments for the deal in the antitrust case.

For its part, Cigna argues

that the merger failed to pass antitrust muster because of the strategy that Anthem chose in defending the deal, which Cigna says was selected over its objections. Cigna said in a filing that Mr. Swedish and another Anthem executive plotted to "get rid of Cordani" even before the merger agreement was

WEEKEND INVESTOR

TAX REPORT | By Laura Saunders

Uncertainty Surrounds Medical Deductions



Millions of taxpayers who deduct medical expenses each year are right to be concerned.

Congress is attempting to make big changes to both America's health-care system and tax code. With those changes in mind, worried readers of Tax Report have written to ask what the impact will be on the one issue that is common to both: the medical-expense tax deduction.

The simple answer is there is a range of possible outcomes due to conflicts in the proposals. And users of this deduction can't do much in the meantime other than write to Congress and avoid strategic mistakes.

The uncertainty shifted into high gear on April 26,

when President Donald Trump released tax proposals strongly suggesting the health-care deduction should be eliminated. The one-page handout from the White House called for protecting only the write-offs for home-ownership and charitable gifts, and for cutting "targeted tax breaks that mainly benefit the wealthiest taxpayers."

While this language seems to aim squarely at the deduction for state and local taxes, it also describes the one for medical costs. In both, the tax benefit is proportional to the filer's rate, and that typically rises with income.

Yet two days later, the House of Representatives passed a health-care bill with a little-noticed provision that goes in the opposite direction. Instead of cutting the medical deduction, the House

expanded it by lowering the income threshold from 10% to 5.8%, beginning in 2017. Under this rule, more people would be able to claim the write-off, and those who already do could deduct more.

In response to a query about this conflict, a spokeswoman for the House Ways and Means Committee said House Republicans are working with Mr. Trump and the Senate "to significantly lower tax rates and substantially increase the standard deduction so that all Americans will no longer need to rely on complex itemized deductions."

Observers, however, say the House's expansion of the break may just be a temporary budget tactic. The more generous write-off could be replaced by the Senate with another provision, such as a larger tax break for older

Americans who purchase individual health insurance.

The medical-expense deduction could also survive intact for 2017, especially if Congress doesn't finish major tax changes this year.

Overall, about seven million returns are expected to claim a medical-expense deduction for 2017. That is paltry compared with the 34 million who will claim mortgage interest and 43 million writing off state and local income taxes. One reason so few take advantage is that the write-off has a high hurdle. For 2017, taxpayers can deduct medical costs only greater than 10% of their adjusted gross income.

"If a taxpayer qualifies for a medical deduction, it usually means there's a serious health issue," says Andy Mattson, a CPA with Moss Adams LLP in Campbell, Calif.

But for those who do qualify, it is crucial help with outsize medical expenses not covered by insurance. A wide variety of costs are also deductible, including bandages, breast pumps, acupuncture, contact lenses, guide dogs,

nursing-home care, certain tutoring, transportation and meal costs and even a wig after chemotherapy. (For more details, see IRS Publication 502.)

Supporters of the deduction point out that such costs are less a matter of choice than getting a mortgage or giving to charity.

Ralph Jorgenson, an 81-year-old retired architect in Mercer Island, Wash., says he is using the medical deduction to help with bills of \$11,200 a month for his wife, who has been in a memory-care facility since last September. "I worked all my life.

I'm carrying a burden now, and I should be entitled to it," he says.

For Mr. Jorgenson and others using the write-off, Mr. Mattson cautions against prepaying 2018 medical expenses in 2017 in order to get a deduction. The Internal Revenue Service could disallow such write-offs entirely, not just delay them, and courts have sided with the IRS on this issue.

There is also an exception for those who want to prepay. Under current law, part of the entrance fee to a "lifecare" facility or retirement home applicable to medical care could be deductible for 2017, even if the person doesn't enter until 2018, Mr. Mattson adds. This is a complex topic and taxpayers who want to take such deductions should seek professional help.

ZWEIG

Continued from page B1
when the market finally goes down.

Unfortunately, that isn't what history shows. The odds of finding a stock picker who can do better in down markets have long been less than 50-50. The brief periods in which active managers did resoundingly better than the S&P 500 have tended to be times in which small stocks outperformed large. If you or your financial adviser think stock pickers will prevail in the next downturn, the evidence isn't on your side.

I asked Rui Dai, an analyst at Wharton Research Data Services at the University of Pennsylvania, to analyze mutual-fund performance since 1962. That is as far back as it's possible to go with the comprehensive data on funds compiled by the Center for Research in Security Prices at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business.

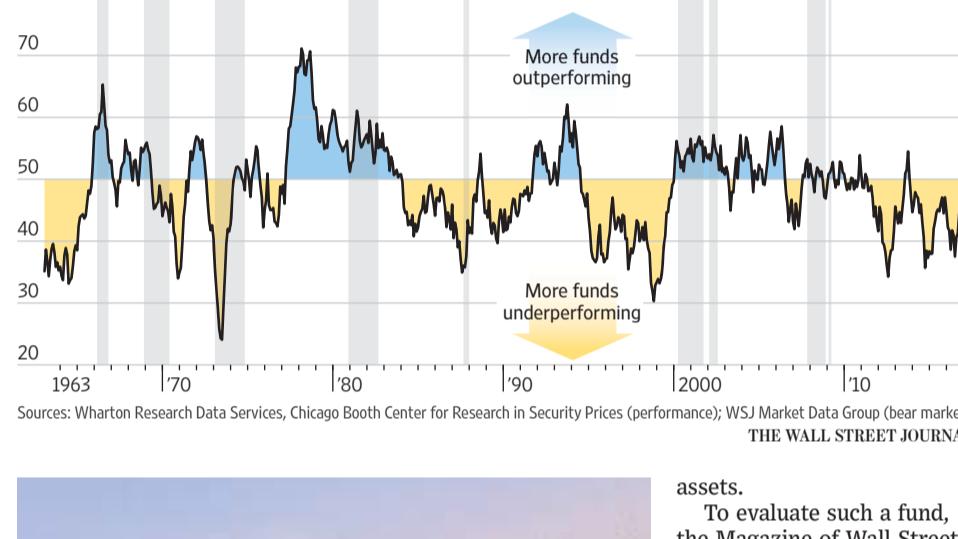
Over that long sweep of time, Mr. Dai found, active managers didn't do significantly better than the market when stocks went down. On average, he says, the odds of finding a manager who will preserve your capital in a falling market are "slightly worse than the flip of a coin."

During the financial crisis, from late 2007 through early 2009, the S&P 500 lost 50.2%; the average U.S. stock mutual fund fell 49.7%. In the bear market of 2000-02, as internet stocks imploded, the S&P 500 lost 43.4%; the average fund lost 43.2%. But funds fell worse than the market in the sharp declines at the beginning of 2016 and in the summer of 2015.

All these numbers include the income from dividends as well as changes in price. The average of fund returns is weighted by size, with bigger portfolios counting more.

Stock picking does cost money. Since 1962, mutual funds have incurred an an-

Good Times, Bad Times



annual average of about 1% in expenses and probably at least as much in trading costs, reducing their net returns.

The S&P 500, a hypothetical bundle of stocks that you can't invest in directly, doesn't bear the burden of those costs. Index funds based on the S&P 500 do incur expenses, although at a fraction of 1%, because these funds simply own the underlying basket of stocks without trying to pick winners and trade only when a stock enters or leaves the index.

What about the good old days, when swashbuckling

assets.

To evaluate such a fund, the Magazine of Wall Street wrote on Sept. 21, 1929, "a simple rule is to add 30 percent to 100 percent, or more, depending [upon] one's estimate of the management's worth," to the value of the portfolio's net assets. In other words, the brainpower of the manager could make the fund worth at least twice as much as its underlying assets.

A few weeks later, stocks fell 12% in a day, on their way to shriveling more than 80% in the Great Depression. Index funds, which didn't exist then, would have done just as badly. Active stock pickers did worse on average; many of their funds went bust.

For as long as there have been funds, there have been fund managers who—sometimes with skill, often with luck—have beaten the market, at least for a while. But they have always been hard to find, and their performance has typically been highly perishable.

If you want to protect yourself against a bear market, keep more of your money in cash and other assets unrelated to stocks. Don't believe the propaganda that says you can count on a stock picker to provide your parachute.

How to Fight Back Against Card Fees

BY VERONICA DAGHER

Wondering about the strange fee on your credit-card statement? Don't know what it's for and how to get rid of it?

Companies are required to disclose the fees they charge, but often those disclosures are hidden in the fine print of your card agreement.

Here are four fees consumers should be aware of and how to get rid of them:

Reward redemption

These fees can be assessed not only when you try to redeem the services but also to accumulate more points or even to reinstate awards that have expired, says Ted Beck, chief executive of the National Endowment for Financial Education.

The fix: Keep track of your reward accruals and expiration dates, Mr. Beck says. If you lose reward benefits before they expire, call your card company to see if you can extend the expiration or waive the fees, he says. You may be able to avoid the redemption fee if you book reward travel online instead of on the phone.

Foreign transactions

Many credit-card firms tack on a charge for transactions based outside the U.S., says Melinda Opperman, executive vice president of credit.org, a nonprofit credit-counseling agency.

Fees vary by card but 3% to 5% is most common, she says. This fee can even hit users who don't actually travel; ordering something from a website based abroad can trigger a fee, she says.

The fix: Ask customer service to waive the charges. If a simple request doesn't work, try mentioning the name of cards that don't charge the fee and say you'll switch if they don't waive it. Another option:

Have a backup credit card that doesn't have foreign transaction fees that you use only for foreign travel, says Stephany Kirkpatrick, vice president of product and financial advice strategy at LearnVest.

Balance transfers

Fees to do a balance transfer often range from 3% to 5% of the total amount, says Mr. Beck from the National Endowment for Financial Education. Your card provider may have a maximum fee cap, but you still want to be aware to determine if the transfer would pay off in the long run, he says.

The fix: Avoid paying more than you should by having a plan to pay off a transferred balance before the introductory rate ends, says Ms. Opperman of credit.org. Read the fine print to know exactly what the balance transfer fee will be and how the fee will be paid for. For example, will the balance transfer be added to your balance and will it carry a different interest rate? Call the card company to see if it will waive the fee.

Closing costs

Some will charge you to close your card.

The fix: Because closing a card can hurt your credit rating, it may be best to keep open if your card company won't waive the closing fee. LearnVest's Ms. Kirkpatrick recommends closing no more than one or two credit cards each year, as you can close that many cards without significantly affecting your credit score, she says. She also says to keep your oldest running credit card open so your credit-card history stays strong. You should also check the balance periodically to ensure there are no unexpected charges, Ms. Kirkpatrick says.

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MARKETS DIGEST

EQUITIES

Dow Jones Industrial Average



S&P 500 Index



Nasdaq Composite Index



Bars measure the point change from session's open

Weekly P/E data based on as-reported earnings from Birinyi Associates Inc.

Major U.S. Stock-Market Indexes

| | High | Low | Latest Close | Net chg | % chg | High | 52-Week Low | % chg | YTD % chg | 3-yr. ann. | | | | |
|----------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Dow Jones | Industrial Average | Transportation Avg | Utility Average | Total Stock Market | Barron's 400 | Nasdaq Composite | Nasdaq 100 | iShares Russell 2000 ETF | iShares MSCI Emg Markets | iPath S&P 500 VIX ST Fut | Van Eck Vectors Jr Gold | PwrShrs QQQ Tr Series 1 | Van Eck Vectors Gold Miner |
| 20896.61 | -22.81 | -0.11 | 21115.55 | 17140.24 | 19.2 | 5.7 | 7.8 | | | | | | | |
| 9001.14 | -36.85 | -0.41 | 9593.95 | 7093.40 | 19.9 | -0.5 | 4.6 | | | | | | | |
| 700.29 | 3.49 | 0.50 | 720.45 | 625.44 | 5.3 | 6.2 | 9.4 | | | | | | | |
| 24748.79 | -48.44 | -0.20 | 24868.78 | 20583.16 | 17.6 | 6.3 | 7.6 | | | | | | | |
| 636.76 | -2.96 | -0.46 | 643.82 | 491.89 | 25.6 | 5.8 | 7.3 | | | | | | | |

Nasdaq Stock Market

| Nasdaq Composite | 6121.23 | 5.27 | 0.09 | 6129.14 | 4594.44 | 29.8 | 13.7 | 13.9 |
|------------------|---------|---------|------|---------|---------|------|------|------|
| Nasdaq 100 | 5687.42 | 5672.03 | 0.22 | 5686.81 | 4201.05 | 31.4 | 16.9 | 16.3 |

Standard & Poor's

| 500 Index | 2392.44 | 2387.19 | 2390.90 | -3.54 | -0.15 | 2399.63 | 2000.54 | 16.8 | 6.8 | 8.0 |
|--------------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------|---------|---------|------|-----|-----|
| MidCap 400 | 1723.98 | 1716.14 | 1719.33 | -8.21 | -0.48 | 1758.27 | 1416.66 | 19.3 | 3.5 | 7.7 |
| SmallCap 600 | 842.71 | 837.33 | 838.54 | -6.48 | -0.77 | 863.08 | 670.90 | 23.8 | 0.1 | 8.5 |

Other Indexes

| Russell 2000 | 1389.39 | 1380.02 | 1382.77 | -7.43 | -0.53 | 1419.43 | 1089.65 | 25.4 | 1.9 | 6.8 |
|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|-------|----------|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| NYSE Composite | 11557.82 | 11531.12 | 11547.05 | -16.55 | -0.14 | 11661.22 | 9973.54 | 12.9 | 4.4 | 2.6 |
| Value Line | 521.72 | 517.97 | 518.49 | -3.23 | -0.62 | 529.13 | 435.06 | 16.3 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| NYSE Arca Biotech | 3631.41 | 3571.11 | 3621.43 | 38.48 | 1.07 | 3675.62 | 2818.70 | 24.1 | 17.8 | 12.1 |
| NYSE Arca Pharma | 520.49 | 518.07 | 519.94 | 4.23 | 0.82 | 554.66 | 463.78 | 3.4 | 8.0 | 0.8 |
| KBW Bank | 91.46 | 90.51 | 91.46 | -0.43 | -0.47 | 99.33 | 60.27 | 38.6 | -0.4 | 9.9 |
| PHLX® Gold/Silver | 85.62 | 84.15 | 84.97 | 1.13 | 1.35 | 112.86 | 73.03 | -2.3 | 7.7 | -2.1 |
| PHLX® Oil Service | 150.25 | 147.03 | 147.46 | -2.84 | -1.89 | 192.66 | 146.14 | -6.8 | -19.8 | -19.9 |
| PHLX® Semiconductor | 1046.40 | 1039.22 | 1045.24 | 2.81 | 0.27 | 1045.24 | 633.26 | 65.1 | 15.3 | 21.2 |
| CBOE Volatility | 10.87 | 10.28 | 10.40 | -0.20 | -1.89 | 25.76 | 9.77 | -30.9 | -25.9 | -5.3 |

\$Philadelphia Stock Exchange

Sources: SIX Financial Information; WSJ Market Data Group

Late Trading

Most-active and biggest movers among NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE MKT and Nasdaq issues from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. ET as reported by electronic trading services, securities dealers and regional exchanges. Minimum share price of \$2 and minimum after-hours volume of 5,000 shares.

Most-active issues in late trading

| Company | Symbol | Volume (000) | Last | Net chg | After Hours % chg | High | Low |
|----------------------------|--------|--------------|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|--------|
| SPDR S&P 500 | SPY | 10,980.3 | 239.10 | 0.12 | 0.05 | 239.22 | 238.93 |
| iShares Russell 2000 ETF | IWM | 3,518.5 | 137.54 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 137.78 | 137.35 |
| iShares MSCI Emg Markets | EEM | 2,907.2 | 41.17 | -0.05 | -0.12 | 41.23 | 40.94 |
| iPath S&P 500 VIX ST Fut | VXX | 2,494.9 | 14.04 | ... | unch. | 14.14 | 14.02 |
| Van Eck Vectors Jr Gold | GDXJ | 2,333.9 | 32.60 | 0.06 | 0.18 | 32.67 | 32.54 |
| PwrShrs QQQ Tr Series 1 | QQQ | 2,154.8 | 138.61 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 138.70 | 138.60 |
| Van Eck Vectors Gold Miner | GDX | 2,107.3 | 22.73 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 22.77 | 22.71 |
| MaxLinear | MXL | 1,921.0 | 31.12 | ... | unch. | 31.13 | 31.05 |

Percentage gainers...

| Company | Symbol | CRZO | 10.8 | 25.00 | 1.16 | 4.87 | 25.00 | 23.84 |
|------------------------|--------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Washington Prime Group | WPG | 30.4 | 8.20 | 0.37 | 4.73 | 8.22 | 7.83 | |
| Scorpio Tankers | STNG | 16.1 | 4.37 | 0.18 | 4.21 | 4.39 | 4.19 | |
| Ocwen Financial | OCN | 6.0 | 2.79 | 0.08 | 2.95 | 2.80 | 2.71 | |
| Vitamin Shoppe | VSI | 6.6 | 12.95 | 0.30 | 2.37 | 12.95 | 12.65 | |

...And losers

| Company | Symbol | AVP | 21.2 | 3.50 | -0.17 | -4.63 | 3.67 | 3.50 |
|--------------------|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Geron | GERN | 26.1 | 2.75 | -0.12 | -4.18 | 2.90 | 2.75 | |
| Marvell Tech Group | MVRV | 33.3 | 14.92 | -0.61 | -3.93 | 15 | | |

COMMODITIES

WSJ.com/commodities

Futures Contracts | WSJ.com/commodities

Metal & Petroleum Futures

| | Contract | Open | High | lilo | Low | Settle | Chg | Open interest |
|---|----------|----------|----------|--------|---------|--------|-----|---------------|
| Copper-High (CMX) -25,000 lbs;\$ per lb. | | 2,5050 | 2,5180 | 0.0170 | 2,571 | | | |
| May 2,5080 | 2,5205 | 2,5050 | 2,5180 | 0.0170 | 2,571 | | | |
| July 2,5060 | 2,5295 | 2,5040 | 2,5240 | 0.0160 | 122,259 | | | |
| Gold (CMX) -100 troy oz;\$ per troy oz. | | | | | | | | |
| May 122.88 | 122.50 | 122.10 | 122.20 | 3.50 | 42 | | | |
| June 122.50 | 123.60 | 122.40 | 122.70 | 3.50 | 218,723 | | | |
| Aug 122.50 | 123.10 | 122.70 | 123.10 | 3.40 | 119,322 | | | |
| Oct 123.10 | 123.80 | 123.10 | 123.40 | 3.40 | 7,430 | | | |
| Dec 123.40 | 124.70 | 123.50 | 123.80 | 3.30 | 61,851 | | | |
| Feb'18 124.00 | 124.40 | 124.00 | 124.10 | 3.20 | 8,416 | | | |
| Palladium (NYM) -50 troy oz;\$ per troy oz. | | | | | | | | |
| May 812.80 | 812.80 | 812.80 | 803.35 | 4.55 | 1 | | | |
| June 801.40 | 807.60 | 801.00 | 803.50 | 4.55 | 28,264 | | | |
| Sept 801.00 | 806.25 | 800.20 | 802.50 | 4.55 | 8,849 | | | |
| Dec 804.00 | 804.00 | 804.00 | 802.25 | 4.35 | 243 | | | |
| Platinum (NYM) -50 troy oz;\$ per troy oz. | | | | | | | | |
| May 902.00 | 902.00 | 902.00 | 915.00 | -0.20 | 1 | | | |
| July 917.70 | 926.80 | 915.10 | 917.50 | -0.20 | 66,686 | | | |
| Silver (CMX) -5,000 troy oz;\$ per troy oz. | | | | | | | | |
| May 16,285 | 16,405 | 16,280 | 16,346 | 0.137 | 204 | | | |
| July 16,330 | 16,475 | 16,300 | 16,402 | 0.137 | 157,693 | | | |
| Crude Oil, Light Sweet (NYM) -1,000 bbls;\$ per bbl. | | | | | | | | |
| June 47.81 | 48.07 | 47.35 | 47.84 | 0.01 | 338,671 | | | |
| July 48.15 | 48.44 | 47.70 | 48.17 | -0.03 | 536,152 | | | |
| Aug 48.44 | 48.74 | 47.99 | 48.44 | -0.07 | 143,924 | | | |
| Sept 48.70 | 48.99 | 48.24 | 48.67 | -0.10 | 171,326 | | | |
| Dec 49.36 | 49.63 | 48.85 | 49.26 | -0.17 | 296,875 | | | |
| Dec'18 49.79 | 49.89 | 49.11 | 49.42 | -0.33 | 143,176 | | | |
| NY Harbor USLD (NYM) -42,000 gal;\$ per gal. | | | | | | | | |
| June 1,4900 | 1,5056 | 1,4852 | 1,4933 | .0034 | 97,484 | | | |
| July 1,4953 | 1,5106 | 1,4904 | 1,4992 | .0036 | 97,845 | | | |
| Gasoline-NY RBOB (NYM) -42,000 gal;\$ per gal. | | | | | | | | |
| June 1,5670 | 1,5839 | 1,5574 | 1,5761 | .0139 | 97,349 | | | |
| July 1,5674 | 1,5831 | 1,5582 | 1,5741 | .0107 | 107,230 | | | |
| Natural Gas (NYM) -10,000 MMBtu;\$ per MMBtu. | | | | | | | | |
| June 3,368 | 3,431 | 3,350 | 3,424 | .048 | 191,325 | | | |
| July 3,450 | 3,506 | 3,435 | 3,498 | .037 | 258,294 | | | |
| Aug 3,479 | 3,530 | 3,465 | 3,521 | .031 | 110,934 | | | |
| Sept 3,456 | 3,506 | 3,444 | 3,498 | .031 | 126,167 | | | |
| Oct 3,471 | 3,520 | 3,461 | 3,512 | .027 | 188,048 | | | |
| Jan'18 3,706 | 3,748 | 3,704 | 3,741 | .023 | 104,529 | | | |
| Agriculture Futures | | | | | | | | |
| Corn (CBT) -5,000 bu;\$ cents per bu. | | | | | | | | |
| May 361.00 | 362.00 | 360.00 | 361.75 | 1.25 | 239 | | | |
| July 369.25 | 371.50 | 368.00 | 371.00 | 1.75 | 732,645 | | | |
| Oats (CBT) -5,000 bu;\$ cents per bu. | | | | | | | | |
| May 246.00 | 247.00 | 240.00 | 241.00 | -5.25 | 4,946 | | | |
| Soybeans (CBT) -5,000 bu;\$ cents per bu. | | | | | | | | |
| May 953.50 | 953.50 | 953.50 | 954.00 | -2.00 | 100 | | | |
| July 964.75 | 967.75 | 960.50 | 963.00 | -3.25 | 356,103 | | | |
| Soybean Meal (CBT) -100 tons;\$ per ton. | | | | | | | | |
| May 310.80 | 310.80 | 309.70 | 310.70 | -1.40 | 77 | | | |
| July 314.80 | 315.00 | 313.20 | 313.30 | -1.60 | 197,901 | | | |
| Soybean Oil (CBT) -60,000 lbs;\$ cents per lb. | | | | | | | | |
| May ... | 32.55 | | 32.63 | .36 | 15 | | | |
| July 32.46 | 32.92 | 32.27 | 32.84 | .35 | 209,644 | | | |
| Rough Rice (CBT) -2,000 cwt;\$ per cwt. | | | | | | | | |
| May ... | 102.00 | -18.50 | 102.00 | 122 | | | | |
| July 1,063.00 | 1,079.50 | 1,031.50 | 1,041.00 | -23.00 | 9,038 | | | |
| Wheat (CBT) -5,000 bu;\$ cents per bu. | | | | | | | | |
| May 441.25 | 445.45 | 438.25 | 439.25 | -1.50 | 152,597 | | | |
| Wheat (MPLS) -5,000 bu;\$ cents per bu. | | | | | | | | |
| May ... | 537.00 | 530.25 | 537.00 | -2.00 | 121 | | | |
| July 548.50 | 549.75 | 545.75 | 546.50 | -1.75 | 30,301 | | | |
| Cattle-Feeder (CME) -50,000 lbs;\$ cents per lb. | | | | | | | | |
| May 143,800 | 145,775 | 142,175 | 144,550 | 2,175 | 4,745 | | | |
| Aug 149,000 | 151,825 | 148,925 | 151,825 | 4,500 | 32,851 | | | |
| Cattle-Live (CME) -40,000 lbs;\$ cents per lb. | | | | | | | | |
| June 125,725 | 126,875 | 124,200 | 125,175 | 1,250 | 84,365 | | | |
| Aug 121,300 | 122,275 | 120,525 | 121,775 | 2,100 | 159,683 | | | |
| Hogs-Lean (CME) -40,000 lbs;\$ cents per lb. | | | | | | | | |
| May 71,650 | 72,100 | 71,650 | 71,900 | .375 | 1,217 | | | |
| July 77,125 | 78,750 | 76,600 | 78,600 | 1,525 | 57,623 | | | |
| Lumber (CME) -10,000 bd. ft.\$ per 1,000 bd. ft. | | | | | | | | |
| May 374.80 | 377.00 | 370.20 | 374.80 | -.70 | 184 | | | |
| July 373.00 | 373.90 | 364.00 | 364.20 | -8.40 | 3,586 | | | |
| Milk (CME) -200,000 lbs;\$ cents per lb. | | | | | | | | |
| May 15,62 | 15,66 | 15,54 | 15,58 | -.03 | 4,772 | | | |
| June 16,28 | 16,50 | 16,11 | 16,21 | -.17 | 5,513 | | | |
| Coca (ICE-US) -10 metric tons;\$ per ton. | | | | | | | | |
| May 1,985 | 1,985 | 1,985 | 2,045 | 63 | 21 | | | |
| July 1,943 | 2,027 | 1,941 | 2,015 | 63 | 144,801 | | | |
| Coffee (ICE-US) -37,500 lbs;\$ cents per lb. | | | | | | | | |
| May 132.90 | 133.00 | 132.40 | 132.60 | .70 | 2 | | | |
| July 134.50 | 135.65 | 133.65 | 134.95 | .70 | 106,776 | | | |

Interest Rate Futures

Treasury Bonds (CBT)-\$100,000 pts 32nds of 100%

Treasury Notes (CBT)-\$100,000 pts 32nds of 100%

5 Yr. Treasury Notes (CBT)-\$100,000 pts 32nds of 100%

2 Yr. Treasury Notes (CBT)-\$100,000 pts 32nds of 100%

10 Yr. Del. Int. Rate Swaps (CBT)-\$100,000 pts 32nds of 100%

1 Month Libor (CME)-\$3,000,000 pts of 100%

Eurodollar (CME)-\$10,000,000 pts of 100%

Currency Futures

Japanese Yen (CME)-¥12,500,000;\$ per 100Y

Canadian Dollar (CME)-CAD100,000;\$ per CAD

British Pound (CME)-£62,500;\$ per CHF

Swiss Franc (CME)-CHF125,000;\$ per CHF

Australian Dollar (CME)-AUD100,000;\$ per AUD

Mexican Peso (CME)-MXN500,0

BIGGEST 1,000 STOCKS

How to Read the Stock Tables

The following explanations apply to NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE MKT and Nasdaq Stock Market listed securities. Prices are composite quotations that include primary market trades as well as trades reported by Nasdaq OMX BXSM (formerly Boston), Chicago Stock Exchange, CBOE, National Stock Exchange, ISE and BATS. The list comprises the 1,000 largest companies based on market capitalization. Underlined quotations are those stocks with large changes in volume compared with the issue's average trading volume.

Boldfaced quotations highlight those issues whose price changed by 5% or more if their previous closing price was \$2 or higher.

Footnotes:
↑New 52-week high.
↓New 52-week low.
dd—Indicates loss in the most recent four quarters.
FD—First day of trading.

Wall Street Journal stock tables reflect composite regular trading as of 4 p.m. and changes in the closing prices from 4 p.m. the previous day.

Friday, May 12, 2017

| YTD % Chg | 52-Week | | | Yld % Chg | Hi Lo Stock | Sym % Chg | 52-Week | | | Yld % Chg | Hi Lo Stock | Sym % Chg | 52-Week | | | Yld % Chg | Hi Lo Stock | Sym % Chg |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--|---------------------------|-----------|--|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | Ytd % Chg | Hi Lo Stock | Sym % Chg | | | | Ytd % Chg | Hi Lo Stock | Sym % Chg | | | | Ytd % Chg | Hi Lo Stock | Sym % Chg | | | |
| 17.47 24.92 18.72 ABB | ABB 3.0 24 24.75 | 0.08 | | -5.14 46.01 39.88 Coca-Cola | KO 3.4 30 43.59 | -0.08 | -1.10 47.03 38.16 KAR Auction | KAR 3.0 25 42.15 | -0.39 | 1.51 45.30 32.37 SensataTech | ST ... 25 39.54 | -0.27 | 27.40 107.61 74.34 CheckPointSoft | CHKP ... 25 107.60 | 1.88 | | | |
| -2.50 13.32 10.49 AES | AES 4.2 4d 11.33 | -0.14 | | -23.55 47.44 26.45 KB Fin | KB ... 10 47.06 | -0.26 | 12.71 33.20 24.90 ServiceCorp | SCI 1.9 20 32.01 | 0.01 | 44.64 81.01 31.71 ChinaLodging | HTHT ... 44 74.98 | -5.91 | | | | | | |
| 5.50 76.88 66.50 Aflac | AFL 2.3 12 73.43 | -0.53 | | 19.30 19.30 11.63 KKCR | KKR 3.7 10 18.36 | -0.33 | 30.35 99.99 63.51 ServiceNow | NOW ... dd 96.90 | 0.14 | -8.83 79.60 66.32 Cinncinati | CINF 2.9 19 69.06 | -0.32 | | | | | | |
| -9.50 43.89 36.10 AT&T | T 5.1 19 38.49 | 0.05 | | 12.56 17.23 13.34 KT | KT ... 18 15.86 | 0.23 | 5.83 22.85 10.55 Cintas | CTAS 1.1 26 122.30 | -0.24 | 10.69 34.60 26.46 CiscoSystems | CSCO 3.5 17 33.45 | -0.18 | | | | | | |
| -3.54 71.06 51.33 AXIS Capital | AXS 2.4 13 62.96 | -0.80 | | 7.45 100.61 79.05 KSCitySouthern | KSU 1.4 19 91.17 | 0.36 | 24.30 33.92 23.98 ShawCom | SHW 1.0 26 33.04 | -0.52 | 20.82 87.99 60.72 CitrixSystems | CTXS ... 28 85.92 | -1.19 | | | | | | |
| 14.45 45.84 36.76 AbbottLabs | ABT 2.4 45 43.96 | 0.10 | | -0.33 81.76 68.67 Kellogg | K 2.9 32 70.82 | 0.14 | 17.77 44.78 30.57 ShenhanFin | SHG ... 10 44.33 | -0.32 | 4.33 43 91.52 38.71 Cognex | CNX 0.4 45 91.25 | 0.72 | | | | | | |
| 5.69 68.12 55.06 AbbVie | ABBV 3.9 17 66.06 | 0.76 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 ConocoPhillips | COP 2.3 d6 49.67 | -0.45 | 11.82 99.49 24.96 Shopify | SPI 1.2 19 81.21 | -0.03 | 14.92 64.68 45.44 CognizantTech | CTSH 0.9 24 64.39 | 0.14 | | | | | | |
| -3.27 126.85 108.66 Accenture | ACN 2.0 21 66.06 | 0.16 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 KirolosKey | KEYS 1.8 19 21.82 | -0.03 | 8.68 31.35 36.94 SilverWaterheat | SLW 1.4 32 20.65 | 0.63 | 81.16 25.05 8.01 Coherent | COHR 0.5 20 28.89 | -1.54 | | | | | | |
| -24.88 280.89 169.53 AcuityBrands | ATY 0.3 25 173.32 | -15.15 | | -3.14 78.33 35.88 KeysightTechn | KEY 1.8 19 21.82 | -0.03 | 1.38 26.20 10.51 SimonProperty | SPG 4.4 22 15.78 | -4.30 | 12.90 40.62 29.81 Comcast | A CMCSA 1.6 21 38.98 | -0.28 | | | | | | |
| 5.70 177.76 130.48 AffiliatedMgns | AMG 0.5 17 153.58 | -1.16 | | -3.14 78.33 35.88 KirolosKey | KRM 2.1 51 70.92 | 0.01 | 3.39 65.19 47.61 SixFlags | SIX 4.1 55 61.99 | -0.64 | -4.86 60.61 42.44 Commerce | CBHS 1.6 21 55 | -0.09 | | | | | | |
| 15.23 144.78 104.95 Aetna | AET 1.4 45 120.49 | -0.99 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | L ... 106 12.84 | -0.28 | 8.33 39.50 52.24 ShawCom | SJM 4.2 22 20.95 | -0.02 | -2.47 42.75 28.88 ComScope | COMS ... 29 36.28 | -0.43 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 46.66 31.45 AerCap | AER ... 9 44.62 | -0.34 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 Line | LN ... 96 33.85 | 0.08 | 17.20 89.59 31.27 Smucker | SNW 1.1 26 31.75 | -0.29 | 7.89 31.57 21.18 Copart | CPT ... 18 29.89 | -0.03 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 11.82 99.49 24.96 Shopify | Snap ... 12 19.14 | 1.00 | 33.76 25.44 15.79 CostarGroup | SGP ... 90 25.13 | -0.75 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 1.38 36.22 10.51 SimonProperty | SPG 1.3 12 32.34 | -0.13 | 6.73 183.18 138.57 Costco | COST 1.2 32 170.88 | -0.38 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 3.83 35.75 23.45 Strips | TRIP ... dd 55.33 | 1.18 | 38.33 56.75 23.45 Strips | TRIP ... dd 55.33 | 1.18 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 5.94 65.61 44.34 DISH Network | DISH ... 21 61.37 | -0.26 | 6.79 65.83 55.00 DentsplySirona | DRX 0.4 60 61.65 | -1.05 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 17.96 56.82 57.68 DeXcom | DXM ... dd 70.42 | 1.48 | 8.33 39.50 52.24 ShawCom | COMS ... 29 36.28 | -0.43 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 0.83 11.24 9.15 Copart | CPT ... 18 29.89 | -0.03 | 11.15 28.07 4.83 Eriksen | ERIC 1.7 1d 64.68 | 0.04 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 2.66 125.88 31.95 Erleandren | ERIE 2.7 28 115.44 | -0.07 | 2.66 125.88 31.95 Erleandren | ERIE 1.7 1d 64.68 | 0.04 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 1.38 24.22 10.51 Exelixis | EXEL ... dd 21.61 | -0.11 | 1.38 24.22 10.51 Exelixis | EXEL ... dd 21.61 | -0.11 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 9.93 85.50 67.95 SumitomoMits | SMFG ... 10 74.00 | -0.07 | 1.38 24.22 10.51 Exelixis | EXEL ... dd 21.61 | -0.11 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 19.44 10.60 10.36 StanleyBlackD | SWK 17.1 22 116.99 | -1.11 | 19.44 10.60 10.36 StanleyBlackD | SWK 15.6 16 54.99 | -0.01 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 1.50 23.46 19.69 StarwoodProp | STWD 8.9 12 21.62 | -0.21 | 14.75 34.73 22.30 eBay | EBAY ... 5 34.07 | -0.05 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 6.24 85.38 50.59 StateStreet | STT 1.8 15 82.57 | -0.26 | 10.43 59.37 36.43 EchoStar | SAT ... 32 56.75 | -0.15 | | | | | | |
| 12.23 39.78 20.10 Alcoa | AA ... dd 31.79 | 0.63 | | -0.33 81.53 78.80 L3 Tech | LTH 1.8 20 16.32 | -0.26 | 1.25 25.57 13.21 Smucker | SNW 1.2 25 31.72 | -0.29 | 13.38 26.54 10.20 StarCom | STKS ... 32 56.75 | -0.1 | | | | | | |

NEW HIGHS AND LOWS

WSJ.com/newhighs

The following explanations apply to the New York Stock Exchange, NYSE Arca, NYSE MKT and Nasdaq Stock Market stocks that hit a new 52-week intraday high or low in the latest session. % CHG-Daily percentage change from the previous trading session.

Friday, May 12, 2017

NYSE highs - 74

| Stock | Sym | 52-Wk % Hi/Lo Chg | Stock | Sym | 52-Wk % Hi/Lo Chg | Stock | Sym | 52-Wk % Hi/Lo Chg |
|---|-------|-------------------|------------------|------|-------------------|----------------------|------|-------------------|
| Praxair | PK | 129.96 0.5 | RAIT Financial | RAS | 2.26 -4.6 | iShCoreMSCEmMk | IEMG | 49.97 0.4 |
| QwestNts2017 | CTDD | 25.09 0.1 | RegencyCtrs | REG | 60.53 -2.4 | VanguardFTSE EM | VWEU | 49.84 0.4 |
| Aetna | AET | 144.87 -1.0 | RELEX | RELN | 20.05 1.3 | VanguardFTSE AWXUS | VEU | 48.94 0.4 |
| Atento | ATTO | 10.55 -1.1 | SignetJewelers | SIG | 59.85 0.5 | VanguardFTSE AXU | VEU | 48.94 0.4 |
| RevAmersR | REX | 107.87 -3.9 | TangerOutlets | TGT | 15.71 2.7 | VanguardFTSE AXWUS | VEU | 48.94 0.4 |
| BancroftPd | BBD | 10.31 1.2 | TaubmanCentrs | TSC | 26.44 -2.4 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| BanColombia | CIR | 43.56 0.1 | TerraNitrogen | TNH | 88.08 -0.9 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Barl Corp | BCR | 309.16 ... | Tidewater | TDW | 2.66 -0.9 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| BectonDickinson | BDX | 187.69 -1.1 | TriumphGroup | TGI | 19.65 -5.5 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| BlackStnG50StFt | BSL | 18.80 -0.3 | UstadtProp A | UBA | 16.86 -1.2 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Sotheby's | BID | 50.99 -2.4 | USAirways | UAW | 1.93 0.0 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Square | SQ | 20.50 1.9 | WashingtonPrm | WPX | 7.81 -0.1 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| BlockHr | HRR | 26.69 0.6 | TEAL Education | TCA | 12.00 1.6 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| BoydGaming | WBY | 24.88 0.6 | TelecomArgentina | TEO | 24.79 0.9 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| BrookfieldMg | BAM | 38.65 0.6 | TempMktPd | EMF | 14.97 0.9 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| CBD Pao | CBD | 23.80 2.3 | ALPSIntDivDogs | IDOG | 26.48 0.9 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| CapitalOnePfdh | COPhP | 26.20 0.4 | 3D Systems | DDD | 21.96 3.1 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Carecom | CRCM | 15.30 1.5 | UniversalHealth | UHT | 71.89 0.7 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Chemours | CC | 44.40 4.6 | VeveySystems | VEEV | 56.69 0.6 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| ChimeraFixPfd | CIMpH | 25.94 0.3 | WellCareHealth | WCG | 174.51 0.1 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Cigna | CI | 164.88 -1.1 | WtsAMrtgBrop | DMO | 25.70 0.9 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Cooper | COO | 208.30 0.1 | XcelEnergy | XEL | 45.63 1.0 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Darden | DRI | 89.14 0.1 | Zoetis | ZTS | 60.19 0.3 | VanguardFTSE MMinV0l | ACVV | 78.83 0.1 |
| Domino's | DPI | 196.39 -0.1 | NYSE lows - 41 | | | | | |
| EnzoBiochem | ENZ | 9.68 0.2 | | | | | | |
| EspeProp | ESS | 253.14 0.5 | | | | | | |
| FT DynEurope | FDEU | 18.50 0.8 | | | | | | |
| FT InterDurPfd | FFP | 23.98 0.3 | | | | | | |
| FivePoint | FPH | 15.98 4.9 | | | | | | |
| FortressTransport | FTAI | 16.70 -0.6 | | | | | | |
| HDFC Bank | HDB | 84.52 0.8 | | | | | | |
| HP | HPC | 19.42 0.2 | | | | | | |
| Humana | HUM | 23.66 0.5 | | | | | | |
| JPMChinaRegion | JFC | 19.59 0.6 | | | | | | |
| KMG Chem | KMG | 56.80 -1.0 | | | | | | |
| KoreaEQuityPfd | KFE | 9.58 -0.1 | | | | | | |
| KronosWorldwide | KRO | 19.42 1.1 | | | | | | |
| LatAmDiscv | LAD | 11.23 1.0 | | | | | | |
| LumberLiqu | LL | 25.50 -0.5 | | | | | | |
| Luxottica | LUX | 59.94 1.7 | | | | | | |
| MDC Holdings | MDC | 35.20 1.5 | | | | | | |
| MI Homes | MHO | 29.10 1.3 | | | | | | |
| MaxLinear | MNL | 31.16 3.1 | | | | | | |
| McDonalds | MCD | 145.50 0.8 | | | | | | |
| MorganStanleyPfd | MSpK | 26.59 0.2 | | | | | | |
| MS Asia | APF | 16.01 0.1 | | | | | | |
| MS EmMktFd | MSF | 16.06 0.4 | | | | | | |
| NL Industries | NLD | 10.65 3.0 | | | | | | |
| NewOrleandEduc | EDU | 72.50 3.2 | | | | | | |
| NYComBnpd | NYCBp | 28.47 1.2 | | | | | | |
| NextEraEnergy | NEE | 135.83 0.7 | | | | | | |
| PJT Partners | PJT | 40.71 1.2 | | | | | | |
| PROS | PRO | 26.06 1.4 | | | | | | |
| PampaEnergia | PAM | 60.67 1.2 | | | | | | |
| PerkinElmer | PKI | 62.92 -0.3 | | | | | | |
| Prudential | PRU | 11.36 -4.4 | | | | | | |
| Key: A=annual; M=monthly; Q=quarterly; R=revised; SA=semiannual; S2=stock split and ratio; SO=spin-off. | | | | | | | | |

Dividend Changes

Dividend announcements from May 12.

| Company | Symbol | Amount | Payable/ |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Yld % | New/Old Frq |
| Increased | | | |
| Connecticut Water Service | CTWS | 2.2 2975/2825 | Q Jun15/Jun01 |
| Kingstone | KINS | 2.2 .08/0625 | Q Jun15/May31 |
| UtdCommunity Bancorp | UCBA | 2.0 .09/.06 | Q Jun05/May23 |
| Funds and investment companies | | | |
| Barings Gilb Short Dur HY | BGH | 9.1 .1534 | M Aug01/Jul21 |
| ClearBridge Amer Enrgy | CBA | 8.4 .20 | Q Jun01/May19 |
| ClearBridge Enrgy MLP Fd | CEM | 8.6 .355 | Q Jun01/May19 |
| Clearbridge Enrgy MLP Opp | EMO | 9.7 .32 | Q Jun01/May19 |
| Clearbridge Enrgy MLPTR | CTR | 8.8 .29 | Q Jun01/May19 |
| Stocks | | | |
| ArcelorMittal ADR | MT | 1.3 | /May22 |
| Hawthorn Bancshares | HWBK | 1.5 4.00% | Jul01/Jun15 |
| NeuroMetrix Wt | NUROW | 1.8 | /May12 |

| Company | Symbol | Amount | Payable/ |
|---|----------|------------------|----------------------|
| | | Yld % | New/Old Frq |
| AMG Managers Funds | | | |
| IncoA p | INCP | 22.44 +0.01 4.3 | BlackRock Funds C |
| IN Per A | INPA | 40.48 +0.11 14.6 | GblAlloc t |
| INeoC p | INEP | 41.21 +0.07 14.6 | BlackRock Funds Inst |
| INwWrldA | INWA | 59.85 +0.06 16.3 | EqiyDivd |
| SmCpa p | SMCP | 51.63 -0.01 12.3 | GblAlloc |
| AmcpA p | AMCP | 29.41 ... 8.0 | HighYldB |
| AMUtlA p | AMUL | 38.44 -0.02 4.9 | StratnOpptys |
| BalA p | BAL | 26.07 +0.02 5.5 | |
| BondA p | BOND | 12.87 +0.05 1.9 | |
| CapIBA p | CAPB | 60.79 +0.20 6.3 | |
| CapWGrA p | CAPWG | 48.42 +0.12 10.9 | |
| EucapA p | EUCAP | 52.06 +0.13 15.4 | |
| FdlnvA p | FDLNVA | 59.05 ... 8.8 | |
| GwthA p | GWTH | 46.80 +0.06 11.3 | |
| Hi TrA p | HITRA | 10.45 ... 3.8 | |
| BlackRock Funds A | BLKRF | 11.28 -0.08 6.5 | |
| ICAA p | ICAA | 38.48 +0.03 6.6 | |
| GblAlloc p | GBLALLOC | 19.31 ... 6.2 | |
| Key: A=annual; M=monthly; Q=quarterly; R=revised; SA=semiannual; S2=stock split and ratio; SO=spin-off. | | | |

Friday, May 12, 2017

NYSE highs - 111

| Stock | Sym | 52-Wk % Hi/Lo Chg | Stock | Sym | 52-Wk % Hi/Lo Chg | Stock | Sym | 52-Wk % Hi/Lo Ch |
|-------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|------------------|
|-------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|------------------|

MARKETS

Chinese Regulators Support Local Stocks

Market participants instructed to avoid large sell orders ahead of summit

On Friday, two days before the start of an important Chinese summit, brokerages and funds in Shanghai started getting cautionary messages from securities regulators.

One mutual fund was told not to process large orders to sell stock, according to a copy of a message to the fund's clients that was viewed by The Wall Street Journal. Across town, a brokerage received a similar message from officials, who added that they should pay special attention to "disruptive forces" in the volatile Shenzhen stock market, according to a person at the firm.

It is unclear whether Friday's instructions to market participants came from China's two stock exchanges or the country's securities regulator itself.

The so-called window guid-

ance, informal instructions from regulators conducted mostly via phone calls and text messages, came on the last trading day before Chinese President Xi Jinping opens a 30-country meeting Sunday designed to tout his signature foreign-policy and economic initiative known as One Belt, One Road.

For China's traders and investors, the guidance was the latest example of the government's frequent attempts to control the country's markets. Despite a long period of relative stability for Chinese stocks in the past year, Beijing's urge to intervene when markets run too hot or cold remains a nagging concern. A stock-market boom and bust in 2015 and early 2016 led to a series of moves by Beijing to tame markets, from restricting new listings to curtailing bets on stock-index futures.

Chinese stocks have tumbled in recent weeks, mainly on a simultaneous crackdown by regulators on speculative trading by investors using



The media center of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing on Friday.

piles of borrowed money. The main Shanghai market has lost 6% since April 12, when the most recent selloff began. Some analysts say the lack of coordination between regula-

tors is generating mixed messages for markets.

"Deleveraging moves by China's banking regulator have caused volatility on the stock market, and prompted all

sorts of intervention from the exchanges whose priority is to ensure market stability," said Zheng Chunming, an analyst at Huajin Securities.

The authorities' interven-

tion Friday appeared to have an impact: The Shanghai Composite Index closed up 0.7%, following a volatile Thursday during which the market first plunged by 1.2% before finishing up 0.3%. The index has lost 0.6% so far this year.

Earlier, in an internal memo sent Monday to its various branches and viewed by the Journal, a brokerage based in eastern China relayed messages from both the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges that urged clients to "tame trading" and minimize any negative impact in the run-up to the summit. The exchanges already were paying "special attention" to stocks showing big price movements and would take measures against accounts whose trading was having a major impact on the price of those stocks, according to the memo.

Beijing often props up its stock market ahead of key political events, such as the nation's annual parliamentary meetings in March.

—Shen Hong and Yifan Xie

Yuan Is Now Markets' Oasis of Calm

BY SAUMYA VAISHAMPAYAN

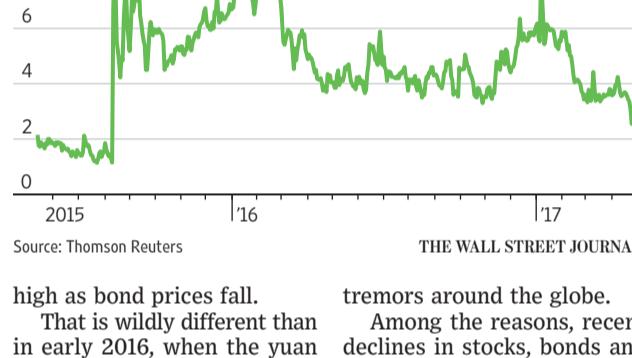
China's stock, bond and commodity markets have been tumbling. So why has the yuan, typically a barometer of fear about the country's health, been so calm?

The Chinese yuan is down just 0.1% against the U.S. dollar so far this month in the offshore market, which is accessible to foreign investors. More telling: Expectations for swings in the dollar-yuan pair offshore, as measured by implied volatility, have slid to a nearly two-year low.

At the same time, the Shanghai Composite Index has declined 2.3% so far in May, iron-ore futures on China's Dalian Commodity Exchange have slumped 13%, and the 10-year Chinese government-bond yield was near a 25-month

Nothing to See Here

The one-month implied volatility for the U.S. dollar against the Chinese yuan in offshore markets has tumbled.



tremors around the globe.

Among the reasons, recent declines in stocks, bonds and commodities have been driven by Chinese authorities' crackdown on leverage in the econ-

omy, rather than worries about the economy itself. Indeed, Chinese growth hit 6.9% in the first quarter, the fastest pace in a year and a half. In early 2016, anxiety about China's economy helped spark declines across asset classes.

"Market participants understand there has to be a point where China deals with this," said Eddie Cheung, Asia currency strategist at Standard Chartered Bank, pointing to the excessive debt in the system.

China has tightened its grip on how much money can leave the country, helping stem capital outflows and, in turn, expected yuan volatility.

Also, authorities may be unwilling to let the currency weaken too much given U.S. President Donald Trump's focus on currency levels and manipulation, analysts say.

Officials Expanded Bank Loans in April

Medium- and long-term lending to corporations was the highest for the month in 10 years

BEIJING—Strong demand from households and businesses drove up bank lending last month, though nontraditional credit slowed as the authorities moved to restrict shadow banking.

Chinese financial institutions issued 1.1 trillion yuan (\$159.3 billion) of new loans in April, up from March's 1.02 trillion yuan, data from the People's Bank of China showed Friday. That surpassed the 766.5 billion yuan median forecast by economists in a Wall Street Journal poll.

Medium- and long-term corporate loans, an indicator of loan demand, stood at 522.6

billion yuan in April, the highest for the month in the past 10 years, said economists at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group. They said April's surprise credit expansion could also have been because of front-load funding demand ahead of further expected regulatory tightening.

Total social financing, a broader measurement of credit that includes nonbank lending as well as bank loans, was 1.39 trillion yuan in April, down from 2.12 trillion yuan in March.

Shadow banking's portion dropped to 12.7% of the newly increased social financing from 35.6% in March, Citigroup economists said. China's regulatory tightening has also affected banks' off-balance sheet credit, they said. Nontraditional lenders, such as trust companies and other nonbank companies, are known as shadow bankers.

—Liyan Qi

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GLOBAL FINANCE



Analysts say it could take a long time for Visa and Mastercard to gain market share in China.

Beijing Opens the Door To Wary Card Companies

By ANNAMARIA ANDRIOTIS

Markets reacted coolly to what could be great news for card networks **Visa** Inc. and **Mastercard** Inc. given the U.S.-China access agreement announced late Thursday.

While China opening market access to these firms and others could be a significant victory for the companies, investors have seen this play out before only to find many restrictions for the U.S. card networks to expand there.

Analysts caution that China might not necessarily adhere to this provision—the agreement doesn't explain what would happen if China doesn't create an even playing field for the networks—and said that in the best-case scenario, it would still take a long time for Visa and Mastercard to gain significant market share there.

Among the obstacles: working through Chinese government red tape and gaining more bank and merchant acceptance.

"This is one small step forward in a very long journey, and it's been a step that's been going on for a long time," said Chris Donat, a managing director who covers credit-card

companies at Sandler O'Neill + Partners LP.

Visa shares added 0.7% Friday and Mastercard rose 0.5%.

China said two years ago that it would open the domestic processing market to outside companies. But China then implemented a series of infrastructure challenges that made it difficult for Visa and Mastercard to gain share.

At a meeting last year, the People's Bank of China and the country's payments-clearing association told Chinese banks to stop issuing cards with foreign networks.

Chinese banks have since been issuing single-network cards that work within China, mostly via its dominant domestic network, **China UnionPay**, which is owned by Chinese banks. UnionPay has more than a 90% share of card payments in China, according to the trade newsletter Nilson Report.

Some banks have also been issuing separate cards that run over Mastercard's network that can be used when Chinese consumers travel abroad. But analysts say the need for foreign-network cards has been declining in recent years.

Visa and Mastercard have

been preparing applications for a domestic license in China, and both companies' chief executives have detailed the complications ahead.

"Even if at this moment we had our ducks completely in a row and knew exactly how we wanted to proceed in terms of filing for domestic licenses...it's a very complicated review process," said Visa Chief Executive Al Kelly during an earnings call in April.

Restrictions in China's market have begun to affect Visa. Despite a strong quarter, Mr. Kelly said the phasing out of dual-branded cards in China began to affect Visa "in terms of payment volume and revenue, and we expect to feel this impact a bit more as we look ahead."

The best-case scenario would involve Visa and Mastercard gaining more access to the domestic Chinese market.

"If this actually translates to practical changes on the ground where China's requirements become softer and Visa and Mastercard have opportunity to make progress...this could be a material opportunity for the networks," said Darrin Peller, U.S. payments analyst at Barclays PLC.

The two will work together to further integrate the trading of bonds and other more-complex credit products.

The idea is to balance out swings in trading activity between the two areas. Bond activity tends to wind down during periods of low volatility, as is the case in today's markets.

The opposite is true of structured credit products.

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Azeri Bank Files for Bankruptcy

By TOM CORRIGAN

The **International Bank of Azerbaijan**, the country's largest lender, filed for bankruptcy in New York on Thursday to aid the restructuring of some \$3.3 billion in debt.

Hurt by a steep decline in oil prices and subsequent currency fluctuations, the Azeri bank sought chapter 15 protection, the part of the U.S. bankruptcy code covering international insolvencies.

If approved by a judge, chapter 15 would give the bank the benefits of U.S. bankruptcy law, including protections that halt lawsuits and

otherwise prevent interference from creditors.

A formal restructuring process began in Azerbaijan in April, court paper show.

The bank, which is majority-owned by the government, says it has taken substantial losses in recent years, despite several capital infusions. According to court papers, the bank has transferred billions of dollars in bad loans to a separate, government-backed bank—much like the U.S. did during the global financial crisis—but those steps have proved insufficient.

"The Ministry of Finance has noted with concern the

deteriorating financial and capital position of International Bank of Azerbaijan," Samir Sharifov, Azerbaijan's minister of finance, said in a statement.

"Re-establishing the financial viability of IBA is critical so that the bank can continue to provide important banking services to the Azerbaijan economy," he said.

In court papers, lawyers for the bank say getting approval of its U.S. bankruptcy petition is critical to both the bank and the larger economy of Azerbaijan, a small oil-rich country on the Caspian Sea, nestled between Russia and Iran.

Dollar Falls Broadly As Rate Outlook Dims

By CHERYL DULANEY

The dollar slid as investors appeared to become more cautious on the prospect of U.S. interest-rate increases after weak economic data.

The WSJ Dollar Index, which measures the U.S. currency against 16 others, fell 0.3%, to 90.14, as the dollar declined against the Japanese yen, euro and emerging-market currencies.

A Labor Department report Friday showed a closely watched measure of inflation, core prices, rose a slower-than-expected 0.1% in April from the prior month.

The data prompted investors to pare bets the **Federal Reserve** will raise interest rates at its meeting in June.

Fed-funds futures, used by investors to bet on the U.S. interest-rate outlook, show a 79% chance the central bank raises rates at its meeting next month, according to **CME Group** data. That is down from 83% a day earlier.

The weakness in core CPI inflation...will give Fed offi-

cials some pause for thought," Capital Economics said in a research note.

The Fed has been looking for signs that inflation is firming as it proceeds with interest-rate increases, but recent data have been mixed.

The Fed's preferred inflation measure, the personal-consumption expenditures price index, rose 1.8% from a year earlier in March, missing its 2% target.

Another report released Friday showed retail sales rose 0.4% in April from the prior month, below the 0.5% growth expected by economists.

Emerging-market currencies were broadly stronger. The dollar fell 0.4% against the Brazilian real, 0.3% against the Mexican peso and 0.1% against the South African rand.

Lower U.S. rates typically support emerging-market economies by making their assets more attractive to yield-seeking investors.

A weaker dollar also can make their dollar-denominated debts easier to service.

Late Friday in New York, the euro was at \$1.0932, from \$1.0863 late Thursday.

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MARKETS

Treasurys Rally on Soft Inflation

By SAM GOLDFARB

U.S. government bond prices strengthened, dropping the yield on the 10-year note back toward 2.3% as a report showed softer-than-expected inflation.

Excluding the often volatile categories of food and energy, the consumer-

CREDIT MARKETS
the consumer-price index rose 0.1% in April from the prior month, the Labor Department said. That was below the 0.2% gain anticipated by economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal.

While overall consumer prices rose 2.2% from a year earlier, the increase amounted to 1.9% excluding food and energy, marking the first time the annual gain in core prices had been below 2% since October 2015.

Demand for bonds pushed

the yield on the 10-year Treasury note down to 2.331%, compared with 2.400% Thursday and 2.352% a week ago. Yields fall when bond prices rise.

Debt investors keep a close eye on inflation because it is a main threat to bonds, eroding their fixed returns over time. Higher inflation also makes it more likely that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates, which reduces money supply in the economy and tends to diminish the value of outstanding government debt.

The small uptick in consumer prices last month followed an unexpected decline in March, which many investors had viewed as a one-time event.

Fed officials have expressed confidence that inflation will stabilize around their 2% target. The Fed's preferred measure of inflation is the Commerce Department's personal-consumption expenditures

price index, which advanced to 1.8% from a year earlier in March and tends to run below the consumer-price index.

Some economists believe it is only a matter of time before inflation settles at or surpasses the Fed's target, as the labor market tightens and employers

Fed officials have expressed confidence that inflation will stabilize around 2%.

are forced to pay workers more. Last month, the unemployment rate fell to its lowest level in a decade. Still, wage growth has been slow, and many bond investors have maintained a wait-and-see attitude toward inflation, prevent-

ing yields from rising higher.

The general view in the market is that "we are showing sub-2% inflation" and that means there is "probably going to be less Fed activity," said Sean Simko, head of fixed-income portfolio management at SEI.

Even after the inflation report, many investors remain confident that the Fed will raise rates at its June 13-14 meeting, given strong signals from officials that they are ready to act again after last raising rates in March.

Fed-funds futures, used by investors to bet on the Fed's interest-rate policy outlook, showed on Friday a 74% chance that the Fed would tighten monetary policy at its next meeting, according to CME Group.

Still, investors are cautious about predicting more rate increases, with an additional

move by the Fed this year as signed just a 50% chance.

Current bond yields reflect the ambivalence of investors. While the yield on the 10-year Treasury note has recovered from the five-month low of 2.177% it reached last month, it remains well below the 2.6% level it touched in March.

In recent weeks, investors have become less concerned about political risks overseas.

Many, though, are less optimistic than they once were about fiscal stimulus in the U.S.

Some analysts said the sharp drop in bond yields Friday wasn't entirely justified by the economic data. Though it fell short of expectations, the consumer-price index still improved from the previous month. Retail sales also rose 0.4% in April, below the 0.5% gain economists had expected but the largest increase in three months.

Merrill To Curtail Signing Bonuses

By MICHAEL WURSTHORN

Merrill Lynch will temporarily stop paying top dollar to recruit experienced brokers, according to a person familiar with the matter, the latest brokerage to make changes to how it compensates brokers poached from rivals.

The firm, as it navigates broader changes to its business under the Labor Department's fiduciary rule, has told some executives that as of June 1 it will no longer offer signing bonuses that typically paid top brokers who join Merrill as much as seven figures, the person said.

Potential recruits who are already being courted by Merrill before the deadline won't be affected and will still be offered the typical signing bonuses, the person said. But after June 1, a pause on all recruiting will be implemented as the Bank of America Corp.-owned brokerage develops a new incentive package, the person added.

Meanwhile, Merrill is testing a new incentive plan geared toward attracting brokers with less experience from regional brokerages and independent broker-dealers, among others, the person said.

The program, which bears similarities to programs offered by firms like Edward Jones, would target brokers with three to eight years of experience and would guarantee a base salary for three years. On top of the base salary, they could earn additional pay via a bonus, as well as a percentage of the fees and commissions they generate.

After their first three years with Merrill, those less-experienced recruits would shift toward a broker's typical compensation model there: a percentage of the fees and commissions they generate using the compensation grid on top of incentive bonuses for new assets and lending, among other activities, the person said.

Merrill is testing a new incentive plan to attract brokers with less experience.

Merrill doesn't intend to modify how it pays brokers, the person added.

AdvisorHub earlier reported Merrill's recruitment changes.

Merrill's actions likely signal an end to an often expensive practice of recruiting brokers from top rivals, something brokerage executives often called "prisoner exchange," as firms look to tamp down costs and comply with the fiduciary rule, which requires brokers to act in the best interest of retirement savers.

"For a long time all the [brokerages] felt the price of recruiting had gotten out of hand," said Mindy Diamond, president and founder of Diamond Consultants, a Morristown, N.J.-based recruiting firm for financial advisers that does some business with Merrill. "It remains to be seen if it's a sound strategy."

Ms. Diamond said the move will likely make it harder for brokers who generate \$1 million to \$2 million in fees and commissions annually to move their businesses to Merrill.

Last year, UBS Group AG was the first big brokerage to say it would reduce by 40% the number of brokers it poaches annually.

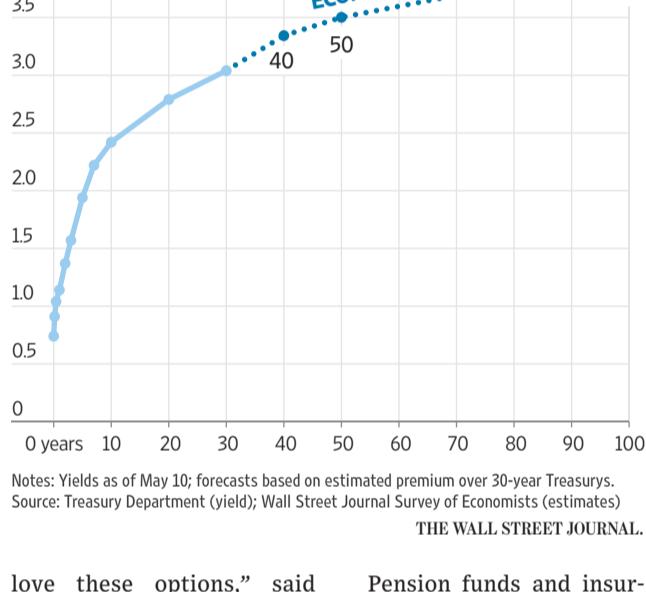
UBS said it would use the money it saved from hiring expensive rival brokers to better compensate its existing broker force, while still selectively recruiting big-money teams of brokers.

The overall size of recruitment deals had already been falling due to the fiduciary rule, Ms. Diamond and other recruiters said. Firms including Morgan Stanley were forced to cut the overall size of their deals late last year by removing the incentive-laden, back-end portions of those packages to avoid potential conflicts that are problematic under the fiduciary rule.

Century Yield Curve

Treasury securities with longer maturities currently have higher yields. Economists estimated what the yield would be on proposed 40-year, 50-year and 100-year bonds.

Treasury yield by maturity



Notes: Yields as of May 10; forecasts based on estimated premium over 30-year Treasuries.

Source: Treasury Department (yield); Wall Street Journal Survey of Economists (estimates)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



Economists say the 100-year bond would have to yield 3.98%. Above, the Treasury building.

For Investors Going Long, Yield Needs to Be Worthy

By JOSH ZUMBRUN

For the Treasury Department to issue 40-year, 50-year or 100-year bonds, or for investors to consider buying them, it sure would help to know the price.

Such ultralong bonds are under active consideration at Treasury, and so this month The Wall Street Journal's survey of economists asked respondents to estimate what the yields on those bonds would be, and whether they would be worth it.

The results: They believe the yield on the 40-year Treasury would be about 0.3 percentage point higher than on the 30-year bond, or about 3.34% today.

A 50-year bond would price at 3.5%, they estimate, while the 100-year bond would have a yield of 3.98%.

"Bond investors would likely demand higher yields on longer-maturity bonds to compensate for government debt and inflation risks," said Scott Anderson, chief economist of the Bank of the West.

Therein lies one of the key challenges of such bonds. In order for them to attract investors, they will likely need to have higher yields, perhaps considerably higher.

But as yields rise, it will be harder for the Treasury to reap any cost savings from the program.

That is one reason that the Treasury Borrowing Advisory

Committee—made up of some of Wall Street's biggest investors and dealers—advised that such long bonds might not be worth pursuing.

Some economists share that assessment, such as John Silvia, chief economist of Wells Fargo, who said such bonds were "not a viable market" and would have "inconsistent issuance over business cycles." But just over 60% of survey respondents said strong and sustainable demand would develop for 40- and 50-year bonds.

Over 50% of respondents said such bonds would be worth implementing.

"Endowments, pension funds and life insurers will

love these options," said James Smith of Parsec Financial Management.

While a 3.5% yield is higher than most government debt now, such a yield certainly could prove to be a good deal over the course of the next half-century.

"Should have been doing this for the past eight years," said Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors. "It stabilizes the payments at a relatively low rate."

The 100-year bond, however, was far less popular in the survey. Over 60% said the bonds would lack demand and not be worth pursuing. Estimates of its yield were nearly a full percentage point higher than for the 30-year.

Pension funds and insurance companies do have some liabilities they can anticipate 50 years in the future and so might purchase 50-year bonds as a way to manage that.

But century bonds would be due in the 2100s, the time frame of intergalactic bloodshed in the "Alien" movies and the Martian moon battles of the "Doom" videogames, not the time frame of today's investors.

"The message of issuing ultralong Treasurys is that you plan to take on a lot of debt, and that should trigger some caution by investors," said Diane Swonk, founder of DS Economics, an economic consulting firm.

OPEC Looks to Expand Production-Cut Pact

By BENOIT FAUCON

LONDON—Six months after restricting their oil output in an effort to raise global crude prices, some members of OPEC are pushing for a broader effort to reduce petroleum production, say people familiar with the matter.

Group members in recent weeks have suggested either making deeper production cuts or bringing new participants into the effort to cut oil exports, these people said.

Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries are widely expected to agree later this month to extend the deal they reached late last year to cut production, along with 11 other states including Russia, by a total of 1.8 million barrels a day. Taking that oil off the world market helped to stabilize oil prices, but was offset by rising U.S. production.

On Friday, Brent crude for July delivery, the global benchmark, rose 7 cents, to \$50.84 a barrel on ICE Futures Europe, down 11% since the start of the year. Oil for June delivery on the New York Mercantile Exchange edged up 1 cent to \$47.84.

To add credibility to its efforts to rebalance the market, OPEC is seeking cooperation from less significant producers, including Turkmenistan and Egypt, say people familiar with the matter.



ESSAM AL SUDANI/REUTERS

An oil refinery in Iraq. OPEC members are considering bringing new participants into the output deal.

The effort includes lobbying by Saudi Arabia, OPEC's biggest producer and most powerful member. During a visit to Turkmenistan's capital two weeks ago, Saudi Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih asked Turkmenistan President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov to send a representative to the May 25 meeting in Vienna, where OPEC will discuss extending production limits, OPEC officials said. Turkmenistan's president agreed, they said.

Egypt has told OPEC that President Abdel Fattah Al Sisi instructed an envoy to attend the gathering, those people said. A spokesman for Turkmenistan's London Embassy declined to comment. Egypt's oil ministry declined to comment. Egypt and Turkmenistan pump a combined 700,000 barrels a day. While that is a fraction of the world's global output, adding to the number of participants would help boost the coalition's clout, one OPEC official said.

Mr. Falih told an oil conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Monday that OPEC is considering an extension of the production limit. An official at Saudi Arabia's oil ministry declined to comment.

Saudi Arabia has borne the brunt of production cuts and has indicated that it wants other producers to pick up a bigger burden of the supply reductions.

OPEC member Venezuela, which is in the throes of an economic crisis that has some

people starving, has told other members it wants deeper cuts of as much as five million barrels a day, OPEC officials say.

A spokeswoman for state-run Petróleos de Venezuela SA, which oversees the country's oil industry, declined to comment. The Venezuelan proposal hasn't received support from OPEC members, according to OPEC officials.

The push for further reductions underscores how ineffective OPEC's November production cut, its first in eight years, has been. The rising prices it caused prompted U.S. and Canadian producers to boost production.

On Thursday, OPEC reported that oil production from North America is increasing faster than the group had expected.

OPEC upgraded its estimate for U.S. oil output this year by 285,000 barrels a day, bringing its forecast to an increase of 820,000 barrels a day.

After a two-year decline, U.S. crude production rose by 500,000 barrels a day in the six months to February, a period in which prices rose 20%.

In March, oil inventories in industrialized countries remained 276 million barrels above OPEC's targeted five-year average, according to the group's monthly report on Thursday.

—Summer Said, Thomas Grove and Anatoly Kurmanov contributed to this article.

MARKETS

S&P 500 Falls 0.3% for the Week

Brick-and-mortar stores weigh down the index following downbeat results

By CORRIE DRIEBUSCH
AND RIVA GOLD

Investors sold shares of brick-and-mortar retailers, pressuring U.S. stocks and contributing to the S&P 500's first weekly decline in a month.

Disappointing retail earnings abounded during the week, and retail sales improved slightly less than anticipated in April, according to the Commerce Department on Friday.

The S&P 500 dropped 3.54 points, or 0.1%, to 2390.90 on Friday, putting its weekly decline at 0.3%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 22.81 points, or 0.1%, to 20896.61 Friday, while the Nasdaq Composite ticked up 5.27 points, or 0.1%, to 6121.23.

Treasury yields and the dollar edged lower Friday, after a closely watched measure of underlying U.S. inflation came in soft.

When excluding food and energy prices, the consumer-price index, which measures what Americans pay for everything from vegetables to new vehicles, rose 1.9% in April from the prior year, the first time it has been below 2% since October 2015, the Labor Department reported.

The latest readings on the U.S. economy follow a string of soft first-quarter data. Many investors have largely brushed off signs of weak economic growth in 2017, reasoning that the first few months of the year tend to be slow and corporate earnings have been stronger than expected. U.S. stocks are hovering close to records, while volatility has fallen to historic lows.

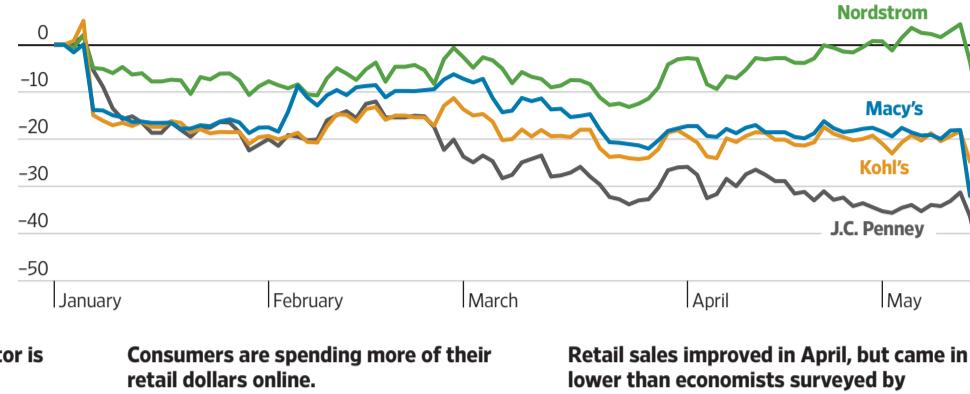
On Friday, the WSJ Dollar Index slipped 0.3% and the yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury

Retail Retreat

Shares of department stores and retail chains extended declines this past week after a series of disappointing earnings reports.

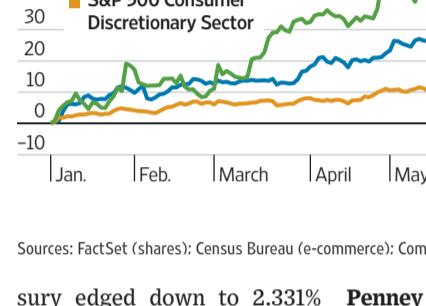
Brick-and-mortar retailers have been grappling with declining sales, store closures and competition from online-focused businesses.

Performance since 2016



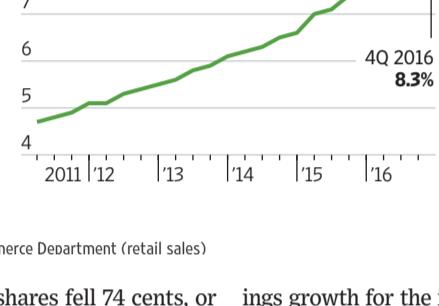
The consumer-discretionary sector is rallying this year with help from e-commerce and tourism.

Performance since 2016



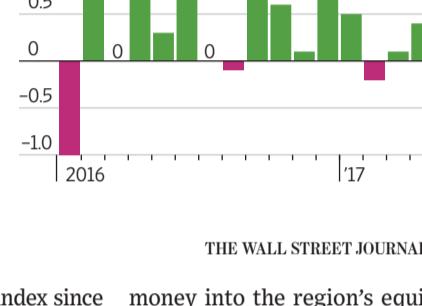
Consumers are spending more of their retail dollars online.

E-commerce as percentage of total U.S. retail sales



Retail sales improved in April, but came in lower than economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal had expected.

Change in seasonally adjusted retail sales from prior month



Sources: FactSet (shares); Census Bureau (e-commerce); Commerce Department (retail sales)

sury edged down to 2.331% from 2.400% Thursday. Yields fall as bond prices rise.

Utilities, often called bond proxies because of their steady dividend payouts, were the best performers in the S&P 500 on Friday, up 0.5%.

Retail stocks didn't fare as well. The SPDR S&P Retail exchange-traded fund fell 1.8% Friday and 2.9% for the week.

Downbeat results from **Macy's** and **Kohl's** sent their shares down roughly 17% and 8%, respectively, on Thursday. On Friday, **Nordstrom** dropped \$5.01, or 11%, to \$41.20 after it reported an unexpected fall in same-store sales, while **J.C.**

Penney shares fell 74 cents, or 14%, to 4.55 after the department-store operator reported a first-quarter loss.

"Looking at traditional brick-and-mortar sales, it's pretty clear [retailers] are losing to online juggernauts," said Jimmy Chang, chief investment strategist at Rockefevel & Co.

Despite recent weakness in retailers, the overall earnings picture in the U.S. has been supportive of markets. With more than 90% of the companies in the S&P 500 having reported results, first-quarter earnings are on track to rise 14%, which would mark the highest year-over-year earn-

ings growth for the index since 2011, according to FactSet.

"The first-quarter earnings season is one of the best overall we've seen in the past decade," said Olivier Marcot, investment manager at Unigestion.

"Consumption has been kind of weak in the last couple of months...but we are not worried at all for the moment about the U.S. consumer," Mr. Marcot said.

Elsewhere, the Stoxx Europe 600 rose 0.3% Friday as data showed Germany's economy outpaced the U.S. at the start of the year. The index was also up 0.3% for the week.

Investors have poured

money into the region's equities in recent weeks, with a record inflow of \$6.1 billion into European equities since centrist Emmanuel Macron won the French election, according to Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

European stocks are close to two-year highs as political jitters have given way to increasing signs of an improving economy and corporate earnings.

Stock markets were broadly lower in Asian trading hours, tracking weakness in Europe and the U.S. on Thursday. Japan's Nikkei Stock Average fell 0.4% Friday but gained 2.3% for the week.

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FINANCIAL ANALYSIS & COMMENTARY

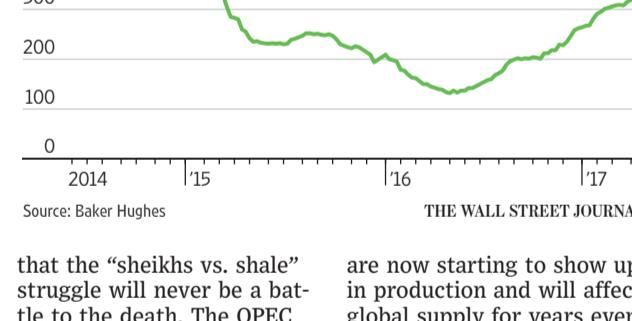
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Email: heard@wsj.com

OPEC Should End Output Cuts

Drill, Baby, Drill

Rotary oil rigs in Permian Basin



that the "sheikhs vs. shale" struggle will never be a battle to the death. The OPEC cuts have shown that unconventional oil production in the U.S. will keep coming back like a movie monster. Worse for OPEC, the monster comes back stronger every time as shale producers reduce break-even costs.

The bear market's real victim has been traditional non-OPEC producers. Their huge cuts in capital spending

which collectively have made about two-thirds of OPEC's production cuts, to change their strategy.

Shortly before oil producers agreed in principle last September to stabilize the market, OPEC's analysts saw production outside of the group dropping by about 100,000 barrels a day in 2017. By the time the ink was dry on their November agreement and prices had rallied, that estimate had swung to growth of roughly 200,000 barrels a day.

This week the estimate mushroomed to 950,000 barrels a day, mostly because of a resurgence of U.S. shale production with a little help from Canada and Brazil. That million-barrel-plus swing in expectations since last summer is nearly two-thirds of the 1.8 million barrel production cut OPEC agreed to with Russia and others, and now wants to extend.

OPEC should be happy with what it has achieved. Now, it should reap more of the benefits.

—Spencer Jakab

OVERHEARD

Biotechnology is a field of limitless innovation. That can extend into novel ways for investors to lose money.

The newest may be a dispute between a biotech company and a stock research firm that published a report saying one of the company's drugs was as good as a blockbuster drug already on the market.

The company, **Akari Therapeutics**, instead of cheering, said the report contained inaccuracies and in a securities filing Thursday said it placed its chief executive on leave while the board investigates the situation.

Edison Investment Research withdrew the report, but on Friday said Akari had seen it before publication and had no problems with it. Edison still can't find anything wrong with the report.

Akari's shares tumbled 21% on Friday and are down about 45% since the report came out.

Biotech never ceases to find new ways for investors to lose money.

Reasons Why Consumers Won't Spend

What will it take for people to start spending more?

The Commerce Department reported April retail sales figures on Friday, and the best way to characterize the data is with the technical term, "meh." The gains in overall sales fell short of estimates. Broadly, consumer spending is fine, though disappointing considering the unemployment rate is 4.4%.

To understand why spending has been so underwhelming, it's helpful to consider what's happening with its three main drivers: wealth, borrowing and income.

As a group, Americans are certainly getting richer. Stocks are near records, and home prices are up sharply.

But that wealth is distributed unevenly. The homeownership rate remains low, and the share of households that hold stocks has fallen as well. That may be part of why the wealth effect—people's propensity to spend more when wealth increases—seems to have gotten weaker.

Notwithstanding the pickup in some types of debt, such as auto loans, people aren't borrowing like before. U.S. household debt came to 102% of income in 2016, versus 107% in 2013 and 129% in 2007.

That leaves income. The news here is good: more people are drawing paychecks, and wage growth is creeping higher. But with wealth and debt not contributing, income is the only driver of spending growth.

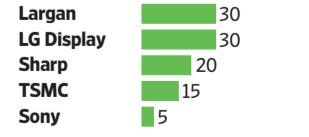
A tight labor market means wage gains could start to accelerate. That is the best hope for retailers, assuming people decide to spend the money, rather than stuff it in the bank.

—Justin Lahart

Beware of Companies Taking Too Big a Bite Out of Apple

Apple Pie

Apple's estimated contribution to revenue



Source: Morgan Stanley

The problem for investors in Taiwan, and other tech companies based in Asia, is that Apple's own needs aren't set in stone.

U.K. graphic chip designer **Imagination Technologies Group** learned that lesson the hard way last month. Its shares lost 62% in one day after Apple said it would fade out its use of the company's technology and design its own graphic chips instead.

Some Taiwanese suppliers have a similar problem. Foxconn, for example, makes nearly half of its sales from Apple, according to **Morgan Stanley**. The company's low-margin assembling business is vulnerable to squeezes

from Apple as it doesn't involve cutting-edge technology.

Apple's move to newer, better technology could create losers elsewhere. The company is widely expected to use a screen technology called organic light-emitting diodes, or OLED, in at least some versions of its latest iPhone later this year. That is a big problem for suppliers that make liquid crystal displays for existing iPhones. Japan Display, for which Apple again makes up roughly half of sales, is one supplier now investing heavily in OLED plants. But it may not be moving fast enough to supply to Apple in the near

future, says Amir Anvarzadeh, head of Japanese equity sales at BGC Partners.

Apple mania is buoying several companies and even entire stock markets. Companies with a clear technological edge and diverse customer base should be preferred. Korea's **Samsung Electronics**, for example, dominates smartphone OLED production, while Japan's Sony and Taiwan's Largan lead the markets for image sensors and lenses, respectively, meaning they should prove resilient even if Apple has a change of heart.

For what Apple giveth, it can soon take away.

—Jacky Wong

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Why colleges
need affirmative
action for
conservative
ideas
C3



REVIEW



It was fine.
Later it was
not fine. A new
Hemingway
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BOOKS | CULTURE | SCIENCE | COMMERCE | HUMOR | POLITICS | LANGUAGE | TECHNOLOGY | ART | IDEAS

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* * * *

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Saturday/Sunday, May 13 - 14, 2017 | **C1**

THE SEVEN SECRETS OF GREAT TEAM CAPTAINS

The leaders of history's championship dynasties relied on a range of surprising traits, from dissent and rule-breaking to emotional self-control and a low-key communication style.



A. Yogi Berra,
New York Yankees
B. Mireya Luis,
Cuba, women's
volleyball team
C. Bill Russell,
Boston Celtics
D. Jack Lambert,
Pittsburgh Steelers

BY SAM WALKER

LEADERSHIP EXPERTS IMAGINE that Dr. Frankenstein gave you the keys to his laboratory and that it was your mission to build the perfect captain for a sports team. Maybe you would start with the donor body of a freak talent—a superstar with transcendent skills and abundant charisma. You'd then probably want to inject qualities such as eloquence, diplomacy, institutional fealty and dedication to the highest principles of sportsmanship.

Conventional wisdom suggests that these are the key traits of a superior captain. But are they really?

Some years ago, I set out to identify the greatest teams in sports history across the world, from

the National Basketball Association to international field hockey, and to see what, if anything, they had in common. In the end, only 16 unambiguously outstanding teams made the cut. The list included several teams that were familiar to me and some that weren't.

They all had just one shared characteristic: Their long streaks of dominance either began or ended—and in many cases overlapped precisely—with the tenure of one player. And in every case, this player was, or eventually became, the captain.

The men and women who led these teams were surprisingly similar to one another, but their skills, personalities and leadership styles were not at all what I expected. The qualities they shared were not the ones I would have installed in Frankenstein's laboratory. Some, in fact, were traits I would have rejected.

It occurred to me that in sports—and perhaps in other fields where teamwork matters, from business, politics and the military to science and the arts—we've been choosing the wrong people to lead us. The captains whom I identified had seven traits in common.

THEY TOOK CARE OF TOUGH,

UNGLAMOROUS TASKS.

In 1962, when Brazil won its second consecutive World Cup, its team's unquestioned star was Pelé, arguably the greatest soccer player of all time. The prevailing view is that Pelé's brilliance, expressed by the 77 goals he scored, was the team's driving force.

But Pelé was never made captain—nor did he lobby for the job. The team's primary leader was Hilderaldo Bellini, a tough and humble central defender who, during a nine-year stint with Brazil, never scored a goal.

Bellini was a functionary, not a star. While Pelé attended to the pressures of celebrity, Bellini took care of the daily, hourly grunt work of unifying the team. He cleaned up their mistakes with his fearless defense, often leaving the pitch bruised and bloodied, and calmly urged them forward when their confidence sagged.

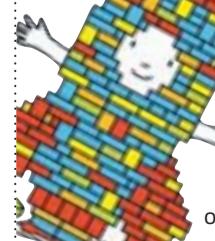
The captains on my list were rarely exceptional talents. The lasting dominance of their teams was built on an unconventional balance of power.

Please turn to the next page

Mr. Walker is an editor at The Wall Street Journal. This piece is adapted from his new book, "The Captain Class: The Hidden Force That Creates the World's Greatest Teams," to be published May 16 by Random House.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY KEITH A. WEBB/THE WALL STREET JOURNAL; CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: ASSOCIATED PRESS; AL BELLO/ALLSPORT/GETTY IMAGES; CSU ARCHIVES/EVERETT COLLECTION; AL MESSERSCHMIDT/ASSOCIATED PRESS

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REVIEW

The Unlikely Secrets of Leadership

Continued from the prior page

leader's job wasn't to dazzle on the field but to labor in the shadows of the stars, to carry water for the team, to lead from the back.

THEY BROKE THE RULES—

FOR A PURPOSE. In the preliminary rounds of the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Cuba's six-year reign in women's volleyball seemed to be crumbling. The listless Cubans were trounced twice early on and barely advanced to the knockout round. In the semi-finals, they faced their toughest rival, Brazil.

Cuba's captain, **Mireya Luis**, knew that she needed to do something drastic to save her team, so she came up with a plan—psychological warfare. She instructed her teammates to shower the Brazilians with insults during the match.

These were not mild epithets. The Cubans called their rivals every name in the book, earning a pair of yellow cards from the referee. By the fifth set, however, the plan started to work. The Brazilians became rattled and played too aggressively. Cuba went on to win the match and later, the gold medal. Luis became a pariah in the sport for a time.

To my surprise, the captains on my list were not exemplars of fair play. They sometimes did unsportsmanlike things that tested the limits of the rules. But they were not thugs. The moment the game ended, they returned to normal.

In competition, they believed that the rules of sport superseded those of polite society and that aggressive tactics were a valuable tool—not to inflict pain on others but to further the team's goals.

THEY COMMUNICATED

PRACTICALLY, NOT IN

GRAND SPEECHES. When he made his baseball debut in 1946, **Lawrence Peter "Yogi" Berra** appeared woefully out of place on the New York Yankees, the most glamorous brand in American sports. Short, thick and barrel-chested with jug ears, Berra spoke in a halting mumble. He would later become famous for his malapropisms.

Berra may not have had a silver tongue, but he wasn't silent. After taking over as the team's starting catcher, he chattered constantly with teammates. He also listened to them and studied their temperaments. After working with the pitcher Eddie Lopat for many years, Berra knew his mind so well that the two men stopped using pitch signals. When a pitcher struggled, Berra would lop to the mound and give him a pep talk or crack a joke to break the tension. "OK, Slick," he once told the young Whitey Ford. "The main feature at the movies starts at six. It's four now, and I want to be on time. Let's get this thing over with."

Throughout his 18-year Yankee career, the team cycled through dozens of pitchers, few of whom posted elite numbers. Yet pitchers of all types flourished under Berra's tutelage. The Yankees didn't name a captain during his career, but from 1949 to 1953, as he became the leader, the team won a record five consecutive championships.

The team captains on my list weren't gifted orators. They rarely, if ever, formally addressed their teammates. They preferred to circulate widely, speaking to everyone in equal measure, always about the task at hand.

THEY KNEW HOW

TO USE DEEDS TO MOTIVATE.

In October 1976, the mighty Pittsburgh Steelers were on the verge of collapse. After winning consecutive Super Bowls, they had started the season 1-4 and faced a must-win game against Cincinnati.

On the field that day, Pittsburgh's middle linebacker and future defensive captain, **Jack Lambert**, played so relentlessly that the bandages protecting a cut on his hand gave way. The result was a gory mess. Blood splattered all over his uniform.

The team's trainers could have prevented this spectacle by changing Lambert's bandages every time he came off the field. But they never approached him—they knew he would have refused.

Lambert was a cerebral player who was undersized and not particularly strong or fast. He was, however, an extraordinary intimidator and motivator. The trainers knew that getting blood all over his uniform was something

he liked. It sent a powerful nonverbal message, not just to opponents but also to his teammates.

Lambert and his captain peers often did things on the field that seemed unhinged. But they were calculated acts. They understood that sometimes, especially in tough situations, words aren't enough. By making graphic displays of ferocity, they knew they could reach their teammates on a deeper level.

THEY WERE

INDEPENDENT THINKERS,

UNAFRAID TO DISSENT. In the winter of 1980, as a Soviet-built passenger plane roared over the Atlantic, the 20 members of the Red Army hockey team slumped in their seats. They had just lost to the Americans in a legendary Olympic upset that was soon called the "Miracle on Ice."

The Soviet coach, Viktor Tikhonov, had told his players not to point fingers. The story they would tell in Moscow is that they had lost as a team. On the plane, however, Tikhonov huddled privately with his assistants and began ripping individual

players for their failures.

Valeri Vasiliev, a veteran defenseman, overheard this critique. He flew into a rage. He rushed over, grabbed Tikhonov by the neck and threatened to throw him off the plane if he didn't take it back.

Vasiliev wasn't punished for his outburst and returned to practice with the rest of the team. He didn't hold a grudge and never mentioned the incident publicly. Several months later, when his teammates elected him captain, Tikhonov and the Kremlin let the decision stand.

With Vasiliev as captain, the Soviet team became unstoppable, posting a record of 94-4-9 in international competitions and an Olympic title.



petitions over the next four seasons and winning three World Championships and an Olympic title.

The captains on my list didn't hesitate to let coaches and executives know when they disagreed with them. But their dissent wasn't personal. They understood that conflict, when focused on supporting a team's goals, is not destructive. It's essential.

THEY WERE RELENTLESS. The 1957 NBA finals came down to a deciding Game 7 between the Boston Celtics and the St. Louis Hawks. With less than a minute left to play and the Celtics leading by a point, the Hawks executed a quick outlet pass from Boston's baseline to midcourt, where the ball settled into the hands of a forward named Jack Coleman.

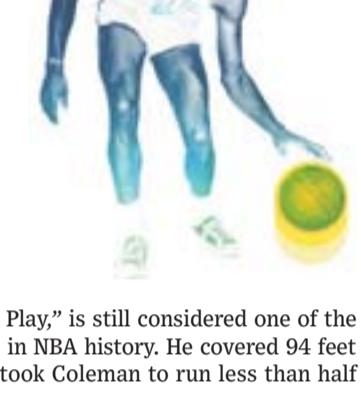
The fans at the Boston Garden let out a collective gasp. Coleman had nobody behind him and a clear path to the basket. But as he prepared to complete a layup, Boston's rookie center, **Bill Russell**, swooped in from behind to slap the ball away. "Blocked by Russell!" shouted Boston's legendary radio commentator, Johnny Most. "He came from nowhere!"

Russell's feat, which became known as the "Coleman Play," is still considered one of the finest clutch defensive efforts in NBA history. He covered 94 feet in the same three seconds it took Coleman to run less than half as far.

Russell's heroics were a function not merely of talent but of doggedness—which is one of the most underrated traits of leadership. In a team sport, one person's extreme effort can be highly contagious.

The captains of the teams on my list left no doubt about their commitment. They played through hideous injuries—broken bones, concussions, a heart attack. They rarely, if ever, took a game off. Among his teammates, Bill Russell was famous for never letting up, even in relatively meaningless games.

The Celtics rallied to beat the Hawks that day in double overtime. Russell later became Boston's captain, and while the players around him never were statistically exceptional, his teams won a record 11 NBA titles in 13 seasons.



The 16 Greatest Teams In Sports History

Collingwood Magpies

Australian rules football (1927-30)

New York Yankees

baseball (1949-53)

Hungary

national soccer team (1950-55)

Montreal Canadiens

hockey (1955-60)

Boston Celtics

basketball (1956-69)

Brazil

national soccer team (1958-62)

Pittsburgh Steelers

football (1974-80)

Soviet Union

national ice hockey team (1980-84)

New Zealand All Blacks

national rugby team (1986-90)

Cuba

women's national volleyball team (1991-2000)

Australia

women's national field hockey team (1993-2000)

U.S.

women's national soccer team (1996-99)

San Antonio Spurs

basketball (1997-2016)

Barcelona

professional soccer (2008-13)

France

national handball team (2008-15)

New Zealand All Blacks

national rugby team (2011-15)

For the methodology used to pick the teams, go to WSJ.com/Review.



They helped their teams to become dynasties by behaving a certain way, by making the right choices on the job—every hour, every day. They were dedicated to doing whatever it took to make success more likely, even if their efforts were unpopular, controversial or completely invisible. They were in it not for personal glory but for the greater good of the team.

MIND & MATTER: ALISON GOPNIK

Which Teaches Toddlers Better—Lessons or Play?

ANY PRESCHOOL

teacher will tell you that young children learn through play, and some of the best-known preschool programs make play central, too. One of the most famous approaches began after World War II around the northern Italian city of Reggio Emilia and developed into a world-wide movement. The Reggio Emilia programs, as well as other model preschools like the Child Study Centers at Berkeley and Yale, encourage young children to freely explore a rich environment with the encouragement and help of attentive adults.

The long-term benefits of early childhood education are increasingly clear, and more states and countries are starting preschool programs. But the people who make decisions about today's preschool curricula often have more experience with elementary schools. As the early childhood education researcher Erika Christakis details in her book "The Importance of Being Little," the result is more pressure to make preschools like schools for older students, with more school work and less free play.

Is play really that important?

An April study in the journal *Developmental Psychology* by Zi Sim and Fei Xu of the University of California, Berkeley, is an elegant example of a new wave of play research. The researchers

showed a group of 32 children, aged 2 and 3, three different machines and blocks of varying shapes and colors. The researchers

showed the children that putting some blocks, but not others, on the machines would make them play music.

For half the children, the machines worked on a color rule—red blocks made the red machine go, for instance, no matter what shape they were. For the other children, the devices worked on a shape rule, so triangular blocks, say, made the triangle-shaped machine go.

Both sets of children then encountered a new machine, orange and L-shaped, and a new set of blocks. The toddlers trained with the color rule correctly used the orange block, while those trained with the shape rule chose the L-shaped block.

Next, the experimenter showed a different set of 32 toddlers the blocks and the machines and demonstrated that one block made one machine play music, without any instruction about the color or shape rules. Then she said, "Oh no! I just remembered that I have some work to do. While I'm doing my work, you can play with some of my toys!" The experimenter moved to a table where she pretended to be absorbed by work. Five minutes later, she came back.

As you might expect, the toddlers had spent those five minutes getting into things—trying different blocks on the machines and seeing what happened. Then the experimenter gave the children the test with the orange L-shaped machine.

Had they taught themselves the rules? Yes, the toddlers had learned the abstract color or shape rules equally well just by playing on their own.

It is difficult to systematically study something as unpredictable as play. Telling children in a lab to play seems to turn play into work. But clever studies like the one in *Developmental Psychology* are starting to show scientifically that children really do learn through play.

The inspirational sayings about play you find on the internet—"play is the work of childhood" or "play is the best form of research," for example—are just truisms. They may actually be truths.



Pressure to make preschools more like schools.

Illustrations by Tomasz Walenta



THEY WERE

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l competitions and an Olympic title.

The captains on my list didn't

REVIEW



The Opening of The Liberal Mind

Affirmative action for the study of conservative ideas

BY MICHAEL S. ROTH

THERE IS no denying the left-leaning political bias on American college campuses. As data from UCLA's Higher Education Institute show, the professoriate has moved considerably leftward since the late 1980s, especially in the arts and humanities. In New England, where my own university is located, liberal professors outnumber their conservative colleagues by a ratio of 28:1.

How does this bias affect the education we offer? I'd like to think that we left-leaning professors are able to teach the works of conservative thinkers with the same seriousness and attention that we devote to works on our own side of the political spectrum—but do we?

It is hard to be optimistic about this challenge in the wake of recent episodes of campus intolerance for views on the right. Would-be social-justice warriors at Middlebury College transformed the mild-mannered political scientist Charles Murray into a free-speech hero, and campus appearances by the Manhattan Institute's Heather Mac Donald and the right-wing provocateur Ann Coulter have been handled badly, turning both women into media martyrs.

Most colleges, of course, host controversial speakers without incident and without much media coverage. In March, for instance, Franklin &

Marshall College gave a platform to the Danish editor who published cartoons mocking the Prophet Muhammad. There were protests and arguments but no attempt to silence the speaker.

Academics worried about attacks on free speech have felt the need to respond, and they have articulated sound principles. Princeton professors Robert P. George and Cornel West recently attracted lots of supporters for a statement underscoring that "all of us should seek respectfully to engage with people who challenge our views" and that "we should oppose efforts to silence those with whom we disagree—especially on college and university campuses."

The issue, however, isn't whether the occasional conservative, libertarian or religious speaker gets a chance to speak. That is tolerance, an appeal to civility and fairness, but it doesn't take us far enough. To create deeper intellectual and political diversity, we need an affirmative-action program for the full range of conservative ideas and traditions, because on too many of our campuses they seldom get the sustained, scholarly attention that they deserve.

Such an effort can take many different forms. In 2013, Wesleyan decided to join Vas-

sar College in working with the Posse Foundation to bring cohorts of military veterans to campus on full scholarships. These students with military backgrounds are older than our other undergraduates and have very different life experiences; more of them also hold conservative political views.

One notable episode illustrates how this program has contributed to broadening discussion on campus. A student named Bryan Stascavage, who had served almost six years as a U.S. Army military intelligence analyst in Iraq and Haiti, came to Wesleyan to study social sciences. In the fall of 2015, he published an op-ed in the student newspaper questioning the Black Lives Matter movement, which enjoys widespread support here. He asked whether the protests were "actually achieving anything positive" because of the damage done by the extremists in their ranks.

Trying to understand the logic of someone else's arguments is a core skill that schools should be paying more attention to, and it doesn't always require elaborate new programs. The group Heterodox Academy, which includes faculty from many universities and from across the political spectrum, has recently launched the "Viewpoint Diversity Experience," an online effort to combat "the destructive power of ideological tribalism." The aim is "to prepare students for democratic citizenship and success in the politically diverse workplaces they will soon inhabit."

Such efforts are sorely needed, but they can succeed only if we do a better job of bringing underrepresented points of view into the mix. Simply relying on the marketplace of ideas isn't enough. We need an affirmative-action program for conservative, libertarian and religious modes of thinking.

As someone who identifies with the political left, I welcome this intellectual diversity—and as a teacher, I know that education requires it. If you are on the right, you might call this a remedy for political correctness; if you are on the left, you might prefer to call it the "new intersectionality." Whatever the label, the result will be a fuller, more meaningful educational experience for everyone.

Mr. Roth is the president of Wesleyan University. His most recent book is "Beyond the University: Why Liberal Education Matters."

At Wesleyan, a welcome for the military and a range of new courses.

THE PROM: A SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR PARENTS

BY ROB LAZEBNIK

CONGRATULATIONS. You've successfully steered your child's emotional journey through high school. She's graduating and will soon head to her fourth-choice college, which you artfully convinced her is the "right fit" (go Mud Hawks!). But before you relax, you need to steel yourself for the final high-school land mine: It lies ahead at the Hilton Sycamore Ballroom III and is called senior prom. Having guided three of my children so far through this tumultuous event, I have some advice to stave off heartbreak, embarrassment and decades of painful memories—for you, and for your kid.

Prom has evolved since I went to mine in the 1980s, the theme of which was, truly, "Memories. Times you'll never forget...Still." Why "Still?" Because it was our song of the night, by the Commodores. If my date had been in charge, it would have been "Don't Stand So Close to Me."

Which brings us to your kid finding someone to ask to the prom. Strangely, this effort still falls entirely on the quaking shoulders of boys. If your son doesn't have a significant other, asking someone to the dance is just as hellish as ever.

Your son doesn't want to be reminded by you that he is nowhere near having a date. Your task here is so obvious that I probably don't need to say it: You need to create a spreadsheet to track his Instagram likes from girls in order to identify a likely candidate. Then, if you have a daughter, have her quietly reach out on Snapchat to the girlfriends of the potential askee to ensure a golden ticket: the pre-cooked yes.

If this fails, you're going to have to collude with other parents. This is fraught with danger. If your son gets wind of your soliciting for him,

he'll be so angry he might run out and pierce things you didn't know could be pierced.

Once you've sussed out information about other lonely-hearts, set your trap: "Brandon, I heard lots of kids don't have prom plans yet, like Luke, James, Amanda..." There she is—Amanda! A little treasure chest for him at the bottom of the aquarium tank. Now, quick, change the subject: "Anyway, can you believe the Eagles were able to draft Donnel Pumphrey in the fourth round? Incredible no one else had taken him yet." You dog—you didn't really change the subject at all. You linked Amanda to Donnel Pumphrey. Late drafts—steals! If he doesn't ask her right away, Amanda is going to get grabbed by

Brandon, the Dallas Cowboys of the prom!

Now that he's taken the bait, be careful that he doesn't rush out a promposal. There's nothing more scarring than the elaborately staged public promposal that lands a "sure," followed by the dreaded, eyes-darting talk in the parking lot where she politely rescinds her yes. The subtext is: "You put me on the spot in front of 20 sort-of friends who actually looked up from their phones for the whole thing, and I was too nice to humiliate you then. So I'm doing it now, and please don't touch my Honda Fit."

The upshot: Make sure your kid gets a private yes first. Otherwise, for the rest of his life, whenever he sees any kind of Honda, he'll replay that



conversation, drowning out crucial talks you've had with him such as: "Sometimes, the only part of the shirt you need to iron is the collar."

Now that your kid has his date, it's time for an epiphany: You're in the wrong business. You should quit your job and rent out formal wear or limos, because you're about to shell out more for those items than it would have cost to book the Commodores for your prom.

Also, don't forget to preorder the boutonniere or corsage. God forbid your son's date doesn't have a \$40 orchid strapped to her wrist that will be flung into the punch bowl during the first chorus of "Party in the U.S.A."

Finally, meet the two scariest words in modern parenting: after party. Typically, they are arranged by entrepreneurial kids who will eventually go into concert promotion or minimum-security prison. The events are often held at an event space that prohibits underage drinking and where there will be nothing but underage drinking. Every soon-to-be-killed brain cell in your teen's head will be focused on how to sneak alcohol into the party. Obviously, you'll want to load her up with lots of cautionary tales about kids passing out and waking up missing a kidney, or worse, their favorite earbuds. And encourage your kid to make smart choices. For instance: Should she throw up on the street or in the Uber? Push the street, because there's a \$200 cleaning fee for the Uber.

With your help and some luck, your child will emerge from the prom emotionally unscathed, and learn the important lesson that memories are times that are nice to forget. Still. Just like when we were young.

Mr. Lazebnik is a writer for "The Simpsons."

REVIEW

WORD ON THE STREET: BEN ZIMMER

'Fulsome' Is So Very Full Of Meaning

IT HAS BEEN a fulsome week on Capitol Hill.

On Monday, former acting Attorney General Sally Yates testified before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee investigating Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. "I intend my answers today to be as fulsome and comprehensive as possible while respecting my legal and ethical boundaries," ran her opening statement.

Then on Tuesday evening, after news broke that President Donald Trump had fired FBI Director James Comey, Sen. Bob Corker (R., Tenn.) released this statement: "It is essential that ongoing investigations are fulsome and free of political interference until their completion."

The way that Ms. Yates and Mr. Corker used "fulsome," to mean "very full" or "complete," raised some eyebrows among usage sticklers, who have long decried what they see as improper applications of the word. When Ms. Yates said "fulsome," Bryan Garner, editor of "Garner's Modern English Usage," responded on Twitter, "Oh dear."

Mr. Garner recommends that "fulsome" be used only in its "traditional, disparaging sense," meaning "excessively lavish" or "offensive to good taste." Thus, "fulsome praise" should be understood as praise that is insincerely flattering, rather than simply abundant.

While what Mr. Garner calls the "loose usage" of "fulsome" has been on the increase in recent decades, it is in fact something of a revival of the word's original meaning. When "fulsome" first entered the language in the 13th century, it meant "copious, plentiful," etymologically linked to the word "full."

But that positive meaning underwent a peculiar historical transformation. By around 1500, "fulsome" could mean "corpulent," "obnoxious" or "tedious." A century later, it continued its downward descent, into "sickening" or "excessively effusive." And there things stood, until the meaning started moving back to neutral or positive senses in the 20th century—no doubt influenced by the resemblance of "fulsome" to "full."

Linguists call a positive-to-negative semantic shift "pejoration," and the reverse process is "melioration." While many words have undergone such radical shifts ("nice" used to mean "stupid" or "timid," for instance), "fulsome" is re-

From 'copious' to 'obnoxious' and back again.

markable for its full pendulum swing from positive to negative and back again.

The dueling interpretations can lead to ambiguity: Is "fulsome praise" a good or bad thing? Usually context will clarify the situation. When Secretary of State Rex Tillerson described a recent telephone call between Mr. Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin as "very fulsome," we can assume he meant the conversation was very detailed and not full of insincere flattery (though perhaps it was both).

Mr. Garner puts "fulsome" in the category of "skunked terms": words undergoing a shift in meaning. (Other examples include "effete," "enormity," "nonplussed" and "bewildered.") When a word has become "skunked," Mr. Garner advises, it is often best to avoid it, since either the old or the new usage is sure to bother someone.

But given its currency among the political class, the so-old-it's-new meaning of "fulsome" will no doubt continue to flourish in abundance.



EVERYDAY PHYSICS: HELEN CZERSKI

The Waterworks Inside Plants

MAY IS A FABULOUS TIME to be outside. The plant world is enthusiastically covering our gardens and fields with luxurious green architecture, soaking up the sun's energy and investing it in new supplies of biological building materials.

I live in the city, where plants don't take priority, so I make sure that I don't miss out on the spectacle by filling my balcony with potted plants: herbs, tomatoes, roses and blueberries. Biology takes care of most of the hard work by itself, but I make one essential contribution: water. And every time I get out the watering can, I'm astonished by the contrast between the simple act of pouring water onto soil and the sophistication of what the plant does with it.

A plant is just an engine for turning water and carbon dioxide into oxygen and sugars, a process known as photosynthesis. But even though this mechanism defines a plant, less than 1% of the water sucked up by the roots is used in this way. The other 99% forms a slow upward fountain that starts at the roots, flows up inside the stem and then evaporates from tiny holes on the leaves. This seems tremendously wasteful until you consider the benefit: access to carbon dioxide.

Those little holes on the leaves allow carbon dioxide in, but they also happen to let water out. During the day (when the holes, called stomata, are open), every plant we look at is sucking water upward through a thin fragile system of plumbing that ends at the leaves. This throughput of water is the sacrifice necessary to maintain the carbon-dioxide supply. But if it's just passing through, why is the loss of water so serious?

If I forget to water for a few days, the neglect is embarrassingly obvious to everyone.

The tomatoes go first, wilting and then dramatically flopping over, triggering immediate guilt. And while I'm rushing to make it up to them with liters of aqueous elixir, the real truth of a plant is evident:

The water isn't just flowing passively

through this beautiful green structure that happens to contain a photosynthesis factory. It's holding it up.

Plant cells are made of fairly squishy stuff, with very little rigidity. So the plant fills them with water, pushing the soft innards out against the elastic cell wall. Just as a car tire becomes hard when you fill it with air, the plant cells become robust little bricks when you fill them with water. A typical car tire might be filled to twice atmospheric pressure, but the pressure in a typical plant cell might be five or six atmospheres.

It's all about natural hydraulics. Take the water away from a small plant, and the structure flops over. This method has its limits, though—bigger plants grow a woody

reinforcement, a natural polymer called lignin, which takes over the structural support. That's why trees don't wilt.

This system of hydraulic architecture gives us a final twist in the tale. My plants seem fixed in shape, but they're not. At the base of some leaves, there's a small section of stem that can move the leaf around, either to close it at night or to track the sun. By pumping water out of the cells on the top side of this section (shrinking them) and into the cells on the underside (puffing them up), the plant can raise the leaf upward.

That hydraulic system allows plants to move in response to their surroundings. Sunflower buds, for instance, follow the sun across the sky using these little cellular pumps. The same system also opens and closes the stomata.

As a kid, I found watering plants a pretty dull chore. But as an adult, I find it endlessly fascinating because I love imagining where the water is going to go.

When you next see a little green shoot poking out from the sidewalk, spare it an extra thought. A plant isn't just a static green object. It's a little living factory, fueled, supported and moved by one molecule: water.

When we water our plants, where does it all go?

A low-cost way to make everyday objects touch-sensitive.

R&D: DANIEL AKST

Turn Anything Into a Touchpad

IMAGINE MOVING your finger down a wall to dim the lights. Or think of learning about the brain from an exact replica made of Jell-O; when you touch the occipital lobe, a computer tells you, "That's the visual processing center."

Humans respond to touch, so why shouldn't everything else? That spirit has led scientists at Carnegie Mellon University to develop a low-cost way of turning almost anything into a touchpad. Their research aims to overcome the expense and technical difficulties of imbuing irregularly shaped objects with touch functionality.

At the heart of their technology, which they have dubbed Electrick, is electric field tomography. This involves introducing a small electrical current onto a conductive surface. A touch to that surface can then be located based on distortions in the current.

To make an everyday object touch-sensitive, the Carnegie Mellon researchers start by coating it with a type of paint, film or other material that conducts electricity. Then they attach a series of electrodes around the edges, connect these to a cheap circuit board and introduce a tiny bit of voltage. The circuit board measures the voltage between the various pairs of wires, which varies based on their distance from one another. That yields a web of crisscrossing readings giving every location a kind of address.

A human touch to this surface disrupts the voltage slightly, and the circuit board can read these changes like coordinates on a map, pinpointing a finger's location to within a centimeter. That isn't precise enough for your smartphone, but it will let you perform countless everyday functions that can be controlled by rather broad gestures, including dimming lights, playing music or letting a device know whether or not you are touching it.

To make this happen, the circuit board communicates wirelessly with a computer or smartphone running software that lets users map different surface locations to different functions—and then signals a light switch (for example) to go on.

One virtue of the technology: It's flexible. The scientists made several irregularly shaped objects touch-sensitive simply by spraying them with a black, carbon-laden paint that can transmit a current. They have worked this magic on a sheet of drywall, a guitar, a Play-Doh sculpture and a steering wheel. They also created a smartphone case that launches functions, such as the camera, based on how you hold it. And they turned an office desk into a trackpad, assigning different zones on its surface to launch different applications on a wirelessly connected computer.

The technology is also cheap. The scientists found that they could make objects touch-sensitive using readily available products for less than \$1 a square foot. The circuit board and other hardware used in experiments ran about \$70 retail.

Electrick is still a long way from the marketplace, and it would have to compete with burgeoning voice-activated devices such as Amazon's Alexa. Dr. Harrison said that he can envision stores selling ready-made paints and modules embodying the technology, making it easy for do-it-yourselfers to swipe anywhere to do practically anything. Want to control your home thermostat by touching a part of the dining-room wall? No need to drill holes or run new wiring—just use your smartphone to fire up an app, tap a spot on the wall and assign that zone to be an invisible switch.

"*Electrick: Low-Cost Touch Sensing Using Electric Field Tomography*," Yang Zhang, Gerard Laput and Chris Harrison, *Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (May 8)

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



CHRISTIAN BRUNA/EUROPEAN PRESSPHOTO AGENCY

A Kiss to Remember

A survivor of Mauthausen, an Austrian Nazi concentration camp, kissed a U.S. service member on Sunday, marking the 72nd anniversary of the camp's liberation.

Answers To the News Quiz on page C13

1.D, 2.B, 3.B, 4.C, 5.C, 6.A, 7.B, 8.D

BOOKS

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* * * *

What Happened to Hemingway

A frank new life explores the flaws without explaining away the genius

Ernest Hemingway

By Mary V. Dearborn

Knopf, 738 pages, \$35

BY BLAKE BAILEY

ABOUT A QUARTER of the way through "Ernest Hemingway: A Biography," the reader encounters this: "At one point en route to Madrid occurred the incident of the dead dog, familiar to all readers of Hemingway biographies." Though I've read three or four of them, and any number of memoirs, I had no recollection of the dead dog in question. The next sentence was like a lifeline hint on "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?": "[Robert] McAlmon told the story in *Being Geniuses Together*." A little sheepishly I confess to having read that book, too—and not all that long ago—but I was still stumped. Suddenly I felt out of my depth, like the only guy at a Trekkie convention who can't remember the number of Lurry's space station in the "Trouble With Tribbles" episode.

So one interest of yet another Hemingway biography is to serve as a kind of parlor game: How much esoterica can a really hard-core fan remember offhand? Also, arguably, new biographies are needed every few years to keep up with the cottage industry. Aside from earlier door-stoppers by Carlos Baker, Jeffrey Meyers, Kenneth S. Lynn, James R. Mellow and of course the five-volume opus by Michael S. Reynolds—to name a few—there's an ever proliferating genre of books by or about people in Hemingway's orbit: his siblings, wives, sons, friends, flunkies et al. There's even a book devoted to his cats, and in her notes Mary V. Dearborn gives a shout-out to Carl Eby's "Hemingway's Fetishism": "the definitive account of his hair fetish." So we have Ms. Dearborn to thank for (among other things) sifting the pith of this vast shelf and bringing us up to date on whatever else is provided by newly discovered KGB and FBI files, medical records, and a cache of papers Hemingway left in Cuba when he fled the country in 1960.

His family, we know, was a source of lifelong strife. Between his redoubtable mother, Grace, and her doctor husband, Clarence ("Ed"), it's hard to say who was the bigger prig, at least where their older son's work is concerned. When Ernest published his first, groundbreaking collection of short stories, "In Our Time" (1925), Ed bleakly advised him to abjure the "brutal" and work a more "joyous, uplifting, and optimistic and spiritual" vein: "Remember God holds us each responsible to do our best." This to a man who was already well on his way to becoming the most influential prose stylist in American literature, whose subsequent novel, "The Sun Also Rises" (1926), dazzled readers on both sides of the Atlantic and filled his mother, as she put it, "with a sick loathing." His parents seemed to like him even



PROUD PAPA Hemingway the sportsman, 1945.

less as a human being. "Put on the armor of God and shun Evil companions," Ed admonished him when he divorced his first wife, Hadley, whereas Grace threw a curious curveball: "Most marriages ought to [end]," she wrote, confessing to "very modern and heretical views" on the subject. As it happened, her views had evolved more as a matter of self-interest than solidarity with the wayward Ernest, whose college money (he bitterly averred) had been blown on a cottage for Grace and the family au pair, Ruth Arnold, 19 years her junior; when her husband balked, Grace accused him of "petty jealousy with his wife's loyal girlfriend." A few years later, in 1928, the pious, long-suffering doctor shot himself, whereupon his widow sent Ernest the suicide weapon as a keepsake and, perhaps, a subtle warning.

"Gigi, we come from a strange tribe, you and I," said Hemingway when he caught his 12-year-old son trying on a pair of his mother's ny-

lons. Gigi—the nickname for Gregory (later Gloria)—came by his gender dysphoria honestly, a theme that's been given more and more emphasis in the later biographies. Both Kenneth Lynn and Ms. Dearborn make much of the fact that Grace liked to dress Ernest as the twin sister of his older sibling, Marcelline: "He was quite fearful before Christmas that Santa Claus would know he was a boy," Grace noted in her son's baby book.

Some might say that this was the least of Ernest's worries, given his mother's other vagaries, and hardly unconventional for the times, but it's still fun to consider in light of his über-macho image. As far back as 1933, Max Eastman famously accused Hemingway of wearing false hair on the chest," 53 years before the posthumous publication of "The Garden of Eden," Hemingway's novel about a writer named David who takes his wife's name, Catherine, in bed, while she becomes Peter—the same nom

d'amour, as it happened, that Hemingway's fourth wife, Mary, used. "She loves me to be her girls," Ernest scribbled in his wife's diary, "which I love to be." At one point she had to dissuade her husband, tactfully as ever, from wearing earrings.

Readers of Hemingway biographies may not remember that dead dog en route to Madrid, but it's hard to forget the misery that Hemingway inflicted on Mary/Pete, who held on for dear life and later got her own back by publishing, against her late husband's wishes, unfinished (and mortifying) work such as "The Garden of Eden." As Hemingway's previous wife, Martha Gellhorn, pointed out: "A man must be a very great genius to make up for being such a loathsome human being." This is true, and it's always worthwhile to explore (on ever accumulating evidence) what makes a genius tick, even if tabulating his flaws can get to be a slog in Hemingway's case.

Ms. Dearborn does not shrink

from the task. Once again we see how Hemingway built his career on the bodies of betrayed friends: He turned Harold Loeb (an otherwise forgotten novelist) into the "clueless, pitiable" Robert Cohn in "The Sun Also Rises," an anti-Semitic portrait ranking with Sammy Glick and Shylock; he repaid Sherwood Anderson's generosity by writing a mean-spirited parody of the man's novel "Dark Laughter," then submitting it to Anderson's own publisher. Ms. Dearborn rightly observes that Hemingway's posthumous memoir, "A Moveable Feast" (1964), was conceived with "a very complicated agenda and numerous scores to set-

In his memoirs, Hemingway returned critical kindness with ingenious cruelty.

tle." It's hard to say, when reading the book, which bothered Hemingway more, cruelty or kindness: Wyndham Lewis once wrote a vicious review of his work and hence is likened to "toe-jam"; Ford Madox Ford sang his praises again and again and hence is depicted as a lumbering, self-important bore whose mouth-breathing fouls the air. And so on. The greatest kindness earned the most ingenious revenge: Among other good turns, F. Scott Fitzgerald improved—"salvaged" is not too strong a word—"The Sun Also Rises" by persuading its author to cut the first 16 pages, marred by "elephantine facetiousness" and general amateurishness. Hemingway, in turn, rarely missed a chance to malign his old friend, culminating in the demolition of "A Moveable Feast." As Ms. Dearborn begins one chapter: "It was probably inevitable that Hemingway would talk one day about the size of Scott Fitzgerald's penis."

Ms. Dearborn's book is not especially disparaging relative to other biographies—to her credit, she seems content to marshal the evidence pro and con, and there is a superabundance of both: If you stuck around him long enough, Hemingway would all but surely louse you up, but in the meantime he was often the best company in the world. By 1936, Fitzgerald had few illusions about his fellow novelist—whom he aptly characterized as "a punch-drunk pug fighting himself in the movies"—but remained so devoted withal that he could hardly bear to see the man hurt in any way. Indeed, almost anyone who'd known the younger Hemingway ("strong, full of laughter," observed the hapless Sherwood Anderson) was likely in later years to give him the benefit of the doubt, even or especially his first wife, Hadley, who had more reason than most to feel bitter. The later wives were less charitable.

Please turn to page C6

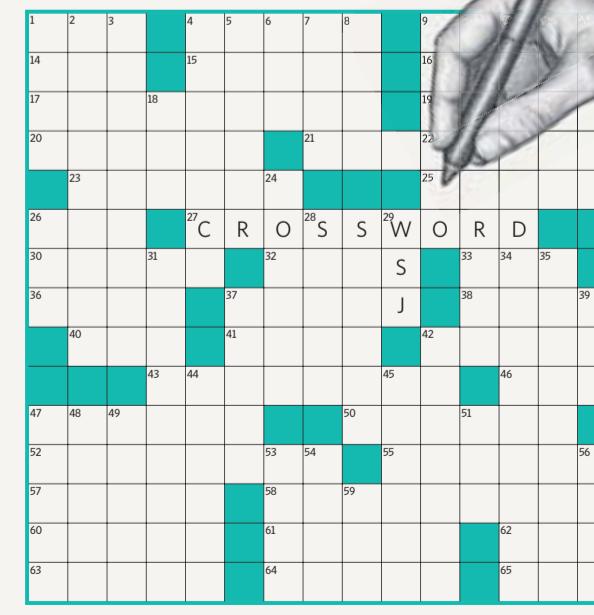
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Read ambitiously

BOOKS

'Mankind's tragedy [is] that it can draw the blueprints of goodness but it cannot live up to them.' —Barbara W. Tuchman

A Union of More Perfect Souls

Man's Better Angels

By Philip F. Gura

Harvard, 315 pages, \$29.95

BY CAROL BUNDY

IN THE SPRING of 1837, the tumbling price of cotton sparked a banking crisis that caused one of the worst "busts" in the 20-year cycles that characterized the American economy in the 19th century. By the end of 1837, 90% of the factories in the Eastern states had closed. Fifty thousand laborers in New York City were out of work, and 200,000 more were without adequate funds. "Some died of starvation," Horace Greeley explained. "Some were frozen to death. Many, through exposure and privation, contracted fatal diseases."

In "Man's Better Angels: Romantic Reformers and the Coming of the Civil War," Philip F. Gura, an intellectual and cultural historian at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, brilliantly connects the harsh privation of the 1837 depression to the intellectual and spiritual reform movements that emerged in the 1840s and '50s. He does so by offering us seven roughly sequential portraits of American reformers in which he tethers their idealism to real suffering and their very tangible awareness of the ways their community had failed its members.

Linking the cultural and intellectual ferment in the 1840s to the economic failure of 1837 is particularly appropriate at a time when only the oldest Americans can remember pre-New Deal America. Softened by Social Security, Medicaid and the various federal handouts that are now on the chopping block, contemporary Americans can barely imagine how an old-fashioned depression smacked people sideways with bankruptcies, penury, displacement and biting shame. "The land stinks with suicide," wrote Ralph Waldo Emerson in 1837; "society has played out its last stake; it is checkmated. The present generation is bankrupt of principles & hope, as of property."

Even as Mr. Gura's political reformers were drawn to cooperative living and the French socialism of Charles Fourier and others, they filtered these influences through an intense individualism that looked to a Romantic, Wordsworthian belief in man's innate goodness. Society's reform, they believed, would come from the power of collective individual perfection. Mr. Gura's first three reformers all strove to find a way to mitigate or restrain the ruthlessness of capitalism.

George Ripley, objecting to how "unchecked capitalism . . . stunted the practical realization of . . . America's democratic promise," was the founder of Transcendentalism's cooperative Brook Farm, whose residents, he hoped, would achieve inner perfectibility and in this way realize "that living in the spirit trumped a good rate of interest on their investment," as Mr. Gura puts it. Horace Greeley, a



COLLECTION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
COMMUNAL UTOPIA 'Brook Farm With Rainbow' (1845) by Josiah Wolcott.

vegetarian exponent of personal moral purity as practiced by the dietary reformer Sylvester Graham, advocated a kind of sanitized, Americanized Fourierism that morphed into the liberal end of the Whig Party, which sought a society "in which all at different ranks had what they wished without crushing the aspirations of those below them." William Greene, a high-minded man of "radically egalitarian Christian humanism," wanted to create "mutual banks" whose purpose was "not to seek profit off of investors but to decrease the interest rate on the medium of exchange, making more money available and causing wages to rise."

Mr. Gura's next two portraits address the appeal of pseudo-science and feel-good medicine as a means of regaining a sense of personal autonomy. Orson Fowler and his brother became the great American popularizers of phrenology, reading the head's peculiar lumps and bumps as a means of establishing "character." After the 1837 panic, Mr. Gura writes, many Americans were "eager to know how and why their fortunes had been so readily lost" and assumed that "personal character flaws were the chief contributing factors." Phrenology promised to identify them.

Mary Gove and her husband Thomas Nichols believed "individuals are sick, communities are sick, nations are sick. . . . All must be cured." Mary wrote and lectured on anatomy and other topics that would empower women to understand and control their bodies. Nichols advocated a broader range of treatments using hydrotherapy, massage, diet, free love and spiritualism, particularly communi-

nating with the afterlife. Mr. Gura shows how this preoccupation with the physical self and its psychic sicknesses became, by the late 1850s, a dead end of self-involvement as the nation careered toward war.

Antebellum Romantics
pledged to cure a 'sick'
America, one aching
heart at a time.

Mr. Gura's last two biographies offer a contrasting mediation of individual and society. His Thoreau leaves Walden Pond to become one of the most insightful interpreters of the relationship between the individual and his society. Spurred by the Mexican War, which was deeply unpopular in New England, where it was seen as a bid to expand slavery, Thoreau pens "Civil Disobedience." "For him," Mr. Gura writes, "the answer was individual disengagement from any of the state's immoral policies"—not active participation in larger movements. John Brown's experience of multiple bankruptcies, career reinventions, false starts, new beginnings and skin-of-the-teeth existence exhausted his hope of individual salvation and redirected him to become the deliverer of "God's law to earth." Brown's message of a purifying abolitionism unafraid of violence gained followers who believed he spoke truth to power. "John Brown's career for the last six weeks of his life was meteor-like, flashing through the darkness in which we live," explained Thoreau, who recognized

Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry as an "apparent failure" but believed Brown had gone "behind the human law . . . and recognized eternal justice and glory." Thus was Brown raised by Thoreau and the anti-slavery movement above other reformers preaching perfectibility and "canonized."

For Mr. Gura, Brown represents the end of this particular line of reform. It isn't just that Brown is the last gasp before the inexorable downturn into war but rather that the war literally killed off a generation of idealists. Faith in man's better angels took a beating in four bloody years of war. And while no American emerged of Machiavellian cynicism, peace ushered in an emotionally exhausted and deeply pragmatic new America. Thenceforward the old idealists and their protégés in the next generation eschewed high-minded philosophies and redirected their reforming spirit to the legal and political measures required to tackle Tammany Hall and its equivalents, or to preparing laws to protect laboring women and children, to bring a modicum of safety to the workplace, or the establishment of prison visiting committees. Franklin Sanborn, once an associate of Thoreau and a member of John Brown's Secret Six conspirators, ended his days as the Massachusetts state inspector of charities. This is a good thing, according to Mr. Gura, who ruefully judges the earlier era to have had a "misguided faith in human nature."

Ms. Bundy is the author of "The Nature of Sacrifice: A Biography of Charles Russell Lowell, Jr., 1835-64."

A Life Of E.H.

Continued from page C5

Martha Gellhorn remained a tireless detractor throughout her long life, and she serves Ms. Dearborn well when a withering *aperçu* is due: "He has the excessive need to be loved by everyone," Gellhorn noted in one instance, "though in fact he didn't give a fart for them."

What makes this book seem a little relentless, at times, is its insistent focus on the flawed human being rather than his achievement. Sometimes, to be sure, it's enough to let simple plot summary serve as critique. Take Hemingway's worst novel, "Across the River and Into the Trees" (1950), in which the hero, Cantwell, and his much-younger lover, Renata, "talk through several meals at the Gritti," as Ms. Dearborn summarizes, "Hemingway describing in great detail Cantwell's friendship with the head-waiter. Cantwell talks at length to Renata (who periodically reassures him that yes, she is still listening) about his war experiences"—etc. That's pretty much how I remember it, too. On the other hand, Ms. Dearborn does her subject a disservice by using blurb-words and little else to convey the excellence of his best work, as in "lean, evocative, vivid," which might as well describe a moldy piece of Canadian bacon. As for her use of cliché—well, she's not as bad as some, but it's all the more jarring given her lucidity elsewhere. I flinched when I read that certain of Hemingway's stories "give the impression of having been phoned in, as it were," and wondered whether the author was pulling my leg when she went beyond "as it were" to mitigate or explain some hackneyed phrase: "He seemed to need to bite the hand that fed him—or, more precisely, to hurt anyone who had helped him in any way."

But, I repeat, Ms. Dearborn does a good job of synthesizing an enormous amount of material, old and new, and I feel more or less caught up with the state of Hemingway studies circa 2017. That said, I'm bound to admit that I don't see what all the new medical records and Cuban papers add, essentially, to a sad and often-told tale. As a factor in Hemingway's decline, the manifold effects of the hypertension drug reserpine, say, seem a little irrelevant next to a lifetime of alcoholism and head injuries and bipolar illness and hard work and bad behavior. What remains is the mystery of his genius—and, yes, a sweetness that Hemingway never quite lost amid all his noisy fame. Visiting the great man very near the end, the critic Leslie Fiedler found a hollow wreck who could hardly string two sentences together; yet Fiedler was most arrested by the man's parting smile, "bared in all the ceremonious innocence of a boy's grin. He was suddenly, beautifully, twelve years old."

Mr. Bailey, the author of "Cheever: A Life" and "A Tragic Honesty: The Life and Work of Richard Yates," is writing a biography of Philip Roth.

New York's Earliest

Law & Disorder

By Bruce Chadwick

Thomas Dunne, 368 pages, \$28.99

BY RICHARD SNOW

NEW YORK HAS always been an unruly town. But never more so, Bruce Chadwick argues in "Law & Disorder"—his study of the genesis of the city's modern police force—than in the first decades of the 19th century.

The terrible draft riots of 1863 still have a dim hold on the national memory, but there had been plenty of precedents. New Yorkers called 1834 "the riot year" because the city seethed with mob violence against churches, the Irish, blacks and abolitionists. Every election day came accompanied by a fracas. The indefatigable New York diarist George Templeton Strong wrote in 1844: "One can't look out of his window without the risk of being knocked down by some stray bullet or other that was intended for somebody else entirely, or fired on speculation without meaning anything against anybody in particular." Philip Hone, mayor and man about town, said that "on the slightest provocation, knives are brought out, dreadful wounds inflicted and sometimes horrid murder committed. The watchmen and police offi-

cers are intimidated by the frequency of these riots and the strength of the offenders."

Those watchmen were members of the New York constabulary, a relic of the old Dutch city. With little supervision and less pay, and armed only with nightsticks, they were not eager to put themselves at risk. As early as 1757 the New-York Gazette complained that they were a "parcel of idle, drinking, vigilant snorers, who never quelled any nocturnal tu-

mult in their lives . . . but would, perhaps, be as willing to join in a burglary as any thief in Christendom." This last claim still held true 80 years later, when their role in solving burglaries was usually that of a fence: They made arrangements with the thieves to return property to its owner and split the reward with the miscreants.

People were scared. The supposedly indomitable Davy Crockett said after a brief visit to the city in 1835, "I thought I would rather risk myself in an Indian fight than venture

among those creatures after night."

The riots were the most visible sign of a seemingly eternal crime wave, but even residents not directly affected by them had a growing perception of lawlessness, a fear Mr. Chadwick traces in part to the new penny press. Previously newspapers had cost five cents and were relatively sedate. The publisher James Gordon Bennett changed that with

his Herald, founded in 1835; it sold for a single cent. Starting with a cascade of lubricious articles about the murder of a high-class prostitute named Helen Jewett, he went on to fill his pages with killings, thefts and other outrages.

So the pressure grew to establish an effective police force. In the 1830s, Mayor Cornelius Lawrence

failed to establish a solid, paid organization, but he did form the nation's first detective unit—although its 92 members had no training whatever. Mayor William Havemeyer had better luck a decade later, shepherding the NYPD into life in 1845. It was Havemeyer who originated the phrase "New York's Finest."

"They may not have yet been New York's Finest," Mr. Chadwick admits, "but they were certainly New York's Toughest." One captain said that "there is no remedy for insulting language but personal chastisement." This elegantly turned phrase meant: Beat the hell out of anybody who gives you lip. They did and began to bring order to the city. Each man wore a copper star; at first citizens called them the "star police," which gave way to "coppers" and then, and forever, to "cops."

Much friction lay ahead, including an all-cop riot in 1857, when the New York Municipal Police Force and the Metropolitan Police, a creature suddenly foisted upon the city by the state legislature, failed to get along. But in time these molten alloys cooled into the professional organization we have today.

Mr. Chadwick is an enthusiastic researcher and offers perhaps a surfeit of descriptions about the squalor and splendor that lived cheek by jowl in the growing metropolis. There are also grating anachro-

nisms: He has robbers dynamiting safes and plundering cash registers during the 1850s, when neither the explosive nor the machine existed. Some passages required fuller explanation. Credulously quoting the memoir of a 19th-century police officer, Mr. Chadwick would have us believe that in the 1840s a high-spirited hooligan "lassoed [a watch house] with a stout rope, and with the aid of companions dragged it down Broadway, while the watchman inside yelled loudly for help." Two paragraphs later, it turns out watch houses "were one-story, two-room houses, 28' by 18', with two fireplaces and several windows." That's some feat of dragging.

Still, Mr. Chadwick has a tangy, colorful story to tell, and it was worth the price of admission for this New Yorker to learn about a small phenomenon I've noticed all my life and never before given a thought to. In the mid-1860s, a constable walking his beat at night carried a green lantern to identify himself and, between patrols, hung it outside his watch house. To this day, many New York City precinct houses have a green light glowing by the entrance.

Mr. Snow is the author, most recently, of "Iron Dawn: The Monitor, the Merrimack, and the Civil War Sea Battle That Changed History."



his Herald, founded in 1835; it sold for a single cent. Starting with a cascade of lubricious articles about the murder of a high-class prostitute named Helen Jewett, he went on to fill his pages with killings, thefts and other outrages.

So the pressure grew to establish an effective police force. In the 1830s, Mayor Cornelius Lawrence

BOOKS

'The wolf exerts a powerful influence on the human imagination. It takes your stare and turns it back on you.' —Barry Lopez

The Wolf Returns to the West

Wolf Nation

By Brenda Peterson

Da Capo, 292 pages, \$27

BY PAT SHIPMAN

A NUMBER OF YEARS ago, on a gorgeous sunlit day, I was privileged to see the most famous wolf of the Greater Yellowstone region—a strong, smart and formidable female known as 06 (a reference to her birth year). This wolf's achievement of forming a pack and leading it into an area that had not been inhabited by her kind since the 1920s has been among the high-water marks in the extraordinarily successful return of wolves to that territory. It also has earned her a fan club like that of a rock star.

I was able to see 06 because a guide told me that a bison had been killed in the valley the day before. At dawn, the wolf and her pack commanded the carcass, chasing and killing a lone wolf from Mollie's Pack, a rival group that held the adjacent territory. By the time I arrived, 06's pack had bulging tummies and an air of strutting victory. The adults napped in the sun while youngsters bounced with well-fed glee. Within an hour, another intruder from Mollie's Pack ventured in; 06 sensed a presence, boldly led her pack back to the carcass, and then began a breathtaking pursuit.

The intruder ran for his (or her) life but was too slow. The pack caught the wolf in a spot shielded from my view by bushes, but I saw each member of 06's pack leap into the fray. Fur and body parts flew; the intruding wolf never came out from behind the bushes. Not long after, a large grizzly bear wandered over to challenge 06 and her pack for ownership of the bison. After a brief scuffle, the wolves abandoned the carcass and returned to the riverbank. The entire event was one of the most electrifying wildlife sightings of my life.

The story of how wolves like 06 came to reinhabit the American West is recounted in Brenda Peterson's instructive new book, "Wolf Nation"—as is the resulting war between conservationists and ranchers over the management and use of public lands. From the creation of Yellowstone in 1872, wolves had been hunted as "dangerous varmints" and they were deliberately exterminated there by 1926. But two decades ago, armed with a new appreciation of the crucial role of top predators in ecosystems, conservation scientists started reintroducing wolves to Yellowstone.



LUPINE GRACE Wolf 06, the alpha female of the Lamar Canyon pack in Yellowstone National Park, in 2010. She was shot and killed, legally, in 2012.

This remarkable effort began with a total of 31 wolves from two Canadian packs, which were released into the park in 1995 and 1996. By the time I got to see 06, there were 100 wolves in Yellowstone, a number considered to be the maximum the park could support. Studies have shown that wolves have had a transformative effect on the other members of the ecosystem, from trees and beavers and songbirds to grizzlies, elk and deer.

Ms. Peterson has ideal credentials to undertake such a project. A prolific author of books on wildlife, she grew up in a small U.S. Forest Service cabin located in the Sierra Nevada. Her father was a wildlife manager. Living in the wilderness, she developed an intimate understanding of predators, prey and ecosystems. In "Wolf Nation" she shares what she knows about wolves and the management of wildlife on public lands. She describes key meetings of ecologists and conservationists as well as demonstrations of anti-wolf rage by ranchers, trappers and hunters reacting to the dangers brought into their region by wild wolves.

Ranchers, for instance, want their families and livestock to be safe. They want to protect their lifestyles, too—and who wouldn't, considering the sizable subsidy that they enjoy, graz-

ing on public lands at small cost? In short, to many Western ranchers it seems more logical to shoot wolves rather than to change their own ways in order to coexist with the animals.

Yet, as Ms. Peterson observes, public lands belong to all of us, not simply to those who make a living off them. Data also suggests that eliminating wolves or entire packs doesn't reduce the rate at which livestock are set upon by predators; eliminating a top predator may in fact increase overall predation. As conservationists and ranchers learn to listen to one another, nonlethal methods of managing wolves are slowly being adopted, including wiser placement of grazing paddocks (farther away from wolf dens) and more range riders (hired to reduce conflict where predators and livestock overlap). But no simple solution will satisfy all stakeholders.

Without doubt, Ms. Peterson has done her homework. Yet "Wolf Nation" is so wide-ranging that she fails to ever establish a strong narrative. Only in portraying the lives and tragedies of a few famous wolves does Ms. Peterson accomplish what I wish her entire book had done. Even these passages I found painful to read, because in most conflicts the wolves lose.

Most notably, she relates the tragic ending of 06. In 2012, during a harsh

winter when game was scarce, this matriarch was shot by a local hunter for the crime of being where she could be legally killed: just outside the boundaries of Yellowstone. Her un-

The female known as 06 led her pack into an area of Yellowstone not inhabited by wolves since the 1920s.

expected death made headlines across the country. Ms. Peterson also recounts the heartbreaking saga of a young male wolf, numbered OR7 (Oregon 7) but known as Journey, who was the first wild wolf to return to California in almost 100 years.

Journey was part of a dynasty founded by his large and impressive father, OR4. The pack led by OR4 lived in Oregon's Wallowa County, home to almost 50,000 beef and dairy cattle. To the ranchers grazing their livestock there, the presence of even 20 wolves from a single family seemed threatening, and the deaths of about 25 cattle over two years—far fewer than die of other causes, like bad weather—led local authorities to issue a kill order for OR4 in 2011.

Just days before this order came into effect, Journey left his natal pack looking for a mate, eventually traveling 1,200 miles alone, a risky trek for any wolf. (Because he was radio-collared, schoolchildren and teachers were able to follow his movements.) Eventually, near the California border about 500 miles away, Journey found a mate, a slender black wolf, and the two had pups.

In 2015, Oregon removed wolves from its endangered-species list, stripping them of protection by conservation laws. The next year OR4, together with his mate and their young pups, was harassed to exhaustion by a helicopter and shot from the air—a horrible fate for a wolf considered part of "the backbone of wolf recovery in Oregon," in the words of one well-known advocate. But Journey survived. The batteries in his radio collar have run out and he has so far eluded the attempts of wildlife officials to recapture and re-collar him. Occasional sightings have confirmed that Journey's family was still alive and producing pups, at least as of late last year. He remains a kind of folk hero.

Ms. Shipman is the author of "The Invaders: How Humans and Their Dogs Drove Neanderthals to Extinction."

The Clock Between Our Ears

Your Brain Is a Time Machine

By Dean Buonomano

Norton, 293 pages, \$26.95

BY CAROL TAVRIS

ARE YOU WASTING time right now, or enjoying free time? Having a good time today or, as usual, feeling you don't have enough time? Time—the concept, the word, the worry—is woven through our lives. Dean Buonomano, a professor of neurobiology and psychology at UCLA, starts his beautifully written, eloquently reasoned book "Your Brain Is a Time Machine: The Neuroscience and Physics of Time" by asking the reader what the five words on this list have in common: time, person, year, way and day.

Mr. Buonomano observes that most of us will strike out on two counts. First, by not knowing that these are the five most commonly used nouns in English, surpassing love, sex and dinner. Second, by not knowing that time is at the very top of the list. "Few questions are as perplexing and profound as those that relate to time," he says, and their answers have been sought by philosophers, physicists, neuroscientists, psychologists and, of course, science fiction writers. He quotes Saint Augustine's perfect summary of the problem: "What then is time? If no one asks me, I know what it is. If I wish to explain it to him who asks, I do not know." Mr. Buonomano sets out boldly to accomplish what Saint Augustine did not dare—to explain time in its infinite varieties.

We humans are surrounded by ever-fancier clocks, but the clocks inside our brains are far more intricate

and dazzling. In the first half of the book, "Brain Time," readers will learn about the internal clocks that regulate our circadian rhythms—sleep-wake cycles, hunger, body temperature, alertness—even in the absence of external cues. One chapter, on "The Sixth Sense," examines the mysteries of time compression and expansion (and how drugs, legal and otherwise, affect them) and even veers briefly into why timing is so crucial to telling a good joke. (The brain likes surprises. Sometimes.) The second part

future in the ways that humans can. As all scientific fields have matured, Mr. Buonomano explains, they reveal a "progressive embrace of time" at their core—and now the newest sciences, neuroscience and psychology, are doing the same. The study of time is not a single problem but a "set of interconnected problems relating to how the brain tells time, generates complex temporal patterns, con-

tinued to remember dates, keep time in dancing and induce punctuality. I can just hear the reaction of couples who quarrel over such matters: "If only it did."

Although Mr. Buonomano, being a neuroscientist, emphasizes his own field's contributions, his curiosity and knowledge range far afield. For example, he introduces two philosophic

based on memories of the past, to enhance our well-being in the future. But despite its intuitive appeal, presentism is the underdog theory in physics and philosophy.

The underdog! Who knew? With lucidity and flair—not to mention an appealing avoidance of the reductionism and exaggeration to which many pop-neuroscientists are prone—Mr. Buonomano takes us off and running on an edifying scientific journey. Answers are only as good as the questions we ask, and Mr. Buonomano's questions are engaging. Why does time appear to slow down when we are in life-threatening situations or boring meetings? Why is objective clock time often so different from our inner, subjective sense of time? Why didn't novelists begin to write about true time travel until the end of the 19th century? It took Einstein's theory of relativity in 1905 to shatter forever our intuitions about time, he explains, which is why throughout the 20th century physicists could study time travel without being laughed at by their colleagues. Physicists haven't yet shown that it is possible, but they haven't shown that it isn't, either.

For Mr. Buonomano, our brains are the best time machines we will ever own. They can do the most amazing things: remember the past; tell time; allow us to travel back and forth in time. "It will not be possible to understand the human mind," he observes, "without describing how the brain tells, represents, and conceptualizes time." His book takes us far along the trail of discoveries that are moving us to that ultimate destination. Will we get there? Foreseeing the future, I predict yes. Time will tell.

Ms. Tavris is coauthor, with Elliot Aronson, of "Mistakes Were Made (But Not by ME)."

Neuroscientists view past, present and future as fundamentally distinct. Physicists, however, don't.

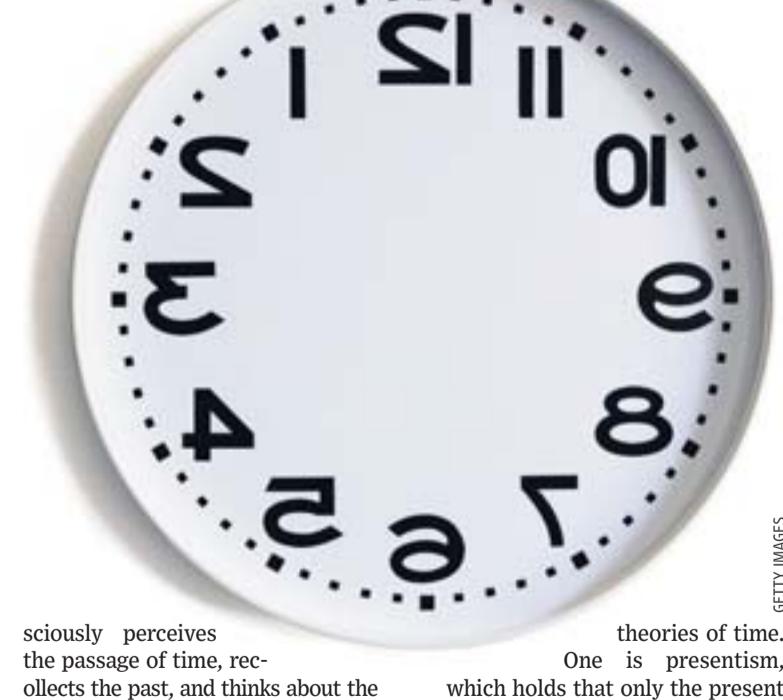
of the book, "The Physical and Mental Nature of Time," takes us into the nitty-gritty mysteries, including consciousness, our astonishing capacity to link our pasts to our futures.

Time is a concept, he argues, that is even more complicated than space. Space may come in three measurable dimensions and time in only one (that is, the moment we are in right now), but it is harder for the human brain to understand time than space, and he shows the reader why. "Time is a road without any bifurcations, intersections, exits, or turnarounds," he says, which may be why "there was relatively little evolutionary pressure for animals to map, represent, and understand time with the same fluency as space." Animals can remember past experiences in a basic way (don't go back to that dangerous place) and anticipate the future (lunch!), but they cannot comprehend past, present and

sciously perceives the passage of time, collects the past, and thinks about the future." Of all the times (ahem) that I have looked at phrenology charts, I never noticed, as Mr. Buonomano did, that "time" is one of the areas that phrenologists considered important; it's right above the eyes, between "tune" and "locality" and, charmingly, right below "mirthfulness." (Clearly the early phrenologists realized what later psychologists ignored: that time has a sense of humor.) This brain sec-

theories of time.

One is presentism, which holds that only the present is real—we can no more travel back in time than we could travel to a place that doesn't exist. The second is eternalism, which holds that past and future are equally real, making time a dimension that is similar to space. In practice, he says, "neuroscientists are implicitly presentists. They view the past, present, and future as fundamentally distinct, as the brain makes decisions in the present,



GETTY IMAGES

BOOKS

'We travel, some of us forever, to seek other states, other lives, other souls.' —Anaïs Nin

FICTION CHRONICLE: SAM SACKS

Fever Dreams

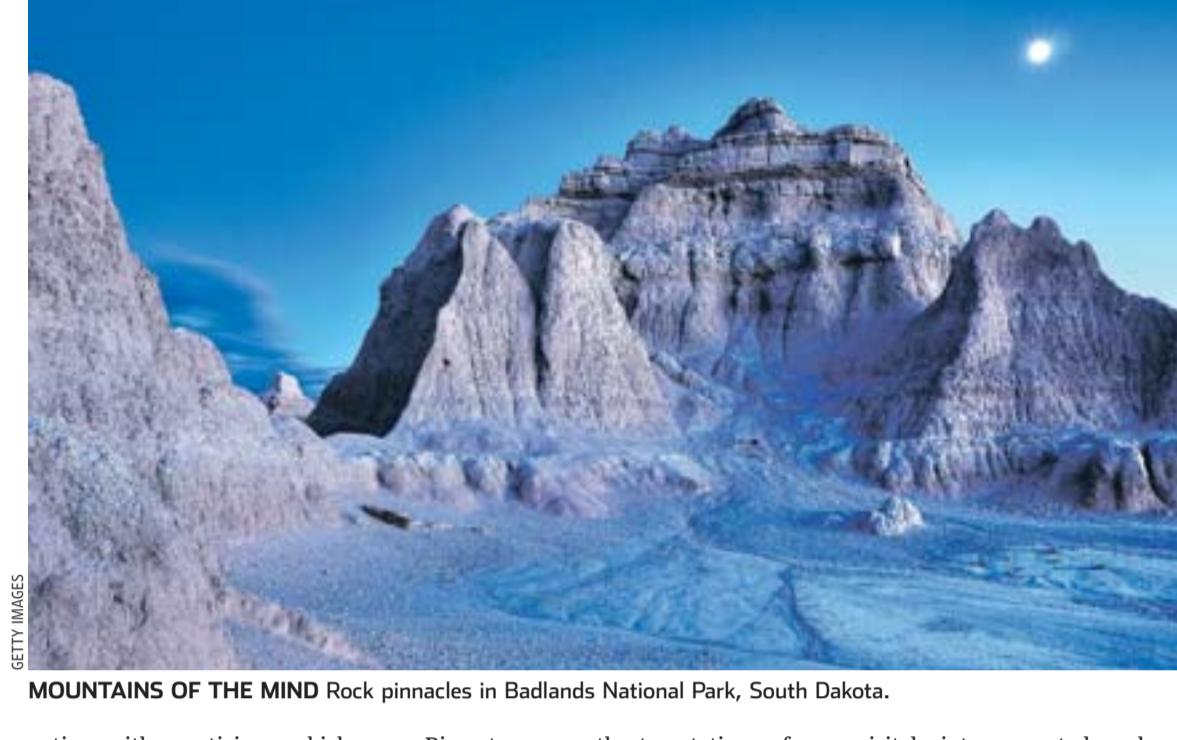
**MADISON SMARTT BELL** is one of those novelists who slip the net of classification. A native of Tennessee, he's sometimes labeled a Southern writer. But his bleak, anesthetized early books about drug-laced New York City, including "The Washington Square Ensemble" (1983) and "The Year of Silence" (1987), got him linked to "Brat Pack" authors Bret Easton Ellis and Jay McInerney. Upon publishing "All Souls' Rising" (1995), the opening volume of his acclaimed trilogy about the Haitian Revolution, he joined the first rank of historical novelists. And lately he's ventured into the American West, for "The Color of Night" (2011), a gooselimpbler about a former Manson cultist, and for his eerie and peculiar novel "Behind the Moon" (City Lights, 286 pages, \$21.95; \$15.95 paper).

This new work begins in the way of a straightforward thriller, when 17-year-old Julie Westover makes the unwise decision to go camping in Badlands National Park with a girlfriend and a couple of bad dudes on motorcycles. When she belatedly realizes the guys mean to drug and assault her, she flees across the desert, falling through a "slit portal" in the rocks and into a cave.

Then things get trippy. Through a leap in the narration, we know that Julie has been rescued and is comatose in a hospital bed. But something about the cave, whose walls are painted with ancient petroglyphs of bison and bears, has sent her into a fever dream in which she dons a bear pelt and communes with the spirits of a prehistoric tribe. "Time is not straight like a spear, but round like the moon," she discovers, "and inside the cave time went around and around in a dark spiral that included times of many many lives to come."

Mr. Bell's story blinks between Julie's animistic vision quest—it involves a confrontation with an "antlered beast-half-human"—and the real world. Back there, a group of friends, including a teenage crush named Jamal, a Native American shaman and Julie's estranged birth mother, are trying to re-create her experience in the cave and somehow help snap her out of the coma.

The odd proceedings give a taste—often an astringent one—of Mr. Bell's varied obsessions. He remains an unflinching chronicler of the primeval violence latent in civilization, whether that of early humans or our own. He depicts solitude with uncommon intensity—Julie's transformation in the cave provides the book's most memorable scenes. And he has a deep fasci-



MOUNTAINS OF THE MIND Rock pinnacles in Badlands National Park, South Dakota.

nation with mysticism, which revealed itself in the exploration of voodoo in the Haiti trilogy and of Gnosticism in the 1991 mystery novel "Doctor Sleep."

It's this last theme, however, that makes a muddle of "Behind the Moon." Mr. Bell clearly wants to illuminate an idea about the transmigration of souls and the occult connections to our ancient ancestors, but Julie's dream sequence is just too murky and confusing to make sense of. A story that begins with such edge and menace drifts into woolly pronouncements: "Things aren't always what they seem," says the shaman. "Or they are but then again they're not." This is not very helpful, and, ultimately, the novel stays submerged in shadow. Yet it adds something unexpected to a uniquely diverse body of work.

In the virtuosic first chapter of his novel "Broken River" (Graywolf, 276 pages, \$16), J. Robert Lennon introduces an invisible presence he calls the Observer. The Observer functions like an all-seeing camera eye, passionately registering the events of the human drama taking place before it. In the opening act of that drama it views a husband and wife being savagely murdered in the woods beside their house in upstate New York. As the years pass, like a time-lapse video, the Observer watches the house become the derelict haunt of drug addicts, go through a series of renovations and then finally become inhabited by a new family.

Karl is a sculptor and recidivist adulterer who, at the urging of his wife, has agreed to move to Broken

River to escape the temptations of Manhattan. She, Eleanor, is an overburdened writer of romantic best sellers, and their daughter, Irina, is a precociously perceptive 12-year-old whose train of thought is a bit too sophisticated to be quite believable.

A teenaged camper on an unbidden vision quest spirals uncontrollably down a funnel in time.

When Irina logs on to an internet message board called CyberSleuths to dig into the unsolved murders that took place on her family's property, she somehow knows enough to joke that it was "no doubt named when 'cyber' seemed like a forward-thinking prefix that everybody would be using in the future." But her precociousness motors the tale. Begun as a distraction from her dysfunctional parents, her amateur investigations catch the attention of the killers and move the novel inexorably toward a reprisal of the opening crime.

Along the way, something interesting happens to the Observer: It becomes sentient, and as it perceives "the gears of cause and effect locking together, increasing in rotational velocity," it grows curious about the fates of the characters. The conceit adds a layer of awareness to a skillful if otherwise conventional crime story. "Broken River" is a novel that watches as its own plot unfolds, wondering at the way that "everything is

exquisitely interconnected, malevolent, and dangerous."

Delphine de Vigan's "Based On a True Story" (Bloomsbury, 378 pages, \$28), translated from the French by George Miller, also places readers on deceptively familiar thriller terrain.

Following a book reading, the narrator, Delphine, an apparent double of the author, befriends a woman named L. who begins, by a "gradual process of enchantment," to take over her life. L. preys on Delphine's severe writer's block, making her emotionally dependent on her confidences and praise. Soon she is dressing like Delphine, sending emails from her account and ghost-writing an article she's too anxious to complete. Some of the novel's epigraphs come from Stephen King's "Misery," so it's hardly a surprise when the story eventually finds Delphine held captive at a remote country house, where L. spoon-feeds her broth laced with sleeping pills and rat poison.

But there's a fiendish wrinkle to this potboiler. Like Ms. Vigan, Delphine is the author of an acclaimed autobiographical novel about her mother's suicide. The book's success has created an expectation among her readers that her next work will, as L. puts it, "go further" into her private life: "They want what has been hidden, concealed." Dropped clues suggest that Delphine's account is less than reliable (none of her other friends have ever met L., for instance). Ms. Vigan develops a smart and subversive critique of the current craze for autobiographical fiction, asking just how much a novelist might be willing to invent to give herself something "real" to write about.

MYSTERIES: TOM NOLAN

Rewinding The Tape

**LIFE HAS NEVER** been easy for Rachel Childs, the harried protagonist of Dennis Lehane's endlessly surprising novel

"Since We Fell" (Ecco, 418 pages, \$27.99). Raised by a Massachusetts mother who wrote a self-help best seller but whose own worldview was bleak ("Happiness, her mother used to say, was an hourglass with a crack in it"), she is forbidden to see her father or even learn his last name. As an adult Rachel becomes a TV reporter, and in her spare time pursues her unknown sire up one dead-end and down another.

While covering a Haitian earthquake, she has an onscreen meltdown that ends her job and marriage, and leaves her prone to paralyzing panic attacks. "It's been a complicated decade for me," Rachel explains to Brian Delacroix, who'll become her second husband. Ever-patient Brian enables Rachel's baby-step efforts to conquer her fears of ordinary activities such as taking a cab or riding the subway, and encourages her to write a book.

The life of a Boston TV journalist gets turned inside-out in Dennis Lehane's twisty new novel.

Without warning, Rachel's hard-won equanimity is destroyed by indications that her husband is other than he seems. Is Brian leading a double life? Seeing another woman during his frequent "business trips"? Rachel's probing leads to matters more disturbing than she could have imagined. Like her own work-in-progress, Mr. Lehane's twisty tale keeps changing, from personal-quest novel to psychological thriller to action thriller.

Stephen Hunter's irresistible book "G-Man" (Blue Rider, 447 pages, \$27) splits its attention between the present and 1934, when bank-robbers including John Dillinger and Baby Face Nelson captured the popular imagination. Striding across that era, in Mr. Hunter's vividly imagined saga, is the publicity-shy Charles Swager, an Arkansas sheriff commissioned by the nascent FBI to shut down the tommy-guns-wielding crew. Eighty years later his heroic but ill-documented achievements become of interest to his grandson, and in uncovering this history, Bob Lee Swagger draws the attention of some violent current-day crooks. Mr. Hunter invests both halves of his lively chronicle with cinematic flair.

The World Just off the Kitchen

The Maids

By Junichiro Tanizaki
New Directions, 176 pages, \$22.95

BY CHANDRAHAS CHOUDHURY

NOVELS, LIKE LIFE, tend not to take much notice of maids. In most novels domestics serve only to open and close doors, make meals or assist with the toilette of those who have attained true selfhood. At best, they might pass a message between lovers or stumble upon some conspiracy.

A return to the scene of 'The Makioka Sisters'—this time viewed through the eyes of the servants.

They are points in the plot—agents, not actors.

What a pleasure, then, to come across a story in which maids occupy center stage from beginning to end and are as clever and capricious as any bourgeois heroine. To many followers of Japanese fiction, the present writer included, Junichiro Tanizaki (1866-1945) is the greatest Japanese novelist of the 20th century, and "The Makioka Sisters" (1949)—his book about the familial and marital dilemmas of four sisters of an upper-class family, in which maids stand by in the shadows—the greatest Japanese novel.

But while at work on that book,

Tanizaki was also engrossed in translating a foundational work of Japanese literature, a book written by a woman on the far side of the millennium. "The Tale of Genji," a richly detailed story about the life of a sybaritic prince and his lovers in the imperial court of the Heian dynasty, was written by a lady-in-waiting, Murasaki Shikibu, at the turn of the 11th century. Some scholars call it the world's first novel.

The book's storyline—Genji's roving eye means he does not limit his attentions to women of blue blood alone—requires many detailed portraits of accomplished women in service, women much like Murasaki. And while it would be a stretch to call them maids, their example seems to have given Tanizaki—the rare male novelist more comfortable writing about women than men—the idea of re-presenting the bourgeois world of "The Makioka Sisters" from the point of view of the kitchen rather than the salon.

Published in 1963 and set in what was then the recent past, "The Maids" is Tanizaki's final novel. It is also—as Michael P. Cronin's translation, the first into English, shows—one of his best. Loosely organized but written with Tanizaki's usual narrative brio and sly intimacy, "The Maids" is an homage to the work of the humble in making a house a home.

In this case, the household is that of the elderly novelist Chikura Raikichi and his wife, Sanko. This prosperous couple own and rent a number

of homes in the Osaka-Kobe region, and deploy a retinue of maids across them like pawns on a chessboard, judging them by their housekeeping, cooking, account-keeping and general tractability, but also by their liveliness, conversational skills and aesthetic sensibility.

Without exception, the maids all come from the same region, Kansai, in

it the world's first novel.

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maids' congested quarters in the main house, a room off the kitchen "only four and a half mats in size," becomes a domestic subculture not just of class but of thought, feeling and memory. To understand these women as individuals, the narrator seems to be saying, we need to make the journey—the reverse of the one they themselves have made—to the place

where they come from.

"Raikichi," we are told, "liked to have a lot of maids around—he said it made the house bright and lively." But Tanizaki's lifelong focus on feminine allure and male erotic obsession, from early novels such as "Naomi" to the late masterpiece "Diary of a Mad Old Man," is here reprised in a subdued, autumnal key. Raikichi is clearly the aging sensualist, drinking in the freshness and innocence of youth to keep up his interest in the world.

But when sexual scandal finally erupts, there is no male hand in it. Two maids who have left Raikichi's for another household, Sayo and Setsu, are discovered by their new mistress in the throes of passion. It is society that is shocked by this, not the narrator, who in a heartrending detail gives us the two girls in their room, "seated in careful composure" and with their bags packed, waiting to receive notice.

Other maids, such as the beauteous Gin, make eyes at the tradesmen who visit the house and make use of the

family telephone to advance their amours. And some girls just fall in love with themselves. When the maid Koma is taken to a department store with a closed-circuit television setup, she is thrilled to see herself on TV, "and she [rides] the escalator again and again, watching herself." That Koma is not alone in her abundant self-regard becomes apparent when—in an allusion that works on many levels—we meet the maid Yuri, a great reader who owns "a complete set of Tanizaki's adaptation of 'The Tale of Genji.'

Tanizaki's focus on the pleasure and drama of everyday life is so all-encompassing that when the eruptions of history intrude—in the form of the second Sino-Japanese war and World War II—they ring, as desired, like pistol-shots at a party. As men are drafted into wartime service, many maids are sundered from potential husbands; others rush back home to help their aging parents.

But time has many gears. Even without these cataclysms, we come to see—Tanizaki is an insistently elegiac writer—that the world is always in flux. By the end of the story, we are in the 1960s; domestics now stay in service no longer than a year or two, and the very word "maids" has become archaic, replaced by "helpers." Tanizaki's great success is to make us see how it is not only the masters who mourn the passing of such a world, but also the old maids.

Mr. Choudhury is the author of the novel "Arzee the Dwarf" (2009). His second novel, "Clouds," will be published next year.



MASTER OF THE HOUSE Junichiro Tanizaki.

BOOKS

'Genius is no more than childhood recaptured at will.' —Charles Baudelaire

CHILDREN'S BOOKS: MEGHAN COX GURDON

Beauty and Weirdness


'I FEEL IT in me, like a woman having a baby, all that life churning on inside me," Maurice Sendak told an interviewer in 1976 of the new picture book he was contemplating. "It knows exactly what it is, only I don't know with my conscious mind what it is, but every day I get a little clue. My unconscious says, Maurice, listen, dum-dum, here's a word for you, see what you can make of it. And it throws it out, and I catch it: Oh, a word! Fantastic! Terrific! And then I do without for three days."

At the time, Sendak (1928-2012) had not got past the first seven lines of what would become "Outside Over There" (1981), the third and most disquieting (and least popular) book in an informal trilogy that includes "Where the Wild Things Are" (1963) and "In the Night Kitchen" (1970). His interviewer that day was Jonathan Cott, a writer for Rolling Stone who has returned to their conversations for "**There's a Mystery There**" (**Doubleday, 242 pages, \$30**), an exploration of Sendak's artistic imagination and struggle.

Upon his death, Sendak was eulogized in the press as the most important children's-book artist of the 20th century. His body of work compassed illustrations for more than 100 picture books and 16 books that he wrote himself and illustrated with pictures that could be rapturous, wrathful, tender, unsettling, surreal—or all of those things at once. Mr. Cott uses "Outside Over There" as the principal tool with which to delve into the beauty and weirdness of Sendak's "primal vision." He enlists the help of an art historian, a Jungian analyst, a Freudian analyst, and the playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner, a close friend of Sendak's.

Their perspectives on Sendak's work, juxtaposed with Mr. Cott's own exchanges with the artist, illuminate Sendak's books and psyche to remarkable effect. Enriched throughout with images of Sendak's art, the book will be catnip for those who already admire him. Non-enthusiasts who never warmed to his more discomfiting books as children or, as adults, to either his work or his irascible manner may find themselves surprised, sympathetic and enchanted.

Sendak was not an emollient man, but how substantial, obsessive and complicated he was—how preternaturally alive to the physicality and intense appetites of childhood! His



ALTER EGO Maurice Sendak in 2002 with a model of one of the creatures from 'Where the Wild Things Are.'

heroes, we learn, were Mozart and Herman Melville. He wept when Mr. Kushner recited Keats. He had been a sickly child, haunted by the expectation of an early death and haunted, too, by the 1932 kidnapping of the Lindbergh baby. "My life hung on that baby being recovered," Sendak told Bill Moyers in 2004, "and if that baby died I had no chance, because I was just a poor Jewish kid. That's what I thought, and though this didn't make much sense, that was the equation."

When the infant was found dead two months later, the 3-year-old Sendak caught a ghastly glimpse of the decaying body in a newspaper photograph. This early trauma burrowed deep within him, working its way to the surface in "Outside Over There," during the creation of which Sendak suffered an emotional breakdown. Its story tells of a young girl, Ida, who is playing on her wonder horn to soothe her little sister and fails to notice when goblins steal the baby and leave behind a changeling made of ice. Brave Ida enters the goblin realm and, with her

horn, plays the creatures into such a frenzy that they melt "into a dancing stream." Illustrated in Northern Romantic style, the book became, Sendak said, "my exorcism of the

Enlisting Jungians, Freudians and Tony Kushner to shed light on Sendak's primal vision.

Lindbergh case. In it, I am the Lindbergh baby and my sister saves me."

In this riveting account of Sendak's vision, Mr. Cott captures the pain and glory of the creative process: moments of soaring grandiosity and times of grinding struggle, of words and images that won't come or that come in the wrong way. "It is through fantasy that children achieve catharsis," Sendak said. Adults do too. Sendak himself was proof of it.

Twelve-year-old Jessie may be her family's "in-house moral compass,"

but knowing what's right does not mean doing what's right, as we see in the morally murky pages of "**Quicksand Pond**" (**Atheneum, 240 pages, \$16.99**), a subtle, gripping and, at the last minute, frustrating novel for 9- to 13-year-olds by Janet Taylor Lisle. Jessie and her siblings are spending the summer with their writer-father in a rundown rental house near the beach in Rhode Island. The Wi-Fi is terrible, and some sort of tension—is it just work?—has kept their mother in Pittsburgh.

Drawn to the quiet waters of a ready pond behind the house, Jessie falls in with Terri, a tough girl from a low-life local family, and the two decide to rebuild an old raft. An elderly woman with a tragic past, connected to Terri's family in ways none at first realize, watches the girls with happiness from her house by the pond: They are finishing something she started, she believes, and she wants to help. But when valuables go missing and fire breaks out, old accusations seem to justify new ones, and the finger of blame points at Terri. The visiting family behaves with all-

too-recognizable self-interestedness in a story that ends, as a bad summer can, with irresolution. As Jessie's father remarks, "It's just one of those sad things."

"When Swanda first moved to the city, she missed the wildlife she had left behind... but not for long." Thus begins "**Stop Feedin' da Boids!**" (**Kids Can, 32 pages, \$16.95**), an endearing picture book that James Sage wrote as a "tribute to multicultural New York." In Pierre Pratt's sooty, colorful illustrations, Swanda finds herself amid brownstones and apartment blocks on streets filled with people of all kinds and colors (including what must be a cameo of Alfred Hitchcock), and she's beguiled. She gets great pleasure from the birds that flock to the feeder she puts out and at first heeds neither the warnings of her dog, Waldo ("Arf!"), nor the complaints of her neighbors. Eventually everyone on the block stands beneath Swanda's window and shouts out an order that children ages 3-7 will delight in joining: "Swanda, you gotta stop feedin' da boids!"

Her Place at the Heartland Table

Give a Girl a Knife

By Amy Thielen
Clarkson Potter, 311 pages, \$26

BY GEORGIA PELLEGRINI

WE ALL EAT in pursuit of memories. The finely diced chives on my tongue are also the moments I snipped them from the grass in late spring as a child and put them in morning omelettes with my dad. A dry unsweet cookie is the sound of my great-aunt's gravelly voice cautioning against the perilous use of sugar. Eating a bowl of ice cream is the slow methodical churn of my grand-

A New York line cook and native Minnesotan discovers 'place of origin' is as crucial as technique.

mother's ice-cream maker that set the tempo for a Sunday afternoon.

Such sensory evocations, and the emotional tug they exert in one's everyday life, are never far from the mind of Amy Thielen in "Give a Girl a Knife." The memoir charts the beautiful winding path that led the author from rural Minnesota to high-stakes Michelin-starred restaurants in New York—in search of what she thought was culinary sophistication—and then back to Minnesota, and a cabin in the woods built by her artist husband. Along the way the author learned to cook Austrian, Chinese, French and

even her native Minnesotan dishes. Ms. Thielen's then-boyfriend had built the cabin when they were both in their early 20s, and for a few years in the late 1990s these two off-beat young Midwesterners spent summers there and winters working odd jobs in Minneapolis. But by 1999 the rural idyll began to feel confining: She convinced her beau to join some other Minnesota expatriates in New York City. Ms. Thielen thus went from the kitchen of her local diner to seven years as a line cook in restaurants run by David Bouley, Daniel Boulud and Jean-Georges Vongerichten.

The experience, the author writes, was like "a loophole, a bubble, a cure." She no longer sat around tending her garden and wondering what she should do with her life; she just did.

"It was a mad world, but I got it," she writes of the bustling back kitchens that somehow turned out pristine haute cuisine. "The food at the center of the plate was protected from the tumult of the kitchen—all its split-second saves and sharp words eddied at the perimeter, protecting the still eye of the storm." Each kitchen

seemed to exist outside the normal flow of time, operating according to its own peculiar rhythm. "These minutes did not correspond to the exact ticking seconds but to a shared feeling of the same imaginary descending time line," she writes.

Ms. Thielen reveled in this environment, even thrived in it, with a seemingly high tolerance and even

taste for that grinding lifestyle. She writes memorably of the intensity of tearing apart lobster body after lobster body, the privilege of receiving the rich lobes of foie gras entrusted to her in these kitchens and the memorable experience of receiving fish from Japan so fresh it was still in rigor mortis.

Some strands of "Give a Girl a Knife" will be familiar not just to those who have worked in New York kitchens but to anyone who has read



RUSTIC AND SOPHISTICATED Amy Thielen at home in Park Rapids, Minn.

one of the many memoirs written about them: the larger-than-life culinary impresarios, the chain-smoking kitchen staff, managers, the indispensable Spanish-speaking sous chefs. The author makes even these passages memorable, though, with her attention to the sensory world of these kitchens, which she sees "in terms of colors, sounds, and shifting

textures: silken scarves of hot squash puree, dunes of homemade bread crumbs as mottled and cool to the touch as beach sand.... The cackle of thyme and garlic hitting brown butter, its reassuring scent rising up."

What sets this book apart from the usual line-cook memoir, however, is the turn it takes midway through. She and her husband hear the Minnesota woods calling them, and they make a bold leap homeward. The author "itched to cook the hours-old

her culinary training, she recognizes finally that "place of origin was the primary tool in any chef's toolbox," and commits at last to her roots and the rustic cabin in the woods.

Only at this point does the author turn back to begin recalling, and rediscovering, the food and memories of her childhood. With the same immediacy and appreciation she applied to the food of Messrs. Bouley and Boulud, she evokes her grandmother's poppy-seed coffee cake, her great-grandmother's gravies ("elegant and thin, never thick and cloudy") and her mother's take on the Minnesota delicacy known as chicken hotdish. "Good home cooking," she writes, "the kind that's both rustic and sophisticated, is so much harder to pin down" than fine cuisine. But she comes to prefer this "inexactitude" to what she calls "cheffiness."

Ms. Thielen thinks about food differently now, but she also thinks about time differently. Putting your hands in the dirt; preserving lemons and anticipating their taste as they age on your shelf; baking a loaf of bread; at the very least learning how to make a decent pie—these are the instincts that restore the flow of time rather than fragment it. Ms. Thielen shows us it is not always easy; it is often less than glamorous; it is raw, a little ugly, but as honest as it gets.

Ms. Pellegrini is the author of three books, a professional speaker and a leader of outdoor adventures around the country.

BOOKS

'If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance.' —George Bernard Shaw

SCIENCE FICTION: TOM SHIPPEY



Plenty Trouble

CORY DOCTOROW'S novel "Walkaway" (Tor, 379 pages, \$26.99) is a book with a message, a vision of utopia.

There's been a strong vein of utopian thinking in sci-fi ever since H.G. Wells's time, and it usually has been deadly: The plots are too static, the visions too personal. What's different about Mr. Doctorow's?

One big change is that most utopias, from Thomas More's 1516 original to Ursula Le Guin's "The Dispossessed" (1974), have been set against backgrounds of poverty: the plight of unemployed plowmen in More's England, the lot of anarchists on a poor, arid moon in Le Guin. But with 3-D printing, perfect recycling and smart technology, Mr. Doctorow argues, we are heading for a post-scarcity world. So where does the plot come from?

Human nature, of course. At the start of "Walkaway" we meet Hubert, Etc. and Natalie. Hubert is called "Etcetera" because his parents gave him 19 middle names, and Natalie is a "foof" (Fine Old Ontario Family). Her parents are "zottarich," which is like being megarich, only with much more money. Naturally they meet at a communist party, though—as Natalie insists—this doesn't make them communists any more than being at a birthday party would make them birthdayists.

That's the conflict, powered by zepps and mercs and hi-rez drones and bio-war sensors on one side, and on the other—well, by something like flower power. Mr. Doctorow's philosophy is passionately argued, like his earlier anthems to communal action in "Homeland" and "Little Brother." Provocative ideas keep popping up, such as his explanation of World War I: It was caused by primogeniture. Once the second sons of aristocratic Europe ran out of places in Asia and Africa and Oceania to take over and be governors of, they turned on one another.

So the thinking is lively, but the characters? What they are is basically trustafarians, faux-hemians, kids in designer jeans. The trouble with those people, some would say, is, sure, they walk away. But they know they can always walk back. Is that a good basis for a stable new world?

guard it? You can impose discipline, but then you create a ruling caste like Plato's Guardians. You can keep score of who takes and who gives, but then you're into stats-fiddling. You can rate popularity, and then you're on the way to Meritopia.

In any case, there's worse trouble coming. Already the zottarich own all the world's capital, and they have not a trace of "impostor syndrome," the lurking feeling that maybe they don't deserve all this. What that leads to is the contrasting "divine right syndrome": the feeling that "I was meant

Societal dropouts battle against the 'zottarich' in a world of zepps and mercs and hi-rez drones.

to be where I am, and I deserve it." Divine right could moreover become real, if the dream of immortality can be realized by uploading one's personalities into a simulation, as sci-fi has long foreseen. The walkaways have developed the technology. Either they release it to everyone, or the zottas turn into immortal god-emperors.

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FIVE BEST: A PERSONAL CHOICE

Deborah Willis on family love

Barney's Version

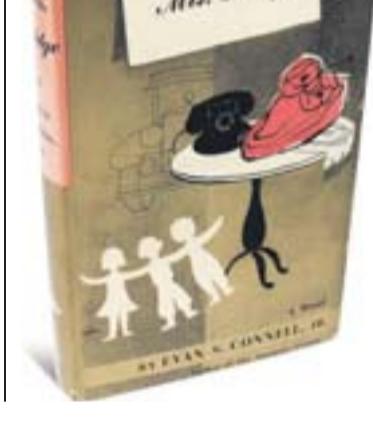
By Mordecai Richler (1997)

1 BARNEY PANOFSKY is still in love with the last of his troika of ex-wives, Miriam, and to win her back—and to clear his name of the suspicion he murdered his best friend—he undertakes to write the "true story of my wasted life." Barney has progressive dementia, so he's an unreliable narrator, but he is a brilliant storyteller: ironic, cutting and witty. Nothing is sacred here. Not even Barney himself, who describes his own person as "sixty-seven, reeking of decay and dashed hopes.... And now that I've been blessed with a plastic hip-socket replacement, I'm no longer even biodegradable. Environmentalists will protest my burial." His curmudgeonly persona only makes obvious his sensitivity; Barney is loving (in his own way) toward his children and devoted to Miriam. Throughout his career, Richler wrote about similar themes and characters and set most of his books in the same neighborhood in Montreal. "Barney's Version," his last novel, is hilarious, intelligent, devious and moving.

Mrs. Bridge

By Evan S. Connell (1959)

2 AFTER THE BIRTH of her daughter, Mrs. Bridge's first coherent words are: "Is she normal?" This characterizes her approach to life: Mrs. Bridge is not bold or adventurous or even likable. But this upper-middle-class wife and mother is full of desires she has learned to repress. Related through 117 vignettes, her life, like most, doesn't quite have a plot, but Connell's memorable novel, set between the world wars, is packed



with subtle commentary on gender and class in American society. It is also an empathetic portrait—one of its great achievements—of a privileged woman who never strays far from her house and country club in Kansas City. She does her best to raise her three children in the only way she knows how, hoping that they will be known for "their nice manners, their pleasant dispositions, and their cleanliness." She is often lonely, sometimes "almost engulfed by a nameless panic," and heartbreakingly dedicated to maintaining a normal façade. She has never been capable of showing deep warmth, but when her children leave home and her husband dies, she takes comfort in family photographs: "They evoked what she had known most intimately, and all she had loved most profoundly."

Geek Love

By Katherine Dunn (1989)

3 KATHERINE DUNN'S novel delivers the experience that carnivals once provided for small-town audiences: "Geek Love" entertains and scares us. Thanks to a cocktail of drugs administered during pregnancy, Crystal Lil and Papa Al create a family of freaks whose deformities are prized for their ability to earn money in Binewski's Carnival Fabulon. The Binewskis are nothing like us—they are conjoined twins, an albino hunchback, a Seal Boy, and a child who can move objects with his mind—and their love for one another is so ferocious that it tips into incest and murder. Yet there is much about them that is familiar:

They feel jealousy and longing and fear and loyalty, and they possess strange beauty. At its heart, this novel is about parents who adore and harm their children and about children who move beyond their parents' love—a "feeble...shelter," as the novel describes it. It's also about continuation and inheritance and survival. Miranda, who was born with a tail, learns what matters from her mother, the hunchback Olympia: "You aren't alone...you are one of us."

H Is for Hawk

By Helen Macdonald (2014)

4 FOR A WHILE, this nonfiction book was in every bookstore, which meant that I could pick it up in airports or malls and feel—within seconds—that I'd fallen into a different, more feral



MS. WILLIS is the author, most recently, of 'The Dark and Other Love Stories.'

world. "Her eyes are luminous, silver in the gloom. Her beak is open. She breathes hot hawk breath in my face. It smells of pepper and musk and burned stone. Her feathers are half-raised and her wings half-open, and her scaled yellow toes and curved black talons grip the glove tightly. It feels like I'm holding a flaming torch." This is Mabel, a goshawk that Helen Macdonald purchased and trained after the sudden death of her father. The bird acts as a "protecting spirit," and Ms. Macdonald's interactions with it are healing, but she never forgets that a hawk is a thing of "death and blood and gore." This stunning book explores what happens to a woman who moves toward "a kind of madness," who isolates herself with her grief and a goshawk—but who in the end reclaims her place amid humanity.

All My Puny Sorrows

By Miriam Toews (2014)

5 'SHE WANTED to die and I wanted her to live and we were enemies who loved each other." This is the "major problem" between Yolandi and her sister Elfrieda, a concert pianist. After several of Elf's suicide attempts, the two sisters navigate Canada's mental-health system—and their relationships with each other, their parents, partners, exes and children. "I tell her that she and I could mock life together," Yolandi says; "it's a joke anyway, agreed, okay? Agreed! But we don't have to die." This voice seems casual and conversational, but I was astonished by Ms. Toews's capacity to create a compelling and well-structured story—not to mention her ability to make devastation seem hilarious. Her writing conveys the inner lives of people who belong to one of the most loving families to be found in fiction, but never falls into sentimentality. Which is to say, this novel is a wonder.

Best-Selling Books | Week Ended May 7

With data from NPD BookScan

Hardcover Nonfiction

| TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Astrophysics for People in a Hurry 1 Neil deGrasse Tyson/W.W. Norton & Company | New | |
| Option B 2 1 Sheryl Sandberg/Knopf Publishing Group | | |
| Shattered 3 5 J. Allen & A. Parnes/Crown Publishing Group (NY) | | |
| Make Your Bed 4 2 William H. McRaven/Grand Central Publishing | | |
| Killers of the Flower Moon 5 10 David Grann/Doubleday Books | | |

Nonfiction E-Books

| TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Astrophysics for People in a Hurry 1 Neil deGrasse Tyson/W.W. Norton & Company | New | |
| Option B 2 1 Sheryl Sandberg/Knopf Publishing Group | | |
| Shattered 3 5 J. Allen & A. Parnes/Crown/Archetype | | |
| Killers of the Flower Moon 3 10 David Grann/Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group | | |
| Option B 4 1 Sheryl Sandberg/Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group | | |
| Hillbilly Elegy 5 6 J.D. Vance/HarperCollins Publishers | | |
| The Philosophy Book 6 - Will Buckingham/DK Publishing | | |
| Threads of Suspicion 7 New Dee Henderson/Baker Publishing Group | | |
| I Hope I Screw This Up 8 New Kyle Cease/North Star Way | | |
| Lost City of the Monkey God 9 - Douglas Preston/Grand Central Publishing | | |
| D DAY Through German Eyes 10 - Holger Eckhertz/Holger Eckhertz | | |

Nonfiction Combined

| TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Astrophysics for People in a Hurry 1 Neil deGrasse Tyson/W.W. Norton & Company | New | |
| Option B 2 1 Sheryl Sandberg/Knopf Publishing Group | | |
| Shattered 3 5 J. Allen & A. Parnes/Crown Publishing Group (NY) | | |
| Killers of the Flower Moon 4 - David Grann/Doubleday Books | | |
| Make Your Bed 5 2 William H. McRaven/Grand Central Publishing | | |
| Milk and Honey 6 9 Rupi Kaur/Andrews McMeel Publishing | | |
| The Operator 7 4 Robert O'Neill/Scribner Book Company | | |
| The Zookeeper's Wife 8 7 Diane Ackerman/W.W. Norton & Company | | |
| I Hope I Screw This Up 9 New Kyle Cease/North Star Way | | |
| Here Comes Trouble 10 - Debbie Macomber/MIRA | | |
| Hillbilly Elegy 10 10 J.D. Vance/Harper | | |

Hardcover Fiction

| TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| The Trials of Apollo, Book Two 1 Rick Riordan/Disney-Hyperion | New | |
| 16th Seduction 2 New J. Patterson and M. Paetro/Little, Brown and Company | | |
| A Court of Wings and Ruin 3 New Sarah J. Maas/Bloomsbury U.S.A. Children's Books | | |
| Into the Water 4 New Paula Hawkins/Riverhead Books | | |
| Oh, the Places You'll Go! 5 3 Dr. Seuss/Random House Children's Books | | |

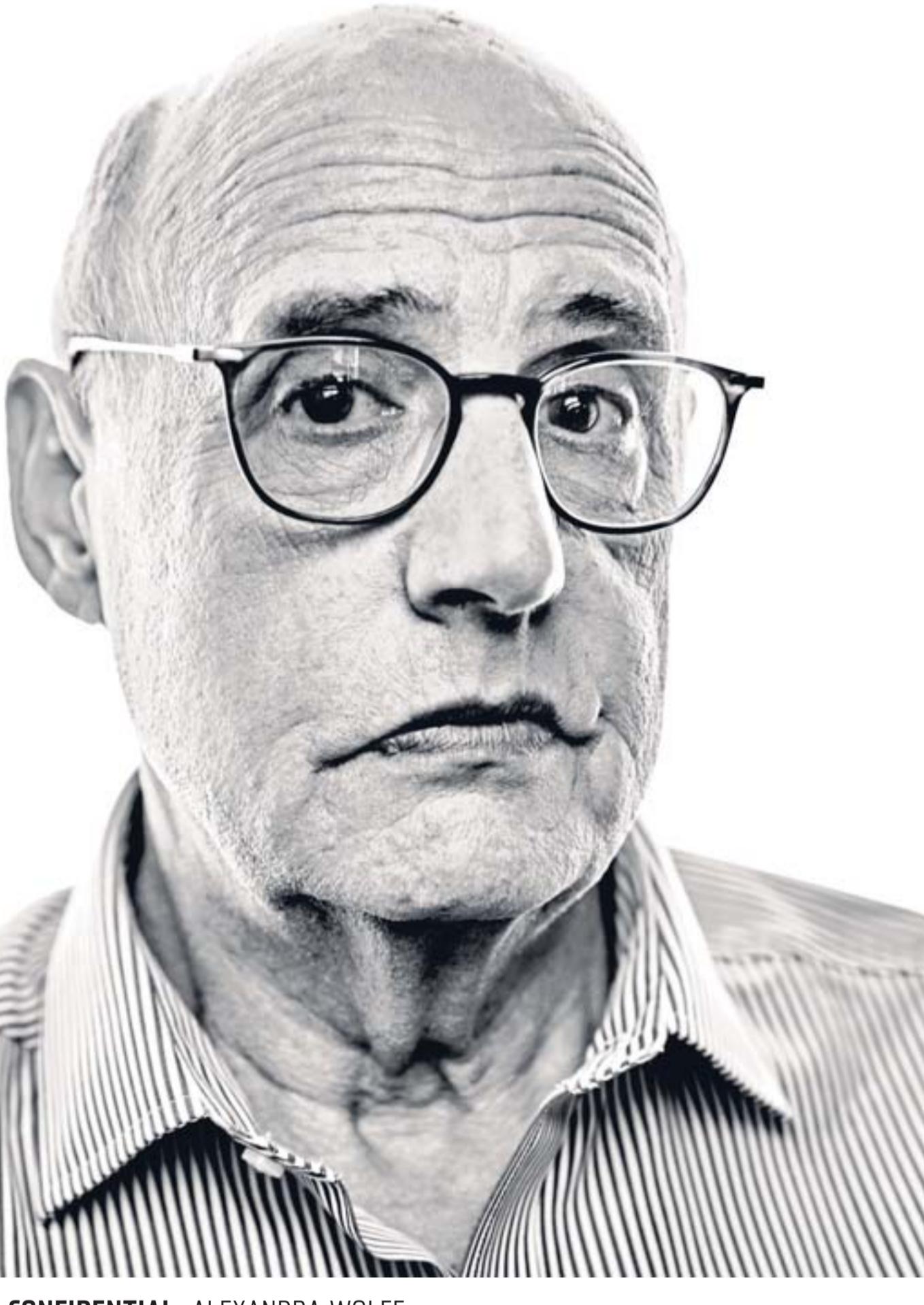
Fiction E-Books

| TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| 16th Seduction 1 J. Patterson and M. Paetro/Little, Brown and Company | New | |
| A Court of Wings and Ruin 2 New Sarah J. Maas/Bloomsbury U.S.A. Children's Books | | |
| Into the Water 3 New Paula Hawkins/Penguin Publishing Group | | |
| The Fix 4 2 David Baldacci/Grand Central Publishing | | |
| Against All Odds 5 New Danielle Steel/Random House Publishing Group | | |
| The Trials of Apollo, Book Two 6 New Rick Riordan/Disney-Hyperion | | |
| Detective Cross 7 1 John Sandford/G.P. Putnam's Sons | | |
| Golden Prey 8 1 John Sandford/G.P. Putnam's Sons | | |
| Golden Prey 9 - John Sandford/G.P. Putnam's Sons | | |
| Golden Prey 10 6 Kathryn Hughes/Headline Book Publishing Ltd. | | |

Fiction Combined

| TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 16th Seduction | | |

REVIEW



In high school,
he realized that
humor could
foil bullies.

arch of the dysfunctional Bluth family on the comedy "Arrested Development," a cult hit that ran from 2003 to 2006 and then had a fourth season on Netflix in 2013. His character, George Bluth Sr., spends time in prison for taking money from his real-estate company, escapes and for a time hides out in the attic of a model home. Even today, Mr. Tambor says, teenagers see him and yell out one of his character's most famous lines, told to his son: "There's always money in the banana stand!"

As soon as he read the script for "Transparent," he knew he wanted to play the part of Maura, formerly Mort, a retired college professor with three grown children who comes out to his family as a woman in the first season. Mr. Tambor is anxious to do justice to the part. "It's the most ants I've ever been," he says.

To understand the trials his character would face, he sometimes goes out to lunch or to the grocery store as Maura. People often stare and whisper, he says. He once went to a diner for lunch dressed as Maura with a transgender woman who is a producer on the show. A man stared at them through the meal, Mr. Tambor recalled, then came up and said, "Have a good day, ladies," as he was leaving.

Mr. Tambor will be starring again in the fourth season of "Transparent," airing this fall. The second season of the show averaged 1.49 million viewers an episode, according to Symphony Advanced Media.

Off screen, he has taught acting classes for more than 40 years, since he was in graduate school, to aspiring thespians as well as to corporate clients and students. He says that one of the best pieces of life advice he got came from the acting teacher Milton Katselas: "Adore everything."

Now that he has finished writing his first book, he is considering taking a literature class or learning to play the piano after watching his children take lessons. Mr. Tambor is also a co-owner of Skylight Books in Los Angeles, which opened in 1996.

He delights in the mundane aspects of life, he says. "If I have coffee with people, I say, 'Tell me what your day is like.' He asks what they have for breakfast and other quotidian details.

Mr. Tambor makes his own coffee at night and leaves it on his nightstand so that he can drink it when he wakes up. He acquired his taste for cold coffee in college, when he would make a pot at night and drink it for hours so that he could stay awake learning his lines for school productions.

He spends mornings at home taking his children to their activities. "If you have four children, you put on a cap that says, 'Daddy Driver,' " he says with a laugh. The routine clears his head. "You can't worry about anything else when you have to get that flute and that daughter to that class at 8:15 a.m.," he says. "Isn't that great?"

WEEKEND CONFIDENTIAL: ALEXANDRA WOLFE

Jeffrey Tambor

The late-blooming actor on his role as a transgender woman

IN HIS NEW memoir, "Are You Anybody?" the actor Jeffrey Tambor writes that people sometimes mistake him for Dr. Phil and thank him for all the good he's doing.

Other times, they think that he's the comedian Larry David and thank him then, too.

Mr. Tambor's career in film and television didn't take off until relatively late in his career, but he's increasingly likely to be recognized as himself these days—especially after his Emmy-winning role as a transgender woman named Maura Pfefferman in Amazon's "Transparent." Mr. Tambor, 72, got his first big part in the 1990s, on "The Larry Sanders Show," when he was in his

40s; he landed his second in his 50s on "Arrested Development."

Mr. Tambor decided to write the book so that his five children—especially his four younger ones, ages 7 to 12—could understand what he does for a living. He travels to Los Angeles when he's filming, but the rest of the time, he lives with his family in New York's Westchester County.

Raised in San Francisco in a fairly observant Jewish family, the son of a flooring contractor and a homemaker, Mr. Tambor didn't have an easy childhood. His mother was an alcoholic, and he was overweight and had a lisp. He was enamored with show business even as

a child and sometimes pretended to be a talk-show host in his basement. He would simultaneously play the guest and the audience, whose laughter, he writes in his book, "sounded a lot like a phlegmy cat hissing in its last stages."

In high school, he made a conscious decision to be funny after an episode when he told off a teacher who liked to pick on him. She said something snarky to him in class one day, and he replied, "Oh, teacher made a funny!" The class laughed, the teacher looked disarmed, and he realized that humor could foil bullies.

After graduating from San Francisco State University, he

earned a master's degree in theater from Wayne State University in Detroit. He started out in repertory theater in Milwaukee before moving to New York. He spent the next two decades playing parts in theater and on TV shows and movies—including one-time and occasional roles on "Taxi," "Hill Street Blues" and "The Golden Girls"—but he didn't earn widespread attention.

That changed with "The Larry Sanders Show" (1992-98), in which he played the needy sidekick to Garry Shandling's talk-show host. He received four Emmy nominations for the part. His next big role was as the patri-

MOVING TARGETS: JOE QUEENAN

Putin's Hackers Are Coming After Everyone

THE OTHER DAY, I blew out the inner tube on my bike by pumping it up to 45 pounds per square inch, when only 32 PSI was required. I was blithely following the specs I found on the internet, never suspecting that the Russians had hacked them. The same day, my wife wrecked a blueberry cheesecake that she was baking by mixing in 8 ounces of cilantro and 3 tablespoons of horseradish. She had found the recipe online. You know who had altered it.

That night, I had to console a friend who had watched 30% of his 401(k) account disappear after he invested in a maker of scratch-and-sniff teddy bears. He had followed the recommendation of a venerable stock handicapper whose assessments had been changed by—you can guess the rest.

Not many people realize that the Russian hackers have branched out from their efforts to

discredit Western politicians. Now they have their eyes on ordinary people as well—and they're hacking all sorts of websites to sow confusion everywhere and bring the West to its knees.

For example, when I recently sought relief from a complex root-canal procedure that didn't immediately heal, I went to an online message board seeking advice. "Trixie From Dixie" recommended covering the tooth with Crazy Glue and molasses, a home remedy that she had learned in the Big House. And "Surrounded by Druids" said that for pain related to root canals, you just couldn't beat heroin.

In all of the cases listed so far, I learned the painful truth by finding a list of these hacked sites on the State Department Nasty Disinformation website (kremlin-gremliins.gov). The Russians seem to be hellbent on driving the rest of us nuts, figuring it will make their

**Bad recipe for cheesecake?
Blame Russian disinformation.**



comic-opera economy look better.

And they are succeeding. If you want to understand why productivity in this country isn't going up, look no further than the intervention of Russian hackers. Incorrect specs. Phony statistics. Airport delays. Three-hour waits for tech support that is then provided by state-sponsored morons based in Vladivostok. They're the ones

who have transformed our computers into what the KGB describes as "the stupid-making machines."

The situation is particularly noticeable with dieting guides.

The Russians are trying to trick the American people into a sedentary, unhealthy lifestyle by planting woefully inaccurate data everywhere. No, you do not burn off 1,500 calories an hour by playing coed bocce. Big Macs do not contain a powerful blood thinner. Eating a pint of cranberry chocolate

peanut-butter crunch ice cream with a baby aspirin twice a day will not lower bad cholesterol.

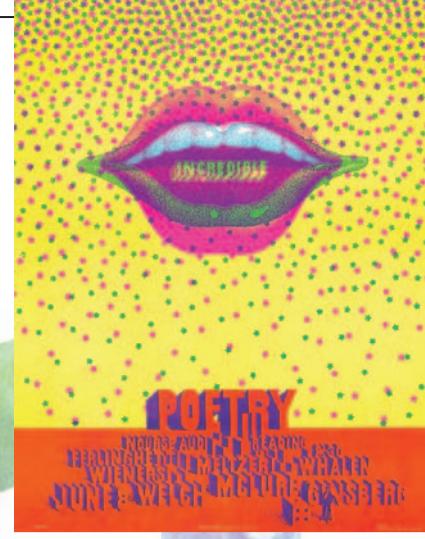
Our travel industry is at risk as well. The Tainted Lady Lounge is not the best family eatery in Charlottesville. There is no shortcut from Little Rock to Juarez through the Rockies. No matter how glowing the online reviews of all the nifty children's activities that the city fathers have waiting up there in Big Flats, N.Y., don't slow down. Just keep driving straight through to Niagara Falls.

And let me correct right now some of the more dangerous recent mischief: Women do not want to get Venus flytraps as Mother's Day gifts. Harvard did not get nipped at the post by Hofstra in the latest U.S. News rankings. The Eagles did not write Brahms's "German Requiem." And acupuncture will not cure malaria. Nope, Vladimir Putin is just messing with you.

EXHIBIT

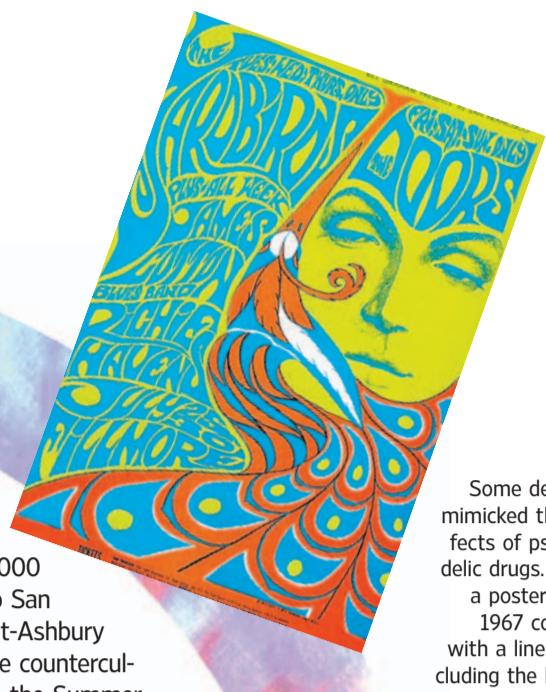
The bright colors and irregular type of this poster for a 1968 poetry reading, with a lineup including Allen Ginsberg, aimed to capture the event's edgy aesthetic.

The bold, vibrant design of rock posters of the 1960s and '70s defined the look of the era, says co-curator Colleen Terry. This one from 1968 advertised musical acts coming to San Francisco's Fillmore Auditorium.

REVIEW

FIFTY YEARS AGO, some 100,000 people flocked to San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury district to join the countercultural currents of the Summer of Love. Now the city's de Young Museum is displaying more than 400 artifacts from the era in "The Summer of Love Experience." The show includes quotes from luminaries of the day, such as the anthropologist Margaret Mead, who said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

—Alexandra Wolfe



Some designs mimicked the effects of psychedelic drugs. Here, a poster for a 1967 concert with a lineup including the Doors and the Yardbirds.

The Summer Of Love Turns 50



The jeans are decorated with cotton patches, ribbons and rhinestone studs. The shirt's sequins reflected the light as the wearer moved around.



Designers often had movement in mind—it isn't easy to dance or protest with restrictive clothing. This 1968 printed mini-dress was loose and flowing.



This silk chiffon dress from 1966 features an image of a 15th-century Persian painting. Its designer, Jeanne Rose, was interested in world art and global culture and made clothes for a number of rock musicians.

FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO

PLAYLIST: PAUL THEROUX

Swahili the Easy Way

For a novelist, Fadhili William's 'Malaika' was both a language lesson and an inspiration

Paul Theroux, 76, is a travel writer and the author of 33 books, including "The Lower River" and "The Mosquito Coast." His latest novel is "Mother Land" (Eamon Dolan). He spoke with Marc Myers.

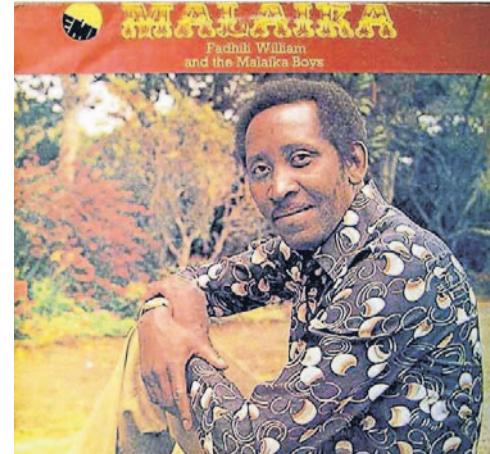
In 1965, I landed a job teaching English at Makerere University in Uganda. For the previous two years I had been in Malawi, in the Peace Corps. Though I spoke the major Malawi language, Swahili was the common language in Uganda, and I was determined to learn it. "Malaika" by the Kenyan singer Fadhili William captivated me, for its proper Swahili and its romance.

I first heard the song on a jukebox at City Bar in Kampala, Uganda. I was there with friends having a beer. The record had been released a few years earlier, and it was hugely popular.

At the time, I was 24 and single. I had a good-paying job and a car. I was out and about all the time at clubs and bars—the things young, heedless guys do. The moment I heard the lyrical recording, I wanted to hear it over and over again.

The record opens with an electric guitar playing a simple descending folk melody. Behind the guitar is a rhythm guitar and an electric bass played by William's backup combo. Each instrument creates its own rhythmic line, yet all

Romance (in proper Swahili).



FADHILI WILLIAM on a 1970s album cover.

three work together perfectly. When William begins to sing, his band provides the backup vocals.

The song is about a guy in love with a girl he wants to marry, but he doesn't have enough money for her dowry. He keeps telling her he loves her and calls her angel and then little bird: "Angel, I love you angel / And I, what should I do, your young friend / I am defeated by the dowry that I don't have."

Little by little, the song helped me acclimate to Swahili's cadence and phrasing. Songs are always useful when learning a language. What I was responding to emotionally was this song's rhythm, the lead guitar and the harmony.

I left Uganda for a job in Singapore in 1968. I never bought a copy of "Malaika." The song played so often on Ugandan radio and on jukeboxes that I never needed one. Besides, I had the song in my head. Just humming "Malaika" inspired me to write.

This will lessen your own workload and let them see how much sweat goes into gardening. You will then feel better about sharing some of the tomatoes that they will have helped to grow. Maybe your neighbors will learn to like gardening enough to start their own garden—and will share their own crops with you next year.

ASK ARIELY: DAN ARIELY

The Tomato Freeloaders

Dear Dan,

We grow lots of tomatoes in our backyard garden, and we eat or freeze all of them. Each year, our neighbors hint about wanting some share of the bounty. We like our neighbors and occasionally socialize with them, but we fear that sharing our tomatoes will create an expectation for subsequent years. We also worry that such a gift would suggest the tomatoes are free when they actually cost us dearly in time and effort. Are we right, or are we just stingy tomato-hoarders? —Martha

You've got a point. Just giving your neighbors the tomatoes that they covet will indeed encourage them to take for granted the work that goes into growing them. It will also create the expectation of future installments.

You could try to pre-empt the issue altogether by complaining demonstratively to your neighbors at the start of each growing season that you fear you won't be able to grow enough to meet your own needs this year. But that would be dishonest.

Here's a better approach: help your neighbors to experience firsthand the effort involved. This season, pick a weekend when you'll be doing a lot of arduous garden work (maybe tilling the soil) and invite the folks next door to help out.

This will lessen your own workload and let them see how much sweat goes into gardening. You will then feel better about sharing some of the tomatoes that they will have helped to grow. Maybe your neighbors will learn to like gardening enough to start their own garden—and will share their own crops with you next year.

Dear Dan,

When I pay someone a compliment, they often say something along the lines of "Thank you, but your house is beautiful too" or "Thank you, but your child



children are also so accomplished." This makes me feel that my compliments aren't being taken as genuine expressions of esteem but instead are seen as a sign of my own low self-esteem or an attempt to fish for accolades myself. I find that I've stopped complimenting people altogether. Should I? —Irene

What's happening here is best explained by the principle of reciprocity: When someone does something nice for us, we feel compelled to return the favor, often in a similar way. With compliments, the easiest way to reciprocate is to promptly return them.

This yearning for reciprocity is deeply rooted in our evolutionary history. It has long helped to strengthen social bonds. So when people quickly compliment you back, it isn't a response just to you; it's human nature. They don't think you need the emotional boost, but they do feel the need to reciprocate.

The upshot? Don't take this personally, let alone badly. Even more important, don't stop giving compliments. Praise is free, and it makes people happier, so offer it to others whenever you can and enjoy it when it comes your way.

Dear Dan,

I've heard that you just turned 50. Is there any good news about getting old? —Ron

Yes: Our eyesight deteriorates. Everything turns out to look better slightly blurry and without details, particularly other people's faces.

Have a dilemma for Dan?

Email AskAriely@wsj.com.

SERGE BLOCH

PLAY

NEWS QUIZ: Daniel Akst

From this week's
Wall Street Journal

1. Which school's students are crushing opponents in collegiate financial-trading competitions this year?

- A. Bennington
- B. Wharton
- C. Stanford
- D. Baruch

Mike Flynn's contacts with a Russian diplomat?

- A. Presidential counselor Kellyanne Conway
- B. White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus
- C. White House Counsel Donald McGahn
- D. White House aide Ivanka Trump

2. Which top-selling author has Bill Clinton teamed up with to write a novel?

- A. Karl Ove Knausgård
- B. James Patterson
- C. Ann Patchett
- D. Barbara Cartland



3. A number of board members have stepped down at Whole Foods. Why?

- A. They can't afford the lunches.
- B. Activist investors are pushing for big changes to raise share prices.
- C. The board split on a takeover bid from Aldi Süd.
- D. New term limits forced the retirements.

4. DHX Media is acquiring a controlling interest in the Peanuts characters. Where's the company based?

- A. New Brunswick
- B. Newfoundland
- C. Nova Scotia
- D. Nunavut

5. President Trump fired James Comey as FBI director. Who was the only previous FBI chief to be canned, and by which president?

- A. J. Edgar Hoover (Truman)
- B. William Sessions (Clinton)
- C. William Webster (Reagan)
- D. Efrem Zimbalist Jr. (Carter)

6. When Emmanuel Macron, newly elected president of France, made an entrance to give his victory speech, the European Union's anthem played. Name the source of that tune!

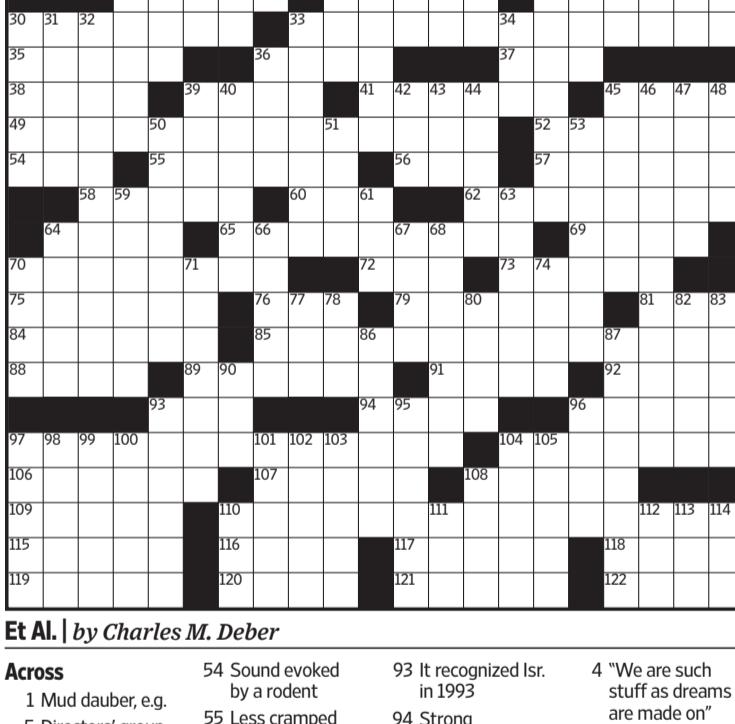
- A. "Should I Stay or Should I Go?"
- B. "Take Five"
- C. "Deutschland, Deutschland Über Alles"
- D. Beethoven's Ninth Symphony



5. Whom did former acting Attorney General Sally Yates say she warned about then-National Security Adviser

To see answers, please turn to page C4.

THE JOURNAL WEEKEND PUZZLES Edited by Mike Shenk



Et Al. by Charles M. Deber

| Across | 54 | Sound evoked by a rodent | 93 | It recognized Isr. in 1993 | 4 | "We are such stuff as dreams are made on" speaker |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Mud dauber, e.g. | 55 | Less cramped | 94 | Strong competitor | 5 Drainage area |
| 5 | Directors' group | 56 | Underlying principle of the universe | 96 | Paul of "Hollywood Squares" | 6 Long-armed simian |
| 10 | Eau de parfum from Chanel | 57 | Passover repasts | 97 | Cover version of a Tennessee Ernie Ford hit by the Eagles? | 7 "Rule Britannia" composer |
| 14 | Hawker's accomplice | 58 | Oscar-winning film and Emmy-winning TV series | 104 | Plow puller | 8 Way cool |
| 19 | Subject of some Ovid poems | 59 | 60 | 106 | ___ a kind of Hush" (hit for Herman's Hermits) | 9 Mellifluous |
| 20 | Pianist Claudio | 61 | 62 | 107 | Peabrain | 10 Partridge family |
| 21 | Garbage truck output | 63 | 64 | 108 | He sparred with Olivier in "Sleuth" | 11 Keats's "Apollo" |
| 22 | Fine food | 65 | 66 | 109 | Eager, informally | 12 Gizmo with a circular end |
| 23 | Hair-raising tale by D.H. Lawrence? | 67 | 68 | 110 | Where a tour would take all day? | 13 Surg. sites |
| 26 | As ___ and breathe! | 69 | 70 | 111 | 112 | 14 Acts petty toward |
| 27 | Rouen's river | 71 | 72 | 113 | 114 | 15 Tat's Monsieur |
| 28 | Heraklion location | 73 | 74 | 115 | Makeup of some Santa Fe buildings | 16 Literary sister of Olga and Masha |
| 29 | Made reparation | 75 | Julia's role on "Seinfeld" | 104 | Desire | 17 Be honest |
| 30 | Out of breath | 76 | Shrub with aromatic leaves | 116 | Steamed | 18 British university city |
| 33 | Baseball team with nerves of steel? | 77 | Ascetic of old | 117 | He's got his pride | 24 Justice Gorsuch |
| 35 | Lucy's pal | 78 | 80 | 118 | Became stronger | 25 "Where ___" (Rodgers and Hart song) |
| 36 | "Little Women" woman | 79 | 81 | 119 | Space-going chimp of 1961 | 29 Emily Dickinson's home |
| 37 | Questioning syllables | 82 | 84 | 120 | Weighed down | 30 "Beau ___" |
| 38 | Astro cap feature | 83 | 85 | 121 | Freeway byproduct | 31 Words with earliest or least |
| 39 | Put up | 84 | 86 | 122 | End-of-term ordeals for a school of fish? | 32 Shelter for the future |
| 41 | Materialize | 87 | 88 | 123 | 1 Existed | 112 Desire |
| 45 | Insignificant bit | 89 | 90 | 124 | 2 Antismoking org. | 113 Rooftop sound |
| 49 | Appease with a bit of seafood? | 91 | 92 | 125 | 3 Fa follower | 114 Official lang. of Liberia |

VARSITY MATH

Provided by the National Museum of Mathematics

This week

Coach Taylor gives the team members a couple of problems to gently remind them that Mother's Day is this weekend. (And she would like to thank Prof. Curt Bennett of Loyola Marymount University for these puzzles.)

Coco-Not

Coach Taylor always brings the same box of a dozen chocolates (six dark and six milk) to her family's Mother's Day celebration, and it always gets passed around in the same order, with her grandmother picking first and Coach Taylor ending up picking seventh. It's tradition, but there's one

problem. Two pieces—one dark and one milk chocolate—are filled with coconut and everybody hates them, but it's impossible to tell which they are from the outside. The family members pick their chocolates completely at random—except for Coach Taylor, who figured out the best strategy. If any coconut-filled piece has been chosen and there is a

piece of the same type of chocolate (milk or dark) left, she chooses it. Otherwise, she chooses at random from the type of chocolate with the most pieces left.

What is Coach Taylor's probability of ending up with a coconut-filled chocolate?

ILLUSTRATION BY LUCI GUTIÉRREZ

Queen Bee

A male bee is the product of an unfertilized egg and thus has only one parent: the queen of the hive in which he was born. On the other hand, any female bee

has two parents: a queen and a male bee.

How many great-great-great-grand-bee-mothers does a queen with no inbreeding in her ancestry have?

For previous weeks' puzzles, and to discuss strategies with other solvers, go to WSJ.com/puzzle

+ Learn more about the National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) at momath.org

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES

Actrostic

Kory Stamper, "Word by Word"—"The...dictionary is a human document, constantly being...updated by actual, living, awkward people.... They are word nerds who spend the better parts of their lives writing...definitions, thinking deeply about adverbs, and slowly, inexorably going blind. They are lexicographers."

A. Kit and caboodle; B. On credit; C. Resplendent; D. "Yellow Submarine"; E. Spanish Steps; F. Tighty-whities; G. Abu Dhabi; H. Maxfield Parrish; I. Punching bag; J. England; K. Reddy Kilowatt; L. Wintergreen; M. One-liners; N. Rialy; O. Direwolf; P. Betty Boop; Q. "You Sexy Thing"; R. With a vengeance; S. Otter; T. "Rat Patrol"; U. David Duchovny

Cut and Try



Varsity Math

To end up with a net gain of \$3, you could bet \$57 on the race in **Uneven Odds** last week, and finding the three fastest horses in **Stable Selection** will take at least six races.

ROWS GARDEN by Patrick Berry

| | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 36 | B'reth | A | Aerial maneuver that turns a plane upside down (Hyph.) |
| 39 | Reagan's first secretary of state | B | Brings up |
| 40 | Not at home, in a way | C | Symbolize |
| 42 | Got together | D | Challenges for bowlers |
| 43 | H in Heraklion | E | Bacall who married Bogie |
| 44 | Settle for the night | F | Smiley's eyes |
| 45 | Naval cadet | G | Like most houseplants |
| 46 | Shaq's appeal for a breather? | H | GM navigation system |
| 47 | Diet-destroying dessert | I | Medium Blooms |
| 48 | To be, to Brutus | J | Children's bug-building game |
| 50 | Cooler heads? | K | "The Magnificent Ambersons" director |
| 51 | Dolphin's cousin | L | Inspect (2 wds.) |
| 53 | Give hope to | A | One overseen by a proctor |
| 59 | Shaw and Lange | B | Sentence shortener |
| 61 | Show sorrow | C | Tin cup holder? |
| 63 | Hold highly | D | Amount squeezed from a tube |
| 64 | He steals from Smaug | E | Flip over |
| 66 | Western wolves | F | Bets big with nothing |
| 67 | Zest source | G | Cognitive |
| 68 | Guts | H | Birdseed container |
| 70 | Fastidious | I | Facial cosmetic |
| 71 | Prickly plants | J | Major League pitcher ___ Lyle |
| 74 | Put ___ act | K | Boll ___ (agricultural pest) |
| 77 | It merged with the CIO in 1955 | L | Dark Blooms |
| 78 | Soprano Sumac | A | Title used in a confessional |
| 80 | Great amount | B | Uninspired cut-and-paste job |
| 82 | Samurai sword training | C | Wiped the furniture |
| 83 | Derisive reaction | D | Dead Sea Scrolls language |
| 86 | Half of ASAP | E | Proceed without prep (2 wds.) |
| 87 | Basic batteries | F | Savaged by the critics |
| 90 | Interminable wait | G | Complete |
| 93 | Struck with a hammer | H | 1987 Beatty/Hoffman bomb |
| 95 | Necessitate | I | Whenever one wishes (2 wds.) |
| 96 | Clark's boyhood girlfriend | J | Damage |
| 97 | Rumpelstiltskin's supply | K | |
| 98 | Merle Haggard's "___ Beautiful Time" | L | |
| 99 | Copy | A | |
| 100 | "Survivor" group | B | |
| 101 | Saturn's largest moon | C | |
| 102 | Hersey's "A Bell for ___" | D | |
| 103 | Is inclined | E | |
| 104 | Critical asset | F | |
| 105 | Change color, perhaps | G | |
| 108 | Not nude | H | |
| 110 | Jaw-dropped state | I | |
| 111 | Shelter for the future | J | |
| 112 | Desire | K | |
| 113 | Rooftop sound | L | |
| 114 | Official lang. of Liberia | A | |

E. Like shutters you can't actually shut

F. 2005 bestselling novel set in Forks, Washington

Time interval that Ritalin is designed to increase (2 wds.)

G. Able to do anything (Hyph.)

Outdoor drinking venue (2 wds.)

H. Not just mildly frightened (2 wds.)

Patient cleaning method? (2 wds.)

I. 1958 novelty song that was Bobby Darin's first hit (2 wds.)

Expert who dispenses advice, slangily (2 wds.)

J. Compounds found in fertilizer

Catchphrase from a 1980s ad set in a fictional restaurant called Home of the Big Bun (3 wds.)

K. Site of Louis XIV's death

American businesswoman who added a French accent mark to her name (2 wds.)

L. Decision that's easy to make (Hyph.)

Light Blooms

REVIEW



PICASSO'S 'Luncheon on the Grass, After Manet' (1968), printed by Hidalgo Arnéa.

image that then seemed to take over his art, appearing in everything from paintings to prints. With Lacourière, Picasso made four versions of "The Weeping Woman"—a howling depiction of grief and pain, and, in its first and largest version, his single best-known print.

The crying woman in all her iterations is often regarded as a de facto portrait of Dora Maar, the surrealist photographer who carried on a tempestuous affair with the artist from the mid-1930s until the mid-1940s. In the print, Maar's distinctive mane of slick black hair and claw-like fingernails frame a face convulsed with suffering. The Williamstown exhibition contrasts three versions of the print with a 1937 painting of Maar, this time looking strong and seductive.

Among print collectors, "The Weeping Woman" is one of the most prized Picassos. Séverine Nackers, head of prints at Sotheby's London, says collectors have traditionally paid most for its first version, along with "The Frugal Repast" and another 1930s Lacourière collaboration, "Minotauromachia." In 2014, "The Weeping Woman I" set a record for a print by a 20th-century artist, selling at a Sotheby's London auction for more than \$5.2 million (at exchange rates of that time), nearly double its high presale estimate.

By the 1950s, Picasso was filling his prints with color. Now based in the south of France, he had discovered linocuts—linoleum plates that are much easier to cut than wood. As the Williamstown exhibition shows, Picasso collaborated with local printer Hidalgo Arnéa (1922–2007) on splashy works like 1958's "Portrait of a Young Girl, After Cranach the Younger, II" in which a German Renaissance painting gets a makeover.

A late career move to color.

moved to Paris, closed out his dark-themed Blue Period with this graphic depiction of two wastrels, possibly on the fringes of Paris bohemia. At the time, Ms. Clarke says, "Picasso was interested in outsiders." Delâtre (1864–1938) was a printer and artist whose starry list of collaborators included Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. Wary of interference, Delâtre kept Picasso out of the actual printing process.

But by the 1930s, Picasso's relationship with his printers had changed, and his printmaking seemed to reach its artistic peak. He was working with the Paris-based printer Roger Lacourière (1892–1966), who also collaborated with Picasso's friend and rival Henri Matisse. Lacourière, who became Picasso's friend, let him experiment with techniques like sugar-lift aquatint, in which an ink thickened with a sugar-and-gum solution helped the artist to create a more detailed final image.

In 1937, Picasso was completing his now legendary black-and-white painting "Guernica," a mural-sized homage to the Basque town bombed by Nazi and fascist Italian planes during the Spanish Civil War. Around that time, art historian and curator Anne Wagner says, he drew a weeping woman—an

fighting and bulls. More than a third of the 122 works are prints, including all seven variations of "Minotauromachia." That surreal work shows a Minotaur—the monster of ancient Greek legend with the head of a bull and body of a man—menacingly intruding on a beach gathering.

While those 1930s prints are highly sought after, many collectors don't stop there. "I just love the progression" from the early 1900s to the late color prints, says New York collector Nelson Blitz Jr., and several he owns will join the Clark exhibition.

2017 ESTATE OF PABLO PICASSO/ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY (ARS), NEW YORK

ICONS

Picasso's Print Partnerships

An exhibition highlights some unsung collaborators; dark themes, splashy color

BY J.S. MARCUS

IN HIS SEVEN DECADES of steady output, Pablo Picasso got a crucial assist in his art-making from two major groups of people. Foremost were his muses, the wives and lovers who filled up his life and canvases and have long been recognized as a key influence. But a second, much less acknowledged set of partners has been lurking just out of view—his printers. An exhibit in New England should bring them newfound attention.

"Picasso: Encounters," which opens June 4, will feature prized versions of Picasso's most admired prints and bring their producers out

of obscurity. Featuring loans from New York's Museum of Modern Art and Paris's Picasso Museum, the exhibition at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Mass., covers the early 1900s to 1970, three years before the artist's death at 91.

By some measures, Picasso's printers had a higher standing in his life than his muses, says Jay Clarke, the exhibition's curator. Picasso "treated women terribly," but "he had respectful and collaborative relationships with his printers. He needed their expertise."

Museums often neglect to mention the names of printers, but that won't be the case in Williamstown, says Ms. Clarke. The museum will include explanatory texts featuring their names.

That will include Eugène Delâtre, who produced the earliest print in the 38-work exhibition, the haunting 1904 etching "The Frugal Repast." The young Picasso, who had recently

moved to Paris, closed out his dark-themed Blue Period with this graphic depiction of two wastrels, possibly on the fringes of Paris bohemia. At the time, Ms. Clarke says, "Picasso was interested in outsiders." Delâtre (1864–1938) was a printer and artist whose starry list of collaborators included Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. Wary of interference, Delâtre kept Picasso out of the actual printing process.

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MASTERPIECE: 'LOST HORIZON' (1933), BY JAMES HILTON

HIDING FROM OUR TROUBLES IN SHANGRI-LA

BY MICHAEL DIRDA

NOW AND AGAIN, a novel seems to achieve a kind of perfection, a faultless balance in its tone, structure and style. Think of Ford Madox Ford's "The Good Soldier," F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby," Vladimir Nabokov's "Lolita." It may seem sacrilegious, but I would add to any such list of 20th-century masterpieces James Hilton's "Lost Horizon." Yes, the book was an immense commercial success and, yes, it was the very first Pocket Book, thus essentially inaugurating the modern paperback revolution, and, yes, it was even made into a wonderful, if slightly over-romanticized movie. Yet Hilton's short novel superbly exemplifies the message it contains: It remains as serene and beautiful as Shangri-La itself, seamlessly unfolding an intricately structured plot in which almost nothing really happens.

From his first sentence Hilton establishes a distinctive port-and-fireside feel to his storytelling: "Cigars had burned low, and we were beginning to sample the disillusionment that usually afflicts old school friends who have met again as men and found themselves with less in common than they had believed they had." This trio—a writer, a diplomat and a doctor—gradually begin to talk about Conway, the golden boy among their contemporaries, effortlessly brilliant at lan-

guages, a first-class mountaineer, utterly charismatic, a man from whom great things were expected. But, they all agree, the Great War had changed him.

On the surface, he had come through without a scratch, fought bravely and received medals, but something inside him had altered. After the armistice, he had joined the British consular service and was posted to various backwaters, doing his duty but exhibiting no ambition. Only during the occasional emergency, such as that revolution in Baskul, did Conway ever again display his old spirit of energy and command. In that instance he disappeared soon afterward, one of four westerners in a plane commanded by an unknown pilot. Neither the plane nor any of its passengers was ever seen again.

That, we eventually learn from

Rutherford—the Somerset Maugham-like writer—isn't strictly true. He himself had

happened upon the emaciated Conway, amnesiac and near death, in a Chung-Kiang hospital. Gradually, the invalid's

health had improved

and one night his memory suddenly

returned. The rest of "Lost Horizon," told from Conway's perspective, explains what happened on that fateful plane ride from Baskul.

Hilton, however, first keeps the reader tantalized with one mystery after another. Is the pilot of the stolen

aircraft insane, a terrorist, or a kid-



of other places.'

'In that case,' snapped Miss Brinklow, 'there would be no merit in it, obviously.'

'But I wasn't thinking of merit.'

'More's the pity, then. There's no good in doing a thing because you like doing it. Look at these people here!'

'They all seem very happy.'

'Exactly,' she answered with a touch of fierceness.'

To its ancient High Lama, Shangri-La—secure behind its wall of mountains—is nothing less than a bulwark of civilization against the coming global apocalypse, "conserving the frail elegancies of a dying age, and seeking such wisdom as men will need when their passions are all spent." After the destruction, "when the strong have devoured each other, the Christian ethic may at last be fulfilled, and the meek shall inherit the earth." Maybe.

Conway—traumatized by one war, repulsed by the century's noisy industrialism, and half convinced that everything really is about to go smash—embodies a cultural apprehension widely felt in the early 1930s. With the barbarians at the gate, who would not, who does not even now, dream of Shangri-La? Yet the hothead Mallinson argues that to retreat from the world is a kind of death. Who is right? Hilton ends this perfect novel, ambiguously, with a question.

Shangri-La holds many secrets, but Hilton times his revelations (and ironies) with great care, often pausing his otherwise brisk narrative for mildly philosophical or witty conversation. Consider this exchange between Conway and the evangelizing Miss Brinklow:

"If I were a missionary I'd choose this rather than quite a lot

napper? Is it chance that Conway, his much younger colleague Mallinson, the missionary Miss Brinklow and a jockey middle-aged American named Barnard happen to be the people on board? When the plane crash-lands near a lamasery in an isolated valley hidden among snow-covered peaks, was its arrival somehow expected? Why is it that this valley—called Shangri-La—doesn't appear on any map? And however did its inhabitants acquire an extensive library, delicate musical instruments, and even some porcelain bathtubs from Akron, Ohio?

Conway soon begins to respond to the unruffled calm and quietness of his new surroundings. He also finds himself drawn to an exquisitely graceful Manchu named Lo-Tsen. But the westerner holds off from declar-

ing his feelings for her. "For years his passions had been like a nerve that the world jarred on; now at last the aching was soothed, and he could yield himself to love that was neither a torment nor a bore. As he passed by the lotus-pool at night he sometimes pictured her in his arms, but the sense of time washed over the vision, calming him to an infinite and tender reluctance."

Shangri-La holds many secrets, but Hilton times his revelations (and ironies) with great care, often pausing his otherwise brisk narrative for mildly philosophical or witty conversation. Consider this exchange between Conway and the evangelizing Miss Brinklow:

"If I were a missionary I'd choose this rather than quite a lot

Mr. Dirda is a literary journalist and author, most recently, of "Browsings: A Year of Reading, Collecting, and Living With Books."

The wine
many people
mistake for a
mere mixer

D9



OFF DUTY



Gas vs.
electric: two
motorbikes go
head to head

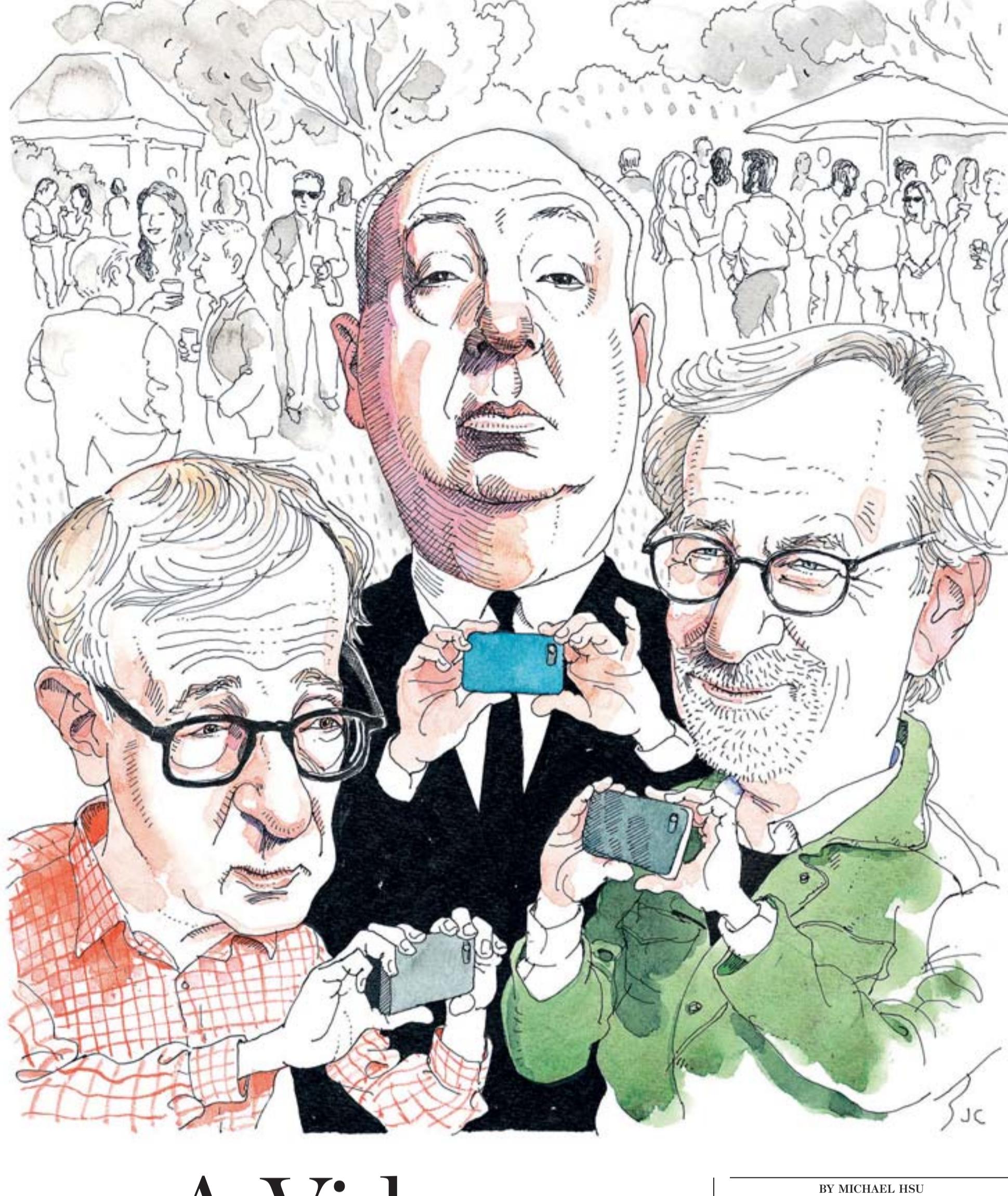
D12

EATING | DRINKING | STYLE | FASHION | DESIGN | DECORATING | ADVENTURE | TRAVEL | GEAR | GADGETS

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Saturday/Sunday, May 13 - 14, 2017 | D1



JOE CIARDIELLO

A Video Auteur, You?

Blurry, shaky videos are all the rage, but do you really want to preserve your precious memories as a pixelated mess? Here, an easy guide to making your everyday footage more Spielbergian

BY MICHAEL HSU

GIVEN HOW MUCH TIME I spend obsessively hate-watching crappy videos on Instagram and Snapchat these days, you'd think I'd be sold on the whole vernacular of smartphone video. In truth, I'm anything but.

Look, I'm fully aware that the off-the-cuff footage we record with our phones isn't supposed to be perfect. I get that the shaky shooting style conveys immediacy and realism. But I'm also concerned that we're trading our memories—hazy and fallible yet rich—for snippets of digital mush. We will end up with years of babies' first steps, girls' nights out and improbable holes-in-one preserved as nothing more than jittery blurs.

Please turn to page D4

[INSIDE]



A-TO-Z GUIDE TO SANDALS

26 strappy ways women can liberate their toes this summer D3



A FLOWERY FALL
Longer autumns allow for more late-bloomers, if you plant them now D6

MY COUNTRY, TASTES OF THEE

The debut of the new column 'United Plates,' saluting regional dishes D8



A TRIP ON THE WILD SIDE
In Papua New Guinea, the law of the jungle still rules D11



STYLE & FASHION

Gimme Less Swelter

When it comes to summer, some loathe it hot. We asked cooler-than-thou guys how they dress to beat the weather

BY JACOB GALLAGHER

IN HONG KONG, summers are long. Brutally so. After more than a decade living inside the subtropical territory's heat bubble, Andreas Lerchbaumer has learned to think of the season less in months than in minutes. "I call it the three-minute rule," said Mr. Lerchbaumer, a 39-year-old wholesale distributor of German fashion brands in China. "If you don't have air conditioning for 3 to 5 minutes, you might as well go home and change." Anything longer than a smoke break out in the chicken-stew humidity will soak his cotton undershirt, drench his brow and wilt his linen sportcoat like an unattended rose.

And so Mr. Lerchbaumer, like many men around the world, view summer with a sense of dread. This seems to be a particularly masculine affliction. It's not that heat and humidity don't torture women, too, but western social mores give them leeway to wear surprisingly little, even at work.

"Summer sucks because, like, what are you supposed to wear? A T-shirt and shorts?" said Noah Stitelman, a 33-year-old senior manager at Etsy in New York. While Mr. Stitelman isn't required to wear a suit, he dials up his business casual look in the cooler months with a smart sweater or jacket. Come June, he finds it hard to let those layers go. "I've got scrawny, pasty arms. I'm just not my best in a T-shirt," he said. His most winning solution to date is a pair of chinos by New York label Unis, an Everlane T-shirt, and an unbuttoned oxford in place of a blazer. But he's still looking.

While a flexible dress code would seem easier to manage in summer, in some ways it's harder. Jay Arem, 35, a health-care executive in New York with an enviably relaxed office dress code, said he's too old for a graphic T-shirt and jeans but too young for "the dad route of chinos and a golf polo." Let alone a seersucker suit, which would stick out at, say, after-work drinks in his Brooklyn neighborhood. "Coming to a place where people are wearing cutoffs and Vans and band T-shirts and I'm looking like a southern senator?" he said. "I hate it." Instead, he wears smooth cotton suits, which he has custom-made in a variety of neutrals.

Cotton, linen and seersucker, however, aren't the only answer. Gary Phillips, 38, the U.S. head of real estate equity for Allianz Real Estate, maintains two sets of



GETTY IMAGES

QUENCH PRESS Fiery days are a challenge if you aspire to style, like this desperate dandy in 1925.

suits—one in standard wool for fall and winter and another in looser, lighter tropical wool for summer. "It wrinkles less than cotton and linen and you don't get [stretched] accordion pants after sitting for a while," said Mr. Phillips. "Quite frankly, it breathes better."

Mr. Phillips has seen firsthand the deleterious effects of intense heat on would-be professionals. He recalls interviewing a new graduate a few years ago. The eager candidate arrived at Mr. Phillips's office drenched in sweat, so he used a few blue-hued napkins stacked on the conference room table to pat his face down. The color "bled all over his face," said Mr. Phillips. After apologizing for inadvertently channeling the Blue Man Group,

the rookie got the job and Mr. Phillips was left with newfound appreciation for proper heat preparation.

Thirty-one-year-old podcast host and stylist Jeremy Kirkland also swears by wool, an ultralight hopsack variety. "That basket weave lets the air come in easier," he said. Though he embraces the finer points of haberdashery, like pocket squares and even suspenders, Mr. Kirkland does all he can to avoid wearing a tie. "It's just more weight around your neck," he said. If he does knot up, the tie stays on from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., just long enough to make an impression, "and then it's swiftly removed."

As the heat builds, he also adopts a sockless look. This trendy affectation, seen on every-

one from Madison Avenue executives to Matt Lauer, is often not what it seems. "Unless you sit at your desk and move approximately 50 feet every four hours, very few people can truly do no socks and not have their feet blister," said Mr. Kirkland. Like other illusionists, he wears his loafers with no-show socks that allow ankles and shins to catch the breeze, but prevent bloody heels and puffy toes.

Hong Kong businessman Mr. Lerchbaumer has his own heat-relieving hosiery. He discovered Falke Cool 24/7 socks, made with a cooling and sweat-wicking nylon. "The socks really work," said Mr. Lerchbaumer, who claims, with notable specificity, that they lower his

body temperature by one degree. He was so taken by the product that he added it to his wholesale portfolio. "You lose the most heat through your head and feet," he added, "so it makes sense."

Strategic clothing, of course, isn't the only way to outwit the heat. Chris Black, 34, a self-employed brand consultant given to Uniqlo polos and linen trousers, is conscious he has to "show up somewhere looking relatively presentable." While trekking from meeting to meeting in swampy New York, he relies on a tool some men might overlook as too ladylike: a hydrating facial mist. His spritz of choice is Kiehl's cactus flower and Tibetan ginseng variety. "It's great, it's like \$20, and I've used it every summer for a couple of years," said Mr. Black. Rather than weigh down his wide-leg pants, he stashes the small green bottle in a tote bag, and pauses to hit refresh before facing a client. "You pat your face down with a towel and hit your face with a couple sprays of the hydrating mist," he said, "and you're back in business."

'When in doubt, dress like an Italian man who's having a gelato after lunch.'

Mental trickery can also help you power through until September. "I have this weird theory that wearing sunglasses makes you feel cooler," explained Etsy's Mr. Stitelman, who recently purchased a pair of Ray-Ban Clubmasters that he clings to like a summer safety blanket. Sunglasses, he said, "melts you out so the sun doesn't feel so harsh."

Even if you loathe the season of stick-to-your-back shirts to a degree Ray-Bans can't mitigate, never look like you're stewing with rage at the mercury. After all, summer can also mean a reckless number of rooftop negronis and weekends away. "Men should convey a summer spirit even if they'd rather be inside in the air conditioning," said David Coggins, author of "Men and Style" and a longtime heat-hater. No matter how droopy he's feeling, Mr. Coggins tosses on a pair of brilliant white bucks or an ivory sport coat (though never at the same time) to remind himself that sweat-be-damned, a man should always look sunny. "I would say when in doubt," added Mr. Coggins, "dress like an Italian man who's having a gelato after lunch."



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LOVE MOM

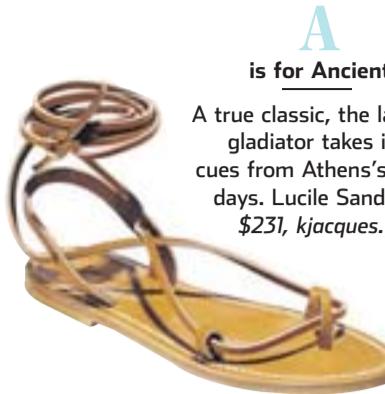
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STYLE & FASHION



A
is for Ancient
A true classic, the lace-up gladiator takes its cues from Athens's glory days. **Lucile Sandals**, \$231, kjacques.fr



B
is for Birkenstock
Give this summer wardrobe workhorse an upgrade with metallic leather. **Gizeh Sandals**, \$135, birkenstock.com



C
is for Cactus
A rare species in the sandal world but far from dry. **Xacactus Sandals**, \$945, **Manolo Blahnik**, 212-582-3007



D
is for Denim
Artfully frayed one-straps are the footwear equivalent of your favorite cutoffs. **Lola Sandals**, \$695, gianvitorossi.com



E
is for Embellished
A flood of beads dresses up the shower slide. **Sandals**, \$995, lanvin.com



F
is for Platform
Elevation without the aches. Effortless as summer should be. **Flap Sandals**, \$625, robertclergerie.com



G
is for Gingham
Fun, feminine and reminiscent of 1960s Brigitte Bardot. **Alexandre Birman Sandals**, \$525, bergdorf-goodman.com



If Cookie Monster got a pearly makeover, it might resemble this fuzzy friend. **Slides**, \$950, miumiu.com



I
is for Island
A festive, fruity topping adds flair to breezy white dresses. **Tropical Tara Sandals**, \$695, charlotteolympia.com



J
is for Jazzy
With a dance-til-dawn heel, this shoe would earn the approval of Zelda Fitzgerald and her ilk. **Francesco Russo Sandals**, \$990, net-a-porter.com



K
is for Knotted
Tied-up leather nets high-fashion returns, especially in a burnished gold hue. **Sandals**, \$650, alumnae.nyc



L
is for Logo
Icons never go out of style. Case in point: this emblematic 'H' flat from Hermès. **Oran Sandals**, \$690, hermes.com



M
is for Mismatched
Now sanctioned by Céline, odd couples are no longer a misstep. **Sandals**, \$790, **Céline**, 212-535-3700

Open-Toe Season

With sandal styles proliferating like dandelions, the time is right for an A-Z guide. Here, 26 fresh, fun pairs—plus a few summery nail-polish combinations

BY CHRISTINE WHITNEY

IT'S UNCLEAR IF there's a scientific correlation between temperature and the expressiveness of accessories. But as the weather heats up and women show more skin, they seem to gravitate to more conspicuous trimmings. "Shoes especially need to make more of a statement," said Jennifer Mankins, owner of Brooklyn-based boutique chain Bird.

She's referring mostly to sandals, the alpha-shoes of summer footwear. Ms. Mankins, who recently opened a Los Angeles outpost, is stocking more designs than ever this season—from Loeffler Randall's floral-print platforms to one-strap Birkenstocks in unexpected colors like olive and turquoise.

Sandals certainly deliver more free-

dom, both physically (no more suffocated toes) and aesthetically (with their endless fantasias on strappiness). Stephanie von Watzdorf, founder and creative director of summery, bohemian label Figue, thinks sandals hold an emotional draw. Currently she's pulled in by metallics and hot colors, which can be dressed down for day and up for evening; cue flowy dress. We reserved "T" in our A-Z for her tasseled Scaramouche sandals in icy blue.

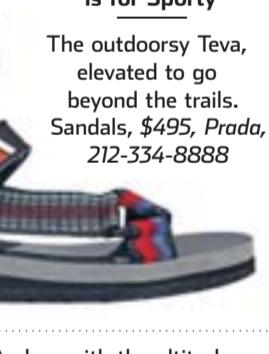
While you can't err with a simple slide, a more dramatic pair can really make a summer look. "Why is someone going to pick up another sandal?" asked Ms. Von Watzdorf. "It has to have something about it that is different." We found 26 footloose pairs that tick all the boxes.



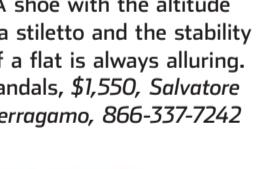
O
is for Over-the-Top
More is never too much in sandal form—even with beads, feathers, studs and animal prints. **Voo Doo Sandals**, \$1,250, **Aquazzura**, 347-328-0080



Q
is for Quilted
A Chanel bag translated into summery footwear. **Sandals**, \$995, **Chanel**, 212-355-5505



S
is for Sporty
The outdoorsy Teva, elevated to go beyond the trails. **Sandals**, \$495, **Prada**, 212-334-8888



W
is for Wedge
A shoe with the altitude of a stiletto and the stability of a flat is always alluring. **Sandals**, \$1,550, **Salvatore Ferragamo**, 866-337-7242



T
is for Tasseled
Tassels add a dash of bohemian whimsy. Jewel colors, optional. **Scaramouche Sandals**, \$225, **Figue**, 631-527-5111



X
is for XX
Chromosomes, that is. It doesn't get more feminine than a pretty, crystal-encrusted silk flat. Cinderella should have been so lucky. **Mia Sandals**, \$690, oscarodelarenta.com



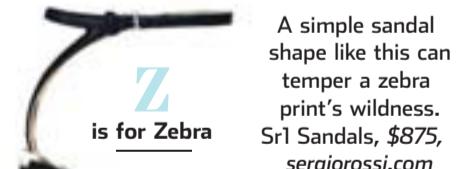
U
is for Understated
Subtle, classic and go-anywhere, a one-strap, low block-heel is a staple. **Sereno Sandals**, \$228, mgemi.com



Y
is for Yellow
The sunshiny hue is an instant mood-and outfit-enhancer. **Paul Andrew Sandals**, \$495, **Stanley Korshak**, 214-871-3600



The work of Italian glass-master Carlo Scarpa provided inspiration for this high-art pair. **The Row Sandals**, \$1,050, barneys.com



A simple sandal shape like this can temper a zebra print's wildness. **Sri Sandals**, \$875, sergirossi.com

LACQUER SUPERIOR // SANDALS AND PEDICURES GO TOGETHER LIKE PB & J. HERE, OUR EXPERT TIPS ON MATCHING SHOES AND POLISH SHADES



Nude + 'Nostalgia'
Hues like 'Nostalgia' (\$18, jinsoon.com) are universally flattering and amp up a nude sandal's leg-lengthening effect.



Sport + 'Shut Up and Dance'
Temper the sweaty connotation of Teva-like sandals with a hot pink a la 'Shut Up and Dance' (\$20, deborahlippmann.com).



Gingham + 'Gitane'
A glossy, vixenish red like 'Gitane' (\$28, chanel.com) takes folksy gingham from sweet to considerably sassy.



Ancient + 'African Violet'
Classics, like the natural-hued strappy flat, can get staid. Update them with the pop of 'African Violet' (\$36, tomford.com).



Over-the-Top + 'Optic White'
The unexpected power of 'Optic White' (\$27, dior.com) stands up well to Aquazzura's intense maximalism.

GEAR & GADGETS

CINEMATIC HOME FLICKS

Continued from page D1

Not to sound alarmist, but I believe we're on the cusp of a collective mnemonic catastrophe.

The good news? We can easily save ourselves. Shooting a great video isn't much more difficult or time consuming than shooting a bad one. We just have to decide to do it.

This all hit me recently while I was watching a clip I'd recorded of my daughter's birthday. I had flubbed my duties as designated family videographer on a few prior occasions. (Once, I somehow failed to tap the record button and wasn't actually filming when I thought I was. Another time, my phone ran

out of storage.) When this birthday rolled around, I'd learned my lesson: I triple checked that my phone was in working order. I scouted the ideal spot to stand—close to the action but not so near that I'd get in the way of the festivities.

Singing commenced. Candles flickered. Then came the momentous inhale and subsequent gale, followed by seven tendrils of smoke and my daughter's ear-to-ear grin.

Did I notice the can of whipped cream crowding the frame as all this was happening? No, because I hadn't taken the time to check the composition before recording. In hindsight, I estimate that moving the offending canister out of the frame would have taken seven seconds.

I'm not saying we need to film our every backyard barbecue with Terrence Malick-like reverence. But if we're going to bank our memories to the cloud, don't we owe it to ourselves to make the videos as competent and vivid as they can be?

A bunch of you are likely with me on this. "Yeah," you're thinking, "I am going to start taking great video!" But something is telling you that, as gung-ho as you may be now, the next time you pull your phone out of your pocket, you'll fall back to your old ways. Taking the time to frame your shot properly may be easy, but somehow you won't bother.

Travel writer Paul Theroux has described the act of snapping photos as "a way of forgetting." Indeed, researchers have found that people who photographed art in a museum remembered fewer details about the works than those who hadn't—perhaps because by stepping behind the camera, we step out of the moment. When I need a kick in the pants to take better video, I remind myself that hitting record doesn't supplement memories; it supplants them.

Once you delve seriously into the craft of smartphone videography, you'll find a sea of specialized equipment to buy, most with steep learning curves: anamorphic lenses to give your shots a cinematic depth of field, pricey Steadicam-like devices for capturing expert tracking shots. But you needn't spend a lot of money or learn what "desqueezing" video entails to considerably up your game. There are plenty of easy steps you can implement tomorrow, as well as practical add-ons to tap your inner Spielberg.

To start, keep in mind that all the basic rules of photography apply when filming on a smartphone: If you're shooting people, hold the camera high to avoid the unflattering up-the-nose view. Don't leave too much space above your subjects' heads (step closer if you need to). Avoid recording someone standing directly in front of a bright light or window—which will backlight your subject. If you're tracking scampering puppies or other fast-moving objects, don't center them in the frame—leave some extra space in the direction they're moving, so they don't feel like they're about to run off the screen.

This is a no-brainer, but try to hold your phone straight, people. Admittedly, it's easier said than done. If you botch this and are kicking yourself after the fact, don't sweat it. You can manually tilt the clip using the Chromic app for iOS (free, \$5 for full version).

The beauty of smartphone videography is that you don't have to know a thing about exposure settings or focusing to do it at least semi-right. If the area you want to zero in on looks blurry or too bright or dark, just tap it and let the software do the rest.

And if you're going to use your phone primarily as a camera, make it just a camera. When recording a video more than a few minutes long, put your phone on airplane mode. The Wi-Fi and cellular components can make subtle noises that you definitely don't want to memorialize along with your child's cello recital.

Last, less is often more. As tempting as it may be to swoop and pan, you'll find your videos a lot less tiring to watch if you keep your camera still. A small tripod like the Grip-Tight ONE GP Stand (\$35, joby.com) will allow you to set and forget it.

Want to squeeze more into your shot without having to frantically pan back and forth? Attach the **Amir 2-in-1 Professional HD Camera Lens Kit** (\$29, amazon.com), which includes a 0.6x superwide-angle lens as well as a 15x macro lens. Not only does it excel at capturing sprawling landscapes, it comes in handy when you can't back up far enough to frame everything you want (like your child's 60-member elementary-school orchestra). This admittedly imposing lens may be larger than other clip-on models, but it significantly expands your view with minimal distortion—at a price that's hard to beat.

The near-universal design allows it to work



The All-Encompassing Lens

Want to squeeze more into your shot without having to frantically pan back and forth? Attach the **Amir 2-in-1 Professional HD Camera Lens Kit** (\$29, amazon.com), which includes a 0.6x superwide-angle lens as well as a 15x macro lens. Not only does it excel at capturing sprawling landscapes, it comes in handy when you can't back up far enough to frame everything you want (like your child's 60-member elementary-school orchestra). This admittedly imposing lens may be larger than other clip-on models, but it significantly expands your view with minimal distortion—at a price that's hard to beat.

The near-universal design allows it to work

with pretty much any smartphone.

STEADY ON // THREE WAYS TO SMOOTH YOUR SHOTS WITH A SELFIE STICK



GRIPPING DRAMA You don't have to be a narcissist to adore the selfie-stick. It's one of the handiest tools for shooting jingle-free video of others (not yourself). The key is to hold the stick with two hands and to keep your elbows locked against your body.



SMOOTH MOVES Use your selfie stick to record a tracking shot by walking sideways. No matter how smooth your gait, you'll get some jitter, but that is easily remedied by running your video through a stabilization app. Emulsio (\$3 for full version) for iPhone works wonders. If you're on Android, try the stabilization feature of Google Photos (free, feature available only in Android app).



ZOOM TIMES The same technique as above applies for a track-in shot: Walk gingerly toward your subject while holding your selfie-stick firmly with two hands.

LIGHTS, CAMERA ACCESSORIES, ACTION! // THREE EASY-TO-POCKET GADGETS TO BESTOW YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA WITH SERIOUS CHOPS



The All-Encompassing Lens

Want to squeeze more into your shot without having to frantically pan back and forth? Attach the **Amir 2-in-1 Professional HD Camera Lens Kit** (\$29, amazon.com), which includes a 0.6x superwide-angle lens as well as a 15x macro lens. Not only does it excel at capturing sprawling landscapes, it comes in handy when you can't back up far enough to frame everything you want (like your child's 60-member elementary-school orchestra). This admittedly imposing lens may be larger than other clip-on models, but it significantly expands your view with minimal distortion—at a price that's hard to beat.

The near-universal design allows it to work



The Degrabbling Mic

You've probably watched videos where everyone sounds like they're talking under a pillow. The probable culprit? The videographer's hands. Because the smartphone's mics sit across from the camera lens, they're easy to block as you try to hold the phone steady. The cure is simple: Grip your phone by the long edges, away from the mics. In noisy environments, it also helps to attach an external microphone, like the **Shure MV88** shown (\$150, shure.com), which is compatible with newer iPhones, or the **AmpRidge MightyMic S** (\$50, ampridge.com), which works with most smartphones that have a headphone jack. These will highlight sounds that are directly in front of them, accentuating what's visible in the frame.



The Shot-Saving Light

Smartphones are getting eerily good at recording in low light, but they still struggle to shoot in very dark locations (trendy restaurants, outdoor garden parties on moonless nights). In these situations, outfit your phone with a clip-on light, like the **Pickogen Flash** shown above (\$18, search amazon.com for Universal Clip-On Mini LED Light) or **Amir 2-in-1 Cellphone Lens with Beauty LED** (\$17, amazon.com). Their LEDs cast a glow that's adequate for filming but not blindingly bright. Just make sure to stick close to your subject—a couple of feet away at most—as the lights aren't powerful enough to illuminate from a distance.



She's a fan.



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To find out why Isabelle Huppert is a fan visit mandarinoriental.com ATLANTA • BANGKOK • BARCELONA • BODRUM • BOSTON • GENEVA • GUANGZHOU • HONG KONG • JAKARTA • KUALA LUMPUR • LAS VEGAS • LONDON • MACAU • MADRID • MARRAKECH • MIAMI • MILAN • MUNICH • NEW YORK • PARIS • PRAGUE • SANYA • SHANGHAI • SINGAPORE • TAIPEI • TOKYO • WASHINGTON D.C.

DESIGN & DECORATING

Planting for the Long Fall

With first frosts occurring later in the year, strategic gardeners can see color up until Thanksgiving. Here's what to sow now

BY MICHAEL TORTORELLO

APOTTED MUM from the hardware store. An ornamental kale. A warty pumpkin parked on mulch. This is the unholy trinity of post-Halloween garden design, according to flower farmer and floral arranger Michael Russo, of Trout Lily Farm in Guilford, Conn. We gardeners display the mum-kale-gourd trio, however cliché, because all the perfumed, showy flowers have died—or they're spending the bitter winter retiring to Miami Beach.

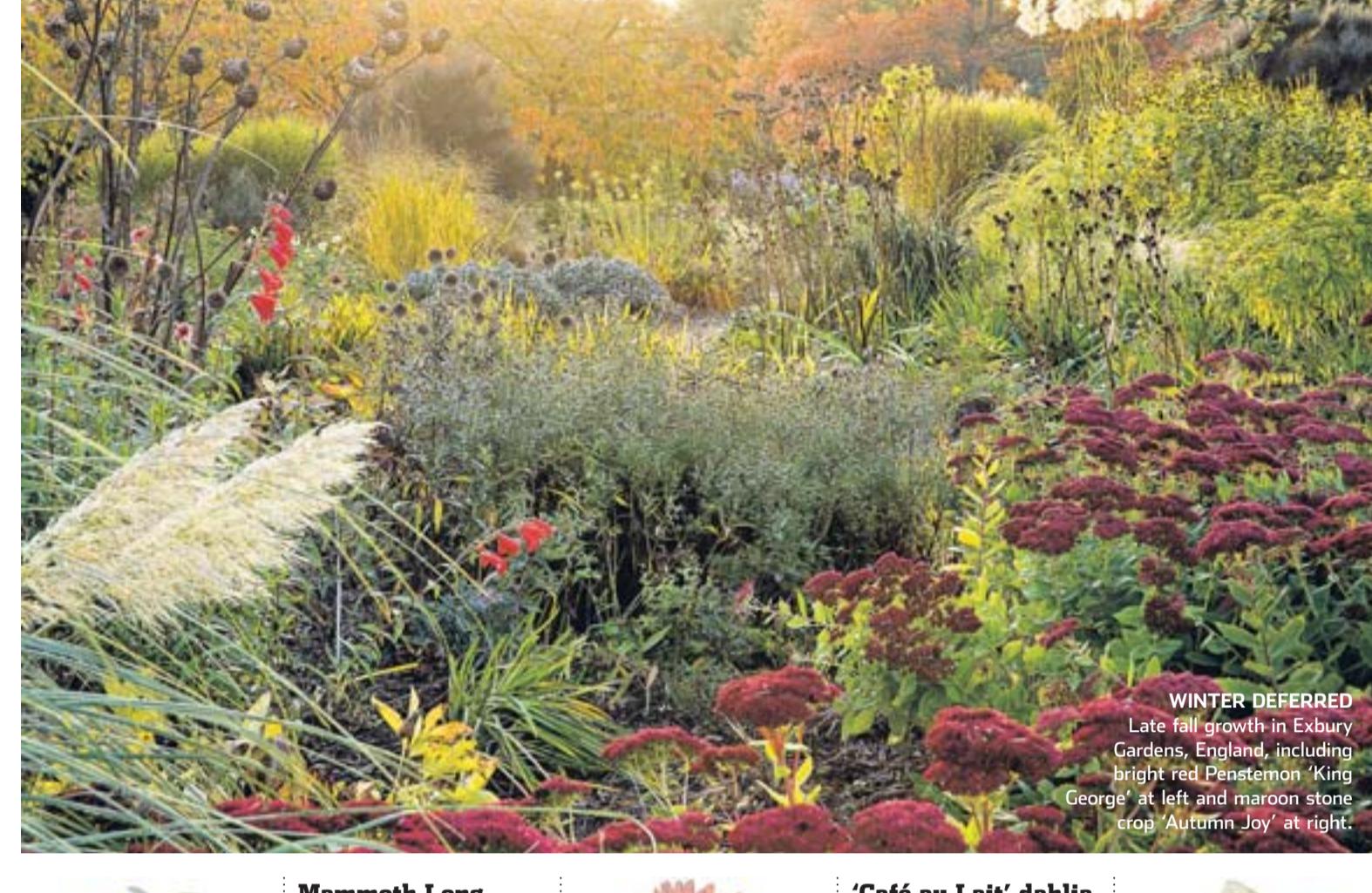
But what if the flowers haven't expired but have gone absent through inattention? And what if the barren, gray season doesn't start until later than you think?

New York City experienced its first freeze on December 9 last year. An outlier, maybe. But the average freeze date across the country has been creeping ever later in recent years. The length of the growing season across the lower 48 states now stretches more than 10 days longer than the 120-year average, according to Environmental Protection Agency data.

For better or worse, the changing weather means more autumn bonus weeks—when we could be growing annuals and ornamentals. The question becomes: What to plant that can prolong color and exuberance until that murderous cold snap?

We asked flower farmers for a list of the blooms they still see in anorak weather. They named some familiar fall flowers, such as dahlias, zinnias, and mums (not the hardware store variety). But a need for unpredictable blooms to sell at the fall floral market has also spurred growers to think more creatively. For example, Xenia D'Ambrosi, a farmer in Westchester County, mentioned the dense flower clumps on Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*) and stone crop (*Hydrophyllum 'Herbstfreude'* Autumn Joy). Mr. Russo noted *Dianthus 'Supra Purple'*, autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale*) and common witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*). The farmers also suggested a well-known spring-associated ornament that thrives until frost: roses.

Mr. Russo plants fall flowers in closely packed "drifts" that can be appreciated at a distance: dahlias, blowy seed heads of chocolate millet (try 'Purple Majesty') and cold-hardy mums. He prefers the orangy



WINTER DEFERRED

Late fall growth in Exbury Gardens, England, including bright red *Penstemon 'King George'* at left and maroon stonecrop *'Autumn Joy'* at right.

MARIJANE MAJERUS/MAGI/ILLUSTRATIONS BY AGATA WIERZBICKA

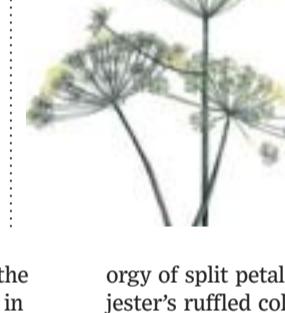


Silverleaf sunflower

Cut back this branching sunflower like a hydra to produce more and more yellow flower heads above its velvety, gray-hued leaves.

Mammoth Long Island dill

These asterisk-headed flowers recall Queen Anne's lace, with explosive bursts of speck-size yellow florets



'Global Warming' mums

The trade name suggests this mum's will to capitalize on the extended autumn—creating peachy, delicate flowers until a deep freeze—and overwintering.

'Café au Lait' dahlia

The ombre shading of this dinner-plate bloom, a favorite in the cut-flower trade, takes on every pale pastel you've ever seen in a bridesmaid's dress: cream, wheat, cream-of-wheat, apricot, ochre.



'Tuscan Sun' rose

The gold tone in these rose clusters matches the harvest hues of late fall and the orange evokes memories of summer's glow.

petal tones, but if you fancy the idea of spending the autumn in pink, go for it.

Next, dahlias. Marybeth Wehrung, a flower farmer in the Hudson River Valley town of Accord, N.Y., raises more than 20 kinds of dahlias until "the first hard frost," she said. "I'm harvesting dahlias right up until that day." Her taste runs toward ball dahlias, which resemble colorful globular beehives. A blower favorite is the coral-colored 'Sonic Bloom': an outré, maximalist

orgy of split petals that recalls a jester's ruffled collar, as worn by Tilda Swinton.

If the dahlia is a diva of the late fall border—fleshy and theatrical—the companion plantings should be comfortable in a supporting part. Ms. Wehrung likes herbs that form spiky or frilly flower heads, such as parsley (try *Gigante d'Italia*), dill (Mammoth Long Island), shiso and basil. Your typical culinary basil (Genovese, for instance) form duller flowers than Thai, lemon and cinna-

mon basil. The lurid leaves on 'Purple Ruffles' basil—another favorite—could pass for an ornamental, with or without the flowers.

What to plant isn't the only question, Ms. Wehrung added. Perhaps more important: when to plant. Vegetable gardeners are accustomed to succession planting, she said: tearing out an April round of snap peas and sowing fall turnips. Flower growers, perhaps more accustomed to spending July in a hammock with a tasty Lambr-

esco, should apply the same disciplined strategy. Instead of dead-heading faded flowers, relegate the plant to compost and start preparing what comes next.

Ms. Wehrung tracks her planting calendar on a spreadsheet. Starting zinnias around July 4 (she recommends the can't-miss-it-height and extra-plush double blossoms of the Benary's Giant series) will yield beauties that could make a centerpiece arrangement for Thanksgiving.

EVOLUTION



Sir Edwin Lutyens Thakeham Bench, price upon request, lutyens-furniture.com



Louis Benech Lounge Bench by Royal Botanica, \$7,990, royalbotanica.com

NOT-SO-FRENCH BENCH

A Paris landscape designer's garden seat takes cues from England and Japan

THEN In 2013, the British Museum exhibited some 250 objects archaeologists had recovered from the site of ill-fated Pompeii, preserved in the hardened ash. Among them, a garden bench that suggested humans were using outdoor settees at least as far back as Vesuvius's eruption, in 79 AD. In medieval Europe, walled domestic gardens were dotted with hedge-like benches formed directly from turf—often fortified with brick, stone or wood. With Europe's Age of Enlightenment came the rise of unrestrained gardens designed for contemplative

thinking; so, naturally, people needed more seats upon which to ruminate. The wooden garden bench as we know it, however, originated in the early part of the 20th century. British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens's oak Thakeham bench, shown above, first appeared around 1903. In 1920, British veterans Victor Tyrie and Frederick Barlow began fashioning teak (the water-resistant wood used in battleships) into all-weather garden furniture, including the iconic London Bench, with its vertically slatted back, graceful arms and invitingly dished seat.

NOW "A garden is a lot of work," said Louis Benech, a Paris-based landscape designer. He'd know. His masterworks include the Louvre-flanking Jardin des Tuileries and the Water Theatre Grove at Versailles. "To enjoy it," he said, "you need a place to sit and dream." The unequivocal bench buff cites 18th-century carpenter André Jacob Roubo's hefty, elegantly balanced workbench and Barlow Tyrie's linear style as favorites but singles out Sir Edwin's early 20th-century bench as iconic and "suitable to gardens of any period." Mr. Benech's own

take, for Belgian company Royal Botanica, aspires to "simplicity without the coldness of minimalism," he said. Rendered in dense teak with a low profile, its sculptural back-supports inspired by the graceful T of Japanese torii gates, the bench replaces the curves and whimsy of past styles with sturdy geometry and practicality: The extra-wide arms double as built-in tables for a book or welcome cold drink after a long day exerting one's green thumb. A garden bench should be comfortable, said the designer. "The workers need rest." —Sarah Storms

DESIGN & DECORATING

THE CRITICAL EYE

A STUDY IN STUDIOUSNESS

OUR DESIGN ASSESSMENT Looking at this children's homework nook in a circa-1914 Wilmette, Ill., farmhouse, we zeroed in on the diamond-like pattern in the antique window leading. Our suspicion: that the designer, Julia Buckingham, had used it as a jumping-off point for the old-meets-new décor. Diamond shapes recur in the wallpaper and even in the ceiling fixture, by Ingo Maurer, customized with RSVP cards from the homeowners' wedding. Arranged in an unruly way calculated to appeal to kids' anarchic tastes, the cards read as diamonds and rhomboids, nicely unifying the room's design. Long-shot theory: Perhaps Ms. Buckingham felt the RSVPs—which guests have to submit on time, all blanks filled in—underlined the homework theme. One criticism? Those chairs look like a chore to move. Wouldn't swivel seats be more apt for restless kids?

THE DESIGNER'S RESPONSE "Clearly, you've never had children," observed Ms. Buckingham with a laugh. "Kids have an affinity for anything that moves. If it's swivel chairs, they're playing bumper chairs." The seat-as-toy possibility "needed to be squelched" if homework were to be done. As for the diamond directive, "you're right," she said, although, with the cards' arrangement, it wasn't so conscious. "I just wanted it random because a child's space shouldn't be rigid." As for our long-shot theory, Ms. Buckingham shot it down: "I wish I could say honestly that I did think of that, but no!" —Dale Hrabi

ATTIC FIRE PHOTOGRAPHY



LESSON PLAN The white ceramic vases on the desk in this children's homework area might seem merely decorative, but they're actually pencil holders. The room is featured in designer Julia Buckingham's new book 'Modernique' (Abrams), co-authored with Judith Nasatir.

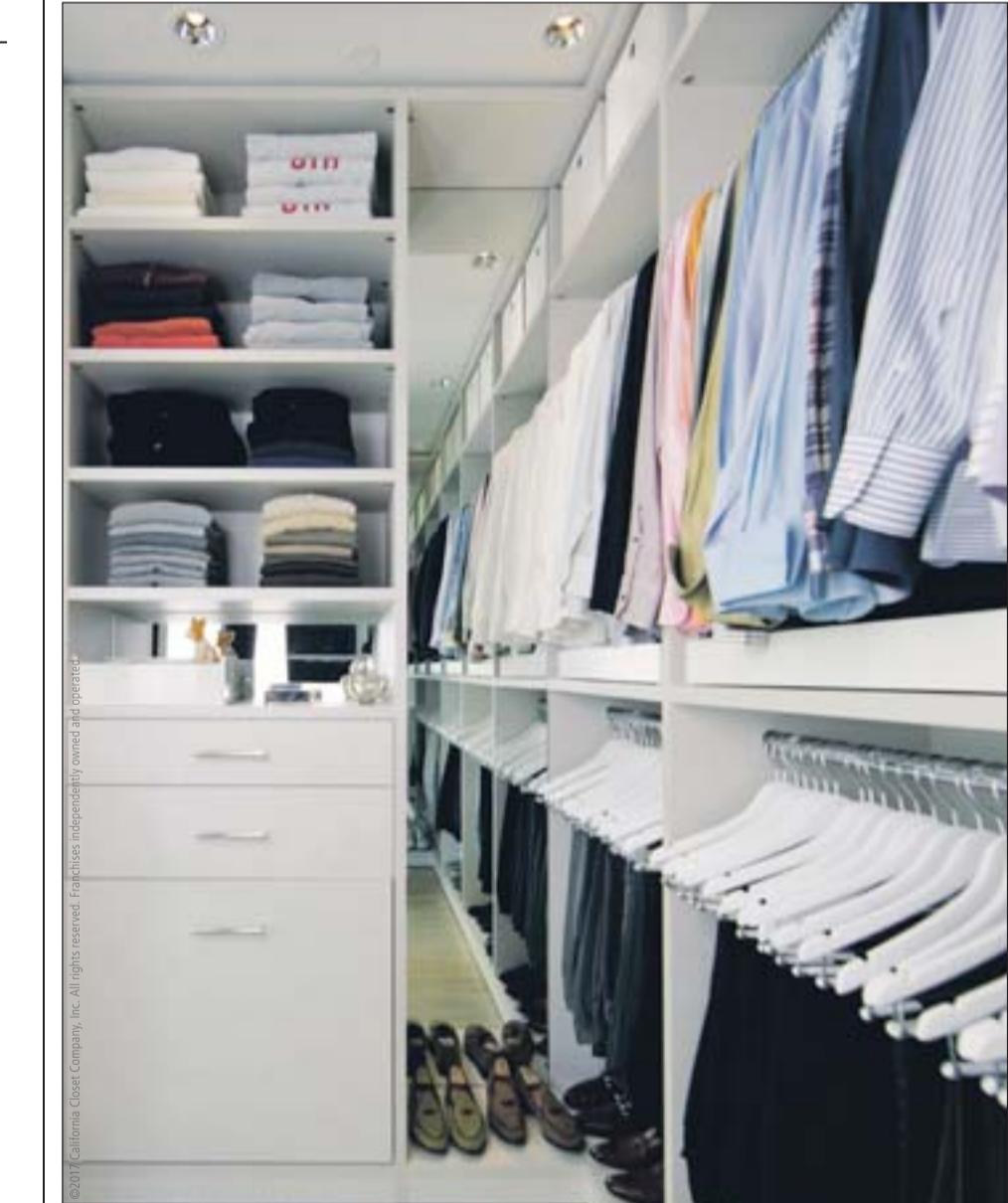
FAST FIVE

SHOW RUNNERS

When a tablecloth seems too formal, dress up your dinner with a simple strip of style—in quiet patchwork or irrepressible florals



Clockwise from bottom left: Galbraith & Paul Block-Printed Geometric Linen Runner, \$199, heathceramics.com; Alex Katz Black and White Floral Linen Runner, \$225, artwareeditions.com; Blue Hand-Loomed Cotton Runner, \$435, neuegalerie.org; Neutral Patchwork Runner, \$150, thompsonstreetstudio.com; Indigo Dolly Runner by Block Shop for Heath Ceramics, \$70, blockshoptextiles.com



F. MARTIN RAMIN/THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, STYLING BY ANNE CARDENAS

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californiaclosets.com

EATING & DRINKING

DESCRIPTION: Pasta Casserole

HABITAT:

School Cafeterias, church suppers, home kitchens

RANGE:

Throughout Ohio, Columbus in particular



LISEL ASHLOCK

UNITED PLATES
A Field Guide to Regional Dishes

Hello, Columbus

Born in central Ohio, this dish of pasta, tomato and ground beef with a molten cheddar-cheese topping was built to please a crowd. Meet the classic casserole known as Johnny Marzetti

BY KEITH PANDOLFI

BACK IN high school, I couldn't get away from Johnny Marzetti. Just hearing the name caused me to roll my eyes and mutter "Marzetti," in much the same way Jerry Seinfeld used to greet his nemesis, Newman.

It's not that Johnny's a bad person. In fact, he isn't a person at all, but a casserole—a mainstay of cafeteria menus across the state of Ohio, where I grew up. This carb-heavy combo of elbow macaroni, tomato sauce, ground beef, mushrooms, sautéed onions, and lots and lots of cheddar cheese was offered at least once, usually twice a week throughout my school days. In retrospect, I realize I liked Johnny Marzetti more than I knew.

A generous helping provided comfort as I panicked over another failed algebra exam. When my parents divorced and I moved in with my newly bachelorized dad, those cafeteria platefuls were the closest I got to a home-cooked meal.

Various places in Ohio have birthed dishes inextricably linked to them. My hometown of Cincinnati has its cinnamon-spiced chili—served, in the local style, over spaghetti—and an oat-buttermilk pork patty called goetta. Up in Cleveland, it's Polish Boy sausage sandwiches. Our state capitol of Columbus lays claim to Johnny Marzetti, a dish that's managed to cross county lines like no other.

It's been said Johnny Marzetti was first served at a long-gone restaurant named Marzetti's, opened in 1896 near the Ohio State campus

Johnny Marzetti

TOTAL TIME: 1 hour SERVES: 10-12

3 tablespoons olive oil, plus more for greasing dish
1 large onion, chopped
¾ pound crimini mushrooms, sliced
2 pounds ground beef
1 (28-ounce) can peeled whole tomatoes, crushed by hand, with juice
1½ pounds cheddar cheese, shredded
1 pound cavatappi, cooked and drained

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 10-by-15-inch baking dish with olive oil.
- Set a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Once hot, add oil and onions. Sauté until onions are translucent, 3-5 minutes. Add mushrooms and sauté until softened, about 5 minutes. Add beef and cook, breaking up any lumps with a wooden spoon, until beginning to brown, 7-10 minutes.
- Remove pan from heat and stir in crushed tomatoes and their juice. Add all but 1 cup cheese.
- Transfer everything to prepared baking dish and add cooked pasta. Mix gently. Scatter remaining cheese on top.
- Bake until cheese topping is browned and bubbling, 35-40 minutes. Serve warm.

—Adapted from the Ohio Historical Society

by Italian immigrants Joseph and Teresa Marzetti. Most estimates date the dish's creation to sometime between the restaurant's opening and the 1920s. Teresa went on to lend her name to the T. Marzetti brand of salad dressings sold nationwide, though an African American cook named Katherine Hill actually came up with many of the recipes, including the one for the company's signature slaw dressing.

No one at the T. Marzetti company can confirm which, if either, of these two women created the casserole, just as no one knows who started making the variant called Johnny Mazetti, popular in the Panama Canal Zone since World War II. A Johnny Machete casserole containing cream of mushroom soup made a cameo appearance on the TV series "The Gilmore Girls."

Whether it's a relative

of my Johnny or not, I don't know, but some Ohio recipes do feature this ingredient.

As with many culinary creation myths, determining the precise origin of this food is a fool's errand. But one thing's for sure: People have loved Johnny Marzetti for a long time. In the book "Recipes Remembered," former Cincinnati Post food columnist Fern Storer quotes a letter to the paper from the early 1960s that recalls, "The dish was a great favorite with the men in Columbus" served with "a beet and egg salad with a tangy dressing and hot French bread." By the '70s, the Columbus public schools were serving it to students, and from there it spread to cafeterias, church suppers and home kitchens all over Ohio.

Like a Louisiana gumbo, Johnny Marzetti takes many forms. In "Recipes Remembered," Ms. Storer writes that "recipes take off into flights of each cook's fancy." Cincinnati butcher Allison Simpson Hines sometimes swaps in venison bagged by her hunter father-in-law for the ground beef, or Ohio Amish butter cheese for the cheddar. In place of macaroni, she opts for corkscrew-shaped cavatappi. "You can change it, or elevate the ingredients, however you like," she said.

Homesick recently, I cooked up a Johnny Marzetti of my own in my Brooklyn kitchen. I kept it pretty traditional, though I did follow Ms. Hines's lead and used cavatappi. (I like plenty of noodele in my noodle dishes.)

I combined the pasta with browned ground beef, sautéed mushrooms and onions, pulverized San Marzano tomatoes and Kraft cheddar in a 9-by-13-inch dish—until it began to overflow. I transferred the contents to a larger dish, and I let them bake until the cheddar on top was browned and bubbly, about 40 minutes. As the casserole cooled on the stove top, I grew impatient and found myself scooping up bite after bite. It both burned my mouth and took me back to middle-school crushes and popped-collar Polo shirts, Duran Duran songs and the comforting din of cafeteria conversation.

There was far too much Marzetti for my family of three, so we brought the leftovers to our friends Matt and Nina. I told them it was nothing special, just something I grew up with. Then Matt dug in and said, "I love this stuff. I mean, how could you not?"

SLOW FOOD FAST SATISFYING AND SEASONAL FOOD IN ABOUT 30 MINUTES

Seared Trout With Pea Ragout and New Potatoes



The Chef

Spike Gjerde

His Restaurants

Woodberry Kitchen,

Parts & Labor,

Bird in Hand,

Grand Cru and

Artifact Coffee, all

in Baltimore; A

Rake's Progress,

soon to open in

Washington, D.C.

What He's Known For

Obsessively

researching and

championing Mid-

Atlantic farmers

and foodways.

Unpretentious

cooking rooted in

superb ingredients.

and garlic, as they are here.

Mr. Gjerde likes cast-iron for putting a sear on fish. "These skillets hold heat really well," he said. "Get the pan hot, but not too hot, and when the trout's skin browns along the edges, flip." Keep the fillets refrigerated until they go into the pan, to prevent overcooking; the flesh should flake, not crumble, when pressed.

By the time A Rake's Progress opens, other vegetable sides will make sense. "Maybe we'll have squash flowers and young sweet onions," Mr. Gjerde said. But as long as the trout's running, he'll be finding ways to showcase it. —Kitty Greenwald

TOTAL TIME: 30 minutes SERVES: 4

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EATING & DRINKING

ON WINE LETTIE TEAGUE



The Wine Lover's New (Old) Best Friend

WHEN I TOLD a friend I was writing a column about vermouth, she responded with surprise. "But vermouth isn't wine!" she replied. In fact, this venerable, spice-infused, fortified drink is made from wine. Christopher Tracy, winemaker of Channing Daughters Winery in Bridgehampton, N.Y., told me that quite a few visitors to his tasting room were taken aback by this news as well. "But they love it when they taste it," he said.

Mr. Tracy is one of a new breed of American vermouth makers producing novel and exciting versions of an old staple. While some, like Mr. Tracy, are professional wine-makers, others, like New York lawyer Adam Ford of Atsby, are making their vermouths on the side. They all share a passion some admitted was not necessarily wise.

Neil Kopplin of Oregon-based Imbue Vermouth jokingly characterized his decision to make this drink with two friends—one a winemaker and both now his business partners—as a "dinner conversation gone horribly, horribly wrong." They knew it was a product few people understood, yet they hoped to appeal to "young professionals with discerning taste who can grasp that this is a wine-based product you can pour over ice and drink by itself," Mr. Kopplin said.

A tall order, perhaps, but that's how vermouth is usually consumed in Europe—not as a component in a Manhattan or martini, as in the U.S. Back in 1786, in Turin, Italy, Antonio Benedetto Carpano created vermouth to be sipped as an aperitif. He infused a white wine with herbs and spices, and it was an immediate hit, so popular that Turin cafes reportedly had to stay open day and night to meet the demand.

The Carpano Antica Formula 1786 vermouth remains the standard by which other sweet vermouths are judged, and Italy is considered the de facto home of sweet vermouth. But we have France to thank for dry vermouth. Almost three decades after Mr. Carpano's invention, a French herbalist named Joseph Noilly infused white wine with his own secret combination of herbs and spices—and presumably less sugar. (Dry vermouth today is drier than sweet vermouth but can still be rather sweet; those looking for the driest should seek out "extra-dry" bottles.) Noilly Prat vermouth, named for Mr. Noilly and his son-in-law, Claudio Prat, endures today, though it's now owned by Bacardi.



cide if they wanted to drink them over ice or mixed into cocktails.

I arranged the vermouths more or less from driest to sweetest and from simplest to most complex.

First up was the Tribuno Extra Dry (\$4, half bottle), in which everyone detected a basil aroma and not much more. Something to use in cocktails or cooking. The Noilly Prat Extra Dry (\$8, half bottle) rated a half-step up: slightly spicy, slightly sweet, a decent (cheap) aperitif. The Dolin Dry Vermouth de Chambéry (\$10, half bottle) soared a league upward and was a universal hit. "I'm going to drink all of this," Tom declared. It was well-balanced and lively with a slightly bitter note. The Dolin Blanc (\$15, 750 ml bottle) was also good but deemed a bit too sweet to drink on its own. "Better in a mixed drink," Nancy said.

The universally approved Imbue Bittersweet Vermouth (\$27, full bottle) was the only bottle left completely empty at the end of the night. Unlike the others, it tasted "like a wine first," with interesting spice side notes. The Hammer & Tongs Sac'Résine Fine Vermouth (\$30, full bottle), made in Oregon with a label declaring it "Safe, Sure & Pleasant," went down exactly as advertised. Another hit, the Contratto Bianco Vermouth (\$14, half bottle), sported a label as much admired as the wine itself, which the group found "attractive, like a light Amaro," though a bit sweet.

The vermouths from Uncouth, Channing Daughters and Atsby attracted both criticism and praise for their strong characters. The Uncouth (\$35, 500 ml) had a "pronounced vegetal character," said Sue—Nancy called it "kale juice"—but Allison liked its "honey" aromas. Sue detected in Channing Daughters' VerVino Vermouth (\$28, full bottle) notes of "pickled cucumbers, pickled vegetables," and everyone thought it was bitter. Jen considered the Atsby Armadillo Cake (\$38, full bottle) the vermouth best suited to a cocktail and mixed it into a superb Negroni. The Carpano Antica Formula 1786 (\$14, half bottle) was deemed a great dessert vermouth, with aromas of chocolate and ginger—perfect over ice paired with angel food cake, said Allison.

Who knew that vermouth was not only a wine but a wildly interesting and mysterious one as well?

As Mr. Kopplin noted, "Vermouth is not just agriculture. It's alchemy."

► Email Lettie at wine@wsj.com.

OENOFILE // 5 VERMOUTHS FIT FOR SIPPING



Imbue Bittersweet Vermouth \$27 (full bottle)
Oregon-based partners Derek and Jennifer Einberger and Neil Kopplin craft a classic dry sipping vermouth from Pinot Gris and top-secret botanicals. Just a touch sweet and a little bitter, a wonderfully balanced aperitif.



Contratto Bianco Vermouth \$14 (half bottle)
Owned by the Rivetti family of the acclaimed La Spinetta winery, Contratto makes this sweet white vermouth from a 19th-century recipe. Marked by heady floral and citrus aromas, it's best over ice as a digestif or aperitif.



Dolin Dry Vermouth de Chambéry \$10 (half bottle)
A firm founded in the early 19th century, Dolin makes the rare PDO (Protected Designation of Origin) vermouth: light bodied, mildly herbal, slightly bitter and compulsively drinkable. Great for cocktails and on its own, on the rocks.



Hammer & Tongs Sac'Résine Fine Vermouth \$30 (full bottle)
A waft of incense that Andrew Taylor of Oregon's Hammer & Tongs encountered in his youth inspired him to create this aromatic, lively, dry, savory vermouth made from Pinot Blanc.



Carpano Antica Formula 1786 \$14 (half bottle)
This Italian sweet vermouth, from a recipe dating to 1786, is the one by which all others are measured. It's rich and luscious, with aromas of chocolate, orange peel and gingerbread. Serve it with cake or even ice cream.

HOW TO

TRIM AND COOK AN ARTICHOKE

This spiny vegetable may look daunting, but it's actually a cinch to prepare. Here, a step-by-step guide

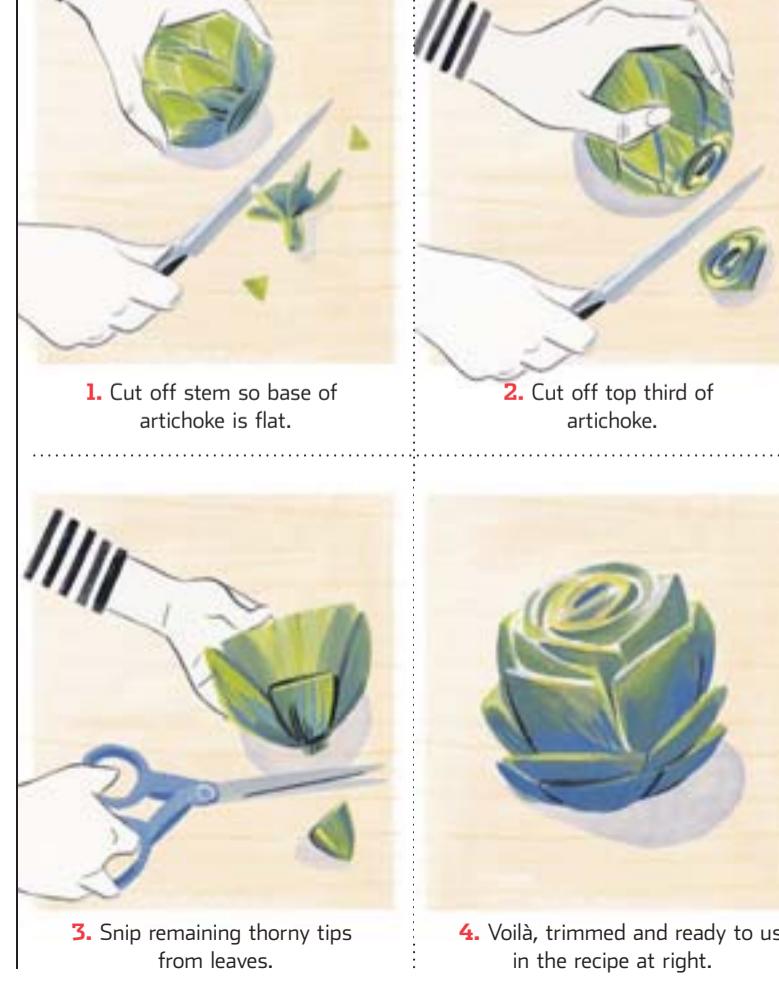
ARTICHOKES WERE all the rage in the 1960s Los Angeles of my childhood. We lived just a few hours south of Castroville, "Artichoke Capitol of the World," and my appetite for this food only increased when I learned that Marilyn Monroe had once been queen of the town's annual artichoke festival.

Artichokes possess a certain glamour, to be sure, and a whiff of exoticism, too. Encountering one for the first time, some people are downright intimidated. But eating an artichoke is a simple and highly satisfying matter of pulling off one leaf at a time; dipping the fleshy end in

melted butter, vinaigrette or mayonnaise; and dragging the leaf across your teeth to scrape off the luscious flesh. Once you reach the heart, remove the fuzz or "choke" with a knife or spoon, and sink your teeth into the succulent meat beneath.

Trimming and cooking an artichoke isn't much harder. You'll find the globe variety in supermarkets year round, and

right now is peak season. I like to boil them whole. The recipe at right includes a vinaigrette for dipping, punched up with curry and shallots. When a recipe calls for the hearts only, I cook whole artichokes first rather than enduring the more common—and tedious—process of removing the leaves and choke with a sharp knife while still raw. Once cooked, the choke comes out easily, and then you have the serendipitous snack provided by the cooked leaves. —Gail Monaghan



Whole Artichokes With Curry-Shallot Vinaigrette

Choose artichokes that feel firm and heavy for their size. A fresh artichoke will be a healthy deep green and still tightly closed; it should emit an audible squeak when you squeeze it.

TOTAL TIME: 45 minutes SERVES: 4

Make curry-shallot vinaigrette: In a medium bowl, combine 1 cup finely minced shallots, 1 clove garlic, minced, 1/4 cup minced chives, 1/4 cup minced parsley, 1/4 cup minced tarragon, salt and pepper to taste, 1/2 teaspoon mild curry powder, 1 large pinch of sugar, 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar, 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar, 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice and 1 cup olive oil. Whisk thoroughly. Let sit 15 minutes, then adjust seasonings to taste. Whisk again before serving. // Boil artichokes: Trim 4 medium or large globe artichokes and place in a lidded pot large enough to comfortably hold them and cover with salted water by at least 1 inch. Place a plate on top of artichokes to keep them submerged. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to low, cover pot and simmer until outer leaves can easily be pulled off, 25–35 minutes (depending on size of artichoke). // Serve artichokes hot with individual ramekins or small bowls of curry-shallot vinaigrette, melted butter or room-temperature mayonnaise.

LIBBY VANDERPOEL

ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

A Glutton's Guide to Bilbao

Few places merit a tasting tour like this Spanish city, whose stand-and-eat bar snacks are way more than just nuts



BY J.S. MARCUS

SPAIN'S BASQUE Country fosters one of the world's great regional cuisines, but its symbol isn't a fancy foam or a funky animal part—it's the ordinary toothpick. The pick, it turns out, is the essential ingredient in the pintxo, a Basque snack food and a close relative of the tapa, eaten with a glass in hand. Named in honor of the stick that holds it together, the modern pintxo (pronounced "pincho") comes in every guise, from a tiny, pierced ham sandwich to an impaled column of foie gras. What matters is that it can be eaten in a bite or two. Customers are often allowed to help themselves from open display trays; servers tally the bill by adding up the sticks.

Pintxos may be found in most Spanish cities these days, but to experience the form in all its variations, you have to go to Bilbao, the Basque Country's lone metropolis. Bilbaínos, as residents are called, like to space out several pintxos throughout the day. The bars, which may be open for breakfast and close after midnight, manage to cross coziness with elegance, like a mix between an old-fashioned American diner and a French wine bar. Two or three pintxos and a glass of wine will rarely set you back more than 10 euros (about \$10). In San Sebastian, the Basque beach resort and

culinary hub an hour away, the same meal can easily cost double.

Bilbao bars occur in clusters, encouraging bar hopping, and they tend to be short on seats, requiring you to combine leaning, drinking and noshing. Teresa Barrenechea, a Bilbao native and noted Basque cookbook author, describes the pintxo bar's requisite balancing act as "the art of eating while standing."

The city itself made a sudden splash internationally back in 1997, when Frank Gehry's Museo Guggenheim Bilbao first opened. But Bilbao has long been known among Spaniards for its prosperity and panache, marked by more than a solid century of industrial and financial prowess. Bilbao manages to be serenely classy and quaintly gritty. Now dominated by a much-improved waterfront, the city is highly walkable. Here, a strolling-and-snacking tour by neighborhood.

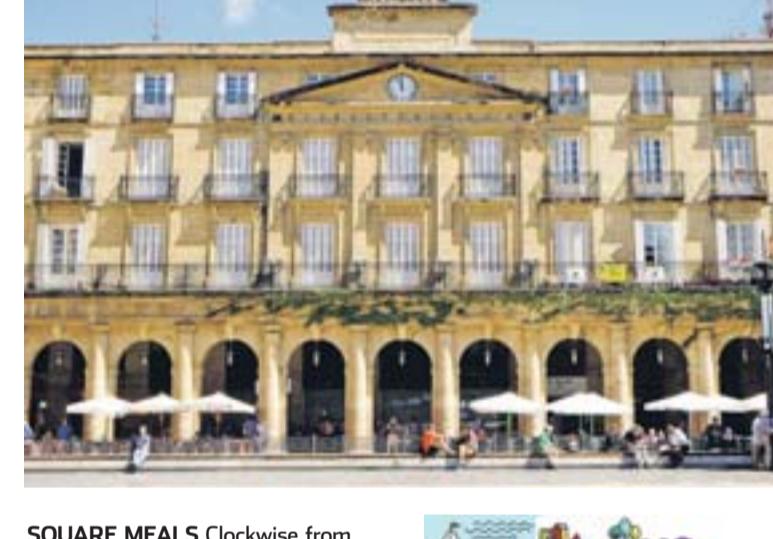
Abando

Around 1900, Bilbao's newly flush bourgeoisie built up the Abando district, and it's been the heart of the city ever since. Its architectural styles range from patently Parisian to something called "neo-Basque," which transferred the rustic, pitched-roof look of Basque farmhouses to factories and mansions. These days, Abando is also the place to find prime pintxo purveyors, notably set back on small, lively Maestro García Rivero street. Start at **El Huevo Frito**, a yellow hole-in-the-wall where a quail egg is the default ingredient for classic pintxos, like the *gilda*, combining olives, anchovies and pickled peppers along a single toothpick (*Maestro García Rivero 1*; elhuevofrito.com). Across the street at dark-hued **Bar Okela**, try the *pimento rozo relleno de rape o bacalao*, an earthy red pepper stuffed with a light fish soufflé (*Maestro García Rivero 1*, barokela.com).

Bilbao is Spain at its most Anglo-

BASQUE BOUNTY HUNTERS

Left: Bar El Globo, where tourists and Bilbaínos wait in line for freshly made crab pintxos. Below: A few offerings at Sorginzuolo.



SQUARE MEALS Clockwise from above: Plaza Nueva in Bilbao's old town; an eel sandwich at Gure-Toki; assorted pintxos at Café Iruña.

phile, and Abando's Jardines de Albia, an early 20th-century plaza-like park, looks like a Spanish riff on a green London square. It's also lined with pintxo bars. At **Café Iruña**, the neo-Moorish, Belle-Époque interior makes an apt backdrop for a *moruno*, or Moorish, pintxo—the lamb pieces, first grilled to order then pungently spiced, are eaten right off the skewer (*Colon de Larreategui, 13*; cafeirunabilbao.net).

Abando's elliptical Plaza de Federico Moyúa, once a sprawling mid-20th-century oddity, underwent a 1990s makeover thanks to the opening of subway stations designed by Norman Foster. The architect livened up the monumental square with surreal station entrances that look like giant Slinkies. One street away, on a key pintxo thoroughfare called Calle Diputación, **Bar El Globo** dishes up luscious gratinéd spider crab in a warmly lit room (*Diputación 8*; barelglobo.es). At Globo's neighbor, barebones **La Viña del Ensanche**, patrons crowd in at all hours to gobble down variations on a ham sandwich (*Diputación 10*; lavinaldelensanche.com).

The northern end of Abando once gave way to an industrial area but is now home to the Guggenheim and other prestige projects. This is also the place to find Bilbao's modern bourgeoisie, living it up in bars that emphasize the wine as well as the food. At **Singular**, a sparsely styled space with rough-hewed stone walls, the pintxos are a local legend. Marvel at the pocket-size perfection of small slices of Iberian ham dressed with a leek salad, on a thin slice of chewy, crusty bread (*Lersundi 2*; singularbar.com). Around the corner at an ornately tiled bar called **Mr. Marvelous**, the common tortilla—Spain's ubiquitous



omelet—gets a flavor upgrade thanks to caramelized onions (*Los Heros 18*).

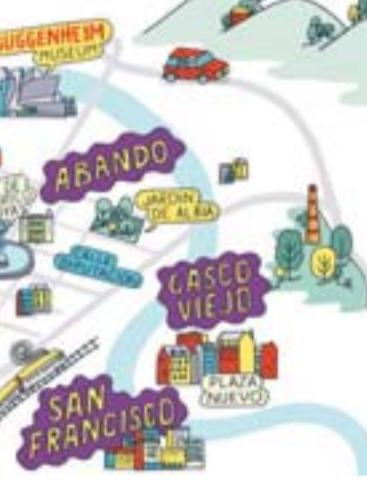
Casco Viejo

Pintxo bars abound in Casco Viejo, Bilbao's historic old town, but few are standouts. Exception: a fine pair hidden in the corner of Plaza Nueva, an arcade-lined neoclassical square. At the floodlit **Sorginzuolo**,

order the *kokotxas de bacalao al pil-pil*, a Basque delicacy featuring succulent, expensive flesh from a cod's neck, and served with a labor-intensive, garlicky fish sauce. It's usually reserved as a dish for a formal dinner, but at Sorginzuolo it's a fast mouthful (sorginzuolo.com). Next door, **Gure-Toki** brings wit to its pintxos—in one, a yakitori chicken skewer serves as a swizzle stick, rising out of a shot glass filled with silky potato cream (guretoki.com).

Pintxos, no matter how small or humble, are meant to combine a range of flavors and textures. At Michelin-starred **Mina**, chef Álvaro Garrido asks diners to make a meal out of 14 pintxo-size and small-plate courses, including *guisante lágrima*—rare, tear-shaped peas, grown near the Basque coastline—set in rosemary and hen broth (*Muelle Marzana, restaurantmina.es*).

Many Bilbaínos measure Mina as the city's culinary trendsetter. In the not-too-distant future, you might just walk into an ordinary bar anywhere in Bilbao and find a few extraordinary peas, just waiting to be picked up by a toothpick.



information on Getxo's grandest private houses hovering just above. Then duck into wood-lined **Bar Galea**, for some grand pintxos, starting perhaps with a fried pepper, stuffed with cod mousse and dressed with a rich sauce made with seafood stock (*Calle Mayor 22*).

San Francisco

As hilly as its American counterpart, and still mostly dodgy, San Francisco is now the requisite hipster hood. At **Peso Neto**, where tattoos and nose rings dominate, the pintxos on offer one May day included a portion of *albondigas*, or typical Spanish meatballs, atypically made from Black Angus beef topped with chipotle sauce and served in individual Mason jars (*San Francisco 1; pesonetoes.com*).

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FRANCESCO LASTRUCCI FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

JAMES GULLIVER HANCOCK

ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

Welcome to the Jungle

Bushwhacking may no longer be required when touring Papua New Guinea, but the country's wild side is still very alive

BY SARAH GOLD

IN A BUSH PLANE buzzing high above the jungle of central Papua New Guinea, I peered through the windshield from my passenger seat. Below, a dense carpet of green spread in every direction. Not a single road or sign of humanity interrupted it—only the Karawari River, winding through the trees like a thick, glittering snake. Suddenly, a few inches from my face, a hairy, mouse-colored spider the size of a toddler's hand emerged from a crevice between the plane's windshield and instrument panel. As it scuttled across the dials, the pilot grabbed his flight-log clipboard and delivered a mighty wallop to the intruder. It crumpled into a fuzzy wad between my shoes.

It was a near-perfect illustration of a lesson I'd learn repeatedly in Papua New Guinea: No matter how peaceable things seemed there, the wildness found a way in.

Most people would be hard-pressed to find Papua New Guinea on a map. The eastern half of a bird-shaped island off the northeastern tip of Australia (the western half belongs to Indonesia), it's about as far off-the-beaten track as you can get. Even those who have heard of the country likely only know it as a menacing backwater where young explorer Michael Rockefeller was devoured by cannibals in 1961. Can you blame tourists for staying away?

Even now, the country remains largely undeveloped. Much of the terrain is formidable, with thickly forested peaks rising as high as 15,000 feet. Many Papuans work as subsistence farmers or herders, residing in primitive villages, practicing the same tribal customs and speaking the same languages (more than 800 distinct tongues) as they have for centuries.

In the 1970s, when I was a child, my geologist uncle lived in Papua New Guinea with his family, apparently undaunted by cannibals. He'd



send photos of iridescent blue butterflies, wildly spotted possums and tribesmen clad only in paint and leaves—a real-life Land That Time Forgot sans dinosaurs.

When I finally went myself, last summer, I realized my presumptions about the place were shamefully outdated. Flying into Port Moresby, the country's capital, I passed over office towers and highways. I didn't stay in the capital—only stopped to change planes for Mount Hagen, a town in the Central Highlands—but

A hairy spider the size of a toddler's hand emerged from the windshield.

If I had, I could have booked the Port Moresby Crowne Plaza or Holiday Inn Port Moresby, both frequented by business travelers calling on one of the many foreign-owned mines or drilling rigs operating throughout the country. Still, beyond the capital and a few other highly populated areas, creature comforts in Papua New Guinea remain relatively rare.

Fortunately, for travelers like me who want to explore beyond the city without roughing it, touring options are becoming more plentiful and

cushier. Established outfitters like Abercrombie & Kent and Mountain Travel Sobek, which have offered bespoke or occasional trips there in the past, now run several group trips each year. The company I chose, Cox & Kings, arranged a guided itinerary for me, and two other American tourists, that took in three distinct regions of the country: a bustling hub, a frontier town and a far-flung jungle community. We stayed in three comfortable lodges, flew from place to place in bush planes and met new guides in each region.

Our first few days were spent in Mount Hagen, a lively mountain town with open-air markets abundant with produce. We stayed at Rondon Ridge, a newly renovated lodge that accommodated a Rolling Stone a few years back, so our guide, Michael, eagerly told us. As with Port Moresby, Mount Hagen, with its paved roads and cell towers, looked more modern than I had expected, but on excursions from the lodge to nearby villages, we learned that deep-rooted traditions continue to hold sway.

Most local residents still live in bamboo-thatch huts, go barefoot, and till their coffee and sweet-potato fields with hand tools. We saw ceremonial dance performances that enacted tribal legends, the spookiest performed by "mud men" in baked-clay, helmet-like masks. We also met

farmers who had paid exorbitant bride prices (usually in pigs) for their multiple wives. One day we came across a solitary hut in the forest, not far from a modern medical clinic, where a man in a bark-cloth apron and feather headdress sat silently: a spirit doctor, holding office hours.

Our next stop was Tari, a high-mountain town that's been a home base, since the early 2000s, for a number of mining, oil drilling and natural-gas pipeline projects. There,

the indigenous customs seemed much more fraught.

Amid Tari's misty peaks and thunderous waterfalls live many of the local Huli people, whose cultural rituals are

among the island's most colorful—no small claim. Local "wigmen," for example, sequester themselves for years at a time to grow, and then ceremonially harvest, their hair—which is used, along with feathers and bird wings, to make elaborate wigs that sell for great sums among

other Huli men.

Other tribal codes in Tari, though, were far more unsettling. It turned out we'd arrived just as a long-simmering conflict between local clans had escalated to violence.

The clash, according to our hosts at Ambua Lodge, the lushly landscaped, walled-in compound where we stayed for three days, ignited over land rights. My companions and I were warned not to stray off

the lodge property, except on guided

HIDDEN VALLEY The view from the Karawari Lodge, in Papua New Guinea's remote Karawai River valley. Below: Huli 'wigmen' in the Tari Valley.

minibus trips to visit other villages. On these rides, we passed crowds of tribesmen patrolling the roadways—all carrying machetes, axes or homemade single-shot rifles that had been cobbled together from scrap metal and steel pipe.

I was more than a little freaked out by the time we arrived in the remote Karawari River valley, our final destination. The Iatmul people there had, for centuries, stayed mostly cocooned from the outside world. They had also once been some of the country's fiercest head-hunters.

My unease lifted soon after we landed. Life along the wide, mud-colored river seemed the picture of serenity. Motoring in a small launch on our first day, I spied smoke rising from palm-roofed riverbank homes, fishermen drifting quietly in their dugout canoes.

Over the next few days, we visited local villages along the riverbank, where we found residents weaving fish baskets or grinding sago-palm flour. But not everything in the Karawari was idyllic. We met teenagers whose backs were patterned with raised "crocodile" scars from painful initiation ceremonies, and came across village "blood stones," stone pillars, which half a century ago warriors would decorate with the severed heads of their enemies.

On my last evening, over beers at Karawari Lodge with another guide, Chris, I asked him a question I'd been pondering: Could Papuans still maintain their traditions, with more new-world emissaries like me turning up? "I can only speak for myself," he said. "But I can tell you my culture is strong inside me. It always will be."

Just then, a twinkly arpeggio issued from his back pocket. Frowning, he pulled out a flip phone—the first I'd seen on the Karawari. "Sorry," he said. "I need to take this."

► For details on visiting Papua New Guinea, see wsj.com/travel.

BECOME A LAYOVER PLAYER

To finagle two vacations for the price of one, choose your airline strategically

LAST YEAR, I flew from New York to Berlin for a conference, but cleverly squeezed in an en-route day in Oslo, taking in the delightfully gloomy Edvard Munch paintings at a national art museum and savoring a leisurely lunch at an outdoor cafe. I not only sneaked in a side trip to a city I'd never visited, but shaved \$500 off the price of flying nonstop.

Airlines often throw in a "free" stopover to encourage travelers to spend a few days in their home airports (the "free" simply means that the fare won't rise if you choose to linger in the layover town.) The most popular pit stops are typically those on the edge of a continent, located part way to the ultimate destination. Iceland is currently the mother of all stopover points, thanks to Icelandair's aggressive ad campaign and cheap fares.

I got my Oslo fix thanks to Norwegian Air Shuttle, whose schedules allowed for a gap between connections long enough (seven hours) to let me swing by the city. Other airlines take a packaged approach, throwing in hotel and sightseeing discounts for stays ranging from a few days to a week. Here, six places well worth loitering in.

—Barbara Peterson



1 Lisbon

The Airline TAP Portugal

The Deal If you're heading anywhere in western Europe, or to North or sub-Saharan Africa, consider stopping off in the Portuguese capital. Portugal's flagship airline, TAP, recently added daily trans-Atlantic flights to the city from four U.S. gateways, including New York's Kennedy and Boston's Logan, and introduced stopovers of up to 72 hours, sweetening the deal with a free domestic flight to the wine hub of Porto.

Power Pairing Three days in Lisbon, then a week sunning and diving in Mozambique. That's a great one-two punch. flytap.com



2 Helsinki

The Airline Finnair

The Deal Finnair lets you stay up to five nights in the Finnish capital en route to more than 20 European, Middle East, and Asian destinations. For around \$150, you can get a two-day, one-night hotel and sightseeing package, saunas and airport transfers included. Up that to around \$1,000 and hang around for the three-day package, which includes a side trip to the Arctic Circle.

Power Pairing Three days in Helsinki, taking in the sleek Nordic design scene, followed by five days in St. Petersburg touring the grand palaces and art museums. finnair.com



3 Reykjavik

The Airlines Icelandair and WowAir

The Deal Both airlines give free stopovers to passengers connecting through Iceland on flights from U.S. cities to European destinations. Icelandair will pair a traveler with a "stopover buddy," one of the airline's employees who will play tour guide/companion. Lately, however, requests for this service have outnumbered available employees.

Power Pairing Three days in Iceland soaking in mineral baths and hiking the moon-like terrain followed by a four-day gastronomic feeding frenzy in Paris. icelandair.us, wowair.us



4 Abu Dhabi and Dubai

The Airlines Etihad Airways and Emirates

The Deal With Etihad you can spend up to two nights in Abu Dhabi on flights from the U.S. to dozens of destinations in Asia and Australia, plus discounts on activities like golfing. With Emirates, spend up to 96 hours in Dubai on flights from 11 U.S. cities to over 100 international destinations.

Power Pairings A desert safari in Abu Dhabi followed by a week of trekking in Nepal, or two nights at Dubai's glitzy Jumeriah Beach hotel, before moving on to a tropical resort in the Seychelles. etihad.com, emirates.com



5 Singapore

The Airline Singapore Airlines

The Deal Passengers can get two free, unlimited-stay stopovers on each ticket, as well as hotel discounts at 30-plus hotels, including the Ritz-Carlton Millenia (from around \$300 a night for two, including airport transfers, and sightseeing and shopping discounts). You also score free drinks at the 1-Altitude bar and nightclub, on the 61st, 62nd and 63rd floor of One Raffles Place.

Power Pairing Two days roaming the street markets and skyscrapers of Singapore followed by a sojourn in Laos's ancient city of Luang Prabang. singaporeair.com

GEAR & GADGETS



EASY RIDERS BMW's gas-powered R nineT Scrambler (left) and the all-electric Zero DSR.

VALERI DOVAL

RUMBLE SEAT DAN NEIL

Tale of Two Scramblers: A Gas vs. Electric Duel

LARGELY OWING to the European Union's new rules on motorcycle-tailpipe emissions and noise, known generally as Euro 4, a fleet of new and freshened two-wheelers have hit the market, and a lot of old bikes will never be the same. One of our guests, the BMW R nineT Scrambler, is a good for-instance of a Euro 4-compliant bike. Trainspotters may note the generous exhaust plumbing, the nice-sized catalytic converter between the foot pegs, and the big, upswung silencers. Be very quiet.

But just three years from now, by 2020, Euro 5 regulations will take another bite out of allowable emissions and noise. In the interim, cities in the EU will be fashioning low and no-emission zones that could ban gas-powered vehicles altogether by mid-decade. One way or another, European regulators aim to zero out urban motorcycle emissions.

"Zero" happens to be the name of our other test bike, the Zero DSR. Built in California around a very sexy box of batteries (13.0 kWh), it's fair to say the Zero embodies the end of the rainbow for Europe's clean-air authorities, about a decade hence: no tailpipe emissions, nearly silent, minimal charging requirements. Let's call that Euro 10.

Why should Americans care about Euro whatever? Because, with about 1 million sales annually, Europe is one of the world's largest markets for full-size motorcycles. Manufacturers who want to play in this sandbox must build bikes that comply with the EU's rules. And since it is uneconomic to build bikes that are only regionally compliant, Europe's rules effectively raise standards around the world.

That's right: Those waffle-eating bastards in Brussels are stealing

your freedom.

The BMW and the Zero are thus two bikes on the same timeline. They are both pricey, handsome dual-sport motorcycles, with hatched up bellies, enduro-style tires, comfortably upright rider posture, and added suspension travel for light off-roading. Both are rich in amour-propre, the reflected glory of ownership-signalling, if you like. Please, free to ask me about my progressive motorcycle.

What divides these bikes is their relation to the hastening future, to modernity itself. The BMW—the "scrambler" version of the protean R nineT series—glories in '60s nostal-

gia, in retro-bike details such as the round headlamps and analogue speedometer, the front telescopic fork with rubber gaiters. Authenticity yields to engineering in a few cases, such as BMW's Paralever cast-aluminum single-sided swing arm. The bikes have oil coolers, but BMW hopes you won't notice.

The most beguiling anachronism is the horizontally opposed twin "boxer" engine, 1,170cc displacement, here regulated to produce 110 hp at a 7,750 rpm. This is an engine that, when you rap the throttle—*Verrrrrooom!*—the torque-jacking effect of the suddenly accelerating crankshaft pulls the bike over to the left, as if it were a dog wanting to roll over on its back.

Although not loud, the BMW's aural textures—the rhythmic shuffling

of pistons at idle, the mighty snap at full throttle—are pitch-perfect and immaculately curated. If you believe cool can be store-bought then the BMW is extra cool. It might as well come with a clip-on man bun.

The Zero, encased in videogame-like armor, emphatically self-identifies as futuristic and post-petroleum. It is certainly not the material equal of the BMW. The Zero's exterior design is sportbike generic; the plastic bodywork practically

screams Chinese two-stroke; and the aluminum frame is pretty basic, from a manufacturing perspective.

Nor is the electric bike faintly as sensual, or charismatic, or companionable. At stop lights, the BMW thuds seductively at idle. The Zero is impassive, like a distant spouse.

But give the Zero's throttle a good twist. Yah. Whoa. Sheesh. This thing will pull your arms off, especially going from 0-30 mph. They should call it the Wookiee.

Propelled by a massively torque electric motor (116 lb-ft) that is the company's secret sauce, the Zero's aim-and-squirt, no-shift acceleration in traffic is intoxicating, godlike. I'm serious when I say this bike's millisecond access to monster torque constitutes a safety feature. It's like Ali: too fast to hit. Weirdly, though, and unforgivably, the Zero doesn't feature traction control.

The Scrambler is a big, powerful bike, too, but the power rolls up with the gathering force of an ocean wave. And you have to be in the right gear. No gas-powered bike I've ridden could hope to have the finger-snap immediacy of the Zero humming through city traffic.

At touring speeds, the trade-offs for the electric bike accrue. The top sustained speed is given as 90 mph. I wrung it out to about there, no

biggy. It's happier at 75 mph.

The Zero's electric bits consist of the raging e-motor (70 hp at 3,500 rpm), bristling with gold-anodized cooling fins, situated under the saddle. Belt-driven, fixed gear-ratio. Nothing surprises about the Zero powertrain except the effrontery of torque. This bike, the "R" version of the DS model (hence the name), gets a whopping 775-amp, three-phase controller that allows it to unleash the big electrons.

Packaged low in the frame is the lithium battery brick, providing a nominal 147-mile range in city riding, says Zero. Or you can just remember: 70 miles at 70 mph. Hidden inside its faux gas tank is a 1.3-kW charger and a few feet of glorified extension cord. It's brilliant. I rode it through the backyard and up to an exterior outlet, where I left it plugged in overnight. The next morning was another 100 miles of range, several days worth for me. The battery pack carries a five-year,

unlimited-mileage warranty.

As with electric cars, the low center of gravity (c-of-g) defines the riding and handling. I had a chance to trail ride the Zero. Standing on the pegs, wheeling over broken ground at walking speeds, I struggled to modulate the e-throttle and front brake lever precisely, to balance the bike against the brakes and not fall over. The Zero's low-speed torque can't be feathered like the BMW's. But the Zero's low c-of-g makes it a stable platform off-road.

The BMW comes by its low c-of-g the old-fashioned way: with horizontal cylinders. It rides amazeballs, all the time, everywhere. Honestly, do these bikes even need any more praise?

The Zero is a preview of coming attractions: a technically superior, emotionally inferior motorcycle, effortless to ride, crazy fast, fetishly tech, and all electric.

And bikes like the BMW? We will certainly miss them.



THE HEAD-TO-HEAD SPECS

2017 ZERO DSR

Price, as tested \$15,995

Powertrain battery electric: air-cooled permanent-magnet, brushless DC motor; clutchless direct drive, with regenerative braking; 13.0 kWh lithium battery pack; integrated charger

Power/torque 70 hp at 3,500 rpm/116 lb-ft

Wheelbase/weight 56.2 inches/419 pounds

Seat height 33.2 inches

0-60 mph <4 seconds

Top speed 102 mph

Range 147/88 miles, city/highway (55 mph)

2017 BMW nineT Scrambler

Price, as tested \$14,145

Powertrain air/oil-cooled, four-stroke 1,170-cc flat twin with four-valve heads; single dry-plate clutch, hydraulically operated; six-speed gearbox; rear shaft drive

Power/torque 110 hp at 7,750 rpm/86 lb-ft at 6,000 rpm

Wheelbase/weight 60.1 inches/485 pounds

Seat height 32.3 inches

0-60 mph 3.6 seconds

Top speed 125+ mph

BEACH BUDDIES

Upgrade your downtime in the sand and surf this summer with this ingenious trio of luxe, shore-friendly accessories



FOR KICKING BACK ASSUREDLY Alite Calpine Chair

This scaled-down butterfly chair offers a full-size back rest and 15 inches of elevation, yet weighs a modest 3.3 pounds and collapses to fit in a bag just 27 inches tall and 6 inches thick. Unlike feeble beach chairs that wind up dented by mid-July, the Calpine, with its burly aluminum frame and legs, should survive many summers unscathed. \$100, alitedesigns.com



FOR ROCKING OUT BY THE SEA LifeProof Aquaphonics AQ10

Not only can this tough-guy Bluetooth speaker handle just about anything your trip to the beach can throw at it—wanton sand exposure, immersion in up to 3.3 feet of salt water, 4-foot falls onto the hellishly hot concrete by the concession stand—it also floats serenely. A sealed storage compartment gives you a spot to stash credit cards and keys. \$200, lifeproof.com



FOR BLASTING SAND OFF WEARY BODIES WORX Hydroshot

For sun-workshopping neat freaks, this rechargeable "power cleaner" is a game changer. Using a special connector out next month, screw on a 2-liter bottle filled with fresh water, then pull the trigger to unleash a 59- to 320-psi spray. Before climbing into the car, blast every last grain of sand off your feet, foot-wear, beach gear and delighted offspring. \$120, worx.com