

Amazon's Grand Ambitions

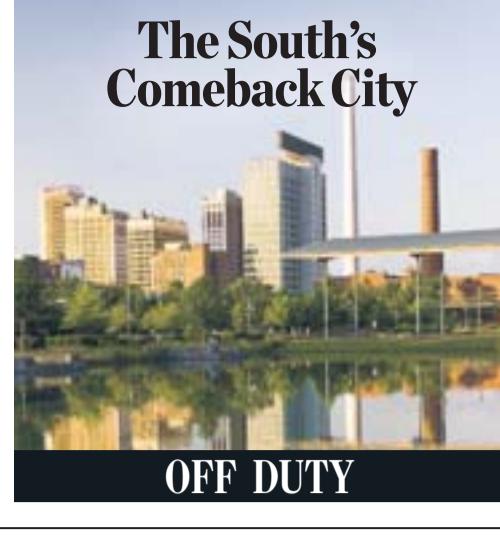


REVIEW

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

WSJ

The South's Comeback City



OFF DUTY

VOL. CCLXX NO. 71

WEEKEND

★★★★ \$5.00

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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - 24, 2017

WSJ.com

What's News

World-Wide

McCain said he wouldn't support the latest GOP plan to undo large parts of the ACA, casting doubt on a path forward for the bill. **A1**

◆ The Trump administration is preparing to replace its travel ban with more targeted restrictions. **A3**

◆ U.S. disavowal of the Iran nuclear deal would weaken efforts to convince North Korea to abandon its own program, critics say. **A6**

◆ Puerto Rican officials struggled to assess the full extent of the damage Hurricane Maria wrought. **A3**

◆ May said the U.K. would honor its financial commitments to the EU's current budget and seek to retain trade terms for two years after a planned 2019 exit. **A8**

◆ An Iraqi man charged with last week's London bombing bought explosives-making materials online and had expressed hatred toward the U.K., prosecutors said. **A8**

◆ A federal court in Massachusetts has struck down key elements of a local drone ordinance that had significantly restricted where residents could fly the devices. **A3**

Business & Finance

◆ Uber is set to lose its license to operate in London, threatening to shut the ride-hailing firm out of one of its biggest markets. **A1**

◆ Facebook abandoned a plan to change its stock structure that would have given Zuckerberg more control. **A1**

◆ Germany's Siemens and France's Alstom are in talks to create a European rail transportation powerhouse. **B1**

◆ A government board cleared the way for Trump to deploy a legal weapon to restrict solar-panel imports. **A7**

◆ There are signs demand for two new iPhone models is tepid, but analysts say that could benefit Apple. **B3**

◆ The SEC hack is stirring doubts about a trade database the agency has touted as a defense against episodes like the 2010 "Flash Crash." **B1**

◆ The S&P 500 and the Dow eked out their second consecutive weekly gains. **B10**

◆ OPEC is trying to contain Libya and Nigeria, where rising oil output may derail efforts to curb supply. **B8**

◆ Round Hill agreed to buy Carlin Music, giving the private-equity firm publishing rights for Elvis Presley. **B3**

Inside

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Trump Gets Blunt at The U.N.

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A clash with Pyongyang escalated dramatically through the week, as President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un traded insults. **A6, C1**

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U.S. NEWS

THE NUMBERS | By Jo Craven McGinty

Scary Question: How Do Nuclear Codes Work?


A question has been lurking in the back of my mind since news stories began mentioning the nuclear codes with unsettling regularity, North Korea began detonating bombs with alarming frequency and President Donald Trump began threatening Kim Jong Un with total destruction.

How do the codes work?

In the event of a nuclear attack on the U.S., there is no button for the president to push, if he chooses to respond with nuclear weapons. Instead, a series of codes must be relayed before 42 pairs of land-based missile operators in as many different locations can turn their launch keys to unleash a nuclear response.

If the president were to fire all 420 of those land-based nuclear warheads, plus 1,000 missiles aboard 10 nuclear submarines, it would equal roughly 30,000 Hiroshima bombs.

"From start to finish, everything will be gone and ex-

ploded in an hour or 45 minutes," said Bruce G. Blair, a former Minuteman missile-launch officer and research scholar at Princeton University's Program on Science and Global Security.

Mr. Blair laid out the expected timeline for a U.S. nuclear response to an attack:

Sounding the Alarm (3 minutes)

If the North American Aerospace Defense Command, or Norad, located in Colorado Springs, Colo., spots satellite or ground-radar evidence of a nuclear attack, it alerts the Pentagon.

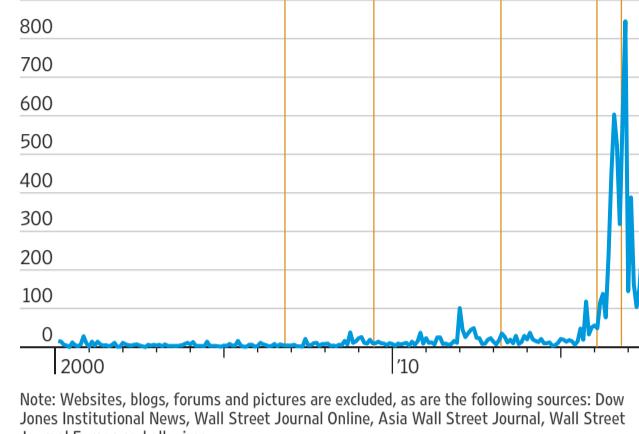
Briefing the President (1 minute)

The Pentagon calls the president, the commander of the U.S. Strategic Command in Omaha, Neb., and various other advisers.

A military aide who accompanies the president at all times produces a menu of nuclear options from a locked, leather satchel known as the "football." But to save time, it's likely that the four-star general in charge of Strategic

Code Talkers

Mentions of 'nuclear codes' in English-language licensed publications



Note: Websites, blogs, forums and pictures are excluded, as are the following sources: Dow Jones Institutional News, Wall Street Journal Online, Asia Wall Street Journal, Wall Street Journal Europe and all wires. Source: Factiva

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Command would inform the president on his nuclear options.

"It's basically a 1 minute briefing," Mr. Blair said, "but it could be as short as 30 seconds."

Deciding on a Response (12 minutes)

The process allows the president about 12 minutes

to launch a retaliatory strike.

The Pentagon carries out the order, but only after it verifies the person issuing it is truly the president.

"The head person in the war room would ask the president, 'Are you ready to authenticate?'" Mr. Blair said. "It's a standard challenge and reply system."

The president uses an authentication card known as the "biscuit" with numbers and letters arranged in lines, not unlike a Bingo card, according to an account by Bill Gulley, a former director of the White House Military Office, who wrote about his experiences in the 1980 book "Breaking Cover."

The Pentagon challenges

the president over the phone with a code such as Delta Zulu. "The President with the help of a military aide finds Delta Zulu on his card and responds with the appropriate code," Mr. Blair said. "Let's say Charlie Bravo."

Transmitting the Orders to Launch (2 minutes)

The Pentagon formats and transmits the president's order in a message that includes sealed authenticator system codes, the launch time, a war-plan code that corresponds with the president's nuclear choice and codes to unlock the weapons.

Validating and Executing the Orders (1 minute)

Land-based missile operators working in underground

launch centers match the sealed authenticator system codes with codes they have locked in a safe and then enter the war plan and unlock codes. At launch time, the missile operators, working in pairs for security, simultaneously turn their launch keys.

The war plan code determines which of the missiles will fire.

Crews aboard submarines follow a similar routine.

Heading Toward the Target (30 minutes)

Land-based missiles will reach the other side of the planet in 30 minutes. Submarines, which must get to launch depth, take about 10 minutes longer to launch, but because they are likely to be positioned closer to the target, their missiles reach it at about the same time as the land-based weapons.

Missiles could reach the U.S. on a similar timetable. Russia has the same capabilities as the U.S., and North Korea aspires to be able to land a nuke here.

It's enough to keep you up at night.

Fish Out of Water and on Display



GREEN AROUND THE GILLS: A worker unloaded pieces from an outdoor art display, 'Fishing for Fun,' on Friday at Whirlpool Centennial Park in St. Joseph, Mich. The exhibit features 20 fish and shark sculptures painted by regional artists.

UBER

Continued from Page One
base of 11 million in Europe.

Chief Executive Dara Khosrowshahi recently succeeded co-founder Travis Kalanick, who was pressured to resign in June. Mr. Kalanick had struggled to manage a series of scandals that dented Uber's reputation, while board members have squabbled over issues including Mr. Kalanick's fate and how to make room for new investors.

Mr. Khosrowshahi has said Uber could go public in as little as 18 months. The threat of a London shutdown is likely to raise new questions among potential investors about the company's global growth prospects.

"The truth is that there is a high cost to a bad reputation," Mr. Khosrowshahi said Friday in an internal email reviewed by The Wall Street Journal. "Irrespective of whether we did everything that is being said about us in London today (and to be clear, I don't think we did), it really matters what people think of us."

Uber doesn't break out revenue by market, but the company lost at least \$3 billion last year on sales of \$6.5 billion, and it lost another \$1.35 billion in this year's first half. Investors have been pointing to rising ride bookings and narrower losses from the first quarter to the second as a positive sign.

Uber's strategy of plowing into markets and clashing openly with regulators has led to numerous legal battles with taxi companies and authorities, but the scrutiny has been especially intense in Europe.

It has faced local or national bans of at least some of its services in Germany, France, Italy,



Uber can operate in London as it fights a threatened shutdown.

Spain, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Hungary and the U.S. Uber has long tried to fight local transportation laws by saying it isn't a transportation company, and is fighting a case on the topic before the European Union's top court. It is also being investigated by U.S. federal officials in three different probes.

At the same time, Uber has abandoned efforts to establish

London accounts for about 5% of Uber's global active user base of 65 million.

an independent foothold in China and Russia.

Tom Elvidge, Uber's general manager in the city, said the "3.5 million Londoners who use our app...will be astounded by this decision." He said the regulator and London's mayor had "caved in" to pressure from a small group of people "who wanted to restrict customer choice." He said 40,000 licensed Uber drivers in London

could lose work.

Uber's arrival in London five years ago was met with resistance from the city's established car-hire services and the drivers of its black cabs who spend years training for their job, in part by memorizing London's streets, an endeavor called "the knowledge." Black cab rates are far higher than Uber's. Thousands of London cabbies snarled traffic around Trafalgar Square three years ago to protest the proliferation of what they said was underregulated apps-based car services. The Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association, a union representing London's black-cab drivers, said Mayor Sadiq Khan "made the right call not to relicense Uber." Mr. Khan, whose administration oversees the transport authority, said he backed the move.

The London authority said in a statement it had ruled Uber was unfit to hold a license—a certificate a company needs to legally operate privately run car services in the city—because it found Uber's "approach and conduct demonstrate a lack of corporate responsibility in relation to a number of issues which have public safety and

security implications."

The authority didn't provide details on specific violations, but said Uber fell short in a number of areas, including its approach to driver background checks and reporting serious criminal offenses.

London's Metropolitan Police said Friday that an officer had expressed concerns that under the existing license, Uber wasn't legally obligated to pass on details of drivers, some of whom it knew to have committed sexual offenses against riders. But the department said that after an exchange of emails, there had been work to improve information sharing.

Mr. Elvidge said drivers go through the same background checks as the city's licensed black-cab drivers. He said Uber has always followed the London authority's rules for reporting serious incidents and worked with the city's police.

London Transport also cited concerns about Uber's explanation of a technology effort called Greyball, which the authority said could have been used to block regulators from reviewing the app's operation.

Mr. Elvidge said the Greyball program had never been used in London for the purposes cited by the transport authority.

London's decision on Friday was opposed by some observers—and even some Uber antagonists. A pro-business lobby group, the Institute of Directors, urged Uber and the London authority to find common ground on safety standards. The Independent Workers' Union of Great Britain, which has been suing Uber to win workers' rights for drivers, also blasted the decision.

—Greg Bensinger, Denise Roland and Robert Wall contributed to this article.

The Fed said Wednesday that it will begin to shrink its \$4.5 trillion balance sheet in October. A Markets article Friday about U.S. Treasuries incorrectly applied the figure to the Fed's bond portfolio.

During the 1970s, 1.2 million deutsche marks was equivalent to about \$485,000.

A Page One article Friday about retail group Aldi incorrectly said it was equivalent to \$3 million.

The greater Houston

metro area, which includes the city, has an economy roughly the size of Sweden's. A Page One article Sept. 8 about companies' response to Hurricane Harvey incorrectly said the city itself had an economy of that size.

The Fox News Channel aired "Cashin' In," a show formerly hosted by Eric Bolling. A Media & Marketing article on Aug. 7 about Mr. Bolling's suspension incorrectly said the show was on the Fox Business Network.

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

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U.S. NEWS

New Travel Rules Seek Targeted Mandates

BY LAURA MECKLER

The Trump administration is preparing to replace its controversial travel ban—which sought to bar almost all travel to the U.S. from six countries—with more targeted restrictions likely to affect nine countries, people familiar with the matter said.

Rather than ban travel altogether from the nations on the new list, the order is set to create restrictions that vary by country, based on cooperation with U.S. mandates, the threat posed by each country and other factors.

Administration officials, in a briefing to reporters on Friday, described the new rubric in general terms, but didn't say how many countries would be affected or name any of them. But people familiar with the matter told The Wall Street Journal that President Donald Trump had given preliminary approval for restrictions on a total of nine nations.

They said the list includes more than one country that is not majority Muslim, which could put the administration on sounder legal footing against arguments that the restrictions are a ban on Muslims in disguise.

The existing travel ban expires Sunday. While the GOP president has preliminarily approved new restrictions, details were still being completed and could change, one of the people familiar with the matter said. A final decision, including the list of countries and restrictions for each, is expected to be made public this weekend.

The Department of Homeland Security originally flagged 17 nations as failing to comply with standards, such as inform-

The new rules are 'tailored and specific to each country,' an official says.

ing the U.S. of known terrorists and issuing reliable passports. Facing the prospect of being included in a travel ban, about half of those nations made changes that brought them into compliance, the people familiar with the process said.

The department then recommended travel restrictions be imposed or extended on the remaining countries. Under the proposed rules, travelers from one or two more countries could face additional background checks when seeking to travel to the U.S., but not a travel ban.

The new rules are "tailored and specific to each country," said Miles Taylor, counselor to the DHS secretary. "Some countries may have similar restrictions to others, but there is a spectrum."

Each country's rules takes into account their deficiencies in meeting U.S. standards and the threat posed by that country as well as foreign-policy implications of imposing restrictions, officials said.

The new restrictions won't have a stated end date. Rather, nations may have restrictions added or removed at any time as various factors change, officials said.

The rules are expected to be applied only to prospective applicants, not current visa holders, officials said. That means there is unlikely to be chaos at airports when the rules take effect as seen when Mr. Trump's first travel ban went into effect in January.

The existing, 90-day travel ban applies to people from Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen, but Mr. Trump has signaled he wants a broader version.

The first version of the travel ban affected seven Muslim-majority countries and was laid out in an order in January. The ban, which Mr. Trump said was needed to keep the U.S. safe from terrorism, suspended refugee admissions and came under heavy criticism for both its substance and its chaotic rollout. It was quickly put on hold by the courts.

—Shane Harris

contributed to this article.



RICARDO ARDUENGO/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

An aerial view showed a flooded neighborhood in Catano, Puerto Rico, in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria on Friday. Six deaths have been blamed on the storm.

Island Counts Toll of Maria's Fury

BY JOSÉ DE CÓRDOBA
AND ARIAN CAMPO-FLORES

TOA BAJA, Puerto Rico—Officials here struggled Friday to assess the full extent of the damage wrought by Hurricane Maria, which crippled the U.S. territory's telecommunications system, left the entire island without power and cut off many remote or flooded areas.

Maria struck Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands on Wednesday and passed east of the Turks and Caicos Islands Friday as a powerful Category 3 storm, with 125-mph winds.

The storm is forecast to pass east of the Bahamas through Sunday, but whether it could affect the U.S. East Coast remains uncertain.

Gov. Ricardo Rosselló said authorities were still focused on saving lives. "It has been difficult to see the deterioration of infrastructure in Puerto Rico," he said. "But it has been even more difficult finding citizens who have lost everything."

At least six deaths in Puerto Rico were blamed on Maria, according to Héctor Pesquera, a

secretary of the Department of Public Security. Three people died in Utuado because of mudslides, two in Toa Baja because of flooding and one in Bayamón after being struck in the head by an object.

Brenda Mangual, a spokeswoman for the mayor of Toa Baja, a city near San Juan that experienced severe flooding, said that police and rescue workers reported that eight people had drowned in the municipality.

A dam in northwest Puerto Rico was in danger of collapsing, threatening deadly flash flooding downstream on the Rio Guajataca, the National Weather Service said.

"Move to higher ground now!" it said. "This is an extremely dangerous and life-threatening situation."

The exact status of the Guajataca Dam was unclear early Friday evening, but it has structural damage, Gov. Rosselló said. He said authorities are evacuating people "everywhere...We've got all our resources right now focused on that."

Some 70,000 people live in

Tax Breaks Pushed For Storm Victims

WASHINGTON—U.S. taxpayers affected by this year's hurricanes would get bigger-than-usual deductions for their property losses and penalty-free access to retirement accounts under a tax bill released Friday.

The bill, from House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady (R., Texas), could get a vote in the full House as early as next week.

The bill would apply in areas damaged by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria and declared as certain kinds of disaster zones by President Donald Trump. The Joint Committee on Taxation hasn't yet

released an estimate of the bill's effect on federal revenue.

Normally, taxpayers trying to deduct casualty losses that haven't been reimbursed through insurance must have lost at least 10% of adjusted gross income and must itemize their deductions. The bill would eliminate both requirements.

Mr. Brady, who represents a suburban Houston district affected by Hurricane Harvey, would also create an exception for people to withdraw money from retirement plans such as 401(k)s without the 10% penalty that typically applies for people under age 59½.

For taxpayers outside the disaster areas, the bill waives the usual limits on charitable contributions for hurricane-related donations this year.

—Richard Rubin

ern part of the island and some mountainous regions on Friday to survey the damage. But inclement weather made it difficult to make a precise assessment, he said.

From there, Gov. Rosselló traveled to Toa Baja, one of the worst-hit towns. Floodwaters reached as high as 12 feet in parts of the town, Ms. Mangual said. Waters had receded significantly by Friday, but some access roads to parts of the town remained under 3 feet of water.

About 2,000 people were rescued from rooftops in the city, Gov. Rosselló said in a radio interview. "It was a very terrifying situation," he said.

Ramon García, a 43-year-old ice-cream salesman in Toa Baja, said he survived floodwaters 8 feet deep during Maria.

Now that the waters are receding, he said he wasn't leaving. He planned to head to the second floor of his house, which was untouched.

"Toa Baja was the worst," said Janet de Jesús, a 51-year-old dental assistant. "This street was an ocean."



made lake, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A spokesman for the utility couldn't immediately be reached for comment.

Gov. Rosselló and other officials flew over the northeast

of the area at risk, Gov. Rosselló said.

The Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority operates the dam, which is 120 feet high and 984 feet wide. It dates to the 1920s and restrains a man-

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Gov

U.S. NEWS

Wealthy Few Aid RNC Fund

Trump's legal defense draws in part from a small group of affluent donors

BY REBECCA BALLHAUS

President Donald Trump's attorneys in the probe of Russian election interference are being funded in part through a Republican Party account with a handful of wealthy donors—including a billionaire investor, a property developer seeking U.S. government visas and a Ukrainian-born American who has made billions of dollars doing business with Russian oligarchs.

The Republican National Committee, through an account typically used for its own legal bills, has helped cover Mr. Trump's private legal fees, according to filings with the Federal Election Commission. The fund also paid lawyers for the president's eldest son, Donald Trump Jr., according to a person familiar with the payments. Mr. Trump's re-election campaign has also contributed to the president's personal legal expenses.

The RNC and campaign's payment arrangement is legal. But ethics experts cautioned



Dominick Reuter/AP/GT Images

The Republican Party is helping pay for the Trumps' legal defense.

that Mr. Trump's decision to rely on them can raise thorny political issues.

The lawyers "have been paid with funds from a pre-existing legal-proceedings account and do not reduce by a dime the resources we can put toward our political work," said RNC spokeswoman Cassie Smedile.

Many of the RNC donors are longtime party backers.

Richard Uihlein, a Wisconsin shipping magnate, and his wife, Elizabeth, together gave more than \$200,000 to the legal fund last month, FEC filings showed. Billionaire investor Charles Schwab gave more

than \$100,000 in July, as did former Home Depot Chief Executive Bernard Marcus and his wife, Wilma. The contributors didn't respond to requests for comment.

In June, New York-based donor Lianbo Wang donated \$329,500 to a joint fund between Mr. Trump's campaign and the RNC. About \$86,000 of that was diverted to the legal fund in August, according to FEC filings. Mr. Wang is a board member of a project that initially sought to draw Chinese investors through the federal EB-5 visa program, which offers green cards affording permanent residency to aspiring immigrants who invest at least \$500,000 in certain U.S. businesses. The majority of EB-5 visas in recent years have gone to wealthy Chinese individuals.

A representative of the project didn't respond to a request for comment.

In April, billionaire Len Blavatnik gave \$12,700 to the RNC's legal fund, on top of donations of about \$200,000 to other RNC accounts. His contribution came during the Federal Bureau of Investigation's probe of U.S. intelligence agencies' findings of Russian meddling in the U.S. election, a month before the Justice Department appointed a special counsel to oversee its probe of Russian interference—which subsequently prompted Mr. Trump to hire a private legal team.

Moscow has denied interfering in the election. Mr. Trump has denied his campaign colluded with Russia and called the probe a "witch hunt."

A spokesman for Mr. Blavatnik didn't return a request for comment. The White House referred questions to the RNC.

Mr. Blavatnik is a longtime business partner of Viktor Vekselberg, who is one of the richest men in Russia and has close ties to the Kremlin.

Trump, in Alabama, Touts Sitting Senator

BY JANET HOOK

HUNTSVILLE, Ala.—President Donald Trump traveled to Alabama on Friday to shore up a flagging Senate candidate, injecting himself into a contentious special election that puts him at odds with a broad swath of conservatives and tests the loyalty of his long-unshakable base.

The president addressed a rally in support of Sen. Luther Strange—a fellow Republican with strong ties to the party establishment—over a conservative insurgent, former state Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore, who is backed by the president's former adviser Steve Bannon.

Mr. Trump tried to defend Mr. Strange against charges that he is part of the Washington "swamp."

"When it comes to Washington and taking on the bureaucracy, Luther is your man," Mr. Trump said. "Luther has always been for us."

Mr. Trump, speaking to a large and enthusiastic crowd that broke out in classic campaign chants of "build the wall," said he was backing Mr. Strange because he has been loyal to

him personally and on policy. The president said Mr. Strange's opponent was giving the senator a "bum rap" for being too close to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.).

The president's support of Mr. Strange was met with deep disappointment in some corners of Alabama. "What was Trump thinking? We are all kind of stunned by it," said Becky Geritson, president of the Wetumpka County Tea Party.

The Strange-Moore face-off comes to a head Tuesday in a runoff election to choose the GOP nominee for the seat once held by Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Mr. Strange was appointed to fill the seat temporarily, but Mr. Moore has been running ahead in polls by an average of 11 percentage points, according to Real Clear Politics.

The winner is to face Democrat Doug Jones, a former U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Alabama, in a Dec. 12 general election.

On Friday, Mr. Trump said that if Mr. Strange loses the nomination, he will campaign for Mr. Moore.

But he said Mr. Moore would be a weaker candidate in the general election.

Trump Backers Cheer Economic Agenda, Blame GOP

President's responses on North Korea, white supremacist violence draw slightly lower rating

Supporters of President Donald Trump generally approve of his overall performance on what they see as core issues such as jobs and taxes, and they blame Republicans in Congress for failing to support the White House agenda.

By Valerie Bauerlein, Arian Campo-Flores and Quint Forgey

"I think he's doing great," said Emory Terensky, 66 years old, a former steelworker in Monessen, Pa. Similarly, Patti Thompson, who lives in the Phoenix-area retirement community of Sun City, said her support of the president hasn't wavered, though she continues to be frustrated that "we can't get Congress and Trump on the same page." She puts the fault for that on congressional Republicans.

On a few issues, such as tensions with North Korea and clashes with white supremacists in the U.S., Mr. Trump received a slightly lower rating. "I'm very concerned about the North Koreans," said John Golomb, 65, a former steel-worker, in Monessen. "Is Donald Trump talk, or is he action? That's the \$64,000 question."

Robert Lee, 62, the owner of Rockingham Guns & Ammo in Richmond County, N.C., gives the president an overall grade of "B-minus, at best." He is holding out hope that Mr. Trump will begin successfully working with Congress to get his agenda passed. "He is more intent on fighting," Mr. Lee said. "You can't fight all the time."

Trump opponents, for the most part, remain angry, and, in some cases, disheartened, with his handling of several key issues over the past few months. Trish Collins, 40, a

human resources manager in Pinellas County, Fla., said she feels exhausted by the "roller coaster" of Mr. Trump's presidency.

Rachel Kalenberg, 35, who voted for Gary Johnson, the Libertarian presidential candidate, said she hadn't yet seen evidence of an economic boom in energy-rich Gillette, Wyo., where she owns a pizza shop. But she acknowledged that many people here still believe Mr. Trump's support of the coal industry could ultimately mean more jobs. "I think Gillette is very hopeful, and we have seen a little bit of growth," she said. "Maybe it's not enough."

Among Trump supporters, views were mixed on his response to the Confederate statue protests in Charlottesville, Va., which descended into a fatal confrontation. Some, including Mr. Lee in Richmond County, believe that Mr. Trump created unnecessary problems by blaming white nationalists for violent confrontations with counter-protesters in an Aug. 14 prepared speech, then saying there was "blame on both sides" the next day. "He added a little bit more to it than should've been added and that drove a wedge," Mr. Lee said.

Jocelyn Golomb, 20, a Monessen store clerk who voted for Hillary Clinton in November, said she has always hated Mr. Trump. But her contempt for him reached new heights after his response to Charlottesville. "He kind of didn't really have anything to say until after he was pushed to say something, and that wasn't right," she said. "I don't think he'll ever have my support. Ever."

Some Trump supporters, such as Curtis Chambers, 54, a financial adviser in Pinellas



Trish Collins, above, in Florida, said she feels exhausted by Mr. Trump's presidency, while Emory Terensky, below, in Pennsylvania, praised it.

County, praised the way the president has handled North Korea. "I think the Obama period was a period of appeasement," Mr. Chambers said.

"The Trump approach is different. It will be more confrontational, highlighted by his rhetoric."

The president's August speech on Afghanistan, in which he backed a continued commitment there despite a campaign pledge to quickly pull out, earned mixed reviews from his supporters. "I don't think putting more troops on the ground in Afghanistan is the answer," said Samme Engelson, 40, owner of an embroidery shop in Battle Mountain, Nev., who voted for

the president. "I worry about the counsel the president is getting as far as this 'war' is concerned. We have been there so long."

Responses to Hurricanes Harvey and Irma split along partisan lines. "He went there right away," said Mr. Chambers in Pinellas County. "That kind of hands-on leadership, and showing up at the front where the trouble is, is a morale booster to everybody."

But Ms. Collins, the Clinton supporter, disagreed. "It seemed pretty obvious on his first visit [to Texas] that he was there just to promote himself," she said.

◆ How do voters rate President Trump? More at WSJ.com

After the Senate leadership postponed a vote on the sweeping health measure in late June, a scaled-down Senate bill then failed in late July. Republicans were largely set on moving on to a tax-code overhaul, but the Graham-Cassidy bill quietly gained support as the end-of-the-month deadline loomed.

Now, Republicans would face the prospect of heading into the 2018 congressional elections having failed in one of their highest-profile campaign promises, despite controlling Congress and the White House.

The health bill's faltering could also complicate the Republican focus on overhauling the tax code.

Mr. McConnell said earlier in the week he intended to bring up the Graham-Cassidy bill for a vote next week, but those plans are now in question.

With Graham-Cassidy facing defeat, it could give new life to a bipartisan health-care push

through 2036, according to consulting firm Avalere Health. It would also take aim at other pillars of the ACA, for example letting states obtain waivers that would allow insurers to charge higher premiums to people who are older or have pre-existing medical conditions.

Those talks are aimed at providing payments for insurers to subsidize low-income consumers, while providing states with more flexibility under the ACA. Those discussions were halted at the urging of GOP leaders in recent days.

Now, Democrats hope to resurrect them. "I'm still at the table ready to keep working, and I remain confident that we can reach a bipartisan agreement," Ms. Murray said Friday. A spokesperson for Mr. Alexander didn't respond to a request seeking comment.

Messrs. Graham and Cassidy proposed in their bill largely turning over ACA funding—more than \$1 trillion through 2024—to the states, in the form of block grants. Over time, the proposal would sharply cut federal health-care funding to states, to the tune of \$4 trillion

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Supporters said decentralizing health care through the states would be preferable to a rigid national system. Critics charged that such a move only avoided tough choices and would create an unworkable patchwork arrangement, and that the funding cuts in the bill would impoverish coverage.

By week's end, resistance to the bill had stiffened. More than 30 industry groups—representing insurers, doctors, hospitals and patients—came out against it, as did a number of GOP governors and the National Association of Medicaid Directors.

Natalie Andrews and Louise Radnofsky contributed to this article.

HEALTH

Continued from Page One

tum that surprised even some Republicans. Mr. Trump has regularly criticized Republicans who oppose the party's health-care efforts, including in a tweet Friday morning aimed at the holdout Mr. Paul.

It could also be the death knell of the GOP's seven-year quest to dismantle former President Barack Obama's signature health law, often called Obamacare. Under the ACA, the U.S. uninsured rate has hit a record low, with millions of people gaining coverage primarily through the law's expansion of the Medicaid state-federal program. GOP critics have pointed to rising premiums on the individual market and limited choice for some people as a sign that it should be scrapped.

But the party has so far failed to unite around a health-care plan, with disputes over

Disagreement Tests Senators' Friendship

Perhaps the most poignant element in Sen. John McCain's decision not to support the Graham-Cassidy proposal is his closeness with Sen. Lindsey Graham, another political maverick. Their friendship, unusual in today's Washington, led some to believe the Arizona senator wouldn't oppose the bill.

After the announcement, Mr. Graham made a point of saying his relationship with Mr. McCain remained firm, even while expressing disagreement

with his position. "My friendship with John McCain is not based on how he votes but respect for how he's lived his life and the person he is," Mr. Graham said.

And Mr. McCain went out of his way to say he wasn't questioning the motives of Mr. Graham or Mr. Cassidy.

"I take no pleasure in announcing my opposition. Far from it," he said. "The bill's authors are my dear friends, and I think the world of them. I know they are acting consistently with their beliefs and sense of what is best for the country. So am I."

—Stephanie Armour

how far to roll back the ACA and what sort of legislation should stand in its place.

The House failed in its first attempt to repeal the law, but in the spring it passed a bill that Mr. Trump celebrated in a White House ceremony. The

Senate at first looked at a sizable overturn of the ACA that was rejected by both centrists and conservatives. Part of the rancor stemmed over how deeply to cut Medicaid, even under the expansion adopted under the ACA.

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With Graham-Cassidy facing defeat, it could give new life to a bipartisan health-care push

OBITUARIES

CHARLES KNIGHT
1936 – 2017

Knight Kept Earnings On the Rise at Emerson

BY JAMES R. HAGERTY

When Charles Knight was 15, his father drove him from the family's suburban Chicago home to Orillia, Ontario, and left him there, alone, to work in a metal foundry over the summer. The idea was to toughen him up. It worked.

The younger Mr. Knight, known as Chuck, went on to play football at Cornell University and earn engineering and business degrees there. He then joined his father's Chicago-based engineering and consulting firm, Lester B. Knight & Associates Inc. The father expected his son to make a career there. But Chuck Knight defected to Emerson Electric Co., where he became chief executive at age 37.

His father was so furious that the two didn't speak for years.

Mr. Knight ran Emerson for 27 years before giving up the CEO job in 2000. During that period, sales grew from \$938 million to more than \$15 billion amid relentless efforts to cut costs. Once reliant almost entirely on the U.S. and Canada, Emerson went global as a maker of valves, automation equipment and other devices.

Before Mr. Knight's arrival, Emerson had increased earnings every year since the mid-1950s. He extended that record to 43 years. It ended in 2001, the year after he stepped down.

Mr. Knight died Sept. 12 at age 81.

He set tough targets for managers and expected them to think for themselves. A manager once presented Mr. Knight with a list of projects and asked which he should attack first. Mr. Knight ripped the paper in two and told him, "Do the top half."

Toward the end of Mr. Knight's earnings streak, some critics said he was too attached to it and should accept ups and downs and take bigger risks that might produce better long-term growth.



In 2001, about six months after Mr. Knight stepped down, his successor, David Farr, faced a plunge in demand following the bursting of the dot-com bubble. Extending the earnings streak would have required contortions. Mr. Farr recalled flying to Cannes, France, where Mr. Knight was vacationing, to break the news. "Dave, it was a damn good 43 years," Mr. Knight said. "Let's have a drink."

Charles Field Knight was born Jan. 20, 1936, in Lake Forest, Ill. He joined his father's consulting firm after getting his M.B.A. at Cornell. Emerson was one of his clients. In the early 1970s, he advised Emerson's CEO, W.R. "Buck" Persons, on succession. Mr. Persons, concluding that the 6-foot-4 Mr. Knight was "full of zip," wound up offering the job to him.

To keep track of the company's talent pool, Mr. Knight set up a room with pictures of more than 1,000 managers on refrigerator magnets, color-coded to reflect performance.

Mr. Knight eventually reconciled with his father—and carried on some of his traditions. When Chuck Knight's son Lester reached 16, he was dispatched to the South Side of Chicago for a summer job in a foundry.

BY JAMES R. HAGERTY
AND MATTHEW DALTON

Liliane Bettencourt, ranked as the world's richest woman with a fortune estimated by Forbes at \$45 billion, long ago decided to leave her stake in the French cosmetics giant L'Oréal to her daughter. After that, the mother figured, she could do whatever she pleased with the rest of her fortune.

She proceeded to lavish gifts of real estate, money and art on a friend who was 25 years younger, the French photographer and writer François-Marie Banier.

"If I am exploited, it's because I let myself be exploited," Ms. Bettencourt said in 2010. "Good for me! Let me live."

Her choice led to a legal dispute with her daughter, Françoise Bettencourt Meyers, that has enthralled the French media for the past decade. "It was 'Dallas,' 'Downton Abbey' and 'House of Cards' rolled into one," Tom Sanction wrote in his recent book, "The Bettencourt Affair."

Ms. Bettencourt died overnight at her home in the Parisian suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine, her daughter said Thursday. Ms. Bettencourt was 94 years old and had been suffering from dementia.

Liliane Henriette Charlotte Schueller was born Oct. 21, 1922. Her father, Eugène Schueller, the son of a baker, was a chemist who came up with a formula for synthetic hair dyes and founded what became L'Oréal, which also makes cosmetics and skin-care products.

Liliane was 5 when her mother died. She later said she adored her father, though his devotion to business left him little time with her. During summer vacations as a girl, she worked at L'Oréal, performing such tasks as gluing labels on bottles, but she was never groomed for corporate leadership.

LILIANE BETTENCOURT
1922 – 2017

L'Oréal Heiress Enriched A Friend, Split Her Family



inating with the German occupiers of France, but François Mitterrand, the future president, vouched for him, and charges were dropped.

Her husband wrote anti-Semitic articles during World War II and supported the collaborationist Vichy regime, before, like many others, switching sides to back the Resistance. Mr. Bettencourt later attributed his early writings to "youthful error."

Their daughter married Jean-Pierre Meyers, the grandson of a rabbi killed at Auschwitz. They raised their sons as Jews.

In the late 1980s, Ms. Bettencourt became a close friend of Mr. Banier when he took seductive photographs of her for a magazine. He had a refreshing lack of deference for the heiress's exalted status and introduced her to artists, writers and actors.

At one point, she made an abortive attempt to give him an island in the Seychelles. He later said he disliked islands anyway, citing mosquitoes and sharks.

Their relationship was described as platonic, but the emotional attachment was clear. "With you, I am like a mother, a lover, all the feelings pass through me," she wrote to him in a letter quoted by Mr. Sanction.

Their daughter began legal action against Mr. Banier a decade ago. In a lawsuit, Ms. Bettencourt Meyers alleged Mr. Banier had received more than €1 billion (\$1.19 billion) from Ms. Bettencourt by exploiting her aging mother's mental infirmities. In 2011, a court put the mother under the guardianship of her daughter and two grandsons.

Mr. Banier has denied wrongdoing. An appeals court last year gave him a suspended prison sentence.

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

FROM PAGE ONE

ROOTS

Continued from Page One
from the same region.

Utah falls under the Fed's 12th district, which is the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's domain. It is represented by Fed Chairwoman Janet Yellen, from California.

Mr. Quarles is offering roots in Colorado, where he lived as a child, as a workaround. The state is part of the Kansas City Fed's district.

The act doesn't define what being "from" a place means. And the White House doesn't dispute that Mr. Quarles is from Utah, nor does his spokesman, Brian Rogers. Mr. Quarles declined to comment.

There is plenty of evidence of his Utahness. His current job is in Salt Lake City. When nominated for a Treasury Department post in 2002, he described himself in Senate testimony as Utah-raised; in the congressional record, he was "Randal Quarles of Utah."

That was then.

Now, "Randal Quarles of Colorado" is how he is described in documents relating to his nomination for Fed vice chairman of bank supervision.

He was born in San Francisco but lived in Colorado from the age of 7 months through second grade, Mr. Rogers says. "After that, Randy returned to Colorado for a material portion of every summer to stay with his grandparents." Mr. Quarles' parents grew up in Colorado, and he still spends Christmases with family there, he adds.

A White House official says Mr. Quarles's youthful years in Colorado make him eligible. Some Democratic senators have criticized his work representing financial firms but haven't disputed his Colorado claim.

Back in 1913, Congressman Murray and other rural lawmakers didn't want New York bankers to dominate the Fed. Instead, the law carved the U.S. into 12 districts that each got its own Federal Reserve bank and shares influence with a Washington-based board of governors.

Mr. Murray—nicknamed for promoting alfalfa cultivation and known to carry a pistol at times, according to some histor-



'Randal Quarles of Colorado,' above, was once 'Randal Quarles of Utah.'

ical accounts—successfully amended the bill to add the no-two-members provision. The requirement hasn't been litigated, scholars say, leaving politicians to enforce it.

Lawmakers' skirting it dates at least to President Jimmy Carter's administration. In 1978, prospective Fed Chairman G. William Miller told senators he lived in Rhode Island but, for Fed purposes, would represent California, where he owned property and had studied law.

Rhode Island wasn't an option because another Fed governor represented its district. The Senate confirmed him.

"It reminds of when you're

The 1913 Federal Reserve Act doesn't define what being 'from' a place means.

counting up how many states you have been to—does it count if you just changed planes?" says Sarah Binder, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution think tank who recently published a book on the Fed. "Alfalfa Bill would roll in his Oklahoma grave."

For many Fed watchers, the geographic districts are outdated. Two are based in Missouri—Kansas City and St. Louis—chosen in the early 1900s for economic and political reasons. Ms. Binder says. The San Francisco district includes nine states.

The amendment did bite one

hopeful, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor Peter Diamond, nominated by President Barack Obama in 2010.

Mr. Diamond, a Nobel laureate, withdrew after some Republicans said the board had too many academics. They also said he wasn't eligible because of his longtime residency in Massachusetts, home of Daniel Tarullo, then Fed governor.

One critic of Mr. Diamond's nomination was Mark Calabria, now an adviser to Vice President Mike Pence. Last year, Mr. Calabria suggested Congress clarify that being "from" a Fed district meant living there at least 10 years.

White House spokeswoman Natalie Strom says Mr. Calabria wasn't involved in selecting Mr. Quarles so it wouldn't be appropriate for him to comment.

Mr. Quarles left mixed marks on Las Animas, a town of about 2,000 in southeastern Colorado.

Mr. Quarles "has a very, very strong connection to Colorado, as far as Bent County and his family are concerned," says Diane Baublits, researcher for the county's historical society.

She confirms he spent first grade at Las Animas's Columbian Elementary School. She wonders whether it's time to memorialize Mr. Quarles in a local exhibit, placing him in the company of town natives such as Ken Curtis, who played hillbilly Festus Hagen on the "Gunsmoke" TV series. "Randal might be getting big enough."

Or maybe not. Las Animas Mayor Jim Collins, asked if he knows Mr. Quarles, replies: "I don't think I've ever even heard that name."



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WORLD NEWS

Iran Deal's Fate Hovers Over Korea Crisis

U.S. disdain for nuclear accord with Tehran saps call for talks with Pyongyang, critics say

By PAUL SONNE
AND FARNAZ FASSIHI

UNITED NATIONS—The burgeoning crisis confronting the Trump administration in North Korea was compounded this week by another top foreign policy dilemma: the Iran nuclear agreement.

World powers lobbied President Donald Trump this week to stick with the Iran deal, saying U.S. disavowal of that agreement would weaken the effort to persuade North Korea to abandon its own nuclear and missile program.

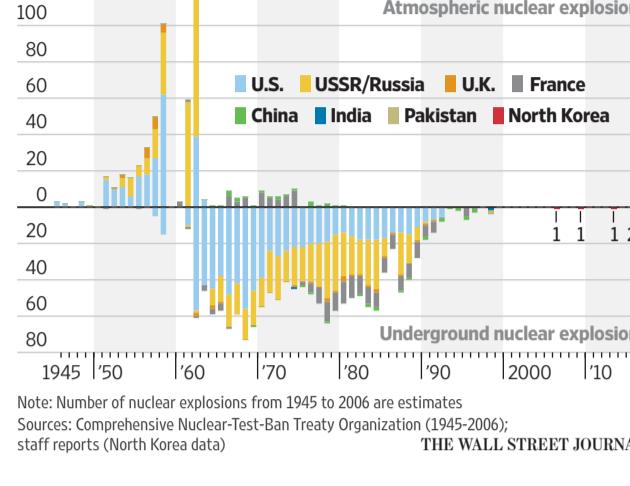
"Which state would refrain from developing its own nuclear program if it turns out that negotiated agreements do not endure and confidence in agreements with the international community aren't worth the paper they're written on?" asked German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel in an address to the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday. He argued that adherence to the Iran deal was vital to ensuring the credibility of such deals in general.

That warning, echoed by other leaders both publicly and in private bilateral meetings, came as the U.S. showdown with North Korea escalated dramatically through the week, beginning with Mr. Trump's threat that the U.S. would "totally destroy" the

Bombs Away

There have been hundreds of nuclear tests, but no atmospheric blasts since 1980.

Number of world-wide nuclear tests



Note: Number of nuclear explosions from 1945 to 2006 are estimates

Sources: Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (1945-2006); staff reports (North Korea data)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

country if forced to defend itself or its allies, and rising to a sharp exchange of insults with the North Korean leader.

Adding to the standoff's air of unpredictability, North Korea's foreign minister warned late Thursday that Pyongyang might detonate a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean out of defiance.

U.S. officials spent the week scouring the annual gathering of world leaders at the U.N. for support in rolling back North Korea's nuclear program. But the Trump administration also made an issue of the Iran nuclear deal, arguing it doesn't address Iran's missile program, its meddling in the region or other issues.

The majority of the 15-member U.N. Security Council,

tasked with resolving North Korea's nuclear standoff, have advocated for an approach that leverages economic sanctions and political isolation to bring Pyongyang to the negotiating table. U.N. officials and diplomats have said the talks with Iran, which took two years, could serve as a blueprint to rein in North Korea.

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Friday that if U.S. exits the Iran deal or imposes unilateral sanctions on Iran, "it would be the wrong signal to North Korea."

"Right now, North Korea is being told to renounce the nuclear weapons and we will lift the sanctions...North Korea will say, why do I need to negotiate with you if you are not honoring your promises?" Mr.

Lavrov said at a press conference at the U.N.

The Trump administration spent the week trying to refute that argument.

"We would take a very different view of the nature of the North Korean agreement," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said at a press briefing. "While the threat is the same—it's nuclear weapons—the issues surrounding North Korea are very different than the issues surrounding Iran."

Mr. Tillerson said Iran is bigger and less isolated than North Korea, arguing the context and contours of any accord with Pyongyang would differ from those of the Iran deal.

U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Nikki Haley took aim at the German foreign minister's

Atmospheric testing presents significantly higher dangers than underground testing, both from the initial blast and the spread of radioactive fallout. Testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere, underwater and in outer space was banned in 1963 by the Partial Test Ban Treaty, an international agreement.

The destructive effects of a North Korean thermonuclear weapons test in the Pacific would depend on the power and altitude of the explosion as well as prevailing winds, distance from populated areas, and the composition of the nuclear materials used to fuel the blast, according to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization.

Generally, exposure to the radioactive fallout outside the immediate blast zone can lead to birth defects and increased risk of cancers.

The U.S. set off 105 nuclear explosions in its Pacific Proving Grounds in the Marshall Islands from 1946 to 1963. Some atolls are still contaminated with fallout, and residents at the time suffered from increased incidence of birth defects and cancer.

Under some conditions, the explosive surge of gamma rays from a nuclear explosion, called an electromagnetic pulse, can overload electronic devices, such as radios, computers, financial networks, or navigation systems.

—Alastair Gale

comments, saying the U.S. needed to look out for its own security in the face of Iranian threats and couldn't take up concerns among other nations.

"A lot of countries are going to have their opinions on whether the U.S. should stay in the deal or not," Ms. Haley said. "But those countries don't have Iranians saying 'death to America.' They're not saying 'death to Germany.'"

Ms. Haley said it had never "moved the U.S. to care about what other countries say," adding the Trump administration would do what is best for the American people.

Tension over the fate of the Iran deal—an accord Mr. Trump described as an embarrassment during his speech to the U.N. this week-dominated

the U.N. General Assembly, along with calls for the U.S. and North Korea to dial down the bellicose rhetoric.

North Korea, which recently launched two missiles over Japan and conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test, stoked the tension further on Thursday night, when its foreign minister, Ri Yong Ho, threatened an aboveground test of a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific.

"This would be an unprecedented act and would be outrageous behavior on their part," said Susan Thornton, acting U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs. "I'm sure there will be a very concerted and determined international response to such an act."

South Korean 'Preppers' Fine-Tune Doomsday Plans

BY MIN SUN LEE

SEOUL—As he headed for a private bunker beneath a mountain in suburban Seoul, Woo Seung-yep ran through his mental checklist: canned food, chlorine bleach, radio, gas mask.

Since quitting his job as an information technology manager five years ago, Mr. Woo has been preparing for war.

Most of South Korea's 51 million people tend to shrug off the North's missile launches and nuclear tests—they have lived with the threat for years on the divided peninsula. Some 58% believe there is no possibility that North Korea would cause a war, according to a Gallup Korea survey released this month, up from 53% in 2014.

Others aren't taking any chances.

Known as "preppers," these urban-disaster specialists keep survival bags laden with essentials that they can grab at a moment's notice as they flee to one of the country's many shelters. As Pyongyang ramps up its weapons tests and threatens attacks on the U.S., preppers such as Mr. Woo say more are joining their ranks.

He runs an online community with roughly 20,000 members—the largest such forum—where preppers share information about what to do in the event of a North Korean military strike.



JEAN CHUNG FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Woo Seung-yep, in his house with emergency items, is part of a community of disaster 'preppers,' a movement with Cold War echoes.

"I'm very scared and worried about all this talk of war," wrote one member. She wanted to know what she should do with the 36 dogs she was taking care of should conflict break out. Another member consoled her, describing her preparation as "insurance."

Mr. Woo said the forum had 300 new visitors in two days earlier this month; it now av-

erages 30 new visitors a day, compared with fewer than 10 before North Korea's Aug. 29 missile launch.

The movement has echoes of the Cold War, when some American families fashioned their own bunkers or fallout shelters.

Seoul is so close to the front line—just 35 miles from the demilitarized zone that

separates the two Koreas—that any outbreak of hostilities would likely result in severe damage to the capital and mass casualties among its 10 million residents, security scholars say.

At Hangangsa, a store in Seoul that sells outdoor and survival products, sales of gas masks, combat rations and self-powered radios have in-

creased by 30% to 40% since April, according to owner Kim Hyun-tak.

The Ministry of the Interior and Safety recommends residents should have a "go bag" containing emergency food and basic necessities for survival. It spells out some essentials on its website: water, a first-aid kit, flashlight, batteries, matches, extra clothes,

and important documents. The ministry warns against hoarding food, however, saying the government has stockpiled enough grains and will implement a food-distribution system if needed.

Most security analysts say the risk of a North Korean attack on the South remains low, despite warlike rhetoric from North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump.

Mr. Woo, 44 years old, said he became interested in survival skills during mandatory military service. In 1996, he said, he was involved in the search for armed North Korean infiltrators that Pyongyang had dispatched into South Korea and who had fanned out into the countryside after their submarine ran aground.

Recalling nights of gunfire as South Korean forces tracked down and killed some of the infiltrators, Mr. Woo said the experience piqued his interest in disaster preparation.

When he left his job to become a full-time prepper, Mr. Woo said, his family and parents didn't understand; they thought he was wasting money.

They have since come around, he said, now that he is earning an income from his prepper work. He isn't making money from his website, but he has written books on urban-disaster survival and gives lectures at schools and universities.

SHARES

Continued from Page One to alter its position in the wake of public criticism over how it manages its powerful global platform. On Thursday, Mr. Zuckerberg said Facebook would provide congressional investigators with details of 3,000 ads bought by Russians during the U.S. presidential election, responding to pressure from lawmakers and others that it wasn't forthcoming enough about how foreign entities used its platform to influence political discourse during the election.

That came after Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg this week said the company is adding more human reviewers to oversee its ad-targeting system after a report showed it was possible for advertisers to target ads to users interested in anti-Semitic and other hateful topics.

And Mr. Zuckerberg was ini-

tially dismissive of concerns about the proliferation of false and misleading news spread on Facebook during the U.S. presidential campaign last year—only to reverse himself and announce measures to try to curb such misinformation.

Mr. Zuckerberg, whose fortune is estimated at \$71 billion, said he doesn't need the change in shareholding structure because Facebook's stock has risen so much that he can fund his for-profit philanthropic organization, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, for at least 20 years without losing control.

Facebook shares have risen more than 50% since April 2016, when the plan was first announced.

Mr. Zuckerberg acknowledged that his plan to change from a two-class to a three-class share structure "was going to be complicated and it wasn't a perfect solution. Today I think we have a better one."

In a blog post, Mr. Zucker-

FROM PAGE ONE



Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg

86% of the company's Class B shares, which have 10 times the voting power of Class A shares. Every Class B share he sells is automatically converted to a Class A share, which gets just one vote.

He said Friday he now expects to sell between 35 mil-

lion and 75 million shares over

the next 18 months "to fund

our work in education, science,

and advocacy."

At Facebook's current stock price, that amounts to between \$6 billion and nearly \$13 billion.

The lawsuit filed by share-

holders last year said Facebook's board showed "stunning" disloyalty in rubber-stamping Mr. Zuckerberg's proposal to issue nonvoting shares to help him keep control of the company. The plan would have limited shareholders' say and cemented Mr. Zuckerberg's control regardless of whether he was financially invested in the company's success, investors in the lawsuit said.

For example, longtime Face-

book director Marc Andreessen,

who served on a special com-

mittee created to discuss the

new share structure, was privately coaching Mr. Zuckerberg by text message on how to win over the other two directors on the committee, according to text messages disclosed in court documents last year.

In one instance, Mr. Andreessen texted Mr. Zuckerberg during a March meeting of the special committee with progress reports. "NOW WE'RE COOKING WITH GAS," Mr. Andreessen wrote.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Andreessen declined to comment.

Andrew Winken, a fellow at Stanford Law School, said Facebook likely withdrew the capital-restructuring plan in anticipation of losing the case. "Those communications with Andreessen really messed up the quality of [Facebook's] special committee process," he said. "They created a hurdle that was just so high."

An administrator for the Delaware Chancery Court sent an email Friday afternoon saying the trial was canceled.

WORLD NEWS

Ruling Boosts 'America First'

WASHINGTON—President Donald Trump's pledge to offer American companies more aggressive protection from foreign competition got fresh ammunition Friday, when a government board cleared the way for him to deploy a long-dormant legal weapon to restrict solar panel imports.

By Jacob M. Schlesinger, Andrew Tangel and Erin Ailworth

The significance of the 4-0 vote by the U.S. International Trade Commission goes beyond the energy sector.

The independent, bipartisan agency authorized the use of trade barriers under a law last invoked in 2002 by the George W. Bush administration to protect U.S. steelmakers. The decision is likely to encourage more industries to turn to the "safeguard" law, which permits companies to seek relief if they can prove "serious injury" from a sudden surge in imports.

The Trump administration has vowed to take a fresh look at a wide range of little-used protection powers in pursuit of its "America First" trade agenda, and the safeguard law is just one of them. Trump aides have in recent months also considered dusting off other long-ignored trade-law provisions to pressure China over intellectual property, and to protect U.S. steel and aluminum makers.

The Trump approach marks a break with previous administrations from both parties, which had de-emphasized such unilateral actions in deference to global arbiters, especially after the World Trade Organization was created in 1995 to handle such matters.

But Mr. Trump's election has given fresh encouragement to distressed U.S. manufacturers. In addition to the solar petition, washing machine makers are also seeking

relief under the same law. The ITC is scheduled to vote on that request Oct. 5.

In the solar panel case, filed by Georgia-based Suniva Inc. and joined by Oregon-based SolarWorld Americas Inc., the ITC commissioners will now consider specific policy recommendations and submit those to the White House by Nov. 13. Mr. Trump then has two months to decide whether to impose solar trade barriers.

The White House issued a statement Friday saying that Mr. Trump would await the ITC's solar industry relief recommendations, "which can inform his final determination."

Prior administrations have at times rejected similar import restriction recommendations from the ITC, and solar company users, joined by conservative, free-trade economists, encouraged the Trump administration to do the same in the solar case.

"Analysts say Suniva's remedy proposal will double the price of solar, destroy two-

The decision is likely to encourage more industries to turn to the 'safeguard' law.

thirds of demand, erode billions of dollars in investment and unnecessarily force 88,000 Americans to lose their jobs in 2018," said the Solar Energy Industries Association, which promotes solar use.

Mr. Trump has, in general, suggested he would take a more sympathetic stance toward requests for protection.

"There's a lot of pent-up demand for trade enforcement," said Scott Paul, president of the union-backed Alliance for American Manufacturing, which filed a brief supporting the solar petition.

German Fringe Parties Gain

BY MARCUS WALKER

Germany's seemingly predictable election campaign may well have a twist in its tail.

If the last opinion polls before Sunday's parliamentary elections are a guide, the crumbling of Europe's old political order is affecting even Germany, the continent's bastion of stability.

Support for Germany's two major parties could fall below 60% combined, while protest parties of the far right and far left could win 20% of the vote between them, polls suggest.

Politics in Germany remain rather staid compared with many other European countries. Victory for Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative Christian Democrats looks inevitable, even if they win fewer votes than four years ago. The anti-immigration Alternative for Germany, which could win over 10% according to surveys, remains smaller than its far-right peers in neighboring France or Austria.

In swaths of Continental Europe, the established center-right and center-left parties have suffered far more dramatic collapses, while populist movements from the nationalist right to the anticapitalist left have become strong enough to aspire to power.

Germany is unique. Its booming economy barely felt the eurozone's debt crisis. Unemployment is below 4%, compared with around 9% overall in the 19-country eurozone. In an age of international rage against incumbents, around two-thirds of Germans say they are satisfied with Ms. Merkel. More broadly, the country's postwar political culture and institutions strongly favor moderate, mainstream parties over radicals.

Yet even in Germany, the grip of center-right Christian Democrats and center-left Social Democrats is weakening. When Ms. Merkel retires, or the economic cycle turns, the

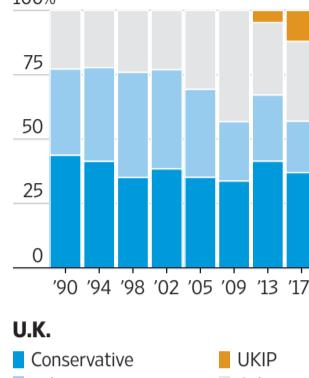
New Challengers

Mainstream parties (■) from Europe's biggest democracies have lost support to smaller (□) and upstart parties. (■)

Recent national parliamentary election results:

Germany

■ Christian Democrats ■ Others
■ Social Democrats ■ People's Party
■ Alternative for Germany ■ Socialists
■ Podemos



U.K.

■ Conservative ■ UKIP
■ Labour ■ Others
■ Liberal Democrats



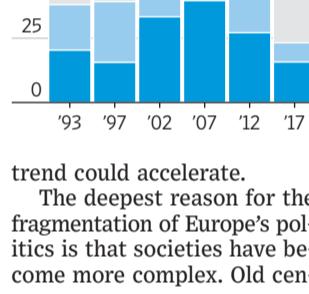
Italy

■ Forza Italia* ■ Others
■ Democrats* ■ 5 Star Movement
■ Liberaldemocratici



France, first round

■ Les Républicains* ■ National Front
■ Socialist Party ■ Others
■ En Marche



nearly half of the electorate now appeal to only a third or a quarter. Social media has broadened the reach of anti-mainstream messages.

Another factor is that globalization has reduced the ability of national governments to manage some of the most potent electoral issues, from economic crises to migration.

"Voters still expect solutions from their government, but that's no longer always possible," says Peter Filzmaier, political scientist at Austria's Danube University Krems.

The almost inexorable result is that new parties cater to dissatisfied segments of the electorate—including movements that attack old elites and offer simple fixes. Over time, more small parties have won a place in Germany's federal parliament, the Bundestag. On Sunday the AfD is set to take its place alongside the Left, the Greens and the tax-cutting Liberals, all of whom are expected to win around 8% to 12%.

The rise of Germany's political fringes also reflects Ms. Merkel's weaknesses. Her consensus-seeking style has erased policy differences between her Christian Democrats and other mainstream parties—to the frustration of many of her conservative colleagues.

She could form her next coalition government with any of the other moderate parties, voters know. That means Germans who truly dislike the chancellor have only the radical AfD or the Left to turn to.

The AfD's challenge to German postwar taboos—it wants Germans to feel less guilt and more pride about the country's history, including the Third Reich—is likely to prompt much soul-searching in Germany's establishment.

The upstart party is less popular than in 2016, when the migration crisis that fueled its rise was more intense. But the major parties' lackluster election campaign, and the lack of disagreements between them, has boosted the AfD in the past month.

*Party names changed during the period shown. †Poll

Source: ParlGov.org (elections); Ipsos for Corriere della Sera polls, based on 1,001 interviews with adults conducted on September 5-6. (Italy); Infratest dimap telephone polls; most recent of 1,503 eligible voters conducted Sept. 12-13;

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

trend could accelerate.

The deepest reason for the fragmentation of Europe's politics is that societies have become more complex. Old cen-

ter-left parties were rooted in organized labor, old center-right parties in churches. Both have declined. Catchall policy programs that used to cater to



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WORLD NEWS

May Says U.K. Will Pay EU

British Prime Minister Theresa May said the U.K. would honor its financial commitments to the European Union's current budget and seek to retain current trade terms with the bloc for two years after its planned exit in 2019.

By Jason Douglas
in Florence, Italy,
Valentina Pop in
Brussels and **Stephen**
Fidler in London

In a speech on Friday aimed at revitalizing stalled divorce talks with the EU, Mrs. May appealed for creativity and ambition from negotiators working to untangle the U.K.'s four-decade ties to the bloc and craft a new partnership built on economic and security cooperation.

Britain's exit from the EU, scheduled for March 2019, "does not mean we are turning our back on Europe, or worse that we do not wish the EU to succeed," Mrs. May said, speaking in a grand hall overlooking Florence's famed Church of Santa Maria Novella.

Mrs. May's speech, which came ahead of the planned resumption on Monday of exit talks between London and Brussels, was seen as a bid to present the EU with a coherent British position on Brexit after months of public disagreements among senior U.K. government officials.

Present at the speech were Treasury chief Philip Hammond and Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson, who fought on opposite sides of the campaign to pull the U.K. out of the EU and have recently put forward differing views on Brexit strategy.

Brexit talks have made only limited progress since they began in the summer and remain focused on three key issues: EU citizens' rights after Brexit, managing the Irish border with Britain, and reaching a deal on the U.K.'s financial commitments to the EU that haven't yet been paid.



Prime Minister Theresa May speaking in Florence on Friday.

Mrs. May touched on each of those issues, saying London doesn't want to see the return of border between Ireland and Northern Ireland and British courts would uphold EU citizens' rights after Brexit.

She also pledged that the U.K. would honor financial commitments to the bloc made during its membership.

Brexit 'does not mean we are turning our back on Europe,' the prime minister said.

"I do not want our partners to fear that they will need to pay more or receive less over the remainder of the current budget plan as a result of our decision to leave," Mrs. May said. The current EU budget plan runs from 2014 to 2020. Her official spokesman later

told reporters this pledge covers budgetary commitments through 2020—but that other potential liabilities, such as contributions to the pensions of EU staff, remain subject to negotiation.

In her speech, Mrs. May also said that during a two-year "implementation period" after the U.K.'s planned withdrawal in 2019, "access to one another's markets should continue on current terms." She said the framework for the transition—aimed at allowing businesses and public services to adjust to Brexit—"would be the existing structure of EU rules and regulations." She added, however, that the U.K. wants to be free to seek new trade deals during that transition period.

The EU's chief Brexit negotiator, Michel Barnier, said Mrs. May's Florence speech "shows a willingness to move forward." He said the EU would analyze her request for the U.K. to stay for two years

Five Goals Laid Out In Brexit Speech

Two-Year Transition

U.K. would still have access to the single market, pay into EU budget and recognize jurisdiction of bloc's top court.

Exit Shouldn't Hit EU Budget

U.K. would adhere to budget, which runs through 2020.

EU Citizens' Rights Observed

British courts will uphold their rights, incorporating rulings of the EU's top court.

Commitment to EU Security

Theresa May had previously suggested security cooperation depended on a good deal.

Britain Won't Undercut EU

Mrs. May ruled out changing regulations to give U.K. an 'unfair competitive advantage.'

—Valentina Pop

after Brexit in the single market and in EU's security arrangements. He noted, however, that during that time the U.K. would have to remain subject to supervision by the EU institutions, including the EU's top court, and keep paying into the EU budget—two issues that have been divisive for the British government.

A senior EU official said if Mrs. May's budget offer were to be put on paper, it might advance talks next week. "But it's not enough for sufficient progress, that's still a long way to go," the official said.

The prime minister's speech didn't provide many new clues about her long-term vision. She repeated that the U.K. would leave the EU's single market and its customs union. But she said neither an arrangement such as membership of the European Economic Association, like Norway, nor a more remote Canada-type free trade arrangement would suit the U.K.

Bomb Materials Bought Online

BY GEORGI KANTCHEV

LONDON—An 18-year-old Iraqi man charged with a bomb attack last week on a London subway train bought explosives-making materials online and had expressed hatred toward the U.K., British prosecutors said.

The accused man, Ahmed Hassan, has been charged with attempted murder and causing an explosion in connection with the Sept. 15 blast that left 30 people injured during the morning rush hour.

"He intended to kill innocent people because of this warped view," prosecutor Lee Ingham said at a London court hearing Friday, during which Mr. Hassan was brought before a judge for the first time since his arrest the day after the attack.

Prosecutors said Mr. Hassan built his explosive device at a foster home in the London suburb of Sunbury-on-Thames where he had recently been living, in the care of a British couple. Mr. Hassan acknowledged making the bomb, they said.

Mr. Hassan spoke in court only to state his name and address. His lawyer didn't respond to a request to comment.

Prosecutors said the bomb, which only partially detonated, used a hydrogen-peroxide based explosive known as

TATP, and was filled with shrapnel, including knives, screws and socket wrench fittings. It also had a power unit and a timer, they said.

TATP, or triacetone triperoxide, can be made from household chemicals such as nail polish and drain cleaner and bleach, a sign of how hard it is to police its use.

Mr. Hassan bought all of the ingredients for the device from online sources, Amazon among them, prosecutors said. An Amazon spokesman in the U.K. declined to comment.

According to prosecutors, investigators identified Mr. Hassan in security camera footage. He traveled from the Sunbury train station to Wimbledon, in the capital's southwest, where he boarded the subway, and then left the train before the bomb exploded at the Parsons Green station in West London, they said.

The blast burned some passengers and others were injured as panicked people tried to flee through the crowded Victorian-era station.

Police have arrested a total of six men in connection with the bombing and said Friday that Mr. Hassan and three others remain in custody.

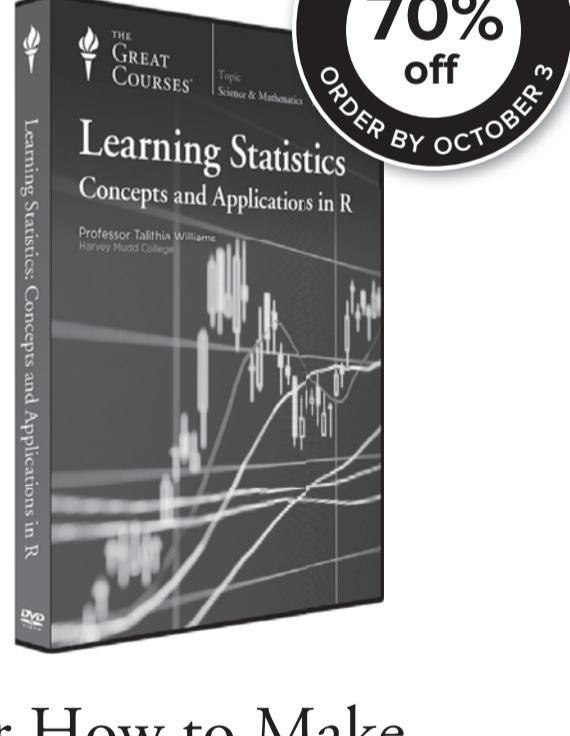
—Jason Douglas and Saabira Chaudhuri contributed to this article.



A police van believed to be carrying Mr. Hassan leaving court Friday.

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IN DEPTH

TWINS

Continued from Page One
prosperous urban areas, an analysis of government military data by The Wall Street Journal found.

Using Pentagon data on the hometowns of 6,800 military casualties from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan through 2016, the Journal found that 23% came from small towns and rural areas, even though those places made up just 17% of the U.S. population.

By contrast, 23% of those killed came from core counties of U.S. metropolitan areas of more than one million people, where 29% of Americans live.

The Goskis' story is one of brothers at home and at arms. Chris was born first, and Mike followed. That was the way it would always be. Growing up, Chris threw the first punch, and Mike leapt to his defense. Chris quit high school; Mike did the same. Chris enlisted in the military the day after 9/11; Mike wasn't far behind.

"The thing Mike loved most in the world was Chris," their father said, "and the thing Chris loved most in the world was Mike."

After burying his brother in 2012, Mike was left to find a new path.

This account of his journey is based on military, police and medical records, as well as journals, emails, texts, videos and photographs; and interviews with relatives and friends, and comrades and officials from Army Special Forces, U.S. Special Operations Command, Marine Special Operations Command, the 10th Mountain Division and the 2nd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Co.

'Little destructors'

Chris and Mike Goski were born on May 1, 1981. They grew up in Red Oak, at the time a town of 4,300 people and countless crepe myrtles, 20 miles south of Dallas. The family lived on a street of single-story brick houses.

The boys were fraternal twins with good looks so similar it was hard to distinguish one from the other.

Their father, Tim Goski, worked in trucking. Their mother, Kathy, was a nurse.

The Goskis tried to raise the twins—obedient as young boys—with a firm yet loving hand. Chris and Mike developed a rambunctious energy that attracted friends.

Their mischief eventually veered into delinquency. Their father, Tim, had quit drinking around the time Chris and Mike were 14 years old, yet the lure of substance-fueled escape seemed to pass from one generation to the next.

Chris was the impulsive leader; Mike, the thoughtful follower. "Shut the f— up, Mike, and come on," Chris would say. In fights, he would mouth off and throw the first punch, and Mike would step in to back up his brother. After one such bout, Mike told his mother: "I was just standing there thinking, 'Chris, don't do it, don't say it.'"

Jenny Jones, who met the twins in eighth grade and dated Mike, said, "They were willing-to-do-anything type kids, little destructors."

The twins bought and sold drugs in tough South Dallas neighborhoods. In Red Oak, the Goski brothers became the usual suspects to local police.

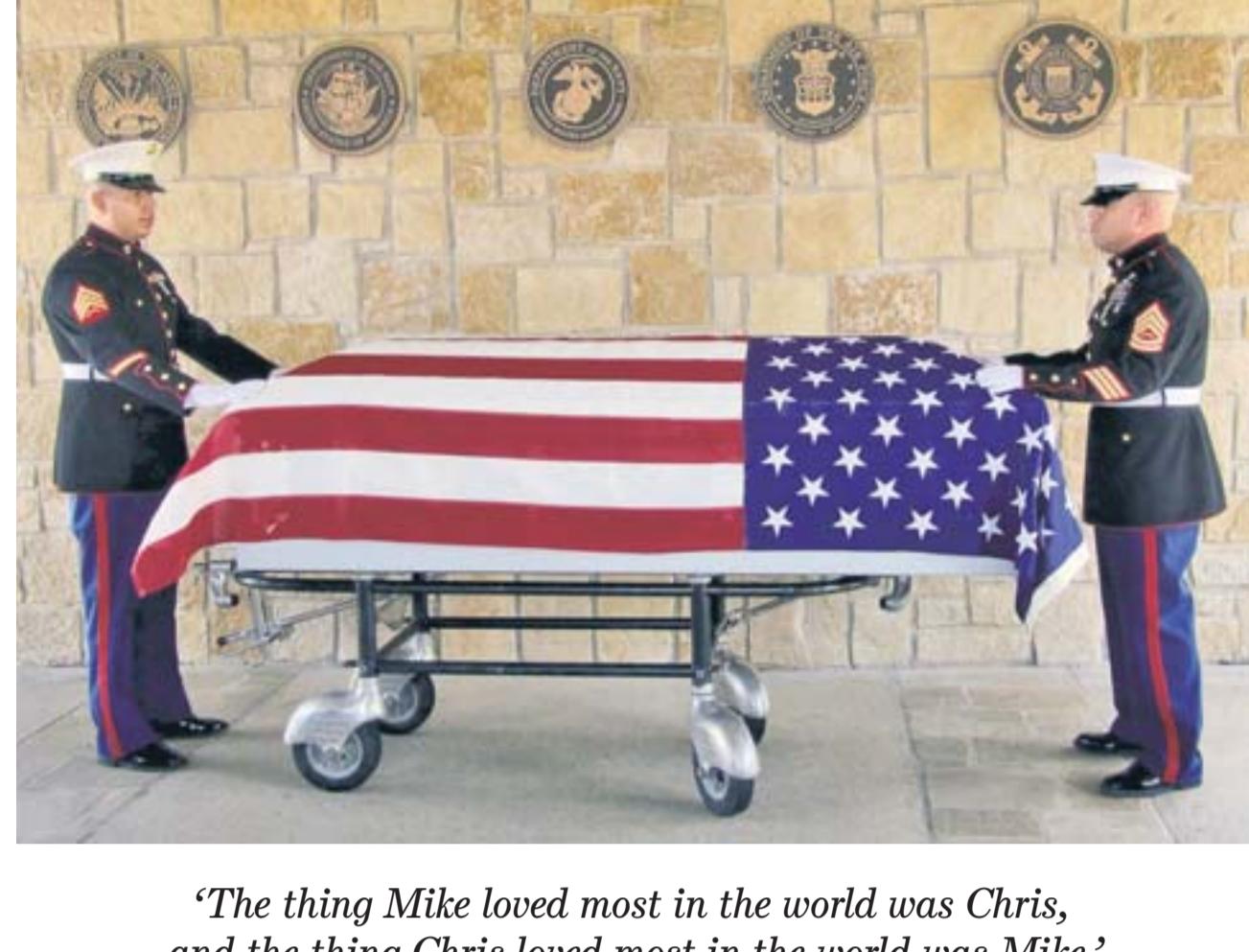
When the boys were 16, Tim and Kathy moved the family, which included a younger son, J.P., to Irving, Texas, hoping to spare the twins from a future in prison or the morgue. "They were rebels in a little Texas town," their father said, a label that was tough to shake.

The move to Irving led to more trouble. Chris ripped off a drug dealer, and his parents, worried for his safety, sent him to live with his grandmother in New Jersey in 1999.

With his brother gone, Mike slipped deep into drugs. Tim and Kathy checked him into a treatment program, where he was diagnosed with schizophrenia. A doctor prescribed an antipsychotic medicine that slowed Mike's thinking and bloated him to 275 pounds.

Chris returned from New Jersey that spring, and by the end of summer, the brothers hit bottom, aiming pistols at each other while high on PCP.

Tim and Kathy put Chris



SPECIAL FORces FRIEND; LAURA BUCKMAN FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL; GOSKI FAMILY (BOTTOM)

'The thing Mike loved most in the world was Chris, and the thing Chris loved most in the world was Mike.'

Tim Goski, their father



Clockwise from top left,
Mike and Chris Goski,
right, with Mike's twin
boys, also named Mike
and Chris; Chris, left, and
Mike in uniform in New
Jersey; the twins as boys.

into a drug-rehabilitation program, where he watched the 9/11 terrorist attacks on TV. Chris called his father and said, "Come get me the hell out of here."

The following day, Chris went to the Marine Corps recruiter's office in an Irving strip mall and enlisted in the Reserve. Mike also tried to enlist, but Marine and Army recruiters rejected him for being overweight.

Months later, when Chris returned from boot camp, he urged Mike to stop taking the antipsychotic pills. Mike complied, and he dropped 70 pounds on a diet of fish and vegetables—and by wrapping himself in trash bags as he worked unloading trucks at a warehouse.

In late 2002, the Army enlisted the newly trim Mike Goski. He served with the 10th Mountain Division in Afghanistan and, following the invasion of Iraq, was in Baghdad.

Mike embraced Army life and, after his second combat tour, was eager to advance beyond the infantry. "I'm better than this," he told friends.

He won a spot in the Special Forces selection course. A third of the class gave up after standing in formation for hours in a cold North Carolina rain. Mike trained as an explosives expert, graduating in 2008 to become a Green Beret.

The same year, Mike learned he was going to be a father. When the sonogram showed two heartbeats, Mike raced out to call his brother.

When the twins were born, Mike and his wife, a former Army truck driver, named them Mike and Chris.

Death's door

Chris started unraveling in 2006, during his second tour of Iraq.

When he returned to Texas, the panic attacks started. One night he called his father. "I think I'm having a heart attack," he said. Chris's mother, a nurse, recognized it as anxiety.

In 2007, Chris was back in Iraq. One night, in a freak accident, static electricity from a helicopter's blades detonated the explosives carried by a soldier. The blast blew up the man, and his remains drew fatal dogs.

The commander, worried about land mines, forbade any

one from retrieving the body until dawn.

Chris and two other men watched as the dogs ate their fill. In the morning, he and the others collected what was left.

Like his brother, Chris moved to an elite force. In August 2009, he earned a spot in the 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion, the Marine Corps equivalent of the Green Berets. Mike gave him a .45-caliber Springfield 1911 pistol to mark the promotion.

The commandos wanted Chris for his skill coordinating air and artillery attacks. In Iraq, Chris excelled at his job with an uncanny ability to picture airspace in three dimensions during combat. But back home at the base in North Carolina, friends watched him grow disheveled and edgy.

His decline accelerated during an eight-month tour of Afghanistan that began in 2010. The pace of operations wore at Chris. He turned to pills to help him sleep and to wake him up.

On April 24, 2011, the Marines found five insurgent bombs on the road. Dave Day, the team's explosives expert, defused four of them. He was

lying on his stomach to work on the last one when 80 pounds of explosives blew up beneath him. Chris retrieved Dave's helmet and jaw.

When Chris got back to Camp Lejeune, he tried to blend into stateside life. Around Christmas 2011, he flew home to Texas. While switching planes in Atlanta, he had what an airport medical team said was a panic attack.

His commanders ordered a mental-health evaluation on April 20, 2012. The examiner diagnosed him with anxiety disorder but concluded Chris was no threat to himself or others. A counselor noted that Chris denied considering suicide because "he would never do that to his brother." Chris was prescribed antidepressants and antianxiety drugs and warned against mixing the pills with alcohol.

On June 7, he and Doug Webb, a close Marine comrade, attended a suicide-prevention lecture led by a general and his wife. The couple had lost a son in war and another to suicide. During the talk, Chris told Doug, "We've all had the gun in our mouth at one point." The thought of Mike kept him from

pulling the trigger, he said.

On June 8, Chris reclined on the guest bed at a friend's house. On his laptop, he entered a search for post-traumatic stress disorder. He raised the .45-caliber pistol his brother had given him, put it to his right ear and pulled the trigger, according to authorities. Chris was 31 years old.

Onslow County sheriff's deputies found his body surrounded by 24 empty Bud Light cans.

Mike alone

Mike and his parents waited on the tarmac in Dallas to meet Chris's casket, which arrived draped in stars and stripes. A Marine friend stepped off the plane and told Tim and Kathy,

"I brought Chris home to you."

The Goski family buried Chris at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery on June 18, 2012.

Mike returned to Fort Campbell to a glowing evaluation and a bronze star. Sgt. First Class Goski "is a leader of character who places the mission, his Soldiers and his teammates before himself," his commander wrote.

Yet Mike had struggled at home in the months before his brother's death. Bills went unpaid, and the routine problems of civilian life set him off.

"You are all like cartoon characters to us," Mike told civilian friends. "You're not even in the real world."

His wife had moved away with the twins, and Mike had a hard time talking about anything but war. He fumed over Chris's death and believed the Marines had killed his brother through negligence.

In December, Chris's commander, Col. Jeffrey Fultz, and a sergeant major visited Mike

in Clarksville, Tenn., to deliver the findings of a Marine Corps investigation. The report said Chris had mixed alcohol and antianxiety drugs despite warnings and determined the Marine Corps wasn't responsible for his death.

"This is unacceptable," Mike told them. "He was your responsibility." Then Mike took a menacing step toward the senior Marines. "Get the f— out of my house," he said.

In the months that followed, Mike became convinced the outburst undermined his standing in the Special Forces.

Mike's commander ordered him to undergo a mental-health evaluation in January 2013, citing a menu of issues: "Dealing with grief; Danger to self & others; Anger management; Ability to perform; coping skills."

Mike saw a military physician assistant, who noted Mike's traumatic brain injury from exposure to explosions and "adjustment disorder with anxiety."

In October 2013, Mike left active duty. He lost his house to foreclosure, and returned to Texas to live with his parents. Over the next 2½ years, he rarely left his room. He thought people spied on his emails and put duct tape over the cameras on computers. He put a shield of body armor on his headboard.

When Mike did venture outside, he carried a snub-nosed revolver in his belt, hidden by a shirt. His phone calls to friends were manic and exhausting.

"I want to go overseas, and I want to stay there," he told a Special Forces friend.

Mike sought escape through a mind-addling use of Dust-Off, cans of compressed air used to clear debris from computer keyboards. He inhaled blasts of the chemical vapors, which gave him hallucinations.

High on the fumes, Mike would imagine Chris beckoning to him and saying, "I lost you. I've been looking for you."

In May 2016, Kathy received notice of a certified letter waiting for her at the post office. It was about Chris. She read it before leaving the parking lot, sitting in the 14-year-old Chevy TrailBlazer he had given her.

"I know that words could never ease the pain of your loss, which is why I have made suicide prevention my priority as the commander of the United States Special Operations Command," wrote Gen. Raymond A. Thomas III.

He asked Kathy and Tim to participate in a study of military suicides. He included the phone number of a social worker.

Kathy called the social worker at once. "You really want to help?" she demanded. "How about you help my son that's still alive?"

The social worker contacted Larry Rivera, a care coordinator assigned to special-operations troops. The next day, Mr. Rivera spoke with Mike for 90 minutes. They discussed treatment at the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Tampa, Fla., which specializes in helping commandos.

Tim saw a rare smile on Kathy's face. Mike returned to Tennessee hopeful but wary.

"I'll believe it when I see it," he told his mother.

On July 2, Mike went to Nashville for the wedding of a close friend, another Green Beret. The ceremony included only the couple, a maid of honor and Mike, who was the best man. He felt safe enough to leave his gun in the hotel when the wedding party went out to celebrate.

The next day, Mike drove back to his apartment in Clarksville. He settled onto a camouflaged poncho liner on the bare mattress and put the nozzle of a Dust-Off can in his mouth. Police found his body five days later.

When Mike's casket arrived in Dallas, Tim and Kathy followed the same journey as they had with Chris. They learned Mike had arranged permission to share his twin brother's gravesite.

On July 18, 2016, the Goskis buried Mike's casket atop of Chris's, one brother's name chiseled into the front of the grave marker, the other's name chiseled into the back.

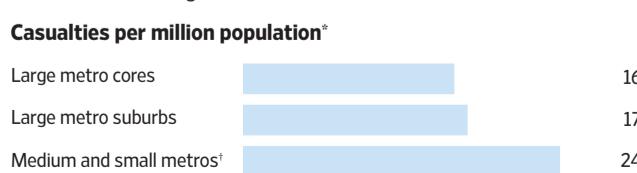
"That's how they came into the world," Tim said. "And that's how they left."

—Paul Overberg contributed to this article.

Heavy Burden

Per capita, nearly twice as many small-town Americans have died at war since the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks compared with those from large metro areas.

Casualties per million population*



*Deployed military fatal casualties from 2001 through 2016 divided by 2006 population

†Metros with between 50,000 and 1 million population

Source: Defense Department

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

OPINION

THE WEEKEND INTERVIEW with Balaji S. Srinivasan | By Tunku Varadarajan

The Blockchain Is the Internet of Money

Balaji Srinivasan's distrust of authority began as early as first grade, when boys less cerebral than he was would beat him up at recess for reading a book. "Literally, like, 'Oh, look at that nerd,' and they'd go attack you." That was in 1986, in Plainview, N.Y., an undistinguished Long Island hamlet where his parents, immigrants from South India, worked as physicians. "Being the only brown kid among hundreds of people, lots of kids would gang up on you and call you 'Gandhi,' and you could say, 'It's not an insult,' and run, but they'd just chase you."

Mr. Srinivasan is now 37 and an eye-catching innovator in the world of digital currency. "I learned that the first guy who comes at me, I need to hit him—Bam!—with the book, and just act crazy so the other folks don't jump on you." Later, at the principal's office, the assailants would have "crocodile tears" about how the little Indian

A Silicon Valley visionary explains how bitcoin works and why he regards it as revolutionary.

boy had started the fight. "Their parents knew the principal," Mr. Srinivasan recalls. "He'd say, 'Balaji, why did you attack young Jimmy and Jamie?' So, I learned early on that you've got to stand up for yourself, that the fix is in. . . . The state is against you."

That experience informs his current work. Mr. Srinivasan has called the stateless digital currency bitcoin "the most important technology of the decade." I ask him to explain why, and he says, in fact, that he's amped up the description. "I'd update that today," he tells me, "to say that the blockchain—which is not just bitcoin—is the most important invention since the internet." My eyes widen, and he says: "Yep. I'm not sure if that's consensus among Silicon Valley now, but it's getting there." The "blockchain," he will explain, is like the internet of money—with similar decentralizing and liberating potential.

Mr. Srinivasan, who describes his school years as "completely wasted," founded his current company, 21.co, in 2013 with \$115 million in seed money from Silicon Valley's leading venture capitalists. Plainview is now, mercifully, out of sight. "Life in the United States starts with a 13-year mandatory minimum K-12." Mr. Srinivasan calls it the "school-ag archipelago," an awkward pun on the Solzhenitsyn tome about Soviet prison camps. He has a 1-year-old son, whom he will not send to school. Instead he plans to band together with like-minded parents from the tech world and "crowdfund a tutor."

With his ill-fitting sweatshirt and sweetly inexpert haircut, Mr. Srinivasan doesn't look much older than a schoolboy. One would be inclined

to think of him as a typically arrogant tech-meister were he not so earnest and amiable. In 2006, immediately after earning a doctorate in electrical engineering at Stanford, he co-founded a genetic testing company, which was "conceived in a dorm room." He was on President Trump's shortlist to lead the Food and Drug Administration before ruling himself out for the job, and he has courted controversy by calling for Silicon Valley to "exit" from as much government control as possible. He has, in the past, invoked the notion of the "inverse Amish," a society that "lives nearby, peacefully, in the future," where "we can experiment with new technologies without causing undue disruption to others."

Some of Mr. Srinivasan's views were distorted in news reports, with the now-defunct Gawker describing him as a "secessionist" (and, for good measure, as "bats—insane"). With evident distaste, he describes the Gawker story as "fake news, avant la lettre," and notes: "Last I heard, they'd been sued into bankruptcy by profiting from revenge porn. Bitcoin is at \$4,000, and Gawker is dead."

Mr. Srinivasan's present company enables people to be paid in digital currency for replying to emails. It cost me \$20 to reach him, payable upon his response, which was almost instant. We met for lunch at his office earlier this week.

"Initially, and in the near future, 21.co is like a better version of LinkedIn InMail," Mr. Srinivasan says. "Senders attach digital currency to messages to pay people they don't know to reply." That's better than LinkedIn, he suggests, "because users are actually paid to reply, senders can mass-message people, and they can send complex surveys to people rather than just simple emails." The ultimate goal is to facilitate paid work: "Anywhere there's a phone, there's a job. You just pick up a phone and whatever your skills, people will send you digital-currency-based jobs. You can click buttons and make money anywhere in the world."

When I ask him to explain the "blockchain," Mr. Srinivasan starts to roll with relish. "Short version? Bitcoin is a way to have programmable scarcity. The blockchain is the data structure that records the transfer of scarce objects." I ask him to regard me as a dummy, and to give me the longer version.

We can understand bitcoin and blockchain in four steps, he says. "One, cash. When A gives a dollar bill to B, he's transferring a physical object. B has it, and A no longer does. There's implicit scarcity in the physical world."

Step 2 supposes that we treat the serial numbers on those Federal Reserve bills as "a form of native digital cash. Then A emails those numbers to B. Now B has a copy. But A still has a copy!" So if those serial numbers were treated as cash, A can "double-spend" the numbers by sending them to another party, C. This, Mr. Srinivasan says, is the fundamental issue with digital cash: "the double-spend problem. How do we introduce scarcity into the digital system?"



ZINA SAUNDERS

The way we resolved this problem before bitcoin, Mr. Srinivasan explains in his third step, "was through the use of centralized institutions called banks. Whenever you use PayPal or a similar technology to send money from A to B digitally, the bank is trusted to debit A and credit B." This, he says, is how "scarcity" is introduced into a digital system; but it is "inelegant, from a computer-science perspective, to have a central, trusted node in any networking topology"—a word my dictionary defines, in this context, as being the way in which constituent parts are interrelated or arranged.

Mr. Srinivasan doesn't care for this arrangement: "There are downsides to implicitly trusting banks, as the 2008 financial crisis showed." So rather than require a bank to approve transactions, "Bitcoin figured out how to split this power across many different transaction approvers, called 'miners.'" They "compete to approve transactions and integrate them into the so-called blockchain. Every time they integrate a new block of transactions into the blockchain, they receive a 'block reward' and are entitled to print digital currency."

The key point, he says, is that any computer could, in theory, approve transactions, and no single computer could block transactions.

Mr. Srinivasan concedes it's "a big claim" to say the blockchain is the most consequential technology since the internet. "The internet is programmable information. The blockchain is programmable scarcity." He elaborates: "All of these previously disparate things—from physical mail to television to music to movies to telephony—basically got turned into packets of information and got remixed by the internet. Plus things that we normally didn't even think of as information—your Fitbit, your

steps, your Facebook settings—became programmable." It's fair to say, he continues, "that the internet and all things downstream—search engines, social networks, ride sharing, and so on—have basically been the technological story of the last 25 years."

The blockchain is the next phase, Mr. Srinivasan says with some zest. "With the blockchain, everything that was scarce now becomes programmable. That means cash, commodities, currencies, stocks, bonds—everything in finance is going to be transformed, and aspects of finance baked into everything else." By way of example, Mr. Srinivasan suggests that there could be "a spot market for the cost of storing one megabyte on 1,000 remote computers." He then offers a slogan for the new age: "If you deal with information, you need the internet. If you deal with money, you need to deal with blockchains." Pretty much everyone, he adds, deals with information and money.

The blockchain, Mr. Srinivasan continues, "is a religion that works." Here's why: "If you take 10,000 people and put them in a circle and they close their eyes hard and say, 'Let this plane fly,' it's not going to fly. But if they close their eyes hard and say, 'Let this thing have value,' and they all value it, they've suddenly got a price for it." They will exchange things of economic value among themselves, and the external world can interact with them. "In the same way that once you've got enough people, you've got a nation, you've also got a currency. So, belief is actually something you can now materialize into currency."

I steer our conversation, here, toward China, where the government has cracked down hard on digital currencies, banning citizens from exchanging them online. Is this the first major blockchain crisis? Mr. Srinivasan ponders the

question before noting that "the Chinese government is actually run by engineers. Hu Jintao was an engineer, as is Xi Jinping. One of the things they do in China is that they actually give seats in government to folks who are successful in technology."

He tells me—"not necessarily in an admiring way"—that there are "probably not many people in the U.S. government who could explain to you exactly what a 'firewall' is, but that's a fundamental instrument of policy in China." Chinese politicians, he says, are more conversant with the long-term implications of information technology than their American counterparts.

But what does China's crackdown on bitcoin mean? Mr. Srinivasan believes that Beijing is doing something similar to what it did when it deployed the so-called Great Firewall in the early 2000s. "It wanted the internet, but it wanted a controlled internet." It now has a vigorous and competitive Internet economy, with Alibaba, Tencent and Baidu, "but it also takes measures that Western societies would not, in terms of explicit internet censorship."

If the Chinese government wants the benefits of the blockchain "without the decentralization of bitcoin," Mr. Srinivasan says, "we might see a 'Great Blockchain of China'—perhaps a 'Chinacoin' issued by the People's Bank of China." It may seem too early for "something of that magnitude" to happen, Mr. Srinivasan says, "but sometimes the future happens more quickly than we expect." An interesting question, he adds, "is whether this 'Chinacoin' would just be directly pegged to the renminbi, as seems most likely, or whether it would be freely floating like bitcoin."

A more plausible short-term alternative, in Mr. Srinivasan's view, may be that "the Chinese government asserts its jurisdiction over the Chinese miners who provide most of the worldwide mining capacity of bitcoin and Ethereum," the latter an open-source blockchain-based platform. Mr. Srinivasan imagines a "cat-and-mouse game would likely ensue, after which the Chinese government would gain control of a fork of bitcoin and Ethereum chains, but the rest of the world would fork to different versions of those chains." The Chinese government could even attempt a hostile takeover of bitcoin.

Mr. Srinivasan is confident, however, that the protocols that sustain a decentralized, global digital currency will weather a crisis of this sort. "This is the kind of test these protocols were built for. If they survive, which I think they will, then we've proven something amazing." We'll have proven, he says with a smile, "that there's now a new kind of digital asset which even a very technically competent and motivated government cannot seize."

Mr. Varadarajan is a fellow in journalism at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.

Maryland's Bail Reform Is a Warning for Would-Be Moralizers



Reformers on the left and right who worry about mass incarceration have argued lately for kicking private bail bonds out of America's criminal-justice system. New Jersey virtually eliminated cash bail earlier this year, instructing

judges to decide whether to release defendants based on their risk factors. Arizona and Kentucky are doing the same. After a bail bill failed to pass California's Legislature this term, Gov. Jerry Brown and state Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye joined hands to advocate reform. On Capitol Hill, Sens. Rand Paul (R., Ky.) and Kamala Harris (D., Calif.) have introduced a bill that would provide federal grants to nudge states in this direction.

The argument is straightforward: A defendant who can't afford bail languishes in jail, maybe losing his job, simply because he is poor. But anyone who hopes bail reform will lower incarceration rates, making life better for defendants and their families, might want to hold off celebrating. Data from Maryland suggests that remaking the bail system in haste, without careful planning, can actually drive up incarceration rates.

The 24-hour bail-bond business is a peculiarly American institution.

If you land in jail, these companies will pay the bond to get you out. The price is a steep nonrefundable commission, typically 10% of the total bond. If you skip town afterward, you'll be sorry when they send bounty hunters after you.

Bondsmen say they provide a socially useful service. They apply experience and local knowledge to assess the defendant's flight risk, while working with families to get loved ones out of jail quickly and with minimal hassle. When defendants flee, bounty hunters typically do better than sheriffs at tracking them down.

From a judge's perspective, the bail system provides a way to handle the wide range of middling cases. Defendants with low flight risk and minor offenses can be released on their own recognizance or a small personal bond. Those with high flight risk and serious charges can be held without bond. What about the people in between? The bail system provides a way to let them out of jail while applying pressure to show up in court.

Squeeze that middle option, and judges will reassess cases up or down—but there can be a bias toward up. If a judge releases a defendant who goes on to commit an atrocious crime, he faces a potentially career-ending furor. The incentive is to err on the side of lockup.

That might explain what has happened in Maryland. Last fall the

state's attorney general, Brian Frosh, issued guidance that suddenly declared past bail methods unlawful, prodding the court system into an unplanned experiment. Judges may not set financial requirements if there is a reason to

Rather than release more defendants pending trial, judges have erred on the side of locking them up.

believe the defendant cannot pay, and unless they hold a suspect without bail, they must impose the "least onerous" conditions.

Now the results are coming in, and they can't be what Mr. Frosh had in mind. An early report in March by Kelsi Loos in the Frederick News-Post found that since October the share of Maryland defendants held without bail had increased from 10% to 14%. The Washington Post later reported that from September 2016 to May the figure had jumped from 7% to 15%.

Meanwhile, fewer released defendants are showing up for trial. The Post, confirming anecdotal reports, writes that the "failure to appear" rate in January was 14.5%, "a nearly 5 percent increase over the rate in October." Failing to show up for court sets up a defendant for

more-severe consequences down the road, which can include being held without bail.

This result has vindicated politicians who opposed the bail changes. Democratic state delegate C.T. Wilson, a criminal defense attorney and member of the Legislative Black Caucus, told the Post that the intent of reform "was to not have as many African-American males in jail until their trial date." He continued: "What has been done has had a more detrimental impact on African-Americans in the system."

If bail is taken away, judges need other tools to do the same job. Decades ago, when Congress steered the federal criminal-justice system away from bail bonds, lawmakers provided practical replacements,

including systematic help in assessing a defendant's risk of flight or re-offense, options for pretrial supervision, and methods of home and electronic detention. Several states have done the same. New Jersey now uses a mathematical algorithm to assess a person's risk of fleeing or committing another crime. But the Maryland legislature, deeply split over Mr. Frosh's destabilizing changes, has failed to set up such alternatives.

Maryland's example doesn't refute the idea of bail reform. But it does suggest state leaders should work to build consensus for comprehensive changes, instead of charging ahead with moralizing experiments.

Mr. Olson is a senior fellow at the Cato Institute.

Notable & Quotable: Summers

Former Treasury Secretary Larry Summers in an interview with Tyler Cowen of George Mason University's Mercatus Center, Sept. 20.

The right broad deal on immigration is yes, there should be immigration but at least my view is the idea of the melting pot, which has become unfashionable in many circles, is actually a good idea.

The understanding should be that if you immigrate to the United States

you're immigrating to the United States to become an American. That reflects acculturation, one crucial part of which is speaking English and understanding that you're going to be learning English and that you're going to be carrying on your life in English. If we had more acceptance of the idea that immigration was about becoming American, we would have more acceptance of higher levels of immigration than generate comfort right now.

OPINION

REVIEW & OUTLOOK

ObamaCare Groundhog Day

John McCain is an American war hero with many political accomplishments. That legacy, though will be diminished by not one but two decisions to kill Republican health-care reform. And no one should let Senator Rand Paul off the hook, either.

Mr. McCain said in a Friday statement that he "cannot in good conscience" vote for a proposal from Lindsey Graham and Bill Cassidy that would devolve ObamaCare funding to the states, as well as repeal the medical-device tax and the employer and individual mandates. The deadline to pass the bill with 51 votes is Sept. 30 thanks to arcane Senate budget procedures. Mr. McCain's no vote almost certainly dooms the project, as Mr. Paul has already declared his opposition and Susan Collins of Maine is thought to be a reliable no vote as well.

Mr. McCain said that "a bill of this impact requires a bipartisan approach." This is a pipe dream. Democrats think they can use the troubles with ObamaCare against Republicans next year, and they may be right. More to the point, Democrats are mobilizing behind single payer, an idea that about one-third of Senate Democrats have endorsed.

Mr. McCain says he favors regular order, so perhaps Mr. Graham and company should go ahead with that and see if they can attach their bill to the next reconciliation vehicle after hearings and more debate. Our guess is Mr. McCain will oppose the bill even then. He'll be waiting forever if he wants a bipartisan solution on an issue that is so polarized over the underlying role for government in delivering health care.

Mr. McCain's objections are about also about process, including that the Senate wouldn't have a full score from the Congressio-

nal Budget Office in time for a vote. We won't insult Mr. McCain by suggesting that he actually believes that several economists on Capitol Hill could forecast how 50 Governors across the country would use the money to experiment with health-care coverage.

Then there's Mr. Paul, who has trashed the Graham-Cassidy proposal as ObamaCare lite because it isn't sufficiently perfect reform or total repeal. But that is never coming either. Perhaps Mr. Paul should leave the Senate for the priesthood, so that he can live up to his chaste principles. On this earth he is abetting a further government takeover of health care. He is killing this bill, and reform, as surely as Mr. McCain.

What's bizarre is that in another life—two months ago—Mr. Paul claimed to understand this reality. In July on Fox News he said he'd vote for the Senate's "skinny repeal," which would have nixed discrete features such as the individual mandate, because it was "the best I can get, given the colleagues that I have. You send me some better colleagues, and I will repeal more of it." Now who needs better colleagues?

What's likely to be a bitter irony of Sen. McCain's decision is that his action will endanger the fellow Republicans whose moderation he claims to revere. The ObamaCare failure is certain to enrage the Trump base. That anger will be channeled at his fellow moderates, either as primary challenges or efforts to drive them out of the Senate. It will erode what little is left of Donald Trump's faith in the Republican Party. The worst outcome from this second GOP failure is that millions of Americans will continue to face higher costs and fewer choices for their health care.

ObamaCare's Tax on the Poor

Democrats claim to have a monopoly on caring for the poor and suffering, and this week the left is portraying a GOP health-care bill as an attack on society's vulnerable. So check out the data on how ObamaCare is a tax on some low-income families.

IRS data offers insight into who paid the law's individual mandate penalty in 2015 for not buying health insurance, the latest year for which figures are available. Spoiler alert: The payers aren't Warren Buffett or any of the other wealthy folks. Democrats say they want to tax. More than one in three of taxed households earned less than \$25,000, which is roughly the federal poverty line for a family of four.

More than 75% of penalized households made less than \$50,000 and nine in 10 earned less than \$75,000. Fewer families paid the tax in 2015 than in 2014, yet government revenues increased to more than \$3 billion from about \$1.7 billion, as the financial punishment for

lacking coverage increased.

These Americans are paying a fine to avoid purchasing a product they don't want or can't afford but government compels them to buy. Such individuals don't suddenly have access to less expensive or higher quality medical care, but they do have less money for household expenses, which can consume a high share of income for this class of families.

The unfortunate irony is that ObamaCare destroyed the private market that offered options that in some cases made sense for these people. For example: High-deductible, limited coverage for unexpected events.

Then again, the point of this coercion was to substitute the government's political preferences for individual judgment, while forcing the young and healthy to pay more to finance the mandated benefits that Democrats think everyone must have. This is the status quo that Senators John McCain and Rand Paul are supporting with their opposition to reform.

Turning the Screws on North Korea

American officials have been wrong for years predicting breakthroughs in the North Korea nuclear week could prove to be different. The combination of Kim Jong Un's growing belligerence, new U.S. financial sanctions, and a Chinese turn on North Korea trade might be a turning point that finally isolates the Kim regime.

The new U.S. sanctions that President Trump announced Thursday will finally cut off the regime from the U.S. dollar, the currency it has continued to rely on for trade. Any institution that does business with Pyongyang will lose access to the U.S. financial system. Meanwhile, Chinese regulators told China's banks on Monday to stop handling North Korea trade, and many of them had already frozen North Korean accounts.

These mark a significant ramp up in pressure on the North. Americans might think that such sanctions were already in place since the regime first tested a nuclear weapon 11 years ago. Barack Obama once called North Korea "the most heavily sanctioned, the most cut-off nation on Earth." And the U.S. foreign policy establishment, right and left, has claimed that sanctions were tried and failed to change Pyongyang's behavior.

Yet until last year United Nations and U.S. sanctions on North Korea were far less stringent than those imposed on Iran before 2015. Only in March 2016 did the U.N. begin to restrict the country's commercial trade, and only in November did the U.S. sever North Korean banks from its financial system. This June the U.S. finally blacklisted a Chinese bank along with companies and individuals that helped the North obtain forbidden materials for its nuclear and missile programs.

Those were important steps, but on Thursday the gloves really came off. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin told a press briefing, "Foreign financial institutions are now on notice that, going forward, they can choose to do business with the United States or with North Korea, but not both." The punishments to be meted out are similar to those reserved for financiers of terrorism under the Patriot Act. One Administration official claimed that Thursday's

executive order goes further than sanctions on any other country.

So far the U.S. has declined to sanction large Chinese banks, so will it do that now? It may not have to. Since the U.S. fired its warning shot by sanctioning the Bank of Dandong in June, Chinese banks have frozen or closed North Korean accounts.

That has reduced trade flows across the Chinese border by 75%, according to a Kyodo report. Fuel prices began to rise in Pyongyang even before new United Nations sanctions this month capped trade in petroleum.

China isn't saying if the People's Bank of China acted on Monday in anticipation of the tougher Trump sanctions. Leaks to the press say the U.S. gave President Xi Jinping a heads-up on Wednesday. But it's hard to dispute that Mr. Trump's public statements and official actions on the North have got Beijing's attention in a way that previous American Presidents have not. Mr. Trump's words are often undiplomatic, as with this week's exchanges with Kim Jong Un, but they are an attempt to convince the world that he intends to solve the problem one way or another.

Relations between Beijing and Pyongyang have also clearly soured over the last year, and some Chinese scholars and media are openly calling for an end to support for Kim Jong Un. This suggests that Kim's behavior and U.S. sanctions may be driving a wedge between China and North Korea. The increased pressure may have helped Beijing recognize that it would endure heavy costs if it continues to prop up a destabilizing regime.

On Friday Kim Jong Un responded to all this by threatening to detonate a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean. That would be the first nuclear explosion in the atmosphere in decades, with radiation effects throughout the northern hemisphere.

The threat is further proof that a nuclear North Korea would mean a new era of instability and danger. War on the Korean Peninsula must be a last resort, which is why the world should hope that China follows through on its order and that these latest sanctions convince enough people in North Korea that its current path means the end of the regime.

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That has reduced trade flows across the Chinese border by 75%, according to a Kyodo report. Fuel prices began to rise in Pyongyang even before new United Nations sanctions this month capped trade in petroleum.

China isn't saying if the People's Bank of China acted on Monday in anticipation of the tougher Trump sanctions. Leaks to the press say the U.S. gave President Xi Jinping a heads-up on Wednesday. But it's hard to dispute that Mr. Trump's public statements and official actions on the North have got Beijing's attention in a way that previous American Presidents have not. Mr. Trump's words are often undiplomatic, as with this week's exchanges with Kim Jong Un, but they are an attempt to convince the world that he intends to solve the problem one way or another.

Relations between Beijing and Pyongyang have also clearly soured over the last year, and some Chinese scholars and media are openly calling for an end to support for Kim Jong Un. This suggests that Kim's behavior and U.S. sanctions may be driving a wedge between China and North Korea. The increased pressure may have helped Beijing recognize that it would endure heavy costs if it continues to prop up a destabilizing regime.

On Friday Kim Jong Un responded to all this by threatening to detonate a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean. That would be the first nuclear explosion in the atmosphere in decades, with radiation effects throughout the northern hemisphere.

The threat is further proof that a nuclear North Korea would mean a new era of instability and danger. War on the Korean Peninsula must be a last resort, which is why the world should hope that China follows through on its order and that these latest sanctions convince enough people in North Korea that its current path means the end of the regime.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Bourgeois Norms' Got Professors Their Jobs

Regarding Heather Mac Donald's "Higher Ed's Latest Taboo Is 'Bourgeois Norms'" (op-ed, Sept. 19): The left won the culture wars that began in the 1960s and ended with cultural conservatives running for cover during the Obama years. One would think that the left would be magnanimous in victory and open to intellectual debate. After all, President Obama himself observed that children growing up without a father are more likely to live in poverty, more likely to drop out of school and more likely to wind up in prison. A married couple with children earns, on average, an income that is more than triple the income of a household headed by a single mom. That fact isn't a license to stigmatize single moms, but it is a statistical truth—and the left apparently cannot handle the truth. With freedom, including post-1950s sexual liberation, comes responsibility. Shouting down those who call attention to the economic fallout from post-bourgeois culture change is neither responsible nor progressive.

GENE BRADLEY
Norfolk, Va.

Ms. Mac Donald asks: "What are university administrators and faculty so afraid of?" Here's what they're so afraid of: perpetuating the myth that "hard work" is what's needed to counter the economic problems that plague so many people in America where jobs are wiped out daily by technology; promoting the idea, widely believed in the 1950s, that a lack of "self-discipline" is at the root of poverty, alcoholism, mental illness and other social scourges; admonishing married couples to stay together for "the good of the kids," while the kids watch Daddy batter Mommy (or vice versa) physically or mentally and end up in similar dysfunctional relationships themselves; upholding "respect for authority," which for decades allowed predator priests (and certainly not only them) to molest children, confident that the child's (or his/her parents') "respect for authority" would guarantee his silence. I grew up in the 1950s, in a "bourgeois" family, and the idea of holding up the "norms" of that era as some sort of beacon of American virtue sure as hell scares me.

DAVID L. SAFFAN
Santa Barbara, Calif.

As an immigrant from India, I am, like most of my fellow immigrants, living the American dream precisely because my family follows what the authors advocate. This also holds true, from what I know, for most East Asian immigrants, even the most liberal among us. And I am gratified to see that our adult children do this too.

PROF. PAUL H. RUBIN
Emory University
Atlanta

Who would have thought it? Judging from the reaction of today's collegiate liberal elite to Ms. Wax's call to return to the benefits of childbearing within marriage, gainful employment and the avoidance of crime and drug abuse, the academics would have to consider Martin Luther King Jr. a racist as well.

STEPHEN R. GANDY
Ridgeland, Miss.

Ms. Wax and Larry Alexander say nothing to imply white supremacy, misogyny or homophobia. They espouse traditional values. The response of Dean Ruger, Stephen Ferruolo and many of the faculty only reveals their bigotry in assuming the authors were referring to black people.

HUGH DOSS
Louisville, Ky.

Technology May Remake Transport Yet Again

Mark Mills has been sniffing too many fossil-fuel fumes ("Notable & Quotable: Energy," Sept. 13). He's right about the energy content of oil versus batteries, but it's a pointless comparison. Who puts a barrel (42 gallons) of crude oil in their car? The average car is driven less than 50 miles a day, which would require only two to three gallons of gasoline.

Mr. Mills says there are no scale benefits left, ignoring the major components of electric cars, namely motors and batteries. He mentions concrete and corn as underlying ma-

KERRY SMITH
Woodbury, Minn.

terials, and I confess to being baffled as to where they fit with today's cars. Finally, he says there are no big technology gains possible given the physics we know today. Yes, and in 1963 we didn't begin to have the technology to go to the moon. But we did six years later, and without changing the laws of physics.

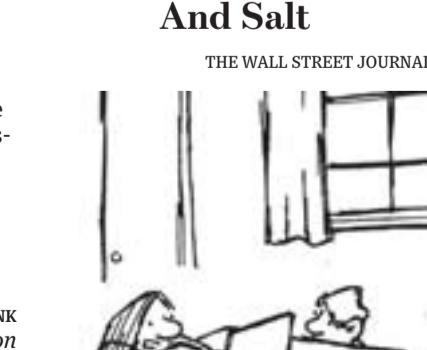
REGARDING your editorial "Reining in Mr. Sessions" (Sept. 18): Kudos to the members of Congress trying to stop Attorney General Jeff Sessions's ill-conceived reintroduction of federal civil asset forfeiture—punishment for an alleged crime through seizure of property, without any prior conviction for that crime in a court of law. The worst aspect of this plan was letting the police benefit when they seized property.

The last thing the police need is to be seen as preying on rather than protecting the public.

JAMES G. RUSSELL
Midlothian, Va.

Pepper ... And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"I like it better before search engines, when we'd just scream, 'Mom.'"

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OPINION

Trump Gets Blunt at the United Nations



DECLARATIONS
By Peggy Noonan

I'm not sure President Trump's speech to the United Nations General Assembly has been fairly judged or received. It was a strong speech—clear, emphatic, remarkably blunt. The great question is whether the bluntness will tend at this point in history to make things better or worse. We'll find out soon enough.

Often Mr. Trump grows bored with prepared speeches and starts throwing in asides and improvising adjectives. But he was committed to this speech and focused: It looked like Trump believing what Trump was saying. Detractors say, "Oh, his

Will bracing clarity make things better or worse? We'll know soon enough. But he said things the world needed to hear.

speechwriters just put something in front of him," but all presidents, from the most naturally eloquent to the verbally dullest, have speechwriters. The point is what a president decides he wants to say and how he agrees to say it. In the end he directs what goes in and what comes out.

Mr. Trump explained to the U.N. the assumptions he sees as driving his own foreign policy, which showed a proper respect for the opinion of mankind. He outlined the central problems facing the world as he sees them—a tradition in such speeches, and a good one, for it matters what an American president thinks.

Mr. Trump's speech was rhetorically dense, in that a lot was in it

and little time was wasted. There were moments of eloquence—the U.N. must not be complacent; we cannot become "bystanders to history."

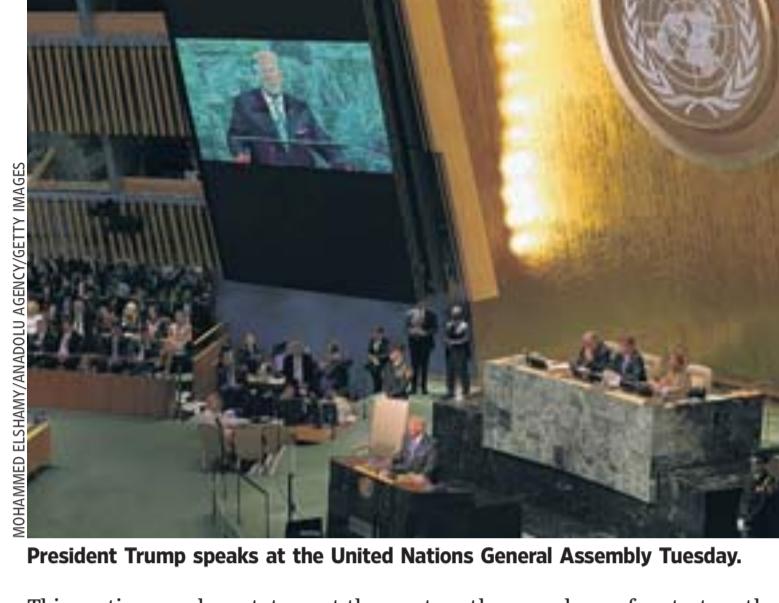
He began with the usual bragging: The U.S. economy is improving, and we are militarily strong and getting stronger—and fairly quickly kicked into hopefulness, and respect for the U.N.'s history.

On his administration's driving foreign-policy attitudes: "We do not expect diverse countries to share the same cultures, traditions or even systems of government. But we do expect all nations to uphold these two core sovereign duties: to respect the interests of their own people and the rights of every sovereign nation." Then: "In America, we do not seek to impose our way of life on anyone, but rather to let it shine as an example for everyone to watch."

He painted "America First" as benign, politically realistic. "Our government's first duty is to its people, to our citizens—to serve their needs, to ensure their safety, to preserve their rights, and to defend their values. As president of the United States, I will always put America first, just like you, as the leaders of your countries, will always and should always put your countries first." Still, the nations of the world must "work together in close harmony and unity to create a more safe and peaceful future for all people."

The U.S. has always been "a great friend to the world" and will continue to be. "Our citizens have paid the ultimate price to defend our freedom and the freedom of many nations represented in this great hall," he said. "We want harmony and friendship, not conflict and strife. We are guided by outcomes, not ideology. We have a policy of principled realism, rooted in shared goals, interests and values."

All this is the opposite of democracy promotion and nation building and dreams of eradicating evil. The president has spoken like this before.



President Trump speaks at the United Nations General Assembly Tuesday.

This section was less statement than restatement for an international audience.

But there was an interesting question of emphasis. Throughout the speech Mr. Trump stressed the importance of national sovereignty, of countries protecting their own ways and needs.

Sovereignty, of course, is crucial. But as he spoke, my mind went back to 1914 and all the fiercely sovereign nations that decided to go to war with each other, putting an end to a unique and rising European civilization. In 1945, after World War II, they put greater emphasis on a more corporate approach, on cooperation and transnational institutions. That path can be abused too, and has been. But it hasn't been all bad.

It has been charged that Mr. Trump virtually ignored Russia, mentioning it only once, in thanks for supporting sanctions against North Korea. But he also said: "We must reject threats to sovereignty, from the Ukraine to the South China Sea." That is not ignoring Russia. "We must uphold respect for law, respect for borders, and respect for culture," he said. "We must work

together and confront together those who threaten us with chaos, turmoil, and terror."

The most publicized section of the speech was on North Korea. He characterized its regime as "depraved," "twisted," a "band of criminals." True enough. North Korea's "reckless pursuit of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles" cannot be allowed to continue. In the speech's most famous flourish: "Rocket Man is on a suicide mission for himself and for his regime." The U.S. "has great strength and patience, but if it is forced to defend itself or its allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea."

Is this too hot, or helpful, or both? During the Cold War colorful candor produced a great deal. When Ronald Reagan was drop-dead blunt about the nature of the Soviet Union, foreign affairs was a high-stakes chess game between two superpowers. The context now is a less clearly demarcated world in which anyone with a weapon of mass destruction is, for the moment, a "superpower." It's hard to know if blunt talk will excite nuts into greater activity, or if bracing clarity about the

risks they're taking will slow them down, make them question their ambitions and intentions.

But the U.N. needed to hear clearly and unequivocally the gravity with which the American president views North Korea. Ultimately, as Mr. Trump noted, confronting this question is "what the United Nations is for."

A great line—because it spoke a great truth—was this: "The problem in Venezuela is not that socialism has been poorly implemented, but that socialism has been faithfully implemented." Mr. Trump then paused and looked at the audience. It struck some as a "please clap" moment. It struck me as a stare-down: *I'm saying something a lot of you need to hear. You're not going to like it, and I'm going to watch you not like it.*

Two final points: One is that Mr. Trump is on a roll, a sustained one the past few weeks, and this is new. All levels of government performed well in the hurricanes. Mr. Trump showed competence, focus and warmth. His bipartisan outreach, however it ends, went over well with core supporters and others. He had a strong speech at the U.N., in fact a successful U.N. week, beginning to end. His poll numbers are inching toward 40%.

Which gets us to point two: This is a very important moment for him. History suggests he will ruin it any minute with intemperate statements, wiggly decisions or crazy tweets.

He does this because he's somewhat compulsive and has trouble governing himself. He also does it because he thinks his supporters like it. Some do, but most don't. He thinks they all do because he misunderstands his base.

Mr. Trump's supporters should push back when he starts to go slightly mad. They should tweet at him: "Stop, Donald! Be U.N. Donald, not Twitter Donald."

They should tweet this to him by the millions. Because he does feel some loyalty to them, and it's possible he might try to listen.

Texting and Twitter Make This a Golden Age for the Written Word

By Crispin Sartwell

My father, a writer, told me that his father, also a writer, told him that there is no secret to writing. It's just typing, and typing is just wiggling your fingers, so get to it. By this standard, my first-year college students are writers indeed. Social media includes images and video, but it also rolls by in a vast, flowing river of words. It's difficult to walk across campus this fall and not collide with someone who is writing as fast as he can think, or faster.

Texting—to say the obvious—is writing. Snapchat conversations are written with thumbs, but they are written. Twitter seems to be getting blamed for many ills, including those of the Trump administration. But whatever else the president does as he tweets, he is definitely writing. Barack Obama composed a couple of decent memoirs, but he is not as prolific an author as Mr. Trump, a master of his chosen genre. It strikes me that Twitter is not only a social media platform, it is a poetic form, like the haiku or the sonnet. It demands compression, elision, clarity, speed; it encourages plain speaking.

I still have my dad's 1959 edition of "The Elements of Style," which is a scripture of my people. "Vigorous writing is concise," mansplain William Strunk and E.B. White. "A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences, for the same reason that a drawing should have no unnecessary lines and a machine no unnecessary parts. Every word should tell."

I've tried to live and write by those words, but I had no idea how to trim until I started tweeting. It forces you to get to the gist.

"Have Smart Phones Destroyed a Generation?" asks the Atlantic in its September issue. The question is

rhetorical: it seems obvious to everyone that they have. The mental health of young people has fallen off a cliff, reports psychologist Jean Twenge in the piece. It all started in 2007, when the iPhone was introduced (and, please note, the economy tanked). Spikes in depression and anxiety are correlated with the exponential rise in smartphone and social media use.

It will remind some of jeremiads blaming comic books, television, video games or hip hop for this social ill or that. Leaving aside the extreme post hoc fallacy and accepting the results at face value, I think I can provide an explanation. Authorship—whether of great novels, fundamental works of history and philosophy, poems that set the soul afire, status updates, or blog posts—can be a lonely journey. It's hard, but all truly rewarding things are. You have to struggle for your art. Yet art is a noble calling, and has its pleasures as well.

Back when the culprit was television, we were becoming a country of obese, illiterate couch potatoes. Now we suffer instead from universal literacy. Everyone is writing all the

Slang in the 1970s spread mouth-to-mouth. Now new idioms flow across the globe in written form.

time (at least when they're not doing yoga), their thumbs pumping like pistons, the emojis and abbreviations quickening the pace of etymology, as meanings liquefy and crystallize with remarkable speed.

I don't think there's any point in bemoaning this like schoolmarm or official defenders of pure French, who are definitely losing right now. So what if the alphabetic language is

incorporating pictorial elements? Emojis might be connected in some respects to Egyptian hieroglyphs or Chinese ideograms. Aging people have never been able to hang on to the supposedly purer language of earlier generations, and English is constituted from its pollutions—all its many borrowings and slangs and subcultural vernaculars.

This process of linguistic development proceeds apace, but at this moment the forms are more written than oral. Slang in the 1970s, when I was a teenager, swept across the high schools mouth-to-mouth long before showing up in Rolling Stone, much less the Washington Post. Now both publications constantly reprint tweets, and new idioms flow across the globe in written more than in spoken form.

I'm sure this has its good and bad effects, but there's no point in both participating and sneering. People have issued beautiful aphorisms and

talked worthless yip-yap since we started using language, and I don't think this moment's expression, overall, is any more bastardized or untruthful or unbeautiful than any other's. But it might be unique in human history in that it is primarily textual. Leaving aside quality, people have never written or read more, or even nearly as much, as they do now. This is the golden age of the written word.

Writing, meanwhile, doesn't have to be all anxiety and depression. I have a letter from my grandfather to my father at summer camp that starts like this: "There is considerable pleasure in writing if you don't fight it." Perk up, young people, and keep on texting. Just not during class.

Mr. Sartwell teaches at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. His most recent book is "Entanglements: A System of Philosophy" (SUNY Press, 2017).

Never Mind Jemele Hill, ESPN Isn't Doomed



BUSINESS WORLD

By Holman W. Jenkins, Jr.

Donald Trump is a "white supremacist" and his presidency a "direct result of white supremacy."

Now, this epithet may not mean what you think it does. As Wikipedia or linguists or some on the disquieted left would be happy to tell you, in the mouths of "critical race theory" activists, white supremacy

refers, in fact, to almost everybody and everything. CUNY's Angus Johnston, an enthusiastic purveyor, explained on Twitter last year: "White supremacy isn't about what is in somebody's heart. It's about who wields political power."

The finer points received a thorough airing last November, when certain writers on the left debated whether Bernie Sanders qualified as a white supremacist because of comments pooh-poohing the Democratic preoccupation with identity politics. What remains to be pointed out is the obvious appeal of such thinking about white supremacy: It's a way of gratifyingly expanding the number of persons, occasions and institutions that can be denounced as racist.

How ESPN put its foot in this mess is also partly explained by the fact that many more enrollees in American journalism schools aspire to be sports reporters than find jobs as sports reporters. They become business reporters instead. And the flailings of ESPN have lately become America's favorite—and overstated—business story.

The Disney-owned sports channel has been losing at least two million subscribers a year since 2013. Many of them were basic cable subscribers who were forced to pay for ESPN though they didn't watch it. If this keeps up, ESPN is certainly kaput. Except it likely won't: When the sports network loses a cord-cutter who never watched, its remaining customer base consists increasingly of those who value ESPN.

To be sure, the rise of broadband video has eroded cable's strength in regularly scheduled programming, including ESPN's flagship "Sports Center." Scores and highlights now can

be watched on your smartphone whenever you want. This seems to have led ESPN down the ill-advised path of promoting noisy, opinionated hosts like Ms. Hill to jazz up the viewing.

Why Amazon and Facebook don't want 'Monday Night Football.'

But notice something else: In a Netflix world, live sports increasingly will be the only programming people will be willing to watch while tolerating commercials. The value of ESPN's live-sports rights should actually go up.

Which brings us to the real crux of the ESPN-is-doomed argument, recently touted on the cover of Barron's magazine. Isn't ESPN destined to be trampled by Amazon, Google, Apple and Facebook in the bidding for future sports rights as these tech giants build out their video businesses and battle for eyeballs? After all, they have tens of billions to throw at "Monday Night Football," etc.

Except why would they? Amazon is paying \$50 million this year to stream "Thursday Night Football," in an experiment that begins with next week's Chicago-Green Bay matchup. But Amazon's stream will be ancillary. The games will still air on CBS or the NFL Network. Amazon might get a few hundred thousand viewers, whose data usage would pose no serious challenge to the public internet. But what if Amazon were trying to deliver the action to the entire 13 million who tune in for "Thursday Night Football"?

The point is consistently overlooked. Distributing live, big-time sports programming, which millions want to watch simultaneously, is not the same as streaming prerecorded shows that people watch on their own schedules, and which can be "cached" in advance around the internet.

Verizon has tried to crack this nut by implementing multicast on its wireless system, reserving a slice of spectrum for a single stream that any subscriber can tune into, rather than sending a duplicate stream to each viewer. Verizon might do this as a promotional stunt for one event, but a whole weekend of overlapping sporting events? Verizon presumably would quickly run out of spectrum to serve its regular wireless customers.

It's not that it couldn't be done, with enough investment and management. But why bother when we already have a broadcast business model better suited to simultaneous delivery of identical programming to millions of viewers? The digital revolution certainly is upending the traditional "linear" TV channels. But it never followed that the cable bundle would go away, only that it would

become increasingly a live news-and-sports bundle. In fact, it already has (think about your own viewing habits).

Which means ESPN has some adjustments to make, but its business model is far from unsalvageable, assuming it doesn't keep stepping into messes of its own creation. Disney needs to remember that the culture of sports is fundamentally celebratory and unifying, not divisive. Let the cable news channels specialize in niche-making. ESPN should be the antidote.

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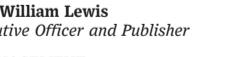
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SPORTS

TENNIS | By Jason Gay

The Tennis Doubles at the Heart of 'Battle'

Billie Jean King was ecstatic that Hollywood was making a movie about her 1973 "Battle of the Sexes" showdown with Bobby Riggs; ecstatic that Emma Stone was going to play her, and Steve Carell was cast as Riggs ("Two of my favorite actors," she said); ecstatic that the directors were going to be Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris, who made "Little Miss Sunshine." "I'd seen that four times!" she told me. But there was one key point King wanted to lock down:

The tennis had to be believable.

"If the tennis is rotten...sports people won't care what else is going on," King said.

The history of tennis on film is mixed at best. There's been tennis in movies including "Strangers on a Train," Woody Allen's "Match Point," "The Royal Tenenbaums," and tennis—or something resembling tennis—in the 2004 romantic comedy, "Wimbledon." There's also "Players," the 1979 romance with Ali McGraw and Dean Paul Martin, which King groans about, even if she admits its tennis bona fides were solid. It's fair to say that tennis has never had its "Bull Durham," its "Hoosiers," its "Rudy," nor even its "Caddyshack"—which is to say a film that realistically captures what fans love about the sport.

King had a request of the filmmakers: "You don't have to make the tennis great. Just adequate."

I'm happy to report that the tennis in "Battle of the Sexes," which arrives Friday, Sept. 22, is far better than adequate: it's about as truthful and vivid a portrait as the game has seen on film. Though the movie is a broader portrait of King's life at the time, there's a ton of court action—especially in the climactic third act, when Carell and Stone stride into the Astrodome to re-create the iconic match. Not only is the tennis believable, it's a meticulous representation of the type of tennis played in that era: serve and volley, chipping and charging to the net, touch volleys and soft hands.

Hardcore tennis nuts will be pleased. The strokes, the outfits, the old school wooden rackets with gut string—it's all there.

"We felt a lot of pressure," Valerie Faris admitted. "It's the end of the movie, so it couldn't be a letdown."

You will probably not be shocked to learn that a lot of the key tennis in the movie isn't actually played by Stone and Carell. Stone and Carell did train and play—a ton, in fact; Carell worked with the late Riggs's former trainer, Lornie Kuhle, and Stone got buff to the point where King herself was amazed. But for longer sequences, body doubles were used. Current pro Kaitlyn Christian served as King's double; retired



L-B: JERRY COKE/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED/GETTY IMAGES; FOX SEARCHLIGHT/EVERETT COLLECTION

pro Vince Spadea played Riggs.

Preparation was extensive. Dayton and Faris spent hours analyzing tape of the "Battle" match, which was broadcast on ABC and included the imitable Howard Cosell in the booth. With the help of Kuhle, the co-directors cut up sequences and relayed them to Christian and Spadea, who would get together and practice. The idea wasn't to totally choreograph points, but to get a feel for the early '70s playing style, and, of course, the retro equipment, which is far less forgiving than today's synthetic frames and stringing.

"The biggest adjustment was the wooden rackets," said Christian, 25, who was playing in an ITF tournament this week when I spoke to her. She was cast, she said, not only because her body type matched Stone's, but also because her playing style is a throwback to King's. "I come to net, I serve and volley," the Southern California graduate said. "And they wanted someone who knew how to hit a slice like Billie Jean's." King gave Christian some pointers in person, like how she brought her foot up on her serve ("It's unlike how anyone does it today," Christian said) and the way she used her body and racket as she came to net.



"That all-court game is kind of lost today," Christian said.

I caught up with Spadea at the U.S. Open a few weeks ago. The laid-back 43-year-old has a lengthy tennis résumé, including wins over Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi, who-

ever those jokers are. For "Battle," Spadea served not only as Riggs's double, but also as Stone's coach, cooking up inventive directions like "Serve the pizza!" to get the actress to imitate King's volley.

"If she wasn't finishing correctly, I'd tell her to 'Serve the pizza,' so she'd punch her volley," Spadea said.

To play the raconteur Riggs—a former world No. 1 who won both the U.S. Open and Wimbledon—Spadea grew out his sideburns, let his hair collect into a shaggy mop, and even shaved his legs. Wait: Bobby Riggs shaved his legs? "Maybe he thought he would move faster," Spadea theorized. (Christian, meanwhile, cut her long hair to match King's shorter cut, a decision she called difficult.)

Every detail was considered, because it would all wind up on film. For the final match scenes, Dayton and Faris wanted to shoot the tennis "head to toe," like the old MGM musicals (and "La La Land," which Stone had just come from filming). Both players would be in the frame; there would be no hiding with close-ups and quick cuts. "We wanted that real interplay," Dayton said.

The end product is a match that looks real, because it pretty much is—Christian and Spadea playing long points on camera at the Astrodome (really the old Los Angeles Sports Arena, which got torn down the week after the shoot ended) with wide shots that include the crowd and the madcap atmospherics of that moment. There's Spadea playing in a Riggs-style Sugar-Daddy jacket; there's Christian as King wearing him out with her attacking style; there's a vintage Howard Cosell (it actually is the vintage Cosell). It feels as if a historic spectacle for tennis and the culture (90 million TV viewers—still a record) has been breathed back to life.

"I loved the film," said Kuhle, who was courtside for the original.

"I really wanted to make Billie Jean proud," Christian said. "She's the reason I had a scholarship in college. We owe so much to her."

The tennis body double doesn't need to worry. The world's leading Billie Jean King expert—who was also there in on that brilliant night 44 years ago—approves.

"She did a great job," Billie Jean King said.

NCAA FOOTBALL

NOW, THE ACTUAL COLLEGE SEASON BEGINS

BY MATTHEW FUTTERMAN

COLLEGE FOOTBALL'S non-conference season is basically complete. What has it revealed about the road to this year's College Football Playoff?

Not much.

Midwest powerhouses Michigan and Ohio State can beat up on military academies.

University of Southern California quarterback Sam Darnold, seemingly destined to both win the Heisman Trophy and become the top pick in the NFL Draft, is very good at football. But he's also 20. Like most 20-year-olds, he makes mistakes—six interceptions in three games.

Alabama, even with an occasionally wobbly sophomore quarterback, Jalen Hurts, can sleepwalk through most games and win by two touchdowns. That's true whether the opponent is decent (Florida State) or a borderline cupcake (Colorado State).

There are, however, a couple of hints of what lies ahead.

Defending champion Clemson lost quarterback Deshaun Watson, a Heisman-caliber college player and has not missed a beat. It is the only team to roll through two wins over top 20 teams already. Beware of the Tigers—again.

One other "known-known": Oklahoma has a clear path to the playoff. The Sooners blasted Ohio State in Columbus in Week 2, the

sort of game they usually lose. They have one super-hard game at Oklahoma State in November, which they could lose but then make up for with a win in the Big 12 championship game.

Beyond that, there's not a lot to grab onto.

"It's all just a snapshot," SEC media guru Paul Finebaum said of the season's opening three weeks. "Really just ridiculous."

Now, mercifully, the conference season is set to begin with a slate of regional and conference matchups that should allow experts and casual fans alike to learn the truth of America's most tribal, big-time sport in 2017. Real tests are coming up fast.

Texas Christian University—which has crushed the 53rd (Arkansas) and 68th (SMU) best teams in the country, now faces a stiff test of their No. 16 ranking against sixth-ranked Oklahoma State in Stillwater.

The seventh-ranked Washington Huskies spent the first three weeks beating up on Rutgers and seriously over-matched squads from Montana and Fresno State by a combined score of 141-37. Now the Huskies travel to Colorado and, at altitude, face a team that last year lost only to heavyweights Michigan, Southern California and the Huskies.

Fourth-ranked Penn State—which followed up easy home wins over Akron and Pittsburgh with a 56-0 pummeling of Georgia State—heads to Iowa City for Big Ten



Penn State's DaeSean Hamilton dives for the end zone during a 56-0 win over Georgia State on Sept. 16.

competition against 3-0 Iowa. That's the same building where Michigan stumbled last year.

The California faithful are giddy about their undefeated Golden Bears, who have wins against North Carolina and Ole Miss. So will Cal turn out to be Bears or merely cubs when they get to play host to Darnold and the fifth-ranked Trojans?

Yogi Roth, a former coach at USC who is now a television analyst for the Pac-12, said that, coming out of non-conference play, he focuses on teams that can "dictate the terms" of a game when they

need to. Washington checks that box. The Huskies also showed they like to play hard, even when weak opponents didn't demand it.

For every early-season clue that suggests answers are black and white, there are far more that are gray.

At Alabama, a "same old Tide" feeling came with the familiar plot of their win against Florida State: lots of hype; a tight game early; then an opponent's mistake creates an opening that leads to a Crimson Tide win of two-plus touchdowns. But that was followed by a weird Saturday night against

Colorado State. Alabama gave up 391 yards and 10 of 17 third down conversions, a performance that prompted a players-only meeting.

Head coach Nick Saban has long-favored at least one hard out-of-conference game early in the season. Without it, it becomes that much harder to get a bunch of 20-year-olds to focus.

"I don't think anybody needs to be panicking," Saban said this week. A little concern might be in order this weekend at Vanderbilt, however, when the Tide faces one of the nation's most efficient quarterbacks in Kyle Shurmur.



YUTAKA/ZUMA PRESS
IPHONE THE DEMAND PARADOX B3

BUSINESS & FINANCE



OPEC WRANGLING MAVERICKS B8

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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SEC Breach Stirs Fears on New Database

Some say the audit system contains information that would be lucrative to hackers

By Alexander Osipovich, Dave Michaels and Kate Fazzini

The breach of the Securities and Exchange Commission is stoking doubts about a vast database of trades that the agency has touted as a defense against episodes like the 2010

"Flash Crash" but is coming under fire as a hacking risk.

The Consolidated Audit Trail, or CAT, would keep track of every trade and order in U.S. stock and option markets, and is designed to help the SEC analyze complex market events and detect manipulation. The CAT will begin receiving data from stock exchanges in November following a multiyear push by the SEC, which approved the plan last year.

Critics have argued that if the detailed information reported to the database fell

into the wrong hands, it could be used to reconstruct the most lucrative and closely guarded trades of hedge funds and other big investors.

The program is an ambitious, expensive and not universally popular undertaking that is now coming under renewed scrutiny after the agency was caught off guard by the breach of its corporate filings system, known as Edgar.

"This data can be used to reverse-engineer highly profitable trading strategies," Michael Friedman, general coun-

sel of Trillium Management LLC, a New York-based electronic trading firm. "It is worth tens of millions to the quant firms and other proprietary trading firms who create it, and they keep it under lock and key."

The New York Stock Exchange recently lobbied Capitol Hill to delay the CAT's launch, say people familiar with the matter. The exchange says it still supports the project but thinks the SEC should consider scaling back the amount of customer data kept in the repository.

"The existence of such a vast collection of [personal information] of individual customers of U.S. brokerage firms creates a risk to those customers that, we believe, has not been sufficiently considered," the NYSE wrote in a letter shared with Capitol Hill staff that was reviewed by The Wall Street Journal.

SEC Chairman Jay Clayton has acknowledged that the CAT raises hacking concerns. In the same statement on Wednesday in which he disclosed the breach of the agency's filings system, he

wrote that the CAT would give the SEC "access to significant, nonpublic, market sensitive data and personally identifiable information."

"Cybersecurity has been and will remain a key element in the development of CAT systems," he added.

An SEC spokeswoman declined to comment. The agency said Wednesday that rogue traders may have used nonpublic data from Edgar to make illicit trading profits.

Executives of the company that was picked to build the

Please see CAT page B2



RUPAK DE CHOWDHURI/REUTERS
A roadside stand in Kolkata with signs for Paytm, an Indian mobile-payment service that is backed by China's Alibaba Group.

Chinese Lead the Way in Mobile Payment

By NEWLEY PURNELL

NEW DELHI—Silicon Valley is home to the world's most influential consumer-tech firms, but China's online corporate titans are way ahead in the race to build mobile-payment services in many of the world's fastest-growing consumer markets.

China's digital-payments market, by far the world's largest, is dominated by e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. and social-media champ Tencent Holdings Ltd. Now the two are imparting money and know-how to mobile-money startups in other Asian markets, from Indonesia to India.

As people across Asia increasingly move from cash to smartphone apps for buying goods and transferring money between individuals, U.S. firms are "still very focused on their home market," trying to in-

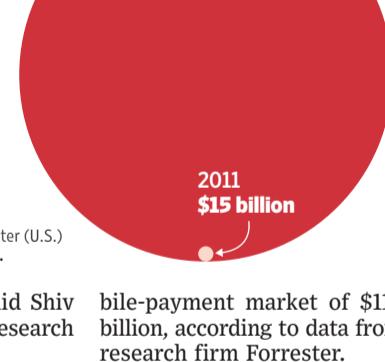
No Contest

When it comes to mobile payments, China dwarfs the U.S.

U.S.
2016
\$112 billion

2011
\$8.3 billion

Sources: iResearch (China); Forrester (U.S.)
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



crease usage there, said Shiv Putcha, an analyst at research firm IDC in Mumbai.

In China, QR codes are used widely by smartphone owners to pay bills and make purchases in shops and at vending machines—contributing to a \$9 trillion mobile-payment market last year, according to iResearch. As China's market matures, Alibaba and Tencent are chasing growth overseas, helping local

startups in emerging markets run mobile-money systems that don't require plastic.

Chinese investors supplied the bulk of \$2.7 billion in funding to Asian financial-technology startups in the second quarter of 2017, according to research firm CB Insights. Their experience in China and technical savvy may prove even more valuable.

As in China, merchants in many emerging markets lack point-of-sale machines needed to process payments via Apple Inc.'s Apple Pay and Alphabet Inc.'s Android Pay. Meanwhile, few consumers in these markets have credit or debit cards to make payments.

Executives at India's largest mobile-payment app, Paytm, drew inspiration from Alibaba, one of its main funders. Paytm's chief financial officer, Madhur Deora, said his company benefits from frequent

Please see PAY page B2

THE INTELLIGENT INVESTOR | By Jason Zweig

Why Bonds Are Luring Investors From Stocks

Bonds have been in a bull market for most of the past 35 years or so. Many investors are still buying, but they aren't chasing past performance.

In August, more than 90% of the \$30 billion that flowed into all mutual funds and exchange-traded funds went into taxable-bond funds.

Yet the bond market has squeezed out only a 3% return this year, according to one gauge, while the S&P 500 is up more than 13%, including dividends.

Look at the money pouring into such funds as the iShares 20+ Year Treasury Bond ETF, which holds government debt maturing between 2036 and 2047.

Through Sept. 20, this fund has had the strongest monthly, quarterly and year-to-date influx of money in its 15-year history. Investors have added \$4.4 billion this year and \$2.7 billion in September alone; the fund has nearly doubled in size, to \$9.9 billion, since the end of February.

Fund investors are notorious for buying whatever has recently had hot returns, of-

Please see INVEST page B4

European Train Makers Explore Tie-Up

By ROBERT WALL AND BEN DUMMETT

German industrial giant Siemens AG and French train maker Alstom SA are in talks to create a European rail-transportation powerhouse to counter growing competition from China.

France's Alstom, which makes trains and buses, said Friday it was in discussions to combine its operations with the mobility unit of Siemens. The German company confirmed the talks but didn't provide details.

A combination would create a European transportation business with about \$18 billion in annual sales. Alstom had sales of €7.3 billion (\$8.7 billion) in the financial year ended March 31. Siemens's mobility unit had €7.8 billion in revenue last year. Under the combination, Sie-

mens would move its mobility operations into Alstom and take control of the French entity, said a person familiar with the plans.

Western train makers have been feeling pressure to gain scale after the 2015 merger of Chinese train makers CSR Corp. and China CNR. That tie-up has helped the Chinese business, which had about \$34 billion in sales last year, win contracts by cutting costs. Also, China has invested massively in high-speed rail, helping fuel growth of its train makers.

Alstom Chief Executive Henri Poupart-Lafarge early this year said the train-making industry would "go through some kind of consolidation."

Siemens has been looking for ways to gain heft for some time. The company also has held talks with Canada's Bom-

bardier Inc. about joining their train-making business. Siemens wouldn't comment on whether discussions with Alstom meant Bombardier talks had stalled. A Bombardier spokesman declined to comment.

The talks with Bombardier,

whose rail business is based in Germany, are continuing and far advanced, a person familiar with discussions said Friday. Under that deal's structure, Siemens would control a joint venture focused on lucrative rail-

signaling operations, while Bombardier would have a majority stake in a partnership overseeing the train-making business, known as rolling stock.

Merging French and German train entities could have political appeal in Berlin and Paris. Siemens and Alstom three years ago held talks about merging their energy assets in the face of a proposal by General Electric Co. to buy the French company's power-generation business. The German overture was welcomed by politicians in Paris, though GE eventually won out, leaving Alstom focused on transportation.

Alstom said Friday that "no final decision has been made" on a transport deal with Siemens. "Discussions are ongoing and no agreement has been reached," it said.

Siemens and Alstom look to counter growing competition from Chinese rival.

Please see SIEMENS page B2



PETER FRANK EDWARDS/REUTERS
CEO Richard Smith transformed Equifax into a data powerhouse.

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SMITH

Continued from the prior page nounced, the drive for data had helped both Mr. Smith and Equifax prosper. After taking the helm of the company 12 years ago, Mr. Smith transformed Equifax from what he once described as a staid, slow-growing credit-reporting company into a data giant. He bought companies with databases that contained information about consumers' employment histories, salaries and savings while also expanding internationally to places such as Australia and India.

The result: By 2016, credit-reporting activities accounted for less than a third of revenue, from about 80% a decade earlier. Equifax's market value soared to nearly \$18 billion, more than quadruple its value when Mr. Smith started.

And the executive became a business celebrity in Equifax's hometown of Atlanta, co-chairing the city's suc-

Mr. Smith is described as being in constant motion, always focused on an objective.

cessful bid to host the 2019 Super Bowl and being inducted into Georgia State University's Business Hall of Fame in 2010. Mr. Smith also has done well financially: Over his time as CEO, he has taken home around \$127 million in total compensation, according to securities filings.

The breach upended it all. Equifax has faced criticism from angry consumers, politicians and its customers. The company is under investigation by regulators even as the Federal Bureau of Investigation probes the hack. The shares have lost over a quarter of their value since Equifax disclosed the incident, though they rose 6.9% Friday.

Mr. Smith, meanwhile, will testify before Congress in coming weeks. He hasn't spoken publicly since the hack was disclosed, except for a video Equifax released at that time. In an article he wrote for USA Today, Mr. Smith said the incident was the "most humbling moment in our 118-year history."

The incident—along with a hack of the Securities and Exchange Commission last year that wasn't announced until this week—shows gaps that can exist between the discovery and disclosure of an intrusion. Equifax held off on informing the public of its breach until it had more clarity on how many people were affected and what data was compromised, according to people familiar with the matter.

Mr. Smith grew up in the Midwest. During high-school summers, he built silos on farms. He graduated from Purdue University and was a varsity wrestler. In the early 1980s, Mr. Smith landed at General Electric, where he spent more than two decades rising up the ranks; then-CEO Jack Welch was a mentor.

People who worked with Mr. Smith describe him as being in constant motion, always focused on an objective and looking to move on.

He was the same outside the office. "He plays speed golf," said one person who knows him. "I never had a three-putt with Rick. You putt once, and he gives you the second one because he's ready to go to the next hole."

When Mr. Smith came to Equifax, he looked to change the company and its culture, he said in his University of Georgia remarks. "A lesson I always tell people is you have to take a risk in life," he said.

At the time, Equifax was focused primarily on selling credit data to lenders and "probably growing 1% or 2% organically a year," Mr. Smith said. "It wasn't a culture I wanted for the future, it was a culture of entitlement."

He added that he wanted to turn Equifax into a "global data-analytics company." To do so, Mr. Smith acquired and monetized countless pieces of data on consumers' financial lives, allowing lenders, landlords and insurance companies, among others, to make decisions ranging from extending credit to hiring job seekers to renting an apartment. Equifax got that new data in part by buying other companies.

The push into wider data sets turned Equifax into a business that housed "\$12 trillion of consumer wealth data," Mr. Smith said in an interview with his alma mater around six years ago. "Without us, you wouldn't have global commerce as you know it today."

While Equifax grew quickly, competitors privately criticized the company's technological abilities, saying it was more focused on growing data sets. Equifax "came to the software party very late," an industry executive said.

After the breach, questions have arisen in information-security communities about whether and when Equifax patched a software vulnerability that gave hackers entry to the company's servers. Equifax, while saying its staff "took efforts" to patch systems when the vulnerability was reported in early March, acknowledged the questions and said its review "is ongoing."

The view that Equifax lagged behind peers technologically wasn't shared by Mr. Smith. We're a "world-class state-of-the-art technology" company, he said last month at the University of Georgia.

—Robert McMillan contributed to this article.

When India's government

last year suddenly canceled 86% of currency in circulation, Paytm bombarded merchants with marketing material.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Eyes on L'Oréal-Nestlé Ties

BY MATTHEW DALTON
AND BRIAN BLACKSTONE

PARIS—The death of Liliane Bettencourt has placed a question mark over the decades-long ties between L'Oréal SA and Nestlé SA, two of the world's largest consumer-goods companies.

Shares in L'Oréal jumped Friday as investors speculated on the possibility either side might reconsider Nestlé's large stake in L'Oréal. However, analysts, as well as a person close to the Bettencourt family, are tamping down expectations of a shake-up, citing a thicket of financial hurdles as well as the companies' comfort with the status quo.

Nestlé, the Swiss consumer-goods giant, and L'Oréal, the world's biggest cosmetics company, have been intertwined since 1974, when Ms. Bettencourt, heiress to the L'Oréal cosmetics fortune, swapped a large stake in L'Oréal for shares in Nestlé to fend off a feared nationalization by the French state.

That pact between Nestlé and Ms. Bettencourt, who died Thursday in Paris at the age of 94, allows either party to increase its stake in L'Oréal six months after her death.

Nestlé and L'Oréal have been moving to unwind their relationship in recent years. In



JACQUES HALLOT/SYGMA/GTY IMAGES

Liliane Bettencourt, left, in 1968. She swapped shares with Nestlé.

2014, Nestlé agreed to sell 48.5 million L'Oréal shares back to L'Oréal for assets and cash, cutting its stake from 29.4% to 23.29%. Ms. Bettencourt's stake in L'Oréal rose from 30.6% to 33.3%, while Nestlé's presence on L'Oréal's board shrank from three seats to two.

Following Ms. Bettencourt's death, Nestlé expressed its con-

dolences and said now is "not the right time" for additional comment. But executives have said they are in no rush to trim the L'Oréal stake further, although they have come under pressure to do so to strengthen Nestlé's core businesses.

"This asset has been delivering stellar financial returns to us in recent years, and we

also consider it a strategic asset. Hence anything we would ever want to do on that would need to be pondered very carefully," Nestlé Chief Executive Mark Schneider told a news conference in February.

Some analysts have questioned whether Ms. Bettencourt's death could prompt her heirs to either sell their L'Oréal shares or increase their stake in the company. But a person close to the family and analysts say neither outcome is likely.

Françoise Bettencourt Meyers, Ms. Bettencourt's only child, orchestrated the 2014 deal to cement her family's control over L'Oréal. Neither she nor her sons want to separate from the company, a person close to the family said Friday. "It's the story of their life, their family," the person said. "They are very attached to the company."

The family faces a significant obstacle to increasing its stake: Under French law, any shareholder that wants to own more than a third of a company must make an offer to buy all of the company. That would stretch the pockets of even one of the world's richest families.

"Launching a mandatory offer on L'Oréal would require close to €60 billion, which is a significant amount," said Marion Boucheron, an analyst at Raymond James in Paris.

CAT

Continued from the prior page CAT say they have designed robust cybersecurity defenses. The data is encrypted both while it is sitting in the repository and being sent between different parties.

"One of the reasons we won the CAT is because of the deep expertise of our management team in data security," said Shane Swanson, chief compliance officer of Thesys CAT LLC, a subsidiary of **Thesys Technologies** LLC.

Lobbying groups representing banks, brokerages and

many other financial firms have criticized the plan to create the giant database, which they say would bring additional costs.

"There's going to be heightened attention to the question of securing financial information from cyberspace," said Kirsten Wegner, chief executive of Modern Markets Initiative, a group that lobbies on behalf of high-frequency trading firms.

"I don't think this should be a reason to stop the CAT, but it's a question that's going to be raised."

Beyond trading data, the CAT will hold personal information about the individuals making trades, such as Social

Security numbers and dates of birth. The recent Edgar breach, which followed the large hack of credit-reporting agency **Equifax** Inc., has some worried about this information becoming vulnerable to theft.

"Adversaries can use the data in the CAT system to strategically target high-net-worth individuals for hacking," said John Rigg, former head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Cyber Outreach Section.

Hackers could then use stolen data to move the funds of those wealthy individuals into their own bank accounts, said Mr. Rigg, who is now a manager at a consulting firm with consulting firm **BDO USA** LLP.

Breaching the CAT could be even more lucrative than hacking Edgar, said Trillium's Mr. Friedman. "You could make \$50,000 stealing a draft [filings] from Edgar, but you could make \$50 million stealing a successful quant strategy from the CAT," he said.

The CAT rollout is scheduled to take place in phases, with full implementation set for 2019. The project is being led by a group of exchanges and Wall Street's self-regulator, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. The consortium, called **CAT NMS** LLC, declined to comment.



RUPAK DE CHOWDHURY/REUTERS

When India's government last year canceled 86% of currency in circulation, Paytm bombarded merchants with marketing material.

PAY

Continued from the prior page meetings with senior Alibaba executives. Paytm staff travel to Alibaba's offices in China and vice versa.

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—Robert McMillan contributed to this article.

When India's government

last year suddenly canceled 86% of currency in circulation, Paytm swooped in. It bombarded India's merchants—the vast majority of which don't accept credit cards because they lack

swiping machines—with stickers bearing the Paytm logo and QR codes. The service's user numbers skyrocketed.

Now, Paytm is used in India to pay for items from roadside hawkers, rides from auto rick-

shaws and more. Sellers don't need special gadgets beyond the QR code, which transfers money from buyer's mobile account into the vendor's.

Paytm added to its heft in May, raising \$1.4 billion from Japan's SoftBank Group Corp.

Alphabet's Google on Monday launched its own mobile-payment smartphone app in India, which people can use to transfer money to individuals and businesses without the use of a credit or debit card.

Tencent last year led a \$175 million round of fundraising in Indian messaging app Hike Ltd. In June, Hike brought a payments feature to its platform, beating larger competitors.

Hike founder Kavin Bharti Mittal has said the app draws upon Tencent's experience running China's biggest social network, WeChat, which is popular for its messaging, mobile payments and entertainment features. A Tencent spokeswoman didn't respond to requests for comment.



Source: Reserve Bank of India

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Meanwhile, Alibaba and its affiliate Ant Financial have invested in Thailand in a financial-services company called Ascend Money.

China's digital-payment kings have another incentive to reach out: Chinese international tourists, a fast-growing consumer group. Alibaba and Tencent want to build links in their mobile-payment platforms to ensure their core services are available to Chinese consumers wherever they travel.

Ant Financial has partnered with Indonesian

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

iPhone Shoppers Weigh Their Options

Some think a modest sales start for the 8 and 8 Plus bodes well for the next model X

When new iPhones hit the market, they usually fly off the shelves. But with the two models that began selling Friday, there are signs demand is tepid—and some analysts say that could be a good thing for Apple Inc.

By Tripp Mickle
in San Francisco
and Yoko Kubota
in Beijing

The paradox arises from Apple's unusual lineup this year. It includes the iPhone 8 and 8 Plus that arrived Friday, plus the far pricier and advanced iPhone X scheduled to arrive six weeks later, which many Apple investors expect to be this year's blockbuster.

Any sluggishness in iPhone 8 sales could signal more appetite for the iPhone X, said Katy

Huberty, an analyst with Morgan Stanley. "From a financial standpoint, that's the best outcome" for Apple, she said, because the more expensive, higher-margin model would boost revenue and profits.

The trio of phones has created confusion for some long-time customers. Jeremy Kirkland, a 32-year-old marketer from Brooklyn, N.Y., woke at 2:45 a.m. on Sept. 15—when Apple started allowing preorders—to buy an iPhone 8 Plus. But he canceled his order on Tuesday after reading a critical review of the device. He now plans to wait for the iPhone X.

"This will be the first year that a new phone will be out, and I won't have it, and I'll have to be OK with that," Mr. Kirkland said.

In Beijing, lines were short at the Apple Store in the city's Sanlitun district, where the new iPhone 8s went on sale Friday morning. Several of those picking up the new handset said they didn't think the iPhone X would be worth the wait.



DREW ANGERER/GETTY IMAGES

The high-price iPhone X isn't due out until November.

"The new features of the iPhone X are fresh, but not attractive enough for me to feel that I have to own it no matter what," said Yang Zheng, a 30-year-old working in the education industry who paid \$1,200 for his iPhone 8 Plus. (The phone starts at \$799 in the U.S. but costs more in China because of a value-added tax.)

Much of Apple's performance over the next year will be determined by iPhone demand in China. Sales there have slumped over the past six quarters as local, low-price manufacturers have cut into Apple's market share.

Still, Apple has its Chinese fans. Some of the customers in Beijing on Friday took photos and videos of the new phones going on sale.

In France, Florian Burnat said he buys a new iPhone every year. The 33-year-old lawyer opted for the iPhone 8, picking it up at the Apple store next to the Louvre museum in Paris. "I didn't go for the iPhone X because it is just too expensive," he said. "I'd rather just wait for the new features to appear in other models."

Strong sales of all three new iPhone models would be the best scenario for Apple. And there are risks in banking too much on the iPhone X. The phone, which features facial-recognition technology and a larger, edge-to-edge display, was beset by production prob-

lems this summer, and it is unclear how many will be available when the iPhone X ships Nov. 3.

Anticipation for the new iPhones sent Apple's stock to record highs, though it has slackened recently. Analysts are projecting a record 245 million iPhones will be sold in fiscal 2018, a 13% increase from the 217 million expected for the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30. Morgan Stanley expects the iPhone X to account for 45% of sales by unit and the iPhone 8 and 8 Plus to make up 47%, with the rest coming from older, cheaper models.

The iPhone 8 is an unusual product for Apple. The company typically releases only one new flagship phone annually, along with a larger Plus version of the phone, and it bills those as the best handsets it has ever made. Critics have said the 8 and 8 Plus offer only minor improvements over the iPhone 7 launched last year, such as wireless charging, while also sporting a higher U.S. starting price: \$699 for the iPhone 8

and \$799 for the 8 Plus.

Meanwhile, Apple touted the iPhone X—which sells for \$999 to \$1,149 in the U.S.—as the smartphone of the future, leaving other models in limbo.

"The iPhone 8 and 8 Plus are in a weird situation," said Neil Cybart, who runs Above Avalon, a site dedicated to Apple analysis. "It's not clear who the target market is for those two phones."

New iPhones often sell out early, but iPhone 8 preorders on Thursday in the U.S. offered delivery in one-to-three days, indicating either less demand for the iPhone 8 or more supply than usual, Mr. Cybart said.

Apple declined to comment. The company in August estimated revenue of \$49 billion to \$52 billion for the quarter ending this month, a projection that included the iPhone 8 but not the iPhone X.

—Yang Jie in Beijing
and Sam Schechner in Paris
contributed to this article.

◆ Heard on the Street: For Apple, 'supercycle' is big... B10

Publisher of Elvis Presley Acquired for \$245 Million

BY BEN EISEN

Music-focused private-equity firm Round Hill Music Royalty Partners agreed to buy Carlin Music, one of the largest remaining independent music publishers, according to people familiar with the matter.

The deal is worth about \$245 million, the people said. It is expected to close next month, giving Round Hill, which focuses specifically on music copyright assets, the publishing rights for major recording artists including Barbara Streisand, Elvis Presley and Ella Fitzgerald.

Carlin was founded by

Freddy Bienstock, who had a close relationship with Mr. Presley. Mr. Bienstock bought Hill and Range U.K. affiliate Belinda Music in 1966 and renamed it Carlin, according to the firm's website. Its catalog now ranges from jazz to country music to R&B.

The publisher remained independent even during a wave of consolidation in the sector. Buyers typically seek out royalties because of the stream of revenues they generate when songs are played.

The deal would come as the music business has experienced a rebound in recent years, brought on largely by the popularity of streaming

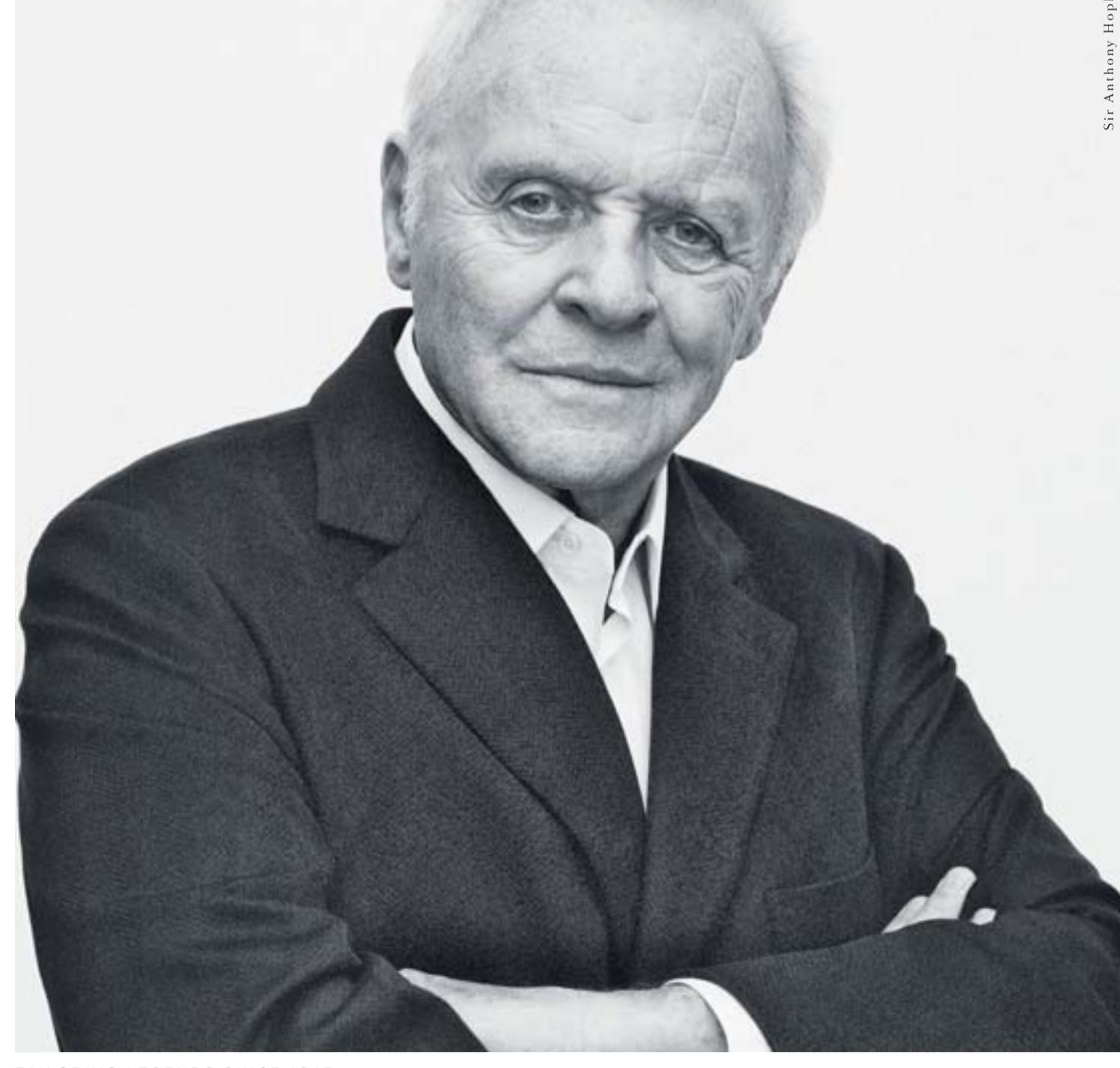
services. Global recorded music industry revenue climbed to \$15.7 billion in 2016, from \$14.3 billion two years earlier, according to IFPI Global Music Report. Still, it is well below revenue of \$23.8 billion in 1999, as the rise of music piracy sent the industry into a tailspin.

The purchase of Carlin could form the foundation of a new fund that Round Hill is raising, one of the people said. The Wall Street Journal reported last month that the firm, which raised a fund worth more than \$200 million in 2014, plans to launch another fund of a similar size or modestly larger.



Private-equity firm Round Hill Music Royalty Partners would get the publishing rights of major recording artists like Elvis Presley in a \$245 million purchase of independent publisher Carlin Music.

MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES



TAILORING LEGENDS SINCE 1945

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BUSINESS NEWS

Tractor-Trailers Take Green Turn

Truck makers, users
strive for fuel economy;
less than 7 miles a
gallon doesn't cut it

By ERICA E. PHILLIPS

The average big rig can travel less than 7 miles on a gallon of diesel fuel, making it one of the least-efficient vehicles on the road. Truck manufacturers want to change that.

Spurred by new pollution regulations and sluggish demand, truck makers including Navistar International Corp., Daimler AG, Paccar Inc. and Volvo AB, along with engine manufacturer Cummins Inc., are rethinking everything from engine design to the shape of the trailer in order to bump up fuel efficiency.

Even small gains can have a big environmental impact. Each year in the U.S., roughly 1.7 million tractor-trailer trucks consume about 26 billion gallons of diesel. Getting an extra mile a gallon equals removing more than 200,000 trucks from the road. It also could save trucking companies billions of dollars.

Some truck makers want to ditch the combustion engine entirely. Cummins introduced the industry's first fully electric heavy-duty demonstration truck in August, and Tesla Inc. plans to announce its own prototype next month. But it may be years before they hit the road in big numbers. Meanwhile, the industry is betting on squeezing fuel savings from diesel trucks.

"The race is on," said Steve Gilligan, vice president of marketing for Navistar's North America business. "Every truck manufacturer is looking for a technology advantage versus their competition."

Even with today's technology, fleet operators are finding ways to save on fuel. Several leading fleets are already averaging over 7 mpg.

Many have added devices

The Road Ahead

Makers of diesel-powered trucks are making design changes to improve fuel efficiency and reduce emissions—and to boost sales.

Sleeker design

'Skirts' and aerodynamic wheel covers reduce drag for trailers. Tractor cabs also are getting streamlined.

Automatic transmissions

They cost buyers significantly more, but automated-manual and automatic transmissions also can make a big dent in fuel use.

Where the rubber meets the road

Tires that are wider or have lighter treads can improve fuel economy, as can sensors that alert drivers to low tire pressure.

Source: North American Council for Freight Efficiency

Regulators Push For Fuel Economy

14% by 2021, 20% by 2024, and 25% by 2027, based on 2010 levels.

The Trump administration seeks to roll back some aspects of the rules. Still, many truck and engine makers say they plan to press ahead with their new designs, citing fleet owners' demands for fuel savings.

Truck manufacturers also have seen that regulations that result in better fuel economy can aid their sales, even at higher prices. When truck and engine makers included a new exhaust-treatment system to comply with a tougher federal

"Fuel is such a large cost for us that we have every incentive to try to get to the best miles per gallon we possibly can," said Chief Executive Eric Fuller.

Truck makers are counting on fuel savings to revive sales. Orders for new trucks this year pulled out of a nearly two-year slump. Daimler, Volvo and other manufacturers last year reduced production and some laid off workers.

Cummins is joining with transmission manufacturer Eaton Corp. to design a lighter-weight engine and transmission that uses less fuel to shift gears, accelerate and slow down. Many of the company's engine technologies are in use overseas, where higher fuel prices and stricter pollution rules accelerate adoption.

But these trucks cost more, making them a harder sell in the U.S. As it is, a rig's tractor can run \$120,000 to \$150,000, while a trailer costs \$25,000 to \$30,000. And some older, more seasoned truck drivers don't like automatic transmissions because they take away control—though the feature can help in recruiting younger drivers since less training is required.

Pushing the limits of engine technology can be risky. Navistar lost customers after it rushed a new 13-liter engine into the market whose exhaust-treatment system failed to reach the Environmental Protection Agency's 2010 standard and contributed to engine performance problems.

Last year, after years of losing money due to engine-warranty costs and saddled with a shrunken share of the heavy-duty truck market, Navistar sold a 17% stake to Volkswagen AG.

The 2018-model Navistar trucks boost fuel efficiency 9%, partly by adding more efficient engines and a "predictive" cruise-control system that anticipates changes in terrain and automatically adjusts speed.

—Erica E. Phillips and Bob Tita
Contributed to this article.

that improve aerodynamics, such as "skirts" around the base of the tractor and trailer, and winglike "tails" on the trailer back. Some have opted for smaller engines, automatic transmissions or technologies

that switch to electric power for the lights, climate system and other functions when the engine is idling.

Trucking company U.S. Xpress Enterprises Inc. orders about 1,500 tractors a year,

and requests aerodynamic design elements like tails and skirts as well as automatic transmissions on its trucks. Today, its fleet averages over 7 mpg, up from below 6 mpg five years ago.

CHRISTOPHE VORLET

WEEKEND INVESTOR

INVEST

Continued from page B1
ten right before it goes cold. If you map the performance of bonds against the money going into and out of bond funds over the past couple of decades, you can see the public chronically—almost addictively—buying after bond prices have shot up and selling after a drop.

What's happening now is the opposite. Investors seem to be moving from stocks, the hot asset, to bonds, the cold one.

Over the past year, long-term Treasury bonds have lost more than 4%, and the overall bond market has delivered a gain of less than 1%, counting interest payments.

What's more, at this past week's Federal Reserve policy meeting, officials left open the possibility of another interest-rate rise by year-end and lowered their forecast of rates over the longer run from 3% to 2.75%.

So why are investors buying bond funds hand over fist?

The figures commonly cited to show how much money the public puts into or takes out of mutual funds don't include any income from such funds that investors plow back into their accounts. Through July, according to the Investment

Company Institute, those reinvested dividends totaled nearly \$51 billion.

A "healthy mix of institutional and retail investors" have been buying the iShares long-term Treasury fund, says Karen Schenone, fixed-income strategist at the firm. "They seem to be saying, 'I've done well in the stock market in the past few years, so maybe it's time to take some of that risk off the table.'"

People are buying bond funds for their stability relative to stocks "rather than to take advantage of an expected rise in bond prices," says Van Hoisington, lead manager for the \$363 million

Wasatch-Hoisington U.S. Treasury Fund. "Maybe the average, supposedly unsophisticated investor is right."

Fran Kinniry, an investment strategist at Vanguard Group, points out that U.S. stocks have more than tripled since the financial crisis. So an investor who had 60% in stocks and 40% in bonds then would have more than 75% in stocks now.

Stocks have done so well that bond funds are only about 25% of investors' total portfolios, down from 31% in 2012, according to the ICI.

Getting those ratios back into balance requires buying a lot more bonds.

"Back in the late 1990s,

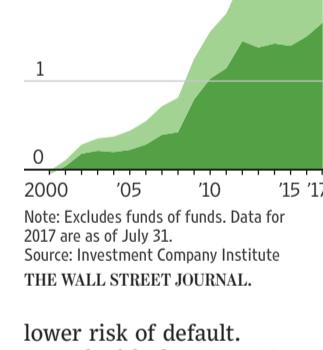
investors were very momentum-based, buying stocks and selling bonds," says Mr. Kinniry. "But now, here we are in the midst of this giant bull market for stocks, and I love seeing that investors are buying bonds instead."

Yes, many long-term bond funds will fall in price by 15% or more on a rise in interest rates of just 1 percentage point. For the most part, though, investors aren't buying riskier vehicles like emerging-market bond funds or high-yield corporate funds. Instead, hordes of retirees and near-retirees are moving into more-conservative investment-grade and government funds with

Bonding

Counting the income they've plowed back in, investors have put trillions of dollars into bond funds.

Cumulative flows to bond mutual funds



Note: Excludes funds of funds. Data for 2017 are as of July 31.

Source: Investment Company Institute

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

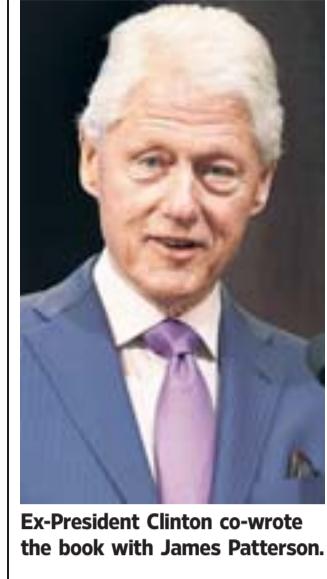
lower risk of default.

And with the S&P 500 brushing highs and interest rates too low for bond funds to provide generous income, neither stocks nor bonds look particularly attractive.

During the financial crisis, however, high-quality bonds like Treasurys were one of the few assets that did well when stocks got trashed.

Government bonds "have continued to be the strongest flight-to-quality asset," says Mr. Kinniry, and remain likely to do well in future stock-market crashes unless interest rates unexpectedly rise at the same time.

For many investors, bonds feel like the lesser of two evils.



KEVIN LAMARQUE/REUTERS

Clinton Novel to Be Made Into TV Series

By JOE FLINT

Pay-TV channel Showtime secured the television rights to "The President Is Missing," a mystery novel being co-written by former President Bill Clinton and best-selling author James Patterson.

"The President Is Missing," which is being jointly published by Alfred A. Knopf and Little, Brown & Co., is about the disappearance of a sitting president. The publishers have described the book as "a unique amalgam of intrigue, suspense and behind-the-scenes global drama from the highest corridors of power."

The book is scheduled to be released in June, and the rights to adapt it into a television series were highly sought after by networks and streaming services. Messrs. Clinton and Patterson had more than a dozen meetings with potential suitors, a person familiar with the process said.

Leslie Moonves, the chairman and chief executive of Showtime parent company CBS Corp., was heavily involved in the talks with the pair, the person said. Mr. Patterson has produced for CBS, and Mr. Moonves has been friends with the former president for many years.

Mr. Clinton said in a statement that he "can't wait to see Showtime bring the characters to life."

In an interview in May, Mr. Patterson said he thinks the book is "a really good story with incredible insider detail." It will be Mr. Clinton's first novel, and the first time an American president has written a thriller. Terms of the deal weren't disclosed.

Showtime could use a new hit. Some of its recent efforts—including a revival of the cult classic "Twin Peaks" and "I'm Dying Up Here," about the dark side of stand-up comedy—haven't generated the big audiences the network expected.

"The President Is Missing" is similar in genre to some of Showtime's more successful shows, such as the spy thriller "Homeland," the dark Hollywood drama "Ray Donovan" and "Billions," which is about the clash between money and politics in New York City.

Showtime Chief Executive David Nevins said the show will "dovetail perfectly into a politically relevant, character-based action series for our network." Showtime didn't say when the series will debut.

MARKETS DIGEST

EQUITIES

Dow Jones Industrial Average

22349.59 ▼9.64, or 0.04%
High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.



Bars measure the point change from session's open

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

S&P 500 Index

2502.22 ▲1.62, or 0.06%
High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.



Nasdaq Composite Index

6426.92 ▲4.23, or 0.07%
High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.



Major U.S. Stock-Market Indexes

Dow Jones	High	Low	Latest Close	Net chg	% chg	High	52-Week Low	% chg	YTD % chg	3-yr. ann.
	22364.31	22299.58	22349.59	-9.64	-0.04	22412.59	17888.28	22.4	13.1	9.2
Industrial Average	22364.31	22299.58	22349.59	-9.64	-0.04	22412.59	17888.28	22.4	13.1	9.2
Transportation Avg	9713.25	9652.02	9704.38	35.39	■ 0.37	9742.76	7914.69	22.3	7.3	4.5
Utility Average	732.84	726.27	726.63	-4.15	■ -0.57	754.80	625.44	4.7	10.2	9.6
Total Stock Market	25934.76	25858.75	25926.82	29.04	■ 0.11	25972.08	21514.15	15.5	11.4	7.8
Barron's 400	662.69	657.54	662.35	3.79	■ 0.58	662.35	521.59	20.0	10.1	8.1

Nasdaq Stock Market

Nasdaq Composite	6429.54	6400.81	6426.92	4.23	■ 0.07	6461.32	5046.37	21.1	19.4	12.4
Nasdaq 100	5937.59	5911.48	5932.32	-2.59	■ -0.04	6004.38	4660.46	22.1	22.0	13.5

Standard & Poor's

500 Index	2503.47	2496.54	2502.22	1.62	■ 0.06	2508.24	2085.18	15.6	11.8	7.9
MidCap 400	1769.68	1761.01	1768.65	5.82	■ 0.33	1791.93	1476.68	14.0	6.5	8.1
SmallCap 600	875.50	867.98	874.87	5.91	■ 0.68	876.06	703.64	15.2	4.4	10.4

Other Indexes

Russell 2000	1451.51	1441.86	1450.78	6.60	■ 0.46	1450.78	1156.89	15.6	6.9	8.7
NYSE Composite	12156.10	12133.69	12151.80	18.18	■ 0.15	12151.80	10289.35	13.4	9.9	3.7
Value Line	530.45	527.43	530.28	2.28	■ 0.43	533.62	455.65	9.9	4.8	2.8
NYSE Arca Biotech	4178.22	4146.27	4166.47	8.47	■ 0.20	4232.90	2834.14	21.0	35.5	10.5
NYSE Arca Pharma	548.06	545.16	546.70	2.33	■ 0.43	549.20	463.78	4.2	13.5	0.6
KBW Bank	97.11	96.32	97.04	-0.11	■ -0.11	99.33	69.71	36.2	5.7	9.9
PHLX® Gold/Silver	86.38	85.50	86.06	1.03	■ 1.21	96.72	73.03	-10.1	9.1	0.6
PHLX® Oil Service	136.41	134.29	136.24	1.74	■ 1.29	192.66	117.79	-9.0	-25.9	-20.6
PHLX® Semiconductor	1151.08	1139.25	1149.59	5.72	■ 0.50	1164.98	796.64	42.9	26.8	21.5
CBOE Volatility	10.20	9.50	9.59	-0.08	■ -0.83	22.51	9.36	-22.0	-31.7	-11.2

\$Philadelphia Stock Exchange

Sources: SIX Financial Information; WSJ Market Data Group

Late Trading

Most-active and biggest movers among NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE Amer. 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	14,120.2	249.49	0.05	■ 0.02	249.56	249.26
Enterprise Pds Partners	EPD	13,591.7	25.86	-0.04	■ -0.15	25.93	25.86
Energy Transfer Partners	ETP	11,653.4	18.49	...	■ unch.	18.49	18.47
Energy Transfer Equity	ETE	10,893.4	17.33	...	■ unch.	17.33	17.33
Mondelez Intl Cl A	MDLZ	7,424.8	40.05	...	■ unch.	41.63	40.04
Bank of America	BAC	5,085.8	25.02	...	■ unch.	25.05	23.87
Travelport Worldwide	TVPT	4,167.8	15.59	...	■ unch.	15.59	15.59
Plains All Amer Pipeline	PAA	3,755.9	21.58	...	■ unch.	21.58	21.58

Percentage gainers...

Basic Energy Services	BAS	76.2	20.53	3.29	■ 19.08	20.53	17.24
CareDx	CDNA	24.4	3.40	0.32	■ 10.39	3.40	3.08
Axonov Sciences	AXON	18.2	25.80	0.81	■ 3.24	26.00	24.17
Versartis Inc.	VSAR	139.2	2.75	0.08	■ 2.80	2.90	2.70
Teladoc	TDOC	10.1	33.50	0.80	■ 2.43	33.50	32.40

...And losers

Welbilt	WBT	14.4	19.96	-2.55	■ -11.33	22.51	19.96

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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:

i-New 52-week high.
f-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, September 22, 2017

YTD 52-Week
% Chg Hi Lo Stock Sym % PE Last Net
% Chg Hi Lo Stock Sym % PE Last Chg

NYSE

	YTD	52-Week	Yld	Net		YTD	52-Week	Yld	Net		YTD	52-Week	Yld	Net													
	% Chg	Hi	Lo	Stock	Sym	% Chg	Hi	Lo	Stock	Sym	% Chg	Hi	Lo	Stock	Sym	% Chg											
17.37	25.82	20.26	ABB	\$1.23	24.72	0.10	-3.16	46.17	36.74	JohnsonControls	JCI	2.5	24	39.89	0.16	54.16	39.49	24.15	GadenceDesign	CNDN	... 45	38.88	0.45				
-4.39	13.52	10.60	AES	AES	4.3	44	11.11	-0.02	-0.96	30.36	22.41	JuniperNetworks	JNP	4.1	16	27.99	0.28	60.33	24.60	14.35	Carlyle	CG	6.9	19	44.56	0.75	
20.61	84.24	66.50	Aflac	AFL	2.13	33.94	0.31	7.95	47.03	38.16	KAR Auction	KAR	2.8	28	46.01	0.35	24.31	14.59	9.63	Celgene	CELG	... 45	43.89	0.11			
25.51	74.40	46.75	AGCO	AGCO	0.8	32	72.62	-0.06	41.82	54.36	34.01	KB Fin	KB	... 8	50.05	0.89	46.99	72.27	47.01	Cerner	CERN	... 35	69.63	0.15			
-9.23	43.03	35.10	AT&T	T	5.18	38.59	0.37	28.20	32.44	13.57	KKR	KKR	3.4	8	19.73	0.42	25.14	40.83	24.10	CharterComms	CHTR	... 104	36.30	-0.78			
36.71	52.60	37.38	AbbottLabs	ABT	2.03	72.51	0.06	1.70	18.82	13.43	KT	KT	... 11	14	33.43	0.15	32.60	11.63	74.34	CheckPointSftw	CHKP	... 25	111.99	1.17			
39.70	89.69	55.06	AbbVie	ABBV	2.1	27	84.08	0.07	26.98	109.13	79.05	KSCitySouthern	KSU	1.3	22	107.74	-0.17	132.18	26.29	41.69	ChinaLodging	HTLT	... 65	30.36	-1.64		
17.73	13.15	10.95	Accenture	ACN	1.8	24	137.90	-0.29	1.04	14.04	37.83	K31 Kellogg	KLG	3.4	29	63.36	0.56	1.07	81.98	68.11	21.11	CincinnatiFinC	CINF	2.6	22	75.88	0.30
-28.97	67.08	15.32	AcuityBrands	AYI	0.2	23	163.99	0.25	0.27	18.75	31.93	11.89	KeyCorp	KEY	2.1	19	18.32	0.07	18.25	19.74	102.07	Cintas	CTAS	1.0	33	136.65	-0.80
41.55	83.58	39.66	Adient	ADNT	1.3	32	82.95	0.05	-0.75	10.75	43.15	30.80	KeySightTechn	KEYS	... 30	40	50.50	-0.09	10.42	34.60	29.15	CiscoSystems	CSCO	3.5	17	33.37	0.67
-43.49	17.87	8.22	AutoFinance	AAP	0.3	19	55.99	0.19	-4.74	78.33	65.77	KilroyRealty	KRC	2.4	50	69.75	-0.37	7.19	87.99	64.79	CitrixSystems	CTXS	... 26	76.23	-0.05		
22.62	6.70	4.89	AviSemEng	ASX	3.74	31	6.18	-0.05	2.98	132.11	113.00	KimberlyClark	KMB	3.3	20	117.52	-0.60	78.29	115.35	49.68	Cognex	CGNX	0.3	52	113.43	0.03	
7.41	6.06	3.76	Aegeon	AEG	5.1	17	5.94	0.06	-2.37	30.24	17.07	KimcoRetail	KIM	5.6	100	19.18	-0.08	8.61	33.43	16.82	Smucker	SNP	3.2	10	204.59	-1.33	
19.92	50.90	36.38	AerCap	AER	... 4	9	49.90	-0.04	-6.95	23.76	18.23	KinderMorgan	KMI	2.6	62	19.27	-0.05	44.04	9.24	11.28	Snap	SNAP	... 13	70.07	-0.07		
23.84	164.52	104.59	Aetna	AET	1.3	34	153.57	0.18	21.24	44.45	26.86	Knight-Swift	KNX	4.3	41	42.02	-0.34	5.12	18.13	10.23	ShawComms	SJR	3.0	33	21.92	0.15	
27.30	187.08	130.48	AffiliatedMgrs	AMG	0.4	20	184.97	0.79	-6.70	59.67	35.16	Kohl's	KSS	4.8	12	46.07	1.13	54.16	39.49	24.15	GadenceDesign	CNDN	... 45	38.88	0.45		
44.38	66.45	42.92	AgilentTechs	AA	0.8	34	65.78	-0.14	36.54	42.04	28.19	KoninklijkePhilips	KPH	2.2	24	41.74	-0.12	60.33	24.60	14.35	Carlyle	CG	6.9	19	44.56	0.75	
11.29	56.43	35.05	AgnicoEagle	AGM	0.9	43	46.74	0.60	1.61	41.64	36.44	Kroger	KR	2.5	20	15.15	-0.07	24.31	35.89	24.90	SelcGene	CELG	... 45	43.89	0.11		
7.34	111.88	87.78	Agricultr	AGU	3.2	26	107.93	0.51	-4.18	17.45	55.17	ConchoRsrcs	CXO	3.1	22	12.76	-0.07	46.99	72.27	47.01	Cerner	CERN	... 35	69.63	0.15		
4.48	151.47	129	AirProducts	APU	2.5	29	150.26	-0.06	-2.11	53.17	39.73	ConocoPhillips	COP	2.2	49	49.08	0.39	25.14	40.83	24.10	CharterComms	CHTR	... 104	36.30	-0.78		
-15.76	101.43	64.19	AlaskaAir	ALK	1.6	22	74.75	0.84	10.74	86.16	62.76	ConEd	ED	3.0	24	81.59	-0.84	13.21	18.26	29.43	ChinaLodging	HTLT	... 65	30.36	-1.64		
17.73	13.15	10.95	Accenture	ACN	1.8	24	137.90	-0.29	31.61	20.52	14.4	ConstBrandsA	STZ	1.0	28	201.81	0.39	1.07	81.98	68.11	21.11	CincinnatiFinC	CINF	2.6	22	75.88	0.30
-28.97	67.08	15.32	AcuityBrands	AYI	0.2	23	163.99	0.25	1.04	14.04	37.83	ContinentalRsrcs	CL	0.5	12	20.80	-0.10	18.25	19.74	102.07	Cintas	CTAS	1.0	33	136.65	-0.80	
41.55	83.58	39.66	Adient	ADNT	1.3	32	82.95	0.05	-0.75	30.25	23.67	ColgatePalmoine	CL	2.2	26	71.19	-0.18	10.42	34.60	29.15	CiscoSystems	CSCO	3.5	17	33.37	0.67	
-43.49	17.87	8.22	AutoFinance	AAP	0.3	19	55.99	0.19	-0.75	30.25	23.67	ColgatePalmoine	CL	2.2	26	71.19	-0.18	7.19	87.99	64.79	CitrixSystems	CTXS	... 26	76.23	-0.05		
22.62	6.70	4.89	AviSemEng	ASX	3.74	31	6.18	-0.05	-0.75	30.25	23.67	ColgatePalmoine	CL	2.2	26	71.19	-0.18	28.29	115.35	49.68	Cognex	CGNX	0.3	52	113.43	0.03	
7.41	6.06	3.76	Aegeon	AEG	5.1	17	5.94</td																				

MONEY & INVESTING

OPEC Aims to Recalibrate

BY BOENOT FAUCON
AND SUMMER SAID

VIENNA—The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries is scrambling to contain output from strife-torn members Libya and Nigeria, where surging production could threaten to derail the group's efforts to withhold crude supply and raise its price.

Libya and Nigeria were exempt from OPEC's agreement last year to join with Russia and other producers to cut about 2% of the world's oil production. The countries' oil industries at the time were crippled by civil unrest and weren't expected to recover soon.

Both have since struck deals with militants, allowing the spigots to be turned on again. Libya and Nigeria have added 550,000 barrels a day of crude-oil production since October, the month OPEC uses as a benchmark for its cuts, according to figures from the International Energy Agency.

That new output wipes out almost half of the cuts achieved by OPEC's other members, about 1.2 million barrels a day.

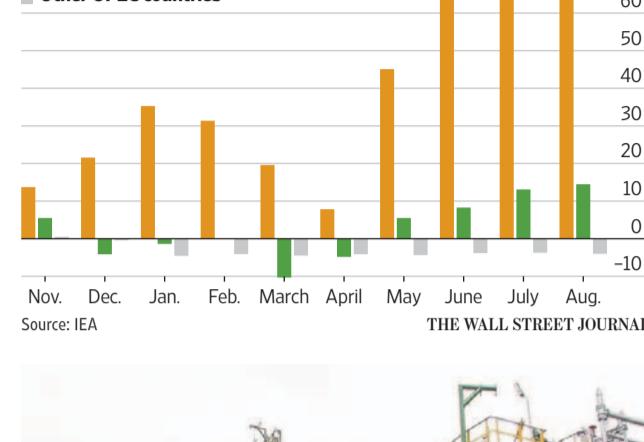
OPEC asked Nigerian Oil Minister Emmanuel Ibe Kachikwu and Libyan oil chief Mustafa Sanallah to explain their production plans at a meeting Friday. Mr. Kachikwu said his country is willing to cap production but not until output had stabilized at higher levels.

"If these countries stabilize around certain levels and hold them around a period of time, then this would be the time for them to join this initiative," said Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak, whose country isn't an OPEC member but who has taken on

Opening the Spigots

New output from Libya and Nigeria is complicating OPEC's attempts to withhold crude-oil supply and raise prices.

Monthly crude-oil production, percentage above or below October 2016 levels



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



A refinery in Nigeria. Oil output in the nation rose to 1.69 million barrels a day in August, its highest level since February 2016.

a leading role this year in regulating output.

OPEC, and allies such as Russia, didn't make a recommendation Friday on whether the group should extend its oil cuts beyond March 2018. OPEC will have a full meeting on Nov. 30 to decide on production. On Friday, Brent crude, the international benchmark, rose 0.8%, to \$56.86 a barrel, on ICE Fu-

tures Europe, while oil on the New York Mercantile Exchange gained 0.2%, to \$56.66.

Oil prices have risen 10% in the past three weeks on optimism that OPEC's production cuts, announced last year and put into effect this year, were finally working.

OPEC members' national oil ministers on Friday praised the effect of their production cuts.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Essam al-Marzouq said the developed world's oil inventories had fallen by 170 million barrels from January to August. OPEC is trying to bring oil inventories down closer to historic averages. Global oil inventories in industrialized nations are still 170 million barrels above their five-year average.

Libya and Nigeria are pumping out so much new oil that, combined with robust output from the U.S., they are keeping the world well supplied with crude and weighing down prices, said Ian Taylor, chief executive of Vitol Group, a large independent oil trader.

Mr. Taylor said he doesn't see oil reaching \$60 a barrel this year. "I would be very surprised to see it with a six in front of it before the end of the year," he said. "I don't think it's going to happen."

OPEC has no legal mechanism to force Libya and Nigeria to join its output cuts, though it has expelled members, such as Indonesia, who refused to get on board when a consensus was reached. The group can also put public pressure on countries to get in line.

In Nigeria, oil production rose to 1.69 million barrels a day in August, its highest level since February 2016. The increase follows a cease-fire that Vice President Oluuyemi Osinbajo sealed with militants in the country's Niger Delta. Mr. Kachikwu said he is supportive of OPEC's policy and would cap his country's production at 1.8 million barrels a day but wants to wait another six months.

Libyan production has shot up even faster, reaching one million barrels a day in July for the first time in four years.

—Sarah McFarlane

in London and Sarah Kent in Abuja, Nigeria, contributed to this article.

Cromwell Pulls REIT Offering

By P.R. VENKAT

An Australian real-estate company has pulled its plans for a billion-dollar initial public offering in Singapore following tepid demand for its units, people familiar with the process said Friday, indicating that investors remain wary in a volatile global market.

Cromwell European Real Estate Investment Trust, a unit of Australia-listed Cromwell Property Group, had started taking orders earlier this month for the up to €1.09 billion (US\$1.30 billion) deal,

which would have been Singapore's second-largest IPO this year. It would have also been the first company to offer shares denominated in euros in the city-state, which is one of the sought-after destinations for REITs in Asia.

People familiar with the process said the demand from institutional investors didn't meet the company's expectations. Also, some investors were skeptical of the growth prospects in some of its European assets given their unfamiliarity with those markets.

In a filing to the Australian Securities Exchange, Cromwell Property Group said it decided against registering the prospectus for Cromwell European REIT's planned IPO due to current market conditions, adding that it will reassess the situation.

Cromwell European REIT was planning to sell up to 1.91 billion units at €0.55-€0.57 each. The REIT's initial portfolio was set to comprise 81 assets that include office, retail and industrial properties from six European countries including Denmark, France, Germany and Italy.

Stocks denominated in foreign currencies are relatively uncommon in Singapore. About two dozen companies listed on the Singapore Exchange have shares that trade in foreign currencies, including the U.S. dollar, yen and Hong Kong dollar.

The euro has been gaining against many currencies this year, as worries about a prolonged slowdown in European economic growth have faded. It has gained 12.1% against the U.S. dollar and 5.7% against the Singapore dollar since the beginning of 2017.

Cromwell European REIT was planning to offer a yield

Foreign companies have been looking to tap Singapore's REIT market.

between 7.5% and 7.7%, which is higher than banks' interest rates for savings accounts and usually attracts investors that chase yield-based products.

Singapore is home to more than 40 REITs with a combined market capitalization of nearly \$60 billion. Foreign companies have been looking to tap Singapore's REIT market because of the large number of investors in the city-state targeting high-yielding stable property assets.

Earlier this past week, people familiar with the process said that an American real-estate investment firm, KBS Realty Advisors LLC, plans to list some of its U.S. office assets to raise about \$500 million via a Singapore IPO.

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12 Blk/Bk 11k \$139K
10 Red/Tan 22k \$139K

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MARKETS

Global Yields Feel Europe's Weight

By MIKE BIRD

European investors are buying more foreign bonds than ever before, another sign that many fund managers aren't expecting tapering from the European Central Bank to boost yields anytime soon.

The trend has global implications. Heavy demand from the eurozone puts pressure on yields elsewhere in the world, including the U.S., and lowers borrowing costs there. The eurozone's investors are big spenders: In 2016, local investors bought around \$500 billion in foreign, mainly government, bonds.

The most recent numbers, between May and July, show that the eurozone's investors bought €160.8 billion (\$192 billion) in international bonds, the largest sum in any three-month period on record, according to data from the ECB.

ECB stimulus, including negative interest rates and a huge bond-buying program, have pushed down the yields on local government debt to record lows. That has made investors look elsewhere for returns.

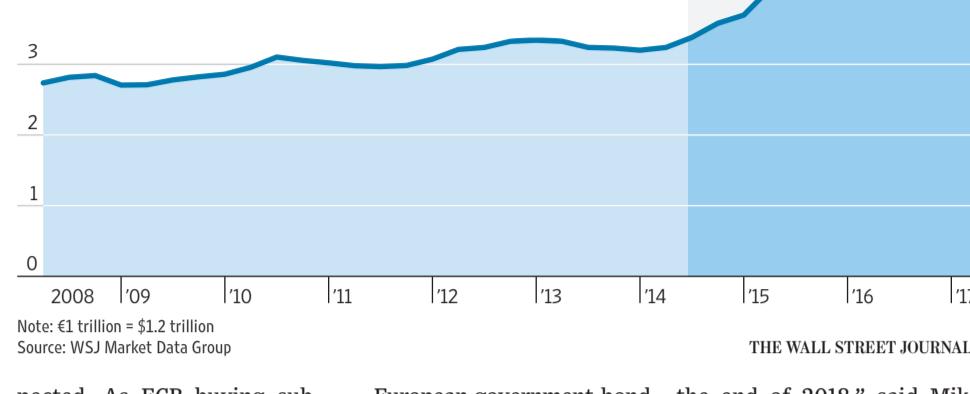
Now, robust growth in the eurozone is raising expectations that the ECB will roll back its monetary policy, easing more quickly than once ex-

Bond Binge

European investors have stepped up their purchases of bonds issued outside the eurozone since the Continent began moving to negative interest rates three years ago.

€5 trillion

Stock of foreign bonds held by eurozone investors



Note: €1 trillion = \$1.2 trillion
Source: WSJ Market Data Group

pected. As ECB buying subsides, that should push yields higher. But eurozone investors don't appear to believe local yields are about to get more attractive.

In June, ECB President Mario Draghi said that "all the signs now point to a strengthening and broadening recovery in the euro area"—which investors interpreted as laying the groundwork for tapering. But that didn't stop eurozone investors from snapping up €40.9 billion in foreign bonds in the following month alone.

European government-bond yields haven't shifted significantly against their global peers since the ECB began changing its tone on tapering, particularly in the short-dated government-bond market. German two-year bund yields are 2.1 percentage points below U.S. two-year Treasury yields, a gap that has widened from 2 points six months ago. That is partly because the Federal Reserve has already moved on tightening its monetary policy.

"There is a good chance the ECB hasn't done any hikes by

the end of 2018," said Mike Bell, global market strategist at J.P. Morgan Asset Management. "Whilst that gap between very low bond yields in the eurozone and somewhat higher global yields persists, you could well see continued large foreign bond purchases."

All that could mean lower borrowing costs for Americans. In 2012, a Fed research paper estimated a \$100 billion rise in foreign official demand reduces the five-year Treasury yield by 0.4 to 0.6 percentage point in the short run.

The Fed announced its plans to start trimming its multitrillion-dollar bond portfolio earlier this past week, and policy makers signaled a majority remained in favor of an additional interest-rate increase this year. The 10-year yield had climbed for nine consecutive days through Thursday, the longest stretch of gains since 2011. The yield on the two-year Treasury note, which tends to be more sensitive to the Fed's policies, fell to 1.438%, from 1.442% on Thursday, the highest close since November 2008.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Treasurys Rise After Nuclear Threat

By GUNJAN BANERJI

U.S. government bonds strengthened on Friday as tension between the U.S. and North Korea reverberated throughout the

CREDIT markets. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note slipped to 2.262% from 2.278% on Thursday. Yields fall as bond prices rise.

North Korea's threat to detonate a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean stoked investor fears, bringing worries

about U.S. tension with Pyongyang back into the forefront after major stock indexes had risen to records earlier this past week and government bond prices receded.

President Donald Trump's speech at the United Nations on Tuesday warned that the U.S. could "totally destroy" North Korea if it were forced to defend itself or its allies, leading to a fresh round of hostile rhetoric between the two countries. In recent weeks, North Korea has launched two missiles over Japan and tested its most

powerful nuclear device. "Do you want to be short bonds going into a weekend where North Korea might launch something?" said John Briggs, head of strategy at NatWest Markets.

Yields briefly dipped further midday Friday as Robert Kaplan, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, said at an energy conference that he has an "open mind" to one more interest-rate increase in December and wants to "take a little bit more time" to observe economic data before reaching a decision.

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION (SOUTH) PUNE-1 NOTICE FOR Hybrid Annuity (Online) Tender

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.11 FOR 2017-18

The Public Works Department, Government of Maharashtra, represented by the Executive Engineer, P.W (South) Division, Pune (the "Authority") is engaged in the development of highways and as a part of this endeavor, the Authority has decided to undertake development and operation/ maintenance of the Project (the "Projects") on [Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (the "DBOT")]¹ Hybrid Annuity basis, and has decided to carry out the bidding process for selection of a private entity as the Bidder to whom the Project may be awarded.

Brief particulars of the Projects are as follows:

Sr. No.	State	Dist.	Packa ges	Project	Project length in km	Project cost	Earnest Money/ Bid Security	Duration of the project	Cost of Tender Fee Document.
1.	MAH	PUNE	PN-03	Improvements to Roads in Industrial Sector in Pune District Hinjewadi, Chakri Talegaon, Renjangaon, Jejur & Add. Jejur	106.411 K.M	327.86 Crores	3.279 Crores	24 Months	60000/- Online Payment NEFT/RTGS

e-tender time table

Sr. No.	Event Description	Date
1.	Invitation of RFP (NIT) (Download period of online tender)	Dt. 08.09.2017 at 10.00 Hrs. to Dt. 23.10.2017 at 23.00 Hrs.
2A	Last date for receiving queries for pre-bid-1	19.9.2017 upto 11.00 Hrs.
2.B	Pre- Bid meeting 1	Online or in the office of the Chief Engineer, P.W Region Pune on or before Dt. 19.09.2017 up to 11.00 Hrs.
2.C	Authority response to queries for Pre-Bid Meeting 1 Latest by	22.09.2017
3.A	Last date for receiving queries for pre-bid-2	03.10.2017 upto 11.00 Hrs.
3.B	Pre-Bid meeting 2	Online or in the office of the chief Engineer, P.W Region Pune on or before Dt. 03.10.2017 up to 11.00 Hrs.
3.C	Authority response to queries for Pre-Bid Meeting 2 Latest by	07.10.2017
4.	Bid due Date (Submit Hash to create online tender by bidder) (Technical and financial Bid Last date and time)	Dt. 25.10.2017 till 23.00 Hrs.
5.	Physical submission of Bid Security/ POA etc (as per clause 2.11.2 of RFP)	Till 11.00 hrs on 30.10.2017 in the office of Superintending Engineer, P.W. Circle, Pune, Central Building premises, camp, Pune-411001.
6.	Opening of Technical Bids.	(at 11.30 on 31.10.2017 to 06.11.2017 at 18.00 hrs. office of Superintending Engineer, P.W Circle, Pune, Central Building premises, camp, Pune-411001.

Note:-
1. Tender of both the projects must be considered as individual project and must be treated separately. RFP, MCA, Schedules and other details of both the above projects are provided separately.
2. The payment towards the cost of tender forms will be done online only through RTGS/NEFT. It should be noted that one should complete these activities at least one day in advance.
3. All eligible/interested Bidders who want to participate in tendering process should compulsorily get enrolled on e-tendering portal "<http://mahatenders.gov.in>".
4. Contact below for difficulties in online submission of tenders:- (NIC - Toll Free Ph. No. 1800 30702232 / 7878107985-86)
5. Bid submitted through any other mode shall not be entertained. However, Bid Security, proof of online payment of cost of bid document, Power of Attorney and joint bidding agreement etc. as specified in Clause 2.11.2 of the RFP shall be submitted physically by the Bidder on or before 25/09/2017 upto 11.00 hours.
6. Other terms and conditions are detailed in online e-tender form. Right to reject any or all online bid work. without assigning any reasons thereof, is reserved with department.
7. Tender Notice is displayed on P.W.D. website www.mahapwd.com

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GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION (EAST) PUNE-1 NOTICE FOR Hybrid Annuity (Online) Tender

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.23 FOR 2017-18

The Public Works Department, Government of Maharashtra, represented by the Executive Engineer, P.W (South) Division, Pune (the "Authority") is engaged in the development of highways and as a part of this endeavor, the Authority has decided to undertake development and operation/ maintenance of the Project (the "Projects") on [Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (the "DBOT")]¹ Hybrid Annuity basis, and has decided to carry out the bidding process for selection of a private entity as the Bidder to whom the Project may be awarded.

Brief particulars of the Project are as follows:

Sr. No.	State	Dist.	Packa ges	Project	Project length in km	Project cost	Earnest Money/ Bid Security	Duration of the project	Cost of Tender Fee Document.
1.	MAH	PUNE	PN-04	PN-04 A) Improvement to Belhe Pabal Shikarpur Astapur Uralikanchan Jejur New NH- Wadar Satara road km 0/00 to 136/500 Dist. Pune (Length 106.093 km) (SH-117) PN-04 B) Improvement to Jejur Morgaon Baramati Kalamb Bawada Narsingpur Road km 50/00 to 156/00 Dist. Pune (Length 86.384 km) (SH-120)	192.48 K.M.	427.61 Crores	4.276 Crores	24 Months	50000/- Online Payment NEFT/RTGS

e-tender time table

Sr. No.	Event Description	Date</

MARKETS

Bank Stocks Lift S&P 500, Dow for Week

Indexes' moves are slight despite tensions with North Korea, Fed rate-increase signal

By GEORGI KANTCHEV
AND CORRIE DRIEBUSCH

The S&P 500 and Dow Jones Industrial Average eked out their second consecutive weekly gains, boosted by a rise in bank shares.

Stock moves have been muted in recent sessions, something traders and analysts attributed to a dearth of corporate news ahead of the start of the third-quarter earnings season.

The S&P 500 moved 12 points between its weekly peak and its low—its smallest range since November 2014. In another sign of the calm in the markets, the CBOE Volatility Index, a measure of investors' expectations for swings in the S&P 500, dropped Friday for the ninth time in 10 trading sessions.

Major indexes also were steady after the Federal Reserve signaled Wednesday that it could raise interest rates one more time this year and tensions escalated anew between North Korea and the U.S.

"There were North Korea jitters and the Fed this week, but for stocks we are in this quiet period in terms of getting ready for third-quarter earnings," said Dan Morgan, senior portfolio manager at Synovus Trust Co.

The S&P 500 rose 1.62 points, or less than 0.1%, to 2502.22 on Friday, rising less than 0.1% for the week.

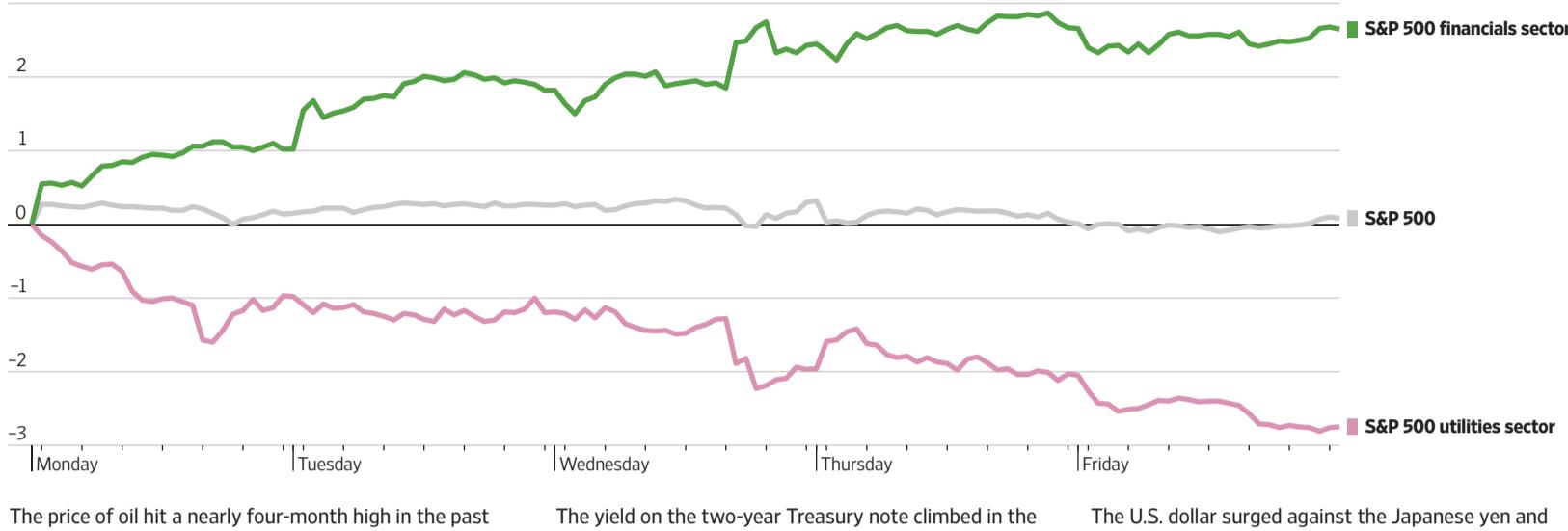
The Dow industrials fell 9.64 points, or less than 0.1%, on Friday to 22349.59, rising 0.4% for the week.

The Nasdaq Composite added 4.23 points, or less than 0.1%, on Friday to 6426.92, but posted a 0.3% weekly decline.

Banking on the Fed

Investors pushed up U.S. financial shares while utilities stocks fell after the Federal Reserve suggested it was open to an interest-rate increase in December.

Index performance



The price of oil hit a nearly four-month high in the past week, as refiners continued to ramp up operations following Hurricane Harvey.

Nymex crude-oil price, most-active contract



Sources: FactSet (stocks, crude, gold); Thomson Reuters (yield); Tullett Prebon (yen)

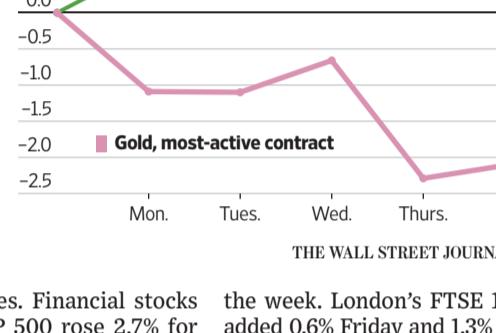
The yield on the two-year Treasury note climbed in the past week as expectations rose for another rate increase in 2017.

146%



The U.S. dollar surged against the Japanese yen and gold fell Wednesday, before reversing course later in the week following fresh threats from North Korea.

15%



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Assets perceived as safer than stocks got a boost after North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho said late Thursday in New York that the country may consider a nuclear test of "unprecedented scale" in the Pacific Ocean.

Those comments came after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said he was considering the "highest level of hard-line countermeasure" in response to President Donald Trump's warning that the U.S. would annihilate North Korea if forced

to defend itself or its allies. This was likely causing investors to be "antsy heading into the weekend," said Emmanuel Ng, an analyst at OCBC Bank.

Gold for September delivery rose 0.2% on Friday, although it ended the week down 2.1% at \$1,293.30 a troy ounce.

Government-bond prices increased Friday, with the yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note falling to 2.262% from 2.278% Thursday.

Yields, which rise as bond

prices fall, had climbed for nine consecutive sessions through Thursday—their longest such streak since March 2011.

Bond yields advanced after the Fed's suggestion that it could raise interest rates once more in 2017 and three more times next year caught some investors by surprise.

Weak inflation numbers in recent months had made some investors question how quickly the Fed could raise rates.

The rise in yields helped lift

bank shares. Financial stocks in the S&P 500 rose 2.7% for the week, though on Friday they slipped less than 0.1%.

In the past two weeks, the sector has risen 6.1%, posting its best performance since the two weeks ended Nov. 18.

But after the Fed meeting Wednesday, investors now see a more-than 70% chance of a rate increase by the end of the year, according to federal-fund futures tracked by CME Group.

The Stoxx Europe 600 index rose 0.1% Friday and 0.7% for

the week. London's FTSE 100 added 0.6% Friday and 1.3% for the week.

Major indexes across Asia finished mostly in the red.

In Japan, gains in the yen hurt the Nikkei Stock Average, which closed down 0.3% Friday. A stronger currency weighs on the country's key export stocks.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index fell 0.8%, while South Korea's Kospi lost 0.7%.

—Akane Otani contributed to this article.

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FINANCIAL ANALYSIS & COMMENTARY

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Nintendo Switches On The Growth

Nintendo keeps hitting high scores. Getting to the next level will take some hard work.

Shares of the Japanese game maker have risen nearly 70% this year to their highest since 2008, when the Wii console was a sensation. This time, the main driver is the unexpected success of the Switch, a hand-held and home console. Since its launch in March, Nintendo has sold 1.5 million units in Japan, more than double Sony's PlayStation 4 in the country in its first six months, according to Jefferies. It also has been the best-selling console in the U.S. for four of the past six months.

Analysts are now raising forecasts. Credit Suisse expects Nintendo to sell 130 million units of the console by 2022, an 86% increase from its previous forecast.

And the Switch has attracted more third-party game makers, crucial for growth beyond its core fan base.

While the potential reward is huge, hopes are also rising fast. When Nintendo's share price was at this level nine years ago, its operating profit was about 10 times higher. To fulfill expectations, Nintendo needs to avoid execution mistakes—no given, judging by its track record. It needs to fight with the likes of Apple to secure a cheap and steady supply of components. The appeal of the console outside Nintendo's fan base is also untested. Most crucially, it needs to improve its online services, a durable revenue source for other consoles.

Investing in Nintendo's stock now may offer some upside, but the game isn't for the fainthearted.

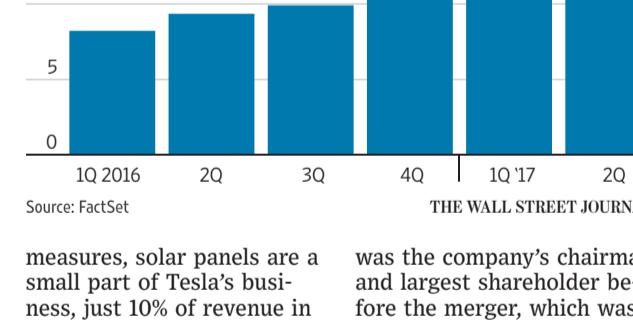
—Jacky Wong

The Cloud Hanging Over Tesla

Pricey Acquisition

Tesla's total liabilities shot higher after its deal to acquire SolarCity.

\$20 billion



Source: FactSet

At minimum, SolarCity will need to be careful about how it claims government payments, which will lower its proceeds from the tax program. But, either way, that program is due to become less generous in coming years. The investment-tax credit is worth 30% of qualifying solar costs through 2019, but, in 2022, it falls to 10% for commercial systems and expires for residential systems.

Tesla's shares fell 4.2% on Friday and are up about 67% this year.

The stock is on such a run because investors believe fully in Mr. Musk's vision and ignore the fragility of the balance sheet. That trust took a \$30 million dent with Friday's settlement, and investors should wonder what could be in store for the stock if confidence in Mr. Musk were to waver even slightly.

—Charley Grant

OVERHEARD

Maybe it was the Chicago Cubs breaking the curse. Perhaps, it's this season's home run explosion. Whatever the reason, many Major League Baseball teams are bringing in big crowds this year.

That comes just as the league that overtook baseball in terms of viewership is slipping badly.

The National Football League's attendance admittedly has been dragged down by three recently relocated California teams, including the L.A. Chargers, formerly of San Diego, who were unable to fill a 27,000-seat soccer stadium. To put that number into perspective, the 30th most-watched college football team last year, the Texas Tech Red Raiders, drew more than 58,000 fans on average.

But it isn't just that. NFL television ratings have been falling, too. A Super Bowl win by the Cleveland Browns might turn things around.

Apple Has a Lot Riding on Its 'Supercycle' of Growth

Barely one day into its supposed "supercycle," Apple is already facing some doubts.

Between last week's unveiling of new devices and Friday's retail launch of some of those products, Apple's share price has slipped nearly 5%.

A SolarCity spokesman said the company accurately valued the solar-energy systems and pointed out that the settlement was for a fraction of the money that it allegedly owed. And by some

even Apple has admitted that the third iteration of its smartwatch has been having some trouble connecting directly to cellular networks, thus undercutting the device's main selling point. The company says a fix is under way.

It is too early to judge how those issues might affect sales. But much is riding on Apple having a big year ahead.

The company's stock price had surged nearly 40% in 2017 ahead of last week's event that unveiled the new devices. The new phones—particularly the iPhone X launching in early November—are expected to kick off a "supercycle" of growth that Apple hasn't seen in three years.

Some concerns can be traced to the devices hitting stores Friday. The iPhone 8 and 8 Plus have drawn some tepid reviews, with several noting limited improvements over the last iPhone. And

record \$87 billion in revenue for the December quarter, which is expected to lead to a 13% rise in overall sales for the fiscal year ending next September.

The iPhone is the most important part of that. Not only is it Apple's largest segment, the iPhone is huge in its own right. Based on trailing 12-month sales, Apple's smartphone business alone would rank 12th among Fortune 500 companies in annual revenue.

So the new phones face a high bar, particularly the iPhone X. Katy Huberty of Morgan Stanley expects that device will account for 45% of iPhone sales for the coming fiscal year, with the iPhone 8 accounting for 34%. But Apple's lineup is now more diverse than it ever

age selling price for iPhones. The average selling price is expected to break \$700 for the first time ever in fiscal 2018, compared with an estimated \$656 this year. Factoring in less enthusiastic reviews of the iPhone X and expected shortages of the iPhone X, those estimates could prove optimistic.

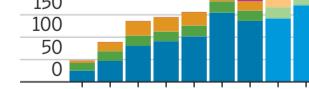
Apple doesn't break out sales data for specific iPhone versions. But the company's fiscal fourth-quarter results will include a week of iPhone X sales, and its forecast then should also provide some clues about demand for the iPhone X. But that report is still more than a month off, which is a long time for investors to be holding their breath.

—Dan Gallagher

Sales Call

Apple's product segment revenue for fiscal years ended September

iPhone Mac iPad Watch



*Projections. Past Watch sales are estimates

Sources: the company, FactSet

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Jennifer Egan
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REVIEW



A new book
explores
civilization's
debt to fishing
and fishermen

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BOOKS | CULTURE | SCIENCE | COMMERCE | HUMOR | POLITICS | LANGUAGE | TECHNOLOGY | ART | IDEAS

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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A SIGNBOARD in Pyongyang declares "No one can stand in our way" as a tank rolls over words representing United Nations sanctions and North Korea's international isolation, Aug. 21, 2017. KYODO NEWS/GETTY IMAGES

Letter From North Korea

As the nuclear crisis mounts, reporters from the Journal were able to visit Pyongyang and see life there in a tightly controlled government tour.

BY JOHN LYONS
AND JONATHAN CHENG

NORTH KOREA'S nuclear ambitions are etched into the landscape of Pyongyang, its showcase capital city. A giant sculpture of the atom sits on top of a new apartment tower built for nuclear scientists. Atom designs adorn road overpasses, lampposts and building facades.

Bomb imagery colors daily life. At an orphanage, children play with plastic mobile rocket launchers instead of toy trucks. Shops sell commemorative intercontinental ballistic missile stamps, while a bakery sells cakes featuring an upright rocket, ready for launch.

During a recent visit, the first by The Wall Street Journal since 2008, the city's atomic aesthetics reinforced the message government officials conveyed repeatedly to the Journal reporters: North Korea won't part with its nuclear weapons under any circumstances and is resolved to suffer economic sanctions and risk war with the U.S. to keep them.

"It is too late, we have grown up," said Ri Yong Pil, the vice president of the Institute for American Studies, a division of North Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "We are not interested in dialogue to undermine our newly built strategic status."

The Journal reporters traveled to Pyongyang for a tightly controlled reporting trip between Sept. 14 and 19 amid rising tension between the U.S. and North Korea, one of the world's most brutal and isolated dictatorships. North Korea launched a ballistic missile over Japan on the second day of the trip. Hours after the group departed, U.S. President Donald Trump vowed to "totally destroy North Korea" if the U.S. is required

to defend itself or allies, saying leader Kim Jong Un—whom he called "Rocket Man"—was on a suicide path.

On the day the Journal group flew into Pyongyang, North Korea's state news agency declared in a news release that all "Yankees" should be "beaten to death, as a stick is fit for a rabid dog," for persuading the United Nations to enact economic sanctions against the country.

Two affable, English-speaking diplomats in dark suits who received the Journal at Pyongyang's new glass-fronted international airport took a more measured tone.

Over the next few days, the supervised series of of-

'We are not interested in dialogue to undermine our newly built strategic status.'

ficial interviews, visits to city landmarks and brief encounters with a handful of Pyongyang residents appeared to signal a rare outreach campaign by the government, which has included other U.S. news organizations, to describe what it sees as the logic of its nuclear-weapons program. The U.S. and North Korea don't have diplomatic relations, and even informal contact between the two nations is limited.

Official reporting trips to North Korea only happen with the explicit sanction of the state, and visitors are kept under close watch. Authorities granted Journal requests to visit factories and stores, which were chosen by the government. Some requests, such as to meet two U.S. citizens detained while working at a

Pyongyang university, were denied.

Handlers allowed the Journal to talk to residents encountered along the way, but translations were done by the North Koreans and it was unclear if people felt free to speak their minds.

North Korean officials said their weapons, which include nuclear missiles being designed to reach the U.S., were meant for defensive purposes only. They described them as necessary to end what they said was a constant threat of attack by the U.S., which has maintained troops in South Korea since 1953. The officials said they wanted to force the U.S. to coexist under a system of deterrence, much as it did with the Soviet Union in the Cold War.

The North Korean officials expressed curiosity about difficult-to-answer questions such as: Who is Mr. Trump's chief adviser? And will Secretary of State Rex Tillerson keep his job? One official had followed the heated U.S. debate over transgender soldiers, and wondered if the U.S. had many.

They were convinced the U.S. has wanted the destruction of their government since the Cold War, and reminded reporters that the U.S. designated North Korea as part of an axis of evil in 2002. They expressed chagrin at perceived U.S. slights, with Mr. Ri recalling taking offense once when a U.S. immigration officer at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport didn't realize that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was North Korea, not South.

Most Washington policy makers view talk of coexistence with a nuclear-armed Pyongyang as a nonstarter. Allowing an unpredictable leader such as Kim Jong Un, who has threatened to attack the U.S., to have such capabilities is simply too risky.

North Korea has long ranked among the world's most repressive nations. During the 1990s, the country

Please turn to the next page

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Enough gripes from clowns over 'It,' says Joe Queenan. They need to up their game.

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Right-hand driving now prevails, but it hasn't always been so, says Amanda Foreman.

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ESSAY
Forget about other tech giants: The future belongs to Amazon, which may be a problem.

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REVIEW

Amid Atomic Imagery, Talk of Not Backing Down

Continued from the prior page

fell into a famine that killed hundreds of thousands, even as the government diverted resources to the military. Today tens of thousands of North Koreans are believed to languish in gulags and the state allows no dissent.

Pyongyang officially denies the existence of gulags and says all of its citizens enjoy human rights. It acknowledges the famine, but blames it on U.S. sanctions and bad weather.

Interviews with grocery-store employees and other workers arranged by the government, and in conversations struck up with people approached by the Journal, all said they supported the missile program and were resolved to make sacrifices if sanctions squeezed the economy.

A restaurant bartender approached by the Journal expressed pride in the country's advancing missile capabilities after a broadcast of a Sept. 15 missile test played on a television over the bar. "We will accomplish the final victory against the U.S.," the bartender said. "I wish they would launch 20 or 30 missiles a day."

Several people, including some government officials, expressed wariness of China, a long-time friend of Pyongyang that historically has opposed any talk of regime change. China supported recent steps to tighten sanctions against North Korea, and some residents said they question the quality and safety of Chinese foods and other products.

Pyongyang appeared spotless. A Korean War museum with marbled halls that supposedly takes four days to tour didn't have a single visitor one morning. Broad avenues had sparse traffic despite the city's three million residents. A Protestant church service had no North Korean families in it, just individuals, mostly elderly women. The sermon was an anti-American diatribe.

It is also a city undergoing a growth spurt, thanks to an economic miniboom driven by trade with China. Kim Jong Un is adding futuristic-looking skyscrapers, many built for scientists and university lecturers, plus cultural amenities including a water park. A new science-and-technology library has computer labs connected to the country's internal internet system, which for nearly all North Koreans is cut off from the World Wide Web.

The Journal's team was housed in a lavish villa of white marble and glass on the rural outskirts of Pyongyang, and was encouraged to walk the grounds freely after long reporting days. On two occasions, a guard with a rifle motioned reporters back to the villa, ending the strolls.

Propaganda is ubiquitous, from anti-U.S. posters and slogans to the constant sound of patriotic hymns, sometimes set to rock beats. The messages exalt three generations of Kim



A BIRTHDAY CAKE in Pyongyang featured a replica of a North Korean rocket.

PAOLO BOSONIN/THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

family leaders, who have stayed in power for more than seven decades by building a police state and instilling in the populace a quasi-religious devotion.

At a new ophthalmology hospital with a giant bubble window shaped like a human eye, external-affairs director Kim Un Ae said the facility was completed in six months and that supreme leader Kim Jong Un visited on May 26, 2016, during construction to give "on-the-spot guidance."

Mr. Kim suggested changes to the hospital's eye-shaped logo, including adding a second line to the eyebrow, the hospital's external-affairs director said. Mr. Kim picked green as the main interior color because it soothes the eyes, and guided the glasses shop inside to organize frames by gender and price.

Time-to-completion information and dates of leaders' on-the-spot visits were recurring themes at museums, a dolphin-show facility, a factory, hospitals and other buildings.

Elites appear to be living well. A sushi restaurant run by deceased leader Kim Jong Il's former sushi chef serves \$100 platters of raw fish. A supermarket in Kwangbok Street had products ranging from locally made tea to \$70 imported Japanese whisky.

People are playing videogames on locally made smartphones that are becoming more common yet remain disconnected from the global internet. One of the Journal's handlers said some parents worry about how much screen time their children get, much like Americans.

Solar panels have sprung up across Pyongyang, appearing on apartment balconies, providing an alternate power source for individuals

and insulating them from power outages while also easing their reliance on government-supplied power.

Although the Journal's team didn't leave Pyongyang, foreign aid workers who have access to other parts of the country describe a strikingly different scene in the provinces. Even on the city's outskirts, the drop-off in living standards is stark. Journal reporters saw farmers relying on ox carts in fields just a short drive from the new dolphin-show facility and science complexes.

North Korea's economy grew 3.9% last year to around \$32 billion, according to South Korea's central bank, which makes estimates about the economy of its northern neighbor in the absence of reliable figures from Pyongyang. That is the fastest growth since 1999, according to South Korea, and may have been helped by government spending on weapons manufacturing.

The U.S. strategy is to squeeze Mr. Kim by snuffing out North Korean growth with sanctions, including limits on purchases of oil. The supervised nature of the Journal's trip made it impossible to draw conclusions about whether Pyongyang can outlast the sanctions.

During the trip, Mr. Trump suggested in a tweet that new sanctions were causing long lines at Pyongyang gas stations.

A European aid worker in Pyongyang interviewed by the Journal said gas prices had risen significantly since November. But there were no lines at four gas stations that reporters saw while touring the city. At one station where reporters waited for 20 minutes seeking permission to take a photograph, two

Propaganda is ubiquitous, from anti-U.S. posters to patriotic hymns.

cars came in to fill up.

Ri Gi Song, an economist at North Korea's Academy of Social Sciences, said North Korea was well positioned to weather sanctions after enduring them in some form or another since the end of the Korean War. Cryptically, he said the country could rely on oil-producing North Korean allies to get around the sanctions. "I'll let you guess which," he said. When the Journal suggested a few possible countries, including Iran and Venezuela, he smiled and repeated his answer.

What's more, he said, the nuclear-weapons program was already allowing the country to reduce spending on conventional weapons and channel that money to economic development.

"You can't hurt this economy with sanctions," said Ding Jiansheng, a Chinese coal trader who lives in Pyongyang and was enjoying a musical performance by the

waitresses at a bustling new Pyongyang pizza restaurant on the banks of the Taedong River. He said his coal business was thriving despite U.N. sanctions designed to stop coal sales to North Korea, though he declined to say how.

The Journal also spoke with Ri Song Ho, who directs the Golden Cup Trading Co. factory, which produces some 700 different snacks, sodas, bread and sweets, including a cake featuring a North Korean rocket ready for launch. He said his experience during the lean years of the 1990s inspired him to produce more food to offset the sanctions.

"Since we were kids, we've known how to find a way to make things work," he said.

Like all companies in North Korea, the Golden Cup is state-owned. An economic policy introduced in 2013 gives managers such as Mr. Ri more decision-making power, he said, as well as the freedom to sell any surplus production directly to customers for extra profit.

Much of the building was dedicated to other activities. On a higher floor, a hallway decorated like a cave led to a large tropical-themed swimming pool featuring live banana trees.

Mr. Ri had two rooms dedicated to the two visits made by North Korea's leader.

His conversation moved quickly from making snacks to nuclear deterrence. He was convinced that the threat of war would fade as the U.S. came to accept North Korea's nuclear power as a fact of life.

"We now have all these nuclear weapons to defend us. I believe in a few days there will be news that will mean that the U.S. will not attack us, but I can't say what that is," said Mr. Ri.

—Andrew Dowell and Paolo Bosonin contributed to this article.

► See photos from the trip, graphics on North Korea's nuclear tests and more at WSJ.com/review.

FROM TRUMAN TO TRUMP: THE GREAT DIVIDE OVER CHINA

BY KEVIN PERAINO

AS TENSIONS rise with North Korea, President Donald Trump appears poised to launch a diplomatic offensive aimed at Beijing. U.S. officials have said that Mr. Trump is likely to travel in November to China, which the Trump administration says holds the key to resolving the nuclear standoff with Kim Jong Un. Even Mr. Trump's bluster—including his threat this week at the U.N. General Assembly to "totally destroy North Korea"—seems designed to try to scare Beijing into cracking down on Pyongyang.

The heated rhetoric obscures a substantive—and increasingly urgent—debate about the future of America's approach to China.

Roughly speaking,

modern China watchers divide into two broad camps. One group assumes that

U.S.-Chinese friction is inevitable and seeks to resist China's rise. These thinkers, often self-described realists concerned with the balance of power, aim to buttress the countries along China's periphery, economically and militarily. They view demonstrations of strength by the U.S. and its allies as a vital counterweight to Beijing's regional ambitions.

A second, rival group seeks instead to engage with China, encouraging business and cultural ties and attempting to win its cooperation on global issues like North Korea and climate change. This camp isn't averse to pressure tactics, but it tends to view a secure—and even interventionist—China as more conducive to stability in Asia. Fueling Beijing's paranoia by conducting Cold War-style maneuvers along its borders will only make matters worse, this group argues.

This debate may sound distinctly modern, a product of China's stunning economic and geopolitical ascent. In fact, it is as old as the People's Republic, forged in the tense months after Mao Zedong's conquest of the mainland in 1949.

Mao's victory touched off a separate conflict in Washington—one that bitterly divided for

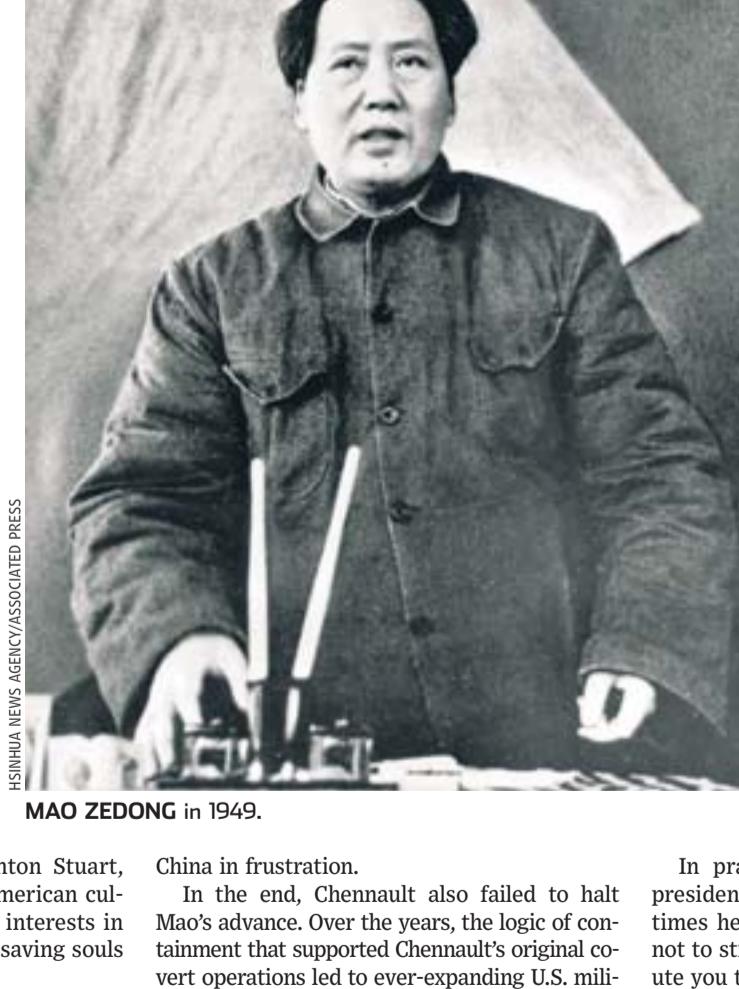
eign-policy elites and eventually led to U.S. involvement in two wars in Asia. If that experience has a lesson, it is that neither confrontation nor mere engagement is quite right as an approach to China.

The faction urging President Harry Truman to try to contain Mao's China was led by Gen. Claire Chennault, the hawkish former commander of the Flying Tigers, the U.S. airmen who had battled Japan in China and Burma during World War II. As Mao took Beijing and then Shanghai, Chennault lobbied America's newly created intelligence agencies to confront the communist leader with proxy forces, forming a "belt of resistance" along China's periphery.

Confident and energetic, Chennault ultimately convinced the Truman administration to try its hand at covert subversion. U.S. operatives based in Hong Kong shuttled back and forth to the Chinese mainland on Chennault's C-46 transport aircraft, carrying wicker baskets of cash to pay off regional strongmen.

Other U.S. officials wanted to engage the communist leadership. Truman's ambassador in Nanjing was a missionary and educator named John Leighton Stuart, who thought that Chinese and American cultures had much in common. U.S. interests in China, he argued, boiled down to saving souls and making money.

As Mao's armies marched across China, Stuart lobbied hard to begin a dialogue with the communist leadership. He met secretly with a former student who had become an important party official, hoping to open a line of communication. Mao encouraged the meetings, but he was more interested in gleaning intelligence about U.S. intentions than in genuine negotiations. Unable to convince either side to engage in meaningful talks, a despondent Stuart left



MAO ZEDONG in 1949.

and more like engineers.

"What the engineer has to do," Acheson explained, "is to understand the strength of materials at his disposal. He has to understand the limits of cost at his disposal, and he has to understand the limits of his objective. He does not start out to say, 'I will build a bridge which goes around the world.' There is no sense in that."

For Acheson, this meant recognizing that, in the short term, neither harassment nor engagement was likely to produce results. Instead, he argued, the U.S. would need to take "the long view," patiently waiting for the opportunity to drive a wedge between China and its communist rival, the Soviet Union.

Today the policy challenges are different, but the same logic holds: The China dilemma won't be solved in a day. Engagement is a good thing but won't necessarily succeed soon in squaring the interests of Washington and Beijing, especially on tricky problems like North Korea. Any progress is likely to come not from swagger or ham-handed intimidation but from quiet perseverance and measured management.

In practice, that includes managing the president. Acheson once compared the sometimes headstrong Truman to "a boy you tell not to stick peanuts up his nose, and the minute you turn around, there he is sticking peanuts up his nose." The secretary of state viewed one of his crucial jobs as reigning in the worst excesses of his impulsive boss. For today's diplomats too, no task is more important.

Mr. Peraino is the author, most recently, of "A Force So Swift: Mao, Truman, and the Birth of Modern China, 1949" (Crown), from which this essay is adapted.

REVIEW



PEP MONSERRAT

Amazon Takes Over The World

Jeff Bezos's company is poised to dominate—with what consequences?

BY SCOTT GALLOWAY

FOUR TECH GIANTS—Amazon, Apple, Facebook and Google—have added \$2 trillion to their combined market capitalization since the 2007-09 recession, a sum that approaches the GDP of India. The concentrated wealth and power of these companies has alarmed many observers, who see their growth as a threat not just to consumers and other businesses but to American society itself.

After spending most of the past decade researching these companies, I've come to the conclusion that our fears are misplaced in focusing on what I call the Four. We should instead be worrying about the One: one firm that will come to dominate search, hardware and cloud computing, that will control a vast network of far-flung businesses, that can ravage entire sectors of the economy simply by announcing its interest in them.

That firm is Amazon. Jeff Bezos has been disciplined and single-minded in his vision of investing in the most enduring consumer wants—price, convenience and selection. Coupled with deft execution, it has made Amazon the most impressive and feared firm in business.

As for the other three, don't be misled by their current successes. They are falling behind as the One marches ahead.

Google seems to have a commanding market position when it comes to search functions. As European Union regulators pointed out in their recent antitrust finding, Google has an astonishing 90% share in the category in Europe. Its share in the U.S. is 64%. But it's a very different story in the narrower, and more lucrative, domain of product search. In 2015, more product searches in the U.S. began on Amazon than on search engines, including Google (44% vs. 34%), according to BloomReach. A year later, Amazon's share grew to 55%. Amazon could reasonably be described as a search engine with a warehouse attached to it.

For years, Apple has been the undisputed king of hardware innovation. But the prize for the most disruptive recent device goes to the hands-free, voice-controlled Amazon Echo speaker and its buttery voice, Alexa. Research firm Gartner predicts that 30% of computing will be screenless by 2020. So far, Apple looks to have blown an early lead in the great voice race: With 700 million iPhones in use worldwide, Apple's Siri still has the most share in voice overall. But Amazon's share of voice on home devices—the next frontier—is 70%.

Today's fastest-growing sector in tech is cloud computing. There are several big play-

ers in the field, including old and new tech: IBM, Microsoft, Google. The dominant player again is Amazon, with a business launched originally to support its internal computing needs. According to Synergy Research Group, Amazon's cloud offering (called Amazon Web Services) enjoys more than 30% of the market, triple the share of the No. 2, Microsoft's Azure, and will register \$16 billion in revenue in 2017. Financial pundits, looking for something negative to say about Amazon's recent quarterly earnings, highlighted that growth in the company's cloud business had slowed to 43%. "Slowed to 43%" is not a phrase you read in any other equity analyst's write-up of a large company in 2017.

Amazon's consistent outperformance of the other three tech giants is distinct from its continued dominance of old-economy firms. With the acquisition of Whole Foods, Amazon will likely become the fastest-growing online and bricks-and-mortar retailer. The whole grocery sector—with \$612 billion in U.S. sales in 2016—has been disrupted

Boundless expansion based on avoiding both profits and taxes.

overnight by Amazon. In the months between the announcement and closing of Amazon's acquisition of Whole Foods this year, the largest pure-play grocer, Kroger, lost nearly a third of its market value.

The late business professor C.K. Prahalad of the University of Michigan famously argued that the most successful firms focus not on one market but on one "core competence." Amazon has proved otherwise. What Amazon has accomplished across industries is unprecedented, even among the most successful businesses. Nike does not have a cloud business; Starbucks is not developing original TV content; Wal-Mart has not filed patents for warehouses in the sky. Amazon has recently been granted patents for a floating warehouse and small drones that can self-assemble into bigger drones capable of transporting larger packages, reflecting the ability, one day, to operate intricate networks of fulfillment by air. Other firms are punished for straying from their familiar areas of strength; Amazon sucks value from sectors in which it has had no previous involvement just by glancing at them.

At New York University's business school, where I teach, I have for years kept a close watch on which firms are winning the competition for the most talented students. A decade ago, the top recruiter was American Express, with investment banks vying for

second position. Now the clear winner is Amazon: 12 students from my most recent class have opted for a life of rain and overrated coffee in the Pacific Northwest.

Why does Amazon's ascent matter? Aren't lower prices and greater efficiencies better for everyone? They are, in all the obvious ways, but that's not a complete picture. Amazon's seemingly boundless growth forces us to wrestle with difficult questions about the reasons for its dominance.

For one, Amazon, unlike any other firm its size, has changed the basic compact with financial markets. It has replaced the expectation for profits with a focus on vision and growth, managing its business to break even while investors bid up its stock price.

This radical approach has provided the company with a staggering advantage in free-flowing capital. Google, Facebook, Wal-Mart and most Fortune 500 companies are saddled with expectations of profits. Many firms would be much more innovative if they were given a license to operate without the nuisance of profitability. Amazon has thus had enormous capital on hand to invest in delivery networks, especially the crucial last link for getting goods to the doorsteps of consumers, without having to worry that they don't yield immediate profits.

Amazon's strategy of break-even operations also means that it has virtually no profits to tax. Since 2008, Wal-Mart has paid \$64 billion in federal income taxes, while Amazon has paid just \$1.4 billion. Yet, while paying low taxes, Amazon has added \$220 billion in value to the stock held by its shareholders over the past 24 months—equivalent to the entire market capitalization of Wal-Mart.

Something is deeply amiss when a company can ascend to almost a half trillion dollars in market value—becoming the fifth most valuable firm in the world—without paying any meaningful income tax. Does Amazon really owe so little to support public revenue and public needs? If a giant firm pays less than the average 24% in income taxes that the companies of the S&P 500 pay, it logically means that less-successful firms pay more. In this way, Amazon further adds to the winner-take-all tendencies plaguing our economy.

Because Amazon is more efficient than other retailers, it is able to transact the same amount of business with half the number of employees. If Amazon continues to grow its business by \$20 billion a year, the annual toll of lost jobs for merchants, buyers and cashiers will be in the tens of thousands by my calculations. Disruption in the U.S. labor force is nothing new—but we have never dealt with a company that is so ruthless and single-minded about it.

I recently spoke at a conference the day after Jeff Bezos. During his talk, he made the case for a universal guaranteed income for all Americans. It is tempting to admire his progressive values and concern for the public welfare, but there is a dark implication here too. It appears that the most insightful mind in the business world has given up on the notion that our economy, or his firm, can support that pillar of American identity: a well-paying job.

Amazon has brought us many benefits, but we all must recognize that the rise of the One brings with it much more than free two-day delivery. "Alexa, is this a good thing?"

Scott Galloway is a professor of marketing at the NYU Stern School of Business and the author of "The Four: The Hidden DNA of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google," to be published on Oct. 3 by Portfolio.



WILCZEK'S UNIVERSE: FRANK WILCZEK

All of Nature in A Few Equations

RECENTLY, I found a thought-provoking joke hiding in plain sight on my bookshelf. There, side by side, sat two of my favorite books—one skinny, one fat, like Laurel and Hardy. The slender one is "The Principle of Relativity," a collection of papers by Einstein and other great physicists. The hefty one is "Data Compression" by David Salomon.

Get it?

Maybe I should explain. "Data Compression" is a reference book full of recipes for extracting the essence of big data files and putting their contents into far smaller files. It shows you, for example, how to take a raw image, which may contain billions of bits of information, and turn it into a JPEG or PNG file. The compressed version can be thousands of times smaller yet still generate a usable picture. There are many data-compression tricks, so it's understandable that a comprehensive book on the subject would be a giant tome. Still, it's hard to resist looking at the thing and thinking, "Physician, heal thyself."

Its skinny shelfmate, "The Principle of Relativity," brings together 11 seminal physics papers—including Einstein's theories of special and general relativity, Hermann Minkowski's introduction of space-time and Hermann Weyl's concept of "gauge invariance"—which set the course of 20th-century physics. Yet all this and more fits comfortably in a book of 217 small pages, despite generous font sizes and margins. The universe in a nutshell—now, *that's* data compression.

Extreme data compression is what makes modern physics special. It has deep roots.

In the run-up to the scientific revolution of the 17th century, Francis Bacon proposed the then-radical doctrine that to understand the world, one should study the world (as opposed to relying on tradition or sacred texts). That was a promising insight, but Bacon's actual work was a haphazard collection of causal observations. We might call it the big-data method. It didn't take physics far.

Meanwhile, such thinkers as Kepler and Galileo were making detailed studies of planetary and terrestrial motion. From their precise, quantitative observations, they distilled physical laws, expressed as mathematical equations, and checked them through further applications. We might call this the crucial-experiment method. It worked amazingly well, and has produced the science and technology of the modern world.

The big question is why the universe can be summed up so neatly.

successful equations for these forces constitute what I call the Core Theory. They fit comfortably on a T-shirt, but they provide a full, well-tested foundation for chemistry, astrophysics, engineering, elementary particle physics and a lot of cosmology. But four forces are more than one, so we're still trying to compress things further.

Compressing data is only half the story, of course. We must also be able to get useful information back out. Solving the Core Theory's equations to predict, for example, the structure of large molecules, is hopelessly time-consuming. Quantum computers may change that picture someday, but for now, experimental chemists are still in business, even though we have equations that could do their work.

In other fields, such as economics, crucial experiments are hard to come by, and big data rules. Here the goal is to form a compressed representation of the data that humans can understand. But that isn't always possible. Some data, such as long strings of random numbers, can't be compressed: Such a string has no description shorter than itself.

A last great question flows from the pairing on my bookshelf: *Why is a hyper-compressed description of the universe's operating system possible?* That question brings us to the borders of philosophy—or beyond, into theology.



TOMASZ WALENTA

REVIEW



Let's Agree on An Age To Retire

Current rules hurt firms and employees at every career stage

BY SAUL LEVMORE
AND MARTHA NUSSBAUM

WE MARVEL at the continuing energy of octogenarians such as Warren Buffett, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Clint Eastwood, but let's face it: Few 80-year-olds are as good at their jobs as they were in their 50s.

In most workplaces, wages rise with seniority, but productivity does not. In the U.S., after many years of a declining retirement age, the average worker is now retiring later, which means that there are fewer jobs for young people. Given the added fact that mandatory retirement and age discrimination are illegal, employers hesitate to hire middle-aged workers, who may stay on the job long after their pay has exceeded their productivity.

What to do about these cross-generational problems? A relatively simple set of reforms could help American businesses and workers at the same time. These would include a relaxation of age-discrimination laws, so that contracts could require workers to retire at 65 or older, and a reduction in Social Security benefits for well-paid older employees who decide to keep working.

Retirees in the U.S. can maximize their Social Security benefits by retiring around the age of 68, but some workers are induced to retire

earlier. Their employer or union makes it irresistible through a "defined-benefit" pension plan, which provides a set annual payout, usually based on the salary earned in their final years of employment.

Virtually all such plans encourage timely retirement by requiring contributions from those who continue to work and reducing their benefits if they stay on the job past a certain age. By design, most workers find it economical to retire by 60.

Defined-benefit plans were once ubiquitous in the U.S., but they now comprise about 15% of private-sector pensions, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Over time, these plans became unattractive to employers, who were reluctant to take on the risk of guaranteeing investment returns and who were eventually put off by the legal constraints placed

on them to prevent various abuses. In place of defined-benefit plans, the new standard has become individual retirement accounts or defined-contribution plans, in which the employer provides tax-favored contributions but bears no responsibility for investment returns.

These new retirement plans have taken away the ability of employers to influence the age at which workers retire. The employer is properly concerned that any encouragement to retire will be interpreted as discrimination on the basis of age. The recent increase in

the median U.S. retirement age is an unintended consequence of the shift from defined-benefit plans to defined-contribution plans (or to no plan at all).

Employers today have few options for managing these issues. Antidiscrimination law makes it risky for them to encourage retirement. The law tolerates golden handshakes or other incentives for employees who agree to retire within

two or three years, but even these must be structured carefully to avoid litigation based on a claim of age discrimination.

One way forward would be to amend current law to allow employers and employees to agree on a retirement age at the start of a new job. The contract could specify that, after a certain age, the employee could be terminated without cause.

Such a change would be a help to more than just younger workers. It would also subtly redirect age-discrimination law to help job applicants in their 50s and early 60s, because employers would know that these employees could not simply stay on the job forever.

This reform could reshape the labor market over several decades,

but more immediate solutions are needed for the short run. One effective change in incentives would be to reduce Social Security benefits for any beneficiary with more than \$75,000 a year in earned income. A worker entitled to full retirement benefits at 66 who continues in a relatively high-paying job might, for example, lose \$5,000 in Social Security a year.

For higher earners, the penalties could be even steeper. After age 76, an employee who makes, say, \$200,000 a year and chooses to continue working full time would stop receiving Social Security benefits altogether. The benefits would start up again only at retirement.

Age discrimination in the U.S. is a serious problem, and we don't mean to underestimate it. But we can do better than the current system, which harms not just businesses and younger workers but also older people eager to find employment with companies that now look upon them as a potentially risky burden.

The writers teach at the University of Chicago Law School and are the co-authors of "Aging Thoughtfully: Conversations About Retirement, Romance, Wrinkles, and Regret," out Nov. 1 from Oxford University Press.

Hiring older workers is now too big a business risk.

WORD ON THE STREET: BEN ZIMMER

The Pointed Origins of The 'Shiv'

IN HILLARY CLINTON'S new campaign memoir, "What Happened," she uses a vivid bit of underworld slang to describe how she felt about the FBI's investigation into her private email server last year, which dominated headlines in advance of the November election.

After the voting, writes the 2016 Democratic nominee, "it wasn't healthy or productive to dwell on the ways I felt I'd been shived by then-FBI Director Jim Comey—three times over the final five months of the campaign."

By saying she felt "shived," Mrs. Clinton conjures up an image of getting knifed, as if in a back-alley brawl, leaving her seriously injured (at least in political terms). "Shiv" has a long history in American slang—both as a noun, for a knife or some similar weapon, and as a verb, for the act of cutting or stabbing someone.

"Shiv," in turn, is related to an earlier British slang term for a knife, spelled "chiv" or "chive." That term dates back to 17th-century thieves' jargon, which was known as "cant."

In "The Canting Academy, or the Devil's Cabinet Opened," published in 1673 by Richard Head, one "canting song" attributed to London's criminal crew includes the line, "He takes his Chive and cuts us down, and tips us into the hole."

Many cant terms are believed to come from Anglo-Romani, the Gypsy language that combined English with Romani, an Indic language with roots in Sanskrit. For instance, our modern usage of "pal" as a word for a friend comes from the Anglo-Romani word "phal," meaning "brother" or "mate." In the case of "chiv," the Romani root may have been "chivomengro," another word for a knife.

The American version, "shiv," shows up as early as 1897, in an account of the peripatetic life of

A 17th-century British slang term for a knife.

hoboes written by Jack London, before he found fame as a novelist. "Shiv" meaning "knife" shows up alongside other hobo argot, such as "gat" for "gun." In other sources, a "shiv" was defined more specifically as a makeshift blade that might be improvised by a prison inmate.

Damon Runyon, a keen observer of urban slang and street life, used "shiv" as a verb in a 1932 story, "Dream Street Rose." One disreputable character, he wrote, "gets religion before he dies from being shived by Johnny Mizzoo."

Later, "getting shived" took on the more figurative meaning of being harmed, typically in some underhanded way. In a 1974 congressional hearing on petroleum prices, Rep. Leo Ryan, a Democrat from California, said, "I think the American people feel that they have been shived and pushed and shoved and cheated by the oil companies of this country, and they expect the federal government to do something about it."

The word has even been used in the context of one of Mrs. Clinton's previous campaigns. A Politico article about her 2008 Democratic primary battle against then-Sen. Barack Obama described some nasty infighting among her team. The story quoted an anonymous staffer as saying, "At headquarters, we were all just worried about getting shived in the shower." Perhaps this colorful remark put "shived" in Mrs. Clinton's lexicon.

Answers
To the News Quiz on page C13:
**1.B, 2.B, 3.D, 4.C, 5.D, 6.A, 7.D,
8.C, 9.B**

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Field of Play

Zack Granite, Byron Buxton and Max Kepler of the Minnesota Twins celebrated after their team's 12-1 win over the Detroit Tigers at Comerica Park in Detroit on Thursday night.

BOOKS

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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Of Arms and the Man

Virgil: *The Aeneid*

Translated by David Ferry
Chicago, 416 pages, \$35

BY WILLARD SPIEGELMAN

'HOMER MAKES US HEARERS, and Virgil leaves us readers." Thus, Alexander Pope, three centuries ago. He was right. With their oral formulas and their re-creation of a distant world partly historical and partly mythic, Homer's poems set a precedent for all later, written epics. The "Aeneid," Virgil's paean to Augustus and the Roman Empire, appeared after its author's death, in 19 B.C. It is the greatest testimony of one writer to another, echoing Homer on every page. It must be read and heard. And it speaks to us.

The "Aeneid" is also the first nationalistic epic, a story of origins and destinies. Aware of the emperor's political achievements and Roman feats of civil engineering, Virgil wanted to praise Augustus for his accomplishments. But his real subject was the past: the fall of Troy, the founding of Rome. He had a film director's eye for pageantry and plumage, and a novelist's sympathy for his characters.

Virgil's reputation as seer as well as propagandist held sway for centuries. To early Christians, he was a "naturally Christian soul." To Dante, he was *duca, signore, maestro*, the pagan who knew almost everything. For 19th-century English schoolboys, reading him was a lesson in duty, grandeur and piety suitable for future world leaders. In 1944, T.S. Eliot called the "Aeneid" "the classic of all Europe," locating Virgil at the heart of European civilization.

Why? For one thing, Rome had become the "Eternal City." For another, Aeneas seems in many ways a modern man. Homer's heroes lack the sense of national destiny, of teleology, that fills Virgil's poem. Weighed down by psychological as well as cosmic forces, Aeneas has a deeper self-consciousness than Achilles. Like his author, he is aware of the cost of heroism and statehood. Sadness and regret are the inevitable price of empire building.

Do we need, in 2017, another version of the "Aeneid," after recent translations by Allen Mandelbaum (1971), Robert Fitzgerald (1983), and, in the new millennium, Robert Fagles (2006) and Sarah Ruden (2008)? If it comes from the hand of David Ferry, one of America's few great working nonagenarian poets, the answer is a resounding yes.

But as the scholar Richard Bentley said to Pope after reading his magisterial "Iliad," "It is a pretty poem . . . but you must not call it Homer." So we shall call this work not Virgil's "Aeneid" but Mr. Ferry's, acknowledging



HERO'S BURDEN A 19th-century French lithograph, inspired by imagery on a Greek vase, depicts Aeneas bearing his father on his back during the flight from Troy.

ing that all translations are of their time, and each is an act of interpretation, a new take on a precursor text. Mr. Ferry's "Aeneid" is the logical culmination of an extended Virgilian project. His excellent translations of the "Eclogues" (1999) and "Georgics" (2005) appeared in bilingual editions that allowed readers to brush up on their Latin, if they had any, or at least glance from one page of the spread to the other to see what Latin poetry looks and sounds like.

Mr. Ferry's "Aeneid" lacks the *en face* original. But this volume has a greater problem than the absence of Latin: It forgoes all annotation. It contains neither minimal notes nor a glossary of characters—their identities, clues about how to pronounce their names—nor any information about Greco-Roman deities or Roman history. A first-time reader must rely entirely on the power of Mr. Ferry's poetry and the inherent grandeur of Virgil's story. That reader might make out phrases like the patronymic "Aeneas Anchisiades," or know that "the Mother, / The Berecynthian Goddess" means Cybele, but perhaps it is not necessary to do more than absorb the music and keep moving forward.

The late Robert Fagles praised

Virgil's "unequalled blend of grandeur and accessibility." Mr. Ferry's poem has stateliness often encased in easy 21st-century diction. This helps make his Virgil our contemporary. His "Aeneid" is readable, even page-turning. Virgil's *impulit* becomes "bashes," and *vestem*, "shirt." During the fall of Troy, Panthus tells Aeneas "the Tro-

Mr. Ferry's poetry moves seamlessly between the colloquial and the noble, nowhere more powerfully than in the second half of the poem, when the Trojans arrive in Italy and take what Fate has decreed their destiny. Alliances, truces made and broken, the interference of the gods and, most of all, the "beauty of glory and death"

A great American poet renders the 'Aeneid' into an English that moves seamlessly between the colloquial and the noble. He makes Virgil our contemporary.

jans are finished." Even grammar turns easygoing: "But who is that who from afar we see?" Words like "guest-house" and "wagged" appear. Turnus accuses Drances of "talking away with your famous windbag blather." Tarchon rallies his troops: "What are you so afraid of, you so-called soldiers, / You no-good, hang-back, half-ass Etruscans?" At the end Jupiter shuts Juno up once and for all: "I forbid you to try anymore. Enough is enough." And when Aeneas defeats Turnus he tells him: "Now get it together, the time has come."

fill out these six books, combining the politics of empire building, and the horn-tooting patriotism Augustus expected from Virgil, with domestic soap opera and a Hollywood-worthy blood-and-guts panorama of parades and warfare. Through rhythms and the music of words, Mr. Ferry endows even slaughter with mellifluousness.

It's impossible not to make comparisons among the recent translations, all of which have distinctive virtues. Sarah Ruden took upon herself the Herculean task of translating Virgil line-by-line, in iambic pentame-

ter, the normative rhythm of English verse, as dactylic hexameter is of ancient epic. Fagles wrote in freer verse, with a usually six-beat line. Mr. Ferry favors a still looser, five-beat line, not always strictly iambic. Latin and Greek are compact languages, denser than English. Numbers are indicative: Whereas Ms. Ruden matches Virgil exactly, Fagles uses more lines and Mr. Ferry, the least concise of the three, adds hundreds of lines to Virgil's count of 9,896. But the main challenge for any translator is to remain true to Virgil without wrenching him into archaism or stiffness. In general, Mr. Ferry succeeds. He knows how to enlarge, elegantly. He also takes considerable liberties.

Consider one of Virgil's famous touchstones: *Forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit*. Aeneas is comforting his battered troops as they make their way across the Mediterranean. In 1697, John Dryden offered a stately heroic couplet: "An hour will come, with pleasure to relate / Your sorrows past, as benefits of Fate." Ms. Ruden gets Virgil's condensation: "Sometime you may recall today with pleasure." Fagles uses a halting rhythm: "A joy it will be one day, perhaps, to remember

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The Genius of the Modern Age

Goethe: *Life as a Work of Art*

By Rüdiger Safranski

Liveright, 651 pages, \$35

BY JEFFREY COLLINS

IN THE AUTUMN of 1792, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe went to war against France in the service of a coalition of German armies. The war aimed to protect the monarchs of old Europe from the menace of the French

Like Shakespeare, Goethe was a world-soul. His life was a remarkable event in German intellectual history.

Revolution. On Sept. 20, outside the village of Valmy in northeastern France, the Germans suffered an astonishing defeat at the hands of the French forces. The battle saved the Revolution, and four months later Louis XVI was guillotined. In the midst of the German retreat, Goethe marked the passing of the ancien régime. "Here and today," he told his companions, "begins a new era in world history, and you can say that you were there."

The remark might serve as a life-long motto for Goethe himself. "I was there." He was born, in 1749, in a Europe dominated by throne and altar. Before his death in 1832 he had witnessed the French Revolution, Napoleon's rise and fall, the demise of the millennium-old Holy Roman Empire, the onset of the Enlightenment, and the arrival of the Romantic era and the industrial age. His life, in short, spanned the birth of the modern world.

And of course Goethe didn't merely watch history sweep by, as his contemporary Kant did, cloistered in his study. Goethe was a man of ceaseless activity, with an astounding range of associates. Herder, Humboldt and Schiller were his intimate friends. He debated philosophy with Hegel and science with the young Schopenhauer. As a young man himself, he heard Mozart perform; as an old one he heard Beethoven. He watched Marie Antoinette process through Strasbourg on her way to marry the future Louis XVI. Fifteen years after she was

executed, he had an audience with the Emperor Napoleon. Through it all, Goethe wrote plays, novels, essays, poems, scientific works, memoirs and thousands of letters. In the European

Goethe's verse, so important to any discussion of his legacy, are difficult to convey outside the original German. English readers thus owe a debt to Rüdiger Safranski for his captivating

"Goethe: Life as a Work of Art" and to David Dollenmayer for an excellent translation of both the author's prose and his subject's poetry.

Mr. Safranski is a highly regarded biographer of German subjects, from Heidegger to Nietzsche. His forte is philosophy, and he is skilled at presenting difficult thinkers accessibly without sacrificing subtlety. "Goethe," he writes, sounding his overarching theme, "was a remarkable event in German intellectual history."

Urged by his wealthy and affectionate parents, Goethe briefly pursued a legal career, learning, he quipped, the "subtleties" by which lawyers "have made right and wrong fairly similar." He soon abandoned law for literature. In 1775 he was invited to join the court of Karl August in the German duchy of Weimar. He would remain there

throughout the grand duke's half century of rule, serving as a traveling (and drinking) companion and eventually as a counselor.

But Goethe's claim on posterity is literary. He started with lyric poetry and drama. His earliest success was a historical tragedy with Shakespearean aspirations, "Götz von Berlichingen." This was the story of an impetuous Reformation-era knight, "a rough-hewn, well-meaning, and self-sufficient individual in a wild, anarchic time," as Goethe put it. The play anticipated the 19th-century cult of the "great man" and stirred the public's Teutonic imagination. Herder thought it full of "German strength, depth, and truth." Walter Scott produced a loose English translation.

Goethe's next work became a sensation. "The Sorrows of Young Werther," an epistolary novel, detailed the psychological immiseration of an introspective artist tormented by his doomed role in a love triangle. The work culminated with its hero shooting himself. This vividly pathetic denouement made "Werther" wildly popular. Napoleon carried it with him while campaigning in Egypt. Dubious rumors reported suicides found with copies of the book on their corpses.

Goethe's second novel, "Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship," appeared in 1795. It told the tale of a disillusioned

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HE WAS THERE Goethe in 1786, by J.H.W. Tischbein.

canon he ranks with Dante, Pushkin and Shakespeare.

This combination of experience and achievement makes Goethe an ideal biographical subject. English-language efforts, however, have often been dryly academic, and the meter and rhyme of

BOOKS

'I have these vocal cords. They have vibrated with the love of sound since I was five and began to sing with the sense of God's gift running through me.' —Art Garfunkel

Angel-Headed Songbird

What Is It All but Luminous

By Art Garfunkel

Knopf, 241 pages, \$27.95

BY WILL FRIEDWALD

'WHAT IS IT ALL but Luminous," Art Garfunkel's short book of reflections on his life, is often self-consciously arty (no pun intended), but it is never as self-glorifying as it might be. Mr. Garfunkel, for instance, never comes right out and states the obvious, that Simon & Garfunkel—the act that he has been half of, off and on, for more than 60 years—was one of the groups that defined the 1960s. Between Paul Simon's songwriting and Mr. Garfunkel's skill at weaving his tenor into vocal harmonies, they have eclipsed even their original inspiration, the Everly Brothers, as the most celebrated pop music duo of all time.

Mr. Garfunkel never comes across as defensive, in the sense that he doesn't feel the urge to directly tell us, "Well, you may know me as half of Simon & Garfunkel, but here's all the other stuff I've done." That "other stuff" would include at least nine mostly successful solo albums and roughly a dozen movie roles, starting with 1970's "Catch-22" and 1971's "Carnal Knowledge." But then, in this book Mr. Garfunkel doesn't do anything in a straightforward fashion. "What Is It All but Luminous" is subtitled "Notes From an Undergrund Man," indicating that he doesn't think of it as a memoir, an autobiography, or even a "life." The term "notes" may come close, but it's hard to imagine any single word that would accurately describe this book.

Mr. Garfunkel apparently decided it would have been too easy to simply set down his life story in the order that it happened, but he does want to tell us how he felt about everything. This he does through a series of diary entries, snatches of poetry, and innumerable lists—everything but conventional narrative. The overall approach brings to mind Gonzo in "The Muppet Movie": He announces that he's going to India to become a movie star, and when Fozzie asks why he doesn't just go to Hollywood, he responds



ASSOCIATED PRESS
SOLO Art Garfunkel, 1965.

dismissively, "Sure, if you want to do it the easy way!"

Mr. Garfunkel is possibly under the impression that everybody already knows his story: how two

An artful memoir-in-notes that reads nothing like the standard-issue rock 'n' roll tell-all.

music-loving Jewish boys met in the sixth grade at Public School 164 in Flushing, Queens, in 1953; became hooked on the Everly Brothers and other early rock groups; and eventually created their own hit single together, "Hey Schoolgirl" (released under the performer names "Tom and Jerry"). Art Garfunkel and Paul Simon then went their separate ways

(not for the last time) but reunited in time to become one of the signature acts of the folk-rock movement, creating a string of iconic albums and No. 1 singles in the process.

As sketchy and indirect as Mr. Garfunkel's approach to his own story may be, the result is an entertaining volume that's more fun to read than a conventional memoir might have been. His verse is often delightfully playful and surprisingly engaging. Talking about his second marriage, he writes:

I am Mr. Mickey Mouse and she's my Minnie Mouse.
Around the house she's Mighty Mouse.
O mounted spouse divine,
O scintillant Mouse be mine.

A great deal of the text is presented in a kind of free verse, somewhere in-between prose and poetry.

There's no discernible chronology, although more early anecdotes are found at the beginning and more recent thoughts, like reflections on what it feels like to be a 75-year-old pop idol, come at the end. Mr. Garfunkel is not afraid to reveal his thoughts about significant events in his life, including the suicide of Laurie Bird, his partner during the 1970s. More cheerfully, he writes about what it was like for him to become a father relatively late in life. Then there are those lists: lists of books he's read (most are rather highbrow, but "Fifty Shades of Grey" also made the cut), lists of the songs on his iPod, lists of reasons why he's "in awe of my wife."

Mr. Garfunkel has nothing but praise, none of it sticky or sentimental, for his intermittent partner, Mr. Simon. It's well known that they've had their disagreements over the decades, and even from this account it's clear that they were never meant to be a permanent partnership. But that doesn't take away from the music they created together. "To me it comes down to this," he says, quoting his acceptance speech from the Grammy ceremony in 2003, when the duo was given the lifetime achievement award: "One and one can coexist, or add up to two, or in our case, they can affect each other like electric energy." This book also contains a moving appreciation of another of Mr. Garfunkel's contemporaries, the singer-songwriter James Taylor: "James's accuracy of pitch is like a trader's honesty. To me, it has always been paramount in singing. There is an illuminating love of living things—all of them here on earth—that lies within the tenderness of his line readings."

In other words, "What Is It All but Luminous" is filled with more kind words than score-settling—another way in which it sets itself apart from the conventional rock 'n' roll memoir. Certainly there are few artists who can look back in contentment at a career that has spanned so many decades: What other singer (save Paul Simon) who landed his first hit in 1957 is still active today?

Mr. Friedwald's latest book, *"The Great Jazz and Pop Vocal Albums,"* will be published next month.

The Life of Goethe

Continued from page C5

young businessman seeking meaning from the theater, from love affairs and from secret societies. Widely read and imitated, the book became the prototype of the Bildungsroman, a novel narrating the spiritual and moral formation of its protagonist. A sequel appeared in 1821. Goethe's magnum opus was the two-part stage tragedy "Faust" (1806, 1831), a philosophically rich story, laden with allegory, of a scholar who sells his soul to the devil.

The stylistic variety of Goethe's major works can defeat cohesive interpretation, but the broadly versed Mr. Safranski achieves a comprehensive account. Goethe emerges as a loyal son of the Enlightenment who resisted many features of the Romantic movement that would supplant it in the early 19th century. This was true both politically and philosophically.

Politically, Goethe rejected radical democracy. He resented appeals to the "folk" and the German nationalism cultivated after the Napoleonic conquest. Enlightened despotism was his preferred model of statecraft. As Diderot counseled Catherine the Great, so Goethe counseled Karl August. The French Revolution, he argued, represented a natural disaster, a "great river" flooding its banks: "Those who saw it coming perish therein as well as those who had no idea." Goethe admired the hierarchical order of Bonapartism. He shocked patriotic friends by rebuking their hostility to "my emperor." "Rattle your chains as you will, the man is too great for you," Goethe said of Napoleon. The emperor reciprocated by awarding him the order of the Légion d'Honneur.

"The Sorrows of Young Werther" was an ambivalent Enlightenment-era production. Many philosophers of the period, looking to soften the mechanistic rationalism of forebears such as Hobbes and Descartes, affirmed feeling as a foundation for morality and sociability. The claim also shaped literature, particularly in England, where the melancholic style enjoyed a vogue. Death scenes, brooding characters and weeping protagonists proliferated. In a way, Goethe brought

sentimentalism to Germany, but parts of "Werther" satirized the style, which tended to reduce honest sentiment to a treacly sentimentality. Goethe was generally incapable of bathos.

Religiously, Goethe was a radical. Like the *philosophes*, he hated priests more than kings. Devoted to the materialist philosopher Spinoza, he regarded himself too highly to be a Christian. "I follow my sentiments in freedom," he wrote, "and know as little of restriction as of repentance."

There was a lot in Goethe of Voltaire. Both hated the church and flattened monarchs. Both, paradoxically, feared the masses but relished popularity. Meanwhile, Goethe's hostile attitude toward Christianity recalled Edward Gibbon, a contemporary.

When combined with the heroic individualism of the era, the worship of art could make artists into prophets. "When genius became a synonym for the creative person or for human creativity," Mr. Safranski notes, "it was inevitable that not only the work of art but, through and beyond the work, the person who created it would become interesting. The cult of the star author began with Goethe."

Naturally charismatic and something of an egoist, Goethe possessed a disposition suited to this role. He became the Beethoven of writers, a

Naturally charismatic and something of an egoist, Goethe was the first star writer, a celebrated artistic genius conjuring meaning for a disenchanted world.

Goethe's controversial ballad "The Bride of Corinth" (1797) told the story of a young Athenian who discovers that his betrothed and her family have converted to an austere Christianity. The poem laments their lost paganism—their abandonment of "the old gods, that bright and jocund train," for the sake of "a Saviour slain."

Goethe inhabited the cultural milieu created by the luminaries of his youth, but no man escapes the spirit of his time, and Goethe also came to embody features of 19th-century culture. Like many thinkers of the age, he sought to replace the communal Christian ethic with transcendent art and authentic individual creativity. Literature, Mr. Safranski writes, was for him "an island of significance in the sea of inchoate contingency that Goethe dreaded."

Together with Schiller, Goethe espoused the "autonomy of art" in a world stripped of divinity. "Like the world as a whole," explains Mr. Safranski, "art is defined by the fact that it is not subordinate, not useful, not tied to a purpose. It is a rich but

celebrated artistic "genius" conjuring meaning for a disenchanted world. As a poet, he wrote, one stands "boldly in your chariot with four fresh horses rearing wildly against your reins, and you discipline their power, whipping the errant ones into line and the rearing ones down to earth, and you drive and steer them, turning, whipping, stopping, and driving forward again, until all sixteen hooves carry you to the finish in a single rhythm—that is mastery." There was nothing "natural" about literature, Goethe believed. Art imposed form on a universe of mere matter and necessity. All of Goethe's works are thus full of formal devices: meter, rhyme, symbol, allegory.

Goethe's notion of art as a source of earthly transcendence in a godless world has become something of a banality. But even Goethe found the patterns of Christianity difficult to escape. His masterwork, after all, dramatized the condition of the Christian man, half bestial and half divine, drawn heavenward and hell-ward.

Mr. Safranski's narrative concludes with a splendid chapter of literary

criticism on "Faust." Mephisto bets God (and then Faust) that he can lure Faust away from metaphysical yearning by making him a pure creature of earthly appetite. God avows that it will be impossible "to alienate Faust from his spiritual primal source and extinguish the light of heaven within him." Faust himself desires the secrets of nature and pledges his soul if he is satisfied. Mephisto intends to satiate and thus enslave Faust with mere tangible pleasures.

This triumphant carnality, in Mr. Safranski's view, is "the proprietary secret of modernism." Spiritual endeavor is translated into a desire for conquest—a need to subdue the earth and command nature. "Faust," Mr. Safranski demonstrates, uncannily presaged the ethical predicaments of late modernity: empire and war, media propaganda, genetic manipulation, insatiable consumption. In Goethe's play, Faust seemingly finds an ambiguous redemption, but the modern condition remains a dystopia suggesting the futility of all things.

Mr. Safranski reads "Faust" against the paradoxes of Goethe's own historical position. He was a post-Christian figure enthralled by enlightenment progress who nevertheless feared the coming civilization of utility and philistinism. Where, in a universe of pointless entropy, is there space for the artist as prophetic genius? Does literature provide anything more than the illusion of meaning or, as Mr. Safranski puts it, a "beautiful irrelevancy"? In the figure of Faust, Goethe raised the haunting possibility that even the grand endeavors of artistic and scientific achievement—now conceived of as purely human—might themselves succumb to barbarism.

Art and science were Goethe's only gods. Whether they would survive a culture in which man, like Faust, "instead of transcending the world . . . merges obsessively with it"—as Mr. Safranski puts it near the end of his splendid biography—was a question Goethe did not resolve.

Mr. Collins is a professor of history at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

Virgil's 'Aeneid'

Continued from page C5

even this." And Mr. Ferry injects something like bonhomie: "Perhaps there will come a time / When you will remember these troubles with a smile."

Another Virgilian touchstone is Aeneas's complex response to seeing his own story represented on the rising walls of Carthage when he lands there in Book 1. Virgil sounds his famous note of sadness: *Sunt lacrimae rerum, et mentem mortalia tangunt* (roughly, "Here are the tears of things, and mortal concerns touch the mind"). Mr. Ferry amplifies the sadness: "These are the tears of things for what they were, / And what has become of them; the story of / The mortality of men strikes to the heart." Virgil uses seven words; to modernize and "Americanize" him, Mr. Ferry needs 27.

The agents of history seldom know the results of their actions. Even a hero can have doubts and ignorance. Aeneas famously leaves the Underworld—where his father shows him a foretaste of Roman greatness—via the gate of false dreams rather than that of true ones, because he cannot understand what for him is the future, but for the audience is the past. In Book 8, Vulcan forges for Aeneas a new set of armor, depicting characters and scenes from recent history, like Antony and Cleopatra, and their defeat by Augustus. Our hero lifts up his shield. The book

Virgil's ancient themes—fate, duty, piety, futility, manliness—still resonate with a modern audience.

ends: "These were the scenes on the shield which Vulcan made, / His mother's gift for Aeneas to wonder at, / Admiringly. Although he did not know / The meaning of what he saw, he took upon / His shoulders the fame and fate of his descendants."

Fate resonates throughout the poem, along with concepts like duty, piety, manliness and futility, all of which a modern audience can appreciate. Aeneas has been fated, indeed forced, to reach Italy. He tells Dido when he leaves her, "*Italiam non sponte sequor*" ("I go not to Italy of my own free will"). When he contemplates killing Helen of Sparta for having caused the Trojan War, Venus (with a little help from Christopher Marlowe) stops him: "It is the gods who bring / This wealth and power down and burn the topless / Towers of Ilium." Later, Aeneas says the Trojans have arrived in Italy "only because the Fates have told us / That this is where we must come, to find our home."

This imperial enterprise sounds like "Manifest Destiny." Virgil reaffirms Homer's songs of carnage, warfare and brute machismo, giving them a modern slant, but his hero has his doubts and is often reluctant and unhappy. Before he kills Turnus in single combat, Aeneas hesitates, almost giving in to pity. When he sees the belt of Pallas, a young Arcadian ally, on his foe's armor, "the terrible savage rage / [Rises] up in him" and he plunges his sword in, claiming "It is Pallas / Who drives this home!" Virgil everywhere complicates the idea of personal responsibility.

POLITICALLY, there are greater complications. Juno finally accedes to fate, and the will of Jupiter, but she makes demands. She will allow the Trojans to take charge in Italy only if they give up their old culture and become absorbed as newcomers into the native population. Trojans no longer, they will be "submerged into / The one race and its language." This is why ancient Romans spoke Latin, not some equivalent of "Trojan." Issues of immigration and melting pots were as alive in the ancient world as they are today.

In his brief introduction, Mr. Ferry says he's in love with Virgil's voice. He channels it into many registers, none more appropriate than the lyric one, as in the death of the youthful Euryalus: "It was as when a scarlet / Flower, say, falls gracefully to the earth, / When the tooth of a plow has suddenly cut its stem, / Or as it is when a poppy flower falls, / Under the weight of a sudden summer rain-storm, / Bringing it down." The tears of things enhance their beauty.

Mr. Spiegelman is the author of several collections of personal and literary essays, including "Seven Pleasures" and "Senior Moments."

BOOKS

'We must plant the sea and herd its animals . . . That is what civilization is all about—farming replacing hunting.' —Jacques Cousteau

What the Land Owes to the Sea

**Fishing:
How the Sea Fed Civilization**
By Brian Fagan
Yale, 346 pages, \$30

BY RICHARD ADAMS CAREY

MANY DENIED that there was anything wrong, insisting that what appeared to be problematic was just part of a natural fluctuation, independent of any human agency. If regulations were imposed, they were trumped by rising demand and the powerful interests who profited thereby.

Any resemblance between the debate over recent centuries about our dwindling fisheries and the matter of global warming today is not so coincidental in Brian Fagan's "Fishing: How the Sea Fed Civilization." In fact, the climate, its fluctuations over the millennia and concomitant changes in sea level, have played an underappreciated role, Mr. Fagan says, in the blossoming of fisheries in certain places and times, their extinction in others.

But over the ages nothing has been so constant in these extinctions as human ingenuity and—wherever fishing rises from a subsistence to a commercial enterprise—the profit motive.

The subtitle of "Fishing" rather misleads: Mr. Fagan, an archaeological writer and emeritus professor at U.C. Santa Barbara, devotes nearly half this book to the way fishing was practiced for hundreds of thousands of years in subsistence cultures around the world, beginning with pre-Neanderthal hominids trapping catfish in shallow pools or shrinking rivers. He goes on to survey ancient fishing practices in the East and the West, the Old World and the New, and then the rise and fall of civilizations, the ascendancy of commerce, and such contemporary tools as lines 60 miles long bearing 30,000 baited hooks.

Along the way we find that fishing not only sustained ancient empires and modern nations to a degree we may not have grasped before—the pyramids of Giza, Mr. Fagan notes, could not have been built without hundreds of workers processing thousands of Nile fish each day, both fresh and dried, for laborers—but nurtured them as well.

The cooperative nature of fishing, wherever catches were rich and stable, fostered complex and hierarchical communities long before cities arose. The technologies of boat-building and seamanship seeded exploration. Shells, beads and dried or salted fish sustained long-distance trade networks, and even today, Mr. Fagan writes, fish are "the most traded commodity in the world." And of course preserved fish—nutritious,



BOUNTY A fisherwoman in Shenzhen, China, spreading fish out to dry earlier this month.

lightweight, long-lasting—were the primary fuel of merchant fleets, navies and conquering armies.

No coincidence, then, that civilizations flourished along seacoasts or river systems, and yet we conceive of civilization as primarily an agricultural phenomenon, and we celebrate the farmer as its founder and culture hero. By contrast, fishermen, writes Mr. Fagan, "lived at the obscure margins of society, anonymous, hard-working, and laconic, and largely outside the dramas that interest historians."

An increasingly important overlap between farming and fishing, however, exists in the practice of aquaculture, which is nearly as old as farming, dating back to the Chinese domestication of Amur carp as early as 3500 B.C. The Romans elevated aquaculture to a high art, and indeed "only [farmed fish] could provide the yields needed to feed the growing population." Today Asia is in the forefront again. People there have annually produced more farmed fish than wild since 2008.

Otherwise fish remain our last wild food resource, our sole surviving forager's link to an undomesticated world. Mr. Fagan rightly finds it remarkable that through so many thousands of years the basic technology of fishing—hook, line, net—remained unchanged. These tools were sufficient to destroy several fisher-

ies, most notably the great North Atlantic herring fishery in the 18th century, and to seriously deplete Atlantic cod stocks. These depredations were aided, Mr. Fagan notes, by phenomena like the North Atlantic Oscillation, a century-scale variation in atmospheric pressure that caused the herring fishery to "literally appear and disappear."

they were sooner or later overridden.

Throughout history (and prehistory) the answer to an extinct fishery has been movement: of villages to new locations, or boats to different bodies of water. Of course cities are less portable, as rising sea levels will likely demonstrate. And the last century's industrialization of fishing, in which a host of new technologies

Cooperation among fishermen fostered complex communities. Boat-building seeded exploration. Shells, beads and fish sustained trade networks.

In the West, Christian dogma had defined all creatures as there for the convenience and utility of humanity, and the Catholic Church's frequent fast days, where the consumption of meat was proscribed, ensured a constant demand for fish. This made the myth that the sea was inexhaustible—or better yet, that intensive fishing improved and enhanced fish stocks—a more comfortable idea than finitude. Fishers knew better, but these marginalized folk were generally ignored. On rare occasions when restraints were imposed—in 1668 the Massachusetts Bay Colony, for example, banned cod fishing during the winter spawning months—

combined to make the practice all too efficient and its vessels global in range, has left the world with no new fisheries to exploit for a population expected to reach nine billion by 2050.

Mr. Fagan's book is sometimes repetitive and has little of the narrative drive of, say, Mark Kurlansky's "Cod" (1997) or William W. Warner's account of Chesapeake Bay watermen, "Beautiful Swimmers" (1976). This is a different sort of book, more big-picture, more of a scholarly exercise, working dutifully through the catalog of times, places and ways in which fishers worked their magic and the world grew to what we know it to be today. In lucid, graceful prose, how-

ever, "Fishing" eventually crystallizes into an epic story—one of opportunism, ingenuity, complaisance and denial spanning the breadth of human (even pre-human) experience.

Mr. Fagan holds that this era's global warming will be another contributing factor to what he foresees, within a few generations, as the wholesale demise of fishing. When this happens, he writes, "a significant link with our long history will have been severed."

Aside from the matter of whether then we will have eaten our way out of house and home, the end of fishing will mark the end of a primal unity of vocation and avocation. Despite the danger, low pay and frequent discomfort, fishers typically love their work. Mr. Fagan quotes William Ellis, a missionary in Tahiti, who in 1829 could not help noting that men there "set out on their fishing excursions with an exhilaration of spirit equal to that with which a European nobleman pursues the adventures of the chase."

They can enjoy it, at least, until the adventure is over, until the seven seas are one great desert. Then civilization will be on its own.

Mr. Carey's books include "Against the Tide: The Fate of the New England Fisherman" and "The Philosopher Fish: Sturgeon, Caviar, and the Geography of Desire."

Picking Sides in the Fight for Survival

Inheritors of the Earth
By Chris D. Thomas
PublicAffairs, 300 pages, \$28

BY JENNIE ERIN SMITH

WHEN TALKING ABOUT the latest chapter of Earth's history, or what they're calling the Anthropocene epoch, ecologists tend to strike a tone of despair. They bemoan the human activity that has warmed the planet's climate, altered its physical surface and the chemical composition of its seas, and fostered invasions by non-

To protect native species we often exterminate new arrivals. What if we let the winners go on winning?

native plants and animals, pushing huge numbers of species closer to extinction. But a handful of thinkers, among them scientists and heads of large conservation groups, has begun to preach against pessimism. Given that much of this change is irreversible, they say, more flexible approaches—and sunnier attitudes—are required.

Chris D. Thomas seems an unlikely mouthpiece for the new optimism. In 2004 Mr. Thomas, a biologist at the University of York, garnered headlines with a study predicting that at least a fifth of land animals and plants would be "committed to extinction" by 2050. In "Inheritors of the Earth," Mr. Thomas does not disavow those find-

ings. A mass extinction is in full swing, he concedes. But the "gloom-mERCHANTS" are ignoring the success stories, Mr. Thomas argues, of animals and plants that are thriving in the Anthropocene. Nature, in many respects, "is coping surprisingly well," he writes, and we shouldn't ignore "the gain side of the great biological equation of life."

In some corners of the planet, warmer, wetter conditions have allowed a greater variety of species to survive than would have just decades ago, he points out, while modern transport keeps new immigrants rolling in. The result is a greater number of species in many regions—more local biodiversity—even if the global picture may be trending toward less.

Many species that contribute to diverse and functioning ecosystems aren't native—they did not evolve where they now occur. And introduced species can jump-start evolutionary processes. They compete with established species, prey on them, or breed with them, and they can occupy ecological niches once occupied by organisms that have died out or are faring poorly.

Mr. Thomas describes a honeysuckle in Pennsylvania that's a hybrid of species from several remote continents, and yet delicious to local flies, which began to interbreed out of a shared love of its berries; there's a deer with Japanese genes that's doing just fine in Scotland's woods. We should be cheering on these victors, he says, but instead many have been subjected to dubious campaigns to eradicate them.

Conservation usually aims to help the most imperiled species, and favors those with a longer claim to the

habitats they occupy. But rather than "always try to defend the losers," Mr. Thomas proposes, what if we embraced the dynamism of evolution and let the winners go on winning?

This could mean in practice letting introduced mammals have their way on island chains, which are home to unique flora and fauna vulnerable to environmental change and invasions. Huge sums have been spent ridding the Galápagos islands of feral goats,

reptile that is the single surviving member of a 200 million year lineage, "has been postponed, not solved. . . . they are saved only for as long as active intervention continues," he laments.

The heirs to the world "are not bizarre, weird things and ancient evolutionary relics," Mr. Thomas insists. "The takahe is one of the losers, while rats, stoats and their ilk are thriving." These are the species waiting to



HOLDOUT The tuatara, a New Zealand reptile threatened by invasive species.

allowing giant tortoises more vegetation to graze on. In the Dominican Republic, South Georgia and New Zealand, violent measures have been taken against cats, pigs, rats and other feral mammals in favor of species that lived there first.

Most conservationists find these efforts laudable, heroic even. Mr. Thomas does not. The challenge of saving New Zealand's takahe, a flightless bird with jewel-colored feathers and a stout red beak, or the tuatara, a

evolve and diversify into a cornucopia of forms, to become like the Galápagos finches that so intrigued Charles Darwin—if we would only just let them. Mr. Thomas's reasoning is not exactly reassuring to anyone who thinks biodiversity is more than a numbers game, or that the world would be poorer without animals like the takahe and tuatara.

And while he celebrates introduced species as ecological winners, he has little to say about some notoriously

dodgy players, such as the Burmese pythons in the Florida Everglades, which snack catholicly on native birds, reptiles and mammals, or the introduced Nile perch that have decimated hundreds of freshwater fish species in Lake Victoria.

It is clear that with "Inheritors of the Earth" Mr. Thomas is responding, at least in spirit, to Elizabeth Kolbert's 2014 book "The Sixth Extinction," a sparer and less polemic narrative of the Anthropocene, with the spotlight on the victims. Mr. Thomas wants to remind those who would envision a giant black curtain descending over the planet at the twilight of human history that evolution marches on. Biologists are well aware of this, and yet few besides Mr. Thomas seem to actually welcome the next chapter. Our turn on earth will be followed by "a massive acceleration in the formation of new species"—a sixth genesis, as he puts it.

Intriguingly, both Mr. Thomas and Ms. Kolbert suspect that the inheritors of the earth will be descendants of the crafty little rodents we humans have been dragging around the globe for half a millennium. While Ms. Kolbert envisions a post-human planet replete with giant rats as a poignant state of affairs, Mr. Thomas can barely contain his excitement. The year 1 million, Mr. Thomas predicts, will see islands full of novel tree rats, ground rats, fast rats, slow rats, vegetarian and predatory rats, even diving rats. That means "considerably more species in total," in case anyone was counting.

Ms. Smith is the author of "Stolen World: A Tale of Reptiles, Smugglers and Skulduggery."

BOOKS

'I've always believed that the only defeats and victories that matter in life are those you lose or win alone, against yourself.' —Mihail Sebastian

FICTION CHRONICLE: SAM SACKS

Bearing Witness

 IN Mihail Sebastian's "For Two Thousand Years" (Other Press, 229 pages, \$16.95), first published in 1934 and only now appearing in America, the narrator, a Jewish student in 1920s Romania who faces daily beatings from anti-Semitic ideologues, finds a disturbing echo of his plight in a history book. In the 1640s thousands of Jews were murdered in pogroms across Poland and Russia, and "while the spilled blood was pouring like lava from a still active volcano, in the synagogues, among flames and blood, they disengaged over Talmudic texts."

What the narrator can't decide is whether that reaction showed strength or weakness. Should Jews have taken up arms and fought back against their persecutors? Or was there true bravery in looking inward for salvation, in study and contemplation? "I think in the Jewish spirit there is a continual open struggle between nature and intelligence, a struggle between extremes which none among us have reconciled," the narrator reflects. The struggle animates this scintillating novel—a fiery coming-of-age story introduced to the combustible material of extremist politics—which wrestles with the question of how one should live in the face of hatred.

Mihail Sebastian (1907-45), whose given name was Iosif Hechter, grew up in a middle-class Jewish family in eastern Romania and began writing amid the boom of Bucharest intellectuals that included Mircea Eliade and Eugène Ionesco. In an alternate history in which Europe didn't destroy itself in a frenzy of nationalism, Sebastian would be renowned for sly, psychologically probing fiction inspired by Proust and André Gide. (One such novel, the sinuous love story "The Accident," was translated into English in 2011.) Instead he's known for the diaries he kept between 1935 and 1944, in which, like Victor Klemperer in Germany, he chronicled his country's headlong descent into fascism. "For Two Thousand Years," a fictionalized diary based on Sebastian's experiences in the decade prior, is a pendant to that vital document.

It reveals a young, idealistic man grasping for freedom from the external oppression of anti-Semitism but also, paradoxically, from the beholders of his Jewish heritage. The diary entries (in a vigorous translation by Philip Ó Ceallaigh) follow the unnamed narrator from his time at university, when right-wing thugs beat up Jewish students when they attended classes, to his maturation as an emerging architect. The slender plot serves mostly as a vessel for passionate arguments. The narrator



records his interactions with budding fascists, nihilists, Marxists and Zionists. But his fiercest debates are with himself. He yearns to stand apart from the collective suffering of Romanian Jews and cultivate his individuality. In others moods he reproaches himself for "the audacity to believe that my solitude is a principle, when it is only an inability."

Many of Sebastian's characters are modeled on intellectuals who would have been well known to his Romanian readers but now require recondite web searching to identify. But the passage of time has also added gravity to a story that foreshadows yet cannot quite envision the genocide on the horizon. The narrator maintains friendships with his colleagues and mentors, trying to stoically transcend the manias of the age, and is heartbroken anew as, one by one, each succumbs to the "eternal phenomenon" of anti-Semitism. "This will pass too," a Jewish acquaintance tells him, determined to be hopeful. But we know that it did not.

Decades later, Romanian writers still found themselves caught in the teeth of politics. Dumitru Tsepeneag (b. 1937) is an avant-garde novelist who had his citizenship stripped by Nicolae Ceausescu in 1975 after repeated denunciations of the Communist-backed Writers' Union of Romania. From his exile in Paris he produced a string of intricate, postmodern fictions about Romanian immigrants, of which 2004's "La Belle Roumaine" (Dalkey Archive, 188 pages, \$16), in a jokey, colloquial translation by Alistair Ian Blyth, is the latest to appear in English.

BOOKS

'Questions of taste, of feeling, of inheritance, need no settlement. Everyone carries his own inch-rule of taste, and amuses himself by applying it, triumphantly.' —Henry Adams

If You've Got It, Don't Flaunt It

Bunny Mellon

By Meryl Gordon
Grand Central, 516 pages, \$28

BY JUDITH MARTIN

IF NOT FOR the money angle, the biography of a knowledgeable and talented horticulturalist might have a limited audience. In "Bunny Mellon," Meryl Gordon labels her subject "a legend." But the worthy achievement of having revitalized the White House gardens during the Kennedy administration may not be seared into the public's memory.

The money part is extraordinary, however, and makes the book a gossipy read. When the billionaire philanthropist Paul Mellon was dying in the late 1990s, his wife's lawyer pointed out to him that the \$85 million he was planning to leave her "was not enough to underwrite the lifestyle that Bunny was used to." As Ms. Gordon shows, Mellon was sadly familiar with his wife's spending habits, so he threw in an additional \$25 million.

But she still had trouble maintaining what Ms. Gordon keeps describing as a standard of understated taste. Even before her Ponzi-scheming financial adviser as well as her beloved presidential candidate, John Edwards, got chunks of it in the early 2000s, she was selling property and paintings to keep up. She died in 2014, at the age of 103.

Nowadays one doesn't hear much about a hierarchy of taste, except in regard to food. The once-dictatorial fashion industry has turned its ladder upside down, looking to the streets for inspiration. But there used to be much talk, at least in certain sets, of "good taste" and therefore also of "bad taste," which people of good taste adored because it afforded them so much amusement.

The exercise of this good taste shouldn't be confused with stylishness. Far from setting trends, it posits a static standard: WASP shabby chic. As Bunny Mellon would often say, "Nothing should be noticed." So she would have the furniture distressed and the roof shingles painted to seem weathered. She did have one cheap and rickety chair, which she said was intended to put intimidated visitors at ease when they recognized something similar to their own possessions.

Such pronouncements come with an arbitrary code. Duck decoys in the library: good taste. Flamingo casts on the lawn: bad taste. Wax fruit for a centerpiece: bad taste. Ceramic vegetables for the serving pieces: good taste. You should not have trouble guessing which the Mellons had.

In the mid-20th century, Bunny Mellon was considered an arbiter of good taste, a mantle that still clings to the memory of her protégée, Jacqueline



GREEN THOUGHTS IN A GREEN SHADE Bunny Mellon photographed by Henri Cartier-Bresson in 1962, at work in her greenhouse at the Mellons' Oak Spring Farm Estate in Virginia. The trompe l'oeil murals on the cabinets in the garden building, seen in the foreground, were painted by Fernand Renard.

line Kennedy Onassis. As taste is a personal quality, a basic tenet is that it cannot be bought. Certainly Mellon believed that flaunting expensive stuff was vulgar. She wanted her possessions to look understated and used, to the point of seeming worn.

So then what—one may well ask—did she need all that money for?

Gardening. This was her chief interest, and she favored the natural look. Apple trees naturally drop spoiled fruit on the ground, so when one of the many gardeners on the family's estate in Virginia cleaned them up, Bunny Mellon ordered them put back where they had fallen. Other gardeners were employed raking leaves and then returning the prettiest ones to the ground.

Dressing. Being too early for distressed jeans, which should have been right in keeping with her idea of tattered taste, Bunny Mellon had her gardening clothes designed by Balenciaga, who did all her wardrobe, including her underwear, and, when he retired, bequeathed her to Givenchy. When Jacqueline Kennedy countered campaign rumors that she spent \$30,000 a year on Parisian clothes by saying, "I couldn't spend that much unless I wore sable underwear," she must not have been paying close attention to her mentor, who spent the equivalent of a million dollars a year on clothes and untold sums on jewelry.

Entertaining. Although much is made of her love of privacy, Bunny Mellon jumped at opportunities to entertain royalty. When Prince Charles and the Princess of Wales came to lunch, she had an octagonal pavilion built to enlarge her dining room (torn down after they left) and, although it was November, had her garden replanted with out-of-season flowers to make it look like summer.

Then there was the price of having that discerning eye. If the scarf that went with a certain outfit was in one of her other houses, she would send the private airplane to pick it up. When a swimming pool was being completed on one of her properties, she changed her mind about the locations of the shallow and deep ends and had them reversed. When she served commercial potato chips, she had her staff throw out any broken ones.

It adds up.

There is money and there is real money, as no one understood better than Rachel Mellon (née Lambert), who had been nicknamed Bunny by a servant. She was born into the fortune that her grandfather made by popularizing Listerine and that her father enhanced by popularizing the word "halitosis," a hitherto obscure Latin term that then scared the nation into buying Listerine.

Her first husband was also rich, but although she remained fond of him,

she found it expedient to leave him for Paul Mellon, with whom she shared tepid feelings at best and whose other blatant attachments she grandly ignored. For the same reason, she encouraged Jacqueline Kennedy to marry another philandering billionaire, Aristotle Onassis.

Ms. Gordon interviewed scores of relatives, friends, tradespeople and

Mellon favored a natural look. She had gardeners rake leaves and return the prettiest to the ground.

servants for this biography, and by their testimony Bunny Mellon—despite bursts of generosity and social consciousness—was not a nice person. It isn't that they tell nasty stories; rather, they admit to such sycophantic behavior as relishing her luxurious presents and then whining at being dropped without explanation (which happened to most of them) and begging in vain to be taken back into favor. The message from the butler: "Madame says she's not at home."

Even her children and grandchildren suffered from periodic snubbing. Her blatant favoritism to one young grandson over his brother extended to

lavishing presents on one with nothing for the other.

Her son, who had once found himself relegated to a room over the garage in a newly built house, spoke bitterly about her at her funeral. Her daughter received intense maternal attention when she became vegetative after a street accident in Manhattan but had previously been subjected to a mammoth debutante celebration that she hated (the re-creation of a French village, complete with tents featuring Impressionist paintings), and she had been coerced into an aristocratic marriage although she was gay. Before the accident, mother and daughter had been periodically out of touch to the extent that the mother was surprised to find that for some time the daughter had had breast cancer.

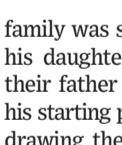
Ms. Gordon accounts for all this rudeness and cruelty by making frequent use of the all-purpose excuse that Bunny Mellon "felt insecure." After all, her younger sister, Lily, had been considered the "pretty one." In 2012, at the age of 101, she tried to reassure herself that John Edwards, whose \$400 haircut and mistress she subsidized, had been interested in more than her money.

Which just goes to show . . . Or does it?

Ms. Martin is the author of the Miss Manners columns and books.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS: MEGHAN COX GURDON

A New Yarn From the Master Story-Spinner



MARK TWAIN didn't write stories for children. He did, however, tell stories to children. One night in 1879, when the Twain

family was staying in a hotel in Paris, his daughters Clara and Susy asked their father to invent a tale using, as his starting point, an anatomical figure drawing they'd found in a magazine. The author bent himself to the task, as he put it, and got such an enthusiastic reception from the girls that he was, over the next five evenings, "rewarded with the privilege of digging a brand-new story out of that barren text."

Twain's full telling is lost to history, but bits of the tale survive in notes that he jotted down sometime later. These story shards lay for a century in the Twain archives, unnoticed and uncelebrated, until their rediscovery in 2011. Now they come to us through the medium, as we might say, of the Caldecott Medal-winning creative duo of Philip and Erin Stead in "**The Purloining of Prince Oleomargarine**" (Doubleday, 152 pages, \$24.99).

The book follows the adventures of a boy named Johnny who has a sweet nature, a foul-tempered grandfather, and a pet chicken named Pestilence and Famine. (Ms. Stead's pictures of this bird are sublime.) After performing an act of kindness, Johnny receives the gift of communicating with animals. This ability enables him to solve the mystery of what has become of his kingdom's missing scion, Prince

Oleomargarine, whose choleric father has decreed that none of his subjects shall stand taller than he.

"The Purloining of Prince Oleomargarine" is a lovely object. Its pages are laid out in a restful, spacious way that gives Ms. Stead's exquisite, pale, distempered illustrations room to breathe. We have time to enjoy the dignity and quiet comedy of Johnny's wild animal companions, to take in the strange, hunched posture of the people the boy encounters, and to develop real fondness for Pestilence and Famine.

A Mark Twain tale about a sweet boy, a testy grandpa and a pet chicken named Pestilence and Famine.

The story is another matter. At first it catches the reader up and carries him along, but pretty soon it drops him so that Mr. Stead can engage in intermittent musings and banter with Twain, who is styled as a visitor to the author on Beaver Island, in Michigan. This approach of weaving together Twain's notes, Mr. Stead's narrative amplifications and imagined dialogue between the two men is artful and meta and even elegant, in its way, but children ages 8-12 are likely to find the interruptions bewildering and the tale, as a result, less than compelling.

No sooner do things get going than

we're diverted. Only in the final pages does the story pep up, when Johnny and the animals at last locate Prince Oleomargarine. Though the boy turns out to be obnoxious, like his father, his petulant energy is refreshing. In short order, the brat rides off on the back of a hungry tiger, "leaving our story and entering another with an ending far more satisfying than this." We're left with the suspicion that the prince will

edition of Edith Hamilton's magisterial 1942 survey, "**Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes**" (Black Dog & Leventhal, 371 pages, \$29.99), ornamented with 10 new vibrant color plates by Jim Tierney. At once scholarly and conversational, this superb compilation comprises the foundational tales of Greece and Rome, as well as the classics of Norse mythology. Hamilton (1867-1963) adds a wel-



end up inside the tiger, like the lady from Niger in the limerick, but also with a sinking realization that we're not going to get a satisfying, Twain-worthy conclusion. Nor do we. A few pages later, alas, Johnny's story fizzles out.

Two books offer young readers portals into the rich and compelling world of Greek mythology. The first is a heavy and handsome 75th-anniversary

come dimension to the old tales by giving us their provenance whenever she can. "Mythology" would be an excellent supplement, or counterweight, to the giddy fun of Rick Riordan's hugely popular books about the dyslexic demigod Percy Jackson, which have done so much to keep the gods of Olympus alive in the culture of childhood.

The second portal takes the form of a paperback, "**The Adventures of**

Hermes, God of Thieves" (Pushkin Children's, 374 pages, \$14.95) by contemporary French writer Murielle Szac, translated by Mika Provata-Carbone. Each of the 100 short, lively chapters is framed as an "episode," beginning with an italicized recap of previous events and ending with "to be continued," which makes it easy for 8- to 12-year-olds to dip in and out as time allows.

Here we see Greek mythology from the perspective of Hermes, the messenger and trickster who travels through time and across stories to understand, among other things, the origin of volcanoes, the violence of humankind and the enviable intelligence (and seductive powers) of his father, Zeus.

In "**Robinson**" (Scholastic, 48 pages, \$17.99), Peter Sís evokes his childhood hero, Robinson Crusoe, in a beautiful meditation on hurt, healing and friendship. Stung by sudden mockery at school, a boy retreats to his bedroom and, like Max in Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are," floats away on a sea of feelings "in and out of hours, or maybe days, until I am cast upon an island." He is all alone. There is no one to protect or feed him. And so, as we see in lush, marzipan-colored illustrations, the castaway adapts: building a shelter, trading his pajamas for harder attire (see left) and befriending small animals. The more resourceful the boy is, the happier and more contented he becomes—strong enough even to contend with pirates in this deft and rewarding story for children ages 3-8.

BOOKS

'If you're afraid of butter, use cream.' —Julia Child

Talking Rot

Fermentation on Wheels

By Tara Whitsitt

Bloomsbury, 247 pages, \$27

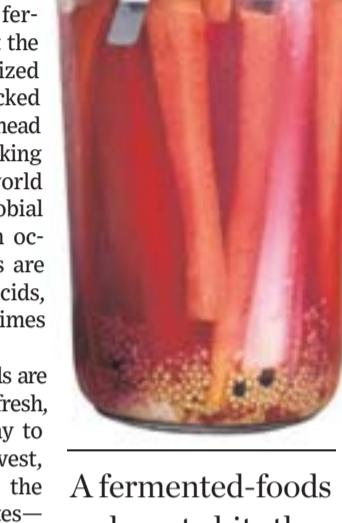
BY MAX WATMAN

TO CAST OFF and set out wandering is one of our imminent desires. Few have the courage. The percentage of people watching the world go by through the open door of a boxcar or riding a raft down the Mississippi is right down there with the percentage of elephants who find themselves in town being fitted for green suits. Tara Whitsitt, however, went for it. She appointed herself an apostle of fermentation and hit the road in a customized school bus stacked with sauerkraut, mead and tempeh, looking to teach the world about the microbial miracles that can occur when "sugars are converted into acids, gases, and sometimes alcohol."

Fermented foods are more stable than fresh, so it's a great way to preserve a harvest, and many of the world's great tastes—cheeses, hams—come from fermentation. What's more, the microbes that cause fermentation are beneficial: They improve our immunity and they strengthen our digestive health. Ms. Whitsitt says her work has made her feel "more in tune with a greater community (the bacterial kind)." It helped foster her connections with the human kind, too: She learned to ferment after meeting a painter at a farmer's market who taught her to make sauerkraut. She soon discovered, she writes, that

"fermentation was my tool for artistic expression." And she found herself "dreaming about a lifestyle, an art project, and a way to pollinate people's minds nationwide—all as part of a unique business plan, too."

"Fermentation on Wheels" tells of her travails as she spends 22 months on the road hosting workshops, many on the bus itself. During these she teaches her pupils to chop and to salt, and she shares tastes of her own ferments. The book is organized by region—"The Deep South" is one chapter, "Re-wilding New York City" another—and Ms. Whitsitt often learns as she goes. After an event at the Mississippi Modern Homestead Center, a woman teaches her how to make a bed of rice-bran miso for a pickled vegetable preparation from Japan. In Maine, she cooks sourdough pancakes for her students at a sauerkraut demonstration. We get the recipes for all of it.



A fermented-foods advocate hits the road in a custom school bus stacked with sauerkraut.

by our fears, encouraging us not to leave everything to specialists, his book is intimidating. Ms. Whitsitt, on the other hand, really does make us feel as if tempeh and our own vinegar made from the scraps of leftover fruit might be within our grasp. She can do it, after all, and she can barely pass a driving test.

I wished, as I read, that Ms. Whitsitt would slow down. She sometimes seems to lack the filter required of an expository writer, the sieve through which only the interesting can pass. Her narrative doesn't build, it simply pops from one event to another, like an Instagram feed. When Ms. Whitsitt meets Sandor Katz—a potentially great moment—fewer words are devoted to their dialogue than to the resulting increase in traffic on the author's website.

"Fermentation on Wheels" is not without moments of beauty, such as the time when Ms. Whitsitt wakes up surrounded by buffalo on the prairie. But this book is worth having not for its story, but for the recipe for fermented green tea salad.

Mr. Watman is the author, most recently, of "Harvest: Field Notes From a Far-Flung Pursuit of Real Food."

But hers is not an easy trip. Ms. Whitsitt fights loneliness; her bus breaks down; she drifts into situations that will make her friends nervous. Reading the story of her getting drunk on a hay wagon with a leering older man feeding her drinks made me feel like a father watching his daughter's feed on social media.

She begins the trip woefully, albeit charmingly, unprepared. She tries to raise \$24,000 online through Kickstarter, but when she's almost ready to depart she reports: "I raised just short of \$7,000 in donations. It wasn't close to what I would need for the entire journey, but it would get me started.

My last step was passing my Oregon driver's test. Having failed twice, I finally passed the day before my departure." I worried at times about her story going sideways and ending up like a foodie version of "Into the Wild." But she makes it, and what's most winning about her book is the very fact that she's winging it.

Sandor Katz wrote the bible for those of us who like to fool around with microbes, the massive and detailed "The Art of Fermentation." He is the expert nonpareil. While he makes much of how accessible home fermentation should be, stressing that we not let ourselves be cowed

to by our fears, encouraging us not to leave everything to specialists, his book is intimidating. Ms. Whitsitt, on the other hand, really does make us feel as if tempeh and our own vinegar made from the scraps of leftover fruit might be within our grasp. She can do it, after all, and she can barely pass a driving test.

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REVIEW



MATT FURMAN FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL; HAIR & MAKEUP BY NICKEE DAVID

WEEKEND CONFIDENTIAL: ALEXANDRA WOLFE

Jennifer Egan

For her latest novel, the author left behind the experimentation of her recent work

JENNIFER EGAN has become known for her genre-bending, time-traveling, inventive fiction. Her 2010 Pulitzer-Prize winning novel "A Visit from the Goon Squad" was hailed as a creative work of meta-fiction, incorporating multiple points of view, with one chapter told entirely in PowerPoint and another set far in the future. In 2012, her science-fiction short story "Black Box" was released in 140-character installments on Twitter.

Her new book, "Manhattan Beach," thus comes as something of a surprise. It's a more traditional historical novel whose protagonist is a female diver working in the Brooklyn Navy Yard during World War II.

Ms. Egan didn't set out to write a straightforward narrative. At first she wanted to tell the story by going back and forth in time, but it just didn't lend itself to a fragmented approach. "It was so inert when I tried that," she says.

She did years of research for the book, interviewing retirees in Florida who once worked at the Navy Yard and combing through original documents at the Brooklyn Historical Society. "I found writing...the old-fashioned way to

be actually much harder," she says, because of the need to sustain the story's momentum. "It's no joke," she says. "It's really hard to do."

Ms. Egan, 55, wanted to be a doctor as a kid growing up in San Francisco. "In a way I'm amazed I didn't become a doctor in that I was so sure," she says. But she found as a teen that she was squeamish about blood and gore.

She discovered her passion for writing just before college, when she kept a journal during a trip through Europe. It was a difficult time in her life. She was anxious about being so far away from home, and her mother and stepfather were divorcing. Writing, she found, was a "lifeline." Once she got to the University of Pennsylvania, she decided to major in English.

In her mid-20s Ms. Egan moved to New York to try to become a writer. Inspired by her pre-college trip abroad, she had started a novel about an 18-year-old girl who re-traces a trip her sister took through Europe before she committed suicide.

She worked on the novel for years. An early draft grew to 800 pages. An old college professor agreed to take a look at it and told

her he could barely make it through the first few pages.

She kept at it, though. "I don't think I really believed in myself that much, but I just kept going," she says. In the meantime, she took on odd jobs, such as working as a caterer for the Port Authority at the World Trade Center and becoming a personal secretary to a countess.

She eventually managed to publish some short stories and won a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Her novel, "The Invisible Circus" was published in 1995, when she was 32.

She went on to publish "Emerald City and Other Stories" in 1996, and "Look at Me," a suspenseful novel about the fashion industry, in 2001. Her first best seller was her 2006 novel "The Keep," a haunting book about two cousins renovating a Gothic castle. She calls "Look at Me" a "crossover book" in terms of her writing style. Her previous books had been more traditional.

"The Keep" is actually a story within a story: The Gothic castle

narrative is being written by a character in a writing workshop at a prison. "It's sort of one step removed from reality," she says. "I felt like it was the first thing I'd written for which I didn't really have any clear models."

She says that she has always been excited about new approaches to narrative. "I didn't think, 'Oh, I am going to experiment,'" she recalls. "I thought, 'Oh, I'm telling this

really strange story,

**Writing the
'old-fashioned
way' was
much harder,
she says.**

and I'm doing it the best I can.'

"A Visit From the

Goon Squad" took

the experimentation further. "I

think it's natural

that my projects

would be more ambi-

tious as I go

says. "I like to recline."

She writes the first draft of her books by hand. The first draft of "Manhattan Beach" takes up 27 legal pads. Now stacked up in a shelf in her office closet, they took her a year and a half to fill.

Then she types up what she's written. "There's a certain amount of horror in that, because of course it's terrible," she says with a laugh. Once that's done, she develops a proper outline and structure, using the parts and characters that work and discarding those that don't.

She hasn't given up on experimental literature. For her next book, she'd like to bring back characters and elements from "A Visit from the Goon Squad."

Ms. Egan has two teenage sons with her husband, theater director David Herskovits. But don't expect to read any fiction based on her own life. "For me, the No. 1 thing about my process that's different from most people I know is that I do not use my own life at all or anyone I know.... I seem to go pretty cold when I try to get near myself," she says. "I don't know what it is, but I feel bored." Instead, she adds, "I'm always looking to be transported out of my life."

older and more confident as a writer," she says. She admires Don DeLillo, among current writers, but says that she doesn't strive to emulate anyone in particular.

Ms. Egan keeps to a routine when she's writing. As we tour her office on the third floor of her spacious Brooklyn brownstone, she points to a lounge chair in the corner. "That's where I write," she

MOVING TARGETS: JOE QUEENAN

Send in the Beleaguered Clowns

THE STUNNING box-office success of the horror film "It," in which a small town is terrorized by a depraved and murderous clown, has incensed the professional clown community. Publicity has been so bad that the World Clown Association issued a release stating that scary clowns are not "real clowns."

To make matters worse, a man who claimed to be a professional clown made headlines last week when he organized a protest outside a New York theater screening "It." He was quickly exposed as a fraud; he said that it was actually a publicity stunt to promote the film. Nevertheless, the hoax has created the unfair perception that clowns are not only depraved and murderous but dishonest.

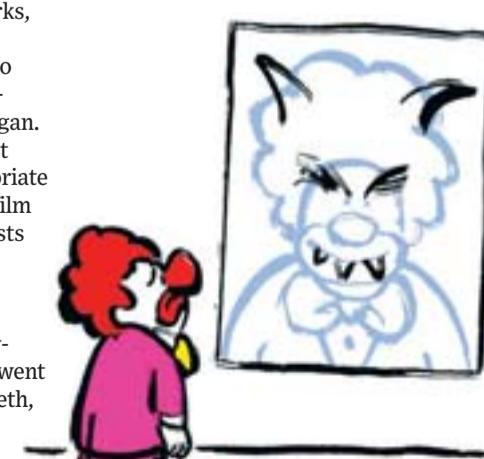
Clearly, the film could be a devastating blow to the already beleaguered clown profession. It wouldn't be the first time a movie had this kind of impact. Until "Jaws" was released in the summer

of 1975, great white sharks were thought of as quiet loners that mostly kept to themselves somewhere off the coast of Australia.

Moreover, sharks were previously viewed as not being especially smart. After "Jaws," they were seen to be cunning, resourceful, vindictive. "Jaws" changed the way people thought about sharks, beaches and swimming of any kind. My 12-year-old son was so terrified by the film that he refused to set foot in Lake Michigan.

Sharks, unlike clowns, are not professionals, so a more appropriate analogy might be found in the film "Marathon Man." Though dentists had long been feared, people didn't think about them as out-and-out sadists until the 1976 movie. Ever since Laurence Olivier's twisted Nazi war criminal went to work on Dustin Hoffman's teeth, it has been impossible for the dental profession to purge that image from the public's

**Let's be honest:
Many of us
do think
that clowns
are evil.**



consciousness. To this day, I never go into the dentist's office without thinking of sadistic Nazis. Especially when the hygienist comes in for the semiannual cleaning.

Movies have also battered the image of accountants. "The Accountant" gave us a contract killer using a local tax-preparation business as a cover. Investment bankers have been raked over the coals in "The Wolf of Wall Street" and "The Big Short."

Hapless Ye Olde Medieval Faire performers have never rebounded from the merciless scorn heaped upon them in the Jim Carrey film "The Cable Guy." And rural Appalachian tourism never recovered from the black eye the region got in "Deliverance."

Which brings us back to "It." Is the decline in the popularity of clownery—with the obvious exception of the U.S. House of Representatives—the result of

adverse publicity from Hollywood? Or does the popularity of "It" simply reflect the fact that a sizable segment of the public thinks that clowns are evil? Stephen King, who wrote the novel on which the film is based, tweeted earlier this year that children have always feared clowns, so clowns shouldn't be mad at him. In short, "It" is what "It" is.

We are left with several pressing questions: Are clowns pulling their weight in this society, or are they vestiges of a bygone era? Is their dislike of "It" an excuse for their own lackluster performance in paid clownish pursuits? People didn't stop going to the ballet just because of "Black Swan."

Maybe clowns should be grateful for all the publicity they're getting. They should remember Woody Allen's dictum: "You want to do mankind a real service? Tell funnier jokes."

Or, in this case, make funnier faces.

REVIEW

PLAYLIST: JEN WELTER

A Pregame Boost

A female professional football player cranks up 'Kryptonite' before making history

Jen Welter, 39, is a former professional football player who has coached for the NFL's Arizona Cardinals. She is the author of the memoir "Play Big" (Seal Press), to be published Oct. 3. She spoke with Marc Myers.

In 2014, I became the first woman to play professional football on a men's team. For a full season, I was a running back for the Texas Revolution in the Indoor Football League. The song "KRYPTONITE," by 3 Doors Down,

pumped me up.

At Boston College, I had played rugby, followed by 10 years with the Dallas Diamonds, a women's semipro football team. When the Diamonds folded in 2013, I wasn't sure what I'd do.

Not long after, the Texas Revolution called. When we met, team executives offered me an opportunity to go through a day of training camp. They said it would be great publicity.

I refused. I told them their offer was an insult to me as an athlete. I said I'd either go through training camp and a full season or nothing.

Everyone in the room went silent. Then someone wondered if I'd be a distraction to the team. The new head coach, Chris Williams, looked at me and smiled. "Not with an attitude like that."

'Is that all you got?'

The night before camp started, I was a little freaked. Playing against men, I could wind up seriously injured or dead. I listened to "Kryptonite," which was on my iPod playlist.

The post-grunge song opens with Matt Roberts's electric guitar playing alone for four measures before Brad Arnold begins playing a martial beat on the snare drum. Then he adds his strong vocal.

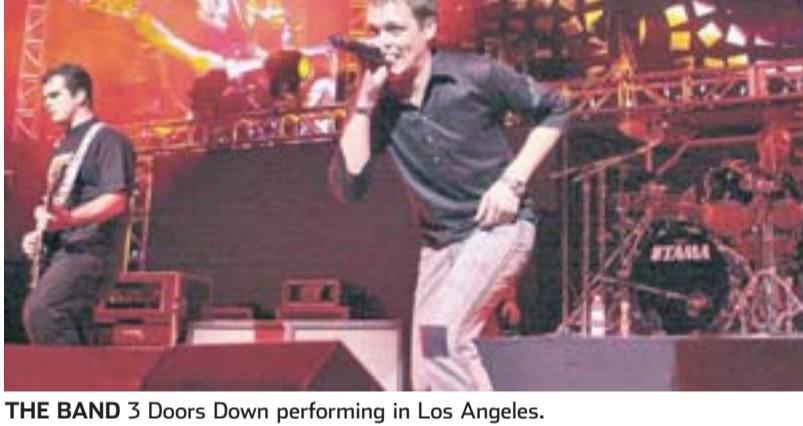
The song asks a question—will you still admire me if things don't work out? "If I go crazy, then will you still / call me Superman? / If I'm alive and well, will you be / there a-holding my hand?"

During my first game, I received a handoff. The

play was to dive up the middle. I gained a few yards before two guys hit me. When they got off, I was still on the ground, but I was fine.

I jumped up and shouted at them, "Is that all you got?" My teammates were impressed and treated me with newfound respect.

After the game, when I returned to the locker room where I had dressed with the team's female dancers, they were stunned. One of the girls called me her "shero." Though we had different roles in the game, those differences no longer mattered.



THE BAND 3 Doors Down performing in Los Angeles.

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING: AMANDA FOREMAN

Picking a Side to Drive On

FIFTY YEARS AGO this month, on Sept. 3, 1967, the world turned upside down in Sweden. Or rather it went from left to right: On that day, the Swedes abandoned 200 years of left-hand traffic, or LHT, to switch over to RHT. The event was commemorated as *Högertrafikomläggningen* (the right-hand traffic diversion) or H-Day for short.

Bahrain, Finland and Iceland soon followed Sweden's example. Pakistan considered switching to RHT in the 1960s but decided it would be too difficult, among other things, to change the habits of the country's numerous camel-cart drivers. Even the U.K. briefly toyed with the idea only to drop it because of cost and rising nationalist affection for driving on the left.

By the early 1970s, more than 160 countries had switched to RHT, leaving just the U.K., its former colonies and a few other holdouts on the left. Such is the global dominance of RHT that it might seem that humans have always felt more comfortable on the right side of life. After all, studies suggest that some 85% of people are right-handed.

But there's nothing natural about driving on the right. Evidence from cart tracks on Roman roads in Britain suggests that traffic flowed on the left. This makes sense, since wagon drivers held their whips in their right hands, like charioteers, which causes the whip to cross diagonally to the left, make oncoming drivers less likely to get struck.

LHT continued long after the Roman Empire disappeared. Medieval knights carried their swords on the right and their shields on the left, so by keeping to the left side of the road, their sword arm was free to strike at any foe they might encounter as they traveled.

In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII instituted the first holy Jubilee, a year-long celebration of Catholic faith that prompted mass pilgrimages to Rome. The ensuing chaos on the roads forced Boniface to issue a decree ordering pilgrims to pick a side and stay left.

Five centuries later, the British government had to issue a similar directive, the General Highways Act of 1773, after the rise of mass horse-ownership led to increasing anarchy on the streets. A popular ditty ran: "As you're driving your carriage



THOMAS FUCHS

along; / If you go to the left, you are sure to go right / If you go to the right, you are wrong."

Driving on the left didn't face a real challenge until Napoleon decided that all countries in the French Empire must go right—emulating France, which had switched during the Revolution. (It was considered aristocratic to hog the left side of the road.) Thus the Napoleonic War was a battle of lefts and rights, with Napoleon's foes—Britain, Portugal, the Austro-Hungarian Empire—staying left.

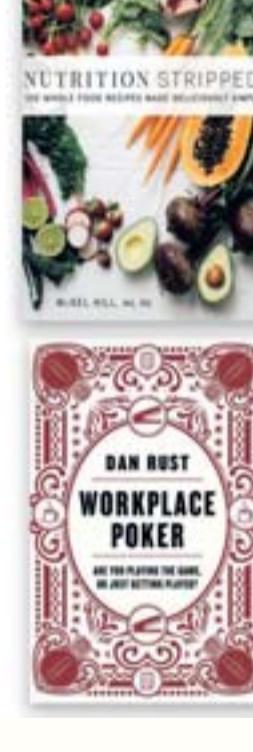
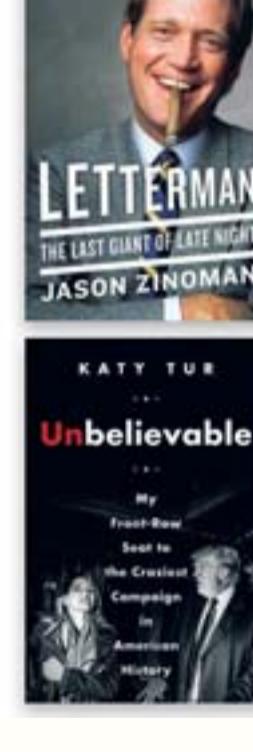
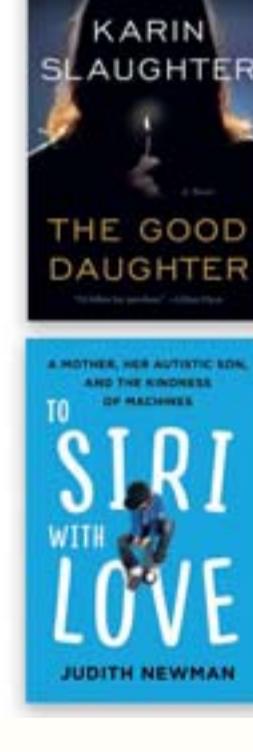
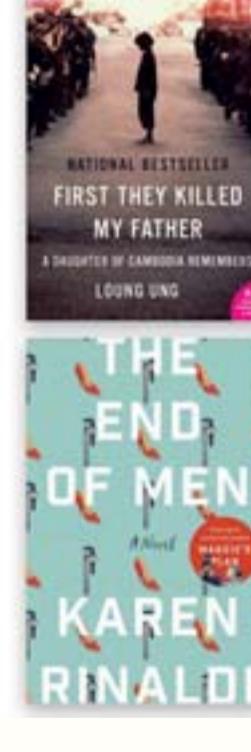
The U.S. started to drift toward driving on the right after winning its independence, probably to make an anti-British point. Yet the person most responsible for RHT in America was Henry Ford. Before then, the wheel and controls were sometimes on the right or even in the middle of the car. In 1908, Ford announced a new model that had the steering wheel

on the left, so that passengers would always exit curbside—"especially," the publicity materials claimed, "if there is a lady to be considered."

Driving on the right received a grim boost from Hitler, whose megalomania, like Napoleon's, was such that all conquered countries had to emulate German RHT.

When not being propelled by imperialism or capitalism, does RHT always win over LHT? Apparently not. In 1978, Japan went fully LHT, as did Samoa in 2009. As with so much in life, humans are unpredictable, stubborn creatures who, given the chance, will go in any direction they please.

Medieval knights kept to the left.



September Books of the Month

Get the insight you need to kick off a productive fall season. Choose from 10 new titles this month and enjoy 35% off and free shipping on your order.

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PLAY

NEWS QUIZ: Daniel Akst

From this week's
Wall Street Journal

1. A major earthquake hit Mexico, sending the Topos out in force. Who or what are they?

- A. Earthquake-mapping experts adept at predicting aftershocks
- B. Volunteers who wriggle through damaged buildings to rescue survivors
- C. Street vendors of Topo Chico mineral water
- D. Mexico's equivalent of the National Guard

2. The German discount grocer Aldi plans to conquer America—how?



- A. Panzer divisions
- B. Stocking an extremely limited selection to keep costs low
- C. Targeting consumers who don't cook
- D. Carrying only organic goods and selling them at steep discounts

3. Hobbled by debt, Toys "R" Us filed for bankruptcy protection. Who owns the company?

- A. Vornado Realty Trust
- B. KKR & Co.
- C. Bain Capital
- D. All of the above

4. The Fed said it would do something in October. What?

- A. Raise interest rates
- B. Put Janet Yellen on the \$100 bill
- C. Start unwinding its massive bond portfolio
- D. Go back on the gold standard

To see answers, please turn to page C4.

5. The information sector accounts for what proportion of U.S. employment?

- A. Less than 40%
- B. Less than 20%
- C. Less than 10%
- D. Less than 5%

6. Hackers penetrated the government's Edgar system and may have profited from the move. Whose system is Edgar?

- A. The Securities and Exchange Commission
- B. The U.S. Geological Survey
- C. The Pentagon
- D. Medicare and Medicaid

7. Last year Americans used their phones to make \$112 billion in mobile payments. What was the figure in China?

- A. \$9 billion
- B. \$90 billion
- C. \$900 billion
- D. \$9 trillion

8. Pilots went on strike—at which airline?

- A. Air France
- B. El Al
- C. Avianca
- D. Alitalia

9. Rapidly proliferating drones were the subject of an international conference held where?

- A. Brussels
- B. Montreal
- C. Montevideo
- D. Singapore



VARSITY MATH

Provided by the **National Museum of Mathematics**



VARSITY MATH

Illustration by LUCI GUTIÉRREZ

The team loves puzzles about integers, so today's problems are right up their alley. Define an integer to be simple if it consists exclusively of zeroes and ones.

Simple Multiple
What is the smallest positive simple integer that is a multiple of 14?

Small and Simple

Find the 10 smallest simple integers divisible by 45. Let A be the average of these 10 numbers. What is the value of A + 1?

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

Varsity Math

The **Math for the Ages** problem, as worded, led to more than one possible answer. Go to this week's Varsity Math page at wsj.com/puzzle to read the correct wording of the question and the solution. In **Three Racers**, Casey beats Liam by 14.5 meters.

Why So Late?

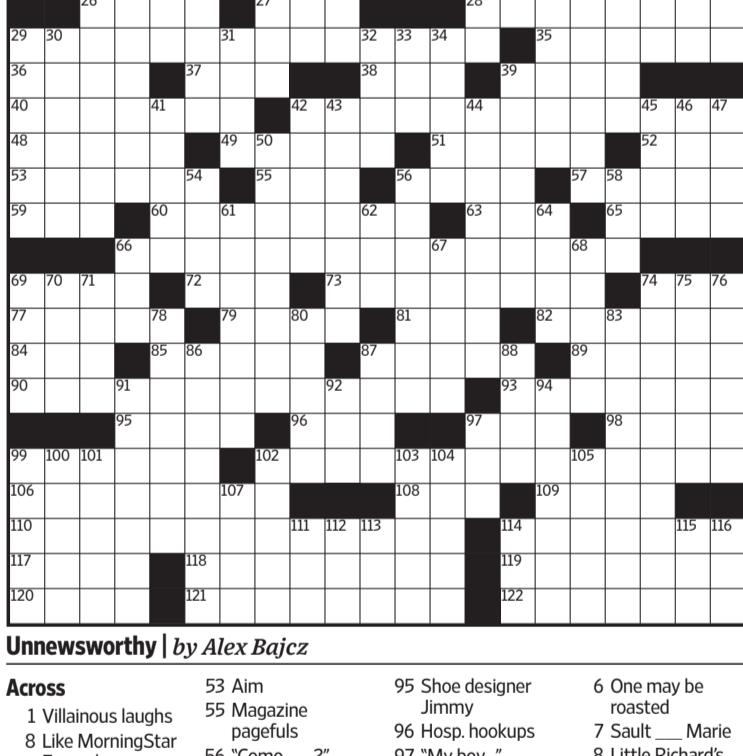
A	B	O	R	I	M	E	D	F	N	O	D	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y
A	B	O	R	I	M	E	D	F	N	O	D	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y
F	R	E	D	I	M	A	S	L	P	O	R	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y
F	R	E	D	I	M	A	S	L	P	O	R	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y
F	R	E	D	I	M	A	S	L	P	O	R	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y

Rows Garden

F	L	E	M	D	A	S	O	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y				
F	L	E	M	D	A	S	O	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y				
F	L	E	M	D	A	S	O	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y				
F	L	E	M	D	A	S	O	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y				
F	L	E	M	D	A	S	O	R	P	O	R	G	E	R	Y				

ILLUSTRATION BY LUCI GUTIÉRREZ

THE JOURNAL WEEKEND PUZZLES Edited by Mike Shenk



43 Successful folks get them

44 Inner tubes?

45 Where "Cast Away" was filmed

46 Spot for a sand wedge

47 Store across from Rockefeller Center

50 Sorry

54 One might be topped with queso blanco

56 The one who got away

58 Numbskull

61 Mets shortstop Amé

62 Never, to Nietzsche

64 Isengard's destroyers

66 TV toon with an 18-letter surname

67 Plumbing problems

68 Oddballs

69 Turn black

70 Crackers

71 I'm standing right here"

74 Chicken's lack

75 Gila River Arena pro

76 Grabs

78 Productivity measure

80 Battle cry?

83 Fluctuating rapidly

86 19 British prime ministers as of now

87 VA hospital concern

88 Sporty Camaro model

91 Play girl?

92 Frank's wife before Mia

94 Unappreciative sort

97 Caret's key

99 Ring roll

100 Colleague of Neil and Clarence

101 92 and 53 for U and I

102 Priest's advice

103 Spouses of some countesses

104 Daughters of Mnemosyne

105 Meandered

107 Small incision

111 Band that disbanded in 2011

112 UPS rival

113 Job posting abbr.

114 Broadband choice

115 Columbus in NYC, e.g.

116 They, in Calais

1 C2 F 3 B4 A 5 U6 D7 M8 O 9 K 10 R11 G12 N13 F 14 T15 S16 C17 H17 Q18 Q

19 B20 O 21 P22 S23 E 24 U25 T26 C27 O28 J29 K30 M31 Q 32 B33 P34 D35 S36 A37 F 38 R

39 H 40 D41 M42 E 43 J44 B45 L46 U 47 K48 G49 S 50 N51 Q52 C53 A54 D55 P56 S57 M58 O

59 J60 B 61 F62 G63 I64 K65 A 66 O67 J68 L 69 U70 N71 C 70 I71 B 72 K 73 T74 Q75 F76 P77 G

78 M79 D80 S 81 O82 K83 B84 U85 R86 L87 E88 N89 C 90 I91 B 92 A93 E94 P95 U96 J 97 F

98 K99 S100 N101 T102 C 103 I104 D105 F 106 I107 L108 E109 G110 K111 N112 O113 A 114 F115 R116 C117 H118 B

119 U120 T121 Q122 M123 P124 I 125 N126 D 127 E128 J129 R 130 K131 L132 C133 A134 M135 I136 O137 F138 Q

139 N140 U141 P 142 S143 B144 C145 O146 R147 D148 T149 Q150 M 151 G152 N153 F154 A155 J156 B157 K158 L

160 U161 H 162 O163 C164 D 165 Q166 P167 N 168 F169 U170 S171 H172 B173 E 174 O175 L176 K177 B178 F

179 C180 M181 N182 U183 S184 P 185 H186 A 187 C188 D189 O 190 K191 F192 I193 R194 P 195 J196 G 197 N

198 H199 Q 200 S201 O202 C203 D — 204 F205 K206 P207 E208 T209 M 210 C211 A212 Q213 O 214 D215 B216 N217 D

Acrostic | by Mike Shenk

To solve, write the answers to the clues on the numbered dashes. Then transfer each letter to the correspondingly numbered square in the grid to spell a quotation reading from left to right. Black squares separate words in the quotation. Work back and forth between the word list and the grid to complete the puzzle. When you're finished, the initial letters of the answers in the word list will spell the author's name and the source of the quotation.

REVIEW

ICONS

When Rodin Met Klimt

A San Francisco show highlights similarities between the artists

BY ALEXANDRA WOLFE

IN 1902, GUSTAV KLIMT and Auguste Rodin met in Vienna for the first and only time. More than a century later, they're encountering each other again, this time in the halls of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco.

Today, Klimt is known as the founder of Viennese modernism and Rodin as the father of modern sculpture. The Austrian and the Frenchman worked in different mediums and at a great geographic remove from each other, but they were alike in the often scandalized reaction to their early work. Both rejected the conservative art-world traditions of their day, opting for more open depictions of sexuality and emotion. "Both were fighting for a liberation of the arts," says Max Hollein, director of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

The exhibit "Klimt & Rodin," running from Oct. 14 to Jan. 28, will feature 30 works by Klimt and 25 sculptures and works on paper by Rodin. Arranged thematically into areas that highlight phases in each artist's life, the exhibit also marks the 100th anniversary of both art-



FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO (2)

ists' deaths. Rodin died in November 1917, and Klimt died three months later.

The artists didn't influence each other directly, says Mr. Hollein, but their works "can be put in direct dialogue or relation." One common thread: Both devoted a great deal of attention to nude figures. The exhibit includes a wall of erotic drawings by both artists, and another section of sexually charged sculptures by Rodin.

When they met in 1902, Klimt was 39 and Rodin was 61. Based in Paris and then at the height of his fame, Rodin had just held a retrospective in Prague. At the last minute he had decided to stop in Vienna on his way home. There he attended an exhibition of the Viennese Secession, a group of modern artists headed by Klimt who had rebelled against the traditional art world and its emphasis on historic styles.

Klimt had created a 112-foot painting on the walls of show called "Beethoven Frieze," an allegory of humanity's desire for happiness and its salvation through art. (The exhibit will include reproductions of

two panels from the frieze.) It features images of women who symbolize sickness, madness, lust and death. Rodin was impressed with the show, saying after his visit that it would "enrich the whole of Europe," as guest curator Tobias Natter relates in the catalog.

The next day, Rodin was honored at a party, and the guests included Klimt. Accounts of what happened at the gathering are vague, but Dr. Natter imagines that the artists may have discussed, among other things, how to determine when to stop working on a piece. Both Klimt and Rodin purposely left some of their work unfinished—a style known as "non-finito." The Legion of Honor show includes Klimt's "The Black Feathered Hat" (1910), in which a woman's hair and hat are portrayed in colorful detail while the rest of the canvas nearly fades away with neutral tones of gray and brown. In another room, Rodin's 1891 bronze sculpture "Victor Hugo" reveals only a face in detail, with the shoulders and chest left rough and unshaped. Many artists at the time debated "the issue of when a work might

truly be regarded as 'completed,'" says Dr. Natter.

Austrian journalist Berta Zuckerkandl, a friend of Rodin's, did write about one subject that came up at the party: critics. She recalled how Rodin told guests about the reaction to his plaster monument to Balzac, a sculpture of the French writer in a robe.

Instead of creating a staid portrait of Balzac, Rodin took a rougher, more evocative approach, and clothed him in an informal robe. When it was unveiled, critics called it to "a bag of plaster" and "a snowman in a bathrobe." Rodin stood in front of the sculpture all day, later telling an apprentice, "I did not move...as if I had to [stand there] to protect [the sculpture] from all these attacks," as Dr. Natter recounts in the catalog. (The statue is not included in the exhibit.)

Klimt similarly refused to retreat from critics, says Dr. Natter; some said his paintings showed "perverted excess."

Although the exhibit features

some of Klimt's landscapes, the human form figures prominently. Klimt's 1913 painting "The Virgin" depicts a swirl of six women amid colorful shapes and forms; their limbs, arms and torsos wrap around each other, much as the bodies in Rodin's sculptures do. The painting shares a room at the Legion of Honor with Rodin's "Triumphant Youth," an 1898 sculpture of two lovers in a passionate embrace.

Both refused to retreat from critics.

The exhibit also features Rodin's 1877 "The Age of Bronze,"

a 6-foot-tall sculpture of a nude man standing, with his right hand resting in a fist on his head. When it was unveiled, critics thought it was too realistic; he was accused of having cast it directly from the model's body rather than sculpting it. Next to it is Klimt's 1899 "Nuda Veritas," which depicts a nude woman with flowing red hair staring out at the viewer. The work, says Dr. Natter, became a declaration of "his artistic credo." In English the title is "Naked Truth."



AUGUSTE RODIN'S 'Triumphant Youth,' 1898.

MASTERPIECE: 'ELYON' (1990), BY JULES OLITSKI

A MEMORIAL THAT KNOWS ITS BIBLICAL HISTORY

BY E.A. CARMAN JR.
AND MENACHEM WECKER

JULES OLITSKI'S monumental "Elyon"—26 feet high and nearly 18 feet wide—was commissioned by Toronto's Conservative synagogue Beth Tzedec Congregation as a memorial to the victims of the Shoah, the Nazi Holocaust of World War II. It was dedicated in 1990 on Yom HaShoah, the Day of Remembrance.

Important religious commissions from major modern artists have been rare over the past century. In a 1990 interview Olitski explained how he treasured this opportunity where "I could speak through my art as a Jew."

The artist (1922-2007) was born as Jeviel Demikovski in Snovsk, Ukraine. After his commissar father was executed by the Bolsheviks, the newborn infant was carried by his mother and grandmother as they fled West on foot. They settled in New York; he became Jules Olitski when his mother remarried.

Olitski received acclaim as a Color Field painter in the 1960s for abstract works with bold color shapes, and compositions of colored mists sprayed onto large canvases. In the 1980s, he began employing brilliant colors embedded within thick, translucent gel, spread and shaped by tools and his mitt-covered hands.

This radiant fixture—a contemporary variation of the glazing and tinting of Old Master paintings—is found in "Elyon," whose Hebrew title Olitski associated with "Light." (It may also be rendered as "Above.")

"Elyon" is a heptaptych, constructed of six equilateral triangles and a hexagonal core, joined to form a Star of David, traditionally made from

two interlocking triangles. Olitski drew upon the sign's rich symbolic admixture in making this masterwork.

The Star of David is mentioned in the King David saga in the Bible's two Books of Samuel and First Kings. The Numbers account of seer Balaam's astral prediction can be held as foretelling David—"I shall see him...a Star out of Jacob and a scepter shall rise out of Israel." Balaam's prediction is played down in the Torah; Christian exegesis holds his augury as an Old Testament proof text for Jesus' Nativity star.

The earliest use of a six-pointed star as a particular Jewish sign is uncertain; ancient cultures used the form for decorative purposes. The symbol was firmly established by 1008, appearing as an illumination in the Leningrad Codex, the oldest complete Hebrew Bible.

By the 14th century, this star was also recognized as the Magen David, or Shield of David, with a two-fold meaning referring to the physical object itself as well as God's continuing protection of David.

These understandings are introduced in young David's confrontation with Goliath. This Philistine giant arrives with a sword and a shield-bearer to be defeated by an unprotected, slingshot carrying shepherd boy. This, ironically, leads to David becoming the shield-wielding armor-bearer to King Saul, the very ruler he will depose.

The Shield of David can be either a flat emblem on a conventional shield or, as a Davidic folk tale suggests, a shield shaped like



THE MANY COLORS of the work correspond with the differently colored flags of the 12 tribes of ancient Israel.

a six-pointed star. "Elyon"—itself between a painting and a polychrome relief sculpture—suggests the latter.

And there is more. Each of Olitski's six outer triangles is seamed on one side with the edge of one of the six identical triangles implied within the base hexagon. This court of 12 unified forms symbolizes the confederated 12 tribes of ancient Israel, joined as the united monarchy under King David.

The many colors of "Elyon" correspond with the differently colored flags of those original tribes. Olitski explained: "Reuben's flag was

red, Judah's azure, Issachar's black, Dan's sapphire. I was especially interested in these colors so as to incorporate them throughout my painting."

Further, the glowing yellow tone of Olitski's overall gel, combined with his resplendent embedded colors, also posits the way the tribes' symbolic colors were represented by differently hued jewels set on the gold breastplates of ancient Jewish High Priests.

A story about David's coronation from Louis Ginzberg's "Legends of the Jews" adds to this royal reading, describing how the prophet Samuel's anointing oil "poured itself out over him [and] the drops on his garments changed into diamonds and pearls."

Carrying these rich associations, Olitski's gold-toned "Elyon" fills its role as a Holocaust memorial by referring to the yellow star badge, required to be worn by all Jews under the Nazi terror. The artist said of "Elyon," "it is fitting as a memorial because the Star of David survives...Hitler's mocking and savage use of it against the victims in their daily lives."

Olitski painted undisturbed, alone in his studio all night. He explained to his wife, Kristina, how he began his work by getting on his knees and praying for God's inspiration and that "when I'm working, I'll get out of the way."

One might hold "Elyon" as an answered prayer.

Mr. Carmean is a Washington-based art historian and a canon in the Episcopal Church. Mr. Wecker is a journalist, also in Washington.

Why
in-the-know
drinkers go for
Spanish cider



D8

OFF DUTY



It's time to get
serious about
becoming a
watch nerd

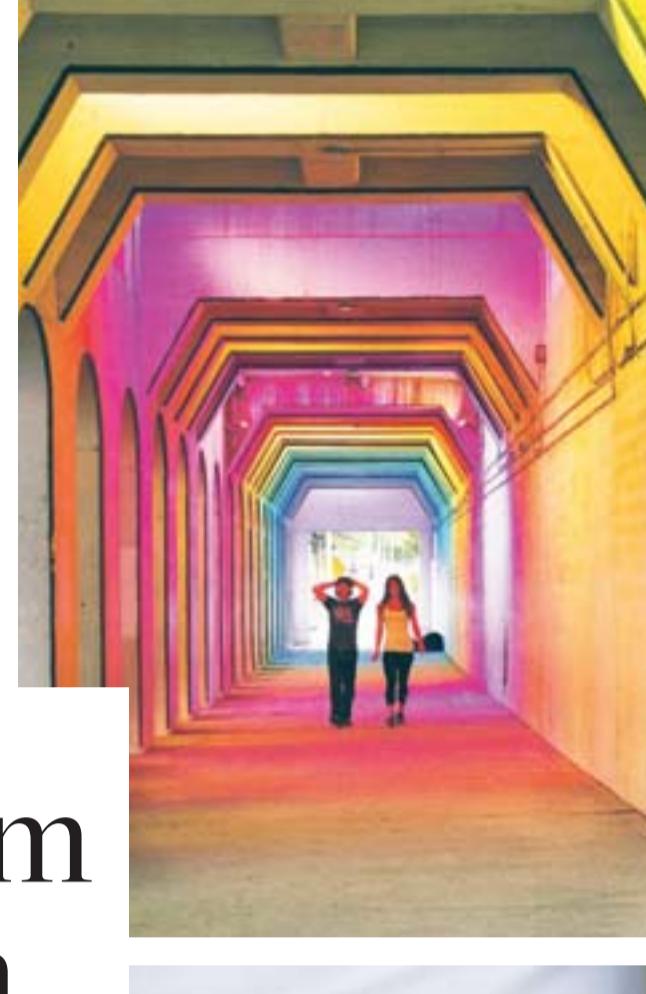
D3

EATING | DRINKING | STYLE | FASHION | DESIGN | DECORATING | ADVENTURE | TRAVEL | GEAR | GADGETS

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Saturday/Sunday, September 23 - 24, 2017 | D1



TAKE MONDAY OFF

A Birmingham Grand Slam

Packed with winning diversions, a whirlwind long weekend in Alabama's biggest city reveals an American revival



ANNA MAZUREK FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

DAYBREAK IN ALABAMA Clockwise from top left: Railroad Park, which opened in 2010 in downtown Birmingham, Ala.; the 'LightsRail' installation under the 18th Street viaduct; Hot and Hot Fish Club's tomato, fried okra and smoked bacon salad; the Negro Southern League Museum, which holds the largest collection of artifacts from the Negro League.

BY MARLI GUZZETTA

IN THE JUTTING chin of the Appalachians, near Alabama's mineral-rich Red Mountain, men made the pig iron that girded America's industrial revolution. The city that appeared around them, almost out of nowhere, exploded from about 3,000 people in 1880 to 26,000 just a decade later. By the early 1900s, city stakeholders had christened Birmingham, Ala., "the Magic City"—and the moniker stuck. Even now, the name of seemingly every business in town, from Magic City Pet Care to Magic City Law, recalls those boomtown roots. These days, the old iron town is forging another radical transformation. The local-maker renaissance sweeping the South is redefining downtown Birmingham as a 21st-century creative hub, refiring its peanut roasters, installing laudable restaurants in once-crumbing storefronts and seeding green space in the rusted footprint of old rail industry. Don't expect the gentility of Charleston or Savannah. This is a city that holds weddings and music festivals inside an abandoned iron furnace. But unapologetic grit and a fair share of alchemy have long been Birmingham's biggest draws.

DAY ONE // FRIDAY

5 p.m. Fly into to Birmingham-Shuttlesworth Airport, where a line at the rental-car counter is as unlikely as the possibility you'll hit traffic along the easy 15-minute drive to downtown's historic Redmont Hotel. Two red-coated bellmen will welcome you to the intimate lobby, where a white-jacketed bartender pours day's-end cocktails under a 10-foot-long chandelier that was refurbished in the 2015 renovation. Beyond the reception area's gunmetal velour

sofas and wall of mirrored subway tile, the elevator's original art-deco doors are the same ones that opened to carry Hank Williams up to his last sleep on earth in 1952 (*from about \$210 a night, redmontbirmingham.com*).

6 p.m. Order a pre-dinner drink at the Redmont's gothic-glam rooftop bar and watch the sun set behind the hotel's classic sign.

7:30 p.m. Drive or take a car service 2 miles to the Five Points neighborhood for dinner at Highlands

Bar & Grill. Chef/owner Frank Stitt, a Bham native who trained with Alice Waters and Richard Olney, returned home in 1980 and opened the restaurant a couple of years later. His classic French and modern Californian techniques elevated Southern flavors, giving a city recently gutted by lost industry a success to rally around. Soon enough he began racking up national food awards. Pastry chef Dolester Miles, known for her lemon meringue tart, is also contending for best in her class (*2011*

11th Ave. S., highlandsbarandgrill.com).

9:30 p.m. Take 18th Street through the art installation "Light-Rails"—a rainbow-lit tunnel illuminated by artist Bill FitzGibbons—on your way to the Collins bar. Under a ceiling hung with paper planes, sip tailor-made concoctions for a rather affordable \$8-\$12 (*2125 2nd Ave. N., thecollins-bar.com*)

10:30 p.m. Up for one more drink? Around the corner, find your way to the uniquely entertain-

Please turn to page D4

[INSIDE]



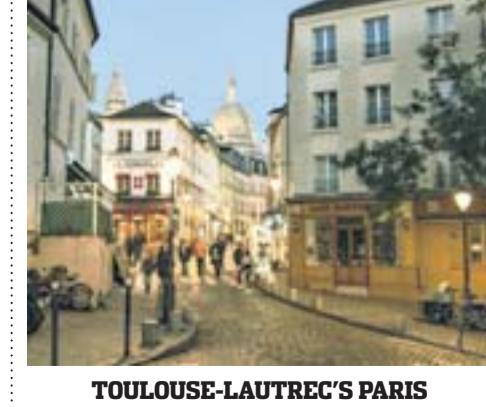
PORING OVER CEMENT
Décor inspired by a pilgrimage to a private school's famed concrete library D9



CHAUCER CHIC
For fall, fashion casts a medieval eye over styles from the distant past D2



I THINK, THEREFORE I JAM
Make a conscious decision to turn this season's plums into breakfast pleasure D7



TOULOUSE-LAUTREC'S PARIS
Search out the remaining traces of the city's 19th-century decadence D3

STYLE & FASHION



Jacket,
\$2,690,
loewe.com

Necklace,
\$2,850,
[Dolce & Gabbana](http://Dolce&Gabbana.com),
212-897-9653

Miu Miu
Bag,
\$1,730,
net-a-porter.com



Valentino



Ann
Demeulemeester



'The Unicorn in Captivity' Tapestry,
\$480, store.metmuseum.org



Cathy Waterman
Earrings, \$4,510,
twistonline.com

IN THE AIR

Club Medieval

The latest throwback trend—cloaks, jacquard dresses and décor inspired by the Middle Ages—goes way, way back. Chaucer might approve

BY NANCY BILYEAU

IF IT WERE the year 1417 and you were feeling overwhelmed by turbulent times, you might dig yourself a moat, polish your shield or wrap strands of charms around your wrists. With his medieval-tinged fall 2017 collection, designer Joseph Altuzarra had a similar impulse: "I was drawn to the period because the clothes referenced armor for protection. That seems relevant to our times." Mr. Altuzarra, who is based in New York, cites Lady Macbeth as the spirit guiding his new designs: "Look like th' innocent flower. But be the serpent under t."

While the word "medieval" might conjure ladies in waiting in floor-sweeping robes and bell-shaped sleeves, the neo-medieval revival—also seen in fall collections from labels such as Erdem and Valentino—is less about swooning at the joust and more about gazing down with calm calculation from the parapet walk. Think: a dress boldly jacquarded with flowers, a chain mail-like top or an assertive bejeweled cross.

Though Mr. Altuzarra took his cues from knights' attire, we're happy to report that his musing led him to luxurious fabrics like velvet and ornate embroidery, not hard, clanking armor. "Women seem to value craftsmanship and are looking for pieces to invest in," said

Barneys New York Fashion Director Marina Larroude. Items such as Mr. Altuzarra's coats make a persuasively glamorous statement on their own but can also enhance the peasant-plain basics in most women's wardrobes.

Medieval references are also popping up in home décor, from a quatrefoil motif on Gothic-inspired furniture to the mysterious purity of a white unicorn tapestry (a new reproduction of "The Unicorn in Captivity," circa 1500) to hang in our modern lofts.

For designers, drinking from such truly vintage sources of inspiration can unlock creativity as effectively as spiced wine from a Derrynaflan chalice. Fine jewelry designer Cathy Waterman, for example, can never resist a medieval church, picturing the Renaissance-era fair that once surrounded it. One autumn she came upon a church in Saint-Cyprien, France, "rich with walnuts, leeks and mushrooms and the sound of church bells." Another trip in the Scottish Highlands took her to the 13th-century Eilean Donan Castle in a howling storm.

These sights, sounds and smells informed the imagery found in her jewelry: swords, shields, amulets and trefoils. It's not coincidental that such motifs are associated with warding off evil, said Ms. Waterman. "We welcome protection now, don't we?"



The Row Boots,
\$1,550, barneys.com



A book that's part of the Morgan Library's 'Magnificent Gems: Medieval Treasure Bindings' exhibit (through Jan. 7, 2018)



Coat, about
\$5,995,
Altuzarra,
212-966-0638

Ted Muehling
for E.R. Butler & Co.
Candlesticks, \$865 and
\$720, thefutureperfect.com



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STYLE & FASHION

THE WATCH MAN HOROLOGICAL EXPERT MICHAEL CLERIZO ANSWERS YOUR TIMELY QUESTIONS



Watch Geek 101: A Beginner's Guide

Q I just got my first serious watch, a NOMOS Glashütte Club Campus, and now everyone is calling me a watch geek. What would it take to actually qualify as one?

A New-watch lovers like yourself often start out with a mission: to learn everything possible about mechanical watches. Let's begin with a reality check. True watch expertise involves mastering several disciplines, from engineering and metallurgy to esoteric gemology and oddly named tribology (the study of friction), to mention only a few.

I'm assuming you're looking for a more manageable crash course. Begin your journey to geekdom at Geneva-based Fondation Haute Horlogerie (hautehorlogerie.org). This industry website offers a wide range of information, from watch wisdom to news in bite-sized bits. Click on "Encyclopaedia" on the menu bar to access descriptions of all types of watches: mechanical, quartz, complication or precious

Pause your studies for an eye-candy break: drool-worthy watch photos.



jewelry pieces. Then take a break from your studies for eye-candy: The site's "Legendary Watches" grid showcases 15 iconic designs, such as Cartier's Tank, Rolex's Oyster and Piaget's Polo, with chirpy call-outs and drool-worthy photos.

Once you've digested this digital feast, move on to printed matter. Time's a wasting. A couple books to up your watch IQ: "The Theory of Horology" by Charles-André Reymondin, et al, is a textbook that's required reading at watchmaking schools, but you may find it too technical. For a less-intimidating tome, try "The Wristwatch Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide to Mechanical Wristwatches" by Ryan Schmidt, published last year. It's an exhaustively researched reference work in a glossy coffee-table-book guise for both newbie and veteran enthusiasts. I give it points for the museum-quality photos and Mr. Schmidt's clearheaded essays.

The New York-based author holds a certificate from Fondation Haute Horlogerie, but Mr. Schmidt's approach is far from haughty. He prides himself on being "brand-agnostic," democratically covering both large and small makers, vintage and modern timepieces and the widest price range "from entry level to the astronomically expensive," as his website notes.

Taking an era-by-era approach is a slim volume by Louis Nardin, also published last year, titled "The Magic Of Watches: A Smart Introduction To Fine Watchmaking." More thorough than its Cliffs Notes brevity might suggest, this nicely penned guide includes a timepieces timeline that identifies key periods (the groovy "Fantastic Plastic - 1980s" for example). It's a fun way to dip into watch history.

By now you will know a flying tourbillon from a fly-back chronograph, and you can tackle more eso-



teric study material. Push forward to sites such as A Blog to Watch (ablogtowatch.com) for erudite articles by David Bredan, a young watch enthusiast based in Budapest. Or monitor the quips of British contrarian Angus Davies, whose entertaining reviews on Escapement Magazine (escapementmagazine.com) will help you develop your vocabulary about mechanics and watch design.

Also instructive: Monochrome (monochrome-watches.com). Its

whip-smart editor Frank Geelen (who is based in the Netherlands), pens razor-sharp watch commentary with surgical precision.

Bucking the digital-only publishing trend, the New York-based site Hodinkee (hodinkee.com) known for its stories on vintage watches, just did a print edition. The company also hired Joe Thompson, the dean of American watch writers, who for 17 years was editor at "WatchTime," a bimonthly magazine that's still worth the subscription.

By now, you are likely ready to turn your attention to something that doesn't tick, such as an Irish Setter or a Whisky Sour. But if your quest for geekdom knows no bounds, get ready to travel. Watch devotees make pilgrimages to the world's big watch fairs, Geneva's Salon Internationale de la Haute Horlogerie and Baselworld, also in Switzerland, but two smaller notable fairs might suffice for fledgling fans: New York's Wind-Up and London's SalonQP. Have a nice trip.

FÊTE ACCOMPLI A GOOD-LOOKS GUIDE TO RECENT EVENTS

THE SUPERMODEL BLUES

AT THE HEIGHT of the New York Fashion Week bustle, a strategically denim-clad group congregated at Indochine, ready to frolic. The New York City restaurant, with its iconic banana-leaf-patterned walls, continues to hold sway among fashion designers and their chums. The occasion? A launch of a collection by Sean Barron and Jamie Mazur, co-founders of jeans label Re/Done, and model Cindy Crawford.

Though the event was billed as an intimate dinner, the place was jammed. "I've seen her, but I haven't actually seen her," said entrepreneur Deena Aljuhani Abdalaziz of Ms. Crawford, quickly scanning the room, as servers circulated morsels of spicy chicken and fluke carpaccio.

The supermodel had just started to circulate, glittering in a bejeweled black turtle-

neck and a pair of her mid-rise Re/Done/Levi's Crawford jeans. "A high waist looks so good on my daughter, but I put them on and I'm like 'nah,'" said Ms. Crawford, 51. It was her daughter, model Kaia Gerber, 16, who introduced her to the Re/Done brand.

Clearly, good jeans—and genes—run in the family: Both Kaia and her older brother, Presley, 18, hit it big on the Spring 2018 runways with gigs at Alexander Wang, Coach and Marc Jacobs (Kaia) and Ralph Lauren (Presley).

Despite the hectic pace, the Gerber pack, along with patriarch Rande Gerber, all showed up at Indochine.

"We stay together," said Ms. Crawford.

That is, until she and Kaia head off to Europe together (in denim, no doubt) for the next round of shows and events.

—Lauren Ingram



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ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

THREE DAYS IN URBAN APPALACHIA

Continued from page D1

ing Atomic Bar & Lounge. In the '60s pop-art lounge, your fellow patrons may be wearing costumes they borrowed from behind the bar. If you're not ready for that much fun, the Sex Panther cocktail comes with a more discreet adornment, a "lick em and stick em" tattoo (2113 1st Ave. N, theatomiclounge.com).

DAY TWO // SATURDAY

9 a.m. Start your morning at Feast and Forest, a sunny loft cafe. Diners sit elbow-to-elbow noshing on breakfast sandwiches with apple butter and tomato jam or stone ground grits with poached eggs and cremini mushrooms (212 24th St. N, feastandforest.com).

10 a.m. Drive a mile to the old Dr Pepper Syrup Plant and Bottling Company, where the Market at Pepper Place showcases local growers, bakers, chefs and such. The Birmingham Candy Company, for one, makes everything from scratch (2829 2nd Ave. S, pepperplacemarket.com). Across the parking lot, is Southern Living-alum Charlie Thigpen's Garden Gallery, with an artful assortment of planters and sculptures (2805 2nd Ave. S, charliethigpensgardengallery.com).

10:30 a.m. Take First Ave N into the city's industrial borderlands and see the ancient red bones of Sloss Furnace. After the Civil War, pig iron (easily transportable iron) created Birmingham, and Sloss Furnace created the pig iron. After demand dried up in the 1970s, Sloss began its second act as a romantic, if slightly spooky industrial ruin and National Historic Landmark. Today, the Sloss Music & Arts Fest holds concerts at the foot of a blast furnace every summer (slossfest.com). Historian Richard Neely leads excellent tours on the second weekend of each month (20 32nd St. N, slossfurnaces.com).

11:30 a.m. Three miles east, musician Duquette Johnston and his family draw from their travels to stock their shop, Club Duquette, a hipster general store, with everything from biodynamic Californian chocolate to French pocket knives (17 55th Pl. S., clubduquette.co). Across the street, Armand Marjekia's Open Shop Woodlawn sells men's designer clothing, displayed so fastidiously it looks like a minimalist art gallery (5529 1st Ave. S, openshopwoodlawn.com).

12:30 p.m. If you're up for a fresh

pressing of "Jethro Tull: The String Quartets" and maybe a trim, some 10,000 new and used vinyl albums at Seasick Records (5508 Crestwood Blvd., seasickbham.com) share a space with the barber chairs of Newman's Classic Cuts (newmansclassiccuts.com).

1:30 p.m. A mile and a half west,

you'll find the neighborhood of Avondale, which old-timers remember as the long-ago home of Miss

Fancy, an elephant who resided at Avondale Park's now-closed zoo.

Since the park's renovation in 2011,

the neighborhood has attracted a clutch of good restaurants and watering holes. Among the most cher-

ished is Saw's Soul Kitchen, a tiny

smokehouse. Alabama barbecue is

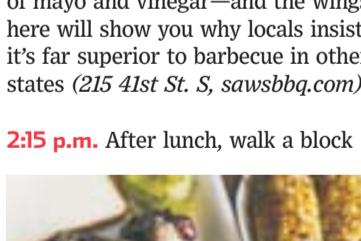
known for its white sauce—a dance

of mayo and vinegar—and the wings here will show you why locals insist

it's far superior to barbecue in other

states (215 41st St. S, sawsbbq.com).

2:15 p.m. After lunch, walk a block



WING NUTS

From top: An

order of wings,

slathered in

Alabama's

signature white

barbecue sauce,

at Saw's Soul

Kitchen;

Carrigan's Public

House

gastropub on

Birmingham's

historic Morris

Avenue.



ALABAMA GLAMOUR Winslet and Rhys, a modern mercantile shop in Birmingham's Avondale neighborhood, specializes in small-batch handmade goods.



to grab a scoop of ice cream made with seasonal ingredients at Big Spoon Creamery (4000 3rd Ave. S, bigspooncreamery.com). Next door, Winslet and Rhys is a modern mercantile store that also sells works by artists from the co-working space behind the shop (winsletandrhys.com).

3:30 p.m. Drive 10 minutes west

and park near Regions Field. On its

east side, the Negro Southern

League Museum displays uniforms

and other artifacts from the likes of

Willie Mays and Satchel Paige (both

players for the Birmingham Black

Barons), who changed a segregated

America through baseball (120 16th

St. S, birminghamslm.org).

5 p.m. Two blocks north, folks will

be squeezing R&R from the last

drops of sunlight at the thriving

Railroad Park (1600 1st Ave S, railroadpark.org).

Follow the streams to the corner of First Ave S and

14th Street S. You'll see the Minor

League Regions Field with its im-

possible-to-miss "Birmingham" sign

on the steel facade and overlooking

the Good People Brewing Company

across the street. Head there for a

frosty pull of their Coffee Oatmeal

Stout (114 14th St. S, goodpeo-plebrewing.com).

8 p.m. After freshening up back at

the Redmont hotel, drive 10 min-

utes to Hot and Hot Fish Club,

helmed by James Beard winner

Chris Hastings for an inspired menu

of fresh Gulf seafood (2180 11th Ct.

S, hotandhotfishclub.com).



Marble Ring. Walk through the phone booth and you'll find patrons taking their highballs in high-backed chairs under chandeliers (430 41st St S, hotdiggity-dogsasham.com). Next door, funky Parkside is a beloved neighbor-

hood bar with an Airstream trailer

on its back patio that serves

dressed-up bar food (4036 5th

Ave. S, hotboxbhm.com).

If you'd prefer more privacy, head to the

rails for a drink at Carrigan's Pub-

lic House, a cozy, repurposed

warehouse where you can watch

the trains pass (2430 Morris Ave., carriganspub.com).



2 p.m. It's a quick drive back to-
ward Five Points. At Galley and
Garden, starched-white tablecloths
greet you for Sunday brunch in the
stately, historic Merritt House. The
french toast is stuffed with
whipped local goat cheese, and the
bowl of Gulf shrimp and stone-
ground grits can hold its own any-
where in the South (2220 Highland
Ave. S, galleyandgarden.com).

3 p.m. Downtown, at the Civil

Rights Institute, you'll find the cell

bars behind which Martin Luther

King Jr. wrote his "Letter from Bir-

mingham Jail," five months before

a KKK bombing took the lives of

four black children at the 16th

Street Baptist Church across the

street from the institute (520 16th

St N, bcri.org).

4 p.m. In the Birmingham Museum of Art, take in one of the most comprehensive collections in the Southeast, including the largest Wedgwood exhibit outside of Eng-

land (2000 Reverend Abraham Woods Jr. Blvd., artsbma.org).

5:30 p.m. Drive to Vulcan Park,
named for the god of the forge,
and make a tourists' pilgrimage to
see the 56-foot cast-iron statue of
Vulcan. An elevator beside the

statue's towering pedestal will

ferry you 11 stories up to an obser-

vation platform with a panoramic

view over Birmingham (1701 Valley View Dr., visitvulcan.com).

7 p.m. Many city bars and restaur-

ants close on Sunday, which

means Birminghamians (and often

their dogs) end the weekend at the

breweries. After the sun sets, drive

15 minutes back to Avondale and

find a seat in the string-lit, back-

yard block party at Avondale

Brewing Co., where Miss Fancy's

Triple is always cold (201 41st St. S, avondalebrewing.com).

8:30 p.m. Next is a 30-minute



WING NUTS

From top: An

order of wings,

slathered in

Alabama's

signature white

barbecue sauce,

at Saw's Soul

Kitchen;

Carrigan's Public

House

gastropub on

Birmingham's

historic Morris

Avenue.

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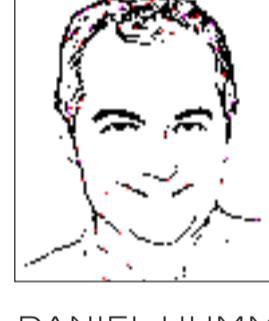
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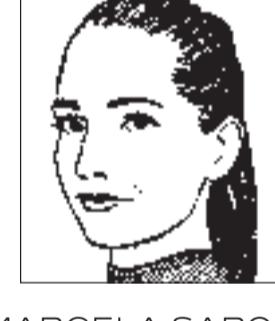
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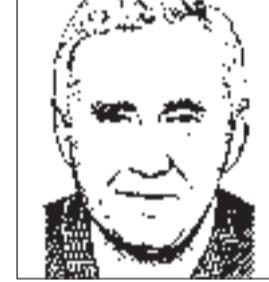
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ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

Winking at a Vanished World

The artistic eccentrics of 19th-century Paris wouldn't recognize most of their old haunts, but a few colorful spots carouse on

BY TARA ISABELLA BURTON

MUSÉE DE LA Vie Romantique, designed to honor the scandalous bohemians of early-19th-century Paris, sits, fittingly enough, just outside Montmartre, home to the no-less scandalous bohemians of that century's close. Walking along Boulevard de Clichy toward *la Butte*—the hill of Montmartre—I passed neon signs, sex shops and peep shows advertised in flashing lights, and the faded schoolhouse red of the Moulin Rouge. But in the hushed palatial entrance hall of the museum, everything was still. Inside, reverential portraits of the female novelist George Sand—infamous for dressing as a man, smoking cigars and seducing the composer Chopin—hung on the walls. The ground floor was full of splendidly upholstered furniture, designed to evoke the 1830s building's origins as home and salon for the Dutch-born painter Ary Scheffer. The era of the Vie Romantique was a time of romantic firebrands, idealistic scribblers and the muses they so often, if so briefly, loved. It was a time I had once dreamed of visiting.

I first fell in love with the Paris of the 19th century as a young teenager, naively in thrall to the mythos of the Moulin Rouge, its courtesans and poets and absinthe-induced visions. Though I lived in the far more staid *sixième* across the Seine, I bicycled alone to Montmartre in search of any remnants of that grand, melancholy excess. I'd go on pilgrimages to the grave of Oscar Wilde (buried at Père Lachaise cemetery in the Belleville neighborhood), with armfuls of lilies, the flowers Wilde associated most with his cult of beauty. I'd stand outside Montmartre cabarets like Au Lapin Agile and dream of being sophisticated, or at least old, enough to enter. A decade later, when I was finishing a doctorate in fin de siècle French literature, I decided to return to see if the various artistic waves of the 19th century still exuded the same power over me.

At first, I was disappointed. The streets at the top of Montmartre, where the absinthe flowed freely, and where Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec painted cancan girls and blowy barmaids, are today immaculate and chipper. Souvenir hawkers and two-penny portraitists fill the too-colorful Place du Tertre. A Starbucks nestles in the shadow of the restaurant La Crêmaillère 1900, where the Art Nouveau walls are as shiny as the Alphonse Mucha posters on sale at the stalls along the Seine. At 13, I was easily impressed. Now, *la Butte* felt less like a decadent carnival than like a manicured amusement park.



STREET CRED In Montmartre, the storied bohemian quarter of fin-de-siècle Paris, only a few traces of its raucous past remain. At right, Maxim's café.

But down the hill from Place du Tertre, on the back streets of Montmartre and the increasingly gentrified nightlife district of Pigalle, I saw glimpses of scenes out of Baudelaire and Toulouse-Lautrec. Among the sloping brick houses along Rue Lepic, for example, I found an anarchic café scene. Twentysomething women on café terraces wore mismatched fur coats and stoles, cloche hats. Outside La Caille, an oyster bar on Rue des Abbesses, a couple was doing the Lindy-hop on the pavement; an el-

remained the same.

Late one night, I dropped by the Musée de l'Erotisme (open until 2 a.m.); a cheeky, seven-story celebration of Paris's long legacy of *amoureuses*. An exhibition of postcards (from the suggestive to the explicit) and newspaper articles traces the history of the area's *maisons closes*, the brothels that artists like Toulouse-Lautrec and poets like Baudelaire used as sources for personal and artistic gratification. (Lautrec painted the walls of a few as payment.) Equal parts comic and shocking, the musée's collections felt like winks at a vanished time.

For a more refined take on decadence, I headed into the 1st arrondissement: to Maxim's, the near-perfectly preserved Art Nouveau café beloved of courtesans and their well-heeled admirers since the late 19th century.

The curator of the cafe's expansive fin-de-siècle art collections,

Pierre-André Hélène, introduced himself with wry formality. "They say fortune comes while sleeping," he told me as we wandered the halls of the museum, citing an old French proverb about the sudden quality of fate.

"But as the courtesan La Belle Otero said, it does not come by sleeping alone." Women like La Belle Otero, in other words, slept their way to the top. He led me upstairs to the private collection, accessible only via a twice-daily tour. On ten-

drilled, ornate pewter and porcelain

vases, he highlighted the female silhouettes and forms so common to Art Nouveau. "Women, women everywhere," said Mr. Hélène. "It becomes obsessional." There were dresses, wardrobes, a hand-carved bed. "You see the asymmetry?" he said, pointing out an imperfection in one intricately carved cabinet. "We call it *déjanté*. It means a little something off. Everything chic is always a little bit *déjanté*."

He turned to the window. "It was another world," he murmured.

But sometimes that world came alive.

One night, I met up with Massimiliano Mocchia di Coggiola and his wife, Sorrel, both artists and proprietors of Dr. Sketchy's "anti-

art" school, a monthly sketching lesson and cabaret. I joined them at

Madame Arthur, a Belle Époque-style cabaret hidden on Rue des

Martyrs in Pigalle. The building itself, with its deep turquoise walls and wood-carved balustrades, has been a nightclub for over a century.

That night, the performers were drag queens, burlesque performers and androgynous artists in pancake makeup and false lashes. The crowd was varied: Massimiliano and Sorrel dressed in an approximation of 1890s attire, girls in mohawks sat at one table, a group of chic, expensively dressed Parisiennes in their 50s huddled around another.

But when a pianist in eyeliner,

top hat and feathered boa struck up the chanson "Madame Arthur,"

about a woman whose source of funds and furs was chalked up to her *je ne sais quoi*, everybody chimed in. It was bizarre, raucous, a little *déjanté*. It was exactly the city I had dreamed of.

In lieu of French chansons, the singer crooned 'Space Oddity.'

derly, goateed man with pirate-style bandanna was bowing to his companions. In lieu of French chansons, the street-singer crooned David Bowie's "Space Oddity."

Over a café crème at La Villa des Abbesses, I took notes. A bit like Baudelaire, who turned *flânerie*—wandering and people-watching—into an art form, I found myself lost in the "immense joy [of setting] up house in the heart of the multitude, amid the ebb and flow of movement." The years had passed; the energy of the streets

had not.

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Abbesses, the singer crooned 'Space Oddity.'

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WÜSTHOF

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EATING & DRINKING

BREAKFAST 2.0

Extended Jam Session

These spiked-plum preserves make ordinary toast a star. Slathered on skillet-baked French toast, they're next-level

BY SARAH KARNASIEWICZ

THERE'S NO chaste way to eat a ripe plum, dark as a bruise and wet as a messy kiss. And as with so many love affairs, this fruit's season is sweet but fleeting.

That's why, when the crates of dusky, egg-shaped Italian plums appear at my local market and my father plucks the last Santa Rosas from his backyard trees, I hoard them greedily. A few get eaten out of hand or swirled into cake batters, but the lion's share end up in the place that will allow me to savor them the longest: the jam jar.

It's hard to know what to love more: the immediacy of the result or the longevity of the pleasure.

Strawberry and cherry jams may get more play on supermarket shelves, but they're shrinking violets compared with even the most basic plum jam: plush, garnet purple, equally puckery and sweet. You needn't invest in loads of equipment or bushels of fruit. With small-batch preserving, it's hard to know what to love more: the immediacy of the result or the longevity of the pleasure. A jar or two of preserves can keep inside your refrigerator for months—no surgical sterilizing or boiling-water canning baths required—though, trust me, they'll never last that long.

Fruit, sugar and heat are all you need to stir up a simple jam. Lately I've been tinkering with a recipe that embraces the plum's more "adult" side

with fiery cinnamon and a generous glug of dark rum; candied citron adds a touch of texture and acidity. My technique—macerating fruit in sugar and spices overnight before briefly cooking them down—is inspired by jam gurus June Taylor and Christine Ferber, and requires almost no labor beyond slicing.

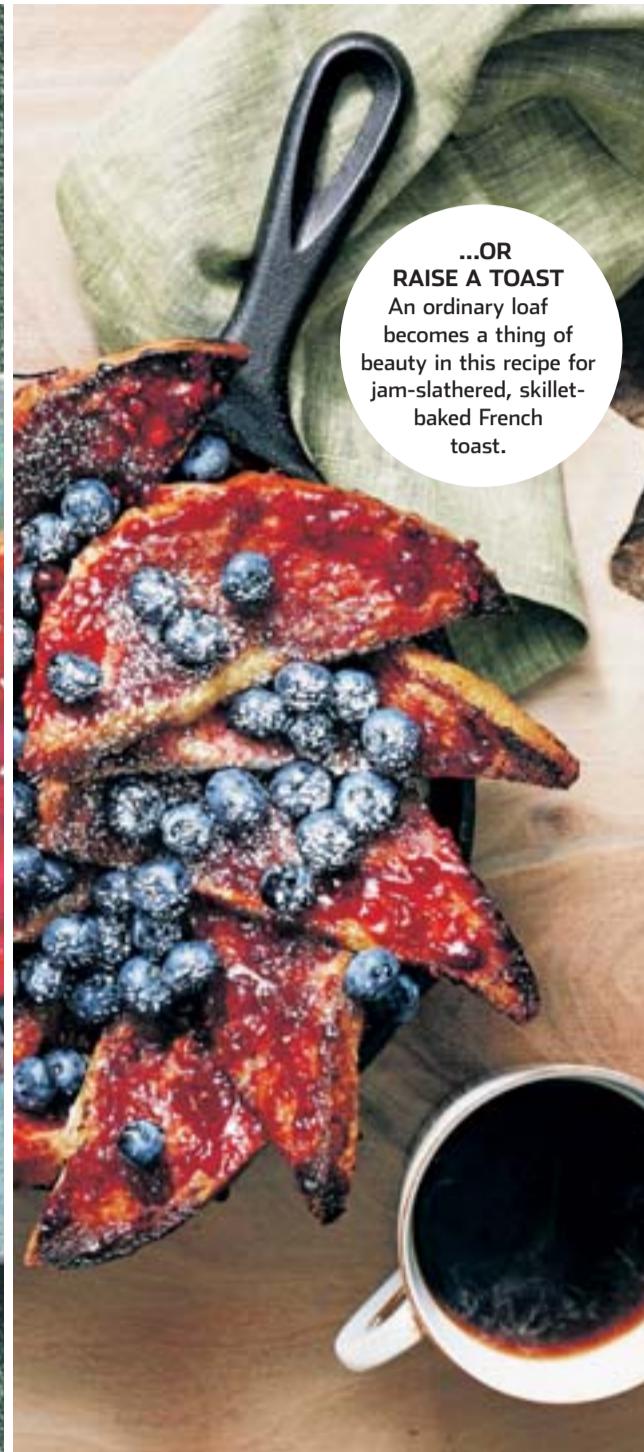
Just toss the plums, sugar and spices in a bowl, then let them rest overnight, allowing the sugar to gently draw out the fruit's juices. The next day, pour the lot into your widest, shallowest pot and bring it to a boil. The shape of the pot boosts evaporation, allowing the jam to cook quickly for a bright, fresh flavor. Give it a few good stirs and lower the heat to a slow simmer as the mixture thickens.

The rum's kick mellows to a warm glimmer, and the whole project is done in under an hour. Toast yourself a thick slab of sourdough, gild it with a smear of salty butter and spoon a chunky dollop of jam on top, and you've got a breakfast any hipster cafe could easily charge \$7 for.

As for the rest of the delicious jam the recipe at right produces, spoon it into a clean jar and stash it somewhere cool. Then, dip a spoon in it anytime the sweetness of Indian summer seems especially distant. Or do as I do on icy autumn mornings when nothing can tempt my family out of bed: Expropriate the week's lunchbox sandwich loaf and coat the slices with the jam. Then layer the sticky bread in a cast-iron skillet, smother it in a simple custard of egg yolks and half-and-half, and throw it in a hot oven. You could call it baked French toast or crispy bread and jam. I just think of it as a delicious excuse to spend a few more minutes under the covers, sharing breakfast in bed.



CAN IT
ALREADY...Now's the time to preserve those luscious late-summer plums in a spiced jam punched up with rich, dark rum.



...OR
RAISE A TOAST
An ordinary loaf becomes a thing of beauty in this recipe for jam-slathered, skillet-baked French toast.

CHRISTOPHER TESTANI FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, FOOD STYLING BY EUGENE JHO, PROP STYLING BY NIDIA CUEVA

Plum, Rum and Citron Preserves

ACTIVE TIME: 45 minutes TOTAL TIME: 7 hours (includes macerating overnight) MAKES: about 5 half-pints

1½ cups chopped candied citron, orange or lemon peel
1 cup dark rum
2½ pounds red or black

1. Combine chopped citron and rum in a small bowl. Cover and set aside to soak while the plums macerate.
2. Toss sliced plums, sugar, lemon juice and cinnamon together in a large, nonreactive bowl. Cover and transfer to refrigerator to macerate at least 6 hours, or overnight.
3. In a large nonreactive pot over medium-high heat, combine plum mixture and softened citron along with rum it

plums, thinly sliced
2½ cups granulated sugar
Juice of 1 lemon
1 teaspoon cinnamon

was soaking in. Bring to a boil. Lower heat and simmer steadily, stirring often, until fruit has broken apart, liquid has reduced and mixture is glossy, 35–40 minutes.

4. Spoon mixture into sterilized jars and seal. Jam will keep in refrigerator for three months. (To store in the pantry for up to one year, process jars according to the USDA's "Complete Guide to Home Canning," available at nchfp.uga.edu.)



Jammy Skillet-Baked French Toast

ACTIVE TIME: 25 minutes TOTAL TIME: 1¼ hours SERVES: 4–6

5 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
¾ cup plum, rum and citron preserves or other jam
12 slices toasted white sandwich bread, sliced in half on the diagonal
2 cups half-and-half
1 teaspoon cinnamon

1. Heat oven to 375 degrees. Use some of the butter to grease an 8-inch cast-iron or other heavy, ovenproof skillet. Spoon 2 tablespoons jam into bottom of pan and spread around.
2. Spread toast triangles with more of the butter and remaining jam on one side. Press toast triangles into prepared skillet, overlapping in a pinwheel pattern, with butter and jam sides up, until entire surface is covered.
3. In a large bowl, combine half-and-half, cinnamon, vanilla, sugar, salt, eggs and yolks. Whisk

1 teaspoon vanilla
1 tablespoon granulated sugar
½ teaspoon kosher salt
4 large eggs plus 2 large egg yolks
Sliced fruit or berries, for garnish (optional)
Confectioners' sugar, for dusting (optional)

until thoroughly combined, with no yellow streaks, then pour evenly into skillet. Set skillet aside to allow toast to soak up custard mixture, 25 minutes.

4. Top custard-soaked toast in skillet with a few nuggets of remaining butter and few drizzles of jelly. Bake on center rack of oven for until crisp at the edges and puffed, golden and set in the middle, 40 minutes. Let cool 10 minutes, then slice into wedges. Serve garnished with fruit and a dusting of confectioners' sugar, if desired.



THE NEW THIRD FLOOR

A NEW ERA BEGINS AT NEW YORK'S PREMIER DESIGNER DESTINATION

EATING & DRINKING

The Insiders' Cider

Invigorating, earthy, dry and highly drinkable, Spanish ciders express a wild side we forgot the apple had

BY WILLIAM BOSTWICK

APPLES ABOUND at this time of year, as fall's signature fruit spills from grocery bins around the country. But a crop so common still holds mysteries. Spanish cider, or *sidra*, reveals surprising facets of the apple (and occasionally the pear, too).

An ancient style that's landed stateside relatively recently, sidra is even winning over drinkers who had all but given up on cider. Until recently, Max Toste, owner of Deep Ellum bar in Allston, Mass., found all the ciders he tasted too sweet, too one-note. "Just apple juice," in his words. And for the most part, he was right: The majority of modern American cider is made not with old-fashioned cider apples—tannic, complex, powerfully sour fruit full of the acids that give good cider its sweet-sharp balance—but with the lunchbox-friendly sugar bombs most domestic orchard acreage is given over to these days.

Then, 10 years ago, Mr. Toste had a fateful sip. A friend had a find he wanted Mr. Toste—always a fan of odd, old beverages—to try. The corked, green-glass bottle with an indecipherable label held no clues. The liquid inside, poured into a delicate, thimble-size cup, was cloudy and nearly flat. And yet that cool dram gave off fireworks of flavor: tangy, earthy, spicy, bone-dry. "I couldn't believe how complex it was," Mr. Toste recalled.

He had found sidra, and he went on to make an enthusiastic study of this category. Spain grows hundreds of apple varieties—some 200 in Asturias, a region not quite the size of Connecticut on the Bay of Biscay from which most Spanish cider hails. These are "craggly apples you can't eat raw," Mr. Toste said. Varieties range from puckering Raxao to sharply bitter Regona, and frequently a single sidra will feature several.

And whereas American and British cider makers favor clean- and crisp-fermenting lab-grown yeasts, sidra ferments *au naturel*, slowly and with relatively little resulting carbonation, thanks to wild yeasts and souring bacteria in the orchards where the apples grow. "It's not about intervening or interfering, but curating what nature does," said James Asbel, founder of U.S. importer Ciders of Spain.

Though made simply, cider is served with flourish in Spain, poured from a wall-mounted barrel or bottle held high, sending a long arc of liquid into a small glass called a *culín*. The real point of this trick, called *escanciar*, or throwing,



F. MARTIN RAMÍREZ / THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

PICK OF THE BUNCH // OUTSTANDING SPANISH CIDERS TO SIP THIS FALL

1 Trabanco Cosecha Pro-

pia (6% ABV) A great entry-level cider, sour and simple like Granny Smiths and grapefruits. Soft enough to drink alone but with a cutting edge that complements mellow, lighter autumn fare like *fabada*, an Asturian bean stew.

2 Guzmán Riestra Sidra Brut Nature (8% ABV) Bot-

tled using France's traditional méthode Champenoise, this bright and bubbling geyser of sharp funk is a perfect pairing with oysters.

3 Isastegi Sagardo Natu-

rala (6% ABV) Funky and fresh, a Basque Country splash of salty ocean spray, racing and prickly. The fruit comes through woody and musty—fallen apples in

4 Sidra Natural Riestra

(6% ABV) Made from equal quantities tannic Normandy apples and sour Spanish ones, this cider is still, dry and cloudy with a smoothly lactic, buttermilk bite. Great with fried seafood.

5 Viuda de Angelón 1947 Sidra de Nueva Expresión

(5.2% ABV) Slightly sparkling, spicy and warm as fresh-

baked pie. Less sharp than most, this one's nice served at room temperature, to let its fuller-bodied sweetness shine.

6 Viuda de Angelón 1947 Sidra de Pera

(5.2% ABV) Slightly sparkling, spicy and warm as fresh-

baked pie. Less sharp than most, this one's nice served at room temperature, to let its fuller-bodied sweetness shine.

7 Bordatto Basa Jaun

(7% ABV) A variety show of 19 different apples, blended and bottle-aged. Slightly sweet with a rough, mineral finish: green apple rock candy, emphasis on the rock.

is aeration. The atmosphere at Spanish cider houses is raucous—sawdust-covered floors sodden with cast-off dregs, rafters echoing folk songs—and above the din, the ceremonial, thunderous *txotx*, or tapping of the cider barrels.

In autumn, cider is served with harvest feasts of hearty farm-country fare. "The north of Spain is similar to the northeast U.S. in its weather and its food," said Jonah Miller, chef at Huertas, a restaurant in Manhattan heavily focused on the cooking (and accompanying drinks) of northern Spain. "In Asturias, rich stews and braises. In the Basque Country, big T-bone steaks." For all of which cider makes an ideal match. "In winter you might

want something heavier, like a red wine, but in fall cider is light and refreshing but tart enough to cut the fat," Mr. Miller added.

'In winter you might want something heavier, like a red wine, but in fall cider is light and refreshing.'

Fitting, then, that the best places to find these ciders in America are a new generation of restaurants like Huertas that aim to reveal a more

nuanced picture of Spanish food, beyond the tired tapas and paellas that have often stood in for Iberian cuisine in this country. A combination of new Spanish cooking and customers willing to explore the more adventurous flavors of funk and sour have set the stage for sidra to gain ground here.

Still, sidra can, as yet, be hard to find outside of restaurants already hip to its charms. And when you do come upon a few sidras at your local bottle shop, how to choose the best? Mr. Toste has his own rule of thumb: The less English on the label, the better. "Look for all those crazy Basque words, lots of Ts and Xs."

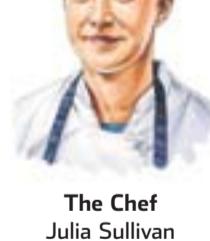
Forget helpful listings of apple

varieties or stamps indicating protected designation of origin. But you can generalize: "Basque ciders have a reputation of being more vinegary, more acetic, more tannic," said Mr. Toste. "They're made in a coastal area with more salt in the air, and closer to France, so they use French apples, which are more tannic." Asturian cider skews earthier and funkier.

But each cider producer is as unique as its trees and the microbes flourishing among them. Blame—or thank—that untamed fermentation. Nature commands the process of making sidra. They're all exciting, but the only way to truly know what's in each bottle is to taste for yourself.

SLOW FOOD FAST SATISFYING AND SEASONAL FOOD IN ABOUT 30 MINUTES

Steamed Clams With Basil-Cilantro Pesto



The Chef
Julia Sullivan

Her Restaurant

Henrietta Red in

Nashville, Tenn.

What She's Known For

Cooking that's at once modern and cozy. A way with shellfish, from raw to roasted. Fresh, bright dishes suffused with the flavor of wood fire.

CLAMS GIVE so much and ask so little. Just don't overcook them. That's about all you need to know to enjoy these bivalves at their plump and briny best.

At Henrietta Red in Nashville, chef Julia Sullivan has made shellfish a specialty. "Our clams are shipped in twice a week from a great producer out in Washington State," she said. She does right by them with a fast steam over high heat, preserving the clams' tenderness and catching their flavorful brine in a simple pan sauce.

In this version, her third Slow Food Fast recipe, Ms. Sullivan combines quick-

cooked clams with diced tomatoes, fennel and white wine. "It's summery and light," she said—just the thing for this in-between season when the days are still warm but the nights are longer and a bit chillier. For a little added heat, toss in a couple of minced Fresno chiles.

A swirl of basil-cilantro pesto stirred in before serving makes a delicious sauce of the clams' fragrant cooking broth, with a herbal edge and a bit of heat. Be sure to serve some crusty bread on the side to sop up every drop.

—Kitty Greenwald

TOTAL TIME: 15 minutes SERVES: 4

- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 cups basil leaves
- 1½ cups cilantro leaves
- ½ cup olive oil
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- ½ lemon

- 1 medium yellow onion, minced
- 1 large fennel bulb, finely minced
- 2 Fresno chiles, seeded and minced (optional)
- ¼ cup white wine

- 48 Manila clams or littleneck clams, cleaned and purged of grit
- 1 large tomato, diced
- 4 slices toasted country bread

- In a blender or food processor, pulse half the garlic with basil and cilantro. With motor running, drizzle in half the oil and season with salt and lemon juice to taste. Set pesto aside.
- Set a lidded heavy pot over medium heat. Swirl in remaining olive oil. Once oil is hot, add onions and fennel, and sweat until soft but not yet taking on color, about 5 minutes. Add remaining garlic and chiles, if using. Cook until aromatic, about 2 minutes.
- Add wine, increase heat to high and bring to a boil. Stir in clams, cover and cook until

- shells begin to open, about 3 minutes. Add tomatoes and continue cooking, covered, until clams open completely and meat is plump, about 4 minutes more. Remove pan from heat and discard any clams that haven't opened.
- With a slotted spoon or tongs, divide clams among four bowls, leaving broth in pan. Stir half the pesto into broth, taste and adjust seasoning with salt and lemon juice.
- Ladle broth and vegetables over clams and drizzle remaining pesto over top. Serve with bread and an empty bowl for shells.



HOT TAKE Steamed over high heat just until they open, the clams in this recipe remain plump as they release their flavorful brine into the cooking broth.

KATE SEARS FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, FOOD STYLING BY JAMIE KIMM, PROP STYLING BY NUDIA CUEVA; ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL HOEWELE

DESIGN & DECORATING

PILGRIMAGE

How I Warmed To Concrete

A graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy returns to its celebrated but imposing library—and gets it

BY SARA BLISS

THE FIRST TIME I saw the library at Phillips Exeter Academy, I didn't understand the fuss. For five hours in the car, my interior-designer mother raved about this triumph by mid-20th-century architect Louis I. Kahn. Arriving at the school's admissions office for my interview, however, I distinctly remember my 14-year-old self glancing at the library and thinking that nothing about the 1971 building said "masterpiece."

The brick nine-story cube—its corners chamfered and its windows and doorways forming a grid—stood bulky and boxy alongside the New Hampshire prep school's neo-Georgian dorms. Later, we passed through one of its unassuming glass and aluminum doors and entered a narrow vestibule dominated by a travertine double staircase. The steps' solid balustrades blocked our view until we reached the top—and then the heavens opened and the architecture angels sang. "Isn't it incredible?" my mother asked. It was impossible not to be awe-struck.

'Kahn's library asks something of you in terms of engagement.'

The atrium soars 67 feet, capped by massive concrete X beams filtering light from windows just above. Its concrete walls boast huge circular cutouts, across which run four open stories housing the book stacks, their in-facing walls clad in teak. "When you arrive at that central void you are delivered into an architecture that has a lot more presence and grandeur than the Georgian buildings outside," explained William Hall, author of "Concrete" (Phaidon), a book on contemporary buildings constructed of the material.

Still, during my first two years at Exeter, I almost never used the library. It was echoey and often cold. The built-in oak carrels and their spindle chairs, positioned near windows, were assigned to day students so they had a home base on campus. Boarders' versions were set away from the windows. I studied in the snugness of my room.

Senior year, I realized my lagging grades required me to sequester myself from the pull of friends across the hall and MTV dance parties in the common room. The utter quiet of the library served.

Kahn dispensed with the classic library layout: a central reading room with rows of desks and sallow



Spindle chairs add a touch of history.

lamp light. His square atrium remains nearly empty, and the outer rings of each floor offer sun-drenched sanctuaries that I found after some exploring.

Four cozy red armchairs on the main floor, each framed by an oversize rectangular window, and an empty carrel with views of the tree-tops became my go-to spots. All flood with light during the day.

William Whittaker, University of Pennsylvania Curator of the Architectural Archives, is not surprised the library revealed its charms to me slowly. "It's not just a building, it is a work of art, and works of art take time," he said. "Kahn's library asks something of you in terms of engagement and connection."

I recently returned to the library, after two decades. The moment at the top of the stairs still took my breath away. This time, however, I kicked myself for not spending every minute I could studying there.

Almost 50 years old, the building remains contemporary; its massive cutouts and materials cutting-edge. "Concrete paired with teak provides instant tension and excitement in the space," said Mr. Hall.

Today, the formerly industrial material still conveys modernity. Retailers like West Elm and CB2 hawk concrete tables, stools, planters. "It has a clean contemporary look that brings a lot of dimension to a space," explained Olivia Rassow of AllModern, a retail site devoted to contemporary furniture.

Architect and designer Craig Bassam, inspired by a 2011 trip to Exeter library, created his own take on the spindle chair for BassamFellows. "Kahn didn't choose chairs that would have identified the building as a 1970s structure," he said. "He chose an archetype that is super minimal and structurally sound. Kind of a radical choice."

Kahn's obsession with natural light stayed with me after my revisit. At home, I usually huddle at my desk in a corner of the apartment. Today, I moved to the dining table, which sun hits all day. Everything seems clearer, crisper, even happier bathed in light.

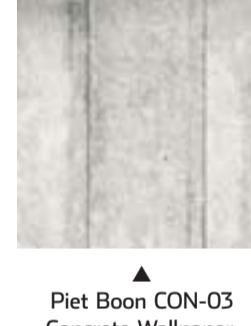


IWAN BAAN (INTERIORS)

KAHN ARTISTRY // THE STYLE OF THE MODERNIST'S MASTERPIECE BROUGHT HOME



Concrete Tape Dispenser
Small, \$25, areaware.com



Piet Boon CON-03
Concrete Wallpaper,
\$299 per roll, nlxl.com



Matter
Lamp, \$319,
schoolhouse.com



BassamFellows
Spindle Chair,
from \$1,630,
dwr.com



Mid-Century Wall Desk,
\$1,600, westelm.com



Cubic Geometry
SIX-11, \$400,
davidumemoto.com



Lipscomb Coffee Table, \$725,
allmodern.com

FRESH PICK



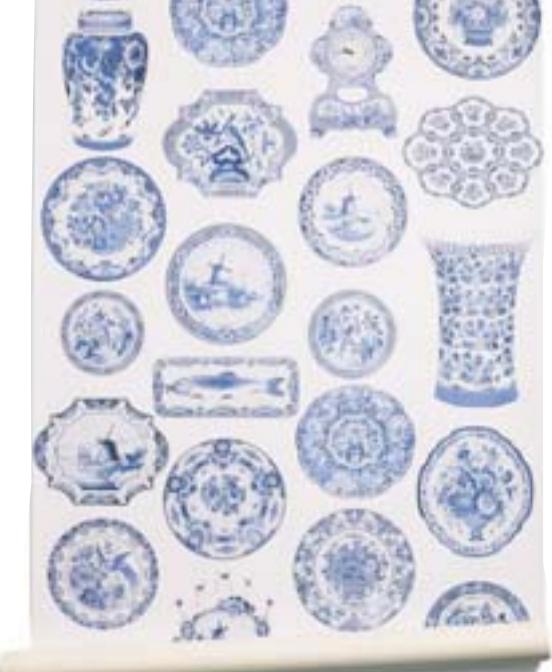
Clockwise from top: Royal Delft Blue Fabric in Eternity, Inspiration and Icons Patterns, \$284 per yard, starkcarpet.com

A TWIST OF PLATE

The famed Delft pottery pattern is reimaged as dishy fabrics and wall-coverings

WE ALL KNOW the iconic Delft pattern: the blue-and-white windmills, peacocks, florals that hail from Holland and are as deeply Dutch as Vermeer. But until recently, it lived chiefly on pottery. For the first time in the 400-year history of Royal Delft, the last remaining factory of 33 in the earthenware's namesake city, the pattern is migrating deftly to furniture and walls. This fall, Scalamandre introduces the Nicolette Mayer-Royal Delft Collection of 17 wallpaper designs and 10 textiles.

Ms. Mayer, a Palm Springs, Fla.-based textile designer, collaborated with the legendary delftware factory, combining motifs from pottery introduced in the late-1700s with more modern touches. She also brought a welcome breath of modernity to the wallpaper by using grass cloth and nonwoven papers that might have disoriented Vermeer. Interior designer Mark Sikes suggests using the same pattern of wallpaper and fabric to envelop, drape, even upholster a single room: "It creates a single point of view and it's also so easy." The delicate floral prints lend themselves to a bedroom while the tableware-heavy motifs better suit a kitchen or dining room, creating the illusion that different plates—and rather precious ones at that—hang on the wall. —Eleanore Park



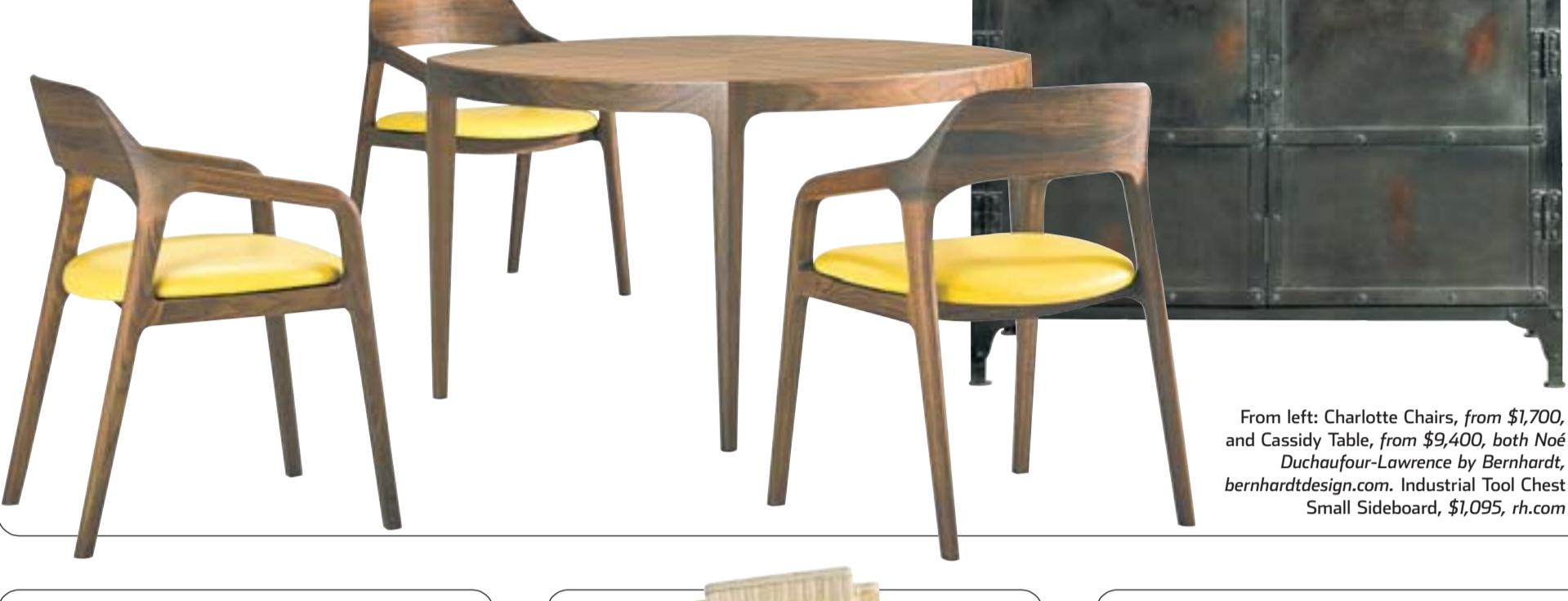
Royal Delft Collections Blue Wallpaper,
\$184 per yard, starkcarpet.com

DESIGN & DECORATING

THE MEDIATOR

In Search of Finer Dining

The Challenge To bridge the stylistic conflict in a couple's dining room between a hulking iron sideboard and a refined, Midcentury Modern-inflected table set. Designers suggest pieces that will help the two get along



From left: Charlotte Chairs, from \$1,700, and Cassidy Table, from \$9,400, both Noé Duchaufour-Lawrence by Bernhardt, bernhardtdesign.com. Industrial Tool Chest Small Sideboard, \$1,095, rh.com



Solution 1

Introduce metal and wood shelves, then fill them with a unifying color. New York architect and interior designer Charles Nafie recommends Altai shelving, from Skram Furniture. Ebonized ash wood shelves and metal supports combine the materials of the elegant walnut dining set and right-angled iron sideboard. And the unit's grid, so light and airy, combines geometry and grace. "Then you bring some life and color with accessories in the unit," he said, "possibly tying in with the color of the upholstery you've chosen for the seats." Altai Shelving, \$8,375, skramfurniture.com



Solution 2

Add a lamp that's both organic and geometric. "I love how the rounded body speaks to the table and chairs and the square shade relates to the panels in the chest," said Los Angeles designer Amy Sklar of the French midcentury light fixture she suggested. The ceramic's random, naturalistic pattern and texture balances the industrial character of the sideboard, which is modeled on a turn-of-the-20th-century French toolbox. And, of course, the lamp's color "brings in the yellow of the dining chairs' upholstery." Monumental Vintage Yellow Ceramic Lamp, \$975, chairish.com



Solution 3

Borrow scale from the chest and color from the seats' upholstery. New York designer Caleb Anderson recommends this nearly 3-foot-square giclee print. Sizable, dramatic and squared-off, it echoes the buffet's weighty presence but also nods to the table and chairs in its palette and 1950s-style abstraction. Mr. Anderson said many home-goods retailers now include art in their offerings, including affordable high-quality prints that give a sense of brush strokes. "It gives people the opportunity to have artwork of size in their home," he said. Sun Kissed Abstracts, from \$850, wshome.com —Catherine Romano

FLOWER SCHOOL



THE INSPIRATION

Willow and fading Limelight hydrangea capture the sadness of painter Amedeo Modigliani's portrait, 'Lunia Czechowska' (1919)

Vessel: Nancy Bauch of White Forest Pottery, designer's own



THE ARRANGEMENT

A FALL BOUQUET À LA MODIGLIANI

Floral designer Lindsey Taylor riffs on a melancholy portrait by the Italian artist

THE MOURNFUL MOOD of artist Amedeo Modigliani's work seemed apt for a season marked by decay and the baring of trees. So, for my September arrangement, I was understandably drawn to "Modigliani Unmasked," an exhibit running until Feb. 4 at the Jewish Museum of New York, particularly this affecting 1919 oil portrait, "Lunia

Czechowska."

I started with an almost black vase I've long owned, as attenuated and somber as Lunia herself. Sometimes when the vessel looks so much like the art work, it's tricky to avoid making the floral portion look redundant. So I kept the flowers, all from my yard, simple.

Leafy salix purpurea 'Nana'

willow had the right sage color and busyness of the brushy background. Fading Hydrangea paniculata 'Limelight'—white, cream and pink—echoed the subject's face, and the buttery green of a zinnia stood in for the highlights in her skin. An annual, Ammi 'Dara,' added a cascade of plums and pinks, its droop aping Lunia's forlornness.

FAST FIVE

THROWAWAY REMARKABLE

We searched for wastepaper baskets that aren't covered with twee florals or decoupage spaniels. Below, the results

Swing Bin, about \$70,
store.moheim.com

Quartz Modern Recycling Bin,
\$48, rebinus.com



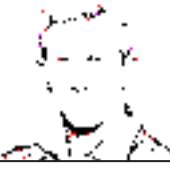
Sophia Black Wire Wastecan, \$50, cb2.com Hollywood Wastebasket, \$98, jonathanadler.com

Painted Lady Waste Bin, \$275, nickeykehoe.com

Market Edit by Cara Gibbs

GEAR & GADGETS

RUMBLE SEAT DAN NEIL



Frankfurt 2017: China, EVs, and Dieselgate

TWO WEEKS ago (Sept. 11), the night before the IAA Frankfurt International Motor Show opened to the press, I strolled through the doors of Daimler Mercedes-Benz' vast, lighter-than-air pavilion thinking I knew the story. I even had a headline: Daimler AG's Stuck Throttle.

The oldest of the German automaking giants, Daimler's recent financials have rocked. Group revenue was up 3% (153.3 billion euro) in 2016, with record profits (8.8 billion). Mercedes-Benz Cars in particular has come roaring back to retake the title of world's number-one premium luxury brand. Sales were up 9% in Q2 2017 alone. Product design is killing it.

Even the Formula One team is winning. Lounging on stage, an Amazonian creature in a windswept carbon-fiber negligee: the Mercedes-AMG Project ONE, a street-legal hypercar built around the +1,000-hp hybrid powertrain of a Formula One car. Each of 275 copies costs \$2.7 million Euros. The engine revs to over 11 grand. That should be lively.

But Daimler's solemn commitment to eternally high returns, what it calls a "sustainable" 10% net profit to shareholders, means it can't let off the throttle, ever. And it's heading for a wall. A Great Wall. In China.

See? I even had catchy phrases at the ready.

Two days before Daimler's pep rally, on Sept. 9, industry ministers in China confirmed that, like France, the U.K., Norway and the Netherlands, the world's largest vehicle market (24.4 million in 2016) would phase out fossil-fuel vehicle sales in favor of widespread, state-sponsored vehicle electrification.

Because of climate change? Sort of, sure. But with its cities shrouded with deadly tailpipe smog, China's air-quality concerns are more regional than global. The nation of 1.37 billion souls is also trying to kick the imported-oil habit. China has already outlined



tough electrification mandates for automakers, with costly penalties behind them, that have left the German automakers crying for mercy. With German Chancellor Angela Merkel's help, they got the start date pushed back to 2019.

Though not unexpected, China's announcement brings two things to the EV battery industry it sorely needs: certainty of demand (albeit compulsory) and scale. Global battery production is expected to double in the next five years. As down-payment on its plan to lead the world in energy storage devices, China will add 120 gigawatt-hours of annual battery production capacity by 2021. That's three times the output of Tesla's Gigafactory. VW Group board member for research and development Ulrich Eichhorn told Automotive News the company will need more than

200 gigawatt-hours worth of batteries by 2025 to meet its goals.

Now sooner than later, China's mandates will push the market price of batteries below the \$100/kWh threshold at which—thereabouts, all things equal—an EV design attains cost-parity with an internal-combustion vehicle. After that, Katy bar the door.

The other skunk at Daimler's picnic was Dieselgate. Two years after clean-air investigators discovered emissions-cheating software in VW Group products, affecting 11 million vehicles world-wide, the scandal and public ire has become general. In remarks from the stage, Daimler AG chairman Dr. Dieter Zetsche pushed back on growing sentiment in Europe to restrict diesel vehicles if not ban them altogether. "It's a fact that it's worthwhile to improve modern diesel engines rather than to ban

them," Mr. Zetsche said. "That is why Daimler has invested 3 billion euros in the further development of our diesel engines."

With respect, that is a bit post-hoc: It's the 3 billion euros already spent that makes it worthwhile, not the other way around. Even the Project ONE raised an eyebrow.

In any event, Mr. Zetsche will have to take it up with the people and parliaments of Europe. In two years, diesel's market share has fallen by 8%. In the home court of Germany, sales fell 14% in August from 2016. Madrid, Paris, and Athens have announced diesel bans to combat urban concentrations of NOx and particulates, coming fully into force by 2025. Even Daimler's hometown of Stuttgart wants to brush the city's famous soot from its shoulders.

It's worse that it looks. In West-

ern Europe the carmakers depend on the profits from large luxury vehicles, many with diesel engines, which produce less carbon per kilometer than gasoline equivalents. Without diesel's carbon offset, automakers have no hope of meeting the European Union's

China's EV mandates represent a whole new industrial super-gravity.

fleet-average standards (95 grams per kilometer by 2021) or avoiding hefty pollution fines, Brussels' bill for noncompliance.

The theme of Mercedes-Benz' gala was #settingthemoed; but everywhere I looked I saw #sunkcost-fallacy, the human tendency to double-down on bad bets, for fear of losing what economists call sunk costs. But sunk costs are not recoverable in any case, thus the fallacy.

It's hard knowing when to walk away. But walk away, Diesel is politically doomed in Europe. China's electrification mandates represent a whole new industrial super-gravity. Given these events, and rising public sanction, Mr. Zetsche, how long can the German car industry afford to hang on to diesel? Long enough to recover sunk costs? Oh dear.

Anyway, even that wasn't the big story, the real story. Did you see those heels F1 driver Lewis Hamilton was wearing? G'wan, mate.



BMW Concept X7 iPerformance is a near-production-ready full-size, three-row SUV. Without diesel, German automakers' big-car profits in Europe are at risk.



The electric, autonomous Audi Aicon (A.I.) concept offers a preview of driverless luxury cars. There are no pedals or steering wheel in the cabin.

THE FIXER MICHAEL HSU



Tiny Tech Hacks for When You're in a Pinch

OVER THREE-AND-A-HALF years, I've had the privilege of trying to solve your tech and gadget problems. I'll be moving on to other adventures soon. For my last column, I wanted to share a few tips that readers of The Fixer—a very inventive group—have shared with me.

Turning Your iPhone Into A Magnifier

After I ran a column about gadgets for reading small type, Larry Winans emailed me about a trick he uses to turn his iPhone or iPad into a digital magnifier: Open the Camera app, aim your device at the offending tiny text, then zoom in on it using the pinch-out gesture. "You can vary the zoom level easily," Mr. Winans writes. The iPhone and iPad's official Magnifier function, enabled by going to "Settings" followed by "General" and "Accessibility," achieves the same effect.

E-Books on the Cheap

In response to a column about ways to score free e-books, Jim Vander Spek and others emailed to let me know about BookBub (bookbub.com), a site that alerts you to

discounted titles for your Kindle and other e-readers. After you register with the site, it emails you updates so you can track specific authors or genres as relevant books go on sale. Among the current titles the site is highlighting: Martha Stewart's "Martha's American Food," and Jon Meacham's Pulitzer Prize-winning biography of Andrew Jackson, "American Lion"; both are selling for \$3.

More than a few readers expressed surprise that I hadn't mentioned Project Gutenberg, a volunteer-run site that offers over 54,000 free e-books. You can import Project Gutenberg books to a Kindle by opening the Kindle's web browser and visiting m.gutenberg.org. Alternatively, import titles to your smartphone's Kindle app. Just visit the same URL from your smartphone's web browser, choose a title, then tap the Kindle format. You'll be prompted to "Open in Kindle." Agree, and—whoosh—the book is yours.

A Duct Tape Alternative

As you might expect, I can't live without duct tape, but I'm not crazy about the gummy residue it sometimes leaves. Gaffer tape pos-



ses similar fix-it-all powers but comes off more cleanly and tears more neatly. Allen Green emailed me about a product his company offers called MicroGaffer (microgaffer.com). It's the same gaffer tape that photo, video and audio

pros use to wrap cables, but while theirs arrives in a huge heavy roll (usually weighing over a pound), 1-inch-wide MicroGaffer is sold in a more manageable size that weighs just 2 ounces. MicroGaffer costs \$21.50 for a four-roll pack.

Tweezers That Are Worth The Investment

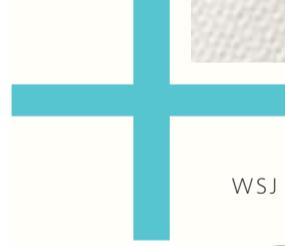
Finally, a colleague asked if there was any product that I love but haven't had a chance to recommend. One that came immediately to mind: Rubis tweezers (rubis.ch), which make easy work of removing a recalcitrant tick or barely visible splinter. Whereas using lesser tweezers can feel like trying to grab something with slippery mittens, Rubis are precise. Each pair is made by hand in Switzerland to exacting standards—evident in the way the tiny tool offers a firm and sure grip. Rubis tweezers are expensive—around \$40—but very durable. I've had mine for over a decade and they still look like new.

IT'S BEEN AN honor writing this column. Thank you for reading and for sharing your frustrations and insights with me. In his final personal-advice column for Salon, Garrison Keillor wrote, "It was exhilarating to get the chance to be useful, which is always an issue for a writer." I feel the same way. My sincere thanks for the opportunity to solve a small, specific problem or two.

KIERSTEN ESSENPREIS



Chef Gabriela Cámara's "Mexican Street Foods" Collection



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