



# WSJ

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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - 30, 2018 ~ VOL. CCLXXII NO. 76

WSJ.com ★★★★ \$5.00

## What's News

### World-Wide

The fight over Kavanaugh took another unexpected turn as Sen. Flake forced a delay of up to one week on a Senate vote in order to allow the FBI time to investigate allegations of sexual assault against the judge. A1, A4

◆ Mexico's president-elect said he would push to keep Canada in Nafta, as Mexican officials worked to try to broker a last-minute deal between Washington and Ottawa. A8

◆ Rosenstein agreed to meet with lawmakers about reports he discussed secretly recording Trump and recruiting cabinet members to remove him. A3

◆ A House panel voted to make public the transcripts of more than 50 interviews from its Russia probe. A3

◆ Republicans again dialed up pressure on tech giants over alleged anticonservative bias and other issues. A3

◆ The deadly bombing of a Yemeni school bus by a Saudi-led military coalition has ignited a new debate in the Trump administration. A6

◆ The U.S. will close its consulate in Basra, Iraq, citing security risks from Iran. A6

◆ At least six Palestinians were killed in clashes with Israeli security forces. A6

### Business & Finance

◆ Facebook said hackers had gained access to nearly 50 million accounts, in what amounts to the largest-ever security breach at the social network. A1

◆ Musk believes he had a verbal agreement with a Saudi fund to help finance a Tesla buyout, a contention that could provide a preview of how he will fight SEC allegations. A1

◆ U.S. consumer spending cooled slightly in August from the strong pace of growth this spring. A2

◆ Harvard's endowment gained 10% in the latest fiscal year, a lukewarm showing as it plays catch-up with other top endowments. B1

◆ Slack is preparing for an IPO next year and expects it could achieve a valuation well above \$7 billion. B1

◆ The Dow rose 18.38 points to 26458.31 to end a quarter in which all three major indexes hit highs. B11

◆ LendingClub settled Justice Department and SEC cases. The firm's ex-CEO and its former finance chief reached settlements with the SEC. B10

◆ CBS received subpoenas from New York officials regarding allegations of harassment by Moonves and others. B3

## Inside

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Of Malaysia's  
Mahathir

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# FBI Probe Delays Kavanaugh Vote



Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona, center, with fellow Republican Sens. Thom Tillis of North Carolina, standing at left, Mike Crapo of Idaho, seated at left, and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, right, after a Judiciary Committee hearing on Judge Brett Kavanaugh on Capitol Hill.

WASHINGTON—The fight over Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh took another unexpected turn Friday when Sen. Jeff Flake forced a delay of up to one week on a Senate vote to allow the FBI time to investigate decades-old allegations of sexual assault against the judge. In a tumultuous day, Mr.

By Kristina Peterson,  
Natalie Andrews  
and Rebecca Ballhaus

Flake (R., Ariz.) both provided the key vote to advance Judge Kavanaugh through the Judiciary Committee and used a threat of later withholding his support to force GOP leaders to slow the confirmation process.

"This country is being ripped apart here, and we have to be sure we're doing due diligence," Mr. Flake said at the hearing, ending frenzied negotiations that saw lawmakers slipping off the committee dais to head into a nearby anteroom corridor to join the conversations.

By day's end, a White House that had been "shellshocked" by Friday's events, according to a

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◆ Friends in focus for FBI investigation..... A4

## Musk Views Verbal Agreement as Defense

Tesla Inc. CEO Elon Musk believes he had a verbal agreement in place with Saudi Arabia's sovereign-wealth fund to help finance a plan to take the auto maker private, according

By Tim Higgins,  
Dave Michaels  
and Susan Pulliam

to a person familiar with the matter, a contention that could preview how he will fight regulators' accusation that he misled shareholders.

Mr. Musk was sued Thursday by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which alleged that he misled investors when he tweeted last month

that he had funding secured to lead a Tesla buyout. The agency, which is seeking to oust Mr. Musk from Tesla, said in its complaint that he "knew that he had never discussed a going-private transaction at \$420 per share with any potential funding source."

Mr. Musk believes the SEC's effort is flawed in assuming that a written agreement and fixed price were necessary for a deal, the person said. Mr. Musk also thinks regulators aren't taking into account that Middle Eastern businesses routinely operate using verbal agreements in principle, the person said.

In addition, Mr. Musk has

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## Facebook Hackers Access Nearly 50 Million Accounts

BY DEEPA SEETHARAMAN  
AND ROBERT McMILLAN

Facebook Inc. said hackers gained access to nearly 50 million accounts in what amounts to the largest-ever security breach at the social network at a time when it is working to regain the trust of its more than 2 billion users.

The company said Friday it didn't know who was behind the attack, which was discovered earlier this week. Hackers could have gained access to the

accounts as early as July 2017, the company said.

Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg said Facebook didn't have evidence the attackers had accessed people's private messages and posts, or posted as those users. But he didn't rule out that possibility. "The investigation is still very early so we do not yet know if any of the accounts were actually misused," he said. "This, of course, may change."

Mr. Zuckerberg and Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg were among those affected by the breach, Facebook said.

Executives said the attack was sophisticated, requiring the hackers to find and exploit three obscure flaws in its code. They said it would be difficult to determine who was behind it. "And we may never know," said Guy Rosen, Facebook's executive in charge of safety and security.

Facebook said Friday that it was still investigating the scope of the breach. Security re-

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## Criminals With Dirty Money Find Ally in Crypto Startups

Analysis shows millions flowing into an exchange run out of Denver

BY JUSTIN SCHECK AND SHANE SHIFFLETT

A North Korean agent, a stolen-credit-card peddler and the mastermind of an \$80 million Ponzi scheme had a common problem. They needed to launder their dirty money.

They found a common solution in ShapeShift AG, an online exchange backed by established American venture-capital firms that lets people anonymously trade bitcoin, which police can track, for other digital currencies that can't be followed.

Since bitcoin was introduced nearly 10 years ago, law-enforcement authorities have worried the technology could ease money laundering. Now a new breed of cryptocurrency intermediary is giving fresh urgency to those fears, operating in plain view with scant policing and often allowing users to engage in anonymous transactions.

A Wall Street Journal investigation identified nearly \$90 million in suspected criminal proceeds that flowed through such intermediaries over two years.

Most operate beyond the reach of U.S. authorities, with unidentified owners and addresses in places such as Eastern Europe and China.

Not ShapeShift, the largest recipient of the funds with a U.S. presence. The company is officially registered in loosely regulated Switzerland, but it is run out of a 1980s-era office building in a Denver neighborhood packed with tech companies and marijuana entrepreneurs. ShapeShift's founder and chief executive, Erik Voorhees, along with its chief operating officer and its marketing chief, all live in the Denver area.

The company's financial backers include

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## Tsunami Sweeps Indonesian Island



COASTAL DEVASTATION: A tsunami wave up to 5 feet high slammed parts of the Indonesian island of Sulawesi following a magnitude 7.4 earthquake on Friday. A8

## Dunkin' Fans Say Losing the 'Donut' Leaves a Hole

\* \* \*

Renaming sparks nostalgia; 'they do away with crullers...now this'

BY IRA IOSEBASHVILI  
AND ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS

While fans of Dunkin' Brands Group Inc. bemoaned the chain's decision this week to delete "Donuts" from the name of its flagship coffee shops, Jamie Cooke heard opportunity knocking.

The 27-year-old assistant executive director at a television station in East Longmeadow, Mass., stopped by the stores on her morning run Thursday. She was looking for

mugs bearing the soon-to-be-replaced "Dunkin' Donuts" logo, betting that they're bound to become collectors' items. She already owns three bearing the "DD" label and another from the 1990s that says "Dunkin' Donuts."

"In 10 years, those are going to be retro," she said. "Who knows what else I can add to my Dunkin' collection by then."

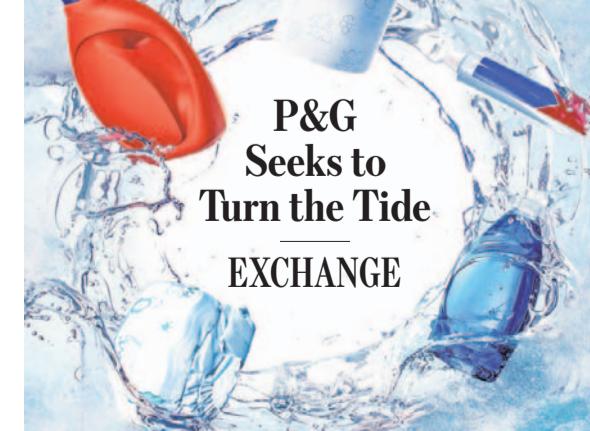
The Canton, Mass.-based coffee chain said Tuesday that "Donuts" will start disappearing from the signage on its

9,261 restaurants across the U.S. in January. Packaging, advertisements and other branded materials will start using the new one-word name that month, too.

The sunsetting of the full, nearly seven-decade-old name is already provoking a burst of nostalgia from longtime customers who see the orange-and-fuchsia Dunkin' Donuts

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◆ Dunkin' Quinoa? Jason Gay on corporate rebranding.... C18



P&G  
Seeks to  
Turn the Tide

EXCHANGE

## U.S. NEWS

THE NUMBERS | By Jo Craven McGinty

## In Baseball, There's No Wrong Way to Slide



Baseball experts agree that running is faster than sliding. But when skidding

to the bag is necessary to evade a tag or stick to the base, the question changes:

Which is faster—head-first or feet-first?

Theoretically, diving to base should be quicker because it maintains forward momentum.

But studies measuring the amount of time it takes to get from one base to the next have found little or no difference between the two.

**T**he experiments typically involve athletes who are college-age or younger. Often, only a handful of base runners are timed. And usually, the measurements aren't taken during an actual game, when adrenaline or competitiveness might influence performance.

One of the larger trials, published in the peer-reviewed American Journal of Sports Medicine, tested 60 athletes, including 14 Little League players, 23 high-school players, 14 junior-col-

lege players and nine members of a Top 10 nationally ranked university team.

All of the runners were timed scrambling from first to second base, beginning with their first forward motion and ending when they tagged second. A total of 180 slides were timed: 90 head-first and 90 feet-first.

The researchers, a trio of orthopedists from the University of Texas at Galveston, measured each run with three standard stopwatches and averaged the results. Each player also ran three times with only the fastest pace used for the evaluation.

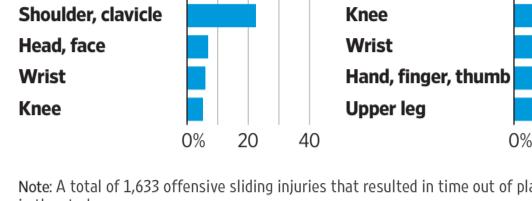
On average, the college players made it to second in 3.85 seconds when sliding headfirst and in 3.78 seconds when sliding feet first. The younger athletes were slower overall, but their feet-first slides also beat out their head-first slides by a fraction of a second.

The difference—which wasn't statistically significant—could be because more of the body hits the ground in a headfirst slide, with additional friction coming from the uniform's buttons, belt and waistband.

## Where It Hurts

Percentage of sliding injuries by location in Major and Minor League Baseball that resulted in time out of play during five seasons from 2011-2015

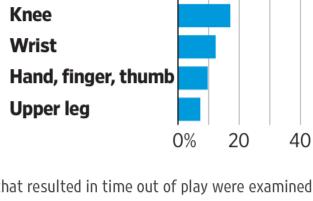
## Head-first slides



Note: A total of 1,633 offensive sliding injuries that resulted in time out of play were examined in the study.

Source: American Journal of Sports Medicine

## Feet-first slides



Note: A total of 1,633 offensive sliding injuries that resulted in time out of play were examined in the study.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

the potential for injury.

Last year, researchers from the Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins, Children's Hospital Colorado and the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York examined offensive sliding injuries that caused players to miss days in Major and Minor League Baseball from 2011 through 2015.

The study, paid for in part by MLB, used data from the Health and Injury Tracking System—HITS for short—which records injuries for all 30 major league teams and their 230 minor-league affiliates. The researchers exam-

ined 1,633 sliding injuries.

Head-first slides were responsible for 43.7% of the injuries, while feet-first slides were responsible for 56.3%.

**B**ecause of the greater risk of neck and shoulder damage, head-first slides are considered more dangerous (especially for children). But in this group, the portions of injuries that required surgery were nearly identical: 8% of injuries sustained while sliding head-first led to surgery, compared with 8.4% of injuries sustained while sliding feet-first.

But the study also suggested that head-first slides occur more frequently with 1 in 249 causing injury, compared with 1 in 411 feet-first slides.

"That would suggest that maybe the injuries are not any more severe," said Christopher Camp, an orthopedic surgeon at the Mayo Clinic, who co-wrote the study.

"They're just more common for the head-first slides."

The researchers didn't break down injuries that required surgery by type of slide, but overall, hand and finger injuries accounted for

31.3% of the surgeries, more than any other type of damage, followed by injuries to the shoulder (20.1%), knee (14.9%) and ankle (12.7%).

Perhaps surprisingly given the attention granted to the maneuver, sliding into base accounts for only a small portion of all baseball injuries.

Only 4.5% of Major and Minor League Baseball injuries causing at least one lost day of play happened when players slid into base, according to an analysis of 49,955 injuries from 2011 through 2016 published this year in the American Journal of Sports Medicine. In comparison, 19.7% happened when batting, 19.3% when pitching and 18% when fielding.

So, if the speed is essentially the same and, once injured, the rates of surgery are similar, what else might influence a base runner choosing whether to slide head-first or feet-first?

Charlie Hustle had some thoughts on that.

"There's one more important reason I slide head-first," Pete Rose, who popularized the head-first dive, once said. "It gets my picture in the paper."

## Spending Growth Slows Down a Bit

BY HARRIET TORY

U.S. consumer spending cooled slightly in August from the strong pace of growth in the spring, although sky-high consumer sentiment bodes well for retailers headed into the holiday season.

Household spending—what Americans paid for all goods and services, such as groceries and health care—rose 0.3% in August from the prior month, the Commerce Department said Friday.

Consumer spending powers the U.S. economy, and August's gain was the smallest since February, marking a modest pull-back from a 0.4% increase in both June and July, and 0.5% rises in April and May.

Still, strong consumer confidence, rising wages, low inflation and low unemployment should help power spending in the months ahead.

Consumer sentiment in September was the third-highest level since 2004, according to a University of Michigan survey released Friday. Most of the gain in the final sentiment reading for this month was among the bottom third of households by income,

whose consumer-sentiment index was the highest since November 2000.

A survey by another group, the Conference Board, earlier in the week showed overall household confidence in the U.S. was at its highest level in September since 2000.

The rise in confidence among low-income households was a positive sign for economic growth. Economists have noted that lower-income households have a high propensity to spend additional income.

Friday's report showed Americans are saving less overall. The saving rate in August was 6.6%, the same as in July, but down from 7.4% six months ago.

Americans' pace of spending matched that of their income gains, which also rose 0.3% in August from July, the government said.

After the release of Friday's spending and income report, forecasting firm Macroeconomic Advisers estimated gross domestic product expanded at a 3.2% annual pace in the current quarter. The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's GDPNow model predicted a 3.6% growth rate.



The SEC suit against Tesla CEO Elon Musk adds to pressures on the auto maker.

## Musk Set To Fight SEC Suit

Continued from Page One

told people that he could have led a go-private transaction using his own stake in SpaceX, if major Tesla investors were on board. SpaceX is the privately held aerospace firm that Mr. Musk controls and is valued at tens of billions of dollars.

An SEC spokeswoman declined to comment about whether investigators looked into the possibility of a verbal agreement and how much weight should be given to it.

The descriptions of Mr. Musk's thinking are the most detailed yet following the SEC lawsuit.

In a statement on Thursday, Mr. Musk said he was "deeply saddened and disappointed" by the SEC action. "Integrity is the most important value in my life and the facts will show I never compromised this in any way," he said.

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

(USPS 664-880)

(Eastern Edition ISSN 0099-9660)

(Central Edition ISSN 1092-0935)

(Western Edition ISSN 0193-2241)

Editorial and publication headquarters:

1211 Avenue of the Americas,

New York, NY 10036

Published daily except Sundays and general

legal holidays. Periodicals postage paid at

New York, NY, and other mailing offices.

Regular one-year U.S. subscription rates:

\$539.88.

## Postmaster:

Send address changes to The Wall Street

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He had previously said that he announced his proposal on Twitter on Aug. 7 because he was beginning the process of talking to key investors and wanted to be transparent.

It is unclear whether Mr. Musk's lawyers will use those explanations as they seek to counter the SEC allegations. He has added a new lawyer to his team, Chris Clark, a former federal prosecutor who is now at Latham & Watkins in New York.

Mr. Clark represented Mark Cuban in a 2013 trial in which the SEC argued the billionaire investor and sports magnate had committed insider trading. A jury found Mr. Cuban didn't break any laws when he sold stock in a small internet company after learning it would issue more shares.

A Tesla spokesman didn't respond to a request to comment.

Much is at stake for Mr. Musk and Tesla shareholders. Tesla shares dropped nearly 14% to \$264.77 on Friday.

The SEC was ready on Thursday morning to announce a settlement with Mr. Musk when his lawyer called the agency to say the deal was off, according to a person close to the situation.

Mr. Musk had spent a day in the latter part of August giving testimony to the agency at its office in San Francisco. That testimony, along with other evidence the agency's lawyers had gathered, led them to believe they had an open-and-shut case showing that the Aug. 7 tweet from Mr. Musk about taking Tesla private had violated securities laws, the person said.

Under terms of the proposed settlement, Mr. Musk would have been barred from

serving as chairman of Tesla for two years, though he would be allowed to continue in his role as CEO, according to a person close to the situation. Mr. Musk would have paid a fine in the millions of dollars, another person said.

The deal had been approved by the SEC's commissioners, whose role it is to approve enforcement actions by the agency, according to a person familiar with the matter. Then, in the final hour, Mr. Musk backed out of the deal, people close to the situation say.

With no settlement in place, the SEC instead filed on Thursday afternoon a lawsuit against Mr. Musk in federal court in Manhattan, seeking to

Mr. Musk said he was 'deeply saddened and disappointed' by the SEC action.

remove him from his role as Tesla's chairman and CEO. A related federal criminal investigation into Mr. Musk's tweets remains in the early stages, according to a person familiar with the matter. The bar for a criminal securities-fraud prosecution is higher than that for civil SEC cases.

After the settlement was derailed during the early-morning phone call on Thursday, the SEC lawyers from the agency's San Francisco office—who happened to be at the SEC's Washington headquarters for an annual staff-only conference—went into overdrive, pulling together a 23-page complaint that was filed later that day. The SEC's

five commissioners were scheduled to meet Thursday to consider several other enforcement matters, and the litigation against Mr. Musk was hurriedly added to the agenda, a person familiar with the matter said.

The SEC complaint alleges that Mr. Musk made false and misleading statements when he tweeted that Tesla was going private and that he "knew or was reckless in not knowing that his statements were false and misleading."

Mr. Musk's testimony to the SEC is reflected throughout the complaint. He told the SEC lawyers that he arrived at the price of \$420 based on a 20% "standard premium," the complaint says. This calculation resulted in a price of \$419, and Musk stated that he rounded the price up to \$420 because he had recently learned about the number's significance in marijuana culture and thought his girlfriend "would find it funny, which admittedly is not a great reason to pick a price," according to the complaint.

The SEC complaint focused on testimony from Mr. Musk about the status of his talks with a Saudi investment fund about a possible investment in Tesla as well as the establishment of a Tesla production facility in the Middle East, the complaint says. Mr. Musk said that the fund had expressed interest in taking Tesla private, the complaint says. In his testimony, he told the SEC that "he assumed without confirming" that the fund was proposing "a standard going-private transaction, but the terms of any such deal were not discussed," the complaint says.

*Aruna Viswanatha and Michael Rapoport contributed to this article.*

## CORRECTIONS &amp; AMPLIFICATIONS

**In some editions** Friday, the last name of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was misspelled as Netanhayu in a headline with a World News article about Mr. Netanyahu's address to the United Nations General Assembly. Also, Mr. Netanyahu said Israel had presented information about an alleged secret Iranian ware-

house to the International Atomic Energy Agency before he revealed it publicly. In some editions, the article incorrectly said it wasn't known whether Israel had done so. And the photo with the article showed Mr. Netanyahu holding an image of Beirut. The caption incorrectly implied that the image he was holding showed

where he alleged Iran is keeping nuclear materials.

**In May**, the Trump administration considered tariffs on \$50 billion of Chinese imports. A Page One article on June 8 about tariffs and the administration incorrectly said in one instance that the proposed tariffs totaled \$50 billion.

## U.S. NEWS

# Cracks Cloud Ambitions of Transit Hub

**Temporary shutdown of \$2.3 billion center raises questions about Bay Area congestion plans**

BY ALEJANDRO LAZO

SAN FRANCISCO—It was billed as the Grand Central Terminal of the West. Now, the Salesforce Transit Center is turning into a major embarrassment for this city's political leadership.

This seven-years-under-construction, \$2.3 billion hub in the heart of this booming city's trendy South of Market neighborhood opened Aug. 11.

Two steel beams on the building's third floor that support a rooftop public garden have cracks, officials said this week. One discovered on Tuesday resulted in the building's closure, the second was found during further inspection.

Now, the building is expected to remain shut until at least the end of next week, as experts determine the scale and cause of the problems.

San Francisco Mayor London Breed called for a "thorough and transparent investigation to determine the causes, severity, and impacts" of the cracked beams.

"Someone needs to be held accountable once the cause is determined," she added.

During nearly three decades of planning, the Salesforce Transit Center has been promoted as a state-of-the-art transportation center. The hub was created to make mass trans-

sit a more palatable option for the motorists who clog the San Francisco Bay Area's highways and streets.

Unlike New York City, which has Penn Station and Grand Central Terminal that connect an expansive subway system and several commuter rail lines, the San Francisco Bay Area has a patchwork of overcapacity transportation systems with no easy way for travelers to transition to other trains and buses.

When Salesforce Transit Center opened, it did so primarily as a bus station, albeit perhaps the most architecturally stunning and expensive bus station in the country. The center has shopping and dining establishments, a public-art program and a 5-acre rooftop park open to the public.

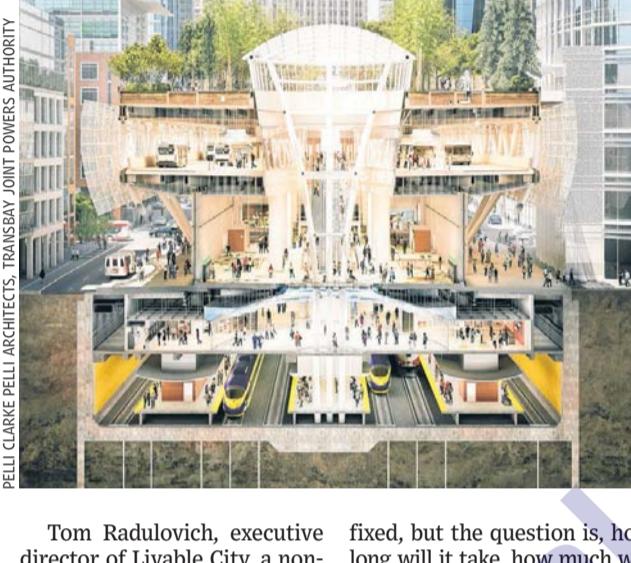
During a second phase of construction not yet scheduled, Salesforce Transit Center was envisioned to become a key stop for the Caltrain commuter line, which runs between San Francisco and Silicon Valley. Currently it drops travelers more than a mile away from the city's downtown.

Further in the future, it is supposed to be the hub for California's bullet train linking San Francisco to Los Angeles. Construction on that project began in 2015 and is scheduled to be completed in 2033.

"The basic concept is valid, you can't expect people to ride a transit system that is broken into pieces that don't fit together," said Gerald Cauthen, a retired engineer and public transportation advocate.



The Salesforce Transit Center was closed after the discovery of a cracked steel beam, below right. A second crack was later found. When it is completed, the center is expected to include regional and high-speed rail links, as seen in this rendering, below left.



Tom Radulovich, executive director of Livable City, a nonprofit dedicated to improving San Francisco, and a former board member for Bay Area Rapid Transit, said this week's setback could hurt the project's broader ambitions.

"What is wrong...will get

fixed, but the question is, how long will it take, how much will it cost, and can those costs be recovered from the people who made the mistakes?" he said. "If not, what it means is, funding we are counting on for those next stages, some of that could get eaten up fixing what

is wrong with the terminal."

The center is named after the local software company Salesforce.com Inc., which bought the naming rights of the terminal last year.

The area around the transit center, a fast-growing neighborhood known as SoMa, has

had other growing pains. It is next door to a luxury condo tower that opened in 2009 as the city's tallest residential structure and two years ago was discovered to be sinking, earning the nickname, "leaning tower of San Francisco."

Developers of the tower have blamed its sinking on the development of the transit center. Officials say they believe the fissures in the steel beams at the transit center aren't related to the tower.

Nearby Fremont Street was also closed following the discovery of the fissures. The shutdown has roiled traffic in a highly congested part of the city, just as Salesforce's annual Dreamforce conference gets under way. That annual gathering draws about 170,000 visitors to the city.

The closing of the structure also comes as city officials here have been promoting a citywide Transit Week, where the use of public transportation was encouraged.

TRANSIT CENTER: PELLI CLARKE PELLI ARCHITECTS, TRANSIT CENTER: JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

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TRANSIT CENTER: PELLICLARKE PELLI ARCHITECTS, TRANSIT CENTER: JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

# Brown to Decide Fate of California Net-Neutrality Bill

BY ALEJANDRO LAZO

California Gov. Jerry Brown has until Sunday night to act on a measure that would reinstate Obama-era, open-internet rules in the state, presenting a direct challenge to the Trump administration's net-neutrality rollback.

Last month, California Republicans joined Democrats in the state legislature to approve what experts say are the nation's strongest net-neutrality provisions. The bill would forbid internet-service providers from blocking websites, intentionally slowing down a website or app, or accepting payments to make services go faster.

The Democratic governor hasn't commented on what he is likely to do. If he doesn't

sign or veto the bill by midnight Sunday it would automatically become law.

Mr. Brown, who will be termed out of office in January after eight years as governor, acts on most bills rather than letting them pass automatically.

The Federal Communications Commission last year rolled back similar federal rules that had been adopted during the Obama administration. FCC Chairman Ajit Pai this month called California's measure "illegal." A representative for the FCC didn't respond to a request to comment.

At a recent San Francisco rally, Democratic state Sen. Scott Wiener, who represents the city and wrote the legislation, urged the governor to sign

the measure. "This is really about access to an open internet," Mr. Wiener said. "The internet is not some sort of luxury that you can have, or not have."

The state's net-neutrality bill generally has been supported by big internet companies, while internet providers on the other hand have lobbied aggressively against the California measure, arguing it represents a government overreach and could create a patchwork of regulation.

The governors of Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, Montana, Rhode Island and Vermont have signed executive orders reinstating some net-neutrality provisions. State legislatures in Oregon, Vermont, and Washington have enacted such legislation.

## Republicans Press Google on Search

WASHINGTON—Republicans dialed up pressure again on tech giants over alleged anti-conservative bias and other issues on Friday, as the White House announced a roundtable to be attended by President Trump, Google Chief Executive Sundar Pichai and other "internet stakeholders."

A White House spokeswoman said Mr. Trump's top economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, invited Mr. Pichai to attend the roundtable during a meeting on Friday, and Mr. Pichai accepted.

Details of the roundtable will be announced later.

The White House described the meeting Friday as positive and productive.

Earlier Friday, a top House Republican leader vowed to seek more transparency from Google and other big tech companies after a meeting with Mr. Pichai at which GOP lawmakers aired concerns about alleged anti-conservative bias.

"As big tech's business grows, we have not had enough transparency and that has led to an erosion of trust and perhaps worse—harm to consumers," said Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R., Calif.), the House majority leader, following the closed

meeting, which included about a dozen Republicans. Mr. McCarthy promised to "continue to work toward that goal."

Mr. Pichai, for his part, said Google, a unit of Alphabet Inc., will stay engaged with lawmakers. He said he would personally appear before the House Judiciary Committee.

"We remain committed to continuing an active dialogue with members from both sides of the aisle," Mr. Pichai said.

During the meeting, GOP lawmakers raised a number of questions relating to alleged bias in Google's search function, such as the criteria used to determine rankings of results.

—John D. McKinnon

# Rosenstein Will Meet With Lawmakers

BY SADIE GURMAN

Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein agreed to meet privately with lawmakers who want to question him about reports that he discussed secretly recording President Trump and recruiting cabinet members to remove the president from office.

Mr. Rosenstein consented to a meeting in coming weeks during a Thursday night phone call with House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R., Va.), a person familiar with the conversation said.

"There are many questions we have for Mr. Rosenstein, including questions about allegations made against him in a recent news article," Mr. Goodlatte said, referring to the initial report in the New York Times. "We need to get to the bottom of these very serious claims."

Rep. Mark Meadows, (R., N.C.) tweeted Friday that Republican lawmakers planned to call him for a closed-door hearing "so he can explain his alleged comments on 'wiring' POTUS—as well as other inconsistent statements."

Mr. Meadows, a Trump ally who has been leading an effort to impeach Mr. Rosenstein, said he would subpoena the deputy attorney general if he failed to show up. But his tweet came after Mr. Rosenstein had already agreed to talk to lawmakers during a

meeting that wasn't described to him as a formal hearing or interview, the person familiar with it said.

Rep. Jerry Nadler, the top Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, said he would demand access to the meeting.

House Republicans "cannot be left alone in a room with DAG Rosenstein," he said, adding that would reflect an attempt to undermine special counsel Robert Mueller's probe into Russian election interference, which Mr. Rosenstein oversees.

The agreement to meet law-

makers capped a wild week that began with Mr. Rosenstein expecting to be fired, according to people familiar with the matter, and ended with no major shake-up in the top ranks of the Justice Department.

Mr. Rosenstein will meet with Mr. Trump next week to discuss his future as the department's No. 2 official.

The president has told advisers he wants to hear directly from the deputy attorney general about the reports that Mr. Rosenstein secretly suggested recording him last year. The comments were de-

tailed in memos written by former FBI Acting Director Andrew McCabe, but Mr. Rosenstein has said he never pursued that or advocated for Mr. Trump's removal.

Mr. Trump this week took note of the denials and said he would rather keep Mr. Rosenstein on the job.

Mr. Trump's allies have privately cautioned that firing Mr. Rosenstein could politically harm the president ahead of the midterm elections, according to people familiar with the matter.

—Byron Tau contributed to this article.

# Panel Votes to Release Russia Probe Records

BY BYRON TAU

WASHINGTON—The House Intelligence Committee voted to make public the transcripts of more than 50 interviews conducted as part of a yearlong investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election—giving the public details of what key players in the drama told investigators behind closed doors.

The transcripts to be eventually released include interviews with some of the people closest to President Trump, including his son Donald Trump Jr., his son-in-law Jared Kushner, his former attorney Michael Cohen and his former political advisers Steve Bannon and Corey Lewandowski.

The panel will ask for the declassification and release of the transcripts. They will be sent for review to intelligence officials, who may redact passages out of national security concerns. Intelligence agencies will act "as quickly as possible" to review any declassification request from the House Intelligence Committee, but the process is likely to take "several weeks or more," according to a U.S. intelligence official familiar with the matter.

The documents also include interviews with top former and current government officials such as Attorney General Jeff Sessions, former Attorney

General Loretta Lynch and former director of national intelligence James Clapper.

Democrats on the panel agreed on releasing all the transcripts that Republicans wanted to make public, but unsuccessfully pushed to release several other transcripts that had been withheld. Testimony from Reps. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D., Fla.) and Dana Rohrabacher (R., Calif.) were among those not included.

Ms. Wasserman Schultz was chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee during the 2016 election. The DNC's emails were hacked and released by people affiliated with the Russian government, according to intelligence agencies. Mr. Rohrabacher drew the scrutiny of investigators when he tried to obtain a pardon for the founder of the website WikiLeaks, which released thousands of emails stolen by the Russians, The Wall Street Journal previously reported.

The transcripts will offer a detailed look at a yearlong probe that began with a promise of bipartisan comity and quickly descended into partisan bickering. Democrats alleged Republicans were trying to protect Mr. Trump. Republicans accused Democrats of ignoring evidence that the Trump campaign was improperly targeted by spy agencies and law enforcement for political reasons.



The deputy attorney general also will meet with President Trump next week to discuss his future.

ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

## U.S. NEWS

# Committee Vote Yields High Drama

WASHINGTON—After the raw and riveting hearing Thursday on sexual assault allegedly committed by a teenage Brett Kavanaugh, Friday's committee vote was expected to be an anticlimax, allowing

*By Jess Bravin,  
Joshua Jamerson  
and Andrew Duehren*

senators to repeat calcified views before voting 11-10 along party lines to send President Trump's Supreme Court nominee to the Senate floor.

Instead, the previous day's spectacle gave way to intrigue, as events in and around the Dirksen Senate Office Building's wood-paneled Room 226 turned an apparent fait accompli into a fast-moving drama centering on Sen. Jeff Flake, a retiring Republican from Arizona.

Throughout the Dirksen building and the larger Capitol complex, anti-Kavanaugh protesters clogged corridors, staffers congregated around television monitors or stared at smartphones to follow the hearing, and senators sought to navigate—physically as well as politically—the perils posed by the nomination.

Mr. Flake's frequent criticism of Mr. Trump and often-conciliatory stance toward the opposition made him the sole



SAUL LOEB/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Female members of Congress standing in protest on Friday against Brett Kavanaugh's nomination.

Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee who Democrats thought might tilt against Judge Kavanaugh, particularly after Thursday's testimony by Christine Blasey Ford, the California professor who said the assault had scarred her for life. Judge Kavanaugh emotionally denied the allegations.

Four minutes before the committee's 9:30 a.m. meeting time, Mr. Flake appeared to eliminate any suspense with an emailed press release pledging to vote for Judge Kavanaugh.

"I wish that I could express the confidence that some of my colleagues have conveyed about what either did or did not happen in the early 1980s, but I left the hearing yesterday with as much doubt as certainty," his statement said. And a tie goes to the accused, whose conservative legal views align

with his, Mr. Flake reasoned.

Bringing down the gavel, committee chairman Sen. Chuck Grassley (R., Iowa) sought to move quickly through procedures that could send Judge Kavanaugh's nomination to a floor vote.

It turned out, however, that the real action had occurred in a building elevator, where two women confronted Mr. Flake minutes after he announced support for Judge Kavanaugh,

telling him that they, too, had been sexually assaulted.

"You're telling all women that they don't matter, that they should just stay quiet, because if they tell you what happened to them, you are going to ignore them," one said.

Mr. Flake entered the hearing room, but word quickly spread about the dramatic encounter. When Mr. Flake, visibly pained, abruptly left the room, rumors spread that he was reconsidering his support for Judge Kavanaugh.

The hearing's tenor changed shortly before 1 p.m., when Mr. Grassley declared the committee would stand "at ease until the fall of the gavel." Silence replaced rancor as senators began to disappear through the mirrored rear door leading to their anteroom, and it became clear that something was going on.

The specified vote time of 1:30 p.m. came and went. Then, as abruptly as he had left, Mr. Flake returned. He had no deal to announce, just his own position: He would vote to recommend Judge Kavanaugh to the full Senate—but wouldn't vote to confirm him on the floor without a weeklong delay to let the FBI investigate Dr. Ford's allegations.

"This country is being ripped apart here," he said. His position, he said, was an effort to mend that tear.

## Friends In Focus For FBI Probe

*By Alex Leary  
And Siobhan Hughes*

WASHINGTON—The FBI investigation into the sexual-assault allegation against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh could revolve around a calendar entry he wrote decades ago, and a small group of people at a house party where Christine Blasey Ford says she was attacked.

The sudden turn of events Friday intensified the spotlight on Mark Judge, a Georgetown Preparatory School classmate of Judge Kavanaugh's who Dr. Ford says was in the room at the time of the alleged attack in the early 1980s outside Washington.

Dr. Ford said that when Judge Kavanaugh had her pinned down, a laughing Mr. Judge jumped on top of them, allowing her to escape. But Mr. Judge has said in a letter submitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee he has "no memory of this alleged incident." His lawyer, Barbara Van Gelder, said Friday that he "will answer any and all questions posed to him by the FBI or any law enforcement agency."

Mr. Judge, 54 years old, has chronicled his hard-partying ways, and once wrote of a character, "Bart O'Kavanaugh," who was so drunk he threw up in a car and "passed out on his way back from a party."

Judge Kavanaugh on Thursday dismissed his friend's writing as fictionalized and while describing him as funny, gifted and popular, he noted Mr. Judge "developed a serious addiction problem that lasted decades."

Social calendars kept by

The sudden turn of events has intensified the spotlight on Mark Judge.

Judge Kavanaugh during high school indicate he and Mr. Judge were close. "Go to Timmy's for Skis w/ Judge, Tom, PJ, Bernie, Squi," read an entry from July 1, 1982.

"Skis" is a reference to brewskis, or beer, based on Judge Kavanaugh's exchange with Sen. Cory Booker (D., N.J.) during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing Thursday.

Judge Kavanaugh had initially said it was rare for him to drink on weekdays, but he allowed that the calendar entry indicated that in fact, he did at times drink on weekdays.

Democrats seized on that date. "This may, may be powerful corroborating evidence that the assault happened," said Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D., R.I.) on Friday morning. "That it happened that day. And that it happened in that place. But with no FBI investigation, we can't tell."

Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa contested that assertion. "That's the wrong gathering," he said, saying the number of people listed on the calendar for that party differed from Dr. Ford's account of the party where she said she was assaulted.

In addition, the entry mentions that the party was held at the home of "Timmy," whom Judge Kavanaugh identified as Georgetown Prep classmate Tim Gaudette, who has signed letters defending his friend against accusations. The word "squid" on the calendar was a reference to another classmate, Chris Garrett, the judge said.

A Christopher Garrett was one of a group of Georgetown Prep alumni who signed a letter supporting Judge Kavanaugh. Mr. Garrett hasn't commented further.

Dr. Ford said she doesn't remember the precise location of the home where the attack happened, but her memory of the interior could provide more clues. In Senate testimony, she described remembering in detail the stairwell, the living room, the bedroom, and the bed to the right of the room's entrance.

Dr. Ford has identified a couple of other people at the party, and they could be contacted by the FBI.



Above, a protester who said she was a sexual-assault victim confronts Sen. Jeff Flake in an elevator in a Senate office building Friday. Below, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R., Iowa) spoke with the panel's top Democrat, Dianne Feinstein of California.

## GOP Halts Vote on Court Pick

*Continued from Page One*

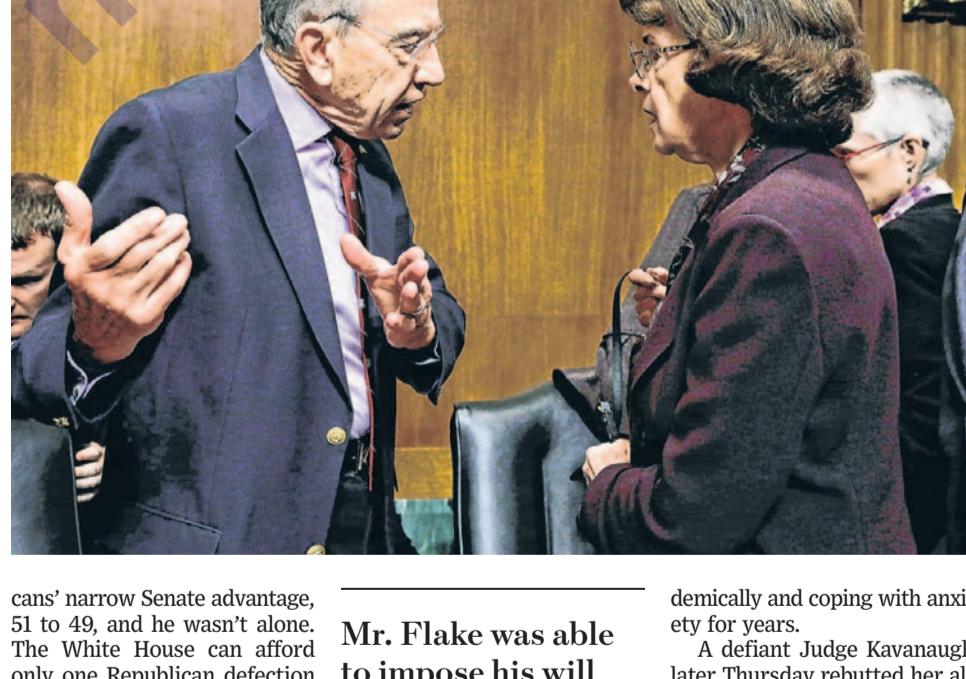
person close to the confirmation team, acquiesced. Speaking alongside the president of Chile, President Trump said he would do "whatever they think is necessary" to keep the Kavanaugh nomination alive.

Hours later, Mr. Trump ordered the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conduct a "supplemental investigation" that would be limited to credible allegations of sexual assault against Judge Kavanaugh and conclude in less than a week.

The latest twist means Judge Kavanaugh likely won't see a Senate vote until at least the end of next week, leaving about a month before midterm elections, after which the political dynamic may shift. That provides a backdrop of fierce political partisanship, with each side using Judge Kavanaugh's nomination to fuel enthusiasm and turnout for the midterms.

Democrats are seen as favorites to win control of the House, and they could challenge for control of the Senate as well. That possibility has Democrats accusing Republicans of rushing to confirm Judge Kavanaugh now, and Republicans saying Democrats are dragging out the process long enough to scotch the nominee's chances.

Mr. Flake was able to impose his will because of the thin



Mr. Flake was able to impose his will because of the thin GOP majority.

cans' narrow Senate advantage, 51 to 49, and he wasn't alone. The White House can afford only one Republican defection in the confirmation vote, assuming all Democrats vote against him. Mr. Flake was joined later by GOP Sens. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Susan Collins of Maine in insisting on the FBI review of California college professor Christine Blasey Ford's claim that the judge assaulted her when they were teenagers.

"At the end of the day, it is the undecided senators who most hold the key here," Sen. Chris Coons (D., Del.) said. Democrats have been calling for a further FBI review of the allegations, and Mr. Coons had suggested a one-week delay in his remarks Friday before the Judi-

cians' narrow Senate advantage, 51 to 49, and he wasn't alone. The White House can afford only one Republican defection in the confirmation vote, assuming all Democrats vote against him. Mr. Flake was joined later by GOP Sens. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Susan Collins of Maine in insisting on the FBI review of California college professor Christine Blasey Ford's claim that the judge assaulted her when they were teenagers.

A defiant Judge Kavanaugh later Thursday rebutted her allegations, saying he was too busy with sports and other summertime events to party hard and that he was likely out of town when the alleged assault occurred.

Mr. Flake had arrived at the Senate Judiciary Committee prepared to support Judge Kavanaugh, according to a statement released by his office. Moments later, on his way to the committee hearing room, he was confronted by protesters as he entered an elevator.

In a video widely shared on social media and on cable news channels, Maria Gallagher, 23 years old, tearfully told the sen-

ator that she was the victim of a sexual assault. "Nobody believed me," she said, as Mr. Flake listened with his head bowed. "You're telling all women in America that they don't matter."

At the White House, aides of Thursday night were upbeat about Judge Kavanaugh's combative defense of the allegations, the person close to the confirmation team said. Then, late Thursday, the American Bar Association in a letter urged the Judiciary Committee to vote on Judge Kavanaugh's nomination only after a "thorough" FBI investigation. After that, the person said, "It kind of fell apart."

It wasn't clear what would be involved in the FBI investigation beyond Dr. Ford's allegation.

Two other women have alleged sexual misconduct connected with Judge Kavanaugh, which he has denied. Deborah Ramirez alleged in a New Yorker article that Mr. Kavanaugh exposed himself to her during a drunken party when they were both freshmen at Yale University. And earlier this past week, Julie Swetnick alleged Mr. Kavanaugh was at a party in the early 1980s when she was gang-raped and that he tried to get women drunk at several gatherings so they could be targeted for an attack.

A lawyer for Ms. Swetnick said his client would cooperate. "We are anxious to meet with the FBI, which is what we have been demanding," said the lawyer, Michael Avenatti. A lawyer for Ms. Ramirez didn't return a request for comment.

—*Joshua Jamerson, Andrew Duehren and Byron Tau contributed to this article.*

Dr. Ford has identified a couple of other people at the party, and they could be contacted by the FBI.

**U.S. WATCH**

## SPENDING BILL

**Trump Signs Measure To Avert Shutdown**

President Trump signed into law a spending bill that increases military spending for the next fiscal year and keeps the government open through Dec. 7, avoiding a government shutdown days before funding was set to expire on Monday.

The bill, which passed the House by a 361-61 vote on Wednesday, funds the Defense, Education, Labor and Health and Human Services departments, and is the last of two so-called minibus appropriations bills Congress passed before the end of the federal fiscal year.

The Senate already voted 93-7 to approve the measure, which boosts funding for the Defense Department by almost \$20 billion, provides a 2.6% pay raise for members of the military, and \$3.8 billion to fight the opioid epidemic, an increase of \$2.7 billion from this year.

Absent from the legislation is funding for Mr. Trump's proposed wall along the border with the Mexico.

—Rebecca Ballhaus

## HOUSE

**Individual Tax-Cut Extension Is Passed**

House Republicans passed a \$631 billion extension of the tax cuts they enacted in 2017, reaping their biggest legislative success of the past two years as they try to avoid losing their majority in the Nov. 6 election.

The legislation, which passed on a 220-191 vote, was part of a three-bill package that Republicans dubbed "Tax Reform 2.0." On Thursday, they passed bills to expand retirement-savings incentives and tax breaks for startup businesses, picking up some Democratic support for those narrower measures.

For now, the Senate has no plans to vote on any of the House bills, making this week's votes more of a campaign plank and marker for future negotiations than the beginning of a legislative effort.

The bill would remove the 2025 expiration date from the key individual tax cuts.

—Richard Rubin

## NORTH DAKOTA

**Tribe Wants Court To Hear Voter ID Case**

Lawyers representing a group of Native Americans told the U.S. Supreme Court on Friday that keeping new voter ID requirements in place in North Dakota would lead to confusion during the coming election.

The emergency appeal comes just days after a federal appeals court stayed an injunction in the case.

The injunction would have ordered the state to accept forms of identification and supporting documents that included a current mailing address, such as a post-office box, instead of requiring a current street address.

Street addresses aren't always assigned on Native American reservations, so members of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa sued the state, alleging that its identification requirements discriminated against Native Americans. A district court judge agreed in April.

—Associated Press

## ECONOMY

**Further Gradual Rate Increases Justified**

Federal Reserve Bank of New York President John Williams said Friday he is very much on board with more rate increases, but cautioned the time is arriving when the central bank won't be able to give as much guidance about the monetary policy outlook.

"From the perspective of the Fed's dual mandate of maximum employment and price stability... this is about as good as it gets," Mr. Williams said. In such an environment, "I continue to expect that further gradual increases in interest rates will best foster a sustained economic expansion."

The policy maker's comments came at a conference held by his bank and Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. They were his first public statements since joining with his colleagues on Wednesday and voting to boost the Fed's short-term interest rate target rate range to between 2% and 2.25%, for the third increase of the year.

—Michael S. Derby

**U.S. NEWS****Communities Struggle to Recover From Hurricane Florence**

GRAY WHITLEY/SUN JOURNAL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

**LONG ROAD AHEAD:** A volunteer worked to repair the storm-damaged home of Tonja Dais in Pollocksville, N.C., on Friday. Her residence was flooded with several feet of water after Hurricane Florence hit earlier this month. Pollocksville is located near the Trent River.

**Two GOP House Races Lose Funds**

BY REID J. EPSTEIN

AUSTIN, Texas—House Speaker Paul Ryan's super PAC is for the first time this year pulling TV advertising time it reserved to back incumbent House Republicans facing tough re-election fights.

Mr. Ryan's Congressional Leadership Fund is canceling about \$1 million it planned to spend to back Colorado Rep. Mike Coffman and the \$2.1 million it reserved for Michigan Rep. Mike Bishop.

"CLF will continue to run strong field operations in these districts and will continue to conduct polling and evaluate races across the country as we do everything we can to protect the Republican majority," CLF spokeswoman Courtney Alexander said.

Both Messrs. Coffman and Bishop had long been seen as among the most endangered House Republicans. The non-partisan Cook Political Report rated Mr. Coffman's race as lean Democratic and Mr. Bishop's as a tossup.

"There's no benefit in throwing good money after

bad and this is the stage of the game where you have to cut your losses if you're going to have a chance at holding the majority," said Ken Spain, a former aide at the National Republican Congressional Committee.

Both Republicans face Democratic opponents who are first-time candidates with a

**Coffman, Bishop long seen as among most endangered House Republicans.**

history of public service. Mr. Coffman's Democratic opponent is Army combat veteran Jason Crow, while Mr. Bishop faces Democrat Elissa Slotkin, who was a top Pentagon official during the Obama administration.

Ms. Slotkin outraised Mr. Bishop in each of the last six Federal Election Commission filing periods. Mr. Crow raised twice as much money as Mr.

Coffman in the latest FEC filing period.

Mr. Bishop's top campaign consultant, Stu Sandler, said he remains confident. The NRCC and America First Action, a Trump-centric super PAC, are advertising on Mr. Bishop's behalf.

"There is significant support for Mike Bishop by other groups," Mr. Sandler said. "We're feeling good about the race."

Mr. Coffman's campaign manager, Tyler Sandberg, dismissed CLF's move.

"That's Washington, D.C.," he said. "One day you're up, the next day you're down. But that's not how Mike Coffman is wired."

As CLF pulled its money from the Coffman and Bishop districts, on Friday it added \$5 million in TV time in the Los Angeles market, where there are five competitive House races, along with \$1.5 million for ads in districts in Iowa, New Mexico and Wisconsin.

CLF has about \$90 million reserved for TV ads nationwide. The NRCC has \$43 million reserved. The Democratic Con-

gressional Campaign Committee and the House Democratic super PAC, House Majority PAC, have a combined \$110 million in TV time reserved.

House Majority PAC this week canceled \$700,000 in time it had reserved in Mr. Coffman's district, a signal the Democratic PAC no longer saw the need to help Mr. Crow's campaign.

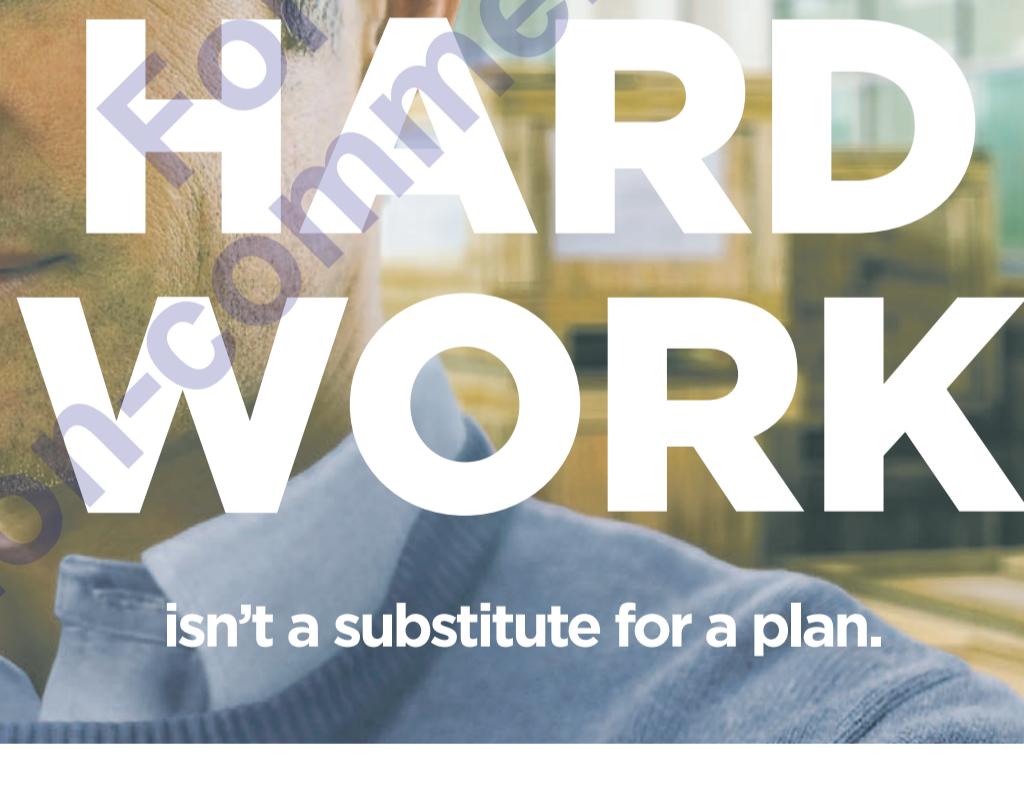
Democrats must flip a net 23 House seats to win a majority.

The Cook Political report rates 13 GOP-held seats as "likely Democratic" or "lean Democratic" and 29 GOP-held seats as "toss up."

Ali Lapp, a senior adviser to House Majority PAC, said officials with both parties face difficult decisions on which candidates to fund in the closing weeks of the campaign.

"There are pressures about which members are more worth saving than others," Ms. Lapp said during a panel at the Texas Tribune Festival in Austin.

House Democratic candidates have \$75 million in TV time reserved. House GOP candidates have \$47 million in reserved TV time.



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## WORLD NEWS

## U.S. Officials Split on Yemen After Deaths

Washington weighs whether to reduce support to Saudi-led coalition or to help more

By DION NISSENBAUM

**WASHINGTON**—The bombing last month of a Yemeni school bus by a Saudi-led military coalition has ignited a new debate in the Trump administration about how much military support the U.S. should provide its Gulf allies in the three-year-old conflict.

Competing factions within the administration are at odds over the best way to prevent more of the errant airstrikes by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates that have killed thousands of civilians in Yemen.

Some officials at the State Department have urged the administration to scale back its military support, people familiar with the debate said. Meanwhile, others at the White House National Security Council want to see the U.S. provide more intelligence and advice when the Saudi-led coalition is carrying out risky strikes, such as the one on Aug. 9 that mistakenly targeted the Yemeni school bus, killing more than 40 children.

"We are not interested in entering into hostilities or escalating the war in Yemen, but we are very interested in protecting our partners," said one senior U.S. administration official. "We believe that the more we assist them with targeting and intelligence that limits civilian casualties, the better chance they have of actually limiting them."

American support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen has become a polarizing issue in Washington, where a growing bipartisan group of lawmakers is pushing for the U.S. to cut



An airstrike from the Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen hit a bus last month, killing more than 40 children and sparking U.S. warnings to avoid more civilian casualties.

off the modest military aid to its Gulf allies for the conflict in Yemen, now the scene of what the United Nations calls the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

The school-bus bombing galvanized opposition in the U.S., where lawmakers, State Department officials and military officers warned Saudi Arabia and the U.A.E. that the administration could scale back military support if they didn't take immediate steps to address the problems.

Sen. Chris Murphy, (D., Conn.) cautioned the adminis-

tration against expanding U.S. military support.

"Getting more deeply involved in this humanitarian nightmare would just be putting gasoline on a fire," he told The Wall Street Journal on Wednesday. "Putting our people more directly into the targeting process would make us even more complicit in this bombing of civilians."

On Wednesday, more than 20 House members introduced a bipartisan resolution that aims to halt the U.S.'s military support, which includes aerial refueling of warplanes carry-

ing out the attacks in Yemen, modest intelligence support, and general advice on how to carry out airstrikes.

There is widespread agreement in the Trump administration that the coalition needs to do more to halt the civilian deaths.

Some at the National Security Council argue that the best way to do that is to provide the Gulf allies with more real-time intelligence and to allow American advisers to take part in war-room discussions, when decisions on difficult strikes are being made,

according to administration officials.

But Defense officials say it's not that simple. Attorneys at the Pentagon say the law prevents the U.S. from helping with so-called dynamic targeting—where there is often little time to analyze intelligence and assess the risks—such as the airstrike that hit the school bus.

The lawyers have concluded that the U.S. can help only with defensive operations, and that offering real-time intelligence or having American military advisers take part in dis-

cussions about airstrikes on specific targets would cross the line and make the U.S. part of what they call the "kill chain."

"It's a bit of a Catch-22," said one administration official. "The Saudis rely on U.S. assistance to continue improving, but U.S. policy prevents the U.S. from assisting with dynamic targeting."

After the school-bus bombing, the Saudi coalition accepted blame, expressed remorse and vowed to tighten its rules to reduce the chances of another botched airstrike.

## U.S. Will Shutter Consulate In Iraq

By BEN KESLING  
AND MICHAEL R. GORDON

**WASHINGTON**—The State Department will close the U.S. consulate in Basra, Iraq, and evacuate the diplomats stationed there, citing security risks from Iran, according to administration officials.

The U.S. post in the southern Iraqi city, one of three U.S. diplomatic missions in the country, will be shuttered following mounting, credible threats from Iranian and Iranian-backed forces in Iraq, a senior administration official said.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has placed the Consulate in Basra "on ordered departure," State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said on Friday. Mr. Pompeo made the final decision Friday morning, according to the senior administration official, to protect American diplomats and to preclude Iran from trying to use the potential risk to U.S. personnel there as a form of leverage on Trump administration policy.

Mr. Pompeo also warned Iran in messages sent through diplomatic channels that the threats are unacceptable, the senior administration official said, while underscoring that the U.S. had nothing to do with a deadly attack last weekend on an Iranian military parade in the southwestern Iranian city of Ahvaz.

Hours before the decision to close the consulate, rockets or mortars landed some 300 yards from the building with no reported injuries, according to the official, in the latest direct aggression against the facility.

Mr. Pompeo called it a "temporary relocation" due to the security threats.

Iran didn't respond to requests to comment.

The closing of the Basra consulate comes as the administration is imposing tough sanctions to try to roll back Iran's assertive posture in the Middle East and ratchets up its rhetoric against the Iranian regime.



Thousands gathered in Ahvaz Tuesday for the funeral of those killed in an attack on a military parade.

## Six Palestinians Die In Border Clashes With Israeli Forces

By DOV LIEBER

**TEL AVIV**—At least six Palestinians were killed in clashes with Israeli security forces on the Gaza-Israel border Friday, after militant group Hamas issued calls for bigger protests amid frustrations over stalled cease-fire talks with its neighbor.

Among the dead were a 14-year-old boy, a 15-year-old boy and an 18-year-old man, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry, which said at least 290 people were injured.

The Israeli military said none of its soldiers were injured by Palestinians who hurled grenades, explosive devices and stones at its soldiers across the fence. The military said it also carried out two airstrikes in the northern Gaza Strip in response to violence directed at its soldiers.

Around 20,000 Palestinians gathered in several parts along the border fence between Gaza and Israel after Hamas called for protests on mosque loudspeakers and the radio, according to Israel's military. More than 10,000 had gathered on the fence on Friday, Sept. 21.

Demonstrations on the border have picked up in the past two weeks, sometimes turning deadly as protesters have clashed with Israel's security forces. More than a thousand Palestinians have participated in nightly demonstrations, rather than the weekly protests held over the past six months.

A fragile cease-fire in early

August, which ended intense bouts of fighting between militants in Gaza and Israeli forces, has largely held as the United Nations and Egypt have mediated talks for a longer-term truce. Cairo is also pushing for a political agreement between rivals Hamas and the Palestinian Authority, which largely governs Palestinians in the West Bank.

Israeli security officials attributed the increased protests to a breakdown in negotiations between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority.

Hamas officials said Israel is delaying any longer-term peace deal, but they also slammed Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas's speech at the U.N. on Thursday. Many in Israel and the Palestinian territories interpreted Mr. Abbas's comments as a veiled warning that he would cut all funding for the Gaza Strip.

A deal between Israel and Hamas for a long-term cease-fire would see Israel offer humanitarian relief and ease security restrictions on Gaza in exchange for a freeze of hostilities from the Strip, according to Israeli and Hamas officials.

Humanitarian and economic conditions are deteriorating in Gaza, which has been under a decadelong blockade. The World Bank released a report Tuesday saying the Gaza Strip's economy was in a "free fall."

—Abu Bakr Bashir in Gaza City and Felicia Schwartz in New York contributed to this article.

## Unrest in Iranian Oil Hub Piles Pressure on Regime

Militant attacks on security forces and unrest in Iran's main oil hub threaten the country's economic engine as the regime struggles to cope with tighter U.S. sanctions, a falling currency and growing regional tensions.

By Benoit Faucon in London and Sune Engel Rasmussen in Beirut

On Sept. 22, gunmen killed more than 25 people at a military parade of the elite Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in the southwestern province of Khuzestan. It was the third attack on security forces in the province in the past three years; five people died in the prior attacks, according to the government.

Last month, Iran's intelligence ministry announced that it had foiled attacks being prepared in Khuzestan, which borders Iraq and holds about 70% of Iran's estimated reserves of oil, the country's main revenue source. The government said it had arrested six alleged separatists, seizing Uzis and night goggles.

The attacks so far haven't visibly affected Iran's oil industry but pile further pressure on a regime struggling to contain unrest across the country over

double-digit inflation and unemployment at a time U.S. sanctions are kicking in.

Khuzestan this year witnessed large-scale public protests against water scarcity following severe droughts and dust storms. A state-run contractor recently faced protesters seeking jobs at a Chinese-operated oil field, forcing security forces to intervene, according to people familiar with the matter.

In an unverified video that went viral on social media, a woman berated a former labor minister at the funeral for victims of the Sept. 22 attack. "Our

water has been taken away, we have been brought drought, thousands of miseries," she said.

"People in these areas are producing most of the wealth in Iran but they are not getting their share," said Sara Vakhshouri, a former official in the National Iranian Oil Co., who now heads the Washington-

based consultancy SVB Energy International.

Khuzestan, which is home to an ethnic Arab minority, has a century-long history of separatist movements.

A separatist umbrella group initially claimed responsibility for the recent attack, then retracted the claim. The group, al Ahvazieh, has in the past indicated it is willing to attack oil plants. "The money generated from these wells is used to finance Iranian terrorism...in Syria, Yemen, and Iraq," the group says on its website.

Islamic State, which Iran has fought in Syria and Iraq, also claimed responsibility. In June 2017, Islamic State claimed responsibility for attacks on Iran's parliament and on a nearby shrine that killed 17 people.

Iran has blamed separatists for the Sept. 22 attack and accused Saudi Arabia of funding and training them and the U.S. of supporting them.

Saudi Arabia has denied involvement in the attack. The U.S. has rejected the accusation.

Khuzestan separatists have claimed at least four prior attacks on oil facilities in the past two years. In February, one group said it had blown up a local oil well. Iran's oil ministry denied any sabotage had taken place in February.



A Palestinian hurling stones at Israeli troops on Friday.

HANI MOHAMMED/AP

MOHAMMED SALEM/REUTERS



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## WORLD NEWS

# Pontiff Defrocks Chilean Priest

By FRANCIS X. ROCCA  
AND RYAN DUBE

VATICAN CITY—Pope Francis defrocked a prominent Chilean priest at the center of a sexual-abuse scandal that has rocked the traditionally Catholic South American nation.

The Vatican said the pope dismissed Fernando Karadima from the priesthood for the “good of the church” and notified the former priest on Friday.

The defrocking was the pope’s latest response to a backlash over the abuse scandal in Chile—part of a global crisis that threatens to engulf his pontificate and distract from his social and economic justice agenda.

“We were facing a very serious case of corruption and it was necessary to tear it out at the root,” said Greg Burke, the Vatican spokesman, in a statement.

The decision was celebrated by victims of Mr. Karadima, an influential priest in Santiago who was accused in 2010 of having molested minors at his church in an upper-class neighborhood. A Vatican inquiry in 2011 concluded he was guilty of the abuse and ordered him to a life of prayer and penitence. Mr. Karadima has denied the allegations.

The scandal over Mr. Karadima overshadowed the pope’s visit to Chile this year. Pope Francis was criticized for his defense of a bishop whom victims said had witnessed abuse by Mr. Karadima and failed to report it in the 1980s.

The pope later acknowledged making “grave mistakes” based on misinformation and in May denounced a “culture of abuse” in the Chilean church. State prosecutors have launched investigations into decades of clerical child abuse.

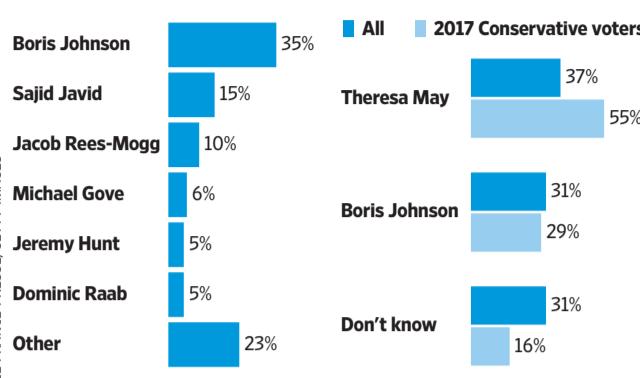


Britain's former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson speaking against the government's Brexit plans in July.

## Follow the Leader

Conservative Party activists think Boris Johnson would be the best person to succeed Theresa May as prime minister, but party members in general, and the broader electorate, both think Mrs. May is a better choice for the job.

**Who do you think should be the next prime minister?**



Source: Conservative Home survey of 1,332 readers conducted Sept. 2018 (next); Survation poll of 1,039 adults conducted Sept. 7; margin of error: +/- 3 percentage points (best)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

# Ex-Minister Is May's Top Brexit Foe

By JASON DOUGLAS

LONDON—As Prime Minister Theresa May tries to rally support for her efforts to secure a comprehensive Brexit deal with the European Union, Boris Johnson—her former foreign secretary—is leading a last-minute push to get her to change course.

Hard-line anti-EU lawmakers in the ruling Conservative Party want to junk Mrs. May’s plan to keep close economic ties with the bloc after Brexit in March in favor of a more definitive break with the EU. They have gained in Mr. Johnson a powerful, if unpredictable, figurehead.

In a newspaper op-ed Friday, Mr. Johnson called on Mrs. May to abandon her hard-won blueprint for Brexit, saying her so-called Chequers plan risks consigning the U.K. to “legal servitude.” He urged the government to opt instead for a free-trade deal with the EU similar to Canada’s.

The competing visions of Brexit extolled by Mrs. May and Mr. Johnson, who has emerged as her chief antagonist in the Tories’ internal debate, are expected to dominate the Conservatives’ four-day annual conference that begins on Sunday.

One of the U.K.’s highest-profile politicians, Mr. Johnson quit as Britain’s top diplomat in July in protest at Mrs. May’s Brexit strategy and since then has launched regular fusillades at her plans.

Many lawmakers believe Mr. Johnson’s broadsides are the opening salvos in a bid to succeed Mrs. May, highlighting the role that political rivalries play in the domestic battles over Brexit.

Though he is popular with the party’s grass roots, Mr. Johnson’s ambition alienates some parliamentary colleagues.

“Boris is a man of huge ambition, who has only ever wanted one job, and he is prone to lapses of judgment about ways to achieve that aim,” said Stephen Hammond, a Conservative lawmaker who worked with Mr. Johnson in past election campaigns.

Mr. Johnson didn’t respond to requests to comment. He has in the past said he would be interested in the leadership

if the opportunity arose.

Mr. Johnson, who is 54, enjoys a celebrity few in British politics can match. Witty and distinctive, his public profile far exceeds his experience of high office.

The only other major political post he held before becoming foreign secretary in 2016 was mayor of London, a role that saw him appear as a

**Some see Boris Johnson opening a bid to become the Conservative leader.**

guest on “The Late Show With David Letterman” in 2012 and wave a Union Jack on a Beijing stage at the close of the 2008 Olympics.

Earlier this year, President Trump hailed him as “a very talented guy” who would make a “great prime minister.”

He is also prone to blunders, wrongly saying when foreign secretary, for example, that Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe,

a British-Iranian woman jailed for spying in Iran, had been training journalists in the country, a statement he later clarified to say she was on vacation.

Conservative activists see in Mr. Johnson a true believer in Brexit whose charm sets him apart from other potential leaders.

A September poll of 1,300 readers of Conservative-home.com, a website popular with rank-and-file members, found Mr. Johnson was the most popular candidate to succeed Mrs. May, winning 35% of votes cast. His nearest rival, Home Secretary Sajid Javid, gained 15%.

“We voted for Brexit. We should have a prime minister who did the same and who really believes in it. And we’d go out and get that opportunity from Brexit from someone who truly believes in it, and I think Boris Johnson fits that bill,” said Steven Edginton, 18, a Conservative Party member who lives in London.

One former staffer to Mr. Johnson said he is an able leader who as London mayor trusted lieutenants with big areas of policy and showed a common touch that belied his privileged upbringing. “He’s a people person.”

Yet he is a divisive figure among Conservative lawmakers in Parliament. Fueling unease is a feeling that Mr. Johnson can flip-flop on important issues—including Brexit. He hesitated about backing the pro-Brexit side ahead of the 2016 referendum, and as mayor projected a liberal, pro-immigration metropolitan image at odds with the nationalist tenor of the Brexit campaign.

More recently, he has alienated some colleagues by what they see as a flirtation with right-wing populism. He has praised Mr. Trump’s style and in a newspaper column has compared veiled Muslim women to mailboxes and Mrs. May’s Brexit strategy to a suicide vest.

A handful of senior lawmakers, including prominent pro-EU Conservatives Anna Soubry and Dominic Grieve, have threatened to quit the party if Mr. Johnson becomes its leader.

—Will Horner  
and Bojan Pancevski  
contributed to this article.

# Erdogan's Visit to Germany Highlights Strains in Ties

By BOJAN PANCEVSKI



Chancellor Angela Merkel and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Germany and Turkey are trade partners, but ties have been tested.

KRISTIJAN BOCS/BLOOMBERG NEWS

ment for rolling out the red carpet for a Turkish leader who has cracked down on opponents and the free press.

On Friday, he sparked outrage after banning journalists from asking questions and demanding the extradition of critics who had fled to Germany. Ms. Merkel also came under fire for giving Mr. Erdogan full military honors after it emerged that the Turkish Embassy was allowed to reject accreditation demands for Turkish journalists.

And Turkish authorities demanded the extradition of Can Dundar, a notable former news-

paper editor critical of the president who has lived in Germany as a refugee for the past two years, and 68 other Turkish fugitives accused of terrorism by prosecutors controlled by Mr. Erdogan.

Ms. Merkel defended the decision to allow the Turkish government to ban some journalists by saying it was standard practice for the visiting side to decide on the accreditation of their own journalists. But she said there was “controversy” around Mr. Dundar and that her opinion of the case “differed” from Mr. Erdogan’s.

# Energy Drives Eurozone Inflation

By PAUL HANNON

The eurozone’s annual rate of inflation rose further above the European Central Bank’s target in September, but a measure of underlying price pressures fell, a development likely to reinforce the cautious approach policy makers are taking to withdrawing crisis-era stimulus.

The European Union’s statistics agency Friday said consumer prices in the 19 countries that use the euro were

2.1% higher than in September 2017, an increase from the 2.0% rate of inflation recorded in August, the highest level since April last year.

Much of that rise was down to energy prices, which were up 9.5% in the 12 months through September, having risen 9.2% in August. Excluding volatile items such as energy and food, the core rate of inflation eased to 0.9% from 1% in August, and below the 1.1% recorded in September 2017.

While the ECB targets a headline inflation rate of just under 2%, it tends not to react to changes that are primarily driven by energy costs, in common with most other central banks, because such pickups in inflation can prove temporary.

The divergence between the headline and core rates of inflation is one reason policy makers have been wary of removing the stimulus they have been providing to the economy over recent years.



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## WORLD NEWS

# Mexico Pushes to Keep Canada in Nafta

Last-minute talks try to salvage trilateral trade pact, as the U.S. and Mexico move ahead

Mexico's president-elect said he will push to keep Canada in the North American Free Trade Agreement, as Mexican officials scrambled to try to broker a last-minute deal between

**By William Mauldin**  
in Washington  
and Santiago Pérez  
in Mexico City

Washington and Ottawa.

"There is still time to achieve a trilateral agreement," Mexican President-elect Andrés Manuel López Obrador said Friday after speaking with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Mr. Trudeau's office said the Canadian leader and Mr. López Obrador on Thursday discussed the future of Nafta, and the

benefits of commerce between their countries.

The outreach comes as U.S. and Mexican officials plan to release over the weekend the text of the draft pact they achieved last month to rewrite Nafta without Canada, say people familiar with the plans.

The release of the draft text would introduce a new period of uncertainty as politicians and business interests from all three countries lobby to reshape the pact to their favor.

Still, Mr. López Obrador said he was unwilling to renegotiate the U.S.-Mexican agreement. "We have concluded this matter, and we're just waiting for an understanding between the U.S. and Canada," he said.

The U.S.-Mexico agreement hasn't yet been released, although details have emerged. The Mexican government was planning to disclose the text of the pact on Friday evening, but Mexico's Economy Minister Ildefonso Guajardo said Friday its release will "take place

within the next 48 hours at the latest."

A Mexican official close to the negotiations said that Mexican Foreign Minister Luis Videgaray had "very intense contact over the last 36 to 48 hours with both U.S. and Canadian officials to try to bridge the differences as much as possible."

It wasn't clear as of Friday night whether those efforts were making any difference at all. A U.S. official didn't return a request for comment on the Mexican efforts. A Canadian official declined comment.

The Trump administration's plan to release the text this weekend is intended to meet complex political and legal deadlines, but also to pressure Ottawa to make concessions.

The three Nafta countries—the U.S., Canada and Mexico—have said they wish to renegotiate the 25-year-old pact with terms acceptable to their citizens. The U.S. and Canada have outstanding differences, leaving unclear whether a trilateral

## Half a Deal

The U.S. and Mexico have rewritten the 1994 treaty, focusing only on bilateral trade. Canada may rejoin later.

### U.S. goods trade with Mexico



Note: Seasonally adjusted  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

say they won't give their needed approval of a pact without Canada's inclusion.

"I know the administration does not want to move forward without addressing in a substantive way these trade issues" with Canada, said Rep. Kevin Brady (R., Texas), chairman of the House committee that oversees trade. "Republicans and Democrats will be analyzing this carefully and looking for ways to advance a three-country agreement."

The Nafta talks are one front of Mr. Trump's efforts to remake U.S. trade policy over the past year. He has argued that decades of bipartisan consensus promoting free-trade pacts have hollowed out U.S. manufacturing and swollen the U.S. trade deficit.

In July, he started new trade talks with the European Union. On Monday, Mr. Trump signed a revised version of the 2012 U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, and on Wednesday launched talks with Japan aiming

for a new bilateral trade agreement.

Early in his term, he withdrew the U.S. out of the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership signed by former President Obama, which included Japan, saying he wanted bilateral deals.

Mr. Trump has also dusted off long-dormant executive powers to impose tariffs on imports of solar panels, washing machines, steel and aluminum and to block billions of dollars in Chinese imports.

Those moves have triggered retaliation from trading partners around the world. U.S. administration officials say the tariffs have pushed some countries to the negotiating table, offering new concessions.

Some business groups, while voicing approval of the need to update the original 1994 Nafta treaty, have complained that the late-August deal with Mexico includes strict rules that limit free trade and add costs for businesses.

# Russia's Railcars Hit End of Line

Dustbin of history looms for raucous tradition of communal third-class travel

**By ANATOLY KURMANAEV**

Like generations of Russians, Andrey Kuznetsov learned about the vast expanse of his eclectic land by riding in a smelly train carriage where 54 bunks are crammed into about 600 square feet.

Russia's third-class communal railroad cars, known as platzkarts, have for decades melded together people, cuisine and customs from across the nation's 11 time zones for journeys that can last seven days.

Now the platzkart's future is threatened by President Vladimir Putin's drive to modernize the country's outdated infrastructure and stimulate an economy struggling under the weight of Western sanctions.

Starting next year, state-owned OAO Russian Railways will introduce transitional carriages boasting showers, vending machines and USB sockets, according to company officials. Then, in 2025, the raucous platzkarts are expected to be replaced by sleek carriages with capsule-like berths separated by blinds or plastic windows, according to the factory that makes the cars.

Passengers worry the upgrade will bring an end to the kind of chance interaction that is unavoidable in a platzkart, which came to symbolize the egalitarian spirit of the Soviet Union.

"Time passes quicker in these wagons, between the conversations and anecdotes," said Mr. Kuznetsov, who works in the fishing industry and who was on a five-day journey from his

home in Chelyabinsk to Russia's Far East. "You meet the whole country here."

For three days last month, a Wall Street Journal reporter traveled in a platzkart from the Siberian city of Irkutsk to Vladivostok. The 2,500-mile trip traversed remote regions where the Trans-Siberian Railway is sometimes the main link to the outside world during long winters and where a platzkart is the only affordable carriage for many residents.

The Russian rail system comprises 54,000 miles of functioning track. Despite a boom in air travel, trains remain the dominant method of long-distance transport in Russia, accounting for around 39% of intercity journeys, compared with 21% for domestic flights, according to the country's statistical agency. One in four long-distance travelers within Russia rides in a platzkart.

"Railways are the blood system of this country," said Ilya Portniagin, a train supervisor. "Without the train network, this country would collapse."

Russian Railways is also the country's biggest employer, with some 900,000 workers—more than 1% of Russia's entire labor force and around 45 times as many workers as its U.S. counterpart, Amtrak.

Originally manufactured in the former East Germany, the platzkart wagons would be the latest Soviet institution to be swept into the dustbin of history by the pressures of globalization and a market economy.

"People are becoming ever more demanding of comfort in trains," said Petr Ivanov,



Trains remain the dominant method of long-distance transport in Russia, where routes like the Trans-Siberian link many remote regions to the outside world. In the 'platzkart' cars, passengers pile food and drink on tiny tables wedged between bunks.



the head of Russian Railways' passenger arm.

The modernization has political aims. As real incomes stagnate under sanctions, the colorful new carriages will be designed to project progress and material well-being to Russia's beleaguered working class.

Even the name platzkart will disappear, to be replaced by "open plan carriages."

Whether platzkart passengers will be persuaded isn't clear. Remote regions served by the train have often been hit hard by the economic stagnation and currency depreciation that resulted from sanctions imposed on Russia after it annexed Crimea in 2014.

"The beds are getting more comfortable, the sheets are getting cleaner, but it doesn't hide the fact that there's not

much work to be found around here anymore," said Alexander Zakharov, a retired locomotive engineer from the Siberian city of Chita.

Passengers worry the new wagons will result in higher ticket prices. It costs around \$200 to buy a platzkart ticket for a 5,700-mile journey from Moscow to Vladivostok. A plane ticket costs around \$1,500.

In a platzkart, pensioners and students, soldiers and migrant workers share stories and impromptu meals as snores waft down from upper bunks and bare feet stick into the narrow walkway.

"Platzkart is a microcosm of life," said Vladimir Mikhailov, a retired mine worker traveling from Irkutsk to Vladivostok for a holiday.

## WORLD WATCH

## MICRONESIA

### Jet Misses Runway, Lands in Lagoon

All 47 passengers and crew survived a Boeing 737's crash landing in a Pacific lagoon Friday morning, wading through waist-deep water to the emergency exits and escaping on local boats that came to the rescue in the Micronesia archipelago.

Seven people were taken to a hospital, according to officials.

Passenger Bill Jaynes said the Air Niugini plane came in very low as it was attempting to land at the airport on the island of Weno in Chuuk State. The plane was coming in from the Micronesian island of Pohnpei, about 435 miles to the east, a government official said.

The airline said the weather was poor at the time, with heavy rain and reduced visibility.

—Associated Press

## INDONESIA

### Five-Foot Tsunami Hits Sulawesi Coast

A tsunami wave up to 5 feet high slammed parts of the Indonesian island of Sulawesi following a magnitude 7.4 earthquake, knocking out an airport tower and causing other damage, Indonesian authorities said.

The tremor on Friday evening hit north of the coastal city of Palu, the capital of Central Sulawesi province. Indonesian officials said they issued a tsunami warning five minutes later, shortly before waves hit part of the island around Palu.

Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman for the national disaster-mitigation agency, said the wave and quake had caused an unknown number of fatalities. At least one person was killed earlier in a smaller area earthquake.

—Ben Otto

and I-Made Sentana

## SOUTH PACIFIC

### Chinese Cable Project Faces Headwinds

The U.S. is vying to build an internet network in Papua New Guinea to prevent a Chinese telecom firm from doing so, a senior U.S. official said, signaling a widening effort to counter Beijing's influence in the region.

The acting U.S. ambassador to Australia, James Caruso, said Friday that the U.S., Japan and Australia are preparing to counter a \$200 million contract that Papua New Guinea recently awarded to China's Huawei Technologies Co. to build a cable network connecting the impoverished but resource-rich nation.

A Huawei spokesman declined to comment. Papua New Guinea officials couldn't be reached, and Japan's Foreign Ministry didn't respond to a request to comment.

—Rob Taylor



U.S. NAVY/GT IMAGES

U.S. Navy sailors helped shuttle people from the Boeing 737 that landed Friday in a Micronesian lagoon.

The airline said the weather was poor at the time, with heavy rain and reduced visibility.

—Associated Press

## OBITUARIES

SAMUEL WRIGHT BODMAN  
1938 – 2018

## 'Soot King' Rejuvenated Chemical Firm

**W**hen Samuel Bodman was CEO of Cabot Corp., Forbes magazine dubbed him "the soot king." The company's main product—carbon black, a type of soot used in making tires—didn't excite investors. So Mr. Bodman made a brave decision: to keep making carbon black anyway rather than acquiring a sexier business.

Cabot, founded in 1882, was better off sticking with the businesses it knew, he concluded. Mr. Bodman spurred the company to find new uses for its chemicals, including some in microelectronics. "Our traditional bag of tricks is chemical engineering tricks," he told The Wall Street Journal in 1995.

Mr. Bodman started his career

as a chemical-engineering professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, then moved into venture capital. He later was president of FMR Corp., also known as Fidelity Investments. While there, he appointed a little-known researcher, Peter Lynch, to run the tiny Magellan fund. Mr. Lynch became Fidelity's biggest star.

After leaving Cabot in 2001, Mr. Bodman served as U.S. energy secretary from 2005 to January 2009. He sought to revive the nuclear-power industry and spur research in biofuels.

Mr. Bodman died Sept. 7 in El Paso, Texas, of complications from primary progressive aphasia. He was 79.

—James R. Hagerty

DONALD EUGENE PANZO  
1935 – 2018

## Restless Entrepreneur Founded Elan and Mylan

**E**ven in death, Donald Panoz defied convention. His family reported that Mr. Panoz, 83 years old, died of pancreatic cancer Sept. 11 at his home in Duluth, Ga., after he "enjoyed his last cigarette."

The red-haired entrepreneur, an apostle of Ayn Rand, founded Elan Corp., which developed technology used in nicotine skin patches used to wean people from cigarettes. He never kicked the habit himself. The patches, he complained, gave him welts.

Even more ingrained was his habit of jumping into businesses. He bought a drugstore while in pharmacy school in Pittsburgh in the 1950s, then dropped out to manage it. "I said to hell with it,

I'll just hire a pharmacist," he told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution later. In 1961, he teamed up with an Army buddy to found what became Mylan Pharmaceuticals, a generic drugmaker.

While running Ireland-based Elan in the 1980s, he bought 2,400 acres of land and developed a winery, resort and luxury homes in Braselton, Ga., where his imitation 16th-century château can be seen from Interstate 85. He also developed resorts in Australia and Scotland. With his son Dan, he built Panoz cars and acquired race tracks.

"I never become hostage to anything I do," he told the Atlanta paper. "Progress isn't made by looking in the rearview mirror."

—James R. Hagerty

## FROM PAGE ONE



CEO Mark Zuckerberg said it isn't known if accounts were misused.

cess tokens—digital keys that keep people logged into Facebook. One of the bugs appeared in a Facebook tool urging users to upload a video wishing one another happy birthday, executives said.

With the stolen tokens in hand, Facebook said, hackers could then take over accounts, impersonating users and accessing private information about those people and their friends, including a user's Facebook connections, friends' posts and messages. Facebook executives said there was no evidence that this happened, nor

**Facebook has never had a security breach as large, a spokesman said.**

that users' passwords and credit-card information were exposed.

Still, the breach gave hackers access to information that could be used in identity theft, said Dan Kaminsky, chief scientist with the security vendor White Ops Inc. The hackers also could have sold the tokens themselves, he said.

Facebook's authentication tokens can be used to log in to websites outside of Facebook itself, Mr. Kaminsky said, through the "Log In With Facebook" feature used by sites such as Tinder and Spotify. A Facebook spokesman said this was technically

possible but Facebook didn't have evidence that it occurred. Some affected users have been logged out of third-party apps as a precaution, the spokesman said.

The spokesman said Facebook has never had a security breach as large. The company reset the access tokens for the nearly 50 million affected accounts, as well as an additional 40 million subject to a "view as" lookup in the past year.

Facebook said it is turning off the "view as" feature as it conducts a security review. The fact that the bug has been exploited by hackers makes the breach a "more serious matter," than other security incidents, Mr. Kaminsky said. "Many times we discover bugs and no one's found them yet," he said. "That's not the case in this instance."

The revelation Friday capped a difficult week for Facebook.

Monday, the two co-founders of its popular Instagram app abruptly resigned after they clashed with Mr. Zuckerberg over the app's autonomy. Similar issues led the co-founders of Facebook's WhatsApp to depart.

In Washington on Friday, the breach prompted a request for more information by Rohit Chopra, a Democratic commissioner on the Federal Trade Commission, as well as a call for social-media legislation from Sen. Mark Warner (D., Va.)

—Dustin Volz

contributed to this article.

◆ How to check if your account was breached, WSJ.com

CHARLES KAO  
1933 – 2018

## Early Bet on Optical Fibers Yielded Pipes for Internet

BY JAMES R. HAGERTY

**I**n the 1960s, Charles Kao often annoyed his wife, Gwen, by coming home late for dinner. Dr. Kao, a refugee from the Chinese Communist revolution, told her his research for a British subsidiary of International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. could change the world one day.

"Oh, really," his wife later recalled saying with a dash of sarcasm. "So you'll get the Nobel Prize, will you?"

That didn't happen until 2009, long after Dr. Kao really did change the world.

In a 1966 paper written with George Hockham, he outlined the potential for using pulses of light to carry huge volumes of voice and data signals long distances through strands of glass that became known as optical fibers. Few took him seriously until several years later, when Corning Glass Works found ways to do just that.

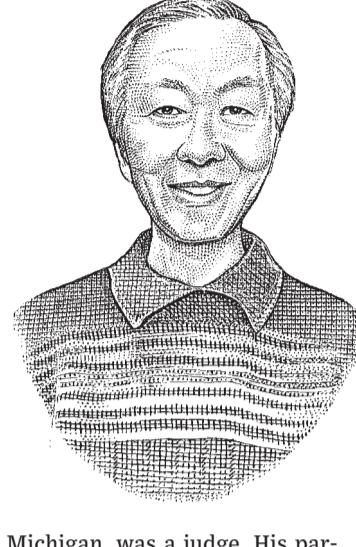
Fiber-optic cables began carrying telephone signals in the late 1970s. By the 1990s, a global mesh of fiber optics had made the internet possible and turned copper telephone wires into relics.

When people stream video at the beach, they tend to thank wireless technology. Few recognize the role of Dr. Kao. "It's a little silly we call it the wireless industry," said Daniel Berninger, a communications-network architect.

"There's nothing wireless in the network except for that distance from your phone to the nearest cell tower," where optical fibers take over.

By the time he got his Nobel, Dr. Kao was suffering from Alzheimer's disease and had trouble speaking. He died Sept. 23 in Hong Kong at the age of 84.

Kao Kuen, who adopted the English name Charles, was born Nov. 4, 1933, in Shanghai. His father, who attended law school in



Michigan, was a judge. His parents, whose first two children died of measles, pampered him, hired tutors and didn't send him to school until he was 10.

"Maybe it was the home tutoring, or the late start to formal schooling, or an overly cautious and protective upbringing," he was quoted as saying in his Nobel biographical note, "but in any case I never became a talkative person. As an adult I am not always comfortable in social gatherings with small talk."

**A**s Chinese Communists battled Nationalists in 1948, his family fled to Hong Kong, where Charles finished high school. Naturally curious, he used phosphorus to make exploding mud balls and once accidentally splashed nitric acid on his little brother's trousers, prompting his parents to impound his chemicals.

During a six-week sea voyage to England, where he would study electrical engineering at Woolwich Polytechnic, he met a professor who passed the time at sea teaching him quantum mechanics. Upon arrival in London, disappointed by the meager provisions at his Lon-

don boardinghouse, he developed a taste for fish and chips.

After finishing his undergraduate degree in 1957, he got a research job at Standard Telephones & Cables, a British unit of ITT, and later earned a doctorate from University College London.

Though scientists were excited about the potential of light beams to carry data, it was unclear how to do it. Efforts to send laser signals through open air ran into interference from the weather, causing the beams to "bounce around," as Dr. Kao put it. Another approach, streaming light pulses down hollow tubes, proved overly complicated.

Transmission through glass strands was seen as another possibility, but impurities in glass available at the time meant light signals could travel only a few yards. Dr. Kao calculated the degree to which impurities could be reduced. He concluded it would be "difficult but not impossible" to create sufficiently pure glass. So it proved.

The key, wrote Jeff Hecht, the author of a history of fiber optics, "was Kao's question. He asked what was possible to do, not what had been done."

Dr. Kao spent 30 years at various units of ITT, including a posting in Roanoke, Va., and became director of corporate research. He later was vice chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

His family established the Charles K. Kao Foundation for Alzheimer's Disease to educate the public and improve care.

Dr. Kao was once asked how long fiber optics would be used. Nothing better was likely to come along for 1,000 years, he said. "But don't believe what I say," he added, "because I didn't believe what experts said either."

◆ Read a collection of in-depth profiles at [WSJ.com/Obituaries](http://WSJ.com/Obituaries)

# DOYLE



## FINE PAINTINGS

Auction

Wed, Oct 10 at 10am

Roger Medearis

American, 1920-2001

My Father's House,

1972, Tempera on

board, 24 x 30 inches

Est: \$6,000-8,000

## FINE MODERN ART

Auction

Wed, Oct 17 at 10am

Ralph Scarlett

American, 1889-1984

Untitled, Oil on canvas

20 x 24 inches

Est: \$7,000-9,000

## PRINTS &amp; MULTIPLES

Auction

Mon, Oct 22 at 10am

Cyril Edward Power

British, 1872-1951

The Merry-Go-Round

Color linocut, c. 1930,

14 1/2 x 14 3/8 inches

Est: \$20,000-30,000

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# Criminals Find Ally in Crypto

*Continued from Page One*

Pantera Capital and FundersClub in California and Access Venture Partners in Colorado. Partners with Pantera and Access said their legal reviews satisfied them that ShapeShift is operating within the law. FundersClub and its partners didn't respond to messages seeking comment.

A parade of suspected criminals has taken advantage of ShapeShift's services since the exchange began in 2014, according to law-enforcement officials, independent researchers and the Journal's investigation.

After hackers believed to be from North Korea extorted millions of dollars in the so-called WannaCry ransomware attack on businesses and governments, the criminals used ShapeShift to convert bitcoin into an untraceable cryptocurrency called Monero, security researchers found. For the next year, ShapeShift made no changes to its policy of not identifying its customers, and continued to process millions of dollars in criminal proceeds, according to the Journal investigation.

## 'Occasional criminal'

Many cryptocurrency exchanges say they follow federal rules intended to combat money laundering, even though the question of whether they are subject to them hasn't been tested. They keep records of their customers' identity and monitor transactions to root out and report suspicious activity.

Mr. Voorhees has long scoffed at such constraints. "I don't think people should have their identity recorded to catch an occasional criminal," he said in a May interview.

Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies are based on software that acts as a digital ledger maintained across thousands of computers. The ledgers, or blockchains, for most crypto-coins are publicly viewable, and allow people to track the movements of coins from one anonymous online account or wallet to the next. That anonymity can be broken, though, when a criminal trades bitcoin for dollars. Bad actors must therefore figure out a way to erase traces of their crimes from their currency's digital trail.

To examine the scope of crypto money laundering, the Journal built computer programs that tracked funds from more than 2,500 suspected investment frauds, hacks, blackmail schemes and other alleged crimes that used bitcoin and Ethereum by analyzing the currencies' underlying software.

The Journal's analysis—which encompassed only a narrow slice of suspected criminal behavior involving cryptocurrencies—identified \$88.6 million laundered through 46 exchanges. Many alleged perpetrators are unknown or on the run. Some were arrested.

The Journal found that ShapeShift processed nearly \$9 million of the suspect funds, more than any other exchange with U.S. offices.

The Journal provided ShapeShift with a list of the suspicious addresses it found using the exchange. In response, Veronica McGregor,

who joined ShapeShift last month as its chief legal officer, said the company reviewed those addresses and banned them from using the exchange.

Ms. McGregor also said ShapeShift plans to start requiring users to provide identification starting Oct. 1. She said the company is doing that to "de-risk" itself in the face of potential new regulations and abuse by criminals, "not in response to any regulatory enforcement action." She said the company plans to start monitoring for and reporting potential money laundering.

Ms. McGregor said she wants to separate Mr. Voorhees's views from the company's. "Just because it's the personal philosophy of the CEO doesn't mean that's how the business is going to be run," she said. "He's not pro-money-laundering."

Here's how the money trail was disguised in one example the Journal traced to ShapeShift. An online entity calling itself Starscape Capital collected almost \$2.2 million from investors who were promised outsize returns. Investors paid Starscape by depositing Ethereum, the most popular cryptocurrency after bitcoin, into an anonymous wallet. Starscape's website soon went dark, and investors began complaining online about their missing money.

Ethereum, like many cryptocurrencies, has a publicly viewable ledger, even though the identity of the wallet holder isn't readily apparent. So the recipients of the money decided to hide their trail before cashing out. They sent millions of dollars in Ethereum to two exchanges via separate routes.

One stream of money went to another anonymous wallet and onto an Asian exchange called KuCoin, the Journal investigation found. KuCoin said it monitors suspicious transactions and freezes accounts during investigations, but declined to comment on Starscape. Another \$517,000 went directly to ShapeShift, which exchanged it for Monero. At that point the trail vanished.

The Monero could then be traded for clean bitcoin or sold for hard currency without any way to trace it back to the original transaction. The Starscape founders haven't been identified.

The 12 million-plus transactions the Journal analyzed reveal numerous instances of



Erik Voorhees, founder of ShapeShift AG, speaks during a conference in New York earlier this year.

ALEX FLYNN/BLOOMBERG NEWS

## Tainted Transactions

The Journal traced funds from more than 2,500 potentially criminal cryptocurrency wallets and identified \$89 million through 46 exchanges.

### Top exchanges by funds received

	■ Has U.S. presence
Binance	\$22.8 million
Bitfinex	9.2
ShapeShift	8.8
BTC-e	7.8
Bittrex	6.3
Changelly	5.1
Gemini	4.8
KuCoin	4.5
Bitstamp	3.0
HitBTC	2.4

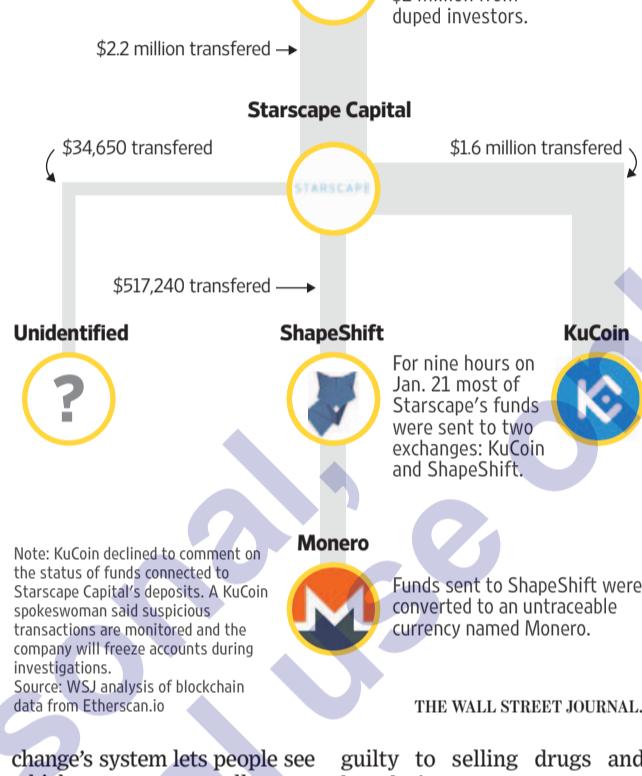
Source: WSJ analysis of blockchain data from Blockchain.info and Etherscan.io  
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

suspicious behavior: The pseudonymous Marco Fike raised more than \$2 million for a made-up bitcoin startup and disappeared; Makoto Takahashi (also an apparent alias) got nearly \$600,000 to develop an online betting platform that never launched; a "sextortion" racket raised money blackmailing people by threatening to release explicit photos.

Mr. Voorhees points out that ShapeShift does offer a measure of transparency—much like bitcoin itself, it allows people to see the movement of cryptocurrency, but not to identify the owner. The ex-

## Fundraising Fraud

Starscape Capital is one of more than two dozen projects identified by the Journal suspected of raising millions only to disappear with the proceeds.



Source: WSJ analysis of blockchain data from Etherscan.io  
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

change's system lets people see which anonymous wallets received cryptocurrency, but in the case of Monero, recipient addresses and transaction amounts remain secret and the trail is severed.

Mr. Voorhees has argued that ShapeShift and similar cryptocurrency exchanges that don't take custody of customer funds shouldn't be subject to anti-money-laundering regulations. "This whole narrative that the government is out to protect people is total bullshit," he said.

The U.S. Department of Treasury appears to disagree. Asked at a recent event about ShapeShift, Kevin O'Connor, an enforcement officer at Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, said that any crypto-to-crypto exchange that has U.S. customers must comply with rules governing money transmitters. A FINCEN spokesman said Mr. O'Connor was speaking broadly and not just in relation to ShapeShift.

Other exchanges, including U.S.-based Bittrex, say they follow federal guidelines. Among other things, Bittrex says it examines where funds originated and how many intermediary wallets they passed through before arriving.

Still, the Journal found that \$6.3 million in funds from apparent criminal activity flowed into Bittrex. Some of that was confiscated by law enforcement, for example in the case of a man who recently pleaded

guilty to selling drugs and laundering money.

Europol, the European policing agency, has investigated several cases in which criminals used ShapeShift, says a person close to those probes. U.S. authorities also are keenly aware of ShapeShift's role in exchanging suspicious funds, says a person with direct knowledge. "You can only run a red light so many times before you get pulled over," the person says.

Lured by bitcoin's boom, investors in Europe, California and Colorado looked past legal risks to put more than \$12 million behind ShapeShift. They say Mr. Voorhees, who says he "would like the national government to be dissolved," has convinced them he is a pragmatic businessman willing to follow federal laws.

"I trust Erik. I know that Erik is not a first-time entrepreneur," says Paul Veradittakit, of Pantera Capital, one of the most prominent crypto-focused venture funds and an investor in ShapeShift. He says Pantera examined the model of an instant exchange that doesn't collect user ID, and decided it was worth betting on, particularly after meeting with Mr. Voorhees, whom Mr. Veradittakit calls "a visionary."

He says lawyers assured Pantera that an argument could be made that a crypto-only exchange may not fall under federal financial regulations.

Mr. Voorhees, a pale and

slender 34-year-old, discovered bitcoin in 2011 after joining the "Free State Project," which is trying to bring 20,000 libertarians to New Hampshire in a collective effort to create a libertarian haven.

He started a gambling site, Satoshi Dice, in 2012, which paid out in bitcoin. He also took a job at a bitcoin exchange, though it eventually closed; its founder was later convicted of money laundering.

Mr. Voorhees said bitcoin could undermine the inheritance tax. "Wouldn't it be great if you could just take the money that you were going to donate to someone, put it into a hidden form that couldn't be confiscated and would be invisible to the authorities, and then there's no longer a death tax?" he asked on a 2013 panel.

## Tax avoidance

Mr. Voorhees sold stock in Satoshi Dice in exchange for bitcoin and, by his own account, moved to Panama to avoid taxes. He bought back investors' stock and sold the site for bitcoin now worth more than \$800 million.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission later said selling stock in Satoshi Dice and another bitcoin company he owned were unregistered securities offerings. Mr. Voorhees paid a settlement of just over \$50,000.

"As much as I hated government before, then I was like, 'Man, this is what these people do, go around ruining innocent people's lives,'" Mr. Voorhees says.

He left Panama for Telluride, a Colorado ski town, and decided to start his own exchange that would make money by buying cryptocurrency and reselling it at a markup.

ShapeShift launched in 2014, identifying its CEO as "Beorn Gonthier"—the first name from a Tolkien character who shifts from man to bear—because Mr. Voorhees wanted anonymity, he says. When New York state initiated a "Bit License" three years ago forcing companies to collect customer information, Mr. Voorhees decided ShapeShift wouldn't operate there.

In 2016, ShapeShift's monthly volume reached \$11.7 million, the company says. Mr. Voorhees dropped the pseudonym and pitched established investors. Pantera and a group of other funders invested \$10.4 million in a new ShapeShift funding round in the spring of 2017.

Soon after the venture capital came, ShapeShift had its first public money-laundering problem. The WannaCry attack commandeered hundreds of government and corporate computers, holding their data for bitcoin ransom. Security specialists—and later federal officials—blamed North Korea.

Researchers including Priscilla Moriuchi, formerly with the top-secret National Security Agency, started tracking WannaCry's proceeds.

When the bitcoin moved from the original wallet, Ms. Moriuchi, who now works for consultancy Recorded Future, followed it to ShapeShift, where it was traded for untraceable Monero. After reviewing some 30,000 transactions, she determined the trail went cold. ShapeShift, she says, is "without a doubt providing a service that is very useful to criminals."

Mr. Voorhees says ShapeShift assists law enforcement when asked, though it has limited information to share.

—Bradley Hope contributed to this article.

# Dunkin' Fans Want Donuts'

*Continued from Page One*

logo—not to mention the coffee and pastries—as part of their identity.

Larry Fitzmaurice, a 31-year-old writer from Brooklyn, N.Y., and veteran iced-coffee drinker, saw the news as a sign it was time to get the tattoo he's long wanted: a coffee cup bearing the "DD" logo.

A day before Dunkin' Brands made its announcement, Mr. Fitzmaurice's wife told him she would support his plan only if the brand changed its logo, rendering the old one a classic. "The next day, I saw the news on Twitter," he said. "My wife gasped and said 'Oh my God.'"

Mr. Fitzmaurice may now get the tattoo before the end of the year.

Jeremy Johnson is hoping the name change will help sell the 4-by-8-foot Dunkin' Donuts sign that has been sitting around for months at the Roosevelt Tower Antiques and Salvage store he manages in Derby, Conn.

"Now it's going to be something eclectic," Mr. Johnson said. "They won't ever be able to get another sign like it."

The shop is willing to part with it for \$300 at the store or \$300 on eBay.

Lots more oversize "Donuts" signage could be headed his way soon.

Several large Dunkin' Donuts signs hang at Dunkin' Donuts Park, the Hartford, Conn., home to the Yard Goats minor league baseball team. A giant coffee cup bearing the "Dunkin' Donuts" logo there gives off steam whenever the Goats hit a home run. Several fans pointed out that the name change could

turn the 6,000-plus-seat stadium into "Dunkin' Park"—an odd moniker for a venue that doesn't host basketball games.

There is plenty of dunking at the Dunkin' Donuts Center in Providence, R.I., where Providence College's men's basketball team, the Friars, has played since 1972. The center is already known as "The Dunk."

"Just when you think you know someone," the Providence Friars tweeted, linking to the coffee chain's announcement.

Dunkin' Brands Group said it would work with the management of both venues on eventually changing the signage.

The company said its name change is part of its focus on beverages, which represent 60% of sales. But it plans to keep churning out doughnuts. "Just because we are now going with our first name only, it does not mean we are walking away from doughnuts," a spokeswoman said.

Robert Hackenberg Jr., a 56-

year-old student-loan counselor from Harrisburg, Pa., stays away from Dunkin's coffee but loves the doughnuts that will soon be banished from the company's logo.

He sees it as part of a pattern of corporate condensing of names of some of his favorite brands—like Mountain Dew, which was restyled as MTN Dew on packaging in the U.S. in 2009. "I still drink Mountain Dew religiously," he said, though he is considering taking his doughnut purchases elsewhere. He refuses to acknowledge the name change.

"I'll call them Dunkin' Donuts until I die," Mr. Hackenberg said.

Customers from New England, where the company is as much a part of the cultural firmament as lobster rolls and the Red Sox, were particularly incensed. "First, they do away with crullers," said Frank Summers, 49, who lives in Charlotte, N.C., but grew up in Con-

nnecticut, of the braided doughnut the company stopped serving in 2003. "I'm still not over that one. Now this."

Dunkin' Brands said that while crullers are no longer available, French crullers can be had "on an optional basis."

Ariel Maloney, a 35-year-old English teacher from Cambridge, Mass., protested on a point of logic in addition to regional pride. "The new name just doesn't make sense grammatically," she said. "What are you

Dunkin' if there's no Donut?"

At least one Dunkin' location will keep the full name: the first one, opened in 1950 in Quincy, Mass., south of Boston. A big white sign over the shop there has "Dunkin' Donuts" written in white, cursive letters.

"The first Dunkin' in Quincy will continue to reflect the retro image as a nod to our heritage," the company said.

Some patrons stopping for their morning coffee there this week were checking with clerks to make sure the signs there wouldn't change.

Paula Dunlea, a Quincy resident who has been stopping by for the past 18 years, making coffee runs for the local chiropractor's office she manages, said she never uses nicknames to refer to the chain.

"I'm old school, I like Dunkin' Donuts," she said, balancing a tray with three coffees outside her car.

—Jon Kamp contributed to this article.



Dunkin' Donuts is dropping 'Donuts' from its name.

PATRICK T. FALLON/BLOOMBERG NEWS

## OPINION

THE WEEKEND INTERVIEW with Mahathir Mohamad | By Tunku Varadarajan

## A Political Comeback at 93

**E**ven in a city swarming with statesmen and pandjandrums from every nook of the globe—all gathered here for the annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly—Mahathir Mohamad stands out as exceptional. That he is the world's oldest head of government is almost prosaic compared with the magnitude and audacity of his political reinvention. After 15 years out of power, he's back as prime minister of Malaysia for a second time. Now he is ruling in a courteous (and remarkable) coalition with a man he once sent to prison for sodomy and abuse of power on charges widely accepted to have been trumped up and politically motivated.

The wily Dr. Mahathir—he's a physician—may be 93, but he insists in conversation that that's merely his "chronological age—biological age is quite different." He seems perhaps a decade younger. "I'm still myself," he says, "still able to function." He returned to office in a cathartic May election, which swept out incumbent Najib Razak, regarded by many, including the U.S. Justice Department, as exceptionally corrupt. While it would be an exaggeration to say that Dr. Mahathir is contrite about the autocratic way in which his critics believe he governed from 1981 to 2003, he does have a few regrets.

**Malaysia's prime minister discusses his alliance with a man he once jailed, his trouble with the Chinese, and his country's system of racial preferences.**

"There were criticisms against the time when I was prime minister for 22 years," he says in his suite at the Plaza Hotel, "and I find some of the criticisms are worth looking into." Now, he adds, "I have the benefit of all this experience, 15 years working with the opposition." But "I will do things only slightly differently. Otherwise, a lot of the old policies and strategies are still relevant today."

Dr. Mahathir admits that "one of the things that they criticized me about was that I had cronies, and that I helped my cronies." He argues that criticism is unfair, that those people received his favor "because they were able to do things. I tend to support people who are capable, who have shown some achievements." This results-oriented approach to doing business, he believes, was misunderstood. "But now, since I am [governing] with the people who used to criticize me, I want to show them that I'm not what they think I am."

Those new partners include Anwar Ibrahim, leader of the People's

Justice Party, or PKR, which has 47 seats in Malaysia's 222-member Parliament—the most of any party. Mr. Anwar was Dr. Mahathir's protégé and Malaysia's finance minister, but the two fell out acridly in 1998. The following year Mr. Anwar was tried, convicted and imprisoned.

Dr. Mahathir leads the Alliance of Hope coalition, of which Mr. Anwar's PKR is the spearhead. The prime minister's party, Bersatu, has only 13 of the coalition's 113 parliamentary seats. Dr. Mahathir's status as the foremost politician of modern Malaysia might have made him the obvious choice to lead the coalition into elections. Yet he did so also because Mr. Anwar was still in prison—on a second iteration of the sodomy charges for which he was first jailed by Dr. Mahathir in 1999.

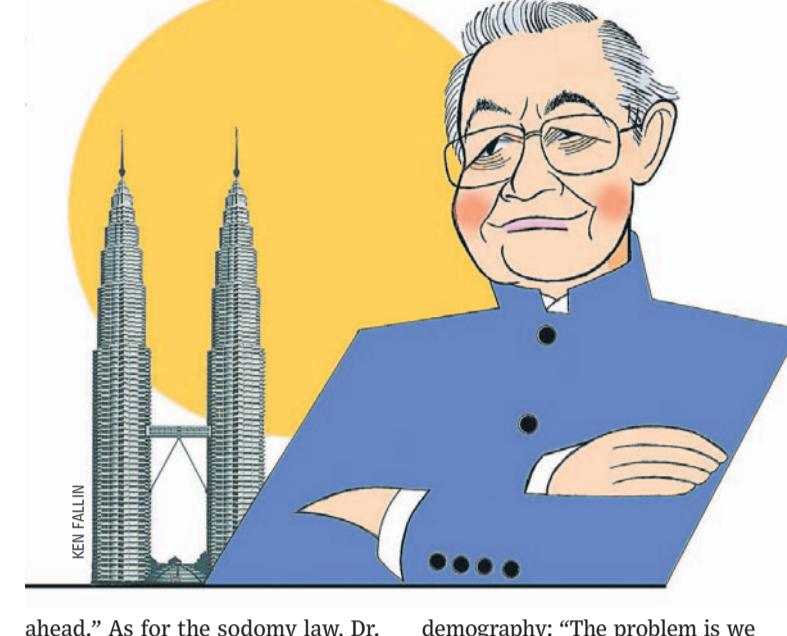
The coalition campaigned on the understanding that Dr. Mahathir would be prime minister for two years, after which he would cede office to Mr. Anwar. It was also understood that the latter would receive a pardon and be released from prison—as he was. Will Dr. Mahathir stick to the promise of a transition of power to Mr. Anwar? "Well, there have been a lot of people who mention two years," he says, "but I am supposed to be the interim prime minister. It may be two years, it may be one year. . . . It may be three years. I wouldn't know."

Pressed to clarify, he remains cryptic: "I didn't know what to say, but I believe that after two years he will take over."

Does Dr. Mahathir regret the legal action against Mr. Anwar in the late 1990s? "Well, I don't know about regretting," he responds, "but at that time, it was done by a court of law. The trial lasted nine months. All kinds of evidence was produced, and the court decided. It's not me! So people will blame me for that, but I don't interfere with the courts." His critics, he says, "want to take a political view" of Mr. Anwar's imprisonment. "I was not the best-liked leader in the Western world, because I'm critical about other wrongdoings elsewhere"—he was famously outspoken against Israel—"so the moment they find reason to blame me, they will."

Dr. Mahathir suggests he could have resorted to Malaysia's Internal Security Act, "which allowed the government to detain a person without trial. I didn't do that. He went to the courts." Asked if Mr. Anwar's succession would be good for Malaysia, Dr. Mahathir says, "well, that is what the people want. It's not a question of what I like. If the people want that, they will have it."

How does Mr. Anwar feel about his erstwhile jailer? "He seems to be quite nice," Dr. Mahathir says. "He sees me; we talk to each other. We didn't discuss about old things, because we decided that those things are the past, and we can't look at the past. We have to look



ahead." As for the sodomy law, Dr. Mahathir says his government will not repeat it. "We are a Muslim nation, and we do not tolerate sodomy. The rest of the world may tolerate it, but we cannot. That is against our religion."

Dr. Mahathir doesn't like the way radical Islam is commonly described in the West. "In Malaysia, we believe that what we practice is Islamic fundamentalism. If you go according to the teachings of Islam, you will be able to set up a good society, a good government. You will not be oppressive." What the West calls Islamist fundamentalism, he says, "is a deviation from the teachings of Islam. It's not Islam at all. We have some people [in Malaysia] who are attracted to these deviations, but we have been able to argue against them. And by and large, the people support us." He alludes to his recent criticism of a Shariah court in the Malaysian state of Terengganu, which ordered the caning of a lesbian couple.

"It's not a moderate position," he says of his own disapproval of the court, "it's an Islamic position. I mean, in Islam there is tolerance. We have to be merciful and compassionate. There are other forms of punishment. It's not necessary to cane these people, so we objected to that. It gives a very bad impression of Islam." He has said the two women should have had to undergo counseling, not caning.

**A**nother contentious facet of modern Malaysia is its entrenched system of racial preferences. Ethnic Malays—the Sons of the Soil, in local parlance—receive notable advantages over citizens of Chinese and Indian origin in jobs and educational opportunities. Will the new Mahathir, as Malaysians now describe him, reset his country toward a goal of equality and genuine pluralism? Will the idea of Malay dominance diminish?

"There is no Malay dominance," Dr. Mahathir says quickly, before launching into an explanation of how he sees his country's political

demography: "The problem is we have three major communities, and the wealth of the country is not evenly distributed between the three. So we have to correct that." If not, he continues, there will be "tension" as a result of the "big disparity" between rich and poor. And if "the rich belong to one race and the poor belong to another race, then the potential for tension and conflict will be much greater."

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Dr. Mahathir says he also is determined to address the more profound issues of corruption that bedevil his country. These include the relentless prosecution of his predecessor, Mr. Najib, who stands accused of gargantuan theft from a state-owned fund known as 1MDB.

"I believe that if the leader is not corrupt, then the level of corruption will not be very high," Dr. Mahathir says. "What happened was that the prime minister himself was totally corrupt, openly corrupt, and because of that, corruption spread throughout the whole government machinery and the business community." There will be no amnesty deal with Mr. Najib, Dr. Mahathir insists: "He claims he can explain everything, that he didn't take the money. And that is up to the judge, to evaluate

his defense against the prosecutor's evidence."

A legacy of the Najib years is a series of contracts with China, which critics and economists believe will leave Malaysia deeply indebted. Dr. Mahathir has put most of these projects, worth around \$22 billion in total, on hold. On a visit to Beijing in August, he startled his hosts by speaking of a "new version of colonialism"—an allusion to China's galloping economic expansion. In New York, Dr. Mahathir says that "the press put those words into my mouth, I didn't say that"—even as there are YouTube clips online that show him uttering those words in the presence of an open-mouthed Li Keqiang, the Chinese premier.

In what appears to be a quibble over words, Dr. Mahathir insists that he meant "neocolonialism," in the sense that "Sukarno said after independence." (Sukarno was Indonesia's president from 1945-67.) Dr. Mahathir says that "any attempt to gain control of our country is a form of colonialism. So we do not want that. I wasn't specifically saying [it] about China." He adds that "it is the duty of an independent country to retain its independence by whatever means possible."

The Chinese projects "involve huge borrowings, and we cannot repay that money," he says. "So the best thing to do is to drop the project. But of course we have made agreements with them. If, unilaterally, we drop the project, we have to pay compensation, so instead we proposed a postponement, or a reduction in the scale." The Chinese "haven't said no, so far. They are listening to what we are proposing."

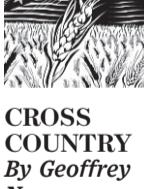
**H**is own relationship with the giant neighbor to Malaysia's north isn't Dr. Mahathir's only worry. He doesn't like the growing hostility between the U.S. and China. "Confrontation, I think, isn't going to be good for anyone," he muses, referring to the presence of U.S. warships in the South China Sea. "It's far better to talk and discuss things, rather than to send battleships to show your dislike for whatever move that the countries there make."

Donald Trump appears to disconcert Dr. Mahathir, who laughs nervously when asked about the American president. "We cannot make out what the presidency is like, because he changes his mind sometimes three times in one day. It's very unsettling, because how do you deal with a person who is not consistent? This is our worry."

Malaysia's previous prime minister, says Dr. Mahathir, "tried to bribe" President Trump "by offering to buy aircraft and all that. He actually said he wanted to help the economy of the United States. Malaysia is a small country. We can't help people."

*Mr. Varadarajan is executive editor at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.*

## A Republican Governor Shoots Himself in the Foot



**CROSS COUNTRY** By Geoffrey Norman

For a small state, Vermont has a way of getting noticed. It was the first state to recognize same-sex civil unions and the first to experiment with a single-payer health-care system.

Two Vermont politicians—Sen. Bernie Sanders and former Gov. Howard Dean—have sought the White House in recent years. This year, Vermont Democrats made Christine Hallquist the first transgender candidate for governor in any state.

Ms. Hallquist's Republican opponent, Gov. Phil Scott, has gone from being one of the nation's most popular governors to one of its least liked. The reason? Guns. In the days following the February school shootings in Parkland, Fla., a Vermont boy threatened a similar massacre. In April, Mr. Scott signed legislation allowing guns to be taken from people who pose an "extreme risk" of violence and those arrested on suspicion of domestic violence. The law also expanded background checks, banned bump stocks and limited magazine capacity.

Not long ago, this would have been unthinkable in Vermont. As a House candidate in 1990, Mr. Sanders—who even then called himself a "socialist"—managed to snag the endorsement of the National Rifle Association. He understood how rural Vermonters felt about guns. His opponent supported a ban on "assault rifles." It cost him the election.

Vermont has become more liberal

as people from neighboring states settle here. Still, signing that legislation cost Mr. Scott his claim on the affections of old-time Vermonters. He has a background in the construction business, and he raced cars at a dirt track called Thunder Road. He gained

**After signing a restrictive gun law, Phil Scott's popularity in liberal Vermont plummeted.**

popularity by promising to hold the line on taxes and focus on jobs so that children the state had spent lavishly to educate wouldn't leave once they graduated.

These were familiar themes. The number of students in Vermont's schools has declined by some 20% since 1997. School spending has gone up 48%, and the ratio of teachers to students is among the lowest in the nation. The bill comes due in the form of property-tax rates that are more than 50% higher than the national average and climbing.

The economy has been anything but dynamic. For years the labor force shrank as young people departed and their parents retired. There are 16,000 fewer people in the workforce than there were in 2009. Employers complain they can't find qualified people to take jobs. The Scott administration will soon begin offering \$10,000 payments to telecommuters who move to Vermont. It's generous, but it may not be

enough if the Legislature keeps raising taxes.

A state-government shutdown was averted this summer when Mr. Scott opted not to veto a bill raising taxes. The Democratic-controlled Legislature insisted on a tax hike even though Vermont had a \$55 million budget surplus for 2018. Were it not for the damage to his favorability ratings from the gun legislation, Mr. Scott might have had the political capital to stand up to lawmakers on taxes.

Vermont governors serve two-year terms, and no incumbent has been defeated for re-election since 1962. But Mr. Scott was challenged from the right in the Republican primary. His opponent's campaign was fueled by hostility to the gun bill and he got more than 30% of the vote with turnout exceeding expectations. Mr. Scott

When does "adolescence" occur? I've represented a lot of kids in trouble. And I can tell you that in the modern era, adolescence begins around age 12 and lasts through college graduation (or, for kids who don't attend college, the age at which kids would graduate).

This is not just my opinion: Society has juvenile courts for transgressions committed in adoles-

cence; the legal system does not want to give mere kids a permanent criminal record. Even at a time when too many juveniles are treated as adults, it is more often than not a widely accepted guiding principle that kids are given a pass by being treated and taught more than punished.

Among many of my friends in Cambridge and Boston, my view of [Brett] Kavanaugh is considered wrongheaded—if not reckless, even dangerous. So, I'll make matters worse by saying that so much of the case being made against Ka-

The rest of the campaign promises to be similarly tedious. Though Mr. Scott has been wounded, he is generally expected to win. But, then, these haven't been good times for expectations in American politics.

Nor, particularly, for Vermont, which would like to pay people to come and enjoy its special "quality of life," but where the malaise of the heartland manifests itself in the usual, depressing ways. According to a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2014 nearly 5% of women who gave birth in Vermont hospitals had opioid use disorder—the highest, by far, in America, with the national average at 0.65%.

That's not a first to be proud of.

*Mr. Norman is a writer living in Vermont.*

## Notable &amp; Quotable: Silvergate on Kavanaugh

*From "Kavanaugh: A Legal Assessment—With Some Personal Reflections" by Harvey Silvergate, WGBH.com (Boston), Sept. 26:*

When does "adolescence" occur? I've represented a lot of kids in trouble. And I can tell you that in the modern era, adolescence begins around age 12 and lasts through college graduation (or, for kids who don't attend college, the age at which kids would graduate).

This is not just my opinion: Society has juvenile courts for transgressions committed in adoles-

vbaugh is cynical, if not outright dishonest. It has nothing to do with his qualifications to be a Supreme Court justice. Nor is it reflective of how Kavanaugh's most ardent critics really feel about the extent to which adults should be punished later in life for their adolescent transgressions. They would not want their own children, nor themselves for that matter, treated in the way they are campaigning for Kavanaugh to be treated. This is a classic example of the hypocrisy of the current socio-political moment.

## OPINION

## REVIEW &amp; OUTLOOK

## Another Kavanaugh Flakeout

**D**emocrats must be secretly delighted, not that they'll admit it. A couple of GOP Senators fell on Friday for their ruse of seeking an FBI investigation of an assault accusation against Brett Kavanaugh, and now this Supreme Court nomination ordeal will continue for at least another week. Who knows what new dirt against the judge they can throw on the Senate wall?

On Friday the Senate Judiciary Committee approved the Supreme Court nominee in an 11-10 party-line vote, with Arizona Senator Jeff Flake the last convert. That should have sent the nomination to the Senate floor and a vote early next week.

But then Mr. Flake had a crisis of, well, something and said he wanted another FBI investigation before a floor vote. After Alaska's Lisa Murkowski said she agreed with Mr. Flake, GOP Senate leaders agreed to a one-week FBI probe into current accusations. President Trump obliged and put the FBI on the case again.

\* \* \*

The mystery is what new evidence Mr. Flake and Ms. Murkowski expect the FBI to find. The Senate this week heard six hours of public testimony from Judge Kavanaugh and his accuser, Christine Blasey Ford.

The potential witnesses Ms. Ford has named have given statements under penalty of perjury saying they don't recall the 1982 party she describes. No corroboration has materialized, leaving Democrats and the media to pick over high-school yearbook entries from 1983. Ms. Ford said Thursday that she is "100%" certain Judge Kavanaugh assaulted her. He told the Senate that he is "100%" certain of his innocence.

Now the FBI will spend a week redoing all these interviews. To what end? FBI background investigations aren't criminal probes. They reach no conclusions. The agents conduct interviews, record what the subjects say, and put the summaries in a nominee's file. The Senators are then expected to draw *their* conclusions and vote. After a week Mr. Flake and Ms. Murkowski may find themselves in the same place, since Ms. Ford's charge is too imprecise in date, place or recollections to corroborate.

Not that even this extra week will satisfy Democrats—or Ms. Ford's Democratic handlers. Debra Katz, Ms. Ford's lawyer who was recommended by Democrat Dianne Feinstein, said Friday after news of the delay that "no artificial limits as to time or scope should be imposed on this investigation."

Look for Democrats and the party's media wing to repeat this like the Rockettes. They're already floating that FBI Director Christopher Wray attended Yale a couple of years after Mr. Kavanaugh did, so, you know, the FBI probe they demanded may also be tainted.

The truth is that no amount of investigating by the FBI or anyone else will change a single Democratic vote. And if more accusations

arise, no matter how preposterous, Democrats will demand another investigation and more interviews.

**The American Bar Association president tries to sandbag another nominee.**

Senate's constitutional duty of advice and consent on federal judicial nominees require nothing less," wrote Robert Carlson. Surely it's a coincidence that Mr. Carlson, according to campaign-finance records at OpenSecrets.org, was a donor to Hillary Clinton.

Mr. Carlson wants to give the impression that the ABA is walking away from its previous expansive praise for Judge Kavanaugh. The ABA has a Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary that reviews nominees, and on Aug. 30 it gave Judge Kavanaugh its highest rating.

This included a glowing report on his character and competence. Dozens of law professors reviewed his writings. Comments were solicited from 471 judges, lawyers and academics. This material was collated into 1,635 pages.

The ABA committee then voted unanimously that Judge Kavanaugh is "well qualified" for the Supreme Court. Its final report quotes unnamed colleagues and observers: "His integrity is absolutely unquestioned." "He is what he seems, very decent, humble, and honest." "He is just the best—brilliant, a great writer, fair, and he is open-minded."

Mr. Carlson is not a member of that committee, and he is not supposed to speak for the ABA unless the legal group has made a policy decision. In this case he is trying to sandbag his own ABA colleagues. Paul Moxley, the Utah lawyer who chairs the ABA's judicial committee, made that clear on Friday when he wrote to the Senate Judiciary Committee that Mr. Carlson's letter "was not received" by his ABA committee "prior to its issuance." Mr. Moxley added: "The ABA's rating for Judge Kavanaugh is not affected by Mr. Carlson's letter."

In other words, Mr. Carlson is free-lancing for partisan purposes and the Senate should ignore him. For the rest of us, however, this is one more reason to bar the ABA from any judicial vetting. Some of us still remember the ABA's shoddy treatment of Robert Bork and Clarence Thomas.

\* \* \*

Sooner or later Republicans have to recognize all of this for the political charade it is. Democrats don't want to find the truth. They want to delay a vote, destroy Judge Kavanaugh's reputation in the meantime, win Senate control in November and then leave the Supreme Court with an empty seat through 2021.

If the Senate now wants to give the FBI one more week, Mr. Flake and Ms. Murkowski should spend it getting used to the idea that Mr. Kavanaugh can't prove that something didn't happen. They'll have to vote anyway.

## SEC Overkill on Elon Musk

**T**esla's stock took a header after the Securities and Exchange Commission on Thursday charged Elon Musk with reckless tweeting and sought his removal. That seems like enforcement overkill, though the bigger risk for Tesla investors is an autonomous-driving CEO that can't be controlled or easily replaced.

Mr. Musk sent investors into a tailspin last month when he tweeted that he was considering "taking Tesla private at \$420. Funding secured." Tesla's stock surged 11% that day but plunged over the following weeks as it became apparent that the CEO was tweeting by the seat of his pants. After consulting investors, banks and potential financiers, Mr. Musk nixed the idea.

The SEC alleges that Mr. Musk made "false and misleading public statements and omissions" that "caused significant confusion and disruption in the market for Tesla's stock and resulting harm to investors." The facts are straightforward enough, but it isn't clear that Mr. Musk intentionally misled shareholders to manipulate Tesla's stock price to harm short sellers.

According to the SEC, Mr. Musk has had three or four in-person meetings with representatives of a sovereign wealth fund who appeared to offer a large investment in Tesla but also wanted a production facility in the Middle East. The last meeting on July 31 lacked discussion of the fund's specific ownership share in a private company, the premium to be offered to current Tesla shareholders, regulatory hurdles or the board approval process.

On Aug. 2, Mr. Musk sent an email to Tesla's board, chief financial officer and general counsel titled "Offer to Take Tesla Private at \$420" in which he explained that "constant defamatory attacks" by short-sellers were causing "great harm to our valuable brand." He told the SEC that he calculated \$420 per share based on a 20% premium over that day's closing share price and thought 20% was a "standard premium."

Several days later, a private equity fund partner told Mr. Musk that the transaction structure he was contemplating was "unprecedented." Mr. Musk nonetheless tweeted the following day that funding was secured, "investor support is confirmed," and that he hoped "all current investors remain with Tesla."

**Why hasn't Tesla's board insisted on a potential CEO successor?**

Nasdaq requires listed companies to notify the exchange at least 10 minutes prior to releasing material information, which Tesla did not.

Nasdaq was forced to halt trading in Tesla stock, and for the next several hours Tesla's head of investor relations responded to inquiries by affirming "there is a firm offer" and Mr. Musk's tweet "is correct." Tesla's CFO, general counsel and head of communications rushed to formulate a public statement with limited information.

Mr. Musk insists he has "always taken action in the best interests of truth, transparency and investors" and that the facts will bear him out. But the SEC complaint is more a portrait of corporate mayhem than malfeasance, illustrating the pitfalls of a one-man drivetrain that is plowing into hard financial realities.

Tesla has never turned an annual profit and repeatedly misses production goals. It is highly leveraged and bleeding cash that will be needed to repay \$1.2 billion in convertible bonds coming due in the next six months. Electric-car competition is also heating up.

Tesla's lofty stock valuation exceeding that of much larger automakers owes to investor faith in Mr. Musk's supposed magic. Investors seem to view his penchant for puffery as a feature rather than a bug. And while Mr. Musk deserves some SEC sanction, barring him from serving as a director or officer of a public company is excessive. The SEC's settlement with former Theranos CEO Elizabeth Holmes only barred her for a decade.

Tesla's stock price fell 14% on Friday as investors reacted to the possibility that Mr. Musk could be forced out with no obvious successor. Mr. Musk's hard-charging managerial style has contributed to the exodus of more than 50 managers and high-ranking executives over the past two years, which has left Tesla more dependent on his leadership.

Part of the blame lies with Tesla's deferential board, which ought to use the moment to recruit a backup to Mr. Musk to take the wheel. A company built for the long haul—which Mr. Musk says is Tesla's focus—should be able to continue to grow and innovate in the absence of its founding luminary. If Mr. Musk wants Tesla to succeed, he should be willing to relinquish some control.

## OPINION

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The 'Golden Door' for 21st-Century America

"A Way Out of the Immigration Crisis" (Review, Sept. 22) tiptoes around the elephant in the border-debate room. Every past amnesty has been followed by a new influx of "unauthorized" immigrants and a new need for amnesty.

The majority of Americans, even those on the right, don't have the stomach for mass deportation of people who crossed the border illegally but now have deep roots in America. However, conservatives also aren't dumb enough to think that agreeing to one last round of amnesty will be the final chapter on illegal immigration. The next time Democrats control Washington border security will be deprioritized. If the far left has its way, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement will be abolished. Meanwhile, illegal border crossers will have even more incentive to enter the U.S. before the next "very last" round of amnesty is granted.

A grand bargain on immigration that leaves the left and the right partially satisfied and partially perturbed will have to deal humanely with those in our unauthorized immigrant population. Without securing U.S. borders and curtailing abuse of refugee status, however, an amnesty solution is an invitation for future amnesty interven-

tion. Amnesty and border-security terms cannot be as porous and as subject to shifts in the political winds as U.S. borders have been in years past.

ADAM CLARK  
Alexandria, Va.

From 1860 to 1920, 13% to 15% of the U.S. population was foreign born. In recent years, it has been 12% to 13%. The country needed workers then, and we face a labor shortage now.

But there is a difference between then and now. Those who came here before worked until they were self-supporting and then sent for their families. There was no "safety net," and the offspring of those immigrants typically integrated into the American melting pot within one or two generations.

Today, immigration opponents focus their concern primarily on those who lack education and skills. Instead of trying to fence them out, why not reshape the conversation to ask which resources would be necessary to welcome these families into the melting pot and how they could be provided by nongovernmental resources?

EM. PROF. RICHARD N. CARDOZO  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis

## Liberal Publications Need to Show Backbone

Christopher Finan's lament "A Shameful Season For U.S. Journalism" (op-ed, Sept. 25) about the self-abasing decisions of the New York Review of Books to dismiss its editor, the New Yorker to cancel an exchange between its editor and Steve Bannon, and the Nation to apologize in the most abject fashion for publishing a poem (!) could hardly be more timely. One could make a reasonable case that providing Jian Ghomeshi, as the Review did, with an unanswered platform from which to defend, sometimes at least misleadingly, his treatment of women, was worthy of criticism. Or that inviting Steve Bannon to participate in a featured event of the New Yorker would have added an undeserved luster to his career. Or

that the poem published by the Nation could (but need not) be read as an affront to what the magazine delicately referred to as "the many communities affected" by the poem.

But it should hardly need reciting, especially to publications of the distinction of these three, that retreating from, let alone abandoning, the intellectual battlefield will only encourage more cries for self-censorship by offended readers. There is simply no excuse for these so often revered publications to comport themselves as if they resided in some sort of cultural re-education camp. Unless, that is, they are prepared to do so.

FLOYD ABRAMS  
New York

## The GOP Should Get in Front on Health Care

Regarding Karl Rove's "Health Care Is the Sleeper Issue of 2018" (op-ed, Sept. 20): Whether to maintain our tradition of self-reliance and individual responsibility or adopt a more communal, European approach is the central debate over health care. In favor of the latter is that ill health comes to everyone eventually, a fact that we're loath to recognize during those years we could and should be making arrangements. It seems like the kind of problem well-suited to a government-directed solution, and it would be except for one thing: The tough choices about how to allocate scarce resources can no longer be made by our political leaders. As a consequence unsustainable spending is likely to continue into the foreseeable future, even without the addition of health care.

The challenge for Republicans described by Mr. Rove is to make something out of nothing. It's easy to dismiss Republican talk of market-based solutions because the market has failed so far to produce any solutions. An acceptable compromise might be

GREG BROWN, M.D.  
Columbus, Ind.

to accede to demands to extend Medicare to all in return for doing away with the monopoly Medicare now enforces on care for its enrollees. Those who believe in markets know that competition and transparency would drive the government out of health-care financing just as currently is happening with package delivery. Faith in American uniqueness and self-reliance would be strengthened and we would become a model for the rest of the world, instead of the other way around.

GREG BROWN, M.D.  
Columbus, Ind.

## The Hard Left Doesn't Even Speak for Most Democrats

I applaud the bravery of Abigail Shrier in "#MeToo Becomes a Political Ploy" (op-ed, Sept. 26). I imagine she has made herself a target for the far left. The loudest Democrats are saying that an accusation by a female is all it takes to condemn a conservative male. After all, it almost worked against a conservative black male, Justice Clarence Thomas. It surely would work against a conservative white male given the left's denigrating of all white males.

To be honest, not all Democrats are in favor of this type of justice that went out of style with Jim Crow. There are many Democrats (those not seeking TV airtime) who, like most of America, are willing to hear the accuser and any evidence and are withholding judgment until both parties are heard. Trial or no trial, the Constitution is still our guide in disputes. At least it is for conservatives and for most Americans save the far left.

TERRY LARSON  
Seffner, Fla.

## Good Humanities Learning Requires Diversity of Views

Paula Marantz Cohen elegantly opines on the underlying decay in today's "woke" academic discourse by punctuating how the current wave of social-justice warriors fail to understand that "the division of the world into oppressors and victims is a simplistic fairy tale" ("The Humanities' Decline Makes Us Morally Obtuse," op-ed, Sept. 22).

The fault lies with the people who have the privilege of standing in front of the classroom: faculty. The devolution of engaging and thoughtful education where the professor withdraws his or her own judgment and creates an atmosphere where students can freely debate the many challenges we face as a civilization in progress have been reduced to scripted indoctrination into liberal-progressive tropes that fill the classroom with the fog of censorial pepper gas. If these professors want to live in places like Venezuela, Cuba or China, where people are valued in direct proportion to their demonstrable adherence to state-sponsored dogma, then they should move there. That would provide them with a real education.

TOM O'HARE  
Charlestown, R.I.

Pepper ...  
And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"With this election, I'm putting a surge protector on your pacemaker."

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## OPINION

# 'Advise & Consent' Meets 'Rashomon'

By Lance Morrow

The story of the Kavanaugh affair had the elements of a black-and-white movie from long ago: "Advise & Consent" retold as "Rashomon," a masterpiece of tabloid civics in the old Washington style. When the day was over, everyone was depressed about the country; some said this was a new low. And yet everyone had been richly entertained. Only Frank Capra, returned from the dead, could have done the day justice.

It would have to be filmed in black and white because the issues came mostly in black and white, and the contrast between the two antagonists told you things about the country's differences, which are getting to be irreconcilable—a matter of alternate realities. The hearing brought us into the presence of F. Scott Fitzgerald's idea that the test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two mutually contradictory ideas in the mind simultaneously without losing the ability to function.

The day of the great confrontation began with interminable preliminary rumblings by Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who looks and sounds like the cranky grandfather in a Shirley Temple movie. While the senator honked and stipulated, the camera played for long moments upon the anxious countenance of Christine Blasey Ford.

Opposite her sat the murderer's row of the committee. Many of their faces looked like those of character actors from the 1930s and '40s. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D., R.I.) had a white flop of hair in the Will Rogers style and eyes set alarmingly close together, as if to force his gaze to converge in a burning point of hayseed indignation.

Cut to Ms. Ford. You could follow the drama in her eyes, too, which moved behind her glasses like fish in an aquarium. Panic flickered and coalesced behind them. Millions studied her with a world of accumulated curiosity. Here at last the accuser had materialized, out of darkness and rumor, to tell her story. Panic and courage took turns in the close-up.

Mr. Grassley rumbled and millions suffered with Ms. Ford and wondered if she would be able to contain the panic or might bolt and flee this strange encounter between the contents of her deeply private "hippocampus"—the brain's seat of memory and emotion, to which she referred more than once—and the nation's highest and most historic public business. This would be a battle of two hippocampi—Brett's and Christine's.

The late Meg Greenfield, who ran the Washington Post's editorial page long ago, used to say that the city of Washington is best understood as



MICHAEL REYNOLDS/ZUMA PRESS

Brett Kavanaugh at Thursday's Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

high school. She meant that the capital's emotional age and social dynamics—its cliques and power plays—have the characteristics of adolescents between 14 and 18. The Ford-Kavanaugh business was a high-school reunion organized as a forensic did-he-do-it? She said. And he said. There was virtually no corroborating evidence for what she said.

Ms. Ford—51 now—recounted the evening of the party, voice quavering and steadying by turns. As you watched, you tried to reimagine her as the 15-year-old girl that she was then.

## The Kavanaugh drama, with its black-and-white issues, resembled an old black-and-white movie.

She climbed the stairs and at the top there was a bedroom and someone pushed her in and knocked her onto the bed—the bed was to the right of the door—and locked the door and groped and climbed on top. And there was another boy. The boys both laughed. She remembered that most—the boys stumbling drunk and laughing. And the one boy, Brett, covering her mouth when she tried to scream. Then the second boy tumbled on top and all fell to the floor (like the Marx Brothers, only it wasn't funny) and she escaped.

It was all perfectly vivid and believable.

Rachel Mitchell, a professional interrogator brought in from Maricopa County, Ariz., to question Ms. Ford (to sit in for those Republican males, who were the wrong party and the wrong sex for present purposes) knew how to be soft and unalarming with a trauma victim. She replied to almost everything Ms. Ford said with a rising inflection of

the therapeutic "OK."

So Ms. Ford told her story, and was increasingly believed, and the morning ended.

The networks were riveted. Here was America in 2018, its angriest essences distilled into this characteristic but fairly strange drama enacting itself as middle-aged memories of high school. Here was Donald Trump's nominee, Judge Kavanaugh (waiting offstage now), representing, possibly, the historic turn of the Supreme Court, a conservative who would guarantee the court's direction for years, maybe up until the time when, as demographers projected, America would become a majority nonwhite country. The Supreme Court might be a sort of Alamo by the year 2040. A Justice Kavanaugh might be decisive in overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Not only that, he might reverse the drift of American law and social change from the time when Bob Dylan was playing acoustic guitar until the November night in 2016 when Hillary Clinton went into shock and Mr. Trump was elected president.

After Ms. Ford finished her testimony, the audience voted, informally, and the verdict was all but unanimous. "Kavanaugh is toast," a friend emailed from London. On Fox News Channel, Chris Wallace said the same. Blood drained from faces in the West Wing.

The #MeToo movement sensed victory and vindication. You can imagine what Capra would have done with the moment: a fast montage of jubilant American women's faces, energized.

But then came a ferocious turning of the plot, a great reversal—the sort of thing they teach in courses called How to Write a Brilliant Hollywood Script.

Judge Kavanaugh—previously all

judicial temperament, all gravitas and family man—came hot into the committee room, now almost weeping, now insulting the Democrats

(who recoiled a little), his distinctively Murland accent (that's Maryland) harsh and a little reckless, his figurative middle finger extended toward the Democrats, whom he acknowledged now to be his bitter enemies—a menace to his home, his family.

And on the other plane, we were deeply back in adolescence, in underage beer drinking, football practice and swimming at the country club, back in the time of intense studies and intense friendships, of class rankings, all-nighters and idiotic, saucious entries in the yearbook.

The hearing became a sort of séance. The year 2018 set up a quivering, gauzy resonance with the year 1982. Middle age (with all its experience and achievement—Brett, from Georgetown Prep, at the height of the American judiciary now, and Christine, from Holton-Arms, a successful professional woman with a doctorate in psychology and, for all one knew, a rich private life) established communication with a prior world—with adolescent youth and its hopes, follies and terrors, and the mystery of an assault that did or did not happen.

The F. Scott Fitzgerald challenge came into play. Judge Kavanaugh—passionate, indignant, his voice breaking, eyes tearing—denied everything Ms. Ford had said, at least the parts involving himself. He, too, was entirely credible.

Perhaps "credible" meant "sympathetic." Part of the sympathy accorded him now emerged from what we knew of his ordeal in recent days—the sudden onslaught of sexual allegations, three of them now, the second being quite incredible and the third being unprecedentedly scurrilous and filthy. Judge Kavanaugh gained sympathy from his evident suffering and that of his family. His wife sat behind him in the hearing room wearing an expression of unutterable disgust.

Ultimately, there developed an interesting dialogue between two phrases—"her truth" and "the truth." New Jersey's sea-green incorruptible, Sen. Cory Booker, made much of Ms. Ford's having "told her truth." He meant that if she told "her truth," it was enough. Except it was not enough. The question was whether her truth was the truth—or whether his truth was the truth. It wasn't possible that the two truths, his and hers, could square with one another.

The country will take its pick in November. In a way, American politics, even its idea of reality, has sifted down to a choice between Brett's truth and Christine's.

*Mr. Morrow, a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, is a former essayist for Time.*

Peggy Noonan is on leave and will return next month.

# America's Institutions Have Earned Our Distrust

By Crispin Sartwell

Americans, it is often said with regret, have ceased to trust their institutions. Though the lamentations have been more or less continuous since 1973, the problem has since flowered into such a crisis that, according to Gallup polling, trust is low in the criminal-justice system, Congress, the Supreme Court and the schools. Even Uber is losing our trust. All the worry, however, may be misguided: A crisis of trust is long overdue.

For example, the extreme partisanship and incompetence of the judicial-confirmation process discredits the Senate as well as the Supreme Court, which everyone is treating as an arena of party politics. Many argue that the high court will be abased if Judge Brett Kavanaugh is confirmed; many others contend it will be if he isn't. President Trump relentlessly attacks his own attorney general and Justice Department, and has ordered documents declassified to discredit the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Trump slaps at the media continuously, of course, and the credibility of news operations has never been lower—all of which the media finds outrageous and dangerous.

## Trust has to be earned, and power should always be approached with great skepticism.

The theme of the moment is the infestation of powerful institutions by sexual harassers and abusers. Major TV networks have been ripped apart, while according to a USA Today survey, 94% of women who work in the entertainment industry report being harassed or abused. The Catholic Church endures another devastating series of sexual revelations, while Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation process made a turn from interpretation of the Constitution to claims of sexual assault.

The problem is frequently conceived in terms of "messing" or public relations. The outrage at Mr. Trump's proposed declassification of documents is based on claims it will erode trust in the FBI. But if the documents are discrediting, then that trust ought to be eroded. The bureau itself—and also many in the media—appears more concerned with the FBI's branding than its interventions in presidential politics.

Thinking of the problem in terms of public trust is part of what has brought us to this pretty pass. The long international coverup of abuse by Catholic priests was driven precisely by the fear that exposure would destroy the church's credibility. But the coverup itself, the attempt to maintain the trust of the laity, compounded the destruction of that trust, as well it should have. Trust has to be earned.

The basic problem isn't that people don't trust institutions, but that the institutions aren't trustworthy. It is then only rational to apportion one's trust accordingly.

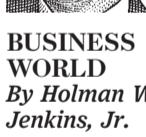
The situation is more dire than most believe. The decline in trust suggests a widespread moral decline among the leadership class. It's getting to the point that all powerful people are suspect. But as with the epidemics of autism and anxiety, the impression of dramatic change may be driven simply by increased rates of diagnosis. Powerful people may not be much worse than they were before. We just know about it now.

It isn't wrong to point to the role of social media, the constant leaks that beset anyone in public view, and the relentless pursuit of salacious details as clickbait as contributing to the decline. But these things reveal what was always already there. Trust in institutions, the result of public-relations strategies to massage the truth, was part of the problem. The trust was of greater value to the abusers it shielded than to the public.

These scandals should teach us to approach power and hierarchical institutions with skepticism, for they bring with them not only opportunities for abuse but leverage to conceal it. The mystique around a charismatic leader, an agency like the FBI, a corporation like DreamWorks or a church and its bishops is an invitation to corruption. A healthy suspicion of institutions, though it has surged over the last few decades, is a tried and true American tradition. It's also a sensible one.

*Mr. Sartwell teaches philosophy at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa.*

## Time to Put Down the Bong, Elon



BUSINESS WORLD  
By Holman W. Jenkins, Jr.

Elon Musk's authority but allowed him to remain in leadership at Tesla. At some point, we'll hear why at the last minute he rejected the deal. In the meantime, nothing about the episode necessarily will allay the fears of those who suspect Mr. Musk makes decisions while on grass.

Yet the pillars of his defense may be stronger than many think. No, a price wasn't discussed with potential buyout backers, but his Saudi inquisitors reportedly had agreed in advance to any "reasonable" price—which Mr. Musk will argue his tweeted \$420 was.

### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED SINCE 1889 BY DOW JONES & COMPANY

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some of my short-seller readers do. I don't need the company to fail to feel vindicated. I will feel equally vindicated and much happier if Mr. Musk can straighten up and generate authentic profits based on the market that clearly exists for electric cars among swells and enthusiasts.

## Tesla's CEO needs to steer the car maker toward a future that doesn't depend on green politics.

That said, an escapist gestalt seems to permeate Mr. Musk's recent behavior. Some of history's biggest gamblers knew their luck was over before the world cottoned on. Is he one?

The green-policy bubble is bursting. President Obama's policies made no sense in cost-benefit terms; his rationale—that other countries would follow in adopting high-cost policies of no benefit if the U.S. did—had been debunked by his own regulatory czar before Mr. Obama ever took office.

Germany is burning more coal than ever. China already puts out more greenhouse gases than the U.S. and Europe combined. The personal vehicles used by you and me were never a big enough part of the problem that they afforded governments any leverage over global warming. If such a problem exists, it will be addressed meaningfully in very different ways than those now holding favor.

In the meantime, the world's politicians have settled for a ditsy gesture that pollutes the market for Tesla's cars. In most major markets, establishment auto makers now are effectively required to make and sell electric vehicle at a loss while continuing to churn out profitable gasoline-powered cars.

Mr. Musk's preoccupation with short sellers, so clearly a factor in the current debacle, is a distraction from the unfavorable realities that face his company, which will not be solved by conjuring up a private buyout at a high price.

There is no battery breakthrough in the offing that will solve the range and recharge-time issues that make electric cars an expensive impracticality for a majority of drivers. There will be no climate-policy spasm banning gasoline. Mr. Musk's insistence that Tesla is done going back to the market for capital is a mute acknowledgment that the market may no longer be willing.

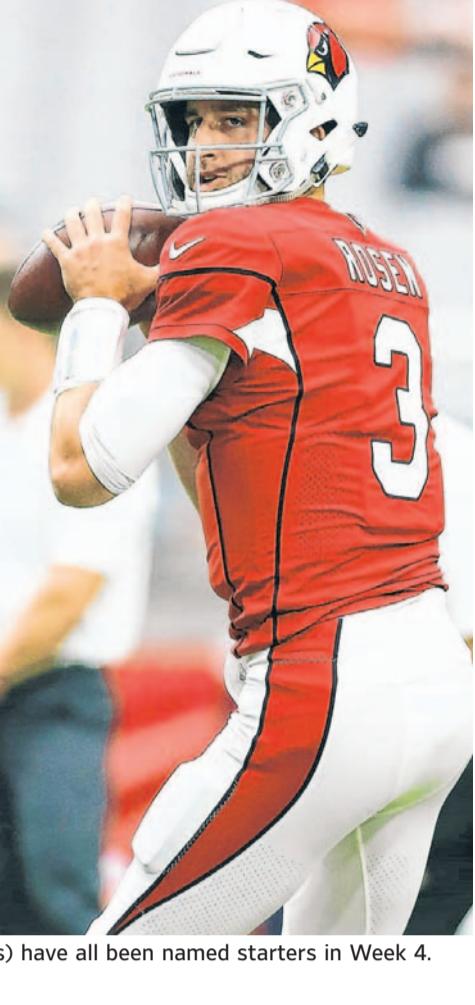
It will take a more creative financial mind than mine to guess whether he can backpedal to a more sustainable ambition. Tesla might survive and prosper building high-end fashion items for people for whom spending \$100,000 on a car is equivalent to deciding to see a Broadway show or buy a fancy pair of sneakers. All-important, though, will be making sure Tesla does not become the new spelling of Enron in the public mind.

Even with the SEC suing to remove its visionary chief, Tesla is still worth \$45 billion in the market. That's about \$204,000 per car it expects to sell in 2018, compared to \$4,900 per car for GM and \$20,000 per car for BMW, both of which produce cars at a profit.

In other words, Tesla is still valued as if tomorrow's expected profits won't be coming from the car business but from some Musk magic yet to be revealed. Blame Mr. Musk's Wall Street cheerleaders for fostering this illusion, not the SEC if its action this week finally deflates the Musk bubble.

The hardest thing for Tesla to survive may be the repricing of its shares in line with its real prospects, even if those prospects include becoming a stable and

## SPORTS



From left to right, Sam Darnold (New York Jets), Baker Mayfield (Cleveland Browns), Josh Allen (Buffalo Bills) and Josh Rosen (Arizona Cardinals) have all been named starters in Week 4.

## NFL

# Here Come the Rookie Quarterbacks

All four signal-callers taken in the top-10 of the 2018 NFL draft will start on Sunday. What took so long?

BY ANDREW BEATON  
AND MICHAEL SALFINO

Midway through Cleveland's game against the New York Jets last week, Browns coach Hue Jackson brought rookie quarterback Baker Mayfield on for injured starter Tyrod Taylor—and set himself up for both cheers and boos.

Mayfield rallied the Browns from a 14-0 deficit for a thrilling win, the team's first since 2016. It also made it clear that Jackson probably should have made Mayfield the Browns' starter from the get-go in 2018. They might be 3-0 if he had.

Mayfield isn't the only member of 2018's much-touted class of rookie quarterbacks that is getting his shot. This weekend, the four highest-drafted rookie quarterbacks are poised to start. Mayfield will now start for the Browns. Arizona's Josh Rosen is getting the nod for the first time this week, too. Josh Allen had also previously been handed the gig in Buffalo—but not before beginning the season on the bench. The New York Jets' Sam Darnold has been starting since the season began.

Their coaches agree that these quarterbacks' time has come: in Week 4 of their rookie year.

"He can handle it," Jackson said of Mayfield. "He's demonstrated that."

"Josh plays with a lot of confidence," Cardinals coach Steven Wilks said. "He gives us the opportunity to be successful."

The only question left: What took so long to realize this?

Last spring's NFL draft was historic. For the first time, four quarterbacks went in the top-10. But only Darnold started in Week 1.

The other three teams instead went with uninspiring options to start over the young player they had handpicked to be their quarterbacks of the future. The Browns and Cardinals invested valuable resources for their bridge quarterbacks. This is the traditional route: The young quarterback holds a clipboard, learns the offense and avoids being rushed into action.

But what's confusing about this approach is that the data doesn't show any benefit to sitting young quarterbacks. Unless the current starter thrives—and in these cases, they certainly didn't play well—the only thing this method accomplishes is delaying an answer to the question that matters most for the franchise's future: Is the quarterback they drafted any good?

This season has already shown how regrettable it can be to follow the traditional path. The Bills were the first team to reverse course. In Week 1, they deemed it prudent to start Nathan Peterman, the guy who once threw five interceptions in a single half last season. The

Bills lost 47-3. Since then, with Allen under center, they have lost to the Chargers and beaten the Vikings—only one of the biggest upsets in modern NFL history.

The Browns were next. They trailed the Jets 14-0 in the second quarter last week. Taylor, who Cleveland traded a third-round pick for just so it could start him over Mayfield, had completed 4 of 14 passes for 19 yards while ab-

There is little evidence that benching a rookie helps him play better when he gets the call.

sorbing three sacks. Mayfield entered, completed 17 of 23 passes for 201 yards and Cleveland won 21-17. Even more frustrating for Cleveland fans: The Browns had tied the Steelers in Week 1 despite forcing five more turnovers, and then barely lost to the Saints in New Orleans. Mayfield could very well have been the difference between the team's 1-1 record and a culture-changing 3-0 start.

The Arizona Cardinals, though, have the ignominy of making the most pointless off-season move. They gave Sam Bradford a deal worth up to \$20 million, and in

the first three games of the season—all losses—he led an offense that scored a total of 20 points.

Arizona switched to Rosen in the final minutes on Sunday after they blew a 14-0 lead to Chicago and lost 16-14. On Monday, Wilks announced Rosen as the new starter.

The fifth quarterback taken in the first round of this year's draft—2016 Heisman winner Lamar Jackson, who was taken No. 32 overall by the Ravens—is still riding the pine behind Joe Flacco.

Even though these teams opted to wait, the statistics challenge the conventional wisdom that benching a rookie quarterback helps him play better when he gets the call.

From 1998 through 2017, there have been 55 quarterbacks taken in the first round. Of those, 18 started their first possible game. They completed 57.8% of their passes for an average gain per pass of 6.8 yards. They've tossed 1.1 touchdowns for every interception. Their combined passer rating: 76.2.

The 37 who waited sat on the sidelines for an average of 8.4 games. When they saw action, they weren't any more ready to play than the immediate starters. They completed 57.4% of their passes for an average gain of 6.7 yards, according to Stats LLC. And they tossed 1.2 touchdowns for every interception. This adds up to a combined passer rating of 76.6—a set of numbers essentially indistin-

guishable from the other.

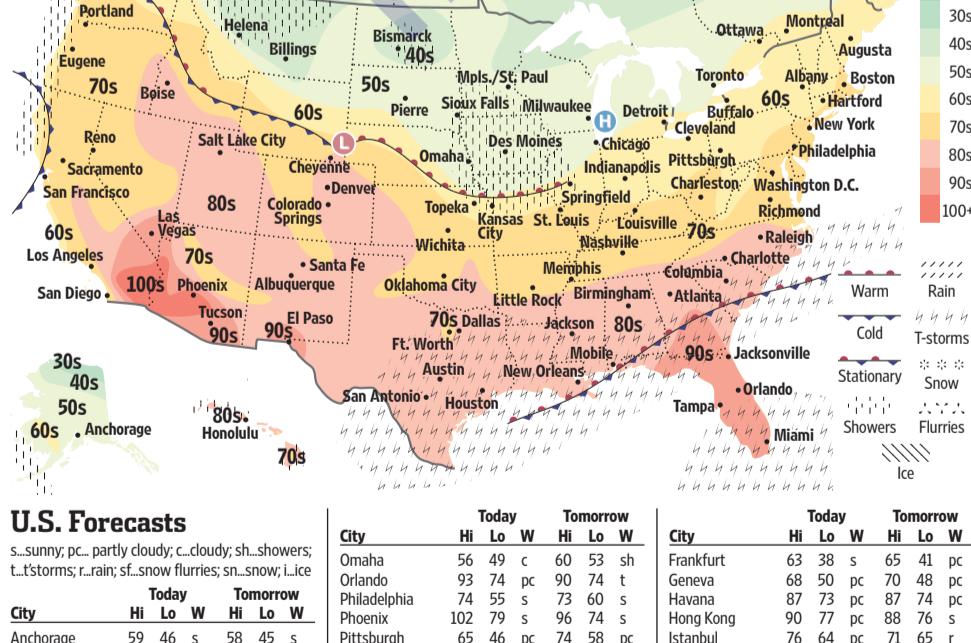
Not that this prevents teams from making this miscalculation again and again. The success of Patrick Mahomes in Kansas City this season is a point to the contrary—but in reality, the team may have effectively wasted last season with a superstar on the sidelines, one that perhaps could have extended their season beyond a shocking opening-round playoff loss to the Tennessee Titans.

Holding young quarterbacks out also prevents a team from learning if it has found its franchise quarterback. Jared Goff was still a mystery heading into his second season with the Rams in 2017 because he played very little for a No. 1 overall pick—just seven games.

Learning more quickly if a prized prospect is any good has other benefits. If they're right, the team can save a ton of money at the game's most expensive position while its new star is on an inexpensive rookie deal. It can then invest those savings in other positions, as the Seahawks did in 2013, the Eagles last year and the Rams are doing in 2018.

And if the rookie turns out to be a bust, it's better to start the process over again sooner rather than later. And given the muddled history of drafting quarterbacks, it's a good bet that at least one of Mayfield, Darnold, Allen or Rosen will prove to be a gigantic bust.

## Weather





**Co-Living**  
Young urbanites  
outsource their life to  
housing startups **B4**

# EXCHANGE

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - 30, 2018 | **B1**

BUSINESS | FINANCE | TECHNOLOGY | MANAGEMENT

DJIA 26458.31 ▲ 18.38 0.1% NASDAQ 8046.35 ▲ 0.1% STOXX 600 383.18 ▼ 0.8% 10-YR. TREAS. ▼ 1/32, yield 3.055% OIL \$73.25 ▲ \$1.13 GOLD \$1,191.50 ▲ \$9.20 EURO \$1.1605 YEN 113.69

**On the Rise of AI**  
Expect upheaval,  
historian says,  
and opportunity **B4**



## P&G Tries to Break The Cycle

ILLUSTRATION BY JUSTIN METZ; TAX REPORT: PAUL BLOW; CO-LIVING: GIACOMO FORTUNATO FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL; SALES DATA FROM NIELSEN PROVIDED BY WELLS FARGO  
Procter & Gamble has seen uneven sales in some of its major product categories. Here, change in performance from a year earlier.

**L**ast fall, Procter & Gamble Co. Chief Executive David Taylor, waging the costliest board fight in history, took the stage at the company's annual shareholder meeting and vowed the maker of Tide and Pampers had made "dramatic changes" and was headed to "new heights."

But a year after its duel with activist investor Nelson Peltz, the Cincinnati consumer-products giant has stagnated, stymied by competition, rising materials costs and its own bureaucracy, according to executives, analysts and people familiar with the business. Mr. Peltz joined P&G's board March 1, invited on by P&G after the company won the shareholder vote by only a razor-thin margin.

## THE SCORE

THE BUSINESS WEEK IN 7 STOCKS

## COMCAST CORP.

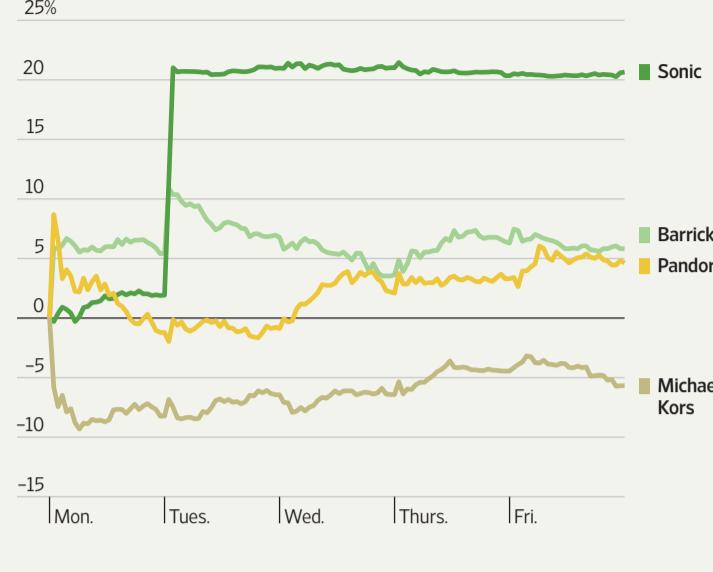
**CMCSA** After a monthslong bidding war, Comcast secured control of European pay-TV giant Sky PLC for \$38.8 billion, easily outbidding 21st Century Fox in a rare blind auction held by British regulators. Comcast **shares slid 6% Monday** as investors questioned whether the cable company had overpaid. Said one analyst: "They're going to have a very hard time convincing shareholders that this is a good use of their capital." Not all was lost for Fox, however, as the company on Wednesday said it would sell its remaining 39% stake in Sky, worth roughly \$15 billion, to Comcast.

## GENERAL ELECTRIC CO.

**GE** GE's market capitalization fell below \$100 billion on Tuesday, its lowest level since the trough of the bear market in March 2009. Shares have fallen by more than 50% over the past year, including a **4% drop on Tuesday** as failures of the conglomerate's newest large natural-gas turbine added to the woes of its power division. GE Power Chief Executive Russell Stokes said the company has a fix for the issue and is working with customers to implement the "minor adjustments" needed for the blades. Once a blue-chip standard, GE was removed from the Dow Jones Industrial Average in June.

## STOCK PERFORMANCE OF M&amp;A PLAYERS THIS WEEK

Source: SIX



## SONIC CORP.

In a busy week for deal makers, Inspire Brands Inc. said it would buy Sonic for \$2.3 billion including debt. Shares of Sonic skated higher, **rising 19% Tuesday**. In other deal action: Michael Kors agreed to purchase Italian fashion house Gianni Versace SpA for \$2.12 billion; Sirius XM Holdings Ltd. agreed to buy Pandora Media Inc. for \$3 billion; and Barrick Gold Corp. acquired Randgold Resources Ltd. for \$6 billion in shares.

## FACEBOOK INC.

**FB** Instagram's co-founders have unfriended Facebook. Five years after selling their photo-sharing platform to the social-media giant for \$1 billion, Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger said Tuesday that they would step down. According to people familiar with the matter, disagreements with Facebook executives over the degree of Instagram's autonomy prompted the co-founders' departure. Facebook shares **edged down 0.3% Tuesday**. Separately, on Friday, Facebook fell 2.6% after reports of a security flaw that affected almost 50 million accounts.

## CARNIVAL CORP.

Carnival topped earnings expectations, though its stock **sank 4.8% on Thursday** after the cruise industry's largest player predicted choppy waters ahead. The company earned an adjusted \$2.36 per share, up from \$2.29 a year earlier and ahead of analysts' expectations of \$2.32. But the cruise-line operator said mounting currency headwinds and rising fuel prices—which hit four-year highs this past week—would increase costs and dent earnings in the fourth quarter and 2019. Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings and Royal Caribbean Cruises also took plunges Thursday before rebounding.

## DUNKIN' BRANDS GROUP

**DNKN** Starting in January, there will be a doughnut-sized hole in Dunkin' Brands Group's flagship chain. Shares **rose 1.3% Tuesday** after the company announced it was dropping the word "Donuts" from its name to put more focus on beverages, which represent 60% of sales, at a time when Americans are adopting healthier eating habits. Dunkin' was not the only company seeking to freshen its image with a health-related rebrand this past week: On Monday, Weight Watchers International Inc. said it would rebrand as WW to emphasize its commitment to health and wellness; its shares gained 4.5%.

## TESLA INC.

**TSLA** Elon Musk's days at Tesla could be numbered. After the last-minute collapse of settlement talks, the Securities and Exchange Commission late Thursday sued the electric-car maker's chief executive for securities fraud over his take-private tweet last month, seeking in part to ban him from serving as an officer of a publicly traded company. While the suit is against Mr. Musk, not Tesla, analysts said investors link the company's value to Mr. Musk's vision. On Friday, Tesla **plummeted 14%**, the company's biggest one-day selloff since a 14.5% decline in November 2013. —Laine Higgins

## P&amp;G Seeks to Turn the Tide On Growth

*Continued from the prior page*  
health business of Germany's Merck KGaA for \$4.2 billion. That deal will add vitamins and food supplements mostly sold outside the U.S. to the P&G unit that includes Crest toothpaste and Vicks cold medicine.

The changes P&G has undertaken to overhaul how it invents, markets and sells its products have yet to show up in results. P&G's "organic" sales—a closely watched metric that strips out currency moves, acquisitions and divestitures—rose 1% in the fiscal year ended June 30, below the company's goal of 2% to 3%. The company is losing share in 24 of its top 50 product categories and geographies, though that number is an improvement from a year ago.

"We're making progress, but we're still not where we want or need to be," a P&G spokesman said. He said P&G's results improved as the year wore on and the company is more focused on growing by developing new brands and products than on taking share from rivals.

In the past year, P&G U.S. sales are up 1.2%, in line with overall industry growth, according to Nielsen data provided by Wells Fargo. Performance of the biggest brands have been mixed. For instance, the company's liquid laundry detergent sales rose 2.3% compared with a year ago, while sales of laundry pods jumped 4.2%. But the Gillette razor business continues to lose ground, despite slashing prices in early 2017.

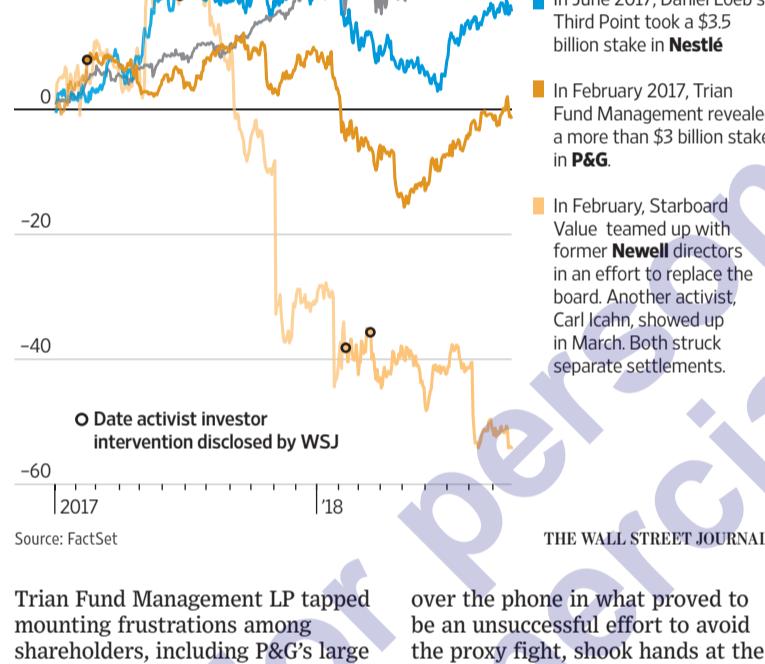
"I just couldn't come back to them," said Randy Merrill, a 70-year-old retired lawyer from Atlanta. He used Gillette razors until a few years ago when he tried Schick razors and found the five-blade cartridge was cheaper and worked better than Gillette's three-blade offering. "I'm a stockholder and I voted for P&G in [the Peltz] fight. I'm disappointed."

Mr. Peltz, who declined to comment through a spokeswoman, argued in his campaign last year that the company had settled for "mediocrity" and needed to restructure its operations. The billionaire had previously waged proxy fights and taken board seats at Heinz, industrial conglomerate Ingersoll-Rand PLC and money manager Legg Mason Inc.

In targeting P&G, Mr. Peltz's

## Activists Go Shopping

Consumer goods companies targeted by activists recently have had mixed performance



Trian Fund Management LP tapped mounting frustrations among shareholders, including P&G's large investor base of current and former employees. Mr. Peltz argued that P&G suffered under a "suffocating bureaucracy" and a board that failed to hold management accountable. He also said the company needed to focus on trendy, niche product lines.

"We understand completely that [consumer products] is one of the more difficult categories to complete in," said Jim Russell, a portfolio manager at Bahl & Gaynor Investment Counsel in Cincinnati, which advises hundreds of P&G executives, rank-and-file workers and retirees. "We're hopeful that Procter is up to the task."

Mr. Taylor, while generally unflappable, showed frustration amid the fight with Mr. Peltz, sometimes in the form of direct barbs aimed at Mr. Peltz and other times in the way he'd bounce restlessly while addressing investors' criticisms.

Mr. Peltz, who dropped out of college in the 1960s and got his start loading peaches and strawberries onto trucks for his family's food-distribution company, takes issue with being called an "activist" investor, instead preferring to be seen as an ally to struggling companies and their shareholders. But he hasn't shied away from challenging the strategies of iconic companies, including PepsiCo Inc. and General Electric Co., sometimes through sharply worded white papers.

The men, who met and spoke

over the phone in what proved to be an unsuccessful effort to avoid the proxy fight, shook hands at the closing of P&G's shareholder meeting last year. There, Mr. Taylor declared victory over Mr. Peltz, but Trian believed the vote was too close to call. Mr. Peltz congratulated the CEO.

"We'll talk," Mr. Taylor said. "We'll talk but we don't listen," Mr. Peltz replied.

Mr. Taylor responded, "No, no, no, that's not true."

P&G executives say there are signs of change, and the company is winning over more millennial shoppers with its big-name brands and stronger online sales. It has streamlined the organization and is more closely aligning pay with company performance. Shortly after Mr. Peltz came on the scene, P&G began touting a new approach to bringing "irresistibly superior" products to market, in which new offerings must meet more-rigorous standards on everything from packaging to efficacy.

The pay changes are the most visible sign thus far of the impact of Mr. Peltz, who criticized P&G's compensation metrics last year. Mr. Taylor, CEO since November 2015, took a 4% pay cut in the latest fiscal year, earning \$17.4 million including his annual salary, bonus and stock awards. P&G's board made additional changes to the company's bonus program in June, which will be in effect this fiscal year, according to a regulatory filing.

After long eschewing acquisitions of outside brands, P&G in the past year acquired a trio of startups—Native natural deodorant and two skin-care companies, Snowberry and FAB—with plans to expand direct-to-consumer offerings and smaller brands. With Native, which offers \$12 deodorant in scents such as pumpkin spice latte and lemon zest and pomegranate, P&G employed a tactic to which it once fell victim. P&G used its retail clout to get Native on shelves in Target Corp.'s 1,800 stores. Two years earlier, online razor startup Harry's moved into Target and won share from P&G's Gillette brand.

P&G, one of the world's biggest advertisers, has gone on a crusade to clean up the online ad market and force major technology platforms to provide more information about the effectiveness of digital ads. P&G said big players including Alphabet Inc.'s YouTube and Facebook Inc. have made significant changes since the company last year slashed digital ad spending by more than \$200 million and issued an ultimatum for tech companies to become more transparent.

The company also cut 3,000 jobs globally in the recently ended fiscal year. P&G has reduced its workforce by 25% in the past five years, leaving 92,000 employees worldwide. The company shrunk significantly in 2016 when Mr. Taylor completed the sale of Clairol, CoverGirl and most of its beauty brands to Coty Inc. for \$12 billion.

And in a move that will be most acutely felt by American shoppers, P&G recently said it would raise prices on some of its biggest brands, including Pampers diapers, Bounty paper towels, Charmin toilet paper and Puffs tissues. P&G, as the industry's biggest player, tends to drive industry pricing moves and several rivals, including Kleenex maker Kimberly-Clark, have followed suit.

Many analysts say the 181-year-old company—given industry challenges and the fact that Mr. Peltz has been on the board only seven months—should be allowed more time to show progress.

"There are a lot of investments being made to make the culture more agile, but is that going to translate to improved sales growth?" asked Edward Jones analyst Brittany Weissman. Adding Mr. Peltz to the board, "is going to give them some flexibility to execute on their plan. If that doesn't work, you are going to see him become more aggressive."

## Harvard Gains Trail Rivals

*Continued from the prior page*  
Narvekar said Friday that the \$39.2 billion endowment was "still in the early stages of a multi-year transition, with much work ahead."

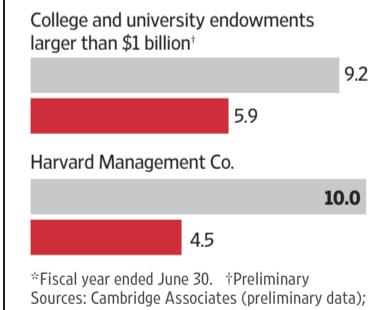
He moved quickly last year to change the endowment's investment approach, and drew attention for laying off staffers and writing down the value of Harvard's natural-resources portfolio by roughly \$1 billion.

For this year, continued losses in some of Harvard's natural-resources investments and weak results for some of its investments in outside hedge funds were a drag on performance, said people familiar with the matter. The endowment funds more than a third of Harvard's operating budget and contributes to student aid and professor salaries.

Its performance has been a source of concern in recent months among some prospective donors who worried poor returns would reduce the impact of a gift. Some of

## Score Card

Harvard University modestly beat the median university endowment in fiscal 2018\*.



\*Fiscal year ended June 30. †Preliminary Sources: Cambridge Associates (preliminary data); Harvard University THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

the university's fundraising staff have told donors they can earmark donations for "current use," meaning the gift wouldn't be put in the endowment, said people familiar with the matter.

Harvard raised \$9.6 billion in a five-year capital campaign that ended in mid-2018; much of the money raised will be managed by the endowment, said a person close to the university.

Harvard for years was the envy of the endowment world. Under endowment chief Jack Meyer, it was an early embracer of hedge funds and private-equity funds. It also built up a formidable war chest by trading most of its assets in-house, an internal investment scheme unusual among endowments.

But his departure in 2005, along with a team of traders, to start his own hedge fund presaged a revolving door at the endowment's highest levels and a prolonged period of weak returns.

People close to the endowment cite its leadership churn, diminishing returns from in-house investing, a particularly fierce drubbing during the financial crisis, and its large size among factors that have hobbled its performance. Harvard's annualized returns were 4.5% for the decade ended June 30, 2018.



## Falling Behind

P&G has spent a decade engineering a turnaround but continues to lag behind consumer-products rivals

## Total return

Procter & Gamble S&P 500

S&P 500 consumer-staples sector

**July 2009** Bob McDonald takes over as CEO, succeeding A.G. Lafley

**LAFLEY**

**MCDONALD**

Source: FactSet

LAFLEY

MCDONALD

## BUSINESS NEWS

# Apple Notches Win Over Qualcomm

By TRIPP MICKLE

Apple Inc. netted an early victory in its legal spat with Qualcomm Inc., as a U.S. trade judge declined to block the import of iPhones with Intel Corp. chips.

Judge Thomas Pender of the U.S. International Trade Commission found that Apple had infringed on a Qualcomm patent for power consumption, but he declined Qualcomm's request to block the import of Apple devices with modem chips from other chip makers on the grounds that it wasn't in the public interest.

The judge's decision will be reviewed by a full ITC commission, which will have the option to accept his determination or modify it.

The ruling undermines a Qualcomm legal maneuver designed to pressure Apple to end an escalating feud over the chip maker's royalty practices. Apple filed a federal suit in January 2017 over Qualcomm's practice of collecting royalties on the entire sales price of an iPhone up to \$400.

Qualcomm says it charges a percentage of an entire device because its patents—essential to implementing cellular-communications standards—relate to cellular devices as a whole, not just its chips.

In July, Qualcomm asked federal authorities to block imports of Apple devices, claiming Apple had violated six of its patents on wireless technology. The judge Friday found Apple had violated only one of those patents. The ITC commission will announce whether it will review the ruling in late November and complete its action by Jan. 28.

An Apple spokesman said the company was "glad the ITC stopped Qualcomm's attempt to damage competition and ultimately harm innovators and U.S. consumers."

Qualcomm General Counsel Don Rosenberg said in a statement that while the company was pleased the judge found Apple infringed on its technology, "it makes no sense to then allow infringement to continue by denying an import ban."

## CBS Gets Subpoenas

By JOE FLINT

CBS Corp. said it received subpoenas from the Manhattan district attorney's office and the New York City Commission on Human Rights regarding allegations of sexual harassment by Leslie Moonves and others.

CBS also said the New York state attorney general's office has requested information from the company on the matter.

CBS, which disclosed the inquiries in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing, has retained two law firms to investigate allegations against Mr. Moonves and other claims.

CBS said it was cooperating with the inquiries and declined to comment further.

Mr. Moonves resigned as chairman and chief executive of CBS amid accusations he harassed and assaulted several women many years ago. While Mr. Moonves said he "may have made some women uncomfortable," he denied ever forcing himself on anyone.

A spokesman for Mr. Moonves didn't respond to a request to comment.



HAUKE-CHRISTIAN DITTRICH/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drones operated by the chip maker displaying a heart at the CEBIT technology fair in Hannover, Germany. The company raised its full-year revenue forecast by 7%.

# Intel Strains to Meet PC Demand

**The company says it has committed an extra \$1 billion to help boost production**

By ELIOT BROWN

Intel Corp. said it is experiencing pressure throughout its factory network as the chip maker strives to meet growth in demand for PCs that has caught the industry off guard.

Intel finance chief Bob Swan, who is serving in the top role while the company seeks a new chief executive, said "supply is undoubtedly tight, particularly at the entry-level of the PC market." In a letter published Friday, he said the surprising growth in PC demand "has put pressure on our factory network," and that the company is prioritizing its server and high-end PC businesses.

Intel already has committed an extra \$1 billion to capital expenses this year to boost production. Mr. Swan said that money would go toward producing its current slate of so-called 14-nanometer processors.

Shares rose 3.1% to \$47.29 on Friday.

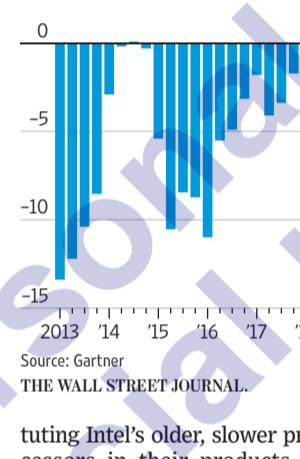
Intel has raised its full-year revenue forecast by 7% to \$69.5 billion since the start of the year amid the surge in demand.

Contributing to the dearth of chips is Intel's focus on the booming server market, its growing business of putting modem chips in Apple Inc.'s iPhones and its effort to ramp up production of more densely packed 10-nanometer processors, analysts say.

The computer industry, meanwhile, is scrambling to deal with the shortage in processors, with some PC and computer-parts makers substituting Intel's older, slower processors in their products or turning to the chip maker's rival, Advanced Micro Devices Inc.

## Backup

World-wide PC shipments, change from a year earlier



The scarcity of processors threatens to undermine a turnaround in PC sales. Global PC shipments in the second quarter rose 1.4% from a year earlier, according to research group Gartner Inc., the first growth in six years. It was fueled by businesses looking to upgrade to machines running Windows 10. Now, analysts at JPMorgan Chase & Co. expect shipments in the fourth quarter to come in 5% to 7% below its prior expectations.

PC makers told analysts last month they are trying to make do. AsusTek Computer Inc. CEO Jerry Shen called the shortages "very severe" and that the company was working to address the issue. Lenovo Corp. President Gianfranco Lanci said the company is trying to manage by using older Intel processors, and that it is talking with AMD.

"We're ready to supply customers that may not be able to get the product from our competitor," Devinder Kumar, AMD's finance chief, said at a Deutsche Bank AG conference earlier this month. "If there are shortages, we'll definitely benefit from them."

AMD's stock price has more than doubled since July, when the shortages became widely known within the industry, though analysts cautioned it is difficult for PC makers to quickly switch. Intel shares had fallen more than 5% in the same period.

Micron Technology Inc.'s stock has fallen nearly 15% in the past three months. The memory-chip maker earlier in September said it expects revenue of between \$7.9 billion and \$8.3 billion for the third quarter, below analyst expectations of \$8.4 billion, in large part because of the processor shortages. Micron said it expects the shortages will last into 2019.

# Nestlé CEO Rewrites Recipe to Boost Growth

By BRIAN BLACKSTONE AND SAABIRA CHAUDHURI

Mark Schneider has been steadily reshaping Nestlé SA in his nearly two years at its helm, including this month's sale of its Gerber life-insurance business and a newly launched review of the company's skin-health unit.

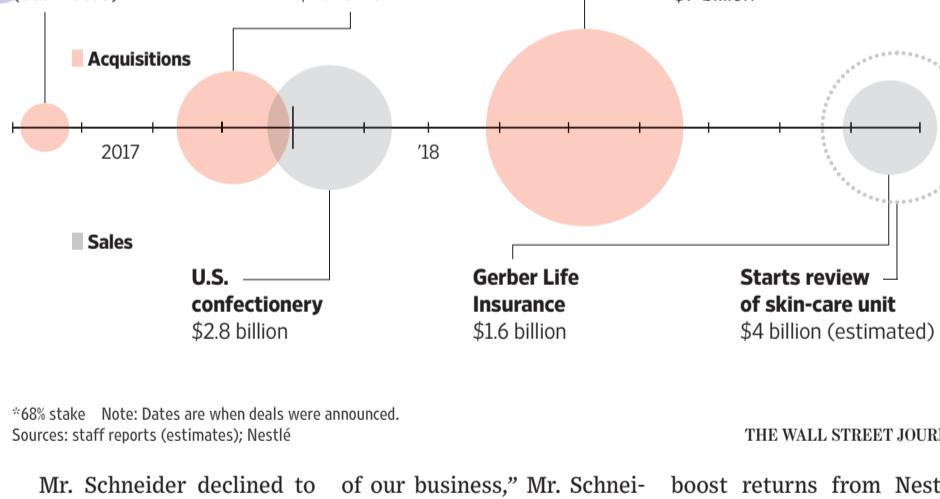
In an interview, Mr. Schneider described his strategy as "being a movie not a snapshot," saying a plan outlined earlier is being fulfilled. "No one puts everything out on one slide day one with all details and all bells and whistles," he said.

As chief executive, the former health-care executive has put greater emphasis on nutrition, pet care, coffee and water while shedding other businesses, notably Nestlé's flagging U.S. confectionery arm.

Analysts have welcomed his deals and initiatives as Nestlé's stock has outperformed the sector. But he also has had to fend off billionaire activist investor Daniel Loeb, who wants more decisive action to jump-start growth, including the sale of Nestlé's 23% stake in French cosmetics company L'Oréal.

## Deal Maker

Nestlé has shuffled its portfolio under CEO Mark Schneider, shedding slower growth products in favor of coffee and nutrition.



Mr. Schneider declined to comment on L'Oréal and didn't directly address his relationship with Mr. Loeb.

"Every shareholder has his or her own style. Some are more silent, some are more outspoken. Some use the media, some don't. Some reach out to others, some don't. That is strictly speaking none

of our business," Mr. Schneider said.

Nestlé's approach is to be

"very approachable, to listen very readily, be very constructive about dialogue but also be deeply realistic about what can be done and where we should go with this company," he said.

Mr. Schneider's efforts to

boost returns from Nestlé's portfolio—which includes brands like Nescafe coffee, Poland Spring water and DiGiorno pizza—come at a tricky time for the industry, which has struggled with changing consumer tastes and low inflation.

To cope with the challenges, Mr. Schneider has

given up external board seats and moved his family from Germany to Nestlé's hometown of Vevey in Switzerland.

He spends half the year on the road, sometimes heading out at short notice to visit one of the 190 countries where Nestlé sells its products. Earlier this year he shuttled between Switzerland and Seattle to wrap up a \$7 billion deal for Nestlé to begin selling Starbucks coffee and tea products in retail and grocery stores.

After a string of deals, he says his main focus now is on cutting costs, partly by eliminating duplication and redirecting research and development to more quickly launch products in response to ever-changing consumer tastes.

He says Nestlé has taken a "soft touch" toward integrating some of its new acquisitions, partly to allow for flexibility and quick decisions. But he rejects the notion that Nestlé might evolve into more of a holding company of assets that now include California-based Sweet Earth, vitamins maker Atrium Innovations, a stake in coffee retailer Blue Bottle and an investment in subscription-meals startup Freshly.

# Walgreens Boots to Pay \$34.5 Million in Agreement With SEC

By ALLISON PRANG AND JOSEPH WALKER

Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. agreed to pay \$34.5 million as part of a settlement with the Securities and Exchange Commission over allegations the company and two former executives misled investors.

The SEC said it charged Gregory Wasson and Wade Miquelon, the drugstore chain's former chief executive and finance chief, respectively, with misleading investors about whether the company would

hit an annual financial target.

Walgreens and Messrs. Wasson and Miquelon didn't admit or deny the SEC's findings, but agreed to settle the matter by paying fines.

According to the SEC, Walgreens said in June 2012 that once it merged with Alliance Boots GmbH it would have between \$9 billion and \$9.5 billion in adjusted operating income in its 2016 fiscal year.

Walgreens and the former executives continued to affirm the estimate even after the company's internal forecasts showed it was increasingly at

risk of missing the target, the SEC said.

Walgreens executives, including Messrs. Wasson and Miquelon, knew that the 2016 financial goals were a reach at the time they were announced in 2012, the SEC said, adding that inside the company the projections were sometimes referred to as "challenging, stretch goals."

By May 2013, Walgreens's internal forecasts showed "significant and increasing risks" to the 2016 adjusted profit goal, because of poor retail sales and pharmacy prescrip-

tions, the SEC said in its order.

In October 2013, the company's internal 2016 forecast had dropped to \$8.7 billion in adjusted operating profit,

\$300 million to \$800 million short of its 2016 forecast, the SEC said.

Despite the increased risks, Walgreens and the former executives reaffirmed the forecast of \$9 billion to \$9.5 billion in adjusted operating profit on earnings calls with analysts in June and October 2013, the SEC said.

The company's statements reaffirming the 2016 forecast

were "misleading," the SEC said.

In November 2013, the company realized that "an unanticipated and industry-wide increase in the price of generic drugs" had created an additional risk to its 2016 forecast.

On an earnings call the following month, Walgreens warned investors for the first time about the risk to its forecast, but "failed to adequately disclose the increase" in risk, the SEC said.

Messrs. Wasson and Miquelon are both required to pay a \$160,000 penalty as part of the

SEC order, the regulator said. A representative for Mr. Wasson referred to the company's statement. A representative for Mr. Miquelon couldn't be reached to comment.

Mr. Wasson had announced he would retire after Walgreens and Alliance Boots merged in December 2014. Mr. Miquelon left his job as finance chief in August of that year.

The company said in a statement Friday that the settlement "does not involve any of Walgreens Boots Alliance's current officers or executives."

## TECHNOLOGY



Joseph Watson, left, and Scott Levine in their co-living apartment in Long Island City, run by a startup that offers housekeeping and social planning.



Scott Levine wakes each morning in his tiny room in the Alta apartment building in Long Island City, N.Y., across the river from Manhattan. He gets dressed, brushes his teeth in an attached bathroom, and folds away his Murphy bed.

Mr. Levine, a 30-year-old marketing manager, shares the rest of his apartment—basically, a kitchen—with two roommates. Once a week someone from Ollie, the startup that manages his apartment, comes to change his sheets and towels, even top up his toiletries, all of which is included in his rent, which is around \$1,800 a month for his 98-square-foot room.

A “community-engagement team” at Ollie helps plan Mr. Levine’s social calendar. A live-in “community manager”—sort of like a residential adviser for a college dorm—gets to know Mr. Levine and everyone else living on the 14 Ollie-managed floors of the Alta LIC building, known as Alta+, and finds creative ways to get them engaged in shared activities, like behind-the-scenes tours of Broadway shows or trips to organic farms.

“Life in general can be a bit of a headache,” says Mr. Levine. Thanks to Ollie, he adds, “Everything is done for you, which is convenient.”

Mr. Levine and thousands more across the U.S. are part of a growing phenomenon that tech and real-estate companies are hoping to cash in on: co-living.

Co-living means roommates—usually single, usually in their 20s or 30s—plus amenities ranging from cleaning services to shared social calendars. It also means, in practical terms, fewer square feet than a traditional apartment, more people in shared kitchens and lounges and, as a result, more affordable rent.

People have divvied up urban living quarters since at least the days of ancient Rome. A corner of

Young urbanites outsource cleaning, social planning, even shampoo, to housing startups; a 98-square-foot room comes with community included

that market is now app-powered and designed to appeal to those accustomed to ride-hailing, same-day delivery and made-for-Instagram experiences.

The result is developers sinking hundreds of millions into new properties or rethinking how they manage existing ones, doing to apartments what co-working giant WeWork does to offices. Their partners are startups such as Ollie, Common, Starcity, PodShare, WeWork’s WeLive and others. Together they’re discovering that one way to wring out more dollars a square foot is to transform

**Life ‘can be a bit of a headache...Everything is done for you, which is convenient.’**

buildings into places that fulfill not just residents’ need for shelter, but also community.

For city-dwellers accustomed to living cheek-by-jowl with people whose names they’ll never bother to learn, this might seem strange. But for young people still forming their postcollege friend groups—in an era when participation in civic life is down and going to a bar can mean huddling in a corner swiping on Tinder—it makes sense. So much sense that people put up with apartments so small they’re

called “micro.” But hey, free shampoo.

Even the largest of these startups is still small compared with big-city real-estate developers. Common manages 20 co-living properties in six cities, including the ones where co-living is more common, like New York, L.A. and Washington, D.C. It has a total of approximately 650 members, says Chief Executive Brad Hargreaves. Common’s units generally follow the co-living model of private bedrooms and shared common areas, and are intended to be about 20% cheaper per resident than efficiency apartments in the same area.

“Our audience is people who make \$40,000 to \$80,000 a year, who we believe are underserved in most markets today,” Mr. Hargreaves says.

Other startups are banking on managing existing houses and apartments, Airbnb-style. Bungalow, which just announced \$64 million in funding, wants property owners to offer space to “early-career professionals” looking for a low-maintenance place to stay. It charges rent that’s “slightly higher” than what it pays those owners, a company spokeswoman says. It currently maintains over 200 properties—housing nearly 800 residents—across seven big cities, says co-founder and CEO Andrew Collins.

As with Common and Ollie, Bungalow advertises that it furnishes the common areas in its homes, in-



The building in Long Island City, N.Y., above, which has amenities including a pool, top. Mr. Watson tries the golf simulator, middle.

stalls fast free Wi-Fi, and provides housekeeping service. The company also organizes events and outings to help you “build a community with...your new friends.”

At the heart of all of these startups is a technology platform that does double duty. Ollie’s Bedvetter system shows apartments to potential tenants, and also shows who’s already signed up to live there, with links to personal profiles. Bedvetter can even connect people into pods of potential roommates before they begin their apartment hunt.

“It’s like online dating,” says Mr. Levine. His roommate, Joseph Watson, 29, also in marketing, says it’s like eHarmony or Match.com rather than Tinder, since the platform is designed to pair people for the long term.

Ollie used Bedvetter to fill its Alta+ development, and has grander ambitions to make it a go-to service to match roommates with any available housing, says Ollie co-founder and CEO Chris Bledsoe.

Part of what’s driving the co-living movement is that developers make more money a square foot, even as they charge customers less in total monthly rent than they would pay for a studio or even, in some cases, a comparable roommate situation. That flat price—which also includes timesaving services and a social element—gives residents the perception of a better deal.

The Alta LIC building also has conventional apartments, but the co-living units are filling up faster, says Matthew Baron, one of the Alta LIC building’s developers. What’s more, he adds, he can get more than \$80 a square foot for Ollie units compared with around \$60 a square foot for the others, even though the Ollie ones are on the lower, less-desirable floors.

Even if they succeed, co-living startups are unlikely to solve America’s affordable-housing crisis. To address the “vast” gap between housing demand and supply, New York City is spending \$8.2 billion, and Sen. Elizabeth Warren proposed the American Housing and Economic Mobility Act, which includes \$477 billion in federal spending.

One problem with co-living is that community management can be tricky. At L.A.’s PodShare, potential tenants must be vetted beforehand and can be kicked out for bad behavior. “We’ve hosted 25,000 people at this point, so there’s bound to be some problems,” says founder Elvina Beck.

For Teiko Yakobson, who lived in a Common building in Brooklyn for a year, the community vibe broke down after Common eliminated the paid “house leader.” “We all just became strangers, and it was no better than living in any other apartment,” she says. Common replaced this program with “centralized” community management at the corporate level, which is “more coherent,” says Mr. Hargreaves.

When it does work, co-living can re-create the kind of communities tenants seek online—ones grounded in common interests and shared socioeconomic status.

Mr. Levine, who not only lives in a co-living building but also works in a co-working space—and in whose social circle most people do either one of those or the other—is aware that, while this isn’t for everyone, he is hardly a standout.

“One thing I’ve heard before is that I’m a stereotype of a New York millennial,” he says.

one of the main reasons why the Soviet economy and the Soviet Union in general lagged far behind the U.S. AI and machine learning might swing the pendulum in the direction of centralized systems.”

### We’ll Adapt to Sympathetic Robots

“When you enter a doctor’s office, the doctor doesn’t really know how you feel. Maybe he just had a fight with his wife and doesn’t care. But the AI doctor is monitoring you with biometric sensors. It knows better than you that you are distressed or fearful or angry. It doesn’t have a wife or a

husband. It has no other concerns. It’s focused 100% on you, and reacts to you in the best possible way, or at least the best way according to current scientific theories. We will get used to these amazing sympathetic machines. And we will become far less tolerant of all these humans who don’t understand how we feel—and often don’t care.”

—Francesco Marconi

## The AI Revolution Promises Upheaval —And Opportunity

Science fiction is full of artificial intelligence that gains consciousness and wreaks destruction on humankind. In reality, the threat is less dramatic but just as scary, according to historian Yuval Noah Harari, who predicts upheaval in the workforce, global governments and our emotional lives.

Mr. Harari, whose latest book, “21 Lessons for the 21st Century,” published in September, recently spoke to *The Future of Everything* about potential winners and losers in the automation revolution, how AI could help dictatorships outpace democracies, and the rise of machines more sympathetic than humans. This interview had been condensed and edited.

### Most Jobs Will Not Be Worth Saving

“Many jobs are very difficult, very boring, very unfulfilling. People do them because they have to, not because it’s really their



MARK WEAVER

dream to be a cashier or to drive a truck. If you can be released from these hours of working, you could perhaps develop your human potential in a much fuller way. In this sense, you are becoming more human.”

### AI Will Centralize Power

“Democracy processes information in a dis-

tributed way. It distributes information and the power to make decisions among many institutions, organizations and individuals. Dictatorships, on the other hand, concentrate or attempt to concentrate all the information and power in one place. Given the technology of the 20th century, this was very inefficient. Nobody could process the information fast enough and make good decisions, and this is

husband. It has no other concerns. It’s focused 100% on you, and reacts to you in the best possible way, or at least the best way according to current scientific theories. We will get used to these amazing sympathetic machines. And we will become far less tolerant of all these humans who don’t understand how we feel—and often don’t care.”

—Francesco Marconi

## WEEKEND INVESTOR

THE INTELLIGENT INVESTOR | JASON ZWEIG

# The 'Dumb' Money Is Bailing on U.S. Stocks

Individual investors are favoring overseas shares. Sooner or later, they'll look smart.



Does it make sense to invest anywhere but in the U.S.?

While the S&P 500 is within 1% of its all-time high, European markets are flat, Chinese stocks are in a deep slump and the Japanese market—after a huge recent run-up—has finally clawed its way back to where it was 27 years ago.

Through Aug. 31, the S&P 500 has outperformed international stocks, as measured by the MSCI World ex USA Index, over the past one, three, five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years, according to AJO, an institutional investment manager in Philadelphia. Had you put \$10,000 in each in 1973 and reinvested all your dividends, your U.S. holdings would be worth \$1.06 million; your international stocks, \$356,000.

All those numbers seem to indicate you'd be crazy to diversify internationally. But, in fact, all they signify is that numbers can play tricks on you. It still makes sense to add international stocks to a U.S. portfolio, probably more so than ever.

Looking back in time from today, U.S. stocks seem to have dominated over the long run only because they have done so extraordinarily well over the past few years.

Lofted by a strong currency and trillions of dollars of fiscal and monetary stimulus, U.S. stocks rose so swiftly out of the financial crisis that they left the rest of the world behind. That spectacular recovery has obscured the historical record.

The U.S. was among the worst-performing stock markets worldwide in the 1970s and the 2000s; it also earned lower returns than the average international market in the 1980s.

Over the 10 years ended in December 1986, international stocks outperformed the U.S. by an average of 6.2 percentage points annually; even over the decade through December 2007, U.S. stocks lagged the rest of the world by an annualized average of 3.1 percentage points.

No one can say when that might happen again. Chances are it will.

Markets tend to lose their dominance right around the time it seems most irresistible. The Japanese stock market rose 22-fold over the 20 years through the end of 1989, making it the world's best major performer.

If you were Japanese, that pinnacle of local outperformance marked the perfect time to diversify outside the country. The Nikkei 225 index, which hit its all-time high of 38915.87 on the last trading day of 1989, remains below 24000 as of this week.

"There have been many historical examples of countries that have risen and then fallen, either their economies or their markets or both," says Marlena Lee, co-head of research at Dimensional Fund Advisors of Austin, Texas, which manages approximately \$528 billion.

That's far from saying that the U.S. will become the next Japan. "There's no reason to believe that might happen here," says Ms. Lee, "but you don't have to make that call." If U.S. growth merely slows relative to other economies, stock markets elsewhere in the world are likely to catch up to or surpass the S&P 500.

Stocks in the U.S. may be more vulnerable than usual to such a reversal, given how expensive they are. Compared with the rest of the world, U.S. stocks are at their highest valuations on record, according to Bank of America Merrill Lynch—trading for twice as much,

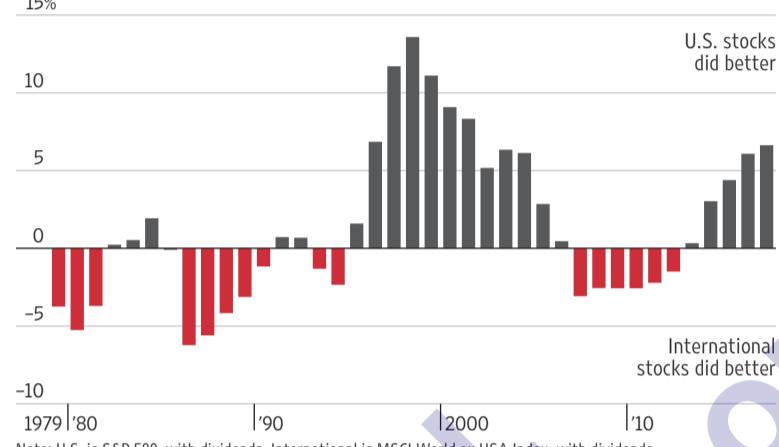


ALEX NABAUM

## Who's the Greatest?

While the U.S. stock market has outperformed international markets in recent years, the opposite has often been true for long periods.

### Annualized percentage by which U.S. stocks have outperformed international stocks over the preceding 10 years



as measured by price to net worth, as international shares.

The rest of the world's markets are less dominated, on average, by technology stocks than the U.S. and more focused on cheaper industrial and financial stocks, says Toby Thompson, a multi-asset portfolio manager at T. Rowe Price Group Inc. in Baltimore, which

runs \$1.1 trillion. The prices of such stocks outside the U.S. are "a lot more compelling," he says.

What about the common objection that you can globalize your portfolio simply by holding such multinational U.S. companies as Coca-Cola Co. or Intel Corp.?

Because such firms tend to hedge their exposures to foreign

currencies, "what the U.S. economy and stock market are doing tend to overwhelm whatever benefits the companies get from being global," says Mr. Thompson. Although they are multinational businesses, they still behave like U.S. stocks.

The biggest surprise is that individual investors have not abandoned global diversification during this recent period of disappointment.

Over the past 10 years, even as U.S. stocks hugely outperformed, mutual-fund and exchange-traded-fund investors took \$34 billion out of U.S. funds and added \$1.02 trillion to international, according to Fran Kinniry, an investment strategist at Vanguard Group.

Historically, investors have chased good returns and run away from bad performance, so "these numbers are kind of crazy," says Mr. Kinniry. "This is incredibly contrarian compared to what we have seen in the past."

Individual investors and their financial advisers, say Mr. Kinniry and other fund executives, seem to be adding money to international stocks as a systematic way of taking some money off the table as U.S. shares keep rising.

Sooner or later, that's likely to make the so-called dumb money look smart.



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## FINANCE

**B**rady Dougan was the ultimate Wall Street survivor—until he wasn't. Now he is preparing a second act.

He steered Credit Suisse Group AG through the financial crisis in relatively good shape, avoiding the black eyes and trading blowups that cost other bank CEOs their jobs, only to wash out in 2015 after the firm pleaded guilty to helping clients evade U.S. taxes.

Mr. Dougan is now finalizing the launch of a new securities-trading firm in the coming weeks, according to people familiar with the matter. It would be a long-awaited return for the 59-year-old and a test of whether there is room for a heavyweight newcomer on Wall Street a decade after the meltdown.

Mr. Dougan declined to provide any specifics. The Wall Street Journal spoke with people briefed on his new firm and reviewed internal documents relating to it.

Comebacks on postcrisis Wall Street have been tough to pull off. Only a handful of executives tossed out of their firms have re-emerged as credible players. Some, like Citigroup Inc.'s Vikram Pandit and former Bear Stearns Cos. executive Alan Schwartz, have returned to Wall Street as investors or leaders of upstart firms. Others, like Mr. Schwartz's predecessor, Jimmy Cayne, left for good.

Mr. Dougan's return follows nearly three years of planning, fundraising and recruiting, during which time he lost his anchor investor, cobbled together a new group of backers, and watched as deregulatory winds in Washington threatened to blunt his competitive advantage.

An early pitchbook to investors said the firm expected to be open for business by September 2017. But the effort dragged and, late last year, Asian investors who had been willing to provide a chunk of the seed money dropped out, people familiar with the matter said.

The venture, Exos Financial, has so far raised about \$750 million from investors including a fund run by former Barclays PLC chief Bob Diamond and is targeting \$1 billion to open for business, the people said. Soros Fund Management is considering an investment, and Mr. Dougan and others are helping to bankroll the effort, according to some of the people.

His pitch is simple: Big banks are handcuffed by postcrisis regulations and outdated technology, and a firm with newly designed systems and fewer capital constraints could cherry-pick profitable businesses.

Exos plans to trade bonds and complex instruments tied to mortgages, corporate loans and other types of debt, according to the people and documents. The firm also is building new software to better connect with trading customers and manage risk, and may try to license its technology to other financial companies. In its early days, its working name was "the Investment Bank of the Future."

Mr. Dougan's ambitions, though, are a throwback to an earlier era on Wall Street. The firm he envisions resembles Goldman Sachs Group Inc. or Merrill Lynch & Co. a generation ago: smaller, private, unencumbered by regulations, trading for its own account, and



Brady Dougan, who was Credit Suisse's CEO until 2015, has raised \$750 million for a new trading firm, according to people familiar with the matter.

# A Wall Street Second Act

Three years after being ousted, the former Credit Suisse CEO is close to launching a startup trading firm

BY JUSTIN BAER AND LIZ HOFFMAN

## Dougan Then and Now

**Born** Urbana, Ill.

**Age** 59

**Education** University of Chicago (B.A. in Economics) University of Chicago's Booth School of Business (M.B.A.)

**Then** Rose through the ranks on Wall Street as an equity-derivatives trader and was the first American to run Credit Suisse. He steered the bank through the crisis in better shape than rivals, but was ousted after the firm pleaded guilty to helping its clients avoid U.S. taxes.

**Now** Has raised \$750 million for a new Wall Street trading firm that aims to capitalize on the postcrisis pullback of big banks, according to people familiar with the matter.

borrowing against its inventory of securities to fund its operations.

It would join a caste of midsize broker-dealers including Jefferies Group LLC and Guggenheim Secu-

rities, which compete in corners of the market abandoned by larger banking rivals.

Exos had intended to open for business a year ago with \$1.5 billion in capital, but is still inching toward a reduced \$1 billion target, according to documents reviewed by the Journal and people familiar with the firm's plans. Investors including Pine Brook Partners, New York Life Financial Co. and Singapore state investment firm Temasek Holdings considered investing but passed, according to people familiar with the matter.

Delays and a rotating cast of backers are a rite of passage for any startup—especially in an industry as complex and capital-intensive as Wall Street. Here, though, they caused some would-be investors and recruits to balk, people familiar with the matter said. Mr. Dougan opted to shelf—for now, at least—preliminary plans to build investment-banking and asset-management arms alongside a core securities-trading business, according to the people

and internal documents.

What's more, the business opportunity for a new Wall Street firm is less obvious today than it seemed a few years ago. The Trump administration has taken steps to ease financial rules that were imposed after the meltdown, which would blunt Mr. Dougan's advantage over more-regulated rivals. Big banks, aided by tax cuts, are spending heavily to upgrade their trading systems; JPMorgan Chase & Co. expects to spend \$11 billion on technology this year.

Mr. Dougan, a trim Midwesterner and former equities trader, steered Credit Suisse through the 2008 meltdown, sidestepping the mortgage mess and forced mergermania that swept rivals. He personally recruited Middle East investors to aid the bank's balance sheet, enhancing his own reputation as a Wall Street survivor.

But he was pushed out in 2015 after the firm pleaded guilty to helping clients evade taxes and paid a \$2.6 billion fine. As his successor, Tidjane Thiam, refo-

cused Credit Suisse around its European private banking roots, Mr. Dougan set about building a new Wall Street firm.

He recruited some longtime associates, including Sean Brady, his No. 2 at Credit Suisse. Newcomers include Matt Chasin, a former Royal Bank of Canada executive who is Exos' treasurer, and Joe Squeri, who headed technology at trading firm Citadel. Exos has about 40 employees working in offices at a midtown Manhattan WeWork building. Operating on a startup budget, Mr. Dougan hired a headhunter to fill key seats and paid the bill partly in Exos shares, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Scepter Partners, a merchant bank that touted its access to wealthy families throughout Asia, was willing to put as much as \$3 billion in Mr. Dougan's venture and other international investments. The firm's early support had helped attract a group of other potential investors at a critical

**The firm is a throwback to an earlier era on Wall Street: smaller, private and less constrained.**

time for the startup plans.

Scepter Chief Executive Rayo Withanage has ties to Brunei's royal family and had persuaded several Wall Street heavyweights, including Messrs. Dougan and Diamond, that the Southeast Asian nation was eager to begin investing on the global stage.

But Mr. Withanage's key backers in Brunei backed out, concerned they wouldn't have as much influence over the firm's direction as they planned, people familiar with the matter said.

## Client Meals Will Stay 50% Deductible

Continued from page B1  
the cost of travel on the company jet to play golf. Formerly, this write-off was 50% of qualified expenses.

The law's hasty passage, however, left important details unclear.

Tax professionals say the new law's language could be read to mean that deductions for client meals would drop from 50% to zero, if the business meal was considered "entertainment." This term wasn't defined, raising the fear that write-offs for ordinary client meals were vulnerable.

Groups such as the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants urged clarification.

"All year, tax specialists have worried that last year's changes could eliminate the 50% deduction for client meals for 2018 and beyond," says Ruth Wimer, a benefits attorney with Winston & Strawn.

The IRS's guidance is expected to take a tack that generally preserves the 50% deduction for the

cost of meals with clients, according to the people familiar. It's also expected to offer details on how the 50% meal write-off meshes with the new denial of entertainment deductions.

For example, if a business owner takes a client to a ball game, the cost of the tickets isn't deductible because the expense is for entertainment. If the owner buys hot dogs and drinks for himself and the client at the game, this expense could still be 50% deductible, the IRS is expected to say.

The cost of the meal would also be deductible if it's part of

**The write-off for office coffee, tea and snacks has now dropped to 50% from 100%.**

the ticket price but is detailed separately from the cost of watching the game. If the food cost is part of the ticket price and not broken out separately, then it wouldn't be deductible.

So if someone pays \$200 for ball-game ticket, including food that's not itemized, then the entire \$200 wouldn't be deductible.

"This position would strike a good balance between deductible

meals and non-deductible entertainment and lead to a lot of detail on tickets and invoices," says David Auclair of Grant Thornton's National Tax Office.

The IRS will also likely warn taxpayers not to inflate the amount charged for food and drinks to get around the restriction on entertainment. In other words, don't reallocate expenses so that the round of golf with a client costs \$20 and the lunch afterward costs \$400.

The IRS's clarifications aren't expected to change the normal requirements business owners must meet to take deductions for client meals.

Business must be discussed before, during or after the meal. And the meal must not be "lavish or extravagant." This term is elastic and depends on the occasion, specialists say.

The expected IRS guidance on client meals is a rare bright spot among write-offs for business food and entertainment. Most are now lower than before the tax overhaul. They are also worth less, because tax rates in many instances are much lower.

For example, the write-off for office coffee, tea, and snacks such as pretzels has now dropped to 50% from 100%. So has the deduction for a company-provided cafeteria for workers.

A valuable freebie for some

## What's Deductible Now?

Congress slashed many write-offs for business meals and entertainment.



\*Such entertainment is 100% deductible, but Congress is expected to restore a 50% deduction.

Sources: Ruth Wimer, Winston & Strawn; staff reporting (expected) THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

firms and workers also took a big hit. The write-off for the cost of free meals provided "for the convenience of the employer" is now 50% versus 100% in prior law and could drop to zero in the future.

This reduction will affect the meals that some companies provide to workers during busy times (such as tax season) and that other companies offer all the time, say on a Silicon Valley campus.

The freebie limit reverses the precedent set in a well-known 2017 Tax Court case involving the Boston Bruins. The owners convinced the court that the food provided to the team at "away" games deserved a 100% deduction, rather than 50%, under this provision.

To be sure, a few food and entertainment deductions haven't budged. Social and recreational meals and entertainment for employees, such as a holiday party, can still be 100% deductible. Meals provided in the executive dining room also remain 50% deductible, says Ms. Wimer.

Meals and entertainment for certain meetings of employees, partners, directors and shareholders are expected to remain 50% deductible as well, although the law currently says this entertainment is 100% deductible. Tax specialists say this is a drafting error likely to be corrected.

## MARKETS DIGEST

## Dow Jones Industrial Average

**26458.31**  
▲ 18.38  
or 0.07%  
All-time high  
26743.50, 09/21/18  
Session high  
**DOWN** ▲ UP  
Session open ► Close  
Close ► Open  
Session low  
65-day moving average



Bars measure the point change from session's open

July Aug. Sept.

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

## S&amp;P 500 Index

**2913.98**  
▼ 0.02  
or 0.001%  
All-time high  
2930.75, 09/20/18  
Session high  
**UP** ▲ Close  
Close ► Open  
Session low  
65-day moving average



July Aug. Sept.

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

## Nasdaq Composite Index

**8046.35**  
▲ 4.38  
or 0.05%  
All-time high  
8109.69, 08/29/18  
Session high  
**UP** ▲ Close  
Close ► Open  
Session low  
65-day moving average



July Aug. Sept.

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

## Track the Markets: Winners and Losers

A look at how selected global stock indexes, bond ETFs, currencies and commodities performed around the world for the week.

Stock Index	Currency, vs U.S. dollar	Commodity, traded in U.S.	ETF
Nymex ULSD	5.65%		
Nymex Rbob Gasoline	4.17		
Nymex Crude	3.49		
Lean Hogs	3.11		
S&P GSCI GFI	2.63		
Comex Silver	2.48		
South African Rand	2.32		
Russian Ruble	1.58		
Nasdaq 100	1.28		
S&P 500 Telecom Svcs	1.06		
Nikkei 225	1.05		
Nymex Natural Gas	1.04		
S&P 500 Health Care	0.86		
Shanghai Composite	0.85		
S&P 500 Information Tech	0.83		
S&P 500 Energy	0.82		
Nasdaq Composite	0.74		
WSJ Dollar Index	0.67		
Mexico peso	0.64		
S&P 500 Consumer Discr	0.63		
iShJPMUSEmgBd	0.53		
South Korean Won	0.43		
IPC All-Share	0.32		
FTSE 100	0.27		
iShiBoxx\$HYCp	0.23		
S&P/ASX 200	0.21		
iShiBoxx\$InvGrdCp	0.19		
iSh 7-10 Treasury	0.17		
Kospi Composite	0.17		
Canada dollar	0.16		
iSh 20+ Treasury	0.15		
VangdTotalBd	0.13		
iShNatlMuniBd	0.09		
iSh 1-3 Treasury	0.07		
Norwegian Krone	0.07		
iSh TIPS Bond	0.03		
-0.01 CAC-40			
-0.11 VangdTotalIntlBd			
-0.13 Sao Paulo Bovespa			
-0.18 Chinese Yuan			
-0.21 Soybeans			
-0.28 Corn			
-0.29 Stoxx Europe 600			
-0.38 Indian Rupee			
-0.38 UK pound			
-0.39 Comex Gold			
-0.54 S&P 500			
-0.59 Indonesian Rupiah			
-0.59 Hang Seng			
-0.71 S&P 500 Utilities			
-0.86 Australian dollar			
-0.92 Russell 2000			
-0.93 S&P/TSX Comp			
-0.98 Japan yen			
-1.07 Dow Jones Industrial Average			
-1.07 S&P MidCap 400			
-1.11 Euro Stoxx			
-1.16 S&P SmallCap 600			
-1.23 Euro area euro			
-1.33 Dow Jones Transportation Average			
-1.48 DAX			
-1.67 S&P BSE Sensex			
-1.71 S&P 500 Industrials			
-1.73 S&P 500 Real Estate			
-1.75 Comex Copper			
-2.10 IBEX 35			
-2.14 S&P 500 Consumer Staples			
-2.36 Swiss Franc			
-2.44 Wheat			
-3.83 FTSE MIB			
-4.05 S&P 500 Financials Sector			
-4.48 S&P 500 Materials			

Total volume*	953,397,492	25,309,419
Adv. volume*	474,443,905	16,734,847
Decl. volume*	454,690,783	8,300,195
Issues traded	3,080	317
Advances	1,658	168
Declines	1,305	127
Unchanged	117	22
New highs	63	5
New lows	134	4
Closing tick	133	13
Closing Arms <sup>†</sup>	1.30	0.49
Block trades*	7,267	195
	Nasdaq	NYSE Arca
Total volume*	2,263,603,026	232,887,360
Adv. volume*	1,102,895,746	97,901,307
Decl. volume*	1,104,692,522	134,179,663
Issues traded	3,174	1,354
Advances	1,609	659
Declines	1,375	669
Unchanged	190	26
New highs	85	32
New lows	87	23
Closing tick	191	35
Closing Arms <sup>†</sup>	1.17	1.25
Block trades*	9,389	1,457

\*Primary market NYSE, NYSE American, NYSE Arca only.

†(TRIN) A comparison of the number of advancing and declining issues with the volume of shares rising and falling. An Arms of less than 1 indicates buying demand; above 1 indicates selling pressure.

## Major U.S. Stock-Market Indexes

	High	Low	Latest Close	Net chg	% chg	52-Week			YTD % chg
						High	Low	% chg	
Dow Jones	26515.76	26383.57	<b>26458.31</b>	18.38	▲ 0.07	26743.50	22405.09	▲ 18.1	7.0 ▲ 18.2
Transportation Avg	11406.00	11344.48	<b>11379.36</b>	-4.48	▲ -0.04	11570.84	9440.87	▲ 14.8	7.2 ▲ 14.0
Utility Average	720.67	711.39	<b>720.60</b>	10.35	▲ 0.46	774.47	647.90	▲ -0.4	-0.4 ▲ 8.3
Total Stock Market	30253.15	30116.51	<b>30189.60</b>	10.96	▲ 0.04	30390.61	26148.54	▲ 15.5	9.1 ▲ 15.5
Barron's 400	770.16	764.83	<b>767.31</b>	0.49	▲ 0.06	786.73	676.86	▲ 13.1	7.9 ▲ 15.4

## Nasdaq Stock Market

Nasdaq Composite	8065.06	8015.87	<b>8046.35</b>	4.38	▲ 0.05	8109.69	6495.96	▲ 23.9	16.6 ▲ 21.0
Nasdaq 100	7649.30	7598.69	<b>7627.65</b>	-1.92	▲ -0.03	7660.18	5979.30	▲ 27.6	19.2 ▲ 23.0

## S&amp;P

500 Index	2920.53	2907.50	<b>2913.98</b>	-0.02	▲ 0.001	2930.75	2519.36	▲ 15.7	9.0 ▲ 15.7
MidCap 400	2025.13	2008.13	<b>2019.55</b>	6.86	▲ 0.34	2050.23	1795.94	▲ 12.5	6.3 ▲ 14.3
SmallCap 600	1064.62	1055.23	<b>1061.92</b>	4.30	▲ 0.41	1098.36	889.94	▲ 17.5	13.4 ▲ 18.1

## Other Indexes

Russell 2000	1699.78	1686.99	**1696.57**	6.04	▲ 0.36	1740.75	1463.79	▲ 13.8	10.5 ▲ 15.9


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## MARKET DATA

## Futures Contracts

## Metal &amp; Petroleum Futures

	Contract						Open interest
	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg	interest	
Copper-High (CME)-25,000 lbs.; \$ per lb.	2,7695	2,7885	2,7530	2,7870	0,0225	2,843	
Oct	2,7695	2,7885	2,7530	2,7870	0,0220	134,812	
Gold (CME)-100 troy oz.; \$ per troy oz.	2,7740	2,8130	2,7630	2,8050	0,0220	134,812	
Oct	2,7740	2,8130	2,7630	2,8050	0,0220	134,812	
Palladium (NYM)-50 troy oz.; \$ per troy oz.	1181,70	1191,90	1180,00	1191,50	9,20	4,403	
Dec	1186,80	1198,00	1184,30	1196,20	8,80	378,546	
Feb'19	1192,60	1203,40	1190,00	1201,90	9,00	42,429	
Jun	1204,50	1213,50	1202,00	1213,20	8,90	13,111	
Aug	1210,10	1219,40	1210,00	1219,00	8,90	2,268	
Dec	1222,90	1232,00	1220,70	1231,30	8,90	4,417	
Platinum (NYM)-50 troy oz.; \$ per troy oz.	1073,70	1085,00	1062,10	1072,80	1,60	21,568	
March'19	1068,90	1074,70	1055,70	1065,90	1,60	1,250	
Platinum (NYM)-50 troy oz.; \$ per troy oz.	809,00	820,00	805,80	818,70	8,40	748	
Jan'19	812,90	826,80	809,20	822,40	7,70	68,885	
Silver (CMX)-5,000 troy oz.; \$ per troy oz.	14,180	14,555	14,180	14,623	0,422	221	
Dec	14,270	14,755	14,255	14,712	0,422	172,568	
Crude Oil, Light Sweet (NYM)-1,000 bbls.; \$ per bbl.	72,20	73,73	71,88	73,25	1,13	415,345	
Dec	72,02	73,56	71,75	73,06	1,10	308,946	
Jan'19	71,84	73,38	71,63	72,89	1,07	161,674	
March	71,46	73,00	71,33	72,51	1,05	155,006	
Jun	70,78	72,30	70,73	71,84	1,03	183,452	
Dec	68,91	70,22	68,87	69,75	0,87	235,289	
NY Harbor Usld (NYM)-42,000 gal.; \$ per gal.	2,3206	2,3618	2,3190	2,3518	0,0287	6,025	
Nov	2,3228	2,3653	2,3217	2,3485	0,0225	142,358	
Gasoline-NY RBOB (NYM)-42,000 gal.; \$ per gal.	2,0825	2,1180	2,0772	2,1012	0,0188	7,249	
Oct	2,0685	2,1074	2,0636	2,0857	0,0168	178,532	
Natural Gas (NYM)-10,000 MMBtu; \$ per MMBtu.	3,058	3,062	2,977	3,008	-0,048	311,118	
Dec	3,136	3,140	3,063	3,091	-0,044	173,551	
Jan'19	3,214	3,216	3,145	3,169	-0,045	203,270	
Feb	3,115	3,116	3,059	3,085	-0,032	94,160	
March	2,928	2,929	2,883	2,923	-0,009	205,601	
April	2,639	2,648	2,613	2,646	-0,004	172,965	

## Agriculture Futures

Corn (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.	364,50	366,75	354,50	356,25	-8,50	914,743
March'19	376,50	378,25	366,75	368,00	-8,50	331,395
Oats (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.	53,50	53,53	52,32	53,25	0,022	142,358
Dec	260,50	267,25	259,50	264,75	4,50	3,186
March'19	263,00	267,00	262,50	265,50	3,50	961
Soybeans (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.	854,50	859,25	842,00	845,50	-9,50	424,364
March'19	880,75	886,25	869,25	872,75	-9,25	133,031
Soybean Meal (CBT)-100 tons; \$ per ton.	308,30	310,40	304,00	305,40	-2,80	6,703
Dec	312,00	314,60	307,60	309,00	-2,80	222,196
Soybean Oil (CBT)-60,000 lbs.; cents per lb.	28,80	29,11	28,59	28,68	-18	3,333
Dec	29,08	29,45	28,81	28,99	-16	264,752
Rough Rice (CBT)-2,000 cwt.; \$ per cwt.	978,50	993,00	973,00	978,00	-50	6,958
Jan'19	1006,50	1007,00	993,00	998,00	-3,00	1,097
Wheat (CBT)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.	513,00	518,00	505,50	509,00	-4,00	222,510
March'19	531,25	535,75	524,00	527,25	-3,50	106,753
Wheat (KCC)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.	516,50	524,25	510,00	511,25	-6,00	154,339
March'19	540,00	547,25	533,75	535,25	-5,25	61,739
Wheat (MPLS)-5,000 bu.; cents per bu.	580,25	584,50	572,00	572,50	-7,50	34,378
March'19	594,00	598,25	587,00	587,25	-6,75	14,796
Cattle-Feeder (CME)-50,000 lbs.; cents per lb.	158,000	158,300	157,25	158,175	325	7,691

## Exchange-Traded Portfolios | WSJ.com/ETFresearch

Largest 100 exchange-traded funds, latest session

Friday, September 28, 2018		Closing		Chg		YTD	
ETF	Symbol	Price	(%)	Price	(%)	Price	(%)
Alerian MLP PETF	AMLP	10,68	0.75	-1.0	-0.08	10,68	-0.08
Cnsm DiscSel Sector	XLY	117,22	-0.09	118,88	-0.08	118,88	-0.08
CnspStapleSel Sector	SLY	53,93	0.15	-0.5	-0.04	53,93	-0.04
EnSelectSectorSPDR	XLE	75,74	-0.28	4,8	-0.07	75,74	-0.07
FinSelSectorSPDR	XLF	27,58	-1,04	-1,2	-0.06	27,58	-0.06
FT DJ Internet	FDN	141,54	-0,58	28,88	-0.08	141,54	-0.08
HealthCareSel Sector	XLV	95,15	0.31	15,1	0.06	95,15	0.06
IndSelSectorSPDR	XLI	78,40	-0,06	3,6	-0.01	78,40	-0.01
InvSQQI	QQQ	185,79	-0,02	19,3	-0.01	185,79	-0.01
InvsC&P500EW	RSP	106,81	0,16	5,7	0.02	106,81	0.02
ISh3-7Y TreasuryBd	IEI	119,07	0,03	-2,5	-0.08	119,07	-0.08
IShCoreMSCIAFE	IEFA	64,08	-0,82	-3,0	-0.08	64,08	-0.08
IShCoreMSCIEmgMk	IEMG	51,78	-0,63	-9,0	-0.07	51,78	-0.07
IShCoreMSCITotlth	IXUS	60,31	-0,64	-4,4	-0.07	60,31	-0.07
IShCoreS&P MC	IH	297,23	-0,03	8,9	-0.01	297,23	-0.01
IShCoreS&P SC	IJR	87,24	0,39	13,6	0.07	87,24	0.07
ISh&PtotUStkMkt	ITOT	66,63	-0,03	9,0	-0.01	66,63	-0.01
IShCoreUSaggBd	AGG	105,52	-0,10	-3,5	-0.03	105,52	-0.03
IShSelectDividend	DY	99,76	0,44	1,2	0.02	99,76	0.02
IShEdgeCMCInafe	EFAV	72,81	-0,38	-0,2	-0.02	72,81	-0.02

Secondary market		Closing		Chg		YTD	
Symbol	Symbol	Price	(%)	Price	(%)	Price	(%)


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# BIGGEST 1,000 STOCKS

## How to Read the Stock Tables

The following explanations apply to NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE American and Nasdaq Stock Market listed securities. Prices are composite quotations that include primary market trades as well as trades reported by Nasdaq BX (formerly Boston), Chicago Stock Exchange, Cboe, NYSE National and Nasdaq ISE. 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.  
 j-New 52-week low.  
 dd-Indicates loss in the most recent four quarters.  
 FD-First day of trading.  
 Stock tables reflect composite regular trading as of 4 p.m. and changes in the closing prices from 4 p.m. the previous day.

h-Does not meet continued listing standards.

i-Trading halted or suspended.

j-Late filing.

q-Temporary exemption from Nasdaq requirements.

t-NYSE bankruptcy.

v-Trading halted on primary market.  
 w-In bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Code, or securities assumed by such companies.

Friday, September 28, 2018

YTD % Chg	52-Week A B C			YTD % Chg	52-Week YTD % Chg			YTD % Chg											
	Hi	Lo	Stock		Hi	Lo	Stock												
-11.89 28.67 21.22 ABB	<b>ABB</b>	3.5 23 23.63	-0.08	-23.86 51.07	32.63 CampbellSoup	4.38 36.63	-0.23	-11.53 23.12 54.19 FiveBelow	<b>FIVE</b>	58 130.00	1.40	-44.15 81.29 174.15 MarketAxess	<b>MKTX</b>	4.93 178.49	-0.49	44.15 81.29 174.47 SeattleGenetics	<b>SGEN</b>	67 112.13	-1.13
29.27 14.11 9.87 AET	<b>AET</b>	3.7 24 14	0.30	-104.50 60.75	19.95 CanadianGoose	4.04 36.50	-0.20	-12.73 149.21 181.31 Marriott	<b>FLT</b>	225 227.84	0.42	14.30 120.32 130.3	<b>MAR</b>	1.20 130.23	-0.39	6.39 127.22 100.48 SempraEnergy	<b>SRE</b>	3.1 113.75	1.75
7.25 48.19 40.55 AFLAC	<b>AFL</b>	2.8 47 07	0.02	-104.50 60.75	19.95 CanadianGoose	4.04 36.50	-0.20	-11.02 19.73 12.74 Flex	<b>FLEX</b>	17 13.12	0.00	-0.20 22.62 32.06 MMC	<b>MMC</b>	2.16 82.72	-0.62	18.44 44.29 23.35 ServiceCorp	<b>SCJ</b>	1.5 17 44.20	0.44
-7.73 21.90 17.84 AGNC Inv	<b>AGNC</b>	1.5 18 16.03	-0.04	-105.61 56.66	8.51 CapGrowth	4.04 36.50	-0.18	-11.02 25.18 17.95 MarvellTech	<b>FLR</b>	14 14.44	-0.15	-1.13 10.12 11.02 NICE	<b>NICE</b>	1.13 26.95	-0.56	1.13 10.12 11.02 NICE	<b>NICE</b>	1.13 26.95	-0.78
124.47 23.95 10.24 ANGUS HomeServcs	<b>ANGI</b>	.. 23 24.53	0.53	-11.87 17.87	48.14 CardinalHealth	4.04 36.50	-0.01	-14.86 60.95	<b>FPCA</b>	29 22.25	0.09	-0.01 23.16 MatchGroup	<b>MTX</b>	3.35 35.56	-0.04	4.25 26.11 14.02 McCormick	<b>MKTX</b>	3.15 35.56	-0.21
26.49 140.95 12.14 Ansys	<b>ANSS</b>	.. 53 166.68	-0.04	-85.77 38.20	29.20 NaturalResources	4.04 36.50	-0.04	-11.53 24.86 17.95 MarvellTech	<b>FLY</b>	18 12.42	0.21	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-13.51 50.37 36.35 ShinhanBank	<b>SHW</b>	8.4 40.13	-0.46
8.17 221.66 16.77 ASML	<b>ASML</b>	0.9 188.02	-0.04	-11.53 24.86 17.95 MarvellTech	<b>FLY</b>	18 12.42	0.21	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-16.33 161.92 108.89 SignatureBank	<b>SBN</b>	0.2 11 181.27	0.05				
21.28 54.53 12.30 AbbottLabs	<b>ABT</b>	1.5 145 73.36	0.24	-11.53 24.86 17.95 MarvellTech	<b>FLY</b>	18 12.42	0.21	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-18.44 178.86 124.00 McKesson	<b>SCJ</b>	1.7 17 63.52	-0.04				
-2.20 25.85 85.24 AbbVie	<b>ABBV</b>	4.1 23 94.58	0.44	-11.53 24.86 17.95 MarvellTech	<b>FLY</b>	18 12.42	0.21	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-18.44 178.86 124.00 McKesson	<b>SCJ</b>	1.7 17 63.52	-0.04				
139.98 45.40 16.42 Abiomed	<b>ABMD</b>	1.26 44.95	0.24	-11.53 24.86 17.95 MarvellTech	<b>FLY</b>	18 12.42	0.21	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-18.44 178.86 124.00 McKesson	<b>SCJ</b>	1.7 17 63.52	-0.04				
11.18 17.64 13.36 Accenture	<b>ACN</b>	1.7 16 27.00	0.24	-10.05 20.95	12.17 Carvana	4.11 25.86	-0.01	-10.05 20.95	<b>FRTN</b>	1.83 92.54	0.51	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-18.44 178.86 124.00 McKesson	<b>SCJ</b>	1.7 17 63.52	-0.04
13.38 83.75 57.29 ActionBiosciences	<b>ATVI</b>	0.4 188.19	0.32	-10.05 20.95	12.17 Carvana	4.11 25.86	-0.01	-10.05 20.95	<b>FRTN</b>	1.83 92.54	0.51	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-18.44 178.86 124.00 McKesson	<b>SCJ</b>	1.7 17 63.52	-0.04
-10.68 186.99 109.88 AcurityBrands	<b>AYI</b>	0.3 20 157.20	-1.34	-3.23 17.32 12.95 Caterpillar	<b>CAT</b>	2.3 30 152.49	0.02	-10.05 20.95	<b>FRTN</b>	1.83 92.54	0.51	-0.01 22.89 13.83 McCormick	<b>MAS</b>	54 124.54	-0.29	-18.44 178.86 124.00 McKesson	<b>SCJ</b>	1.7 17 63.52	-0.04
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## BANKING &amp; FINANCE

# Bytedance Woos Global Investors

China's most popular news-aggregation app is looking to raise around \$3 billion

By JULIE STEINBERG  
AND STELLA YIFAN XIE

Global investors including **SoftBank Group** Corp. and private-equity firm **KKR & Co.** plan to invest in the latest fundraising by **Bytedance** Ltd., the owner of China's most popular news-aggregation app, according to people familiar with the matter.

Bytedance operates Jinri Toutiao, a mobile app that provides news headlines and third-party content based on users' interests and search history. It is in talks to raise around \$3 billion at a valuation of about \$75 billion, The Wall Street Journal reported last month. Of the funds raised, \$1.5 billion would be in convertible bonds, one of the people said. At \$75 billion, Bytedance would be one of the world's most valuable private technology companies.

The Information earlier reported that SoftBank, KKR and Beijing-based private-equity firm Primavera Capital Group were in talks to invest, as well as the potential deal structure. KKR is already a backer of the company.

Private-equity firm General Atlantic, also already an investor, likewise plans to invest again in this round, some of the people said, and investment firm Tiger Global Management LLC is considering



**Bytedance's headquarters in Beijing. SoftBank Group and KKR & Co. plan to invest in the technology startup's latest fundraising.**

participating, another person said. Plans could change as deal discussions continue.

Bytedance also operates TikTok, a short-video app that has 500 million monthly active users world-wide and that merged last month with U.S. social-media app Musical.ly. TikTok was the most downloaded app on Apple Inc. and

Android phones world-wide this year after the Facebook Inc. triumvirate that includes WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger, according to data tracker App Annie.

The company plans to use the new funds to invest in its international business, a person familiar with the matter said.

Bytedance was most recently valued at around \$30 billion in a fundraising round late last year, the Journal reported earlier. A multibillion-dollar initial public offering could happen as soon as next year, people familiar with the matter have said.

The fast-growing company faces regulatory risks at home.

In April, Beijing shut down one of its popular apps over "vulgar" content. That led founder Zhang Yiming to issue a public apology. Weeks later, state-owned newspaper People's Daily slammed the company for relying on algorithms to attract attention and users while failing to apply "healthy corporate values."

# Emerging Markets Pay Dearly for Rising Oil

BY GEORGI KANTCHEV  
AND AVANTIKA CHILKOTI

After a turbulent summer, emerging markets face another threat: \$80 oil.

Currencies in the developing world have been hit by a toxic mix of global trade tensions, a strong dollar and rising U.S. interest rates. That is making dollar-denominated crude all the more expensive as it climbs to four-year highs.

The price of Brent crude, the international oil price gauge, has risen by 22% this year. But the cost has doubled if it is bought in Turkish lira. It is up 39% in Indian rupees and

34% in Indonesian rupiah. Emerging-market countries and central banks are being forced to act.

India, the world's third-biggest oil importer, is weighing temporarily limiting oil imports, while Brazil and Malaysia have introduced fuel subsidies. On Thursday, central banks in Indonesia and the Philippines raised interest rates to tame rising inflation.

In South Africa, where fuel prices are at a record high, the central bank said last week that "the impact of elevated oil prices and a weaker exchange rate on domestic fuel costs is increasingly evident."

"Emerging markets already have a lot of problems as it is, and when you throw an oil

price spike to the mix, that creates another big risk factor," said Jon Harrison, managing director for emerging markets strategy at TS Lombard.

The price of oil is rising amid concern about falling supply from Iran due to U.S. sanctions, and supply outages in Venezuela. Many analysts anticipate even higher prices. Bank of America Merrill Lynch predicted last week that Brent would trade at \$95 a barrel by the middle of next year.

Large developing nations like Turkey, India, the Philippines and South Africa import all or most of their oil. So rising prices are spurring higher inflation and expanding already large current-account deficits, a measure of a nation's transactions with the rest of the world. A growing import bill widens the deficit, which puts further pressure on their currencies.

"Oil is definitely a risk for those pressured by current account funding issues," said Sacha Tihanyi, deputy head of emerging-markets strategy at TD Securities in New York. "If we see oil continuing higher, we'll have to see further monetary and nonmonetary measures in order to help stabilize the external deficit strain."

On Thursday, Bank Indonesia, the country's central bank, raised rates for the fifth time since May. In a statement, the bank pointed to a "surge" in crude imports bringing the country's trade deficit to over \$1 billion in August.

Also on Thursday, the Philippine central bank raised its key interest rate, citing rising inflation.

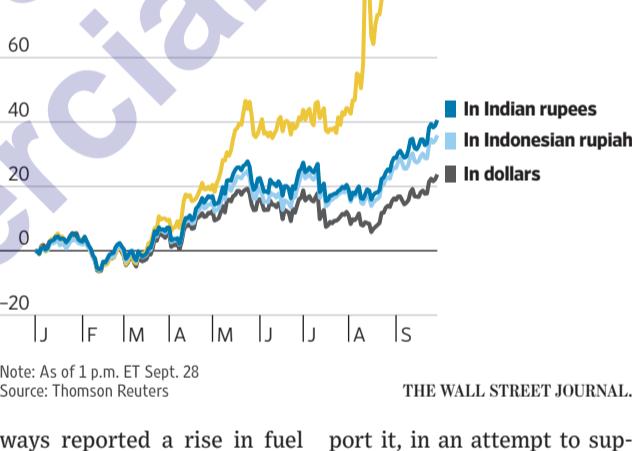
The country's finance minister told Reuters news agency that the recent rise in oil prices is his main concern now.

Consumers and companies are feeling the rise in fuel costs.

Last month, India's Jet Air-

## Crude Hit

Brent crude-oil futures prices, change since the start of the year



Note: As of 1 p.m. ET Sept. 28

Source: Thomson Reuters

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

ways reported a rise in fuel costs of more than 50% year-over-year in the three months to June. Chief Executive Vinay Dube had already talked of "a tough phase" for the industry, singling out the depreciating rupee and high fuel prices.

Analysts say Indonesian state-owned oil company Pertamina is facing a squeeze as the bill for importing foreign crude soars.

Governments in the developed world, where high oil prices can bring street protests and industrial action, face tricky decisions.

Pro-business governments in India and Indonesia face re-election next year. The Indian government had rolled back state subsidies on fuel and introduced fuel-consumption taxes as the oil price fell in recent years, analysts said. Local media is lobbying the government to reduce the tax.

The Indonesian government has asked international oil majors in the country, including Exxon Mobil and ConocoPhillips, to sell their local output to Pertamina rather than ex-

port it, in an attempt to support the local currency, said Elan Biantoro, a vice president at SKK Migas, the Indonesian oil and gas regulator.

ConocoPhillips declined to comment, and Exxon Mobil didn't respond to a request for comment.

In India, which imports around 80% of its oil, refiners met in Mumbai earlier this month to discuss reducing the country's reliance on imported crude, a spokesman for Indian Oil Corporation, the country's largest state-owned refiner, said. That could, for instance, include running down inventories rather than buying new oil, he said.

The problem is particularly acute in Turkey, where energy makes up roughly two-thirds of the nation's current account deficit.

Last week, Turkish Finance Minister Berat Albayrak said the only long-term solution was greater energy independence, and he pledged to boost renewable sources of energy.

—Gabriele Steinhauser contributed to this article.

# Online Lender Resolves Cases

BY PETER RUDGEAIR

LendingClub Corp., an online lender, reached an agreement with federal prosecutors on Friday to settle charges it defrauded the bank it uses to issue loans to consumers.

The Justice Department charges and settlement were announced on the same day former Chief Executive Renaud Laplanche, former finance chief Carrie Dolan and a LendingClub unit agreed to settle Securities and Exchange Commission accusations of improperly inflating returns and misusing investor money.

LendingClub and its unit agreed to pay \$6 million in penalties in the SEC and Justice Department cases. Mr. Laplanche and Ms. Dolan agreed to pay a combined \$265,000 in penalties. Mr. Laplanche's conduct was described in the Justice Department settlement, but he wasn't mentioned by name or charged. Ms. Dolan wasn't involved in the settlement with federal prosecutors. None admitted wrongdoing.

The settlements cap a tumultuous period for LendingClub. Co-founded by Mr. Laplanche in 2006, the San Francisco-based company became the face of Silicon Valley's efforts to displace financial firms. It went public in December 2014 and soon achieved a market value of nearly \$10 billion.

Less than two years later, LendingClub's board forced Mr. Laplanche to leave the company after discovering problems with the sale of loans to an investor as well as Mr. Laplanche's failure to fully disclose a personal investment. Many of the practices that were the subject of Friday's settlements were self-reported by LendingClub following Mr. Laplanche's ouster in May 2016. The company is currently valued at roughly \$1.6 billion.

"The findings of the SEC and the allegations made by the Department of Justice further support the Board's decision to take swift and decisive action," LendingClub Chairman Hans Morris said in a statement.

Mr. Laplanche said in a statement he was pleased to "put to rest any issues related to compliance lapses that might have occurred under my watch." A spokesman for Ms. Dolan said she acted in accordance with "high ethical standards" throughout her career.

LendingClub makes unsecured loans to consumers through a contract it has with a Utah-based bank named WebBank. The company generates the bulk of its revenue by charging borrowers a fee when they take out loans, which are eventually funded by and sold to retail investors, banks and other money managers.

In its settlement agreement, the Justice Department said Mr. Laplanche approved of programs in 2009 and 2010 that gave LendingClub loans to overly indebted borrowers or those with insufficient income, cases in which loans should have been denied according to WebBank's criteria.

Additionally, in December 2009, Mr. Laplanche pushed through and subsequently concealed a decision for LendingClub to provide 32 loans, worth nearly \$723,000, to himself and three family members, a violation of WebBank's policy of not letting the same borrower receive more than two loans, according to the Justice Department.

# Ex-Salix Official to Pay Fine

By MICAH MAIDENBERG

The former finance chief at **Salix Pharmaceuticals** Ltd. will pay more than \$1 million to settle charges that he misrepresented drug inventories held by wholesaler customers several years ago, thereby keeping the company's financial performance and stock price artificially elevated.

During quarterly earnings calls with analysts in 2013 and 2014, Salix's then-chief financial officer, Adam Derbyshire, said wholesalers had two to three months of the company's products on hand, when they had significantly more in stock, according to a com-

plaint filed by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Back then, the SEC alleged, the company was trying to hit revenue targets through "overselling of demand," a practice in which a company creates a bump in revenue by flooding distribution channels using incentives to induce customers to purchase more of its products.

Thomas Sporkin, an attorney at Buckley Sandler who is representing Mr. Derbyshire, said his client had no comment.

Salix is now owned by **Bausch Health Cos.**, formerly known as Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc.

—Michael Rapoport contributed to this article.

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## MARKETS NEWS

# Italian Assets Pounded by Deficit Fears

By ALISTAIR MACDONALD  
AND CHRISTOPHER WHITTALL

Italian stocks and bonds fell sharply Friday as investors expressed concern about the fiscal stability of a country that is continuing to weigh down European markets.

Investors are bracing for further volatility ahead of an October budget from Italy's antiestablishment coalition government, which has pledged spending and tax cuts that some fear could put the country's debt on an unsustainable course.

Late Thursday, the government significantly widened its budget-deficit target for next year to 2.4% of gross domestic product, setting up a likely clash with the European Union given the proximity to the bloc's 3% limit. The government has to send its budget to Parliament for approval by Oct. 20.

Italy's main equity benchmark, the FTSE MIB, fell 3.7% Friday. Italian lenders were under particular pressure, with UniCredit SpA down 6.7% and Banco BPM SpA down 9.4%. Yields on 10-year Italian bonds climbed to 3.14% from 2.82% a week ago, while the two-year yield rose around 0.3 percentage point from Thursday's close to 1.02%, according to Tradeweb.

The selling in Italy put pressure on some other markets, with all of Europe's main stock indexes falling and the euro declining 0.2% against the dollar.



Italian Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio, third from left, celebrated Thursday after the government announced financial targets.

Stefan Isaacs, a portfolio manager at M&G Investments, sold his Italian bondholdings weeks ago and predicts yields will continue to climb, putting pressure on the government's finances.

"The economics might become unsustainable," he said. In debt markets, the reac-

tion was largely contained in Italy. The spread between Italian 10-year bond yields and their German counterparts has climbed about 0.4 percentage point over the past week to roughly 2.7 percentage points on Friday. Yields move inversely to prices.

Japanese bank Mizuho sees

potential for that spread to reach 3 percentage points over the next two weeks. "For the time being, there is little positive to say about the budget, relative to expectations," said Mizuho's head of interest-rate strategy, Peter Chatwell.

Italy is the eurozone's biggest government borrower, but

its government has promised policies that will likely add to the debt pile, such as tax reductions, a so-called citizens' income and pension reform.

The new budget target could lead to a credit-rating downgrade, analysts at Barclays said in a note to clients. Ratings companies Moody's

## Budget Buster

Italian stock and bond prices fell amid concern about a rising deficit.

### FTSE MIB Index



Source: SIX

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

and S&P are both due to update their Italian ratings at the end of October.

Some Italian politicians shrugged off the selling.

"Markets will get over it," said Matteo Salvini, deputy prime minister and leader of the League, one of the two parties supporting the Italian government.

Some analysts also think fears are overblown.

"There's fiscal space—debt to GDP is not going to be rising substantially in this kind of budget projection," said Thomas Fiotakis, co-head of FX and rates strategy at UBS.

—Emese Bartha and Giovanni Legorano contributed to this article.

# U.S. Stocks End Quarter Just Shy Of Record Levels

By JESSICA MENTON  
AND RIVA GOLD

U.S. stocks notched their best quarter since 2013 by one measure, buoyed by strong corporate earnings and economic growth, and are entering the final three months of the year just below their records.

Investors face a number of hurdles in the fourth quarter, including a contentious midterm election cycle and another expected increase in interest rates from the Federal Reserve. But a strengthening U.S. economy is expected to keep the rally going and has been a key factor in helping investors look past the continuing trade spat between the U.S. and China and other nations.

Analysts credit much of the economic growth to the tax overhaul passed last year. The changes, which included a cut to the corporate tax rate, sent companies' profits sharply higher through the first two quarters of the year, and analysts expect third-quarter earnings to be robust as well.

The S&P 500 gained 7.2% in the third quarter, its best performance since the end of 2013, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 9%. The Nasdaq Composite rose 7.1%, extending its streak of gains to nine consecutive quarters.

All three major indexes are within about 1% of their all-time highs.

Shares of health-care companies led the way in the S&P 500 in the third quarter with a gain of 14%, overtaking the technology sector, which has slumped in September.

Some investors, in the wake of Facebook's data mishap, have cut their exposure to the big tech stocks that have driven much of this year's rally.

Google parent Alphabet slumped 2% in September, while Apple fell 0.8% and Facebook dropped 6.4%.

Moves in Friday's session were more muted. The Dow industrials rose 18.38 points, or less than 0.1%, to 26458.31. The S&P 500 was little changed and the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite slipped less than 0.1%.

Tesla shares were among the biggest movers, plunging \$42.75, or 14%, to \$264.77, after the Securities and Exchange Commission accused Chief Executive Elon Musk of misleading shareholders about a corporate buyout in tweets last month. The declines marked Tesla's largest percentage decline since November 2013.

The financial sector fell 1.1% in the S&P 500, a modest drop after European bank shares came under pressure amid worries about Italy's budget.

Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Spartan Capital Securities, said he is watching for how international trade tensions could affect quarterly results heading into the final quarter of the year.

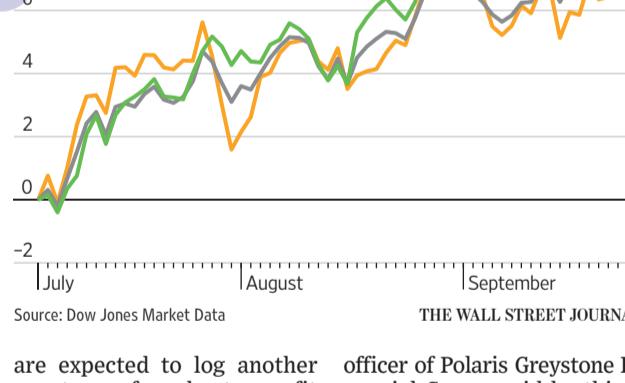
Companies in the S&P 500



Shares of health-care companies in the S&P 500 led the third quarter's gains, advancing 14%.

## Steady Climb

Major U.S. stock indexes ended the third quarter within about 1% of their all-time highs.



Source: Dow Jones Market Data

is that the two biggest kids on the playground are sizing each other up," Mr. Powell said. "In order for the U.S. not to go into perpetuity with negative trade with other countries, we've got to level the playing field."

Overseas, the Stoxx Europe 600 declined 0.8% as bank shares slipped, cutting its gains for the quarter to 0.9%. Friday's declines came after Italy's antiestablishment government significantly widened its budget-deficit target for next year.

But Mr. Cardillo of Spartan Capital said he wouldn't put too much weight on what is happening in Italy. "We're not looking at a full-blown crisis that would equate to what we saw in Greece," he said.

Stocks in Asia rallied to end the quarter. Japan's Nikkei rose 1.4% to an eight-month high after touching its best intraday level since 1991. It ended the quarter up 8.1%. The Shanghai Composite Index rose 1.1%, cutting its loss for the third quarter to 0.9%.

# Bonds Extend Winning Streak

By GUNJAN BANERJI

U.S. government bond prices held steady on the last trading day of the quarter.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note was little changed Friday, rising to 3.055% from 3.054% Thursday.

**CREDIT MARKETS** Yields rise as bond prices fall.

The 10-year yield, which helps set borrowing costs for consumers and companies, notched its fifth consecutive quarterly climb, its longest such streak since 2013.

Yields had risen earlier in the week ahead of the Federal Reserve's September meeting, where officials decided to raise interest rates. Some analysts said they don't expect Treasury yields to dart much higher, despite expectations that the Fed will raise rates again this year.

"Much of the decline in bond prices has probably already happened," said Collin Martin, fixed-income strategist at the Schwab Center for Financial Research.

Political tensions in Europe kept a lid on Treasury yields, analysts said, pushing investors toward the relative safety of government debt.

The 10-year yield declined for the week, a fall potentially stemming from pensions rebalancing at the end of the quarter, according to some analysts. Wells Fargo Securities estimated that quarter-end rebalancing could push up to \$20 billion out of stocks and into bonds.

# Australia's Banks Pursued Profits Over Integrity, Probe Finds

An investigation into allegations of financial-industry misconduct blames greed for a failure by Australia's banks, insurers and pension funds to

regulators.

An interim report handed to the government on Friday said the pursuit of profit had come at the expense of integrity, with fees charged for services never received and insurance products never honored.

"From the executive suite to the front line, staff were measured and rewarded by reference to profit and sales. When misconduct was revealed, it either went unpunished or the consequences did not meet the seriousness of what had been done," the report said.

Responding to the report Friday, Australia's treasurer, Josh Frydenberg, said, "The culture, the conduct and compliance of the sector is well below the standard the Australian people expect and deserve."

Banks broadly accepted

blame.

"It is difficult to face the statement of 'profits before people,' but this is exactly what we need to confront," National Australia Bank said in a statement issued on behalf of Chief Executive Andrew Thorburn.

ANZ Chief Executive Shayne Elliott vowed to improve in a statement from the bank.

Mr. Frydenberg was also critical of the culture of the country's financial regulators. The Australian Securities and Investment Commission, he said, had been too close to the sector to effectively prevent wrongdoing, and too willing to negotiate on penalties. Another regulator, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, had never instituted court action.

"ASIC notes the report's se-

rious and important observations of ASIC's role as a regulator," commission Chairman James Shipton said, adding that the commission would respond fully in October, after carefully considering the report's findings.

The inquiry has claimed several high-level casualties. The chief executive, chairman and several board members at Australia's largest wealth-management company, AMP Ltd., resigned after the company admitted it had misled regulators and had been slow to compensate customers for fees charged for financial advice it didn't deliver. National Australia Bank Ltd. executive Andrew Hagger stepped down over failings during his time as head of consumer banking and wealth.

Australia's largest bank, Commonwealth Bank, has been penalized for alleged interest-rate rigging and compliance breaches that the government said allowed its automated banking machines to be used for money laundering.

On Thursday, Westpac Banking Corp., another of the country's biggest banks, signaled a \$170.5 million hit to its annual earnings as it refunds customers charged for advice that wasn't delivered and pays for penalties awarded in recent civil lawsuits.

Bank fortunes have gone awry even as Australia extends a 27-year run of economic growth, the longest streak without a recession in the developed world.

Consumer advocates and banking experts say the banks'

large size, mostly a result of consolidation earlier this century, has encouraged them to feel unassailable. That and a lack of competition has bred complacency, those critics say.

"Our banks have been remarkably profitable but not for good reason, simply because they have effectively been able to milk their customers," said Martin North, a financial-services analyst.

"Our financial sector has gotten too big, it's too complex. At the moment Australia Inc. is paying way too much for the services it gets, and the structures are wrong."

Australia's four biggest banks—Commonwealth Bank, Westpac, National Australia Bank and ANZ—account for around 80% of the country's home loans.

## EXCHANGE

## HEARD ON THE STREET

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS &amp; COMMENTARY

## This Is the Top\*

\*Maybe

BY JUSTIN LAHART

Calling a top to the stock market is a fool's errand. But it is hard not to try.

The temptation grew strong after this week's flurry of deals with high prices and leap-of-faith logic. Those came on top of steep stock valuations, rising interest rates and a looming slowdown in earnings growth. The stock market is hitting new highs, but the gains are being driven by a small number of stocks while shares of many companies are down significantly. There are domestic and foreign political risks that threaten to upend still-fragile economic recoveries in many areas.

Let's start with deals. Last weekend, **Comcast** won the bidding for **Sky** with an offer of \$38.8 billion, putting a hefty valuation of 15 times expected 2019 earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization on the European pay-TV giant, according to Moffett-Nathanson. On Monday, satellite-radio operator **Sirius XM** announced it will buy **Pandora Media** for \$3 billion. Sirius made a pricey bet that the money-losing music-streaming service is the key to profitably expanding its business beyond cars.

Then there's **Michael Kors Holdings'** deal to buy Italian fashion house **Gianni Versace**. Clearly Versace's brand is valuable, but Kors is paying \$2.1 billion for a company that generated €15 million (\$17.5 million) in profit last year. In the inflated debt markets, **Blackstone** made a splash when it sold \$13.5 billion in bonds and loans, one of the biggest deals

Sky sold to Comcast for  
**\$38.8 billion**



ever, on terms very favorable to itself to finance its acquisition of a stake in Thomson Reuters's data business.

There is also the sheer number of transactions. The value of deals announced globally so far in 2018 comes to \$3.1 trillion, according to Dealogic, putting it on pace to equal the record set in 2007—a year that included some of the biggest, and worst, deals in history.

The stock market is also crying top. The cyclically adjusted price-to-earnings ratio popularized by economist Robert Shiller is 33.5. That is its highest level ever outside of the dot-com bubble years, when it reached 44.2, and well above its 2007 high of 27.5. While a lower corporate tax rate and technical shifts in how earnings are reported may excuse a higher Shiller PE, that still seems very rich.

One justification for lofty valuations in recent years has been a view that, with interest rates low, "there is no alternative" place to put money besides stocks. But this so-called TINA trade is less appealing now, with the Federal Reserve raising rates and the 10-year Treasury yield near its highest level in seven years. A slowdown in earnings growth will make stocks even less attractive.

Earnings at S&P 500 companies should be up strongly for the rest of the year, driven by a strong economy and the corporate tax cut. In the first quarter, when the tax cut reaches its anniversary, earnings growth is expected to slow to 7.1%.

There may also be trouble lurking below the surface of the mar-

Versace sold to Michael Kors for  
**\$2.1 billion**

Versace generated \$17.5 million in profit last year, making the Kors offer a rich one.

FROM LEFT: GETTY IMAGES; ZUMA PRESS

## Cape Fear

The cyclically adjusted price-earnings ratio



Source: Robert Shiller

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

ket. The S&P 500 is up 9% so far in 2018, but those gains have been driven by a dwindling number of stocks. Indeed, shares of about 200 of the companies in the index are down this year and many of them have entered bear-market territory. Narrowing leadership of a rising market can be a worrisome sign since it can indicate that investors betting that a small group of big companies can breeze past problems that are weighing on others. Indeed, **Apple** and **Amazon.com** account for about a quarter of the S&P 500's return this year.

Geopolitical risks feel more worrisome than usual, including the U.S. trade fight with China, the midterm elections, tensions between Italy's ruling coalition and European Union officials, weakness in several emerging-market economies and Brexit uncertainties.

Do signs of a market top make for a market top? Investors need to be mindful of hindsight bias—the tendency to ascribe signs of trouble after the fact. A lot of people remember how Amazon.com Chief Executive Jeff Bezos was Time magazine's person of the year in 1999, right before the dot-com bubble collapsed. Not so many remember Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg's turn in 2010, when his company was valued at a fraction of what it is worth today. (And how the purchase of Time earlier this month by **Salesforce.com** co-founder Marc Benioff and his wife Lynne Benioff factors in here is anyone's guess.)

There are enough bells ringing now that investors should worry that one of them might be the bell that gets rung at the top.

## A Tricky Time for Inflation in China

Surge in food costs is an unwelcome distraction

BY NATHANIEL TAPLIN

Summer in Beijing is already well in the rearview, but there's some unwelcome heat in the economy: Inflation, long dormant, is showing signs of revival.

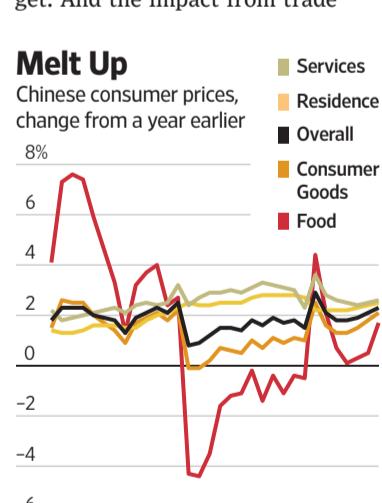
That could complicate Beijing's effort to prosecute its trade conflict with the U.S. It could also make it far harder to arrest an investment slowdown that threatens to drag growth lower just as the Trump administration ratchets up the pressure on trade.

Faster consumer-price inflation in China is worrying for two reasons. First, unlike last year, it comes as economic activity is trending sideways or downward. The labor market is holding up for now, but higher prices could derail a nascent rebound in domestic consumption growth, which accelerated again in the second quarter after more than a year of weakening.

Second, inflation is affecting politically sensitive food prices, while last year rising service prices were the main driver. The uptick is also quite broad-based: In addition to food, prices for shelter, consumer goods, transportation and services

have all risen noticeably faster since midyear. That suggests the cause goes deeper than temporary supply disruptions from bad weather and a swine fever outbreak. Core consumer inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, ticked up in August for the first time since last September, excluding the Lunar New Year period, whose shifting dates make year-over-year comparisons difficult.

Headline inflation, at 2.3%, remains well below Beijing's 3% target. And the impact from trade



tensions has so far been manageable: Despite big tariffs on U.S. soybeans, for example, rural soybean prices are only about 7% higher than they were a year ago, according to Ministry of Agriculture data.

But the view ahead looks rocky. Oil prices just notched a post-2014 high—the inflationary impact magnified by the yuan's big fall—with little prospect of relief, given the looming Iran sanctions. And Beijing's campaign to prop up inefficient state-owned industrial companies at the expense of private competitors isn't likely to help, as higher upstream prices for basic industrial goods do eventually trickle down.

Add in bubbly housing prices, a hawkish Fed and the likelihood of a bigger tariff impact on soy prices later this year as inventories run down, further substantial monetary easing by Beijing would carry significant risk of more-serious inflation and an even weaker yuan.

But the alternative is just as unpalatable, risking a sharper investment slowdown and defaults at local governments' fundraising companies, which could roil the bond market.

Either way, 2019 looks like a tricky year for China even without a full-scale trade war waiting in the wings.

## OVERHEARD

In the soul of every Wall Street analyst, there is a New York Post headline writer fighting to get out. Sometimes it manages to escape, which isn't always a good thing—as these highlights from third-quarter notes show.

"Murdo Was the Case That They Gave Me," from Jefferies. The title of this note, which came after Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.'s chief commercial officer, Murdo Gordon, jumped to Amgen Inc., comes from Snoop Dogg's "Murder Was the Case." If Snoop Dogg can have a TV show with noted biotech inves-

tor Martha Stewart, why not?

"Good Times Bad Times, but the Song Remains the Same," from a Morgan Stanley note. Because who doesn't like the idea of Led Zeppelin doing medleys?

Court us as dazed and confused.

"Nacho Old Chipotle," also from Morgan Stanley. Because "nacho" sounds like "not your," and Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc. seems to be doing better.

"Dirty Dansk-ing," from Credit Sights on the money-laundering probe into transactions at Danske Bank.

"Apollo's Creed," from Evercore ISI on Apollo Global Management LLC. This last one seems a bit rocky.



BY DAN GALLAGHER

When the world's largest tech companies report third-quarter results in a few weeks, how much they spend will be at least as important as how much they make.

The enormous, "hyperscale" networks owned by **Alphabet Inc.**'s Google, **Amazon.com**, **Microsoft** and **Facebook** demand a staggering amount of capital expenditures. That spending is now an important

**'Hyperscale' cloud companies' outlays are expected to get a little less frantic for a while.**

revenue stream for a long list of other tech companies that supply key components such as chips, software and networking gear.

It is a big food chain that's gotten much bigger quickly. Total capital spending by the four aforementioned companies has jumped by an average of 45% on a year-over-year basis for the past six quarters. The four spent a total of \$34.7 billion in the first six months of this year—up 59% from the period last year. But analysts for Morgan Stan-

ley expect that pace to decelerate to growth of 45% for the second half and warned in a note this week that it could slow further to "low double digits" next year.

Part of the issue is simply more challenging comparisons to the lofty numbers reported over the past several quarters. Furthermore, building and equipping data centers doesn't always follow a steady or even seasonal pattern. Big bursts in spending may later lead to slower periods as companies digest their recent investments.

Added to that are the unpredictable effects of production constraints at **Intel Corp.**, which produces the main server processors used most widely in data centers. Morgan Stanley's analysts also expect hyperscale cloud companies to curb spending on DRAM memory next year, due to rising inventory levels.

Investors still should expect cloud spending levels to remain robust over the longer term as demand for these companies' services continues to soar. Goldman Sachs estimates that, by the end of next year, 34% of enterprise workloads will be running on public cloud services of the type offered by Amazon, Microsoft and Google compared with 18% today.

This boom isn't going bust, but it will get less frenetic.





**Tough Audience**  
A bawling-out from Steve Jobs was a clinic in criticism.

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**Dunkin' Quinoa?**  
Jason Gay asks how far rebranding an icon of carbohydrates can go.

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\*\*\*\* SATURDAY/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - 30, 2018 | C1



ILLUSTRATION BY JON KRAUSE

## My Father's Fight Against The Breast-Cancer Gene

By PAMELA MUNSTER

I was 7 years old when my dad's mom, Gertrud, was diagnosed with breast cancer. It was 1971, and she had just turned 65. Grandma lived in Berlin and would usually spend summers with us in Switzerland. The summer of her diagnosis was no different. One day during her visit she was getting dressed and felt a tiny, hard lump in her breast. If she was worried or even panicked, we never knew. She abruptly cut short her visit to take care of "a problem that needed attention." And that was it. For years, we remained unaware of her disease. After living for another two decades—having survived breast cancer—she died of pancreatic cancer when I was in my last year of medical school. In April 2012, as I prepared to undergo a double mastectomy, it was Ger-

trud's face that flashed before me. I'd just endured weeks of worry, testing and decisions following an unlikely breast-cancer diagnosis at the age of 48. Despite my years as a practicing oncologist—specializing in breast cancer, of all things—I was not prepared for it to come to me. That morning, as I waited in the pre-op area in a hospital gown, I thought of how alone she must have felt, for here I was, surrounded by friends and family, including my father, who had arrived from Switzerland. The nurse came in and told me that they were ready. The anesthesiologist started inject-

ing a sedative. I looked up and, for the first time in my life, saw tears in the steel-blue eyes of my father. Papa stepped up to my gurney and hugged me gently. "This is just not right," he said, "this should be me, not you! You should not have to go through this at your age!" Those words of my father are the last thing I remembered as I went into surgery. I would think back on them often in the years ahead, as we dealt with his own genetic legacy of cancer and its relationship to what

Gertrud and I had gone through.

By the following summer, I was

back in control—

past the diagnosis

and multiple sur-

geries. In November 2012, we had discovered that I carried the BRCA2 gene, one of the two hereditary cancer genes named BRCA because they indicate a very high risk for breast cancer. In 2012, only women from high-risk families, with multiple members diagnosed under the age

of 50, were getting tested for BRCA mutations. The test then cost several thousand dollars (it now costs as little as \$100 and can be obtained easily).

More tests confirmed that my mutation came from my father's side, at last putting into perspective the two different cancers of his mother—and, likely, the early death of his own grandmother at 29.

BRCA mutations leave women with about a 70% chance of breast cancer and up to a 40% chance of ovarian cancer. Many female carriers will ultimately choose to have their breasts and ovaries removed by their mid-forties. What is less well known is that BRCA mutations do

Please turn to the next page

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Our roles had reversed—instead of me in the patient's seat, I would be his protector and advocate.

My grandmother and I both survived the disease, and knowing our genetic legacy turned out to be crucial in saving him.

This essay is adapted from Dr. Munster's new book, "Twisting Fate: My Journey with BRCA—From Breast Cancer Doctor to Patient, and Back," published by The Experiment. She is a professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco.

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## REVIEW



## A Family Legacy Of Cancer

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not spare men, increasing their risk, even at a young age, for breast, prostate and pancreatic cancer.

Life had barely returned to normal when, during one of our weekly calls, my father mentioned that he was having a bit of stomach trouble. Healthy all his life and with no reason to worry about what seemed to be indigestion, he did not think much of it. My father was then 78, and in men his age, digestive problems are common. But I did not think of ulcers or constipation. My mind went directly to pancreatic cancer.

Pancreatic cancer is much feared for very good reason. It is one of the deadliest cancers we know, partly because it is rarely detected early. About 55,000 men and women present each year with pancreatic cancer in the U.S., and 44,000 die from it. Only about 5,000 of these cases are discovered at an early enough stage that surgery is still an option and a chance for a cure, but even among those, barely 1 in 3 will survive five years beyond diagnosis.

For someone with a BRCA2 mutation, the risk for pancreatic cancer is up to 10 times higher than for those without the mutation. Pancreatic cancer is the third most common cancer with BRCA mutations for both men and women, and many women with BRCA2-related pancreatic cancer already have had breast cancer.

Knowing that Papa was a BRCA2 carrier drastically raised my concern that this could be pancreatic cancer, but in 2013, at the time of his diagnosis, there were no recommendations to regularly screen someone with a BRCA2 mutation for pancreatic cancer. My own circumstances and my knowledge of the mutation were undoubtedly part of what saved him.

An exhaustive battery of tests confirmed my suspicion, and despite his acting on his first symptoms and taking immediate action, his pancreatic cancer was already advanced.

Before I knew it I was in Switzerland, and our roles had reversed—instead of me in the patient's seat, I would be his protector and advocate as I accompanied him to his doctor's visits. Dr. Bruno Schmied, a seasoned pancreatic surgeon in the city of St. Gallen, explained to us with compassion and finality that surgery wasn't an option. Both my father's age and the advanced nature of the tumor made it a very dangerous, and likely futile, endeavor.

I asked Dr. Schmied whether he would reconsider surgery if we got Papa's tumor to shrink. I pointed out the special circumstances of the BRCA mutation and my fa-

Above, Norbert Munster by his garden workshop in Sargans, Switzerland, earlier this month. Below, author Pamela Munster at home in Hillsborough, Calif.



ther's supreme fitness; he biked 20 miles on most days and hiked up the Swiss mountains on others. Surely he was strong enough!

As Dr. Schmied paused, I could tell that he was trying to decide if he should direct his answer to the daughter of his Swiss patient or the American cancer expert. After a long pause, he said that such an effect on the tumor was highly unlikely...but in principle, yes, if I could make it happen, he would reconsider. He wished us all the best and left the room.

My father beamed in amazement, "Boy, you really are somebody."

The next morning, I woke up to a stunning Swiss summer day. Papa and his second wife, Marietta, sat in the garden, surrounded by birds humming and deeply colored summer flowers. Grabbing a cup of coffee, I joined them. It was time to make a decision.

For most patients, pancreatic cancer progresses very fast. Almost all rapidly lose weight—starved by the cancer. We also knew that in my father's case, a rigorous chemotherapy regimen could make the end of his life miserable. And yet, motivated by my own research on finding new treatments for patients with advanced cancer, I held on to the possibility of pulling him through this ordeal.

"Is there really hope? A way to shrink this tumor so I can go through surgery?" my father asked, his eyes searching mine for expertise and reassurance.

"Yes," I said, "but it comes at a price; and at the risk that despite very aggressive chemotherapy, the tumor could continue to grow regardless and you may not tolerate the treatment."

"What will be my alternative?" he asked.

"You can hope that your tumor

grows slowly, and that you have some meaningful time before the tumor invades other organs and creates serious problems."

He then asked me an even more difficult question: "Do you think this will work?"

My father has been my stronghold all my life—tough and driven, rarely letting obstacles stand in his way. Ever since I was a little girl, he instilled in me determination and grit. I could not really see him give up that easily, nor would I want him to. I held out my hand.

"The odds are against you," I said, "but knowing you, I think you would rather go down in flames than not try at all." I then added words that he had often repeated in my youth: "You can do anything you set your mind to." A smile broke through the tension in his face. We were off on a new journey together, bound by our shared cancer ordeals.

A week later, he received the first dose of a combination of aggressive chemo treatments that Dr. Stefan Greuter, the oncologist in Switzerland, had agreed to—only because Papa had a BRCA mutation (and an extremely persuasive, medically trained daughter). I still remember how nauseated I felt watching one of the most toxic chemotherapy regimens available flow into the veins of someone I loved so dearly. While I prayed that it would work, I also pledged that we would come up with better treatments to treat this disease.

Aware of the odds, I was merely hoping for a response—any response—so I was quite unprepared for the drastic change in my father's tumor. I was back at work again in San Francisco when I received an excited phone call from Dr. Greuter. After eight weeks of chemotherapy, the tumor was less than half its original size.

Ten weeks after starting treatment, we returned to the surgeon, Dr. Schmied, who clearly had not expected to see us back in his office. He was even more surprised when he saw my father's response to the chemotherapy.

"It's his BRCA mutation," I said. "These tumors are much more sensitive to chemotherapy."

The surgeon looked at me inquisitively. "Why is that?"

As I told him, the same defect that makes people with BRCA mutations more likely to have cancer is also the Achilles' heel of the tumors. Cancer cells often escape the effects of chemotherapy by efficiently repairing the damage it inflicts on them. Cancer cells with mutated BRCA genes cannot repair DNA damage and thus are particularly vulnerable to chemotherapy agents that cause DNA damage.

He looked again in amazement at the scans and then at my dad. The relationship between BRCA2 and pancreatic cancer and the excellent response some patients can have to therapy was much less understood then. But I could see in his face a kind of conversion—a battle won not only for my dad but for many other patients who will benefit from more awareness of these links. My father underwent surgery, and his tumor was removed.

But his journey did not end there. Within two years, the pancreatic cancer was back, requiring further chemotherapy and then two courses of radiation therapy. Thankfully, each course of treatment brought his tumor back under control, without more surgery, and he has now marked the five-year anniversary since his diagnosis.

Still, my father's story is not the story of most pancreatic cancer patients. Having someone well versed in the latest cancer research at his side was a huge benefit; he was lucky that his BRCA mutation was recognized and that he had access to quality care.

We must hope that, in the years ahead, more of the public and the medical profession will become aware of the link between BRCA mutations and pancreatic and prostate cancer. Many more patients could also benefit from the sort of research and treatment that helped to save my father. Indeed, since his diagnosis, an entirely new type of therapy has been developed and approved, called PARP inhibitors, which are specifically tailored for those with BRCA mutations.

I am lucky to have had many more years with my father since his diagnosis, and this gift has confirmed my belief that there is always hope for something new to alter our fates in dealing with cancer. But I could not end his story without reflecting on what he did to make this happen, a lesson in what each of us can do to anticipate and fight cancer, with or without genetic predisposition.

Papa was 78 when diagnosed. Until then, he had exercised almost every day of his life and eaten a balanced diet. These habits may not have prevented his tumors from growing, or occurring in the first place, but they clearly helped him to survive the blows of treatment.

A friend once told me that to win the race you have to stay in the race. Dealing with metastatic cancer is an ongoing battle. It requires steadfast support, resources, stamina and, most of all, courage and hope. There are endless setbacks and bad days. But seeing my father emerge from his struggle, my own blue eyes meeting his, I am proud. We are now connected by more than blood and DNA.

FROM TOP: CLARA TUMA FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL; ELIZABETH FALLS

## The Art of Scrabble Dictionary Maintenance

**IN A WEEK** full of disconcerting and divisive political news, there was, at least, one welcome oasis of serenity. "Zen" has come to Scrabble.

Specifically, the word "zen" is now acceptable, according to the latest edition of the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary, published on Monday by Merriam-Webster.

The sixth edition has been freshened up with more than 300 new words, and for Scrabble players, the two- and three-letter additions are particularly significant because of their strategic importance in the game. The two-letter words "ew" and "ok" have now been deemed Scrabble-worthy, based on their appearance in Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary and its online equivalent. While "ok" might seem to go against the spirit of Scrabble's injunction against using

abbreviations, Merriam-Webster has recently added the lowercase variant, making it OK to play.

Three-letter "zen" is a game-changer too—after all, using the "z" is worth a game-high 10 points—though many casual Scrabble players may be surprised to learn the word wasn't already playable. As with "ok," "zen" has just now made the cut thanks to a recent change in Merriam-Webster's dictionary that recognizes the lowercase version.

Traditionally, dictionaries have defined "Zen" as a Japanese sect of Buddhism that emphasizes meditation as a means of achieving spiritual awareness. The Japanese word "zen" is borrowed from medieval Chinese "chán," meaning "medita-

tion, contemplation," which in turn has its roots in Sanskrit. The word appeared as early as 1727 in an English translation of a German travelogue about Japan. As Eastern spirituality became more popular, "Zen" became shorthand for "a state of enlightened serenity."

The word eventually turned into an adjective as well. In the early 1960s, Woody Allen had a

tion, contemplation," which in turn has its roots in Sanskrit. The word appeared as early as 1727 in an English translation of a German travelogue about Japan. As Eastern spirituality became more popular, "Zen" became shorthand for "a state of enlightened serenity."

As "Zen" became detached

adding the new kind of "zen" to its unabridged dictionary in 2014, according to Emily Brewster, the editor who drafted the revised definition.

This past February, the new definition, with the lowercase spelling of "zen," made its way from the subscription-based unabridged dictionary to the free dictionary at [merriam-webster.com](http://merriam-webster.com). Since that dictionary is a key source used by the North American Scrabble Players Association (or NASPA) for compiling its list of acceptable words, that made it fair game for the new edition of the Scrabble dictionary.

The first to spot the change was Stefan Fatsis, author of "Word Freak," a book about the competitive Scrabble world, as well as a forthcoming book about Merriam-Webster. Mr. Fatsis told me that he's been hoping to see it since he started playing Scrabble competitively. "I've been waiting for this for 20 years," he said.

John Chew, co-president of NASPA, echoed the sentiment: "I am relieved that it's been admitted." Serenity at last.



joke in his standup routine about getting expelled by the Boy Scouts: "I tried to rub one stick together to make a fire. This is very Zen—but not Boy Scout."

For Americans, the word got

from its Buddhist roots and took on a more generalized sense of tranquility, it began showing up more frequently as lowercase "zen." Dictionaries were a bit slow on the uptake. The American Heritage Dictionary added the extended sense (and the lowercase variant) in its fifth edition in 2011. Merriam-Webster followed suit by

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## REVIEW



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JOHN KUCZALA; PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

# Let's Get the U.N. Out of the U.S.

As the General Assembly convenes in New York, the world body's historic failures to protect human rights can no longer be ignored

BY MARTIN PERETZ

**T**his week, New York City observed an annual ritual. As the United Nations opens its General Assembly, large parts of Manhattan shut down. Each September, as a lifelong New Yorker, I listen to the minor complaints, think about fifty-plus years of my own human-rights activism and corresponding U.N. disappointments, and grit my teeth: what are a few disappointments, and some traffic jams, next to world peace?

But this year the General Assembly corresponds with something bigger than a traffic jam: the end of the Syrian civil war, the first state-sponsored genocide of the 21st century, with over 400,000 souls held to the accounting of a world that failed to stop the slaughter. This year, it's time for a modest proposal—a substantive move that would pack a symbolic punch. Let's get the United Nations out of the United States.

Questioning the U.N. is a tricky business, especially in the Trump era. The most common criticisms—a reflexive, sometimes paranoid concern over the U.N.'s encroachments on American sovereignty, or a smug dismissal of cooperation between states as a utopian pipe dream—are easy to rebut. In a world where different peoples are deeply interconnected, and where we face the perils of nuclear war and climate change together, there's clearly a need for communication and cooperation between governments.

There's also a need for the U.N.'s brave first responders to manage crises in places like the Sudan and Colombia, keeping these situations from spiraling into even more chaos. And there's irreplaceable value in the behind-the-scenes work of U.N. affiliates: the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization.

But what if the existence of the U.N. as it's currently constituted is actually making peace in the world less, not more, likely? Increasingly, its debates and resolutions bury urgent questions of life and death beneath a welter of words. In the process, the U.N. gives the U.S. cover for abdicating its role as the world's most powerful democratic state, handing its responsibilities over to what is vaguely called "the international community": a world of under-taxed venture capital turned to philanthropy, of good deeds that can improve people's lives, but can't protect them when worst comes to worst.

It wasn't always this way. When the U.N. was founded in 1945, it was based on the premise that universal rules of human rights could only effectively be upheld by state power, because no other entity held the necessary monopoly on force. Pioneering human rights figures like Hersch Lauterpacht, who presided at the International Court of Justice, and Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide," were on the left, because rightism in Europe at that time was synonymous with tribalism. But they were leftists who respected the role of democratic superpowers, first Britain and then the U.S., as global

guarantors: ensuring a minimum level of good conduct by states to allow for a peaceful, liberal order.

By the 1960s, however, the U.N.'s commitment to representation had superseded the necessity of humanitarian enforcement. In the face of protests from bad state actors, the developing humanitarian community was letting issues of life and death lie. This became clear in 1966, when pogroms by northern Nigerians against the minority Igbo tribe killed up to 100,000 people. The next year, the Igbo declared their own state, Biafra, and the rest of Nigeria went to war against them.

To many people, this seemed like an obvious case of right and wrong. I was personally involved in an organization called Keep Biafra Alive, and, at age 28, was sure the world would rally to our cause. But African leaders at the U.N. were socialist and anti-imperialist, and didn't want Western states to get involved even for a peacekeeping mission—a stand backed by the USSR. The early nongovernmental organizations, sponsored by Quakers, socialist groups and charitable foundations, were reflexively wary of any use of force in defense of the Igbo, and they felt guilty about calling out even despotic leaders of peoples who had long been oppressed.

Thanks to this general disinterest, American politicians could shrug the issue off. And without American power, the U.N. was helpless. This pattern would be repeated over the next 25 years, as the U.N. failed to act in defense of Kurds, Tutsis, Bosnians and Kosovars facing slaughter, and actually served as an excuse for inaction, as when Boris Yeltsin blamed America for going into Kosovo in 1999 to stop the killing there without a U.N. resolution. (Never mind that Russia was blocking the resolution in the first place.)

Even when NATO succeeded in stabilizing Kosovo, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan visited refugee camps there to proclaim that, in the future, "the Security Council should be the sole source of the legitimate use of force." He was backed by voices from the academy and the global financial class—everyone from Jürgen Habermas to George Soros—for whom the importance of international markets went hand in hand with the universalist perspective on the state as an anachronism.

In the 21st century, the U.N. has continued to offer a stage for both well-meaning denizens of global society, from Bill Gates to Bono, and opportunistic autocrats who used the body as cover for crimes. Iran's Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was a star attraction in Turtle Bay even after he murdered protesters in the streets of Tehran—while President Barack Obama, himself heavily influenced by academic universalists and global capitalists, stood calmly by. This May, Syria assumed the rotating presidency of the Conference on Disarmament—five years after Mr. Obama failed to act against Bashar al-Assad's use of chemical weapons on his own people.

Today, with President Donald Trump in office and some countries embracing explicitly nationalist policies, the U.N. has become the symbol of the fading internationalist dream. The choice between "America First" and "the international community" could hardly be starker. But are particularism and universalism our only options? Not if we return to the liberalism of those early human rights activists, who recognized that aiming for any single ideal, state or global society, was letting ourselves off the hook.

In that spirit, maybe a compromise is in order. Move the U.N. out of New York and the U.S., so we don't have to help host and legitimize the pernicious showmanship of autocrats and killers. Continue to support the U.N. as the first responder to global crises, as the sponsor of humanitarian initiatives to fight poverty and hunger. Let global civil society continue its work.

At the same time, realize, again, that only the U.S. has the power to maintain basic global norms. Unilateralism should generally be avoided—that's the lesson of Iraq—but it becomes necessary in the face of the worst humanitarian offenses: the use of chemical weapons and the crime of genocide. If Americans don't rediscover this truth, the Syrian genocide will be the harbinger of a long, inhumane and maybe unimaginable century to come.

Martin Peretz is the former editor-in-chief of *The New Republic*.

"What if the U.N. is actually making peace less likely?"

## What I Learned From Having Steve Jobs Swear at Me

BY KEN KOCIENDA

**I**MAGINE THAT your boss told you straight to your face that your project is "dog shit." Next, imagine that this boss is Steve Jobs. That's what happened to me when I was working as the principal engineer of iPhone software during Apple's golden years.

What was the right way for me to react? It would have been a bad idea for me to agree with Steve, raising the question of why I would offer him inferior work. But it would have done no good to disagree either, unless I was willing to enter into an on-the-spot debate with a famously mercurial CEO—and at that moment, I wasn't.

Thankfully, his blunt comment wasn't the opening salvo in a long-winded tirade. It was just a single statement, so I stood and took it without comment. During my 15-plus years as a software engineer at Apple, I learned that before the demo was done, I would find out why he was displeased.

It was 2009, and we were developing software for what would become the iPhone 4. That was the model that unfortunately became known for the "Antennagate" controversy: It could

experience network connectivity problems if you "held it wrong." The executive responsible for phone hardware soon departed the company.

The iPhone 4 also was the first Apple smartphone with the "Retina" display, a screen with individual pixels so small they can't be seen with the naked eye. My job was to come up with a new font to show this new screen to best advantage. My Apple career wasn't immediately in jeopardy, but I needed to get Steve's approval. The pressure was on.

I prepared eight choices, many of them variations of our old font, Helvetica, with a couple of others mixed in for contrast. But every one of them had a problem: If you increased the magnification, the vertical strokes of the important capital 'M' (as in Mail, and Message, for instance) looked smudgy rather than sharp—no better than with the previous non-Retina display.

Steve looked at each phone screen, pulled his round-rim glasses up so they rested on his forehead, stared again closely, then put his glasses back down and returned each phone to the table in front of him. Then he expressed himself. I was left wishing I had a plastic bag in my pocket to



clean up my work.

I went back to comb through fonts with colleagues, and in a couple of days, we discovered Helvetica Neue. This Neue (German for "new") version had subtle improvements that made every letter look perfectly sharp on the new screen. Steve approved it on sight.

I took two points away from this experience. The first is that brand-new work is frequently no good. Excellent results only come at the end of a long chain of effort. Rounds of iteration are often required to transform an idea into a finished product. And when another round is needed, it's usually best to say so clearly, without mincing words.

The second point sometimes gets lost in the conventional view of Steve Jobs as a bully or a jerk: Criticism can

be effective even if it's not constructive. Steve had no problem issuing a rejection without explanation. If he didn't like something, he just said so. His style of feedback was direct, and he was willing to say that an idea was no good even when he couldn't explain why in terms that were clear and concise.

Steve could be unpredictable and moody, and luckily, I was never on the receiving end of one of his full-on harangues. But let's be honest: Most of us swear. The key to making harsh words count is to have a trusting environment where everyone knows that comments are about your work and not about you.

The other time I almost got a Jobsian tongue lashing was when we were trying to develop a software control to lock the screen orientation

on the iPad, one that would prevent the display changing from portrait to landscape as you turned the device in your hands. I proposed an on-screen button, but Steve hated it. With an elongated sneer, he said I must be "reeeeeally confuuuuused."

I consoled myself in the moment with the thought that he didn't know the right solution either.

Knowing that you don't have the right solution yet is

valuable, even if you're unclear about why. Admitting you're at a "dog shit" phase of a project is a step toward cleaning up the mess. Improving work at a given moment is a matter of honest feedback aimed at eliminating the weak elements and building on the strong ones.

As I learned in my years at Apple, getting something right usually takes many tries, and direct (sometimes brutal) criticism can move the process along—so leave your ego at the door and keep your pooper scooper at the ready.

Mr. Kocienda worked at Apple from 2001 to 2017. This essay is adapted from his new book, "Creative Selection: Inside Apple's Process During the Golden Age of Steve Jobs," published by St. Martin's Press.

ROBERT NEUBECKER

## REVIEW

## MIND AND MATTER

SUSAN PINKER

## When a Better Neighborhood Is Bad for Boys

**IMAGINE** you're a single mother living at or below the poverty line in a troubled neighborhood. If you want to shield your teenager from drinking and mental distress, should you try to move to a better area or stay put? The answer depends on whether your teen is a boy or a girl, according to a new paper published in the journal *Addiction*.

The lead author of the study, University of Minnesota epidemiologist Theresa Osypuk, investigated the drinking habits and mental health of teenagers whose families lived in public housing in the late 1990s. About two-thirds of the families were randomly chosen to receive housing vouchers, allowing them to move into better areas.

Between four and seven years later, the researchers found, adolescent girls who had moved into more expensive neighborhoods were far less likely to drink to excess than girls who remained in public housing. But boys whose families had moved binged more. This surprising finding challenges the assumption that behavioral risks increase with economic hardship and that poverty affects women and men the same way.

It all started with a controversial social experiment called Moving to Opportunity. The goal was to give the mostly female-led families living in public housing a leg up in the labor market, not by improving their skills but by improving their housing. From 1994 to 1998, almost 5,000 low-income families in five cities—New York, Boston, Chicago, L.A. and Baltimore—were offered the chance to participate in a lottery.

Those who opted in were randomly assigned to one of three groups. The first group received a voucher that tripled their rent budget. With this windfall they were expected to move into a nicer neighborhood. A second group got the same voucher along with relocation counseling. A third was the control group: They stayed in public housing and presumably nothing would change for them.

The results were disappointing at first. To the chagrin of the policy wonks who designed the program, improving where women lived had absolutely no effect on their employment. But it had a big impact on their health. "Rates of obesity were lower, markers of diabetes were better, mental health was better," Prof. Osypuk said.

The second eye-opener was that moving to better neighborhoods affected men and women differently. "The households were mainly led by moms, who saw mental health benefits, and their girls did, too. But the boys saw no mental health effects, or negative effects," said Prof. Osypuk.

The key factor was how vulnerable people were before the move. Boys are developmentally more fragile than girls, with higher rates of learning and behavior problems. That's one reason why the well-being of the boys in the voucher groups tanked, according to Prof. Osypuk. Boys who moved out of public housing not only drank more but also showed higher rates of distress, depression and behavior problems, according to a 2012 paper that she and her team published in the journal *Pediatrics*.

"Boys have mental health disadvantages, and the stress of moving adds insult to injury," Prof. Osypuk said. Just when these vulnerable boys most needed predictability, their social worlds were upended. "They moved down in the social hierarchy and hung out with riskier boys," speculated Prof. Osypuk. Meanwhile, girls who moved to better neighborhoods experienced fewer sexual stressors and adapted to their new circumstances more easily.

When it comes to moving out of poverty, it would seem that equal treatment for everyone is only fair.

This research, however, hammers home the idea that one size does not fit all.



FROM TOP: ALEX NABAUM; CARIE McCARTHY

# Want Equality? Make New Dads Stay Home

Mandatory paternity leave would help close the wage gap and strengthen family bonds

By JOANNE LIPMAN

**W**hen Jeremy Doyle and his wife had a baby boy last year, he took 12 weeks of paternity leave. Not many new dads take off that much time. But that wasn't what made the San Francisco executive's experience so unusual. This is: His paternity leave was mandatory.

Mr. Doyle's employer, Boston-based people analytics firm Humanize, is among the first not only to give men and women equal lengths of paid parental leave but to insist that men take it. The firm instituted the policy in 2016 because most men don't take leave even when it's offered, for fear that it will derail their careers. That message—that having a baby will kill your career—isn't lost on women who do take leaves. "Bias plays such a clear role, we decided we are going to say, 'It's not an option. You [men] have to take the time off,'" Humanize co-founder Ben Waber told me. After all, if men and women have to take equal leaves, there's no excuse to penalize either one.

Mr. Waber and his company are on to something. We've been talking about workplace inequality for decades. The conversation has never been more urgent than this past year, with the #MeToo movement training a spotlight not only on sexual abuse but on the broader issue of bias against women. And yet, all the talk has produced very little visible progress. Yes, some powerful men have lost their jobs. But in other ways, we've gone backward. The percentage of female CEO's of S&P 500 firms has declined over the past year, to less than 5%. The global gender gap widened, as measured by factors including economic opportunity, in 2017 over the previous year, according to the World Economic Forum. In a recent survey by the American Psychological Association, the majority of employees said they'd seen no policy changes in their workplace since the #MeToo movement erupted.

What's needed now is action. Why not start with mandatory paternity leave?

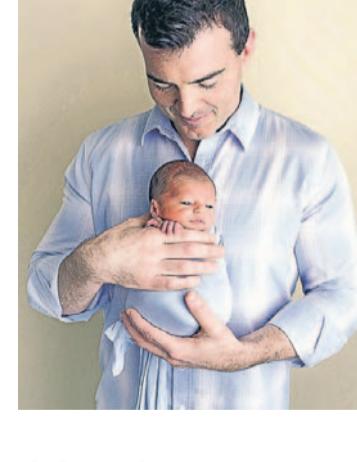
More than a third of American firms offer at least some paid maternity leave, and an increasing number of them are extending such benefits to new dads as well. But paternity leave is useless if men don't take it. A 2018 Deloitte survey of more than 1,000 men found that a third worried that taking a leave would hurt their careers, and more than half feared it would signal that they weren't serious about their jobs. A 2017 Pew survey found that the median paternity leave was just one week. New moms, meanwhile, typically take whatever time they can get.

That's why the "mandatory" piece for men is key. Most organizations that offer voluntary leave have a "use it or lose it" approach, which, it turns out, actually hurts women, since they are more likely than men to use it. In Denmark, for example, a generous leave policy offers families 52 weeks of paid time off to be split between both parents. Yet in practice, women end up taking 92.8% of the total time, according to the OECD. These women find it almost impossible to climb back on the career track afterward. As a result, even two decades after the birth of their first child, they face a 20% gender wage gap, a

**1 in 3**  
men in a  
Deloitte  
survey  
worry that  
taking  
paternity  
leave would  
harm their  
careers.

**57%**  
say they  
fear it  
would  
signal they  
don't take  
their jobs  
seriously.

Jeremy Doyle  
with his one-  
week-old son;  
his company  
required his  
paternity leave.



**92.8%**  
of parental  
leave in  
Denmark is  
taken by  
women,  
though it is  
offered  
equally to  
women and  
men.

2018 National Bureau of Economic Research working paper concluded.

Mr. Doyle, who is Humanize's chief customer officer, was the first new dad to be subject to the mandatory policy. He says that he would never have taken off all that time if it were voluntary. As it was, he took his leave in several chunks, spread out over the course of a year. Still, he faced the stigma of the "obvious social implications and/or gender expectations that everybody contends with around this."

Some people snickered, with "little jabs or jokes," that he must be just goofing off. Others, particularly older relatives, suggested that if he was able to take such a long leave, he "must not be seen as somebody who's important" at work.

In other words, he was treated...just like a woman. And in many ways, that's the point. If leave is normalized for new dads as well as for new moms, it's difficult to stigmatize either one.

Paternity leave is no cure-all. It doesn't solve the core issue, which is that the U.S. is the only industrialized country in the world that doesn't require paid family leave. Most Americans don't have access to any paid benefits when they have a child; they

are protected only by the 1993 Family and Medical Leave Act, which guarantees 12 weeks of unpaid time off.

That burden falls especially heavily on women, who often have to take a leave for medical reasons, who spend more time than men on child care, and who suffer an economic hit when they have

children. Michelle Budig, a sociology professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, found in a 30-year longitudinal study of 12,686 people that women's earnings decrease 4% after the birth of each child—a "motherhood penalty"—while new dads receive more than a 6% bump, known as a "fatherhood bonus," largely reflecting employer biases.

But we've got to start somewhere, and the idea of mandatory paternity leave for men is gaining traction. The first person to suggest it to me was Matt Krentz, a senior partner and leader of the Global

People Team at Boston Consulting Group. His firm offers new dads two months of paid leave, but he has been troubled by reports of managers warning men that it will jeopardize their careers if they take it.

"If we pull the guys aside and say, 'It's a mistake, it's going to cost you in your career' ... you can't turn around and say to women, 'Well, it's OK,'" Mr. Krentz told me. "What it says to women is, 'When you have a child and you go on maternity leave, you're impacting and derailing your career.'"

Plenty of men, especially senior executives, take off extended periods of time for other reasons, without any career repercussions. Boston Consulting Group gives partners—most of whom are male—a two-month sabbatical every five years, to do whatever they'd like. When male executives take long medical leaves, no one suggests that they aren't serious about their jobs. So why should a woman who takes off a few months over the course of her 40-plus-year career face a permanent penalty?

Paternity leave has undeniably positive effects all around. Longer leaves increase the bonding between father and child and lead to better health and cognitive outcomes, a Labor Department report found. It's also good for moms: A study in Sweden concluded that for every month a father takes off, the mother's income actually rises by 6.7%, as measured four years later.

None of this is cheap, but the economic benefits can be significant. Four states—California, New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island—have implemented paid family leave laws for both genders. In California, which enacted its policy in 2004, 91% of the employers surveyed reported that it had a neutral or positive impact on profitability and employee performance. Paid leave is also a powerful lever to help to attract and retain talent. It encourages a more gender-balanced workforce, which research shows leads to greater corporate success.

"I can make the business case," Humanize's Mr. Waber told me. "But the moral case is the primary driver for me. It's the right thing to do.... If [companies] make it work for women, they can make it work for men."

Ms. Lipman is the author of *"That's What She Said: What Men Need to Know (and Women Need to Tell Them) About Working Together."* She is the former chief content officer of Gannett and editor-in-chief of USA Today.



# FALL BOOKS



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RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Victory celebration for California Governor-Elect Ronald Reagan, Nov. 8, 1966.

## The Arc of an All-American

A winning, clear-eyed biography recounts the story-book life of the 40th president, from Midwestern poverty to Hollywood glamour to Sacramento, Washington and the world stage

### Reagan: An American Journey

By Bob Spitz

Penguin Press, 863 pages, \$35

BY RICHARD BROOKHISER

**T**HE REPUTATIONS of politicians go through distinct phases. First comes the real time of campaigning, public pronouncement and journalism, a mixture of confetti, gravitas and sleet-storm. Retirement brings the memoirs of subject, colleagues, relatives and eye-witnesses. Only after death does biography sculpt its first substantial image, which can last a long time. Later historians will argue and chisel, but they will work on that initial posthumous statue.

"Reagan: An American Journey" by Bob Spitz aims to create such an image. The cover says it all: a shining black-and-white

shot of a handsome man, his face simultaneously genial and serious, his body energetic even in repose. He is leaning on a wooden fence, but he is in the Pantheon.

Mr. Spitz's previous subjects include Julia Child and the Beatles—odd warm-ups for a presidential historian. But Mr. Spitz takes Reagan's immersion in popular culture seriously, as an element of his democratic appeal.

Reagan's journey proceeds in five movements: Midwestern youth; Hollywood; an introduction to politics (as union head, corporate spokesman and governor of California); the presidency; the recessional.

Reagan, born in 1911, grew up in a series of Illinois towns (with one stay in Chicago), which he remembered as a composite sunny backdrop, highlighted by scenes of youthful glory as a lifeguard and an athlete and actor at Eureka College. But there were storms

too, which he occasionally admitted. His father, Jack Reagan, was a drunk who finally failed as a shoe salesman (hence the family's many moves). His mother, Nelle, was a devout member of the Christian Church whose warmth was vital to him early on, but as he grew up she turned it away from him and toward good works.

Words saved him. As a little boy he curled up at his mother's side as she read aloud. He taught himself to read by the time he was 5. Drama became a second form of verbalizing. In his teens he saw a touring company production of R.C. Sherriff's "Journey's End." "In some strange way," Mr. Spitz quotes him, "I was also on stage." His first serious adult jobs, as a sportscaster for Iowa radio stations, involved more words: Like most sportscasters then, he had to improvise narratives from wire-service reports of the play-by-play.

More important, words became a medium for expressing and shaping his own thoughts. Mr. Spitz is very good on how Reagan spoke and wrote, and what it meant to him: The manuscript of a speech to the Screen Actors Guild is "crammed with comprehensive ideas that are simply conceived, almost colloquial in their delivery. He clearly wrote it straight out of his head. There are very few revisions. He knew what he wanted to say, and he said it."

Actors, Mr. Spitz writes elsewhere, all "have lines to say and the innate gift of delivery, whether they are playing a G-man, a sports hero, or even a president. But they didn't all have [Reagan's] gift of speaking his mind."

He had the gift because he had already arranged what was in his mind.

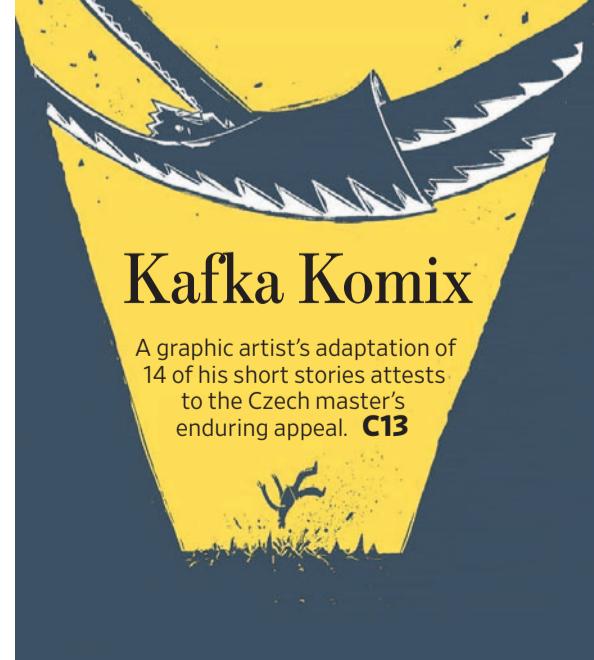
A sportscaster's trip to baseball spring training in southern California served as a

Please turn to page C6

## Mandolin Man

Bill Monroe described himself as 'a farmer with a high tenor voice.' String-band aficionados revere him as the father of bluegrass music.

C12



## Kafka Komix

A graphic artist's adaptation of 14 of his short stories attests to the Czech master's enduring appeal. C13



## Humboldt's Gifts

The intrepid German botanist Alexander von Humboldt documented a wondrous South America previously unseen by European eyes.

C11

## FALL BOOKS

'If the single man plant himself indomitably on his instincts, and there abide, the huge world will come round to him.' —RALPH WALDO EMERSON

## Reagan's American Journey

*Continued from page C5*

springboard to a Hollywood screen test. Reagan's years in movies gave him a measure of stardom, and two wives (Jane Wyman for eight years, Nancy Davis for the duration). He also encountered Communists. Mr. Spitz interviewed Olivia de Havilland about their M.O.: If a Communist-backed motion at a Hollywood actors' meeting was faltering, "Dalton Trumbo, a brilliant man, got up and spoke absolute nonsense to delay the vote, like Jimmy Stewart in *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*." Once most of the people in attendance had drifted away, "the radicals untabled the motion and passed it, one-two-three."

After Reagan's movie career faded, he moved to television, as the host of "General Electric Theater," a 1950s anthology show. His off-camera work as a company spokesman provided him with new encounters: ordinary Americans, legions of them, in General Electric's factories and in local civic groups who wanted to hear the celebrity pitchman as he came through town. "We saturated him in Middle America," said a GE press officer. These gigs acquainted Reagan with the postwar equivalents of his youthful neighbors. This was the second element of his democratic appeal—he knew what his audiences were thinking, because he had heard it from their lips, and sensed it from their reactions to what he said.

Reagan was a Democrat when FDR was leading the country through the Depression and World War II. He moved rightward as he came to see the government over-taxed hard-working Americans and cosseting the unworthy. Republicans looking to recover from the debacle of Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign encouraged him to run for governor of California two years later. He served two terms, condemning campus unrest (the issue wasn't a blip in the polling data, an aide told him; "It will be when I get through," Reagan answered). He pushed unsuccessfully for a complex tax-cut referendum, Proposition 1. Here a quip hurt him.



**SCENES FROM A LIFE** Eureka College football promo, 1930; Ron and Nancy's engagement photo, January 1952; On the air, WOC-Des Moines, Iowa, 1933; President Reagan takes one last look around the Oval Office, Jan. 20, 1989.

Voters weren't understanding it, Reagan was told. "I don't, either," he admitted.

Reagan's two terms in the White House are still visible in older Americans' rear-view mirrors. Mr. Spitz ably marshals the bit players (who was Manucher Ghorbanifar again?) and the large movements: Reagan's deeply held conviction that the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction was less a deterrent to nuclear war than a tripwire for Armageddon led him to embrace both the Strategic Defense Initiative and arms-reduction talks with Mikhail Gorbachev. Reagan's management style was hands-off. Mr. Spitz praises its successes: the first-term troika of Jim Baker, chief of staff, Ed Meese, counselor to the president, and Mike Deaver, Nancy whisperer, "while competitive and frequently at cross-

purposes, kept the Oval Office humming and the president on track." It also nourished the grandiose derring-do of Oliver North, who juggled a secret arms-for-hostages deal with Iran and a Nicaraguan insurgency from his National Security Council office.

Reagan did not preside over the end of the Cold War. That was left to his vice president and successor, George H.W. Bush. But in retirement he got to whack at a remnant of the Berlin Wall, which he had urged Mr. Gorbachev to tear down.

His last great gesture came in 1994 when he was told he had Alzheimer's disease. On the spot he composed a letter to the American people, announcing that he was heading "into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead." He died 10 years later, at age 93.

### Reagan's was a life in five acts: Illinois youth; Hollywood fame; California politics; the presidency; the recessional.

Mr. Spitz's prose is business casual: no tie, collar unbuttoned, blazer, loafers. It keeps his many pages turning, and it knits his many venues—small towns, sound stages, summit meetings—smoothly together.

Mr. Spitz's Reagan is a saint of the civil religion. Mr. Spitz defines his creed thus: "Honor your country, cherish your family, give thanks to a higher being, stand up for what you believe in, and refuse to be bullied by tyrants." Is this an adequate summary? Saints are venerable, and they offer to help us (secular ones by their example). But we tend to flatten them. What "Reagan: An American Journey" sometimes misses is a sense of urgency, beyond the immediate concerns of its hero and his circle. We get some back-and-forth on economic policy and spot checks of relevant statistics. But '70s stagflation was serious, and although Reagan signally failed to balance the budget as promised, he slashed inflation and unemployment. The slump and the rebound meant more than Mr. Spitz shows. Similarly with the

Cold War. We now see the Soviet Union as fated to fail. But in the decade before Reagan took office, it and its allies beat America in Vietnam, colonized swaths of Africa with Cuban troops, and terrorized Western Europe with intermediate-range nuclear missiles. It was an evil system on the march. In stopping its advance and encouraging its implosion, Reagan and Bush 41 won a world war without a Somme or a Stalingrad: a world-historical achievement.

So winning is Mr. Spitz's account that I have already slid into the later historians' impulse to modify. For all but the hard left, Reagan occupies a slot on the expanded Mount Rushmore, alongside his youthful hero FDR. "Reagan: An American Journey" is a handsome, handy introduction to the 20th century's last hero.

*Mr. Brookhiser is a senior fellow of the National Review Institute and the author, most recently, of "John Marshall: The Man Who Made the Supreme Court," coming in November.*

## The Fire This Time



### POLITICS

BARTON SWAIM

**Broad-sides by two indignant writers who believe America needs to be radically remade yet who also long for the political stability of the 1950s.**

**BEN FOUNTAIN'S** debut novel, "Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk" (2012), brutally satirized America's jingoistic militarism during the Iraq War. The book put Mr. Fountain's considerable rhetorical gifts on full display, but its comedy consisted almost exclusively of full-on burlesque and sarcasm; there was nothing of subtlety or tenderness in it, no attempt to understand or sympathize with the society it mocked.

Something similar is true of "Beautiful Country Burn Again" (Ecco, 433 pages, \$27.99). Mr. Fountain's series of rambling, denunciatory essays on the 2016 presidential campaign. Every assertion, every observation, is aflame with indignation. Take a passage on Ted Cruz, for example: "You'd think he gurgles twice a day with a cocktail of high-fructose corn syrup and holy-roller snake oil. His tone and cadence take after the saccharine blather of the great Christian pitchmen of radio and TV, the hucksters who mastered the catch in the throat, the tremulous quaver and gulp, because as every pro knows that's where the money is."

The book's title is taken from a line by American poet Robinson Jeffers, although there's a suggestion in it, too, of James Baldwin's "The Fire Next Time" (1963), a pair of essays on race in America. But whereas Baldwin pleaded for a renewal of thought and understanding, Mr. Fountain thinks that the time for understanding is over and it's time for fire—although what he means by "fire" is unclear. For him, America has

endured two conflagrations already: the Civil War, in which the country burned literally, and the New Deal, in which the country was, in Mr. Fountain's view, reinvented. Each of these was a "redistribution of freedom, a radical reset of the values in the freedom-profits-plunder equation." The book "may be read as the record of a developing crisis, one drastic enough to raise the possibility of a third reinvention, which, if attempted, will inevitably meet with vigorous, perhaps violent, resistance from stakeholders in the current order."

Mr. Fountain, a Southerner by birth, is an old-school progressive and a revolutionary radical. Yet, like many of his fellow progressives, Mr. Fountain is also a nostalgist: He views midcentury America as a

golden age of economic stability and fair distribution of wealth. He lashes centrist Democrats of the 1990s—he's thinking mainly of Bill Clinton and the Democratic Leadership Council—for abandoning the

New Deal and Great Society legacies that had dramatically transformed American life for the better." Even granting the truth of that statement, the American economy of the 1950s and '60s couldn't be kept as it was in perpetuity. Thanks largely to Ronald Reagan, both Republicans and Democrats came to realize that an overregulated economy and high marginal tax rates couldn't create sufficient growth to pay for all the social welfare programs we'd created in the '50s and '60s—not if we were to maintain a military capable of

countering Soviet aggression. As it was, we still couldn't pay for the programs, because no economy could keep up with the multiplying obligations of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

In Mr. Fountain's view, all criticisms of midcentury America's high tax rates must be evidence of greed, and any mention of welfare dependency is evidence of racism. This is where his metaphor-drenched rhetorical zealotry begins to grate. His thesis that America requires dramatic ethical recalibration presupposes that we live in a madhouse of rank racism. If that's true, it ought to be easy to prove with a few judicious quotes. For Mr. Fountain, though, it's rarely about what people say but about what they're *really* saying. Reagan won the South because he used the phrase "states' rights" in Mississippi—"a dog whistle that blew out the eardrums of every racist reactionary within three thousand miles." Bill Clinton did the same by "sheer dog-whistle gall." The ultimate instance of dog-whistle politics, of course, was Donald Trump's "birtherism," the conspiracy theory that Barack Obama wasn't born in the United States. Birtherism was a "dog whistle blown through a megaphone."

I don't deny that outright

wouldn't have elected Mr.

Obama twice, either. Yet in Mr. Fountain's worldview a deleterious trend or culpable remark can only ever be the result of the foulest bigotry, and the public figures of whom he disapproves are by definition monsters. There is no room here for argument or nuance—only loathing and the hope of imminent fire.

Rebecca Solnit is a writer for the Guardian, Harper's and the New Yorker. Twenty-one of her latest essays are collected in "Call Them by Their True Names: American Crises (and Essays)" (Haymarket, 188 pages, \$15.95), united, she says, by a concern with the meaning of words. "Naming is the first step in the process of liberation," she writes. "Naming what politicians and other powerful leaders have done in secret often leads to resignations and shifts in power."

That's true, but it's also true, as the physicist Richard Feynman famously pointed out, that to name a thing isn't to understand it. Ms. Solnit is a capable essayist, and there's a powerful quality to her unconventional and abrasive style, but one often gets the feeling she's writing for a small set of her San Francisco friends. She dishes out highly spurious

claims with no indication that anybody would think twice about them.

In an essay on homelessness, she writes that "the young can't remember (and many of their elders hardly recall) that few people were homeless before the 1980s. They don't grasp that this problem doesn't have to exist, that we could largely end it, as we could many other social problems, with little more radical a solution than a return to the buffered capitalism of forty years ago, when real wages were higher, responsibility for taxes more equitably distributed, and a far stronger safety net caught more of those who fell." Elsewhere, in another case of left-wing nostalgia, she pins the blame on "the Reagan Revolution." How fine things were at midcentury!

There's a great deal factually wrong with Ms. Solnit's breezy observation about the homeless. For one thing, homelessness began to rise sharply in the mid-1970s, when mental institutions were forced to discharge many of their patients for budgetary and civil-libertarian reasons. But anticipating counterarguments isn't Ms. Solnit's thing. Far easier to denounce the enemy and enjoy the knowing nods of your friends.

### THIS WEEK

#### Beautiful Country Burn Again

By Ben Fountain

#### Call Them by Their True Names

By Rebecca Solnit



REBECCA SOLNIT

## FALL BOOKS

'The enemy advances, we retreat; the enemy camps, we harass; the enemy tires, we attack; the enemy retreats, we pursue.' —MAO ZEDONG

## Victory in Retreat

## On Desperate Ground

By Hampton Sides

Doubleday, 394 pages, \$30

By MARK YOST

**I**N A SOMBER ceremony at Honolulu's Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in early August, the remains of 55 U.S. troops who fought and died in the Korean War were repatriated from North Korea. Of those 55, 35 were service members recovered from the Battle of Chosin Reservoir.

Chosin was the site of the first major engagement, in November 1950, between Gen. Douglas MacArthur's United Nations coalition force, spearheaded by Gen. Oliver Smith of the First Marine Division, and Mao Zedong's People's Volunteer Army. Until that point, Beijing had refrained from lending military support to Pyongyang, which had sparked the war five months earlier by invading South Korea. As U.N. troops appeared close to destroying the North Korean army and putting an unfettered force on China's doorstep, Mao finally decided to join the fray.

The U.S. Army and other coalition forces were also involved, but the Battle of Chosin Reservoir holds a special place in Marine Corps lore—alongside Belleau Wood, Iwo Jima and Khe Sanh—notable not as one of the Marines' greatest victories but one of military history's greatest tactical retreats. Countless books have been written about this storied battle, recounting many individual acts of bravery, as well as the maneuvers and strategies that helped extricate the troops from an unwinnable battle amid treacherous weather conditions. Subzero temperatures not only froze to death in their foxholes some of the ill-equipped Chinese troops, but also saved the lives of many coalition fighters by freezing otherwise life-threatening wounds. Among Marines, the battle has come to be known as "The Frozen Chosin." Those who survived are reverentially referred to as "The Chosin Few."

Some of the best books on the subject include "Breakout: The Chosin Reservoir Campaign, Korea 1950," by Martin Russ, and "Frozen Chosin," by Edwin H. Simmons—both authors had served in the war—and "The Last Stand of Fox Company," by Bob Drury and Tom Clavin, who provide a more focused telling of one Marine company's ordeal in the battle. To this pantheon we can now add Hampton Sides's "On Desperate Ground," which hits all the right notes in the novelistic way that histories are written today.

Mr. Sides does an admirable job of balancing the book's two storylines, explaining the upper-echelon politics that put the Marines in such a precarious position, and the on-the-ground planning, execution and sheer bravery that helped them escape. To Mr. Sides, the Marines' Gen. Smith is the hero of the story, and rightly so. Smith had the better understanding of the conflict his men were thrust into, even as he was being thwarted at almost every turn by MacArthur and his staff.

As commander of the U.N. forces, MacArthur had ambitions to further

ALAMY

**The hubris of MacArthur, rather than the fighting, was the main cause of casualties at the Chosin Reservoir.**



**BLESS 'EM ALL**  
U.S. Marines as they withdraw from the Battle of Chosin Reservoir in December 1950.

aggrandize himself in the Far East. He greatly underestimated the willingness of the Chinese leaders to engage the Americans, and the difficulty his own troops would have against a force that was numerically, if not militarily, superior. MacArthur had surrounded himself with yes-men so beholden to and in awe of the general that they refused to believe their own intelligence reports about Chinese troop movements. Mr. Sides makes the legitimate argument that the ill-informed hubris of MacArthur and his staff, rather than the deadly fighting on the ground, played the biggest role in causing the Chosin Reservoir casualties.

Mr. Sides sets the scene well, beginning with the Battle of Inchon on Sept. 15, 1950, when U.N. forces invaded the seaside South Korean town to expel North Korean forces. MacArthur ignored his ground commanders when they warned that Inchon was a poor choice for an amphibious landing. Luckily for him, the North Koreans put up only a token resistance. "The reason it looked simple," Smith said later, "was that professionals were doing it."

From there U.N. forces proceeded northeast toward Seoul. Smith cautioned MacArthur that the troops were moving too far, too fast. But MacArthur had imposed a deadline of Sept. 25 for liberating the capital city—three months to the day North Korea invaded the South. The only way to meet MacArthur's target was

to thoroughly bombard the city. When, on Sept. 29, the general visited a not-quite-liberated Seoul, he was aghast at the destruction that resulted from his own rash and ill-advised orders.

It was with this same hubris that MacArthur and his staff, ensconced in their palatial headquarters in downtown Tokyo, convinced President Truman that China had no intention of joining the war. The path to Pyongyang was supposed to offer little resistance.

MacArthur ordered his troops to proceed north, through narrow mountain passes carved with steep ravines and onto the high, flat ground around the Chosin Reservoir, an ideal staging ground for what the Chinese feared (and MacArthur hoped) would be an advance into communist China. As Mr. Sides explains, the Marines knew they were walking into a trap. Even MacArthur's own intelligence reports warned that Chinese forces had already crossed the Yalu River into North Korea. The general refused to believe them, attributing the sightings to rogue units, not a broader strategy.

Realizing he could do nothing but obey orders, Smith planned his defenses well. At Chosin, he ordered that a runway be built, to help, Mr. Sides writes, with "bringing in and taking out everything Smith needed to keep his division alive." Smith also placed troops on the perimeter of the reservoir, pre-emptively taking the high ground from the Chinese.

Despite this planning, the Marines' biggest foe would be the weather, which, in Edwin Simmons's own description, was cold enough "to numb the spirit as well as the flesh." The

freezing temperatures were "a physical force you had to reckon with," another Marine told Mr. Sides. "It got down into the marrow of our bones."

On the evening of Nov. 27, all of MacArthur's prognostications were proved ridiculous—and all of Smith's planning paid off. The Chinese, some 150,000 strong, charged up the hillsides toward the U.N. positions, which were manned by some 30,000 troops (about half of which were Marines).

Mr. Sides does some of his best work recounting the combat, thanks in part to his interviews with Hector Cafferata, who saw the worst of it with Fox Company. (Cafferata died in 2016, at the age of 86.)

Twenty-four Marines were killed, more than 50 wounded and three were missing. Fox Company lost nearly a third of its force that night.

"The Chinese casualties, on the other hand, were more difficult to ascertain, but they were impressive," Mr. Sides writes. Some Chinese troops charged the Marine positions with crude weapons; Cafferata describes these as being "almost archaic in some cases," including "a long pole at the end of which a knife had been attached with string." Sometimes the Chinese charged with no weapons at all. As Cafferata's squad leader surveyed the scene the next morning, he estimated that "two enemy platoons had been destroyed."

Over the course of the two-week battle, the Marine-led forces fought bravely. According to best estimates, their casualties totaled around 10,000 troops, some 4,300 of them Marines.

More than 7,000 other Marines suffered noncombat injuries, primarily

frostbite. By contrast, the Chinese reported roughly 50,000 killed or wounded, but some estimates put that figure as high as 60,000. "Was it this bad on Okinawa?" Cafferata remembers asking. "Doesn't matter where you are," his sergeant replied. "When the lead is flying, that's the worst place you've ever been."

Despite their massive casualties, however, the Chinese made it so that all the coalition could do was defend its position. MacArthur was eventually persuaded that the Chosin Reservoir stalemate was untenable. If left there, his troops would have been decimated by the weather and Chinese reinforcements. China's entry into the war changed everything. Instead of simply mopping up what was left of the North Koreans, the U.N. coalition had to completely rethink how it would deal with its new foe. The smartest thing to do, MacArthur realized, was to retreat and regroup. Smith led his troops through one choke point after another, encountering attacks by the remnants of the Chinese force, until they reached the harbor in Hamhung, almost 80 miles away, where they boarded ships, pulling out of North Korea entirely and sailing south to regroup around Pusan.

In the end, it was one of the greatest retreats in military history. It's a story Marines are rightly proud of and one that should be of interest to anyone who wants to know more about the remains that just returned home from Korea, and why those men deserve to be remembered.

Mr. Yost writes about military history for the Journal.

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## FALL BOOKS

'Thou art the isle on whose green shores I have desired to see the standard of liberty erected, a flag of fire [that] shall light the torch of Freedom!' —SHELLEY

# A Great Wrong Set Right

## The King and the Catholics

By Antonia Fraser

Nan A. Talese, 319 pages, \$29.95

BY EAMON DUFFY

**I**N 1829, NEWS reached Rome that the Parliament in London had passed an Emancipation Act abolishing the laws that had, for centuries, excluded Roman Catholics from British political and public life. Nicholas Wiseman, the flamboyant young rector of the English seminary in Rome (and a future cardinal), draped the college's facade with lanterns spelling out the words *Emanzipazione Cattolica*. Assuming that the illuminations marked the canonization of a new saint, passers-by struck their breasts and cried out "Sancta Emancipatione, ora pro nobis."

Antonia Fraser's lively account of the four-decade struggle for Catholic civil rights in Britain is lightened with many such anecdotes, from the various duels fought by her story's central figure—the great Irish "Liberator," Daniel O'Connell—to the humiliation of Sir Charles Wetherell, the British attorney general whose vehement anti-Catholic oratory in the 1829 House of Commons debates caused his suspenders to burst and his trousers to fall down. Ms. Fraser's narrative focuses on the political maneuverings for and against Emancipation among the English and Irish political elite and on the many ways in which the process was hindered by the conscientious agonizing of the mentally unstable King George III and his gross and drunken successor, George IV.

At the center of her story are a handful of political giants, among them the arch-conservative Duke of Wellington, victor of Waterloo and himself a (Protestant) Irishman, who as prime minister reluctantly presided over the cabinet that finally delivered Emancipation. To the duke's embarrassment, his older brother, Lord Richard Wellesley, had married an American Catholic while serving as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland: Wellesley's public support for Emancipation, flagrantly at odds with the views of the king he represented, made him a hero in Ireland but led to his abrupt dismissal in 1828.

Then there was the Whig pro-Emancipation campaigner George Canning, Britain's shortest-serving prime minister (he died in 1827, after less than four months in office). Canning's great opponent, Robert Peel, had been Chief Secretary in Ireland, where his encouragement of ultra-loyalist organizations and his resolute defense of the Protestant Settlement of 1689 earned him the title "Orange Peel." The pragmatic Peel, recognizing that Catholic rights would have to be conceded if Ireland was to be peacefully governed, converted to Emancipation at the last minute and helped ensure its passage. He would pay a price for this act of political realism, being immediately ejected as an apostate from his seat as the member of Parliament for the militantly anti-Catholic University of Oxford. Peel's defeat, ironically, was campaigned for by John Henry Newman, later a Catholic cardinal but in 1829 still an Anglican and a fierce defender of England's Protestant constitution.

Catholics' fight for rights in Britain was a victory of tolerance over prejudice. But it was also an early triumph for populism.



ROYAL ROW 'An attempt to choke John Bull with Irish-made dishes,' an anti-Catholic cartoon from 1829.

Ms. Fraser's premise is that Emancipation was simply the aftermath of events in Ireland, an overwhelmingly Catholic country ruled by a Protestant minority. The 1801 Act of Union had abolished the Dublin Parliament and placed Ireland under direct rule of a viceroy and the Parliament at Westminster—a measure

achieved in part by crude bribery but also by the promise of wider political freedoms for Irish Catholics. That promise was reneged on, in large part because of the opposition of George III and then of his regent and eventual successor, George IV. Both men had Catholic friends, and George IV had even contracted a secret morganatic marriage with a devout young Catholic widow, Maria Fitzherbert, but both rulers believed that the anti-Catholic oath they had sworn at their coronation obliged them to refuse any further relaxation of the laws against popery.

Political pressure for Emancipation mounted during the turbulent first decades of the 19th century amid fears of rebellion in Ireland. O'Connell was the decisive figure here, an ebullient and inflammatory orator who trumped the stalled political process by mobilizing the disenfranchised Irish peasantry and the growing Catholic middle classes via the Catholic Association, a pioneering political mass movement destined to have many imitators. The association raised stupendous sums of campaign-finance funds through penny contributions known as the "Catholic rent," collected and enforced by the Catholic parish clergy.

Beginning in 1826, the Catholic Association took the momentous decision to contest every parliamentary election in Ireland (necessarily fielding sympathetic Protestant candidates,

since Catholics were disqualified from serving in Parliament). But in 1828 no Protestant could be persuaded to stand against the powerful (and, as it happens, pro-Catholic) grande dame William Vesey-Fitzgerald.

O'Connell grasped the nettle, opposed Vesey-Fitzgerald himself and won a landslide victory that demonstrated the Catholic Association's overwhelming political muscle. Most members of Parliament now recognized that if Ireland was to be pacified, Catholic Emancipation must be granted: Wellington's divided cabinet gathered their nerve and confronted George IV with threats of mass resignation unless he acquiesced. Dithering and fulminating to the end, the king finally gave way.

Ms. Fraser writes with verve and lightness of touch, even when dealing with intractable political argument. Readers unfamiliar with the intricacies of Regency politics will learn much from her spirited retelling, though her book, being based mainly on printed and secondary sources, retells much that is already known. In directing her story toward the campaign in the 1820s, she says relatively little about the significant earlier Catholic Relief Acts of 1778 and 1791, which had removed most of the specifically religious prohibitions for Catholics and legalized Catholic worship.

English Catholic aristocrats played a major role in those earlier negotiations—and had even been prepared to concede to the British government a veto over candidates for the Catholic episcopate, a proposal that O'Connell firmly rejected and that deeply divided the Catholic community on both sides of the Irish Sea. These aristocratic negotiators have usually been portrayed as snobbishly unsympathetic to the aspirations of plebeian Catholic Ireland, and Ms. Fraser's narrative by and large does little to challenge that convention.

The author sees the struggle for Emancipa-

tion essentially as the triumph of tolerance over prejudice, and it was indeed that. But, as its conservative opponents grasped only too urgently, it also marked a revolutionary repudiation of the existing Protestant constitution and the arrival of new, and ultimately untamable, political forces in the form of O'Connell's mobilization of the extra-parliamentary power of the disenfranchised.

O'Connell was a figure of world significance, whose ideas and example inspired many exponents of romantic nationalism in the 19th and 20th centuries. Despite his sincere and consistent rejection of violent force, his ferocious rhetorical appeals to the demos anticipated, and arguably inaugurated, some of the most potent populist forces in the modern era—forces that have recently caused consternation and overturned political establishments across the Western world.

O'Connell's religious legacy has been powerfully ambivalent. A radical deist in his youth, he became in maturity a devoutly papal Catholic. He was an apostle of liberty for all, a notable supporter of the abolition of slavery and the emancipation of the Jews. But the activities of the Catholic Association undoubtedly contributed to an escalation in Irish sectarianism, and O'Connell's political dependence on the local influence of the Catholic parish clergy was a milestone in the embroilment of the Catholic Church in Irish society, which has recently so spectacularly unraveled. Some reflection on these complex long-term consequences of Emancipation would have enhanced the reader's sense of the contemporary relevance of the struggles the author so vividly describes.

Mr. Duffy is a professor at the University of Cambridge. His most recent book is "Royal Books and Holy Bones: Essays in Medieval Christianity."

# Liberté, Fraternité, Posterity

## A History of France

By John Julius Norwich

Atlantic, 382 pages, \$30

BY ALLAN MASSIE

**T**HE LATE John Julius Norwich was a professional writer and an amateur historian. He never had an academic position, and he picked subjects to please himself. Unlike many academics, he remembered that there was a public composed of people who read books of history for pleasure, not from duty. So he wrote to please not only himself but his readers. Whether writing about the Byzantine Empire, the Crusades, the Venetian Republic or the papacy, he succeeded in reaching a broad audience and, at the same time, earning the respect of scholars. "A History of France" is sadly his last work: Lord Norwich died in June at the age of 88.

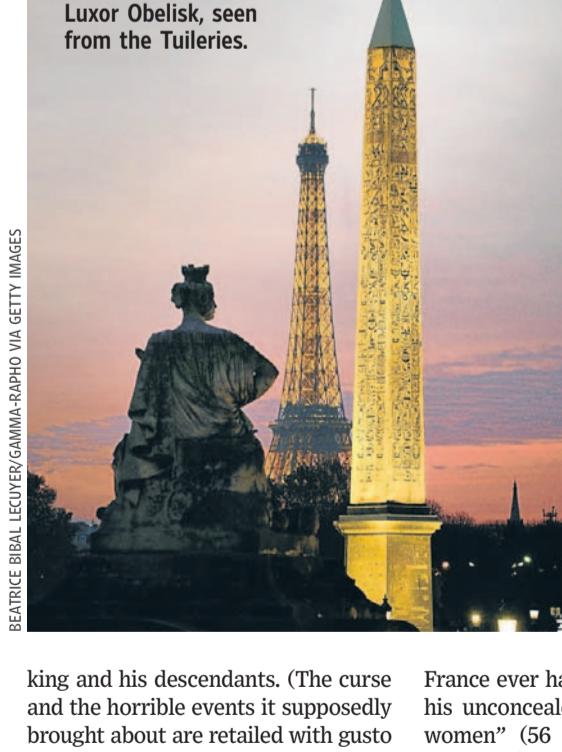
The book offers an easy narrative with a wealth of anecdote and deft character sketches. It is, one should say, somewhat old-fashioned: a history of France and the French state, not of the French people, who are generally ignored except when rioting, rebelling or erecting barricades in Paris. For the most part, too, the

provinces play little part in the story, the economy even less, at least until we reach the 19th century. Kings and princes, bishops and popes, generals and rebels dominate.

Norwich is excellent on culture—on paintings, palaces, churches and writers. He is also an acute, and fair, judge of character. He respects, though does not greatly like, the sagacious schemer Philip Augustus, the French king in the late 12th century and early 13th. The deplorable Albigensian Crusade against the heretical Cathars—"as pure and harmless a group of innocents as ever existed," Norwich writes—disfigured his reign, but it was in fact the responsibility of Pope Innocent III, not of Philip, who "took little interest in the Crusade, preferring to remain in Paris to oversee his favourite projects": among them, the establishment of the Royal Archives, the paving of the streets and the creation of a central market, Les Halles, which, as a footnote reminds us, lasted until 1971. In contrast to his respect for Philip, Norwich has little time for his English rival, Richard the Lionheart, who, despite his "shining reputation," was hot-tempered, over-ambitious, "faithless, disloyal, even treacherous."

France in the 13th century was distinguished by the reign of Louis IX, later canonized. In contrast, the 14th century was full of horrors, not least Philip IV's attack on the Knights Templar, the military-religious order: confessions extracted by torture, the burning of Templars at the stake. Among the victims was the order's grand master, Jacques de Molay, who was said to have laid a curse on the

## TIME LAPSE The Eiffel Tower and Luxor Obelisk, seen from the Tuilleries.



king and his descendants. (The curse and the horrible events it supposedly brought about are retailed with gusto by Maurice Druon in a splendid series of novels, "Les Rois Maudits," the first of which appeared in 1955.) Then came the dreadful Hundred Years' War, provoked by the pointless ambitions of the English kings, and also the outbreak of plague, known as the Black Death. Charles VI (1368-1422) was intermittently mad, sometimes believing he was made of glass and might break at a touch from any hand.

It's a relief to reach the Renaissance and one of Norwich's favorite kings: Francis I, "in every fibre a man of the Renaissance," with "a genuine passion for art." Francis brought Leonardo da Vinci to France and settled him "in the

magnificent apartments at Amboise [in the Loire Valley] in which the great man lived in comfort until his death."

The 3,000 books he gathered would provide "the nucleus of the Bibliothèque Nationale." It was a pity of course that he also indulged in expensive and futile wars in Italy.

Then we have the Wars of Religion, which were ended happily by another of our author's favorites, Henry of Navarre, often called the most French king

mark that reminds one that Norwich was an aesthete as well as a historian. Later chapters deal with matters more familiar: the Revolution, Napoleon, the Belle Époque, the Dreyfus Affair, the horrors of World War I, the German Occupation and Vichy in 1940-44. Generally fair and balanced in his opinion, Norwich makes no attempt to understand why the Vichy government came into being or to recognize that, until 1942, Marshal Pétain, its leader, was the most popular head of state in modern French history. He also exaggerates the role of the Resistance.

The enduring power of the Churchill legend and filial piety—the author's father, Duff Cooper, was a minister in Winston Churchill's government and later the British ambassador to France—color Norwich's account of World War II. Not everyone, for instance, would agree that "there was no alternative" to the Royal Navy's attack on the French fleet at the Algerian port of Mers-el-Kébir in July 1940, a shocking attack on a recently defeated ally. Be that as it may, "A History of France" is a delightful book—engaging, enthusiastic, sympathetic, funny and sometimes, one has to add, quirky. I am puzzled by Norwich's belief that Louis-Philippe, who ruled the July Monarchy, was "one of the best kings France ever had." Really? His regime was never either popular or secure and crumbled feebly in 1848. *Chacun à son goût*, of course.

Mr. Massie is the author of "The Royal Stuarts: A History of the Family That Shaped Britain."

## FALL BOOKS

'Moments of glory are all right, but they die so soon.' —FRANK CHAMPI, NOV. 23, 1968

# A Clash Upon a Darkling Plain

**The Game**By George Howe Colt  
Scribner, 386 pages, \$28

BY DAVID M. SHRIBMAN

**S**PORTS FANS will never agree about which college football game was the greatest ever. But there can be no disagreement about the greatest headline ever printed in a college newspaper. It was "Harvard Beats Yale, 29-29," and it appeared in the Harvard Crimson after the Harvard-Yale game of 1968.

Harvard-Yale? Who cares, except for a few toffs in Cambridge and New Haven? The world little noted nor long remembered what happened in last year's version of the storied Ivy League rivalry (Yale won, 24-3). But it can never forget the ferocious 16-point Harvard comeback in the waning moments of the game played in Harvard Stadium a half-century ago: a classic season-ending confrontation between two undefeated teams that took place at a time of racial tensions and seething anti-Vietnam War sentiments and that gave cameo roles to such figures as future actor Tommy Lee Jones, future NFL star Calvin Hill and just-beginning Doonesbury creator Garry Trudeau.

Now, timed to the 50th anniversary of this spectacle—a game so dominated by Yale until the last minutes that a Harvard statistics professor, believing that the chances of a Crimson victory were "infinitesimal," made his way to the exits well before the contest ended—comes the story of the game itself as well as a depiction of the social turmoil of the late 1960s: the passions, placards and protests. "The Game," by George Howe Colt, is the rare sports book that lives up to the claim of so many entrants in this genre: It is, in its way, the portrait of an era.

In 1968, as Mr. Colt reminds us, America was profoundly divided—more so, one perhaps can say, than today, for all the claims that are being made about life in Donald Trump's America. The divisions separated the races, the sexes and the classes, and they cleaved families. Mr. Colt captures those divisions as background to the gridiron drama, but he resists the temptation to paint The Game, as the contest has traditionally been called, as some sort of cultural clash in itself.

It wasn't. This was, after all, Harvard vs. Yale. The cultures of the two places might differ slightly. (Here Freud's phrase about "the narcissism of small differences" comes to mind.) The Yale of that era was a little more easygoing, and Harvard, because of the Radcliffe College dorms down the street, had something closer to a "co-ed" atmosphere. But Harvard's class of 1969, the seniors who played in The Game, included 61 students from Exeter. Yale's had 43 students from Andover. Diversity was not exactly a prized principle.

Even so, cultural change was headed toward both institutions. At Harvard, students still lived by "parietals," dormitory rules that permitted women to visit men's rooms only between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays. But this system of social regulation, like so much else, was soon to be swept away. Harvard Square, once a staid entrepôt offering Andover Shop suits and Harvard pennants, would become a counterculture outdoor arcade. By the late 1960s it was so terrifying to outsiders that my parents, living in a beach town 15 miles away, would have sooner let me visit East Berlin or Havana than permit me, at age 14, to take the train to those forbidding precincts.

Yale, too, was in transition, from Cole Porter anthems to antiwar chants. The phrase "For God, for Country and for Yale," which once slipped so easily off the tongue on Hillhouse Avenue in New Haven, was now uttered, if at all, with sarcasm. There was a relatively new president, Kingman Brewster, who thought that "parts of the Yale machinery" were "rusty with complacency and stiff with tradition," and a new admissions chief, R. Inslee Clark, who believed that his alma mater was burdened by "a certain inbreeding, parochialism, and clubbiness." And there was the chaplain, the Rev. William Sloane Coffin, a onetime Freedom Rider whose opening official Yale prayer had asked God to "forbid our using our education to buy our



PASS-FAIL Harvard quarterback Frank Champi in the 1968 Harvard-Yale football game.

way into middle-class security."

In the 1960s, the two universities began to be more open to black students, who until then were often the sons of professionals and felt like outsiders in a culture that was designed to breed the establishment's insiders. As Mr. Colt writes of Harvard: It was "no longer just cherry-picking black seniors from Exeter and Andover but seeking out students from inner-city public schools in Detroit and Los Angeles. Unlike the sons of the so-called black elite, who'd grown up speaking the language of integration and non-violence, these younger students were more likely to speak the language of black nationalism and Black Power."

Amid all this were two football coaches nursing dreams of Ivy League supremacy, which meant a whole lot more then, when Columbia's and Dartmouth's games were on the front page of the New York Times sports sections every Sunday, than they do now. Harvard was led by John Yovicsin, frosty, formal and fastidious, a worshiper in Congregational churches and a reliable sideline figure in a fedora on fall Saturdays. Yale's coach was Carm Cozza, unpretentious and fair-minded, the leader of informal weekly campus tutorials on football.

Cozza's Yale team was led by Calvin Hill ("bigger and stronger than most linemen, yet faster than all but a few defensive backs," as Mr. Colt writes) and Brian Dowling (who "played without doubt or fear"), the latter celebrated by Mr. Trudeau, who put the quarterback in his comic strip as a character named "B.D." Everyone on campus knew who that was.

Harvard's team was led by running backs Ray Hornblower (whose great-grandfather founded the brokerage firm Hornblower & Weeks) and Vic Gatto (an unlikely 5-foot-6 powerhouse, with calves that Mr. Colt describes as being "as cartoonishly oversized as Popeye's forearms"). But central to the story is Frank Champi, the second-string quarterback given to writing poetry but possessed of a rifle arm. A son of blue-collar Everett, Mass., and a one-time devout Catholic, he was, as Mr. Colt shows, preoccupied with questions—questions about his faith, the war, football.

Finally, there was The Game itself. For possession after possession, Harvard struggled while Yale moved with ease and confidence. By the middle of the second quarter, the Elis held a 22-0 lead. Harvard coach Yovicsin summoned Champi from the bench. Before long Yale's lead settled in at 29-13, an advantage roughly equivalent to the conventional view of Hillary Clinton's pre-Election Day domination of Mr. Trump. His ankle injured, Hornblower was out of the game. So, too, it seemed, was Harvard.

Not so fast. A Harvard TD, a two-point conversion and an on-side kick

put the Crimson eight points behind with a do-or-die possession, in the last minute, on the Yale 49. The clock clicked down. With but three seconds remaining, Champi completed a touchdown pass to Gatto. Now time had expired, the score was 29-27, and Harvard was still entitled to try for two extra points. They came with a Champi pass to tight end Pete Varney. Do you believe in miracles?

Months later Harvard would be roiled by a student strike that would

create a mythology all its own. Three of the players in The Game would later go to Vietnam. Vic Gatto would coach football at Bates, Tufts and Davidson. Ray Hornblower would become an opera singer. Tommy Lee Jones, an offensive guard for Harvard, would show up in "The Fugitive." Calvin Hill would become a Pro Bowl running back for the Dallas Cowboys and other NFL teams. Pete Varney would play baseball for the Chicago White Sox and Atlanta Braves and serve as the Brandeis

baseball coach for 34 years. And Frank Champi? He quit football the next fall. It no longer had meaning to him. "I had my one moment of greatness," he would say later, "and I'll take it for what it's worth." Fifty years on and it's clear that it was worth a lot.

Mr. Shribman is executive editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and the author, with Jack DeGange, of "Dartmouth College Football: Green Fields of Autumn."

A wide-ranging account of the Harvard-Yale game of 1968 that lives up to its claim to be the portrait of an era.

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PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUDIO

## FALL BOOKS

'Without such a thing as fast food, there would be no need for slow food.' —MICHAEL POLLAN

# Parsley, Sage and Time

**The Missing Ingredient**By Jenny Linford  
Overlook, 378 pages, \$29.95

BY BARRY ESTABROOK

**C**ONSIDER two wedges of cheese currently in my refrigerator. They came from the same dairy farm with milk from the same small herd of Jersey cows. The cheesemaker added the same amount salt and rennet to the milk. Yet the cheeses could hardly be more different. One is moist, soft, the color of fresh cream and has a mild, utterly inoffensive flavor. It begs to be melted into any number of dishes. The other cheese is hard, crumbly, brownish and pungent. It's best enjoyed on its own and washed down with bourbon, dark beer or bold, red wine. What accounts for these striking contrasts? A single ingredient: time. The more aggressive cheese was cave-aged for four months longer than its counterpart.

In "The Missing Ingredient," her innovative collection of short essays and mini-profiles, Jenny Linford, a British food writer, gives time the respect and attention it deserves. Though often overlooked, time plays a critical role in imparting aroma, taste and texture to much of what we eat and drink.

ture to much of what we eat and drink. The pleasures of Ms. Linford's book come from dozens of tiny epiphanies about the almost magical powers of this universal invisible ingredient.

Ms. Linford gives narrative structure to her collection by dividing it into chapters based on units of time required to produce specific culinary results. She begins with seconds and proceeds through minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years. She tells time's story through dozens of engaging mini-profiles of celebrity chefs, well-respected cookbook writers and artisanal food producers from around the globe.

Ms. Linford watches over the shoulder of British pastry chef Claire Clark as a pan of sugar races through the stages of caramelization in split seconds. In Malaysia, cooking teacher Jeanne Pereira shows her the minute-by-minute steps required to blend the ingredients for *rempah*, a paste of garlic, shallots, lemon grass and spices that forms a base for curries. Burr Morse, a seventh-generation Vermont maple-syrup producer explains that his annual "sugaring" season lasts but a short time—the one to six weeks in the spring when temperatures fall below freezing at night and rise above it during the day. At Portugal's Quinta do Noval vineyard,

Christian Seely, the managing director, walks her through the process of making the company's port wine, which ages a minimum of 12 years.

Time can play varied roles in a single food item, such as grass-fed heritage beef. Traditional cattle breeds, raised on pasture, take much longer than leaner, feed-lot-finished ones to reach market weight. A lengthy period of hanging adds richness to the beef. Cooking for too long or short a time can ruin both taste and texture. Traditional ways to preserve meat require patience.

In Ms. Linford's view, taking one's time is a virtue. Unfortunately, industrial food producers regard time as an enemy. And the quality of many foods has suffered as corporations have speeded culinary processes in pursuit of profit.

In Britain, the Chorleywood process, developed in the early 1960s, changed how bread was made. Machines violently pummel the dough for minutes (as opposed to the traditional patient and prolonged kneading by the hands of a baker). The loaves come out light-textured and characterless. Beer is made bubbly by pumping in carbon-dioxide gas, not through natural fermentation, which adds flavor and fizz. Fast-food restaurants have destroyed the pleasure of lingering at the table. One British cafe chain has gone so far as to charge customers eight pence a minute for the time they spend there. The fare is free.

"The Missing Ingredient" falls into the genre of cookery as

science. Ms. Linford describes the complex alchemy that creates good sherry. She unveils the reactions that produce a perfect French fry, crisp on the outside, fluffy inside. In the company of back-to-basics food activist Sandor Katz, she explores the world of fermentation as a method of food preservation and taste enhancement. But even as she probes obscure details, Ms. Linford never loses her infectious, chatty voice.

That is both a virtue and a flaw. After Ms. Linford quotes experts such as Paul Bocuse, Richard Olney and Elizabeth David about how to make a perfect omelet, readers are told that the only infallible recipe is "your own." Similarly, she considers the " vexed question" of how to determine when a steak is cooked *à point*. Do you time it per side? Do you compare the meat's texture to parts of your hand? Then she lets Richard Turner, the executive chef of Britain's Hawksmoor chain of steakhouses, provide the utterly unenlightening answer: You learn "through experience."

But these are quibbles. There are plenty of other sources to consult if you are looking for practical cooking instructions. For curious cooks, "The Missing Ingredient" offers a unique perspective on how food is produced. Paging through the book is time well spent.

Mr. Estabrook's latest book is "Pig Tales: An Omnivore's Quest for Sustainable Meat."

# Smothered In Blossoms, Pricked by Thorns

**My Twenty-Five Years in Provence**By Peter Mayle  
Knopf, 179 pages, \$25

BY DANNY HEITMAN

**I**N A TRADITION at least as old as the Book of Genesis, readers have been drawn to stories about paradise that take complicated turns. That explains much of the appeal behind "A Year in Provence," Englishman Peter Mayle's 1989 best seller about his move to the countryside of France. A breathless survey of sumptuous meals, sublime wines and folded sunsets would have been a colossal bore. But the lovely literary bouquet that Mayle presented to Provençal life also included some lively little thorns. Along with "extravagantly starry nights and spectacular sunrises," the winter skies of Mayle's adopted home bring the Mistral, a wind strong enough to "blow the ears off a donkey." The slow pace of French rural life, an ostensible virtue, sometimes reduces progress on the renovation of Mayle's old farmhouse to a frustrating crawl. The French language, so lovingly lyrical, proves a barrier as well as a bridge when Mayle speaks to his neighbors.

A milder tension between the romantic and the wryly observant informs Mayle's posthumously published retrospective, "My Twenty-Five Years in Provence." Mayle, who died in January at age 78, made his accounts of living in southern France into something of a cottage industry, and this swan song revisits familiar themes: the pleasures of village markets, the intrigues of French manners, and the arrival of spring, Provence's most iconic season, when trees "that had been gray and skeletal are suddenly smothered in blossom."

Perhaps not surprisingly for a valedictory volume, "My Twenty-Five Years in Provence" is Mayle's mellowest book, touched by the tenderness of a writer summing himself up. Established as a cultural fixture in France, Mayle writes with pride of getting one of the country's highest honors, the Légion d'Honneur, "a fine scarlet ribbon sewn into the lapel buttonhole of the jacket." But even in moments of majesty, Mayle's puckish humor prevails. His fame lands him an invitation to a grand dinner at the Élysée Palace, where he realizes, at the pinnacle of his celebrity, that his fly is open. "No wonder," he concludes, "I've never been asked back."

Mayle also writes of the tourist's tendency to see things as more picturesque than they actually are. During their early days in France, he and his wife stay at an inn that seems "slightly shabby, but not without a certain faded charm. . . . It was some time later that we were told we had spent the night in the local brothel."

Mr. Heitman, a columnist for *The Advocate* newspaper in Louisiana, is the author of "A Summer of Birds: John James Audubon at Oakley House."

# Ever Wonder What's In It?

**The Poison Squad**By Deborah Blum  
Penguin Press, 330 pages, \$28

BY EUGENIA BONE

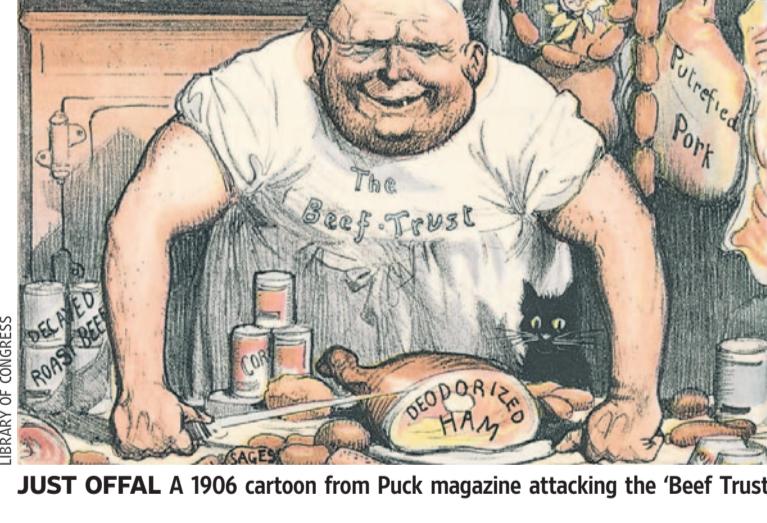
**E**VERY TIME there is a headline from China about melamine-spiked baby formula or faulty vaccines, we heave a collective sigh of relief. No way can that happen here. But in fact we've had our share of dying babies. In the 19th century, dairies commonly slowed the souring of milk with a preservative whose active ingredient was formaldehyde, the same stuff used to embalm the dead. Some simply used straight formaldehyde. In 1899, the city of Omaha reported that "embalmed milk," as it was called, was responsible for the deaths of a number of children, many of them from poor families or orphans.

It sounds like the stuff of fiction, but according to Deborah Blum's "The Poison Squad," a detailed, highly readable history of food and drink regulation in the United States, adulterated foods proliferated in the 19th century and the first half of the 20th. Here's another taste: Food manufacturers used potent preservatives like salicylic acid and borax (related to boric acid, used to kill roaches); they made whiskey with ethyl alcohol tinted with tobacco extract, colored peas with copper sulfate, and faked strawberry jam with apple peelings and red dye. They cut ground coffee with blackened sawdust, spiced with charred rope or floor sweepings, flour with crushed gypsum, and brown sugar with ground bugs. It was a dangerous time to be eating in the U.S.

Food and drink regulation was finally enacted, though every step met with resistance from those whose profits might suffer, and each administration, depending on its reformist or conservative bent, put its finger on the scale. The Agriculture Department was created by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 to support the interests of farmers and farming communities—over half the American population at the time. One aspect of the agency's mandate was to analyze American food and drink, and in 1883 Harvey Wiley, a chemistry professor at Purdue University, was hired as chief chemist. "The Poison Squad" tracks his lifelong crusade to clean up the American food supply.

For 29 years, Wiley was the bane of companies that peddled adulterated food. He objected to their practices publicly, and he had the science to back up his opinions. In turn, Wiley's detractors accused him of government overreach and tried every means to discredit him. He was described as an overzealous "policeman" of the American stomach; a shoddy scientist; a man with mental issues and delusions of grandeur. His adversaries in Congress argued that food-adulteration regulation hurt manufacturers' bottom line and, what's more, that it wasn't the business of government to tell people what they cannot eat.

Even within the confines of the USDA, Wiley had to contend with industry allies. While none were utterly hostile to regulation, they often tried to suppress the science or starve the scientific programs of funds. Wiley, with his "staunch unwillingness to compromise," Ms. Blum recounts, even attracted the direct attention of President Theo-



JUST OFFAL A 1906 cartoon from Puck magazine attacking the 'Beef Trust.'

dore Roosevelt. In a White House meeting with food-industry officials, Wiley bluntly condemned the use of saccharin, an artificial sweetener that canners used secretly to replace sugar. Roosevelt was a "regular consumer of saccharin," Ms. Blum notes, and after Wiley's interjection he appointed a board of scientists to second-guess Wiley's recommendations—and picked the co-discoverer of saccharin for its chair.

But for every enemy that Wiley racked up, he also made an ally. His science provided women activists (including nutrition and pure-food advocates, temperance groups, and suffragettes), trade groups representing businesses disadvantaged by counterfeit foods, and organizations like the American Medical Association with the ammunition they needed to advance the pure food cause. His public lectures and his relationship with the press fed journalists and authors who in turn wrote articles that influenced the public,

leading, finally, to the ultimate change agent: popular umbrage.

After numerous fits and starts, the 1906 Pure Food and Drug Act—nicknamed "Dr. Wiley's Law"—was finally passed, though it was vaguely worded and full of loopholes that tied up enforcement in court for years. But this act is the law behind the regulatory agency that would become the Food and Drug Administration.

Today's FDA is responsible for overseeing more than \$2.5 trillion of food, medical products and tobacco and regulates about 75% of the U.S. food supply. That doesn't mean that the science about them wins out. Chances are that your bacon this morning came from pork fed with ractopamine, a beta-agonist that bulks up the pig but can adversely affect the human cardiovascular system and even cause chromosomal abnormalities.

As Ms. Blum, a Pulitzer Prize-winning science writer, points out, it is catastrophe that initiates change.

The 1906 food-and-drug law, which established food regulation, "was propelled into being largely by a series of scandals over food processing, including the gruesomely spectacular case of the Chicago meat-packers." The 1938 law that created the modern FDA "was passed following the deaths of dozens of children who were poisoned by a cough syrup legally sweetened with the anti-freeze ingredient diethylene glycol." A 1976 law that allowed the agency to regulate medical devices was enacted after 200,000 women reported injuries from a birth-control device. In 2008-9 contaminated peanut butter made in factories "deliberately unregistered to avoid government attention" caused nine deaths and up to 22,000 illnesses, leading to the Food Safety Modernization Act signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2011.

"The Poison Squad" is a granular look at the evolution of a particular set of regulations in the history of United States; it shows the push and pull of competing economic, political and social interests. The journey our country has taken in establishing food, drink and drug regulation is an important one to understand because it is still going on. It's helpful to remember that what seems obviously criminal today—like adding formaldehyde to milk—was disputed in the past. It's also helpful to remember that the techniques used to push back against regulation 80 years ago are pretty much the same as today: the suppression of science and the unfortunate influence of lobbyists and money on politicians.

Ms. Bone is the author, most recently, of "Microbia: A Journey Into the Unseen World Around You."

## FALL BOOKS

"The most dangerous worldview is the worldview of those who have not viewed the world." —ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT

# Humboldt's Gifts

**Alexander von Humboldt:  
The Complete Drawings  
From the American Travel Diaries**

Edited by Ottmar Ette & Julia Maier

Prestel, 735 pages, \$195

**Alexander von Humboldt  
and the Botanical Exploration  
of the Americas**

By H. Walter Lack

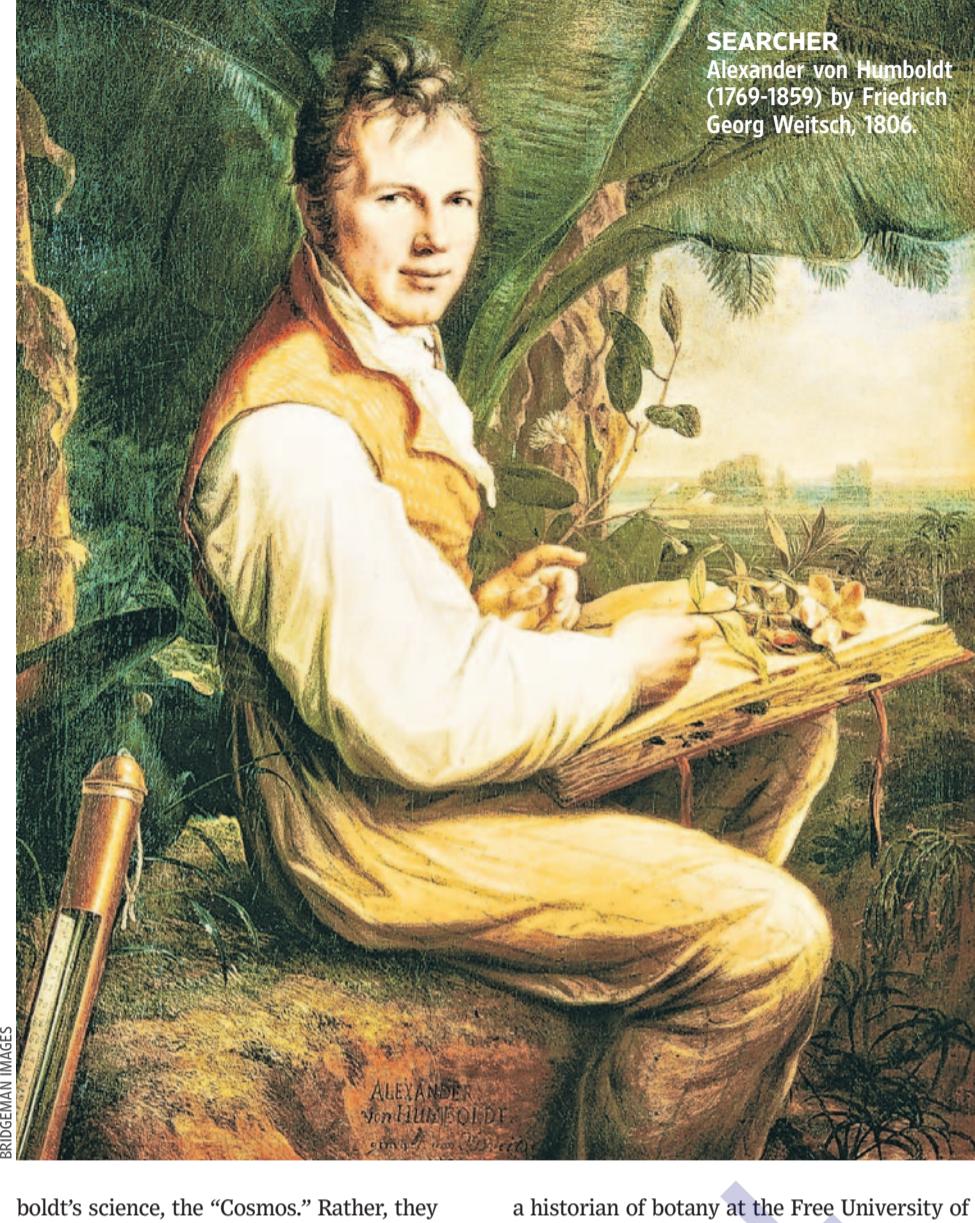
Prestel, 278 pages, \$60

BY CHRISTOPH IRMSCHER

**O**N MAY 26, 1802, on a frigid, sunless day, the German explorer Alexander von Humboldt, age 32, and his equally intrepid companion, the French botanist Aimé Bonpland, had almost reached the top of Pichincha, the volcano that looms over the town of Quito, Viceroyalty of Nueva Granada (now Ecuador). Suddenly the men found themselves on a thin, snow-covered trail wedged between two boulders. Falling from here, joked Humboldt, would be like tumbling down from the Whispering Gallery of St. Paul's Cathedral. A lifelong worshiper of the sun, he hated the snow. Add to that the persistent smell of sulfur and a strange blue light seeping through the ground near a stone in front of them, and Humboldt's senses were on high alert. As their native guide pressed ahead, Humboldt abruptly realized that the icy trail they were on had nothing underneath to support it. Right below them yawned the gates of hell. They would have fallen more than 1,200 feet, he calculated afterward, into "the crater's most inflamed part, and without anyone in Quito knowing what had become of us." Shouting a warning to Bonpland, he threw himself against up against the boulder on his left and, grabbing their guide by his poncho, pulled him to safety, too. The lesson to be learned from the experience, in Humboldt's succinct French: *Nous nous hâtâmes trop* ("We hurried too much").

In his journal, Humboldt added an illustration of where they had walked that day, a topography of disaster barely averted. In the sketch, the two rocks (fastidiously marked as "b" and "c") and the stone (identified as "d") are surrounded by thickly shaded areas of ink, likely that infernal blue light. Playfully Humboldt drew two footprints in the snow, as if to invite future readers to imagine, too, what he was forced to contemplate that day—the awesome possibility of his own complete disappearance from the world.

This and hundreds of other drawings from Humboldt's legendary South American travel journals are collected in a sumptuous new volume edited by Ottmar Ette and Julia Maier of the University of Potsdam. The survival of these journals—thousands of pages spread out over nine pigskin-clad volumes—is almost as miraculous as Humboldt's own. And they are so much more than *aides-mémoire* for the great published works, the multivolume "Voyage aux régions équinoxiales," the lyrical "Views of Nature," or the *summa* of Hum-



BRIDGEMAN IMAGES

bolt's science, the "Cosmos." Rather, they provide the closest and best account we have of Humboldt's restless, wide-open mind taking in, documenting and measuring whatever struck his fancy, from a spectacular sunset over the ocean at Cumana to an imposing waterfall near Chillo to a flute used by the Orinoco Indians. In Humboldt's "image-worlds" (the editors' term), words and pictures, numbers and lines, triangulations and barometric readings combine to paint a shimmering, multifaceted picture of a landscape that, like Humboldt the traveler himself, is forever in motion, from the fog drifting past the mountaintops down to the long-legged bugs of the Orinoco that sting through the thickest canvas pants. Animated by the hot sun, Humboldt's environment often isn't what it seems—some of the most entertaining sketches show his interest in the effects of refracted light that will make even medium-sized islands, as well as the occasional cow, look as if they were dancing in the sky.

Lest we glorify him too much, H. Walter Lack, in his new edition of the botanical drawings generated by the explorer's travels, insists that Humboldt's accomplishments were the work of many hands. He was—as Mr. Lack,

a historian of botany at the Free University of Berlin, acidly observes—no Columbus or Magellan. To the man born, Humboldt was lucky to have private means that matched his oversized public ambitions. And he certainly had a knack for surrounding himself with the right friends—take the seven volumes of botanical field notes from South America, the "Journal Botanique," which was mostly written by the invaluable Bonpland. Only one botanical drawing by Humboldt still exists, featuring *Trichoceros antennifer*, a tiny but powerful South American orchid growing at heights of over 6,000 feet, and definitely not the kind of plant one would readily associate with the somewhat prim German: Its flower resembles a female fly, an underhanded invitation for male bug-suitors to come and stay for a while.

Humboldt's lasting botanical legacy are the voluminous herbaria he compiled with Bonpland. Safely stored in Paris and Berlin, they contain thousands of pressed plants fastened to annotated sheets of paper, a record, still unmatched, of South American biodiversity. Down from their high altitudes, ripped from the forests, mountainsides, and riverbanks where they once lived, Humboldt

and Bonpland's flowers stiffened into museum specimens—a challenge for the illustrators who had to revive them in print. Eighty-two of their plates are included in Mr. Lack's book, which, despite its title, is less a tribute to Humboldt than to one of his closest collaborators, Carl Sigismund Kunth from Berlin, who shared, for nearly a decade, his mentor's living quarters in Paris. Self-taught, intense and thorough, Kunth oversaw and composed most of Humboldt's botanical volumes, churning out reams of plant descriptions in flawless Latin. He never missed a deadline.

To page through Humboldt's illustrated travel journals is to walk with him through a South America previously unseen by European eyes.

Humboldt loved botany with a passion, he said. Yet what mattered to him weren't the individual plants as much as the relations between them. Hence his magnificent profile of Chimborazo in Ecuador, one of its sides thickly coated with the names of plants and trees, all sorted according to the elevations at which they occur. Yet, although he had to travel to South America to find out, Humboldt's real framework of reference was the world. His American travel journals offer us a scintillating play of viewpoints in which Ecuadorian volcanoes, Swiss glaciers, Indian legends and English cathedrals coexist—the mind made vast and generous by all it seeks to encompass, with even the smallest details taking their place in the larger whole.

Mr. Ette and Ms. Maier's collection of the South American drawings, beautifully reproduced, allows us to participate in such generosity as we learn to walk with Humboldt through a world that appears new and fresh every time we turn the page. In 1801, for instance, somewhere in Colombia, passing some native children at play, Humboldt noticed an ingenious baby walker, a small basket open at the top and attached by a rope to a flexible tree limb. He looked on as a 5-month-old boy was having fun in that little floating chair, hopping, bouncing, and stomping the ground as his older brother beat the drum and his sister twirled in circles around him. Even two centuries later, there is something irresistibly touching about this scene—how this childless man, son of an emotionally distant mother, in the middle of his travels had paused to watch, with understanding and delight, three little kids expressing their sheer joy in being alive. In the margin of his journal page, Humboldt drew a delicate sketch of the device, as if it were just as important as a volcano cone or an alcove from an ancient Inca palace. Which, the reader would by now readily agree, it is.

Mr. Irmscher is director of the Wells Scholars Program at Indiana University Bloomington. Among his many books is "Louis Agassiz: Creator of American Science."

## Tusks, Horns and Pangolin Scales

**Poached**

By Rachel Love Nuwer  
Da Capo, 374 pages, \$28

BY JENNIE ERIN SMITH

**A** FEW WEEKS ago a conservation group reported discovering the carcasses of nearly 90 elephants, stripped of their tusks, near a wildlife reserve in Botswana. The country had until then enjoyed a reputation for protecting its wildlife, even if that meant shooting poachers on sight. But earlier this year its government moved to strip park rangers of their military-grade weapons; they'd killed so many poachers that neighboring countries pushed back.

Almost without question, those tusks from Botswana were destined for Asia. After a two-decade period in which worldwide bans depressed markets for ivory and rhinoceros horn, allowing wild populations to recover, a new wave of mass poaching has emerged, powered by rising incomes in China and Southeast Asia and a tightening trade nexus between Africa and China. In 2006, about 60 black or white rhinos were poached for their horns in Africa; in 2015 it was some 1,300. (An estimated 30,000 rhinos remain worldwide.) Savanna elephants saw a decline of 30% between 2007 and

2014, losses now amounting to about 8% a year.

In 2010 Rachel Love Nuwer was in Vietnam, conducting scientific fieldwork on the exploitation of forests, when she learned that the country's sole surviving Javan rhino had been killed by a poacher who "took aim, shot her through the leg and hacked off her horn—most likely while she was still alive," Ms. Nuwer writes. "As the culprit absconded with his prize, Vietnam's last rhino laid her head down in the mud and died."

It turned out that Ms. Nuwer had a front-row seat on the resurgence of an industrial-scale illegal trade. In "Poached: Inside the Dark World of Wildlife Trafficking," the author does not infiltrate a smuggling network, as the subtitle implies. Rather, she delivers dispatches from the Asian countries buying ivory and rhino horn, as well as from Africa, where conservationists and governments struggle to defend remaining stocks against sophisticated and violent adversaries.

Ms. Nuwer explores the demand side first, with a visit to a Vietnamese pangolin hunter who's helped deplete his own region of the scaly, anteater-like mammals, causing African pangolins to come under pressure. Friends in Ho Chi Minh City take the author to a bushmeat restaurant where no one makes any bones about the fact that illegal pangolin is quite literally on the menu, "splayed out on a plate in a morbid belly flop," Ms. Nuwer writes. She later dines with a local businessman who brings along his chunk of rhinoceros horn, a piece he says is worth \$5,000, and has it ground up in front of her before professing that extinction is the natural order of things.

Rhino horn, made of a chemically inert keratin like fingernails, has enjoyed a recent vogue among young Vietnamese businessmen as a hang-



SOUTH AFRICA An antipoaching team member holds a rhino horn.

over prevention (they grind it and drink it with water). It's also gained repute as a last-ditch cancer treatment. Users of wildlife-derived medicines—which include pangolin scales, tiger and lion bones and bear bile—express an almost religious faith in their efficacy. In Vietnam and China, younger generations' embrace of these remedies, along with old-fashioned luxuries like ivory, may also reflect a type of nostalgia, Ms. Nuwer writes, a way of "tapping into old traditions."

It also spells danger and suffering, for humans and animals alike. In Zambia, Chad and South Africa, park rangers are forced to kill or be killed and to carry weapons of war. Animals die unthinkably cruel deaths: "Any trace of respect or humane treatment is forgotten," Ms. Nuwer writes. Poachers "have sliced open pregnant rhinos to extract their unborn fetuses and hack off their tiny horn stumps."

Is the solution to be found on the demand side or the supply side? With African elephants and rhinos, the international conservation community favors trade bans and fierce law enforcement around parks, alongside campaigns aimed at reducing demand in Asia. But a vocal minority in Africa

wants to see sustainable use of some animals, notably rhinoceros, whose horn can be sheared off every couple of years. (In the case of ivory there is no "sustainable" harvest, because tusks are living teeth.)

Ms. Nuwer meets a South African rhino rancher, a man with 1,400 of the beasts on his estate, who lets her observe his staff sawing the horn off a tranquilized female. South Africa, under pressure from ranchers like these, recently agreed to permit domestic sales of horn, though there is no internal market for the stuff. It's a foregone conclusion that it all gets to Asia, in contravention of a ban in place since 1977. Feeding that demand with lawfully harvested horn, the ranchers and their advocate insist, is more practical and less condescending than trying to persuade people in Vietnam to stop.

Elsewhere in Africa, Ms. Nuwer interviews seasoned rangers and trackers, often ex-military, who are tasked with protecting wildlife on reserves bigger than many American states. Some have reversed devastating trends in just a few years by boosting intelligence gathering around the parks, purging corrupt rangers and making daily surveillance flights. They've also

belatedly come to the conclusion that if you stop treating local people like third-class citizens while foreigners sleep in four-figure-per-night tents, they're less likely to aid poachers, or become them. In one Chad park rangers are now heavily armed, but Chad nationals may visit for free.

Sometimes simple gestures—assuring proper food and gear for rangers, or insurance for their families if they are hurt or killed—can have important benefits. But these don't necessarily appeal to foreign donors, who like to provide drones and other splashy forms of aid.

Money matters in conservation at this scale, but money isn't enough. That same park in Chad saw its elephant population reduced by 90% between 2002 and 2010, despite \$1 million a year in funding from the European Union. Replacing its hapless management with a sharper team from a South African NGO saved it.

"Poached" describes all kinds of heart-wrenching and harrowing moments, but Ms. Nuwer often strikes a lighthearted tone, finding eccentric detail to splash in. She interviews a notorious Thai rhino-horn smuggler in a South African prison, who agrees to meet primarily out of loneliness ("My money gone, my Hummer gone," he whines). She dresses up as a Russian prostitute to get a glimpse of tiger-bone wine at a Chinese casino in Laos (neither necessary nor advisable, but she has fun). The result is more a frenetic slideshow of the trade than a rigorous, comprehensive analysis. But by focusing on the humans at all points of the trade, Ms. Nuwer is able to offer something rare: a window onto the feelings and beliefs that drive it.

Ms. Smith is the author of "Stolen World: A Tale of Reptiles, Smugglers and Skulduggery."

## FALL BOOKS

'I ain't no part of nothin' . . . I just wanted a style of music all my own.' —BILL MONROE



## The Blue Grass Boy

**Bill Monroe**By Tom Ewing  
Illinois, 611 pages, \$34.95**Blue Grass Generation**By Neil V. Rosenberg  
Illinois, 273 pages, \$21.95

By EDDIE DEAN

**I**N THE LATE 1950S and early '60s, young urban folkies began making pilgrimages to country-music parks—mom-and-pop venues that often featured bluegrass, to their ears an exotic off-shoot of country that sounded radically new and yet as old as the hills. Bluegrass bristled with a defiantly archaic, unplugged, homegrown aesthetic that matched the folkies' rebellion against Eisenhower-era suburbia.

Their mecca was the Brown County Jamboree in Bean Blossom, Ind., a hamlet where the so-called Father of Bluegrass—Bill Monroe—held court on Sundays in a barn with fighting game-cocks out back. For the folkies, Monroe was a folk hero, a real-life John Henry battling the mechanized steam drill of modern, mass-produced C&W, his roadworn mandolin wielded with a force that could melt steel. He lent gravitas to old-time Southern string-band music, reinvigorating its ageless themes of death and tragic love with jazz-like virtuosity and a piercing tenor shrouded in grief.

**Monroe revived the string-band sound with a jazz-like virtuosity and a piercing tenor shrouded in grief.**

age memoir, culled from letters to his parents and music pals and transcriptions from tapes he made of Sunday shows, is an ode to a time and place when college kids and country folks bonded over a love of bluegrass. It also documents a crucial period when Monroe—over 50 and barely able to keep a band together in the lean times of post-rock C&W—harnessed the folkies' adulation and rose to national prominence, one of the great second acts in American music history.

Another admirer was Mr. Ewing, an Ohio teen and fan of the Kingston Trio's folk-pop until he was drawn to the Monroe cult in the early 1960s. "He'd been a star of the *Grand Ole Opry* for more than twenty years," he writes, "yet the majority of Americans were completely unaware of him."

At 40, Mr. Ewing joined his hero's band, playing guitar and singing lead until a stroke in 1996 ended Monroe's career. After a biography appeared in 2000, which Mr. Ewing deemed entertaining but not "adequate," he decided to write his own. He had a head start, having amassed a rabid fan's archive of clippings. "The Bill Monroe Reader," an anthology Mr. Ewing edited in 2000, presents the cream of this hoard and is the best single source for all things Monroe.

For his biography, Mr. Ewing interviewed almost half of the 149 band members who played with Monroe during a seven-decade career, including Mr. Rothman, who in 1964 fulfilled his dream of becoming a Bluegrass Boy. (Not so Garcia, who went back West to

he had learned from Bob Dylan's 1962 debut album. Then, he recalls, "this old farmer with overalls comes up to me" and says that he recognized the song but in a different version. The man then sings the version he knows. As the "farmer" turned to go, Mr. Narváez introduced himself. "Excuse me, my name's Peter. What's yours?" And he turns to me with a quizzical look on his face and says, "Monroe. The name's Bill Monroe" and shook hands.

This exchange from the fall of 1963 helps to dispel the stereotype of Monroe as a stern, vengeful Moses. He was, in fact, the hands-on owner of the Jamboree: entrepreneur, grounds keeper, greeter and picker in jam sessions with his customers. And gentleman-farmer as well: The overalls were the same work clothes that he wore on his spread outside Nashville. As he said in 1946 in his first published quote: "Tell 'em I'm a farmer with a mandolin and a high tenor voice."

For Mr. Rosenberg, a grad student in folklore studies who became the banjoist in the Jamboree house band and served for a spell as manager, the distant icon became a mentor. His coming-of-

age memoir, culled from letters to his parents and music pals and transcriptions from tapes he made of Sunday shows, is an ode to a time and place when college kids and country folks bonded over a love of bluegrass. It also documents a crucial period when Monroe—over 50 and barely able to keep a band together in the lean times of post-rock C&W—harnessed the folkies' adulation and rose to national prominence, one of the great second acts in American music history.

Another admirer was Mr. Ewing, an Ohio teen and fan of the Kingston Trio's folk-pop until he was drawn to the Monroe cult in the early 1960s. "He'd been a star of the *Grand Ole Opry* for more than twenty years," he writes, "yet the majority of Americans were completely unaware of him."

At 40, Mr. Ewing joined his hero's band, playing guitar and singing lead until a stroke in 1996 ended Monroe's career. After a biography appeared in 2000, which Mr. Ewing deemed entertaining but not "adequate," he decided to write his own. He had a head start, having amassed a rabid fan's archive of clippings. "The Bill Monroe Reader," an anthology Mr. Ewing edited in 2000, presents the cream of this hoard and is the best single source for all things Monroe.

Working conditions with Monroe were such that, for some, a draft notice came as a relief. But the prestige of being a Blue Grass Boy was enough to bring many back to the band. Most deserters were welcome to return, but those whom Monroe considered rivals became sworn enemies.

The most bitter of his many feuds was with Flatt and Scruggs, who had joined forces to become the only bluegrass act to find commercial success, reaching the pop charts in 1962 with the theme to the "Beverly Hillbillies" TV show. Worse, Scruggs was hailed as the "undisputed master" of bluegrass.

Ralph Rinzler, a Greenwich Village mandolin player, came to Monroe's defense with a 1963

cover story for *Sing Out!* magazine. In the article, titled "Bill Monroe—The Daddy of Blue Grass Music," Rinzler told Monroe's life story for the first time and gave him his due as the music's true founder: "More important than his function as an instrumentalist, vocalist, creator, and preserver, Bill Monroe is a spiritual force." Reinvigorated, Monroe stormed the college and coffee-house circuit like a conquering hero.

Unlike Ralph Stanley, another bluegrass patriarch, who preferred his Clinch Mountain Boys to hail from his native Appalachia, Monroe had no qualms about hiring young guns from far-flung places. In the 1960s, stellar Bluegrass Boys included banjo innovator Bill Keith and singer-guitarist Peter Rowan, both from New England. "Walls of Time" is one of many compositions that reveal what Mr. Ewing calls Monroe's "co-op songwriting process," in which he enlisted band members to finish a germinating song idea. Stopping by the roadside after an all-night drive, Mr. Rowan recalls: "[Monroe] said, Listen to this and don't forget it,' and he sang the whole melody. I got back in the car, singing it over and over, and by the time we got to Bean Blossom, I had some words for it."

**M**r. Ewing's biography is at its best in such scenes, where ex-Bluegrass Boys offer glimpses of an inscrutable musical giant—including their auditions, in which they literally shook with fear as Monroe rated their talent as if sizing up horseflesh. At times, though, the chronicle bogs down in accounts of recording sessions and show dates, blitzing the reader with too much minutiae.

By the time Mr. Ewing joined the band in the mid-1980s, Monroe was as game as ever, still recording and touring, even as physical ailments and financial woes piled up. His stormy dalliances with decades-younger women didn't slow down either,

sometimes making headlines, as when a girlfriend said Monroe, then 77, beat her with a Bible. This side of Monroe is, for the most part, left unexplored by Mr. Ewing but rates a disclaimer: "It should be noted . . . that those relationships helped Bill continue to feel young and vital throughout the years we knew him, and they inspired some great love songs."

If this seems over-generous, consider the songs Monroe got out of his rocky romances, not just "Blue Moon of Kentucky" and "Can't You Hear Me Callin'" but "My Little Georgia Rose" and "Walk Softly on My Heart." These and many other songs have enjoyed an afterlife well beyond bluegrass circles, covered by Elvis and Ray Charles and the Grateful Dead. Long after the folk-revival has become a quaint memory, Monroe's music has endured.

**Mr. Shiflett posts his original music and journalism at [www.Daveshiflett.com](http://www.Daveshiflett.com).**

## A Music Born With a Banjo In Hand

**Country Music USA**By Bill C. Malone & Tracey E.W. Laird  
Texas, 748 pages, \$27.95**Country Music**By Jocelyn R. Neal  
Oxford, 550 pages, \$69.95

By DAVE SHIFLETT

**G**IVEN THE CHOICE between hearing a country-music crooner or a cat in a blender, many Americans might give us reason to fear for the fate of the cat. Others consider country the music that red-state deplorables listen to, even if it's hardly restricted to hayseeds, malevolent or otherwise. Even Beyoncé sings a little country.

Beyoncé is a little late to the hayride, as we are reminded by the 50th-anniversary edition of Bill C. Malone's "Country Music USA." Mr. Malone, a musician and a professor emeritus at Tulane, traces country's origins to songs brought over by colonials—the fiddler Thomas Jefferson described an instrument called the "banjar" in 1781—and follows the music through its many variations and mutations to the present day.

Country music, Mr. Malone writes, is a "vigorous hybrid" based on a foundation mostly Southern, rural, Protestant and working class. Early audiences flocked to tent repertory or "Toby" shows, where the price of admission (often paid with eggs and other rural currency) bought an afternoon of music and other distractions, including magic shows and trained bears.

Two later advances greatly expanded the music's reach. During a seven-year stretch in the 1920s, Mr. Malone notes, annual radio sales jumped more than 10-fold, while some estimates reported a radio in every third home, more than a few dialed into country stations. The other boost to country came from Ralph Peer (1892-1960), an energetic Missouri native who "first presented country music to the American public." Peer didn't pick, but his efforts as a talent scout, recording engineer and pioneering music publisher surely made him grin—and fairly rich.

Mr. Malone, who seems to have profiled everyone ever associated with country music, questions the "authenticity" of some latter-day artists. Country, he writes, "has been inundated by musicians whose sounds suggest neither regional, rustic nor blue-collar nativity, but are instead rooted in the homogenizing and mass-consumption-oriented media establishment." For this anniversary edition, he brings in scholar Tracey E.W. Laird to add a final chapter addressing modern country's "meaning, identity and relationship with its multiple audiences."

Ms. Laird sings a more academic tune than Mr. Malone, at one point explaining that branding—as crucial for country stars as it is for cars and candy bars—"operates according to multidimensional relationships of signs and meanings, not corresponding object to object, but with shifting points of connection, nearly always in flux." That observation may leave many banjo players scratching their heads, but she has a "big tent" approach and is as comfortable with the Dixie Chicks and Beyoncé—whose twang-inspired efforts rattle purists—as with Hank Williams.

Jocelyn R. Neal ponders some of the same questions in "Country Music: A Cultural and Stylistic History," a textbook that covers much of the same biographical ground that Mr. Malone does (though not in as much detail), augmented with a wagonload of analysis. Some fans might find the interpretations a bit thick, especially a series of "listening guides" that deconstruct classic songs. The opening line to "Rocky Top" ("Wish that I was on old Rocky Top") is said to describe "an anti-modernist nostalgia," while the appearance of "two strangers" in a later verse presents "cultural stereotypes that will become part of bluegrass' reputation"—i.e., "backwoods people who are closed to outsiders, who live beyond the reach of both law and civilization."

Yet Ms. Neal illuminates other points in perfect pitch. In a discussion of the country bona fides of hit-maker Shania Twain, Ms. Neal quotes a critic who called her the "highest-paid lap dancer in Nashville"—not only offering deep insight but also reminding us that country music has come a long way since Jefferson's "banjar."

**Mr. Shiflett posts his original music and journalism at [www.Daveshiflett.com](http://www.Daveshiflett.com).**



## FALL BOOKS

'I am a memory come alive.' —FRANZ KAFKA

# A Genius Nowhere at Home

**Kafka's Last Trial: The Case of a Literary Legacy**

By Benjamin Balint

Norton, 279 pages, \$26.95

BY RUTH FRANKLIN

**F**OR DECADES, a modest apartment on Tel Aviv's Spinoza Street was the site of a tantalizing literary mystery. Piles upon piles of original manuscripts by Franz Kafka were said to be stored in decrepit conditions by Esther Hoffe, the former secretary and lover of Max Brod, Kafka's close friend and literary executor. Instead of donating them to an archive, where they could be catalogued and made available to scholars, Hoffe was holding hostage priceless materials by one of the world's greatest modernist writers. What might those papers yield: unknown diaries, letters, maybe even novels or short stories? And would anyone be able to find out before they crumbled, destroyed by the combined effects of the humid climate and the apartment's unsanitary state?

After Esther Hoffe's death in 2007, her daughter Eva began negotiating to sell the papers to the German Literature Archive in Marbach, a premier literary research institution. But an Israeli court blocked her, claiming that the right to Brod's archive belonged to the National Library of Israel. Thus ensued a nine-year "custody battle," as Benjamin Balint calls it in "Kafka's Last Trial: The Case of a Literary Legacy," his thoughtful and provocative book about the case and its repercussions. The case would raise far-reaching, even existential questions about literary ownership, the lingering after-effects of the Holocaust and, finally, how to understand Kafka as a Jewish writer who wrote in German or a German writer who happened to be Jewish.

Mr. Balint's story has its roots in the most forgivable betrayal in literary history: Brod's famous refusal to burn Kafka's papers, as the writer had directed Brod to do after his death in 1924. The two became friends as youths in Prague, where they grew up in the same German-Jewish milieu. Brod has often been looked down upon by scholars as, at best, a Salieri to Kafka's Mozart. But Mr. Balint gives a touching chronicle of their friendship. The two enjoyed traveling together and dreamed up plans for a series of "on the cheap" travel guides, with the motto "Just dare." They read each other's drafts and even collaborated on a novel.

In Mr. Balint's account, Kafka and Brod established early on the dynamic that would persist even after Kafka's death. Kafka would torture himself to complete his drafts, throw away most of what he wrote and harshly criticize the rest; Brod, to his endless credit, would coax Kafka to write, reassure him of the quality of his work and proclaim its greatness to publishers, newspaper editors and anyone else who would listen. "I wrested from Kafka nearly everything he published either by persuasion or by guile," Brod wrote later. Sometimes, he said, Kafka was annoyed by his nagging. But the writer would be grateful in retrospect for Brod's efforts.

This dynamic emboldened Brod in his brazen defiance of Kafka's instructions. He later said that he had told Kafka he wasn't capable of burning the manuscripts; indeed, Kafka must have realized that by entrusting the destruction of his works to the person who was most convinced of their greatness, he would paradoxically ensure their survival. (Dora Diamant, his girlfriend at the time of his death, burned certain papers in front of him.)

Though Brod continued to write both fiction and nonfiction for the rest of his life, he devoted himself to the preservation of Kafka's legacy, publishing works Kafka had left unfinished, including "The Trial" and "The Castle," as well as his diaries and letters. When Brod fled Czechoslovakia in 1939, on literally the last train before the Nazis closed the border, he carried Kafka's papers with him in a suitcase and continued to publish them after his emigration to what would become Israel.

Brod met Esther Hoffe soon after his arrival in Tel Aviv and enlisted her help with Kafka's estate, making her gifts of several of the manuscripts. Upon his death in 1968 she became Brod's literary executor, charged with carrying out his will, which stated that his literary estate should be



ALAMY

**The diffident Kafka 'wouldn't last a day' in modern Israel, quipped one observer. Still, the state library fought to possess his papers.**

placed, at her discretion, with the library of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (now the National Library of Israel), the Municipal Library in Tel Aviv or "another public archive in Israel or abroad." To the frustration of Kafka scholars throughout the world, Hoffe did not do so; the papers remained in her apartment. In 1973 the Israeli government sued her for possession of the manuscripts, but the judge who heard the case ruled that Brod's will allowed her to treat his estate as she wished during her lifetime. After she died, however, another judge ruled that Hoffe, as Brod's executor but not his beneficiary, could not pass that right to her heirs; the papers belonged to the National Library.

As in any custody battle, there were rational concerns on both sides about where the material would be best cared for and most accessible to scholars. But those issues quickly turned emotional, charged with the freight of the history between Israel and Germany. Reiner Stach, the author of a three-volume biography of Kafka, published an op-ed in Berlin's *Tagesspiegel* arguing that the Israeli institution lacked the linguistic and cultural knowledge to handle the papers appropriately. (Indeed, as Mr. Balint points out, no complete edition of Kafka's work exists in Hebrew and the study of German literature has come to Israel relatively recently, for obvious reasons.) In response, two dozen Israeli academics signed an open letter protesting the way the German press was portraying them—as well as any basic assumptions about the legitimacy of Germany's claim. "They say the papers will be safer in Germany," Israeli historian Otto Dov Kulka was quoted in the New York Times as saying. "The Germans will take very good care of them . . . They didn't take good care of his sisters." Kafka's three sisters were murdered in death camps.

The court-appointed executor of Brod's estate argued that the court needed to take into account both Kafka's and Brod's attitudes regarding the larger constellation of issues relating to Judaism and Zionism, as well as Brod's relationship to Germany after the Holocaust. As Mr. Balint demonstrates, those attitudes are not easy to untangle. Kafka participated in a Zionist group in Prague, studied Hebrew seriously and occasionally fantasized about emigrating—at the end of his life, dying of tuberculosis, he imagined that he and Dora Diamant would open a restaurant in Tel Aviv, where he would wait on customers. He witnessed pogroms in Prague and feared anti-Semitism. But, true to form, he expressed as much alienation from Zionism as attraction to it. (Eva Hoffe once hilariously commented to Mr. Balint that Kafka "wouldn't last a day" in Israel.)

Brod ended up making aliyah, but it seems he relocated to Israel mainly because he had no other options—he pleaded with Thomas Mann to help him secure an academic position in the United States (and promised that he would bring the Kafka archive with him), but the offer arrived too late. He is said to have told administrators at both the National Library of Israel and at Marbach that he wanted his archive to end up in their institutions. The main evidence in favor of the National Library's claim is that he listed it first in his will.

Israel's presumed right to Jewish cultural artifacts created elsewhere also has been controversial. In 2001, after murals painted by the Jewish writer and artist Bruno Schulz (who was killed by a Nazi) were discovered in Ukraine, an Israeli team clandestinely removed them for safekeeping at Yad Vashem, asserting a "moral right" to the works. Some saw the drive to acquire the Brod archive in similar terms. "The Israelis seem to have become crazed," one Kafka scholar commented. But the question of the seizure of artifacts goes both ways.

Ulrich Raulff, the director of the Marbach archive, told Mr. Balint that he would have had "sleepless nights" if Eva Hoffe had succeeded in offering his institution the archive, because he couldn't risk the optics of taking Israel's assets. As the trial dragged on, the Alfred Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach Foundation, one of Germany's largest philanthropies, pulled the plug on a grant it had been planning to give Marbach because it feared even indirect involvement in "seizing cultural heritage from Israel," largely because of the foundation's history: Alfred Krupp, an industrialist and munitions manufacturer, was convicted in 1948 of crimes against humanity for his use of slave labor in his factories during the war.

Israel's stake in Kafka's legacy is based on his identity as a Jewish writer. Unsurprisingly, Kafka had mixed feelings about his religious identification. "What have I in common with the Jews? I have hardly anything in common with myself," he wrote in his diary. Both his parents and Brod's attended synagogue only on the High Holidays and—in a remarkable signpost of integration—on the birthday of Kaiser Franz Josef I. Jewish critics, starting with Brod and Gershom Scholem, have emphasized the Jewishness of his work, while critics in Germany and elsewhere have sought to diminish it. When the first conference on the subject was held in Frankfurt in 1986, many German Kafka scholars refused to come, resisting the idea that "the great German writer would be snatched from their hands." It's hard not to read as anti-Semitic their assumption that, if Kafka is seen as a Jewish writer, he can't also be a German writer—and that may be evidence enough that his legacy is safest in Israel.

Mr. Balint takes an evenhanded approach, offering so many caveats to the claims made by both Marbach and Israel that it's impossible to tell which side he favors, if either. The ultimate result of the custody case was appropriately Solomonic: The court ruled in favor of Israel, but the National Library has pledged to digitize all the materials and put them online. As Marbach's Mr. Raulff puts it, "He is nowhere at home—thus everywhere."

*Ms. Franklin is the author of "Shirley Jackson: A Rather Haunted Life."*

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## Kafka Komix

**IF FRANZ KAFKA** had known how flagrantly his instructions would be flouted, maybe he wouldn't have made so many rules. First was his famous instruction to his editor, Max Brod: Burn everything that wasn't published. Brod did the opposite, publishing practically everything that wasn't burned. Second, no illustrations! In a 1915 letter to the publisher of "The Metamorphosis," Kafka wrote: "The insect is not to be drawn. It is not even to be seen from a distance."

Decades later one of Kafka's greatest fans, Vladimir Nabokov, in his famous Cornell lecture on "The Metamorphosis," drew detailed pictures of Kafka's bug, then specified exactly what kind of bug Gregor Samsa had turned into: a beetle with wings and not, as commonly thought, a cockroach. (Kafka himself used the word *Ungeziefer*, whose closest English equivalent might be "vermin.")

It's easy to see how irresistible Kafka's cool descriptions can be for an artist. But "**Kafkuesque**" (Norton, 159 pages, \$19.95), Peter Kuper's terrifying, scratchboard-style evocation of 14 of Kafka's lesser-known stories (including many that Brod saved), demonstrates not only the pleasures but also the pitfalls of conveying in pictures what Kafka wanted words alone to conjure.

For the most terrifying Kafka story in the collection, "In the Penal Colony," Mr. Kuper offers too much detail where Kafka gave almost none, and then muddles certain details that Kafka made precise. While Kafka gave scant description of the

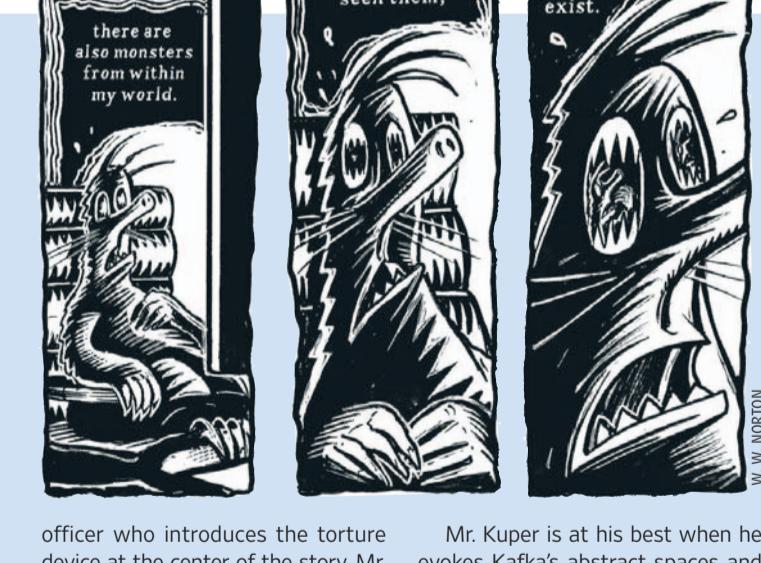
officer who introduces the torture device at the center of the story, Mr. Kuper gives him many distracting facial embellishments. Meanwhile, the torture that Kafka evinces with horrifying precision—a machine etches a prisoner's sentence onto his skin while he is offered rice pap—isn't always clear in the drawings. The prisoner's porridge looks more like a bowl of water.

The overegging of Kafka's pudding is worse in "Before the Law." In this short tale a man is denied entry to the law—which Mr. Kuper represents here as a courthouse guarded by a gatekeeper. The man sits and waits for the guard to change his mind until finally it dawns on him that no one else has tried to enter—so he asks why. The guard answers: "This gate was made for you alone. And now I am going to close it." The problem is that Mr. Kuper has drawn the supplicant, whom Kafka describes as "a man from the country," as a hat-in-hand bow-tied black man, giving this existential story an unnecessary racial slant.

Mr. Kuper is at his best when he evokes Kafka's abstract spaces and animal characters. The final frame of "A Little Fable"—a backview of the trickster cat who has consumed the story's hero—is brilliant. Likewise, "The Burrow" is a tragicomic feat (see nearby). The rodent-like fellow that Mr. Kuper imagines anxiously inhabiting, digging and maintaining the burrow is cute and flexible. It has human qualities, mouse qualities and a nice set of antennae. This comports beautifully with Kafka's wish to be fuzzy on certain details. There's also a nice parallel between the chambered structure of the burrow and the chambered comic-book page. The Kafkuesque humor is intact, even enhanced. It's hilarious to watch the burrowing creature happily counting his canned goods, then nervously venturing out to the grocery store to get more.

If I were to make a rule for future Kafka artists, I'd do what Nabokov did: Stick with the animals, and don't get too fussy.

—Sarah Boxer



W.W. NORTON

## FALL BOOKS

'I have never made but one prayer to God, a very short one: "O Lord, make my enemies ridiculous." And God granted it.' —VOLTAIRE

## FIVE BEST POLITICAL SATIRES

## P.J. O'Rourke

The author, most recently, of the humor collection 'None of My Business'



## Black Mischief

By Evelyn Waugh (1932)

**1** The most bitter and excoriating of Evelyn Waugh's comic novels is also his most offensive. In just the first few pages, Waugh offends (by my count) three races, nine ethnicities, 11 religions and two sexual orientations. His language is hurtful, insensitive, privileged and exclusionary. We have progressed since Waugh's time. All civilized people should condemn him. And being condemned by progress and civilization is what the book is about. Great strides are being made in Azania—an imaginary benighted nation populated with hurtful, insensitive, privileged and exclusionary cannibals. Azania has a new strongman, Seth, an Oxford graduate. Seth appoints his classmate, Englishman Basil Seal, "Minister of Modernism."

Basil: "There's not a single guards regiment in Europe without boots."

Seth: "I'll hang any man I see barefooted."

In the end Azania does become civilized—when it's declared a League of Nations protectorate and Europeans invade. But some of the novel's protagonists get eaten first.

## Lucky Bastard

By Charles McCarry (1998)

**2** The worst imaginable person is elected president. If you think it's a roman à clef, note the book's publication date and inquire at the West Wing gatehouse about whether your old clef will open the latest roman. This particular Potus has been a Soviet agent since college. His background is trashy. His sex life is more so. His harridan of a wife is his KGB handler. Small-town bank frauds and real-estate scams abound. All the biographical details fit with comic plausibility, although it takes a considerable satirist to get a laugh out of "the American people in their mystical wisdom had lifted up this sociopath, this



SPIN Boris Johnson on a zip-line in London's Victoria Park Aug. 1, 2012.

BARRON'S MEDIA VIA GETTY IMAGES

liar, this rapist, this hollow man beloved by lunatics and traitors, and made him the most powerful human being in the world." The funny thing is that the story's told by the KGB colonel in control of the president, the last remaining post-glasnost true believer in Russian Marxism, who's the only honorable character in the book. And the joke's on him. He gets sold out to a new Evil Empire. Charles McCarry is 88, but I hope he's at work on equally hilarious explanations of how other hollow men get into the Oval Office.

## The Warden

By Anthony Trollope (1855)

**3** Fake news damages worthy political institutions. So does real news. In this case the politics are clerical. (*Plus ça change . . .*) A donation from a pious congregant has established a comfortable almshouse and a very comfortable sinecure for its warden. A clerical zealot is appalled—to the beggars belong the beggings. Never mind that the warden is a humble old clergyman, perfect

in his duty and virtue. The zealot enlists a powerful reformist newspaper editor. Reform takes its usual course. It is a bad accident of the English language—and no fault of Anthony Trollope's—that Roget's lists "improve" as a synonym for "reform." The good warden is shunted aside with his conscience dinged. The almsmen receive no more alms than they ever did. The zealot is abashed (and in love with the warden's daughter). And the powerful editor is put where he belongs. "He took such high ground that there was no getting up on to it."

## Seventy-Two Virgins

By Boris Johnson (2004)

**4** The famously distracted—and distracting—possible next British prime minister makes the satirical point that we should pay attention! Bumbling Islamic extremists take the entire bumbling British Parliament and a bumbling president of the United States hostage in a terrorist plot that could have either gone off without a hitch or been nipped in the bud

except everyone involved is so . . . distracted. First by stupidity. The U.S. secretary of state asks about the terrorists: "Do any of them have a history of suicide bombing?" Then by self-absorption: "contemplating not just the imminence of carnage in Westminster Hall . . . they foresaw clearly the immolation of their own careers." Media too. Even under threat of death there's "the traditional competition between the fear of appearing an idiot and the lust to star on television." Plus sex. To understand Islamic extremism, Boris Johnson would have us pay attention to Freud more than *fatwas*. And also pay attention to him—in the transparent guise of tousle-haired, bicycling, backbench protagonist Roger Barlow. Mr. Johnson has the good taste not to make Barlow a hero, but he does make Barlow a voice of sense about that worst of distractions, too great a focus. "Belief, idealism, fanaticism, mania: in Barlow's mind they were all part of the same ghastly continuum."

## Little Green Men

By Christopher Buckley (1999)

**5** Satire is humor with a moral point to make. Christopher Buckley's point—from what seems like a lifetime ago—is prescient. An establishmentarian pompous pundit spreads fake news about alien abductions, shattering faith in the political establishment. Which would be less alarming if the political establishment weren't the source of the fake news. A beleaguered president (very like George H.W. Bush, for whom Mr. Buckley was a speechwriter) says, "Doesn't anyone have imagination enough *not* to believe in something?" No. The surreal trumps (as it were) the real. Sensation trumps sense. Fame trumps renown. A slightly dated quality lends force to the prescience. It was ever thus—even when nonpartisan television journalism was extant, the Washington Post was influential and cleverly written, and \$500 million was a lot of money.

SCIENCE FICTION  
TOM SHIPPEY  
Humans As a 'Hunted Species'

**THE POINT HAS LONG** been made in sci-fi that while we search for extraterrestrial intelligence, the ETs may already have located us and set off to do something about it. But in the up-to-date scenario of Peter F. Hamilton's "Salvation" (Del Rey, 565

pages, \$30), they don't land in a spaceship outside the White House and say, "Take us to your leader!" Instead they send an AI capable of constructing "biologics" on arrival, creatures that can pass as human. Unusually effective humans, that is, set on working their way into power. The reader is left guessing which of the characters in the story is, or may be, an alien sleeper.

Everything else in Mr. Hamilton's imagined future looks good. The world's energy drought has been solved for good by the creation of "solarwells" that tap into the sun direct. "Quantum entanglement portals" create

not only gateways to the stars, but also egalitarian universal transport on Earth. Best of all, philanthropic billionaires have used their wealth to create a "true post-scarcity civilization" for all of humanity. Operation "Icefall" is making the Australian desert bloom.

Even crime has been largely solved, as one can use portals to dump criminals on a barely habitable world, in a kind of hands-off rendition project, while the arrival of an arkship of alien missionaries has had the side-benefit of making most diseases and disabilities curable.

Where does the excitement come from, then? Every solution creates a problem. Murder may be rare, but if it takes place in a "portalhome" with exits everywhere from New York to Mars, from Ganymede to an ocean liner, you aren't going to find the body easily. You may recruit your bodyguard from the elite Heroico Colegio Militar in Mexico, and have Generation 8 Turings to run your life for you, but your enemies may employ a black-ops specialist known as Cancer—because she always gets her victims in the end.

Most of all, exposure to aliens has turned humans into a "hunted species," even if most never realize it. And, of course, never forget, those who do realize may not be human at all, but alien biologics. There's a galactic war going on and humans are being trained to play a part in it, but we know neither what it's about nor whose side might be the one to join.

Mr. Hamilton paints with a very broad brush, skipping from planet to planet and plotline to plotline, but each strand is at the same time finely detailed.

How far "space opera" has come! The Old Masters of sci-fi would admire the scope and sweep of "Salvation," but marvel even more at the amount of thought that now has to go into making futures plausible.

## Reimposing Order on the Moral Universe



**THE TITLE** of Henry Porter's novel "Firefly" (Mysterious Press, 474 pages, \$27) refers to the code name given by British agents to Naji, an elusive 13-year-old Syrian refugee who seems "like a little sprite dodging from place to place."

Traveling on his own from Turkey to the Greek island of Lesbos and then through Southern Europe, Naji is desperate to reach Germany, where he hopes his family will be able to join him. He happens to possess critical intelligence about the violent ISIS commander for whom he worked briefly—a man who ordered the recent massacre of some 150 Syrian civilians. That villain and two brutal henchmen are pursuing Naji through refugee camps and across the remote terrain he crosses.

Also seeking Naji is private investigator Paul Samson, an ex-MI6 agent who speaks fluent Arabic and who was himself once a refugee. Samson's former colleagues enlist his help in tracking down Naji and bringing him to safety. But when they shift their attention away from Naji and toward his pursuers, Samson nonetheless keeps looking for the young migrant, aided by, among others, a psychologist who encountered the boy early in his odyssey.

The boy is "precocious," another MI6 man tells Samson at the outset of his mission: "very bright and well able to

look after himself, apparently. An exceptional individual, by all accounts." Naji (Arabic for "survivor") feels himself protected by a "mysterious force" that has already saved him, he believes, from drowning after his boat flipped over near Lesbos. Still, he's aware of his great vulnerability: "He needed friends." He finds some good ones (as well as false ones) as he traverses ancient routes peopled by rural farmers and fellow migrants. His most faithful champion, in this well-written and moving novel, is the empathetic and capable Samson—whose name also speaks for itself.

"*Lethal White*" (Mulholland, 650 pages, \$29), the fourth Cormoran Strike mystery novel by Robert Galbraith—a pen name for J.K. Rowling—begins in the year 2012. England is making final preparations to host the Olympic Games, and the 37-year-old Strike, thanks to his recent capture of a killer known as "the Shackwell Ripper," is now "the best-known private detective in London."

Strike, the illegitimate son of a rock star and himself an army veteran with an amputated leg, doesn't see fame improve his

shaky finances. But the notoriety does bring him two challenging new cases. In the first, a cabinet minister hires Strike to investigate two men blackmailing him for an incident that occurred decades earlier—an incident that the minister refuses to discuss. Strike's second assignment is largely self-imposed: to make sense of a tale of long-ago murder supposedly witnessed by a mentally disturbed man who visits Strike's office:

"One of those ill and desperate people you saw in the capital who were always

somebody else's problem . . . fragments of shattered humanity . . . too common to trouble the imagination for long."

Strike gives equal weight to both investigations, even as he navigates working alongside his just-married business partner, the 27-year-old Robin Ellacott. The newlywed seems just as much in unacknowledged love with Strike as he is with her, and the book, told in alternating sections from each of their points of view, unfolds as romantic dramedy, social commentary and a novel of manners. "*Lethal White*" also amounts to a gripping thriller, which tussles not just with

criminality but morality. "Strike generally attempted to extract truth without causing unnecessary damage to the host,"

writes the pseudonymous author. But still, as Ellacott notes: "This job. It messes with your ethics." Strike, for his part, never waivers in his major quest: "The itch to detect, solve and reimpose order upon the moral universe could not be extinguished in him."

A mentally troubled soul also plays a part in English author Gilly Macmillan's exceptional "

*I Know You Know*" (Morrow, 352 pages, \$16.99). We learn that Sidney Noyce ("bigger than his dad before he was seventeen," according to his mother, though "he would only ever have the sense of a ten-year-old") was convicted of the beating deaths of youngsters Charlie Paige and Scott Ashby in the city of Bristol in 1996. Noyce kills himself in prison after serving just over 20 years, which prompts Cody Swift, a boyhood friend of Noyce's victims and now a filmmaker, to return to Bristol to probe unresolved questions about that heinous double murder and explore alternate solutions to the case.

"I am on a personal mission," Swift says. "Charlie and Scott deserve the truth." His quest takes the form of a podcast called "It's Time to Tell," which he produces in continuing installments. He doggedly

researches the past deeds and current lives of people connected with the murder victims.

These include the case's original homicide detective, who was removed from the investigation for having inappropriate contact with the mother of one of the victims ("I was set up," he insists) and whom Swift travels to Norway to interview. "This is the kind of case where you don't even care if you're paid or not," the reclusive detective says, "because it involves kids."

There's also that aggrieved mother, a former "party girl" who later became a TV actress and who now lives with a caring man and their teenage daughter. This woman refuses to speak with Swift.

And then there's the detective who pursued the successful conviction of Sidney Noyce and who is now (in a singular coincidence) investigating the death of a slick con man whose recently disinterred corpse, it is discovered, was hidden the very week that Charlie and Scott were murdered.

"*I Know You Know*" is neatly constructed, interspersing podcast transcriptions among third-person chapters that describe various characters' past and present actions. The podcast device induces a surprising intimacy, while the other sections are full of sharp detail. In other words, Ms. Macmillan is one heck of a good writer.

## FALL BOOKS

'To gain the esteem of others, we must only ever show our ugliest sides; this is how we keep ourselves on the common level.' —GUSTAVE FLAUBERT

# When Adolf Came

## The Order of the Day

By Éric Vuillard

Other Press, 132 pages, \$21.95

BY JAMES CAMPBELL

**I**T IS CURIOUS, Éric Vuillard writes, "how the most dyed-in-the-wool tyrants still vaguely respect due process, as if they want to make it appear that they aren't abusing procedure, even while riding roughshod over every convention." At this point in "The Order of the Day," his gripping, novelistic account of events leading up to the outbreak of war in 1939, Mr. Vuillard is focused on Hitler as the Führer awaits the formal resignation of the Austrian chancellor, Kurt Schuschnigg, in March 1938. That event would effectively extend an invitation to Germany to invade its southerly neighbor. Schuschnigg, at first intransigent, has been psychologically tortured. Finally he utters, "with a strangled voice . . . a feeble 'yes.'" But the president of Austria, Wilhelm Miklas, refuses to accept his resignation, thereby infuriating Hitler. "Miklas had better accept that resignation," the Führer screeches down the telephone to Hermann Göring. "That's an order!" Protocol must be observed. Once it has been, the annexation of Austria (the *Anschluss*) proceeds and Europe marches to war.

Mr. Vuillard treats us to several bizarre episodes in the prelude to conflict. His opening scene, in which 24 chiefs of German industry assemble in Berlin in 1933 to pay tribute to Hitler—high-ups from Siemens, Opel and I.G. Farben among them—is a tour de force. Four years later, Lord Halifax, a member of the British government who is broadly sympathetic to the policy of appeasement, travels to Germany at the behest of Göring. "By this point the Nazis had abandoned all self-restraint. The two men hunted together, dined together, shared a few laughs." And did you know that Joachim von Ribbentrop, the Reich's ambassador to the United Kingdom, eventually hanged at Nuremberg, was a tenant of Neville Chamberlain, at the latter's house in London's Eaton Square in 1936, three years after the Nazi Party came to power? The rental arrangement ended in 1938, by which time Chamberlain had been prime minister



ANSCHLUSS German troops in Kufstein, Austria, 1938.

for a year. The premier's striving for appeasement is "just an unfortunate mistake," Mr. Vuillard writes in the sweeping rhetorical tone in which he narrates "The Order of the Day," "and his activities as a landlord are, in the annals of history, no more than a minor footnote."

The method of this unusual work, which was awarded the Prix Goncourt in 2017, is to peel away the veils of dissimulation, disguise and self-justification that conspire to make historical disasters appear as just the way things happen. While "The Order of the

Day" has the rhythm and tenor of fiction, it is really a historical essay. The title page of the French edition advertises it as a *récit*—a tale or an account—as distinct from a *roman*, a novel. In both tone and approach, "The Order of the Day" reminded me of works such as "The Killings in Trinidad" by V.S. Naipaul and "The Voices of Marrakesh" by Elias Canetti. The sound of Ryszard Kapuscinski can be heard in there, too, in the way the author utilizes mundane facts or events, converting them by literary alchemy into gleaming pieces of a puzzle.

From time to time, the author's own voice breaks through, warning the reader against being duped. When Lord Halifax in his memoir "Fullness of Days" (1957) describes how in Berchtesgaden, the site of Hitler's Bavarian retreat, he handed his overcoat to a footman, only to discover it was the Führer himself, "the tone is ironic: Lord Halifax is trying to make us laugh. But I don't think it's funny." A severe Mr. Vuillard then launches into a recitation of the misdeeds of aristocratic Halifaxes down the centuries, returning to the present Halifax only to emphasize his complacency in the face of impending catastrophe. The Vuillard tone, ironic, persistent, aggressive—at times merciless—is well caught in English by the translator Mark Polizzetti.

This unusual work, which won the Prix Goncourt in 2017, peels away the self-justification and lies meant to make historical disasters seem inevitable.

The manner of investigation is the same as in "Sorrow of the Earth," the only other one of Mr. Vuillard's books to have been translated into English so far (a situation likely to change). In that work, published in France in 2014, he took apart, bit by bit, chapter by chapter, the story of Buffalo Bill Cody and his Wild West Show, involving Chief Sitting Bull, then skillfully put it back together again, without the obfuscating myth. A repeated device is to chuck in an arresting fact, to alter our way of seeing how the past unfolded. Here he is, for example, concluding the fate of the hapless Schuschnigg, "the little Austrian dictator," who tried in vain to salvage a nation's dignity in the face of Hitler's furious determination. After spending seven years as a prisoner of the Third Reich, "the former chancellor would settle in the United States and become a model American, a model Catholic, a model professor at the very Catholic Saint Louis University. We can almost imagine him sitting around in his dressing gown, chatting about the Gutenberg galaxy with Marshall McLuhan!" It's a good joke, even if it does stumble on the fact that McLuhan had left St. Louis University by the time the man who lost Austria to the Nazis had arrived. Mr. Vuillard has relied on a range of firsthand accounts of the events in question, and some readers might have welcomed a few source notes. But history as recitation—a tale told in a singular voice—can probably do without them.

Mr. Campbell is the author of a biography of James Baldwin, "Talking at the Gates," and is an editor and columnist at the Times Literary Supplement in London.

# The Enduring Appeal of Fading Pleasures



FICTION

SAM SACKS

A novel about a small Midwest town brings out the charm and oddness of the defiantly normal.

IN AN ESSAY in her forthcoming collection "Interior States," the Wisconsin-based writer Meghan O'Giebly says this about the experience of making one's home in the Midwest: "It's difficult to live here without developing an existential dizziness, a sense that the rest of the world is moving while you remain still."

A place so set in its ways that it gives you vertigo: It's a funny and fitting characterization of a region defined by contradictions. The Midwest stands out in the mind because of its featureless flatness. It's unique because it's so tenaciously ordinary. The fabled humility of Midwesterners is flaunted as a point of local pride.

Some commenters have tried to unspool these paradoxes by arguing that cozy flyover-country clichés mask the region's complexity. Recent novels, like Stephen Markley's "Ohio" and Nico Walker's "Cherry," bring currents of rage and violence to the surface of small-town life. Yet the Midwest mystique of a stoic, taciturn, God-fearing people frozen in time retains a hold on the imagination, and finds renewed expression in Leif Enger's novel "Virgil Wander" (Atlantic, 300 pages, \$27), a book that brings out the charm and downright strangeness of the defiantly normal.

The eponymous hero is a "middle-aged bachelor and film projectionist" running the movie theater in the defunct mining burgh of Greenstone, Minn., on the banks of Lake Superior. Virgil has floated through life without creating much of a ripple until, when the story begins, a near-death car accident stirs in him "a sense of time's shortening

fuse." Virgil's transformation echoes others across Greenstone, which seems to be undergoing a collective rebellion against its habit of passive decline.

The accompanying cast steps out of a city-hall registry of Midwest archetypes. Among the gallery of loners is an elderly kite-flying eccentric, an overworked sheriff, a beautiful widow who has obstinately rebuffed the advances of a queue of suitors and a shadowy millionaire who has returned bearing promises to revamp the town. With the exception of the millionaire, the characters are thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Minnesota nice. Even the book's wayward teenager never utters an oath stronger than "Geez Louise."

Mr. Enger is a gentle, jokey sort of writer, so although tragedy lurks at the edges of the story it never seriously encroaches on the atmosphere of rueful cheeriness. Virgil's brush with mortality doesn't inspire him to flee Greenstone for brighter horizons, as you might guess, but to deepen his connections with his longtime neighbors. So for all his talk of reinvention, it's in old, familiar faces that he finds beauty and meaning—and old, familiar places, like his obsolescent movie house after a nighttime screening, "golden and dim, the ratty seats lining up in the gloom, the screen retaining a remnant of light much as your mind retains the fading pleasure of the story." "Virgil Wander" is full of such fading pleasures, a reminder that another oddity of the mythology of the Midwest is that it exists in a state of permanent twilight, always disappearing but never quite gone.

"Why did I keep going to these stupid parties?" complains a struggling painter in the title story of Deborah Eisenberg's collection "Your Duck Is My Duck" (Ecco, 226 pages, \$26.99), a line that points to the book's primary setting with the uncanny precision of satellite tracking. It's virtually impossible to imagine someone in Minnesota uttering those words in earnest. No, the speaker is of course a New Yorker.

## THIS WEEK

### Virgil Wander

By Leif Enger

### Your Duck Is My Duck

By Deborah Eisenberg

### Gone So Long

By Andre Dubus III

And true to form, the writing bears the traits of the stereotypical New York short story: urbane, quippy, elliptical and ironic, lacquered in atmospheric detail and heavy on existential dread. ("I'm hurtling through time, strapped to an explosive device, my life," the painter tells her doctor.) The stories at times seem like mere storage containers for Ms. Eisenberg's vinegary aphorisms: "That marriage was prefab rubble!" muses a narrator. The elderly wear an expression of "vague helplessness, as though they've just entered a day full of the troubles they've spent the night dreaming about."

The collection's most persistent theme is miscommunication. In "Taj Mahal," the surviving friends and family of a famous film director gather to reconstruct the truth of their past after the appearance of an

error-riddled biography. In "Merge," a trust-funder on the outs with his father takes up with a woman devoted to humanitarian crises. "The Third Tower" centers on a vividly imaginative young girl who is diagnosed with a hyper-associative disorder and medicated into oblivion. Wealth, politics, age difference, technology, pharmaceuticals—all conspire to strand these characters on islands of self-centered incomprehension.

A correction of sorts is found in the book's last and best story, "Recalculating," about a young man named Adam's relationship with his Uncle Phillip, a gay man living in Europe and, despite his distinguished career as an architect, all but erased from his family's history. The power of the story lies in the fact that the two never meet—Adam first travels overseas to attend a tribute to Phillip, and he's transformed by the company of Phillip's friends and the varied life he left behind.

The story expertly condenses Adam's coming-of-age under the influence of Phillip's example, a message of freedom and possibility passed down without a word being spoken.

Andre Dubus III's latest novel, "Gone So Long" (Norton, 452 pages, \$27.95), springs from an event its characters are terrified to

remember but unable to ignore. When he was young and prone to jealous rages, Daniel Ahearn murdered his wife in the presence of their 3-year-old daughter, Susan. The book begins 40 years later. Daniel has served his time—he spent 15 years in a Massachusetts correctional facility—and has since passed a quiet, austere life of solitude and charitable work, but a health scare spurs his decision to finally track Susan down and

explain himself. "He was a young man then, just a kid, really, twenty-two or -three, and he needs to tell her that before he's gone. He needs his daughter to know that he's no longer the boy who did what he did."

Susan, who was raised in Florida by her grandmother Lois, has grown up shaped by the murder, haunted by feelings of shame and self-loathing.

Daniel's mission of atonement overlaps with her decision to leave her kindly husband, Bobby, and move back in with Lois in order to write a memoir that will confront the tragedy and its aftermath.

"Gone So Long" is as pure an example as you will find of the mainstream trauma novel, which is today the one narrative that transcends the genres and regionalisms that divide American fiction. The novel moves between Florida and small-town New England, but its true setting is not a place on the map but a wound in the psyche. This means that, although Mr. Dubus is a clear and sensitive writer, his story observes the formula of trauma therapy. Both Daniel and Susan are struggling to confront a repressed horror and thereby achieve the emotional catharsis that will allow them to make a separate peace with the past.

Yet one character stands out from the bromides of healing and redemption. Lois, a Florida antiques dealer, responded to the murder by becoming hard and implacable, like a stone gargoyle protecting a cathedral from evil spirits. Her gusts of anger are a refreshing antidote to the still air of psychoanalysis, and her mixture of cruelty and devotion makes her uncomfortably real, a human being among case studies.

## FALL BOOKS

'It is my opinion that a story worth reading only in childhood is not worth reading even then.' —C.S. LEWIS

## Of Stories and Storytellers



**IN 2002,** Philip Pullman made a writerly confession to an audience in Oxford, England. "Your nature," he said, "the nature of your particular talent, is rarely as balanced as your intentions, and I realised some time ago that I belong at the vulgar end of the literary spectrum." Vulgar is not perhaps

the word that first springs to mind in connection with Mr. Pullman, but at the time the author of the "His Dark Materials" trilogy was still wrestling with the discovery that his talents lay in fantasy, a genre he held in low esteem. "I had thought (and I do still think) that the most powerful, the most profound, the greatest novels I'd read were examples of realism, not of fantasy," he explains in "**Daemon Voices**" (Knopf, 455 pages, \$30), a splendid collection of two decades of the author's reflections on stories and storytelling.

Mr. Pullman was able to overcome his embarrassment at writing fantasy, he writes, by seeking to infuse his stories with realism and moral truthfulness. It's what the muse required: "You have to do what your imagination wants, not what your fastidious literary taste is inclined towards, not what your finely honed judgement feels comfortable with, not what your desire for the esteem of critics advises you to. Good intentions never wrote a story worth reading: only the imagination can do that." And what an imagination! In those books alone, he summons a multiverse populated by armored bears, astronauts, assassin priests and daemons, which are something like external human souls in the shape of animals—all developed in supple, elegant writing.

The quality of Mr. Pullman's prose is no accident. From a 2011 speech we learn of his admiration for what he calls the classical "narrative tact" of Jane Austen, William Thackeray and Philippa Pearce, the author of "Tom's Midnight Garden" (1958), all of whose work is made captivating, he says, by "clarity and steadiness and coolness of tone." This type of storytelling has a technical term, free indirect style, which Mr. Pullman approvingly contrasts with the urgent first-person, present-tense style of narration ("I flinch, I sob") that is so much in vogue these days in young-adult literature.

In the course of more than 30 essays, Mr. Pullman returns again and again to particular influences and themes, but his perspective is so interesting that the effect of the repetition is not to bore but to deepen what begins to feel to the reader like friendship. He

## THIS WEEK

## Daemon Voices

By Philip Pullman

## House of Dreams

By Liz Rosenberg

## Astrid Lindgren

By Jens Andersen

describes the commanding influence on his work of John Milton, William Blake and an 1810 essay by Heinrich von Kleist titled "On the Marionette Theater." He's fascinated by existential skepticism, the transition from innocence to self-consciousness, and the concept of phase space ("the notional space that contains not just the actual consequences of the present moment, but all the possible consequences"). He loathes a "theocratic cast of mind," whether religious or political, along with the separation of books into age-appropriate categories and the excessive testing of schoolchildren. If now and then Mr. Pullman's acerbity grates a little, well, it's a small price to pay

for literary insights that will enrich and inspire.

"Fiction is the art of transformation [that] for many writers . . . allows for happy reconciliations they cannot achieve in real life," Liz Rosenberg observes in a sparkling biography of Lucy Maud Montgomery, the Canadian writer who brought plain, sprightly, impulsive, red-headed Anne Shirley into the world with her 1908 novel, "Anne of Green Gables." With the character of Anne, Ms. Rosenberg writes in "**House of Dreams**" (Candlewick, 339 pages, \$17.99), Montgomery "performed the great alchemy of art. She transformed her own history of abandonment into a story of rescue. Maud put herself into the fictional Anne: her own vivid imagination; a passionate love of nature; her habit of naming inanimate objects; the imaginary cup-

board friend; her hungry affection for books; her own vanity, pride, stubbornness; and a deep, abiding attachment to those she loves."

This engaging account of the life of Anne's creator is brightened by Julie Morstad's delicate line drawings, and while intended for young-adult readers—sorry, Philip Pullman, but age categories do matter to book buyers—it needn't be confined to them. Montgomery (1874-1942) didn't have an easy time of it, but she lived (and wrote) with tremendous energy and a fierce aliveness. Dispatched as a small child to dour, well-to-do grandparents on Prince Edward Island, the future novelist grew up well-dressed on the outside but socially and emotionally "starved and restricted," as she later described it. She kept journals from a young age, into which she poured her passionate responses to life's



vicissitudes, and when in 1904 she came across an old note she had once jotted down—"Elderly couple apply to orphan asylum for a boy. By mistake a girl is sent them"—it was a matter of 18 months before Anne had become a fully realized person on the page.

Though most of Montgomery's time was "eaten up by housework" in that period, as Ms. Rosenberg notes, when she reached the precious hour each evening that she saved for her manuscript, the words flew off her fingers. Oh, lucky woman, it's tempting to think; and it's true that, through her eventual nine books about Anne and many more works, Lucy Maud Montgomery achieved something close to literary immortality. Yet her time on earth was fraught, too, and as shadowed by loss, mental illness and romantic disappointment as it was illuminated by her exuberance and bliss at being "alive in a world where there are Junes."

Certain life parallels pertain with the Swedish creator of that other favorite red-headed girl in children's literature, the eccentric, anarchic, incorrigibly cheerful Pippi Longstocking. Like L.M. Montgomery, Astrid Lindgren composed her stories with terrific speed. "I'm almost ashamed when I hear how lots of other people toil over their books," the writer dubbed "Pippi's mother" once confessed. "When I start writing I get a sort of happy feeling, like the book's finished already and I'm just there to get it down on paper." She got a kick out of life, too, and was full of wit and keen observations, but she also suffered deep emotional pain, losing her husband first to another woman and then to cirrhosis of the liver. Literary critic Jens Andersen recounts the celebrated author's fascinating life and work in "**Astrid Lindgren: The Woman Behind Pippi Longstocking**" (Yale, 343 pages, \$30), a detailed and thoughtful volume that would serve as an excellent adjunct to Lindgren's eloquent "War Diaries," which Yale published two years ago.

During the war years, Lindgren (1907-2002) could not anticipate the literary stardom that awaited her. A mother of two, she took a government job censoring intercepted letters that gave her horrific insights into Nazi and Russian atrocities taking place elsewhere in Europe. She confided some of what she learned to her journals, into which she also glued poems, newspaper clippings and cartoons. In the evenings, in shorthand, she fiddled around with the story that she would present to her daughter, Karin, as a 10th birthday present on May 21, 1944. It was "Pippi Longstocking," complete with a wonky, witty drawing of the heroine waving from the title page, with her pigtails sticking out from either side of her head and her feet clad in giant shoes that would soon take Pippi across the world—and make Astrid Lindgren one of the world's most beloved writers for children.

## Best-Selling Books | Week Ended Sept. 23

With data from NPD BookScan

## Hardcover Nonfiction

TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
<b>Fear: Trump in the White House</b> Bob Woodward/Simon & Schuster	1	1
<b>Whiskey in a Teacup</b> Reese Witherspoon/Touchstone Books	2	New
<b>Cravings: Hungry for More</b> Chrissy Teigen/Clarkson Potter Publishers	3	New
<b>Girl, Wash Your Face</b> Rachel Hollis/Thomas Nelson	4	2
<b>In Pieces</b> Sally Field/Grand Central Publishing	5	New

## Nonfiction E-Books

TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
<b>Fear: Trump in the White House</b> Bob Woodward/Simon & Schuster	1	1
<b>Whiskey in a Teacup</b> Reese Witherspoon/Touchstone Books	2	New
<b>Cravings: Hungry for More</b> Chrissy Teigen/Clarkson Potter Publishers	3	New
<b>Code Girls</b> Liza Mundy/Hachette Books	4	-
<b>Educated</b> Tara Westover/Random House Publishing Group	5	3
<b>Extreme Ownership</b> Jocko Willink & Leif Babin/St. Martin's Press	6	-
<b>Leadership</b> Doris Kearns Goodwin/Simon & Schuster	7	New
<b>The Deep State</b> Jason Chaffetz/HarperCollins Publishers	8	New
<b>Anxious for Nothing</b> Max Lucado/Thomas Nelson, Inc.	9	-
<b>These Truths</b> Jill Lepore/W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.	10	New

## Hardcover Fiction

TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
<b>Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas</b> Dav Pilkey/Graphix	1	1
<b>Lethal White</b> Robert Galbraith/Mulholland Books	2	New
<b>Juror #3</b> James Patterson/Little, Brown and Company	3	2
<b>Time's Convert</b> Deborah Harkness/Viking	4	New
<b>Goodnight Goon</b> Michael Rex/G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers	5	6

## Fiction E-Books

TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
<b>Lethal White</b> Robert Galbraith/Little, Brown and Company	1	New
<b>What I've Done</b> Melinda Leigh/Montlake Romance	2	New
<b>Time's Convert</b> Deborah Harkness/Penguin Publishing Group	3	New
<b>Origin</b> Dan Brown/Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group	4	-
<b>Hardcore Twenty-Four</b> Janet Evanovich/Penguin Publishing Group	5	-
<b>Juror #3</b> James Patterson/Little, Brown and Company	6	1
<b>Why Not Tonight</b> Susan Mallery/Harlequin	7	New
<b>Night Over Water</b> Ken Follett/Penguin Publishing Group	8	-
<b>Tailspin</b> Sandra Brown/Grand Central Publishing	9	-
<b>Guilty as Sin</b> Meghan March/Meghan March	10	New

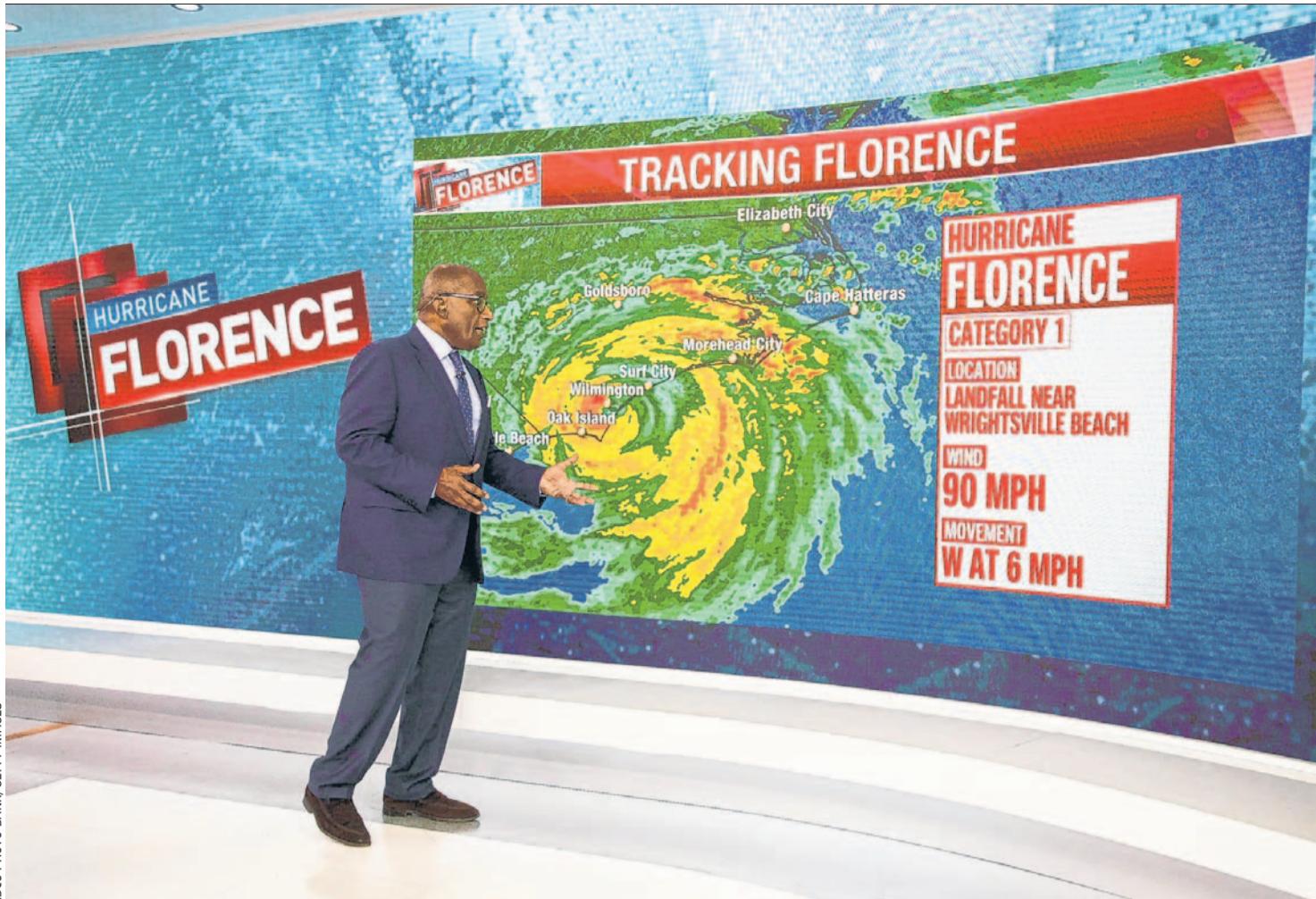
## Methodology

NPD BookScan gathers point-of-sale book data from more than 16,000 locations across the U.S., representing about 85% of the nation's book sales. Print-book data providers include all major booksellers (now inclusive of Walmart) and web retailers, and food stores. E-book data providers include all major e-book retailers. Free e-books and those sold for less than 99 cents are excluded. The fiction and nonfiction lists in all formats include adult, young adult, and juvenile titles; the business list includes only adult titles. The combined lists track sales by title across all print and e-book formats; audio books are excluded. Refer questions to Adam.Kirsch@wsj.com.

## Hardcover Business

TITLE AUTHOR / PUBLISHER	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
<b>StrengthsFinder 2.0</b> Tom Rath/Gallup Press	1	1
<b>Emotional Intelligence 2.0</b> Travis Bradberry & Jean Greaves/TalentSmart	2	3
<b>Extreme Ownership</b> Jocko Willink & Leif Babin/St. Martin's Press	3	2
<b>Women &amp; Money (Revised &amp; Updated)</b> Suze Orman/Spiegel & Grau	4	7
<b>Total Money Makeover</b> Dave Ramsey/Thomas Nelson	5	5
<b>You Are a Mogul</b> Tiffany Pham/Simon & Schuster	6	New
<b>Winners Take All</b> Anand Giridharadas/Knopf Publishing Group	7	6
<b>Bad Blood</b> John Carreyrou/Knopf Publishing Group	8	8
<b>Principles: Life and Work</b> Ray Dalio/Simon & Schuster	9	9
<b>The Five Dysfunctions of a Team</b> Patrick Lencioni/Jossey-Bass	10	10

## REVIEW



# Weather Forecasts Should Get Over The Rainbow

Hurricane season means the return of the color-coded weather map, with its familiar spectrum of red to violet. Critics argue that it's misleading and, in some cases, even dangerous.

BY SARAH DRY

**R**ainbows may be rare in real life, but they're everywhere in the world of climate and weather data visualization. When the hurricane season arrives, even more of them pop up, offering guidance on the progress and severity of a storm. Their bright bands of color indicate expected wind speed or rainfall, with reds generally indicating higher values and blues and greens lower ones. When President Donald Trump appeared in the Oval Office to warn the public about the dangers of Hurricane Florence, he did so with a rainbow-colored image of the storm prominently on display.

But scientists say that the rainbow is often the enemy of real understanding. "Our vision is really good at drawing boundaries and clustering similar colors," explains Rob Simon, the senior data visualization engineer at Planet, an Earth imaging company. When it comes to the rainbow, this means that the transition from yellow to green jumps out at us, while shifts within, for example, the green part of the spectrum are much less apparent. This can create artificial boundaries in data that is actually smooth—a seemingly technical issue with serious consequences.

For instance, the map consulted by Mr. Trump and his advisers during Hurricane Florence included a sharp boundary between yellow and green bands that appeared to represent a huge drop in the probability of tropical-force storm winds. This border stretched through Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, affecting millions of

people trying to determine the level of risk the storm posed. In fact, the difference was just 10%. Such visual confusion also can mislead policy makers tasked with issuing evacuation warnings.

Karen Schloss, head of the Visual Reasoning Lab at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, has advice for anyone trying to absorb this complicated information: "Be aware of the category boundaries in colors that we can see and take a moment to think about what the numbers represent, rather than making a quick judgment that, for example, I'm in this color region so I don't need to worry about this storm."

There's another drawback. While it is easy for most of us to sort a simple gray scale from darker to lighter, drawing conclusions from a rainbow scale often requires knowing the proper sequence of the colors (remember the mnemonic device Roy G Biv, for red, orange, yellow, etc.?). Depending on the image, this may be hard to do quickly, and we can end up confused about which parts of a map signal higher or lower values.

Finally, rainbow color scales are especially ill-suited for the many people who cannot visually distinguish between certain colors, most commonly red and green. Up to 8% of the male population has some form of colorblindness, and since

The Today Show's Al Roker with a map of Hurricane Florence, September 14, 2018.

Used well, color can be a powerful tool for communication.

the community of researchers who make and use data visualizations is largely male, this means that many of those who make and interpret these images are at a disadvantage.

Given these limitations, it is no surprise that data scientists have been calling for caution in the use of the rainbow scale for decades. Awareness of the issue seems to be increasing more recently. Matlab, a popular computer language used for image processing, long featured the rainbow as the default color scale. It recently replaced it with a new palette, called parula, that ranges from purple through yellow, with a rich range of blues and greens in the middle and no reds.

Used well, color can be a powerful tool for communication. "There are no hard and fast rules," says Prof. Schloss. "The question is how to choose colors to reveal the patterns in the nature of the data." On hurricane maps, reds and blues on their own can effectively indicate warmer and cooler water—especially when there are no confusing oranges, yellows or greens in the middle. An improved hurricane map might also take advantage of the way that we perceive sudden boundaries between colors to highlight the threshold of 82 degrees Fahrenheit in water temperature, which determines whether a hurricane will grow or shrink.

Still, as a quick scan of weather forecasts, climate visuals and hurricane warnings will reveal, the rainbow is not giving up easily. One reason is that the rainbow palette is easy to program and requires no knowledge of color theory. A simpler explanation is that we like looking at rainbows. They look pretty, and we may even be drawn to them for ecological reasons, speculates Prof. Schloss. "It's a really ubiquitous experience we have," she says. "The rainbow at the end of a storm is a clear signal of a better time."

Ms. Dry is a writer and historian of science. Her most recent book is "The Newton Papers: The Strange and True Odyssey of Isaac Newton's Manuscripts."

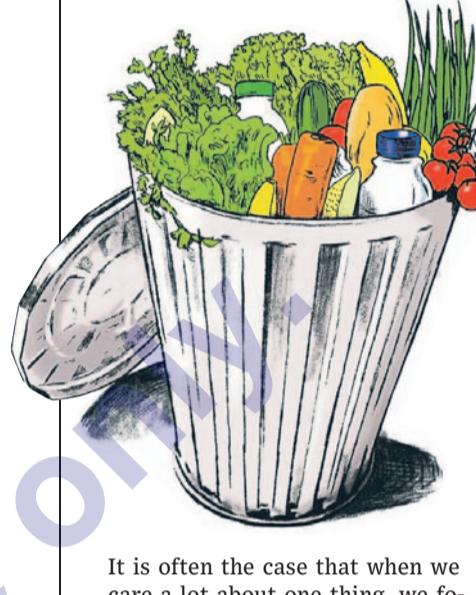
## ASK ARIELY

DAN ARIELY

## A Cure for Wasting Food

Hi, Dan.

My wife is pretty involved with green initiatives—in particular, reducing plastic waste. She tries to get bars and restaurants to stop offering plastic straws, she purchases products that do not use plastic packages, and once a month we volunteer to clean up trash in public spaces. So I'm baffled that she doesn't have the same reaction to wasting food. When it's her turn to go grocery shopping, she always brings home such an excess of fruits and vegetables that many of them rot before we have a chance to eat them. We've had many conversations about this, but nothing has worked so far. What can I do? —Diégo



It is often the case that when we care a lot about one thing, we focus on it to the exclusion of other priorities. So don't take your wife's behavior too personally, and don't try repeatedly to educate her about it. Instead, why don't you simply help by making a shopping list? When we go shopping with a shopping list we are likely to stick to it. If you write down the specific amount of needed fruits and vegetables, the odds are that the waste problem will be solved.

Hi, Dan.

My son Joey is turning one year old, and we're throwing a birthday party for him. People usually give toys on such occasions, but I'd like to ask them to give him money instead. How can I do this without seeming rude? —Felipe

It's always tricky to use a social occasion to ask people for money. To sweeten the pill, I would ask people to donate toward a specific goal. For example, what if you told your guests that you want to open a college savings account for Joey? You could ask them not just to give money but also to write down advice for him to read when he goes to college. Ask your guests to write their messages in a book that you can give to Joey when he turns 18.

Dear Dan,

I have several friends who have self-published books on Amazon. After reading the books, I am usually aghast at the poor quality of the writing, and sometimes there is even a gross twisting of the truth in the retelling of a life experience that I have seen firsthand. Even so, I try to say something positive—without getting into too many details—but then my friends ask me to submit an online review, to go along with all the other five-star reviews they somehow managed to get. I care about my friends, but I also don't want to give a false recommendation. How would you handle this conflict? —Jerry

Life is full of situations where we are asked to trade our integrity for other interests, such as sparing the feelings of a friend. But once we start giving up our integrity, it is a slippery slope: We are likely to do it more and more until at some point we stop feeling bad about it. What does this mean in your case? Writing a positive review of a book you don't like may seem like a one-time sacrifice of honesty for the sake of friendship. But given that your long-term integrity is also on the line, I would not give it up. Gently decline your friend's request for a review—but do keep on investing in your friendship.

## EXHIBIT

## Icy Heights of Dark and Light



**A FAN OF** Jules Verne's "Journey to the Center of the Earth," the photographer Jan Erik Waider was drawn to shooting Snæfellsjökull, the 700,000-year-old Icelandic volcano where Verne set his book.

He spent the last five years documenting the behemoth from every angle. Last month, the German photographer, known for his images of icebergs, released the series, "What Darkness to You Is Light to Me," a line from Verne's book, on his website Northlandscapes.com.

It can be a challenge to capture the peak, around which clouds build up quickly, obstructing the view (right). Mr. Waider often had the volcano entirely to himself. "I don't really know how to put the feeling into words when I'm close to the summit, but maybe that's the reason I take photos and don't write poetry," he says. —Alexandra Wolfe

## REVIEW

## WEEKEND CONFIDENTIAL

ALEXANDRA WOLFE

# John C. Reilly

## A versatile actor takes on a new role: producing

**T**he spring of 2017 was busy for actor John C. Reilly. He spent much of April in a London film studio encased in prosthetics to play the heavyset Oliver Hardy in the upcoming biopic, "Stan & Ollie." A month later, he was speeding on horseback through rugged Spanish terrain, playing an assassin in the new Western drama "The Sisters Brothers."

Mr. Reilly, 53, has become known for taking on such varied roles, from the slapstick of "Walk Hard" (2007) and "Step Brothers" (2008) to dramatic turns in "Gangs of New York" (2002) and "Kong: Skull Island" (2017). Early training in Chicago theater fostered his versatility, and he thinks that his quirky appearance helps audiences accept him in so many different parts. "I'm an eccentric looking person," he says.

For "The Sisters Brothers," which premiered Sept. 21, he stepped into a new role: producer. The film, based on Patrick deWitt's novel about two hit men brothers tracking down a gold prospector in the 1850s American West, is the first time that Mr. Reilly has taken on such responsibilities. "I learned that it's a damned miracle when a movie comes together," he quips.

Mr. Reilly's wife, Alison Dickey, a film producer herself, met Mr. deWitt on a previous film, and he showed her a manuscript for "The Sisters Brothers." Ms. Dickey showed it to her husband, who was drawn to its textured characters as well as its exploration of manliness, gun violence and social upheaval. "It felt really timely," he says. "I kept hearing from other actors about buying the rights to something and I thought, I think this is the moment when I buy the rights to something."

He learned on the job. "Acting is one part of the puzzle, but producing is the whole puzzle. It's almost like being a parent," he explains: "As time goes on there is this constant awareness of the well-being of the child. Even when doing other things that awareness is there."

He did some of the initial background work himself, researching the time period and digging up archival photographs of mid-19th century San Francisco. He and his co-producers showed the book to French director Jacques Audiard, who signed on and cemented Mr. Reilly's belief that the French take a more artistic view of filmmaking than their more commercially minded American counterparts.

Joaquin Phoenix signed on to co-star, playing Mr. Reilly's hit man brother (their surname is Sisters). The two bonded on long walks during filming in Spain, one of the settings that stood in for the Old West. "We didn't know each other...and we were supposed to be these symbiotically connected brothers," he says. "We'd say, 'Wanna go on a walk? Where should we go—that hill?' For two hours just walking together, and that's exactly what we needed to do.... Almost through osmosis that relationship just crystallized."

Sitting in a downtown Manhattan hotel, Mr. Reilly talks with the same ease that he often projects on screen. He's dressed a bit like his Sisters Brothers character, in jeans, a red bandanna and cowboy boots. "I enjoy wearing clothes," he says of the outfit. "Everything I wear is mine, and I don't wear costumes unless I'm at work."

He thinks that he comes off as relatable in part because of his unusual looks. "I don't look like everybody...I don't look like a movie idol or an Adonis or someone who's come down from Mount Olympus."

He says that he tries never to be completely funny or entirely sad when acting. "In sorrow there's always lightness, and in happy times there's always a little bit of bittersweet sorrow," he says. "When I act I call it, 'let's not let them off the hook,' so if you're doing something funny, remind them every once in a while that this is real, it's not a joke, or when it's something really sad, it's OK to smile because that's



what people do. Even if you go to a funeral people smile, because that's how you get through it as a human being."

Growing up in Chicago, Mr. Reilly acted in school plays. Even then, he says, theater began teaching him how to stretch. "The first phase of most character actors involves playing very old people when you are very young." After graduating from the Theatre School at DePaul University in 1987, Mr. Reilly performed in shows with the Steppenwolf Theatre Company. "Theater is a bit more forgiving as far as being the perfect match for a character, so you get more opportunities to try different things," he says. "Films tend to be looking for actors that suit the role immediately."

After a stint in New York, he headed to Los Angeles. His major break came when the director Brian De Palma cast him in the 1989 drama "Casualties of War" as an aggressive soldier. "That character was so unintelligent that I think that in everything I did after, people were like, 'Hey, he's pretty smart!'" Mr. Reilly went on to act in a slew of critically acclaimed films, from "What's Eating Gilbert

'I don't look like everybody,' says Mr. Reilly. 'I don't look like a movie idol or an Adonis or someone who's come down from Mount Olympus.'

Grape" (1993) to "Boogie Nights" (1997) to "Chicago" (2002).

Mr. Reilly has gravitated toward starring roles where he's part of a duo, including "Talladega Nights" (2006) and "Step Brothers," both with Will Ferrell, and the upcoming "Holmes and Watson," in which Mr. Reilly plays Watson opposite Mr. Ferrell again.

In "Stan & Ollie," which comes out in December, he stars opposite Steve Coogan in a story about the comedians' effort to rejuvenate their career on a tour of Britain. After spending weeks in prosthetics, with air reaching only small circles around his eyes and the palms of his hands, Mr. Reilly says that he was eager to get outdoors to film his Western: "I was ready for the sunshine."

Does he ever dream of one day being the leading man? "In some ways I wish I was just the one name on the top of the poster," he says. "It's good business, and you make a lot of money...but for whatever reason, theater taught me, 'This is what you're good at—you're good at dancing in a duet,'" he explains. "And then if you fail, it's not all your fault."



and how the "Dunkin'" name reflects that fluid modern reality.

Whatever, fine. They could rechristen DD as The Great New England Waist-Busting Calorie Depot and I'd still go several times a week. I'm sure the name change is at least partly rooted in America's growing health consciousness, and that's understandable. You know how it is out there. Every food purveyor's on its best behavior. Carbs are anathema. Sugar's a dirty word. I think it's already illegal in 32 states to order a blueberry muffin.

The doughnut—which, to me, stands alongside the lightbulb and the remote control as one of humankind's greatest advances—faces an even fiercer siege. Walking into work in 2018 with a box of doughnuts is like strolling through the office with a lit cigarette and a bottle of Jägermeister. Co-workers literally run away from you.



Dunkin' says it has no plans to eliminate its namesake contraband, but the name change is undoubtedly intended to placate the new wave of mindful eaters. Or at least confuse them. One is reminded of Kentucky Fried Chicken's rechristening as "KFC." Did the acronym truly disguise the Colonel Sanders's life mission of chicken-based deliciousness? KFC still looks like fried bird to me. Donuts may not be part of the name anymore, but doughnuts still feel core to what Dunkin' is.

Corporate name tweaks can go much, much worse. The Tribune Publishing company rebranded itself as Tronc, which sounds like the noise a robot makes when it hits its head on a door frame. In what universe is "Tronc" a better name than "Tribune"? I guess Dunkin' employees should be happy they don't now work for Dunk. Or worse, Dunc. (Don't get me started on how Tronc is one of those outfits that spells its corporate name entirely in lower case. This should be banned, unless your CEO is the ghost of e.e. cummings.)

I've spent a lot of my career covering sports, where name changes are frequent and sometimes contentious. The Washington Bullets, wanting to dissociate themselves from gun violence, changed their name to the Wizards; the New Orleans Hornets, wanting to sound more like New Orleanians, became the Pelicans; we somehow still

have the Utah Jazz. The Tampa Bay Devil Rays, perhaps fearful of association with Satanists, dialed back to become the plain old Rays. Many teams have changed names considered insensitive to ethnic groups, in particular Native Americans. There's consistent pressure upon Dan Snyder, the owner of Washington's NFL club, to change his team's name, though they have more or less rebranded as Dan Snyder's Washington Sadness Machine.

As for Dunkin' Donuts, I appreciate they didn't run completely away from their sugary tradition. I'm happy there's not a sharper rebranding afoot. I am not terribly interested in waiting in line at Dunkin' Quinoa. I'm name nostalgic, at least when it comes to my breakfast rituals. I'll keep on going to Dunkin', and from time to time, I'm going to order myself a doughnut. I know they're right there, behind the counter. That new name isn't fooling me.



JASON GAY

## Is It Really Time to Remake Dunkin' Donuts?

If they start calling it Dunkin' Quinoa, don't look for me on line.

BY NOW you've surely heard that Dunkin' Donuts—the Massachusetts-based cathedral to coffee and carbohydrates—plans to dump the "Donuts" in the company name and shorten to simply "Dunkin'." The company's chief marketing officer said the name abbreviation "positions us as a more dynamic, on-the-go brand," which sounds exactly like the sort of thing a chief marketing officer might say. There was also some jibber-jabber about Dunkin' Donuts becoming primarily a beverage company,

## PLAY

## NEWS QUIZ DANIEL AKST

From this week's  
Wall Street Journal

**1. The SEC sought to force Elon Musk out as CEO of Tesla—for what alleged wrongdoing?**

- A. Having an ego larger than his company's market capitalization
- B. Wrongly claiming he had funding for taking the company private
- C. Insider trading
- D. Shaming competitors by making near-perfect cars

**2. Something named for the late Alvin W. Vogtle was rescued—from what?**

- A. The Brooklyn park, slated for development, will remain open space
- B. The German submarine, thought lost in the Baltic, surfaced with help from divers
- C. The unfinished nuclear plant in Georgia faced abandonment, but now work will resume
- D. The landmark federal courthouse in Cincinnati was saved from the wrecking ball

**3. Which state has the highest bicycle fatality rate in the country—by far?**

- A. Florida
- B. New York
- C. Louisiana
- D. Vermont

**4. Bill Cosby was given 3 to 10 years in state prison for aggravated indecent assault. In what Pennsylvania county did the sentencing occur?**

- A. Berks
- B. Bucks



**Answers** are listed below the crossword solutions at right.

- C. Delaware
- D. Montgomery

**5. The venerable platzkart is headed for history's dustbin. But what are platzkarts?**

- A. Colorful Viennese street carts from which Turkish immigrants dispense doner and pita
- B. 1950s vintage convertibles used to convey couples to Orthodox Jewish weddings
- C. Rockets used to launch German weather satellites
- D. Third-class communal railroad cars in which Russians crisscross their vast country

**6. McDonald's is stripping artificial ingredients from its food. Which part of the project is proving a particular challenge?**

- A. Having any ingredients left
- B. Figuring out all-natural pickles without changing their "dill profile"
- C. Preventing sales from plummeting
- D. Spoilage

**7. Two cofounders of which booming tech business resigned?**

- A. Instagram
- B. Facebook
- C. Snap
- D. Amgen

**8. A federal judge blocked a planned hunt of newly-resurgent grizzly bears—in which two states?**

- A. Montana and Idaho
- B. Idaho and Wyoming
- C. Wyoming and South Dakota
- D. Hawaii and Vermont

FROM TOP: REUTERS/STOCK

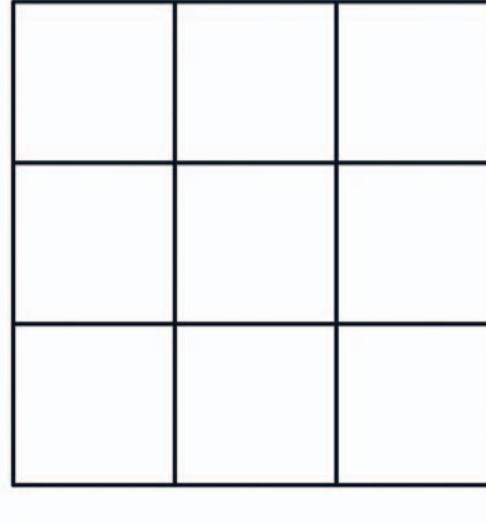
## WSJ BRAIN GAMES

Provided by Serhiy and Peter Grabarchuk ([grabarchukpuzzles.com](http://grabarchukpuzzles.com))

## 1. ★★★★☆

**By Serhiy Grabarchuk Jr.**

What is the minimum number of convex polygons that you can use to draw the 3 x 3 square grid shown below? All the polygons are transparent and must differ in shape and area. No other lines must appear within or outside the grid. See the example of a pattern drawn with two convex polygons of different shape and area.



Example:



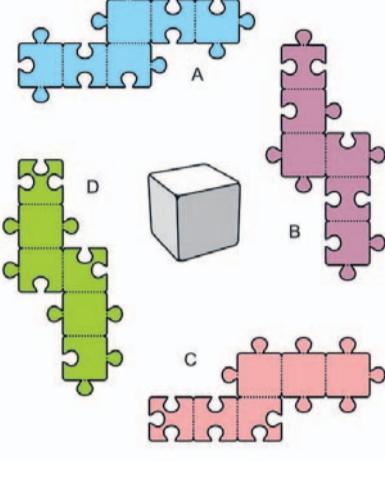
## 2. ★★★☆☆

The target consists of four tracks of the same width. What is the ratio between the total red and the total yellow areas of the target? Ignore the white lines.



## 3. ★★★★☆

Which of the jigsaw patterns form a cube when folded along the dotted lines?



## SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES

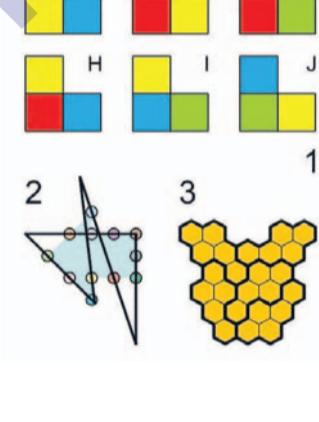
## Drawn With Ease



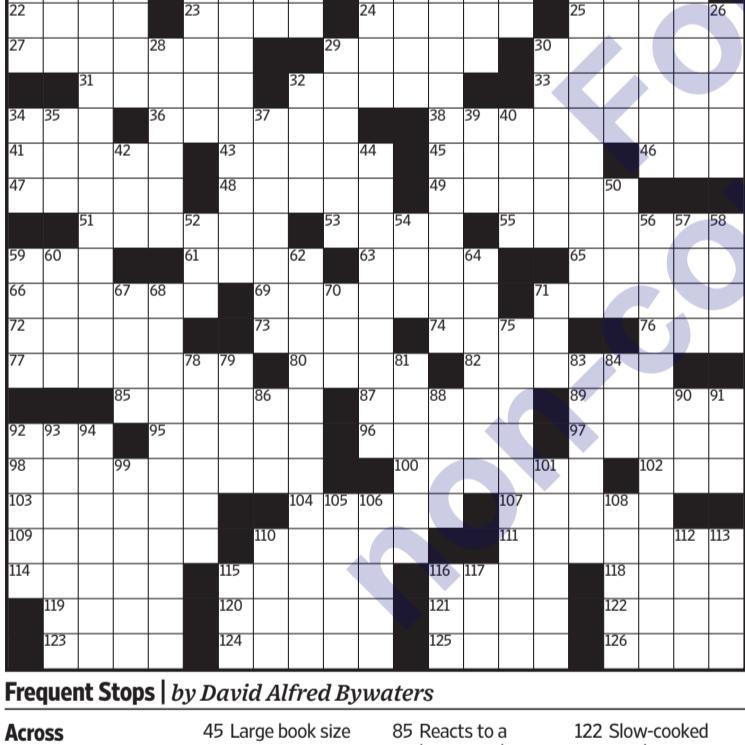
## Acrostic

Stephen King, "Salem's Lot"—"When fall comes, kicking summer out...settles in the way an old friend will settle into your favorite chair and take out his pipe and light it and then fill the afternoon with stories of places he has been and things he has done since last he saw you." A. Saddle soap; B. Twist of fate; C. Ethel Waters; D. Pressure; E. Hit the ceiling; F. Elevation; G. Neuchatel; H. Kiwifruit; I. Insomnia; J. Newfoundland; K. Grenadine; L. Shirttail; M. Anthony Hopkins; N. Lois Lane; O. Etch A Sketch; P. Misery; Q. Seton Hall; R. Lady Macbeth; S. Out of the woods; T. "The Shining"

## WSJ Brain Games



## THE JOURNAL WEEKEND PUZZLES edited by MIKE SHENK



## Frequent Stops | by David Alfred Bywaters

## Across

- 1 Sail's support
- 5 Capital whose patron saint is Hallvard
- 9 Lip-smacking
- 14 Purveyors of pampering
- 18 Empire that kept records with knotted strings
- 19 Friend's address
- 20 Sneeze sound
- 21 Raised ridge
- 22 Totally lose it
- 23 Message via thumbs
- 24 Wear the crown
- 25 Town on Long Island's South Shore
- 27 Crucially influential
- 29 Sprawls out
- 30 Pitched well
- 31 Move with stealth
- 32 Like some flaws
- 33 Must
- 34 Hand holder
- 36 Thousand Island dressing ingredient
- 38 Like many a Hollywood romance
- 41 fortuna (good luck)
- 43 Paper pieces
- 45 Large book size
- 46 Deg. requiring many oral exams
- 47 Lip-curling expression
- 48 Banking pro?
- 49 Man from Manchester
- 51 Proposed replacement for Jackson on the twenty
- 53 Stare stupidly
- 55 Polish nobleman who led the American cavalry
- 59 Mid-11th-century year
- 61 Favorable votes
- 63 Goof off
- 65 Magic Kingdom neighbor
- 66 "Yer lyin!"
- 69 You can draw it or hold it
- 71 Produce
- 72 "The Government Inspector" writer
- 73 Thousand Island dressing ingredient
- 74 Window part
- 76 Letters after CD-
- 77 Pants measures
- 80 Aspiring painters' degs.
- 82 Harm
- 85 Reacts to a hammered thumb
- 87 State fundraiser
- 89 Glad rival
- 92 Sun spot
- 95 Baker with the #3 hit "Giving You the Best That I Got"
- 96 Overthrow, e.g.
- 97 Not 8-down
- 98 German city nicknamed the "Nice of the North"
- 100 Hood on a Bentley
- 102 Lower in the country
- 103 Showing stress
- 104 Moist at sunrise
- 107 Kin of crepes
- 109 Walk with confidence
- 110 Nocturnal nesting
- 111 Fixes boots, e.g.
- 114 Source of "mongoose" and "mynah"
- 115 Ouzo flavoring
- 116 Architect's detail
- 118 Ready to eat
- 119 School since 1440
- 120 Easy to understand
- 121 Fastball, in slang
- 122 Slow-cooked meal
- 123 Number
- 124 Arson investigation evidence
- 125 Wraps up
- 126 Windows to the soul, proverbially
- 127 Fall to notice
- 128 Sister of Charlotte and Emily
- 129 Rallies for rascals?
- 130 Mammal with a highly flexible nose
- 131 Capital about 315 miles northwest of Boston
- 132 Amount owed in a primitive barter system?
- 133 Bagel topping
- 134 Not 97-Across
- 135 97-card deck
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- 370 Kin of crepes
- 371 Hood on a Bentley
- 372 Lower in the country
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- 427 Lower in the country
- 428 Show stress
- 429 Moist at sunrise
- 430 Kin of crepes

ICONS

# The Making Of a Monster

A New York exhibition showcases the many afterlives of Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein"

BY BRENDA CRONIN

**W**hen Mary Shelley's novel "Frankenstein" was published in 1818, it had a first printing of just 500 copies. But this story of the reckoning between a monster and the scientist who created him has cast a durable spell. The "incredibly flexible and adaptable" tale has inspired stage and screen versions as well as comic books, drawings, wood engravings and other interpretations, said Elizabeth Campbell Denlinger, a curator at the New York Public Library.

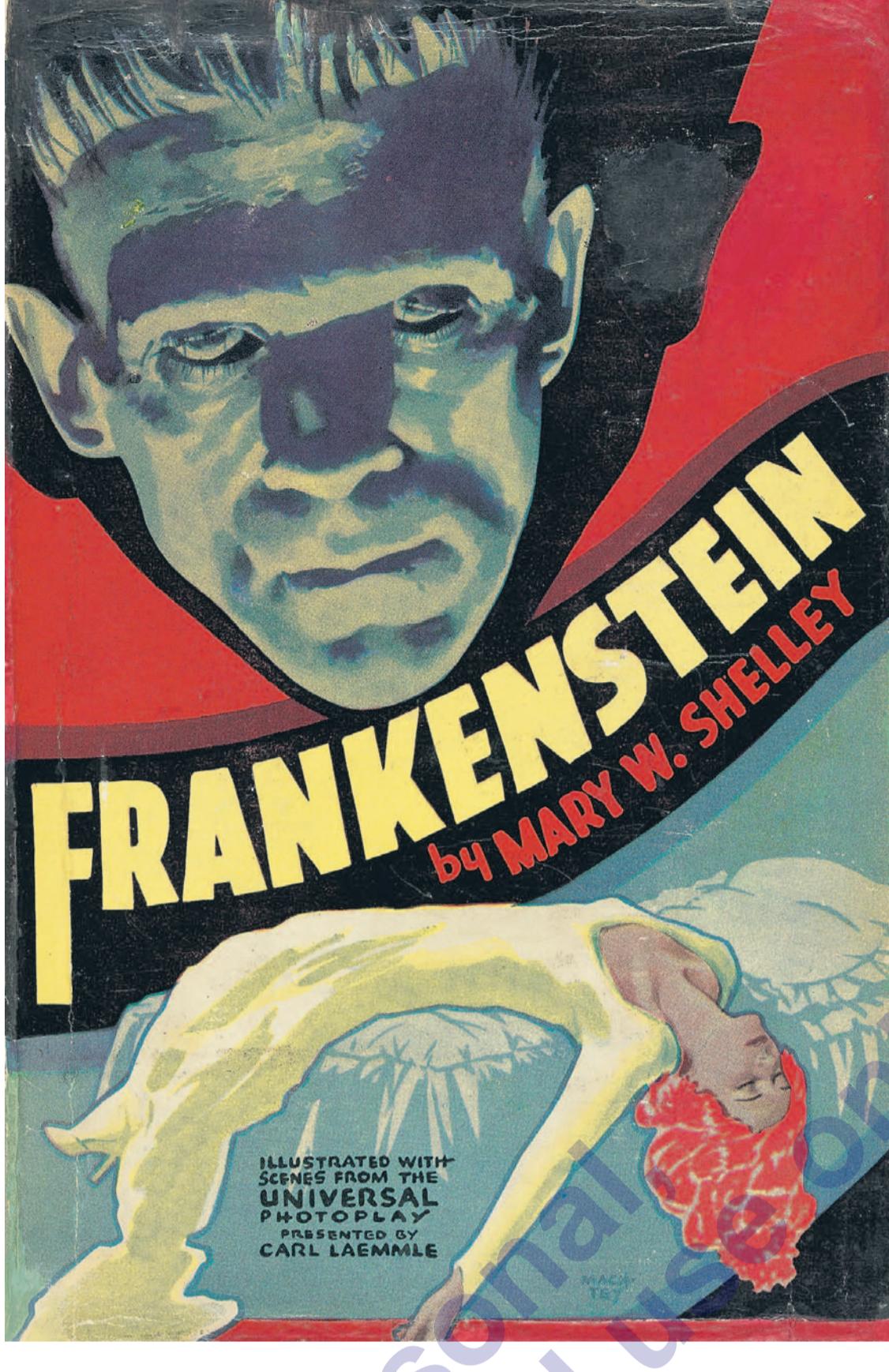
In "It's Alive! Frankenstein at 200," an exhibition opening Oct. 12 at the Morgan Library and Museum in New York, Ms. Denlinger and John Bidwell, a curator at the Morgan, trace how Shelley came to write the novel as well as its influence and colorful legacy.

The exhibition includes key pages from Shelley's manuscript and a first edition of the book with the author's revisions. There are playbills from early theatrical productions as well as covers of "The Monster of Frankenstein" and "The Bride of the Monster" from Marvel Comics. In a billboard for the 1931 movie, Boris Karloff is a hulking figure with a square head and heavy-lidded eyes, arms extending well beyond his dark sleeves.

From the 1935 sequel "The Bride of Frankenstein," the exhibit has a copy of the fright wig streaked with lightning bolts that Elsa Lanchester wore as the creature's reluctant mate. In the film, Lanchester also played Mary Shelley. From Mel Brooks's 1974 sendup, "Young Frankenstein," there are photographs of Peter Boyle as the pyrophobic monster, his head held together by a zipper at his neck and stitches at his temples.

Shelley, who published "Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus" at age 20, could draw on the baroque misfortune of her own life for the macabre tale. She was 10 days old when her mother, the feminist writer Mary Wollstonecraft, died. As a teenager, she eloped with the English Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley and wandered with him across Europe. She came up with her tale as part of a parlor game among friends vying to write ghost stories.

Shelley was the clear winner in that contest, with her account of chemistry student Victor Frankenstein and the murderous creature he concocts in his laboratory. She expanded the tale into a philosophical novel that probes the scientist's obligation to the being he has given life, writing what some critics consider the first science-fiction novel.



The dust jacket of a 1931 edition of Mary Shelley's novel.

Shelley's book sold respectably, but it was the theatrical adaptations, which were swiftly churned out by other writers, that made "Frankenstein" a sensation. In the novel, the monster eloquently debates his fate with Victor Frankenstein. On stage, "the creature lost the ability to speak," Ms. Denlinger said, and was reduced to grunts and flamboyant, menacing pantomime.

In the Morgan exhibit, playbills from early productions identify the nameless creature with only dashes—a gimmick that met with Shelley's approval. In time, audiences began to call the monster by his creator's name. "What else were you going to call it but Frankenstein?" Ms. Denlinger said. "He is Victor Frankenstein's offspring, after all."

With 19th-century audiences ripe for a good laugh as well as a good scare, parodies sprang up. In one, the scientist becomes a tailor named "Frankenstitch." In another, "Frank-in-Steam," he is a philoso-

pace and then speed up the tempo to *agitato* as things took a terrifying turn on screen.

The exhibition's grisly highlights include fragments of the skull of Percy Bysshe Shelley, who drowned off the coast of Italy in 1822. They were plucked from the poet's funeral pyre. There is also a model of Robert De Niro's makeup for the lead role in Kenneth Branagh's 1994 movie, "Mary Shelley's Frankenstein." The mottled skin on the model's face and chest is furrowed with bloody ladders of oozing sutures.

"It's truly horrifying," Ms. Denlinger said. "Any-one who has ever had the most minor surgery is like: 'Yaaaah!' The wax cast was needed for continuity in the monster's appearance. 'They had to do this because how are you going to make him look like the same thing the next day, right?' Mr. Bidwell said. That said, he added, in the exhibit "there should almost be a trigger warning."

UNIVERSAL PICTURES COMPANY, INC.

## MASTERPIECE | 'WAITING FOR THE STAGE' (1851), BY RICHARD CATON WOODVILLE

# A Winning Group of Cheaters

BY JOHN WILMERDING

**A**MONG America's genre painters of the mid-19th century, Richard Caton Woodville (1825-1855) is one of the finest though less well known figures. George Caleb Bingham in Missouri and William Sidney Mount on Long Island, New York, are far more familiar, largely because of longer careers and much more extensive output. Woodville's life was short, he produced only a dozen or so finished works, and almost all of his quintessential American subjects were painted while he was abroad.

Woodville studied art early in his native Baltimore. He also enrolled briefly at the University of Maryland Medical School, an experience that gave him a firm understanding of anatomy and physiognomy. During the mid-1840s he completed and exhibited his first genre scenes, and then left to train further at the Düsseldorf Academy.

There he gained additional proficiency in drawing, geometry and perspective, all of which he would put to good use in the construction of his small theatrical spaces. Staying in Germany a half-dozen years, Woodville was in France and England through the early 1850s. An overdose of morphine killed him at the age of 30.

His best paintings, like "Waiting for the Stage" (1851), in the Corcoran Collection at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, demonstrate the meticulous detailing and polish of the prevalent Düsseldorf style. Woodville's art also reflects many of the cultural undercurrents in

the city of Baltimore and American life more broadly.

Figures reading newspapers appear with increasing frequency at the end of his career. Newspapers played a strong visual role in several of Woodville's major compositions, including "Politicks in an Oyster House" and "Mexican War News," both 1848. They reflect a growing literacy in the populace, expectations of new and faster methods of communications, notably the telegraph, and advances in newspaper production and circulation, resulting in the so-called "penny press." We can find people reading papers and books in a number of Woodville's contemporaries, like Mount, Christian Mayr, and Eastman Johnson.

Game-playing was another favorite theme of genre artists, whether cards, chess or checkers, again depicted by Johnson, Mount, and Bingham. Woodville painted several examples, such as "The Card Players" (1846) and "The Game of Chess" (1851), often adding the presence of whiskey nearby. On one level these alluded to the game of life, but game-playing also introduced the elements of chance and deceit.

Eyeglasses often had a key role in these paintings. Reading and the game of cards come together in "Waiting for the Stage," another signature work by Woodville. This is an intriguing and complex, yet subtle, picture with only three people in it. We are in the waiting room of a stagecoach inn, with an apparently rigged card game under way.



Woodville cloaks seeming ordinariness of subject and clarity of presentation in ambiguity and uncertainty.

Woodville's most recent biographer, Justin Wolff, has pointed out that a new compositional device is at work enclosing this space. Instead of the usual spatial boxes of his previous paintings, oriented parallel to the picture plane, the floor and walls here are now turned at a slight angle, such that we are much more aware of the tensions working against symmetry.

This is most obvious in the planks of the floor running diagonally across the foreground, and the desk and wood chair set counter to those lines. In other words, this is not only a claustrophobic space typical of the artist, but its very density and crosscurrents convey a sense of trickery, borne out by other key details.

Like many cities at this time, Baltimore had its share of roughnecks, pickpockets, petty thieves, charlatans and card sharks. They were

types Woodville was familiar with, and ones he most enjoyed including in his narratives. Surrounding the trio of figures in "Waiting for the Stage" are the familiar props of spittoon, whiskey decanter, cards and a bright carpetbag. It is uncertain who is actually travelling and who is pretending to. Is the man across the table, wearing a wedding ring, on his way home, or is the near player en route, traveling bag by his feet? How innocent is the face of the man looking up from his cards? Who is trying to deceive whom?

Among the most telling details are the newspaper boldly named *The Spy* and, holding it, the standing gentleman wearing blackened eyeglasses, or one might say, spyglasses. These are quite likely the first dark shades to appear in an American painting, and would normally be associated with blindness.

Here of course they are to conceal where the newspaper reader is really looking, probably at one or both hands of cards, no doubt complicit in the gambling going on. The large mirror framing his head further suggests the possibility that reflected details may be seen by the near card player, but not by his opponent or the viewer. Is that a playing card visible at the upper left edge of the mirror?

Some observers speculate that all three participants are cheating. It is Woodville's cleverness that he can cloak such seeming ordinariness of subject and clarity of presentation in ambiguity and uncertainty.

Mr. Wilmerding is an independent art historian living in New York.

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The Droll  
Globe-trotter  
Monty Python's  
Michael Palin  
shares travel  
tips **D5**

FASHION | FOOD | DESIGN | TRAVEL | GEAR

# OFF DUTY

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - 30, 2018 | **D1**

Tamagotchi  
2.0  
The 'digital pet'  
returns to nag  
nostalgic  
millennials **D11**



## The 3,650-Day Bargain

We've all heard the phrase 'investment shopping,' but can a \$9,500 bag ever deliver on its price? We asked 10 women for their most strategic splurges and calculated the value in both tangible and intangible terms



F. MARTIN RAMIN/THE WALL STREET JOURNAL LETTERING BY ANGELA SOUTHERN

**COST IN TRANSLATION** Kelly 25 Bag, \$9,500, Hermès, 800-441-4488

By RORY SATRAN

**I AM PROBABLY** not the only person to have suffered a minor, first-world breakdown at Madame Paulette, a Manhattan dry cleaner that bills itself as "the world's leading cleaning and restoration specialist." Not New York—the world. I'd gone there in an attempt to salvage a flared black wool Azzedine Alaïa skirt purchased in Paris years before. Bought on a deep discount, yet still expensive for me, the skirt was pivotal: I'd worn it at least once a week for over 10 years. It was, unequivocally, my best fashion investment ever, and due to an encounter with a savage dryer setting it appeared to be ruined.

With the help of one of Madame Paulette's elves, I managed to resurrect the skirt, and its near loss made me even more conscious of how important our investment fashion pieces are. These are the precious—usually expensive but not always—garments that we wear faithfully year after year. Although pulling the trigger on a perfectly cut camel-hair coat or a handmade pebbled-leather handbag can be painful, with time the expense can be worth it. That's why sources ranging from penny-pinching blogs to your Aunt Sue encourage you to think about an item's CPW: its Cost Per Wear over time. But can fashion ever really be a good "investment?"

The behavioral economist Cass Sunstein explained to me that there are

two ways to think of investment. The first, he said, "is that you have it, and you enjoy it, and you use it for a long, long time." Like a solid family car, or a good suit. The second kind is a more typical investment scenario: putting money into "stocks or comic books or art" in the hopes of reselling it later at a profit. Although fashion investments have historically fallen into the former category, they're now entering the latter too.

Fashion speculators have long hawked rare Supreme hoodies and Hermès Birkin bags on the secondary market, but websites like The RealReal and Rebag are making it easier for laypeople to resell. Of the pieces that fall into the investment category, Charles Gorra, the founder and CEO of Rebag, said, "It's rare that they are pure financial investments, but what we see most is a hybrid rationale," a combination of a "fashion-oriented decision" and a "rational financial mind-set."

Buy it today because you love it and want to wear it, but be comforted by the idea that your wardrobe has value. (Those who have read "The Devil Wears Prada" will remember that its lead character buys her independence from a particularly demeaning 9-to-5 job by selling her designer clothing.)

Investment shopping needn't be dryly analytical, however. I interviewed 10 stylish women about their best fashion buy ever, and their passionate, idiosyncratic answers run the gamut from a lavender flowered skirt to bondage-inspired harness boots.

For our fashion investors' finds, turn to page D2

### Inside



**IT MATTERS IF IT'S BLACK AND WHITE**

Michael Jackson's high-contrast sock-loafer combo is (challengingly) back **D3**



**MURDER, SHE ATE**

From Appalachia hails the appetizing notion of 'killing' greens with bacon fat **D7**



**STUDY PARTNERS**

The 'desk for two' has come a long way since its 19th-century heyday **D8**



**AN OREGON ORIGINAL**

Known as 'Portland without the weird,' Oregon City has its own hipster appeal **D4**



## STYLE &amp; FASHION

COPYCAT

# The King of Socks

Mr. Jackson's moves were unique, but the brave can ape his socks and loafers

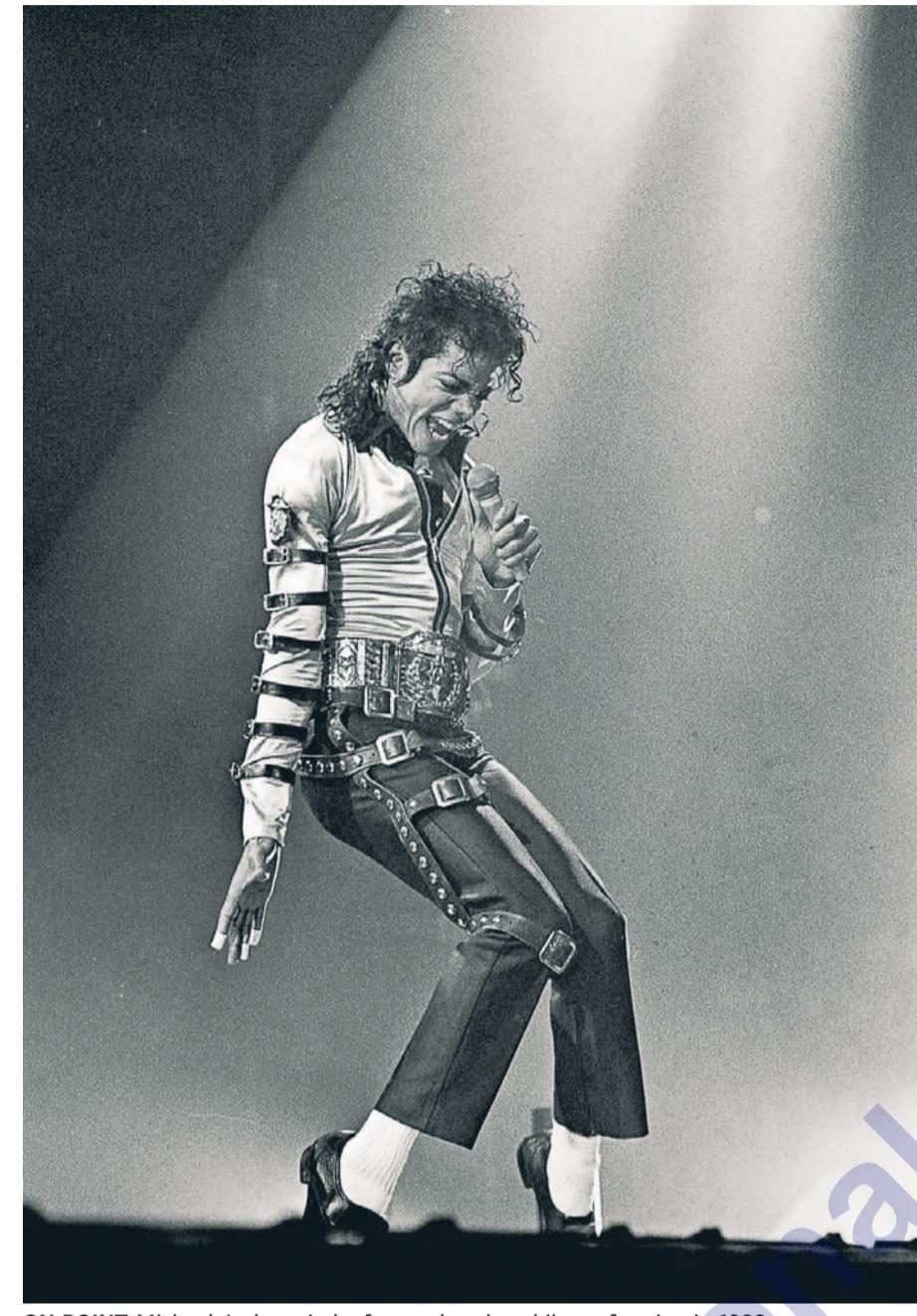
BY JACOB GALLAGHER

**I**N 2009, not long after Michael Jackson died, a pair of his white socks sold at Julien's Auctions in Beverly Hills for \$60,000. Calling them mere "white socks," though, doesn't do the King of Pop justice. This pair of athletic socks, which Mr. Jackson wore on the 1984 "Victory" tour at the height of his moonwalking superpowers, drip with Swarovski crystals from heel to ankle. Designed by the late costumer-to-the-stars Bill Whitten to be worn with patent black penny loafers, the shiny socks acted like a beacon onstage so that even fans way out in the nosebleeds could spot Mr. Jackson's fancy footwork.

Though only a performer with M.J.'s moves could pull off a crystal-coated tube sock, men with less theatrical aims are bringing back the improbable white-sock-black-loafer look. "Grey or black [socks] seem kind of boring," said Liam Fleming, 19, a student at New York University who considers the white hosiery alternative "neat" when paired with his black G.H. Bass & Co. Weejuns. His friends share that view, he said, but Mr. Fleming did encounter some less reassuring feedback recently when a restaurant host looked down and asked, "Are you a fan of Michael Jackson?"

"I couldn't tell if he was complimenting me or making fun of me," said Mr. Fleming. For some men, the connection to the flashy Mr. Jackson, who's indelibly identified with the look, is reason enough to stay clear. A white sock can seem attention-hungry in the "woohoo look at me" sense, and can also prompt a "did you get dressed in the dark?" reaction.

Pulling off the contrast between a sporty sock and a polished loafer is admittedly tricky, but that very



ON POINT Michael Jackson in loafers and socks while performing in 1988.

clash can counter-intuitively appeal. "You immediately know that it's not 100% right and that's what's good about it," said Randy Goldberg, 39, co-founder of Bombas, a five-year-old sock company. "It seems off, but when you see someone doing it with style, or pulling it off with the right shoe, the right cut of jeans or pant and the right sock, that looks interesting."

This sock-shoe pairing also brings to mind 1960s preps, who had an eye out for irreverent-looking outfits. Rakish sorts like Paul New-

man and Gene Kelly wore this controversial combo decades before M.J. Loafers with white socks are littered throughout "Take Ivy," the 1965 Japanese book on the style of East Coast collegiates that became a retro fashion bible.

"There's something very nostalgic about white socks," said Julie Ragolia, a fashion stylist who dressed models in them with dark loafers for the latest lookbook of New York label Noah. Ms. Ragolia finds that a white sock "grounds" or balances the

colors around it particularly with a patterned suit or tailored trousers.

Which sock to choose? While a clunky Nike tube sock attracts the wrong kind of ankle attention, a thinner white sock (see inset) contrasts most modishly against a dark loafer.

This effect is particularly appealing now, with the range of interesting loafers out there. While a classic Bass penny is certainly still suitable, a range of updated options is available from Thom Browne's slate-gray, pebble-grain model to Bass's black embossed crocodile-effect pair done in partnership with New York's Engineered Garments. With pristine white socks it's a look that can thrill.

GO-TO LOAFERS / FROM CLASSIC TO STYLE-CONSCIOUS

Carmine Loafers, \$195, [jackerwin.com](http://jackerwin.com)Penny Loafers, \$1,180, [thombrowne.com](http://thombrowne.com)York Chain Loafers, \$890, [tomford.com](http://tomford.com)Weejuns & Engineered Garments Loafers, \$245, [ghbass.com](http://ghbass.com)

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## ADVENTURE &amp; TRAVEL



**WESTWARD EXPANSION**  
Clockwise from top left: Grano, an artisanal bakery opened last year; paddling near Willamette Falls with eNRG Kayaking; Denim Salvage.

# Pioneers! O Pioneers!

Oregon City hasn't been much of a destination since the days of wagon caravans, but a new generation of trailblazers is turning this riverside town into a good-time getaway

BY KATHLEEN SQUIRES

I SAT ON THE sunny patio of the Oregon City Brewery Co. flummoxed by the vast menu. Should I try a Pipe Dream smoked beer described as "liquid bacon," or the Plumbelievable! sour ale, brewed with Oregon plums and boysenberries (and which apparently "glows with an incandescent pink-purplish hue") or one of the other 40-some offerings. I might expect to find such exuberant excess in beer-obsessed Portland, but I was 13 miles south in Oregon City. Better known in recent years, if known at all, as a struggling lumber town and an early American historical site, Oregon City is setting fresh tracks.

Described by local boosters as Portland without the weird (or the price tag), Oregon City still exists mostly within Portlandia's shadow. That wasn't always the case. The Hudson Bay Company established the city on the intersection of the Willamette and Clackamas Rivers in 1829 as a fur-trading center. In 1844, it became the first officially incorporated city west of the Rockies. Once the Oregon Territory was formed in 1848, Oregon City became its capital. In 1851



**ALE AND HEARTY** Clockwise from above: Oregon City Brewing Co., where the kitchen is run by Olympia Provisions, a Portland-based charcuterie company; Greg Petrich at Tony's Smoke House and Cannery—Mr. Petrich and his brother are the fifth-generation of the family-run business; almond cake at Grano Bakery and Market.

that title passed over to Salem, and Oregon City grew into a center for lumber, paper, flour and wool mills.

History buffs, along with elementary-schoolers on forced marches, learn all about the city's glory days at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, which turned out to be far more interesting than its unimaginative

name ominously suggested. Giant bow frames mimicking covered wagons tower over the center's three rustic buildings. Inside, "interpreters" in period garb (bonnets and all) enthusiastically illuminate the history of the land-hungry pioneers who followed the 2,170-mile Oregon Trail from Independence, Missouri, to its terminus at Oregon City. Interactive exhibits show how to properly prepare and pack a wagon (150 pounds of bacon was an essential) and what you'd find in a pioneer tool kit. As I greeted my "interpreter," she handed me a Mason jar filled with cream. "Shake it as we walk through the exhibits," she instructed. "And you'll end up making butter in the pioneer way." Less apt to cause sore arms was the actual pioneer way—hanging cans of cream off the rolling, rattling wagons to agitate the contents into butter.

A mile down the road from the interpretive center lies Oregon City's second most famous site: the Municipal Elevator, connecting the downtown riverside to the midtown bluff. Originally built in 1915, it replaced 722 onerous steps, and was rebuilt in a more modern style in 1955.

A 15-second ride lifted me to the city's best vantage point, where I took in the Willamette River, with the curved Arch Bridge to my right, the mighty Willamette Falls to my left and fir-covered hills beyond. Just outside the observation deck I strolled the McLoughlin Promenade about a half-mile to the Museum of Oregon Territory. Exhibits there focus on the traders, pioneers and indigenous people of the area, via a compact collection of petroglyphs and arrowheads, and a recreation of a turn-of-the-century pharmacy.

While its history and its

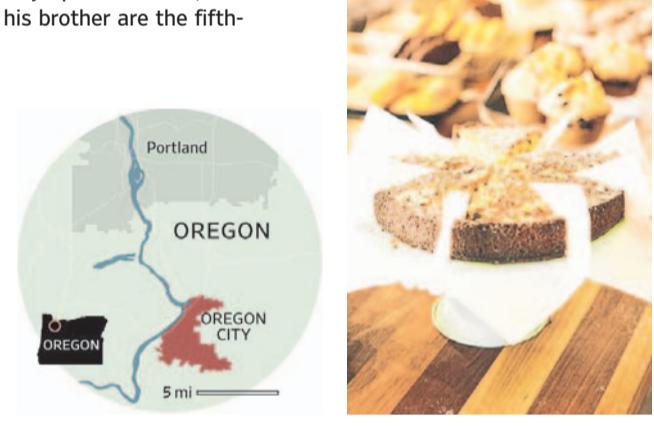
nerdily named landmarks distinguish Oregon City from Portland, the former clearly emulates the latter's worship of all things artisanal.

Among the host of new shops in town (more than 300 business licenses were issued this year alone) is the year-and-a-half-old Designs by THOR on Main Street, where Nigerian-born clothing designer Tony Iyke specializes in bespoke suits for men and women. A few storefronts away is Denim Salvage, which sells made-to-measure new and recycled jeans. "I see a lot of new businesses doing well," said Mr. Iyke, crediting a rise in day-trippers. "There is a vibe about Oregon City that people like a lot. It's more laid back. People come here from Portland for that, to escape the big city and hang out."

We slid along the piers where barking sea lions sunbathed.

And with Oregon City's gentler rents, more Portlanders seem to be coming to stay. Ulises Alvarez, a sourdough fanatic at the year-and-a-half-old Grano bakery, just off Main Street, honed his skills at Tabor Bread in Portland. Olympia Provisions, the popular Portland-based charcuterie company, runs the kitchen at the Oregon City Brewery Co.

Not all of Oregon City's tastiest options are imported. Tony's Smoke House and Fish Market, a few blocks from Main Street, has been a lo-



cally loved spot for fried fish and smoked sockeye salmon since 1936.

Six breweries have opened locally within the last five years, starting with Fecken Brewing in the Canemah neighborhood in 2013. It brews in the Irish tradition, although offerings like the Top O' the Fecken Morning, an imperial milk porter brewed with vanilla beans, cold-brewed coffee and steel-cut oats is closer to something found in PDX than in Dublin. The attached smokehouse features smoked turkey drumsticks and two axe-throwing lanes, a tribute to the city's logging past. Coin Toss Brewery on Fir Street promotes its goat yoga sessions at the nearby Beaver Lake Stables—where a participant can downward dog with a caprine creature on her back—capped off with a beer tasting. (Those who refer to Oregon City as Portland without the weird may not have gotten wind of these "goatga" classes.)

Taking a break from meals and beer flights, I wandered over to the river. On the banks of the Willamette River, eNRG Kayaking outfitted me and a group of about five others with a kayak, a paddle, a life vest and a guide, Sam Drevo, a former member of the U.S. Canoe and Kayak team. Gliding with Sam, I cozied up to Willamette Falls, the second largest waterfall by volume in the U.S. More



**CUTTING EDGE** Tony Iyke customizes suits at Designs by THOR.

**rickie freeman**  
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## ADVENTURE &amp; TRAVEL

20 ODD QUESTIONS

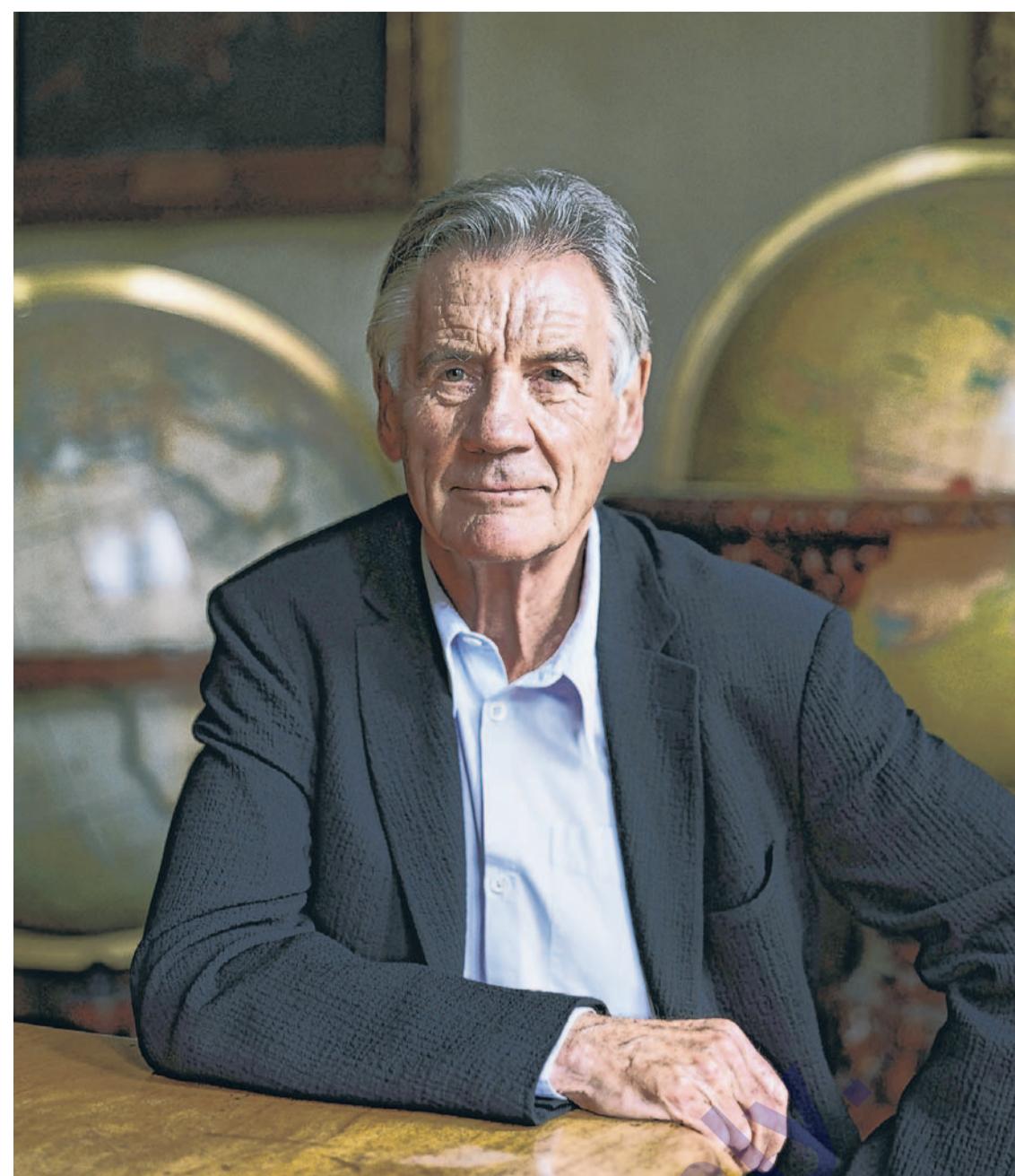
# Michael Palin

The peripatetic Monty Python alum on teaching geography in North Korea, eating grasshoppers in Mexico City and the type of tourists he hates

**M**ICHAEL PALIN seems to be most in his element when he's out of his element. This May, for example, the writer and founding member of Britain's Monty Python comedy troupe celebrated his 75th birthday in North Korea while filming a documentary of a week-long 1,300-mile journey through the enigmatic country. The program, "North Korea from the Inside with Michael Palin," will air on the National Geographic Channel on Sept. 30—30 years, almost to the day, since he set out for the first of his many televised travel adventures, "Around the World in 80 Days."

This week marks the release of Mr. Palin's newest book, "Erebus," which tells the story of the voyages of the HMS Erebus, the 19th-century British warship that was pressed into service as an exploration vessel. Unsurprisingly, Mr. Palin wasn't content to just stick to archival research. In writing "Erebus," he traveled to many of the places the Erebus sailed—from Hobart, Australia to the Canadian Arctic (where the wreckage of the ship was found in 2014) with plenty of stops in-between.

And so, Mr. Palin would be well within his rights to stay put for a while. That's not really his style, however. Last week at the Royal Geographical Society in London he kicked off a world tour of talks about the Erebus. Wherever he lands, he tries to end every day with a walk, exploring, just a bit more. "Beating the bounds," as he calls it. "I think it's a very English thing," said Mr. Palin. "It sort of means walking around your property, maybe your town, saying 'This is my place on the Earth at this moment.'" Here, Mr. Palin shares a few discoveries from his wanderings.



JOHN SPINKS FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (PALIN, STOCKINGS); F. MARTIN RAMIN/THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (NOTEBOOKS, BOOK, GLOBE); EVERETT COLLECTION (MONTY PYTHON)



**I love to fly because:** you get this fantastic view of the world. I remember once, in India, flying across the Himalayas and over all the rivers that came off the Tibetan plateau and down through the gorges, into India and Bangladesh. You'd never get that anywhere else, in any other shape or form. I shall remain a window man as long as I can.

**I always carry with me:** these notebooks made in Glasgow, Alwyche all-weather notebooks. They've got good strong black

covers and they've survived everywhere I've been.

**I don't like tourists who:** go to a place which is exactly like home and come back and it's not as if they'd been to a foreign country at all.

**When traveling I eat:** whatever the local food is. This includes grasshoppers and chrysanthemums in Mexico City and snake in Guangzhou.

**Among the oddest things about visiting North Korea**

**was:** I was not allowed to bring a map but I could bring my blowup globe, which is a great way of communicating with people. We went to a school and I taught a geography lesson by throwing the globe to the students and getting them to say the name of a country. They knew the United Kingdom, but none of them had heard of the Queen.

**When I'm on a trip I never:** buy a lot of stuff. I traveled with Terry Gilliam. He's a great one for just buying in bulk. I

remember once with Terry, we were in India. We went out to this amazing place with a huge collection of antique furniture. Terry bought two doors as big as the building, and had them shipped back. That's not my inclination.

**The best part about filming 'Monty Python and the Holy Grail' was that:** Scotland

[where much of the movie was shot] is just so spectacular and the scenery is free. At the end of a long ride on a sleeper train we woke up in

the morning and got off at a station in the middle of the Highlands. Wind blowing, birds shrieking. It was just fantastic.

**My favorite items at the Royal Geographical Society are:** [Nineteenth-century naturalist] Joseph Hooker's stockings that he wore in the Erebus expedition in the Antarctic.

Even though they're a cheesy-looking pair of big long socks, they became my sort of spiritual talisman.

**I started traveling, really traveling, when:** I was 45 and we set out on "Around the World in 80 Days."

Quite a large chunk of my life was spent without travel, without being able to go far. I never saw the world until I was 45.

**The most impressive view I can remember is:** from Christ the Redeemer in Rio. Well worth the sweat to get up there.

**If I ever get to name a large mountain:** I'd name

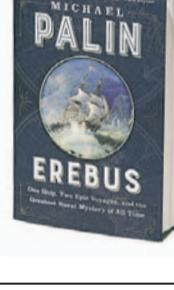
it for something very small. Like my newest grandchild, a granddaughter called Rose. She's only a few weeks old. I can tell her later, "Hey, see that big 23,000-foot-high mountain, that's named after you."

**When I'm away from home I am:** a different person, in a way. The whole excitement and drama of your life steps up a few notes. Whereas if you sit at home, you may be thinking, "Oh dear, I'm just getting older and no wiser."

**An inspiring place for a walk is:** in Hobart, Tasmania. You have this very long river estuary that widens out with flashing lights that are a mile away, and beyond that, a sea that leads to Antarctica. That was

something to walk past. To stop, to have a few little imaginings, to reflect on distance, reflect on danger, reflect on achievement.

—Edited from an interview by Matthew Kronsberg



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## EATING &amp; DRINKING



ON WINE / LETTIE TEAGUE

## The Perverse Pleasure of A Truly Horrible Bottle

**WHAT IS A BAD WINE?** What does it taste like? How does it smell?

Bad wine can be remarkably hard to describe. But acquiring the terminology for describing negative experiences can be as useful to a wine drinker as knowing how to express praise. Critical comments can help frame an unpleasant encounter so the wine may be avoided in the future and provide warning to fellow drinkers. Some negative notes are even great fun to read.

A bad wine could be a wine that is cheaply made from poor-quality fruit, or one that started out well enough—perfectly ripe grapes harvested at just the right time—but was subjected to some bad wine-making techniques along the way. For example, the winemaker may have fermented the wine a bit too long in new oak barrels—resulting in a wine whose fruit is squashed by excessive oak flavor—or tried to de-acidify a wine that seemed a little too sharp and ended up leaving it lifeless and flabby. Or maybe the winemaker couldn't afford barrels at all, so he or she used wood chips instead, resulting in something that tasted more like a block of wood in a bottle than a wine

made from grapes.

A wine could also be bad because of poor handling post-bottling. It might be corked—that is, exposed to the chemical compound TCA, usually found on the cork—or it might just be over the hill. There are words in general parlance for a wine afflicted by one of these problems. For example, a wine that's

**The wine tasted like St. Joseph children's aspirin, the orange kind, dropped into a glass of Alka-Seltzer.**

corked is often said to smell like a damp basement or wet dog, while a wine that's too old is generally described as dusty and dried out, all tannin, no fruit.

But when a wine is bad because it's badly made—unbalanced or overpowered by one element or another, or produced with some kind of chemical additive—it can be harder to put the experience of

tasting the wine into words. When I've asked otherwise articulate friends about the bad wines they've encountered, they've usually responded by wrinkling their noses or waving their arms or simply saying "Blech."

Critics employ a fairly consistent lexicon to describe the way a good wine tastes and smells. It might be: bright, juicy, lively, impressive, balanced, linear, well-structured, effortless, tightly knit, generous, powerful and/or vigorous. Most critics and columnists, however, don't tend to lavish words on unworthy bottles.

Some of the most enjoyable tasting notes (for good wines) that I've read are written by Peter Gago, head winemaker of the illustrious winery Penfolds, in Australia. Mr. Gago, who has been with Penfolds for nearly 30 years, writes most of the notes himself, and they aren't technical—or, for that matter, objective. As with most winemakers' descriptions of their own bottles, his tend toward words of praise. Take, for example, his note on the wine tasting sheet for the 2016 Penfolds Reserve Bin A Adelaide Hills Chardonnay: "a more pronounced grape-

fruit pith character assumes control of the palate." The wine also has "background minerals/struck rock/ferric flintiness." Mr. Gago's flagship wine, Penfolds Grange, has "a radiant inner sheen" and "a loss of innocence." I don't know if he means the wine's innocence or the

drinker's, but I want to know what that tastes like—to say nothing of that radiant sheen.

If anyone could write a great bad wine tasting note, Mr. Gago could. It surely would be instructive and amusing too. So I proposed the project to him, when he was visiting New York for a few days to present the new vintage of Penfolds wines.

Mr. Gago was a bit skeptical at first. He had certainly encountered faulty wines, he said, but they didn't really require much in the way of notes, he thought. For example, an overly alcoholic wine might be "hot on the finish." But what of a wine that was just bad but not technically flawed? Could he write a tasting note for one of those?

If he encountered a bad wine, Mr. Gago said, he would try. And since he had to fly back to Australia in a few days, he might actually encounter one sooner than later,

among the offerings on the airplane, as one so often does, especially in coach.

The day after my chat with Mr. Gago, my husband and I went out to dinner with our friends Lori and Holly. I described the difficulty in describing bad wines and the challenge I'd put to Mr. Gago, of composing a bad tasting note. Bad wine tasting notes could provide pleasure as well as service to drinkers, Lori observed. "Like food critics are at their best when the food was bad," she said. Holly disagreed. She understood why no one wanted to linger long over a bad wine. "You don't want to put words to it. No golfer wants to watch a ball go into the woods. You look away from disaster," she said. Holly (16 handicap) likes golf metaphors.

Lori and I had each brought a wine to the (BYO) restaurant. My contribution was the 2017 La Spinetta Il Rosé di Casanova, a Tuscan rosé that we'd all had before and liked. Lori brought a bottle of 2017 i Capitani Gaudium Fiano di Avellino that she'd purchased on a salesman's recommendation.

We finished the rosé and turned to the Fiano. I tasted it first. "This is a bad wine," I said. It was perhaps the only time that I've felt happy not sad on encountering a truly lousy wine. What were the odds of talking about bad wine and then encountering one directly thereafter?

Lori was defensive. "The salesperson said it was good," she insisted. I pointed out that the wine had a vaguely chemical smell—like a drugstore copy of a real perfume—and tasted like a fizzy baby aspirin. In the meantime, Holly tasted it too. She fine-tuned my tasting note: The wine tasted like St. Joseph children's aspirin, the orange kind, dropped into a glass of Alka-Seltzer. "I don't want to contemplate something bad," said my husband. Lori said nothing at all. Maybe bad wine isn't so funny when the bottle is yours?

Because bad wine can be difficult to describe (as my friends who merely say "Blech" might agree), it's useful to furnish descriptors others can recognize. Who hasn't tasted aspirin or Alka-Seltzer?

A few days after that dinner, I received Mr. Gago's bad tasting note in an email from the winery's publicist. She said it "worried" her to do so. Might it make Mr. Gago look bad?

He declined to identify the name or even the grape variety of the wine that he had tasted, but his note hardly suffered for a lack of specificity. The red wine "redefines the meaning of 'rough red,'" he wrote. "The aromas were 'weedy, immature, bruised,' the appearance was 'dull, murky brick-red,' and structurally the wine was 'but a husk.' My favorite line of all: 'I don't think this wine will actually make you ill—although never say never.'

It's really a shame that Mr. Gago is such a good winemaker. He's such a masterful writer of bad-wine tasting notes.

► Email Lettie at [wine@wsj.com](mailto:wine@wsj.com).

SLOW FOOD FAST / SATISFYING AND SEASONAL FOOD IN ABOUT 30 MINUTES

## Zucchini Quesadillas With Pistachio-Pumpkin-Seed Salsa

**GROWING UP IN** northern Mexico and Texas, then working in some of Austin's top restaurants, Fermín Nuñez developed a highly personal take on Mexican cuisine. "I love the foundation of Mexican cooking. Reinventing the wheel is harder than just cooking with heart and letting it flow," he said.

These zucchini quesadillas, gooey with mild Oaxaca cheese and punched up with pickled peppers, epitomize the sort of cooking—equally comforting and surprising—

**Total Time:** 25 minutes  
**Serves:** 4

**1 cup distilled white vinegar**  
**½ tablespoon sugar**  
**Kosher salt**  
**½ cup thinly sliced banana peppers**  
**3 tablespoons olive oil**  
**¼ cup thinly sliced onions**  
**1 jalapeño, seeded and thinly sliced**  
**½ cup pistachios**  
**¼ cup pumpkin seeds**  
**½ cup chopped cilantro**  
**2 small green tomatoes**  
**Juice of ½ lime**  
**3 cups diced zucchini**  
**4 large corn tortillas**  
**2 cups shredded Oaxaca cheese or mozzarella**

**1.** In a small pot over medium

heat, combine vinegar, sugar, a pinch of salt and peppers. Bring to a boil, and once peppers soften, after about 3 minutes, remove from heat. Let peppers cool, then drain.

**2.** Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a medium pan over medium heat. Add onions and jalapeños and cook until soft, about 3 minutes. Reduce heat to low and add pistachios and pumpkin seeds. Cook, stirring, until seeds and nuts toast but do not burn, about 3 minutes. Transfer ingredients to a blender with cilantro and tomatoes. Purée until smooth. Salsa should be thick but still loose. Season with salt and lime juice to taste.

**3.** Meanwhile, set a large skillet over high heat. Dry-sauté

zucchini until black in spots and cooked through, about 2 minutes. Season with salt.

**4.** Wipe pan clean, then set over medium heat. Add half the remaining oil. Once hot, arrange half the tortillas in pan. Spoon on half the cheese, zucchini and pickled peppers, distributing filling over half of each tortilla. Cook until cheese begins to melt, about 1 minute, then fold tortilla over filling. Press down on each folded tortilla and flip. Cook until tortillas crisp further and cheese melts, about 1 minute more. Transfer quesadillas to a plate and repeat with remaining tortillas and filling, adding oil if pan looks dry. Serve quesadillas hot with salsa on the side.



**CHILE FACTOR** Banana peppers, quick-pickled in a brine of vinegar and salt, cut through the rich, nutty salsa with a balancing bright buzz.

**The Chef**

Fermín Nuñez

.....

**His restaurant**

Suerte in

Austin, Texas

.....

**What he's known**

for Smart, elevated takes on Mexican cooking. Perfecting the art of the tortilla

JAMES RANSOM FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, FOOD STYLING BY EUGÈNE JHO, PROP STYLING BY CARLA GONZALEZ-HART, ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL HOEWELER

## EATING &amp; DRINKING

# Live a Little, 'Kill' Your Greens

This Appalachian salad doused with warm bacon fat eats like a meal and lends itself to endless improvisation

By LOUISA SHAFIA

**V**ISUALIZE a salad. If you conjure a penitential bowl of cold lettuce—a bribe paid in roughage to gain access to the good part of the meal—then you haven't tried kilt greens.

Also known as killed lettuce, this unabashedly indulgent sort of salad hails from Appalachia. "It's a warm bacon salad, or wilted greens," said Shelley Cooper, the chef at Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro in East Tennessee. "It's just we call it kilt."

Though this dish can be made at any time of year, in the mountain region where it originated, killed lettuce is a traditional sign of spring, when it's made from the tender greens that break through the ground as the snow recedes. Families set out to gather the greens, then toss them with pert young scallops, vinegar and sometimes a shot of sweet sorghum syrup or honey. Just before serving, the cook crisps strips of bacon, pours the resulting hot rendered fat over the greens, and crumbles the bacon on top. The crunchy tangle of dressed greens and bacon typically comes to the table with a skillet of cornbread.

"In warm weather it's light and crispy," said Ms. Cooper. "In winter it's heavier. Sometimes people put the greens in the pan, some people pour the grease over the greens. Every family is different."

In the childhood home of Ronni Lundy, author of the award-winning 2016 cookbook "Victuals: An Appalachian Journey, With Recipes," this simple dish was a favorite meal. "I would hear the bacon crackling and I would know what we were having," she said. "The salad was served in a huge bowl, and we ate enough with the cornbread that it was supper."

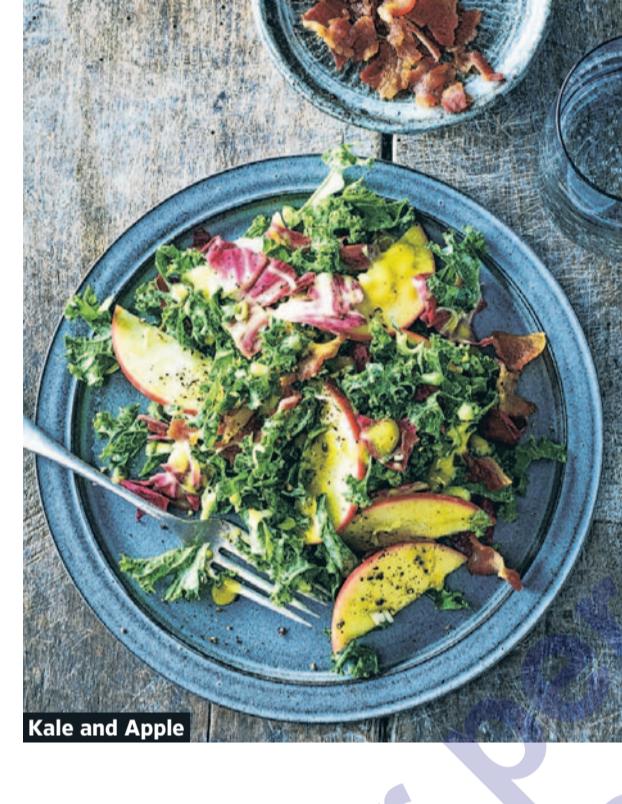
To Ms. Lundy, the complex flavors in kilt greens reflect flavors in kilt greens reflect Appalachia's unique landscape and weather, which have made it perhaps the most diverse foodshed in North America. "The hills and hollows (or 'hollers') were never subject to monoculture and factory farming," she said. "Our climate has a distinct winter, unlike other parts of the South." This lush, rangy pocket of the country is finally being recognized as a culinary polestar, with chefs such as Ms. Cooper, Tennessee's Sean Brock and Virginia's Travis Milton championing of Appalachian foodways to national acclaim.



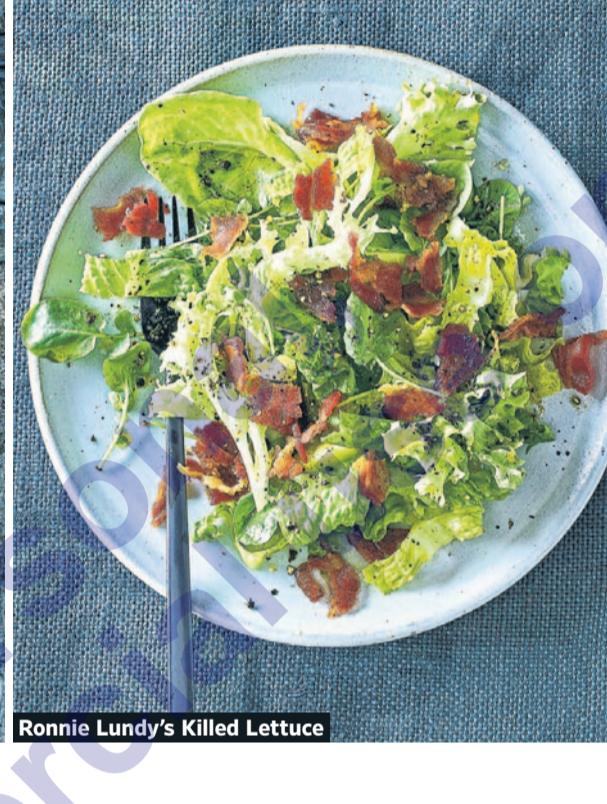
Mediterranean Herb



Shiitake-Bacon and Mixuna



Kale and Apple



Ronnie Lundy's Killed Lettuce

JAMES RANSOM FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, FOOD STYLING BY EUGENE JHO, PROP STYLING BY CARLA GONZALEZ-HART

**lions, minced, and 1 sweet, crisp apple, sliced thin.** In a small bowl, whisk together 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup apple cider vinegar. In a skillet over medium heat, fry 4 bacon slices until very crisp, then transfer to a paper-towel-lined plate to drain. Remove skillet from the heat. Pour vinegar-mustard mixture over greens and toss. Pour warm bacon grease from skillet and toss again. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste. Crumble bacon over greens and serve immediately.

## Shiitake-Bacon and Mizuna

**Total Time:** 40 minutes

**Serves:** 4

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place 2 cups very thinly sliced shiitake mushroom caps in a large bowl. In a small bowl, whisk together 5 tablespoons olive oil, 1 teaspoon sesame oil and 1 teaspoon soy sauce, and pour it over shiitakes. Add a dash of salt, and toss until mushrooms have absorbed all liquid. Spread mushrooms in a single layer on a baking sheet, and bake 10 minutes. Toss and bake 10 minutes more. Continue baking, tossing every 5 minutes, until crisp, about 30 minutes total. // Meanwhile, in a large bowl, toss together 8 cups mizuna, tat soi or mixed spring greens, 2 scallions, minced, 3 radishes, thinly sliced, and 1 teaspoon minced ginger. As soon as the mushrooms are done cooking, pour 3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar over greens and toss. Scrape mushrooms and warm cooking oil from baking sheet over greens and toss again. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper, and sprinkle with 2 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds. Top each serving with a soft-boiled egg (optional).

## Mediterranean Herb

**Total Time:** 45 minutes

**Serves:** 4

Bring a pot of salted water to a boil. Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup short grain brown rice and boil, uncovered, until al dente, about 30 minutes. Drain, then return rice to pot and stir in 1 tablespoon olive oil. Turn heat to lowest setting, cover, and cook 10 minutes. // Make dressing: In a small bowl, mash together 2 anchovies and  $\frac{1}{2}$  clove garlic, minced, to form a paste. Add 4 tablespoons olive oil, 5 tablespoons lemon juice and a dash of salt, and whisk to emulsify. // Coarsely chop 4 cups mixed parsley and cilantro. Tear a handful each of basil and mint. In a large bowl, combine herbs with 3 cups romaine lettuce, ribbed and chopped small, and 2 scallions, minced. When rice is done, dress greens and toss. Add hot rice and toss again. Fold in 1 cup crumbled feta and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup toasted walnuts, coarsely chopped, and season with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

## Kale and Apple

**Total Time:** 25 minutes

**Serves:** 4

In a large salad bowl, toss 8 cups torn crisp lettuce, such as iceberg or a mix of mâche, arugula and young romaine, with 2 whole scallions, finely chopped. In a skillet over me-

dia heat, fry 4 bacon slices until very crisp, then transfer to a paper-towel-lined plate to drain. Remove skillet from heat. Pour  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup apple cider vinegar over lettuce and toss. Pour warm bacon grease from skillet over dressed lettuce and toss again. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste. Crumble bacon over greens and serve immediately.

—Adapted from "Victuals" by Ronni Lundy (Clarkson Potter)

## Ronnie Lundy's Killed Lettuce

**Total Time:** 20 minutes

**Serves:** 4

In a large salad bowl, toss 8 cups torn crisp lettuce, such as iceberg or a mix of mâche, arugula and young romaine, with 2 whole scallions, finely chopped. In a skillet over me-

dium heat, fry 4 bacon slices until very crisp, then transfer to a paper-towel-lined plate to drain. Remove skillet from heat. Pour  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup apple cider vinegar over lettuce and toss. Pour warm bacon grease from skillet over dressed lettuce and toss again. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste. Crumble bacon over greens and serve immediately.

## Kale and Apple

**Total Time:** 25 minutes

**Serves:** 4

In a large bowl, combine 1 bunch kale, stemmed and chopped small,  $\frac{1}{2}$  head radicchio, chopped small, 2 scal-

# Shake Up the Daiquiri

Bartenders are rethinking the classic summer cocktail for fall

**IF THERE'S ONE** cocktail bartenders love, it's the Daiquiri, that classic mix of rum, sugar and lime first concocted in Cuba in the early years of the last century. A mid-shift toast is known as a Daiquiri Time Out, or DTO; a Daiquiri divided into shots, a Snaiquiri. The recipe might get dressed up with fruit, frozen into a slushie or amped up with amari or other spirits.

At Palomar in Portland, Ore., owner Ricky Gomez has even come up with a Daiquiri-centered menu, to celebrate the drink as well as his own Cuban-American heritage. His parents were born in Havana, where bars like the Floridita still serve old-school Daiquiris, the sort the Palomar menu pays homage to, including its grapefruit and Maraschino liqueur-spiked Hemingway Daiquiri. I recommend the recipe at right, for Palomar's Daiquiri #1, to any home bartender interested in mastering the classic version. Made from always-on-hand ingredients, it's an opportune formula to have at the ready for impromptu mixing, anytime.

Those interested in doing some experimenting can take a cue from bartenders around the country who are coming up with ways to carry this classic summer refresher into autumn. As the weather grows colder, Mr. Gomez said, "I would go toward a darker or higher-proof rum, or switch up your sugar to a Demerara or turbinado sugar syrup." Other tweaks might include a dash of spiced Angostura bitters or

herbaceous absinthe.

At Detroit's Standby, the Cold Front Daiquiri has the caramel tones of aged rum plus a spiced Demerara syrup warmed by ginger, nutmeg and dried orange peel. The Autumn Daiquiri that bartender Joaquin Simo created for Manhattan's Death & Co. features aged Jamaican rum (for its apple note, he said), plus cinnamon syrup and Angostura bitters. And at the Polynesian in Manhattan, a dash of ube extract made from purple yams lends a violet hue to a variation called the Commodore.

Mr. Gomez believes that at this time of year, a Daiquiri can be especially transporting. "If you want to escape to a warm tropical place in your mind," he said, "the Daiquiri brings you there." —Kara Newman

## Daiquiri #1

Make rich simple syrup: In a pot over medium heat, stir together 1 cup sugar and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water until sugar dissolves. Do not boil. Cool to room temperature. // In a shaker, combine 2 ounces white rum,  $\frac{1}{4}$  ounce lime juice and  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce rich simple syrup. Add ice and shake vigorously. Strain into a chilled coupe. Garnish with a lime wheel. —Adapted from Ricky Gomez of Palomar, Portland, Ore.



IN THE MIX The Daiquiri menu at Palomar in Portland, Ore., features (from left) the Banana Daiquiri, Strawberry Daiquiri and Daiquiri #1 (recipe at left).

DINA AVILA FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

# DESIGN & DECORATING



MICHELLE SLATALLA / A MATTER OF LIFE AND DÉCOR



## A Treatise on the Irrational Love of Trees

**WITH MINUTES TO GO** before guests arrived for a recent garden party to celebrate my eldest daughter's doctorate, I surveyed the scene with satisfaction. Long banquet tables basked in the California sun, draped in white linen and set with my mother's blue china. With the calm of a professional party planner, I gently straightened a tablecloth hem—just one inch. Perfect.

"That pear tree looks dangerous looming over the table," said my youngest daughter, Clementine, who was putting out place cards. She pointed to a gnarled, ancient branch pendulous with fruit. "Should we give helmets to the guests?"

She had a point. While I adore that tree, an unbiased observer might say it looks like a grizzled gray goblin. For years, the tree has had flaky lichen growing on its trunk and black, wilted leaves at the tips of its stunted limbs. If it had been a blighted bush or a declining dahlia, I'd have ruthlessly removed it long ago instead of coddling it. But I admired it. Against the odds, it kept producing spring flowers and summer fruit.

"Its pears are delicious," I said defensively.

"Watch out," Clem said, body checking me to safety as a hard, softball-sized fruit thudded onto the spot where I had been standing.

And then I realized, with an almost sickening clarity, that I had been played by the pear tree.

We were raised to believe that all trees are our friends, but this is not so. Many trees are tyrants. If they're poorly sited, or have grown too big, or create a fire hazard, trees can easily qualify as the worst features of residential gardens. Many "trees" are nothing more than weak-rooted shrubs that have grown into 30-foot monsters waiting to collapse onto your roof during a windstorm. And yet we put up with their bullying. Why?

Because trees have great PR.

Poets have always loved them. They are in the Bible. The tree of life. The tree of knowledge. The family tree. Unlike humans, the older trees get, the more we respect them. Trees have special legal rights. In my Northern California town, some species—including gi-

ant, menacing redwoods—are deemed "heritage trees," and you can be fined \$5,000 for cutting one down without a public hearing.

This sort of knee-jerk tree worship makes professional arborists shake their heads. "I had a client who made the mistake of planting something like 30 little redwood trees in his yard. Years later when they were a hundred feet tall and tearing the heck out of his foundation, he hired a tree crew to cut down a bunch," said Raymond F. Moritz, an arborist who I phoned a few days after the garden party. "The police showed up and said, 'What do you think you're doing, don't you realize you're cutting down 200-year-old redwoods?' And he said to the police, 'Do I look that old? I planted these trees less than 40 years ago.'"

Moral of the story? People love trees, so they buy a little tree and think, 'Isn't it cute,' and soon the roots are devouring the garden and putting pressure on the foundation. Happens all the time," he said.

I confessed: "The other day I had to change the seating arrangement

to protect party guests from getting pelted by a pear tree that is planted a few feet away from my house. Meanwhile its leaves are turning black and look like they're melting."

"Fire blight," Mr. Moritz diagnosed. It's apparently notorious for destroying fruit trees. "I'm afraid you should start thinking about another tree—or something else."

"Something else? Like a shrub?" I asked.

"Tree or shrub, the difference can be in the eye of the beholder," Mr. Moritz said. "In arboreal culture, a multiple-stemmed woody plant with a mature height of 15 feet or less is a shrub. Which sounds right for a small backyard."

At this point I should note that, as my neighbors can testify, I'm no tree apologist. Shortly after I bought my house, to the mortification of my tree-hugger husband, I removed two enormous, poorly sited—and completely healthy—trees in the front garden. One was a holly.

That holly may have looked cute decades ago when it was a seedling at the edge of our driveway. But as a mature tree, its sharp, pointed

leaves scratched the paint on our car and threatened to take out an eye of anyone exiting the passenger side. The other tree I removed was a cedar someone had planted smack in the middle of the front garden without thinking what would happen if it grew to a height of 50 feet with a diameter of 35. What happened was it looked like Jack's bean stalk, dwarfing my one-story cottage and throwing the garden into deep shade.

But the old pear tree was a different story. It whispered to me: "You and me, we're a lot alike. We may be getting older, but we hang on and sustain those around us with our bounty. Plus, looks aren't everything." To me, that pear tree was still beautiful, with white flowers that bloom like a springtime

**Shortly after I bought my house, I removed two enormous, poorly sited—and completely healthy—trees in the front garden.**

snowstorm every March. Wouldn't my garden be barren without it?

Not necessarily, said landscape architect Thomas Rainer, based in Arlington, Va. He was the next person I called, partly to buy time for the pear tree and partly because he's at the forefront of a gardening movement that is considered revolutionary because its primary goal is to make plants happy. He designs landscapes that mimic how plants grow in the wild, with layers of trees, grasses, flowers and creeping ground covers that look more natural than a typical manicured garden.

"Tree removals are traumatic," Mr. Rainer said sympathetically. But, he added, cutting down a tree is a good opportunity to pay attention to what a landscape needs—which in suburbia may not be another tree. In small gardens like mine, he said, the goal is to avoid "a cluttered site, where people do weird things with trees in the middle of the landscape for no reason, or with a cluster of too many trees to create screening."

"Instead, think about archetypal landscapes—forest, forest edge, meadow—and ask that hard question: What does yours want to be?" he said.

"Maybe it wants to be a meadow?" I said uncertainly.

"Then maybe you want an understory tree, something that would naturally grow in a meadow in California," he mused. "A manzanita? There are beautiful California scrub trees to consider. You have a fruit tree now, so maybe you want another tree that's associated with an agricultural landscape. An olive tree?"

Maybe. I hung up the phone and went out into the garden and sat under the pear tree. "You and me," it whispered. Then a pear almost hit me on the head, and I called the tree guy.

*Ms. Slatalla is an editor for [remodelista.com](http://remodelista.com) which, like The Wall Street Journal, is owned by News Corp.*

### EVOLUTION

#### Tête-à-Tête Desks

A new take on the 19th-century partners desk slims it down for the laptop age

THEN



English Figured Mahogany Chippendale Style Partners Desk, \$6,450, [1stdibs.com](http://1stdibs.com)

NOW



Simple Writing Double Depth Desk by OEO Studio for HBF, \$5,285, [hbf.com](http://hbf.com)

**THE TWO-SIDED PARTNERS** desk derived from the pedigree pedestal desk, whose deep drawers not only held files and such but supported the writing surface and a lengthy central drawer. The tête-à-tête variation, with a deeper top and storage on both sides, first appeared in England circa 1850 and found a fan base among upper-echelon bankers. The new configuration

conferred the weighty status of its forebear to two executives at once, and saved space in the bargain. Before long, the piece's appealing efficiency, both in its small footprint and its ability to foster gossip between colleagues, had spread to other professions and down the corporate ladder. By century's end, offices on both sides of the pond were carpeted with them.

**IN THE ERA** of compact laptops, we need far less work surface and stash space than those eminent bankers, but a small footprint still matters, whether in a co-working space or a home office. This design from American furniture brand HBF shaves off desktop acreage and stowage, then further economizes by borrowing the face-to-face setup of the partners desk, so apt for today's idea-sharing

worker bees. It updates the historic model with desktop outlets and a tack-panel enhanced divider, and lets you choose from scores of finishes for the wood and metal elements. Said Thomas Lykke, founder and creative director of Copenhagen's OEO Studio, who conceived it, "The design supports a collaborative work environment, bringing about a sort of open privacy." —Cara Gibbs

THE MEDIATOR

# Heavy Metal Gets a Lift

**The Conflict** One roommate refuses to part with a steel-and-glass coffee table that exudes masculinity, and the other loves their avian-themed wallpaper on a pink background. Three designers suggest bridges across the stylistic chasm



Cole & Son and Fornasetti Collaboration  
Uccelli 114/11022 Wall Covering, \$396 per  
2-panel set, [leejofa.com](http://leejofa.com)



Mondo Coffee Table,  
from \$3,036, [okha.com](http://okha.com)

**Solution 1**  
**Introduce a light both architectural and warm.**  
San Francisco designer Kristen Peña proposed Allied Maker's ADA Alabaster Sconce. Its defined linear elements connect with the sleek coffee table, while the stone diffuser guarantees a gentle light. The table is like the sexiest person in the room, said Ms. Peña. "The sconce brings that sexiness and the wallpaper's softness into the same realm." \$1,100, [alliedmaker.com](http://alliedmaker.com)

**Solution 2**  
**Choose a modern, white sofa.** The performance linen on Williams Sonoma's Catalina Sofa tenderizes its hard lines and acts like the walls of an art gallery, noted New York designer Michael Garvey. When you pair the sofa with the bold, active bird pattern, "you can really appreciate the wallpaper, making it the room's objet d'art while maintaining the modern black-and-white relationship between the table and sofa." From \$2,295. [williams-sonoma.com](http://williams-sonoma.com)



**Solution 3**  
**Add an edgy mirror.** The Half Moon Mirror, recommended by Katherine Carter, a designer in Venice Beach, Calif., combines the simple geometry of a semicircle and an inverted ziggurat with the sensuality of its hand-painted silk fibers. "The charcoal gray fringe, one degree from black, speaks to the masculine table, while its soft tactility connects back to the feminine wall covering," she said. \$2,800, [garde-shop.com](http://garde-shop.com) —Eleanore Park



F. MARTIN RAMIN/THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (WALLPAPER)



**FRESH PICKS**  
**Glass Action**  
The phrase "good bones" pops up in design discussions, but for some of the glasses in the OAO Works 31.3 project, actual bones matter. Using old-world techniques, Czech glassmakers crush cow bones, minerals, and other local ingredients to create one-of-a-kind blues, lavenders and pinks. The precise makeup of each set, either 31 or 14 pentagonal drinking glasses and diamond-shaped pillars of varying height, depends on the artisans' productivity. "Some weeks we get three glasses, others we'll get 50," said Omer Arbel, the Vancouver designer behind the project, who then assembles the glassware into bar-worthy sets. Replacements for broken pieces, said Mr. Arbel, "will be in weird new colors, and they'll completely change the composition." 31.52 Polygon Glassware Set, \$3,900, [oaworks.com](http://oaworks.com)



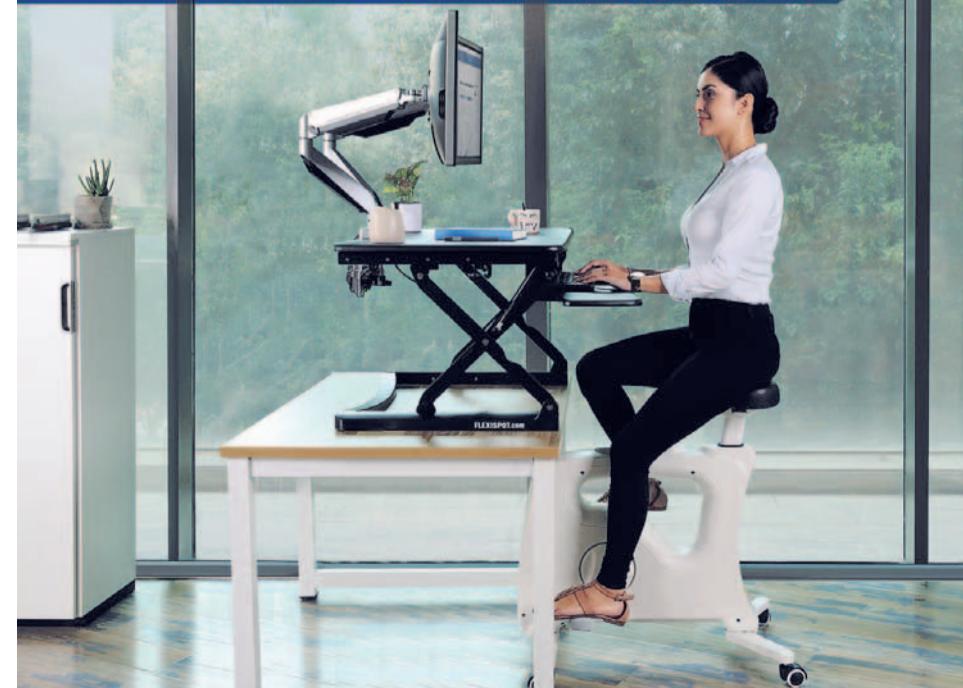
**Cheeky Crockery**  
Unleashing a stampede of dinosaurs on a set of china may sound disastrous, but that's precisely the appeal behind the designs of Don Moyer. Inspired by a piece of Willow china he inherited, the Pittsburgh artist started with the standard blue-and-white pagodas and bridges. "But I felt my version

needed Pterodactyls in the sky rather than traditional birds, and that would make me laugh," he said. New to the collection are a serving platter on which Jurassic monsters frolic (above) and a set of four 7-inch dishes peopled with percussion-playing apes. Dumbous dinner companions, perhaps, but the creatures will trigger conversation. Dinosaurs Platter, \$56, [calamityware.com](http://calamityware.com)

—Lauren Ingram



**WORK MEETS WORKOUT**

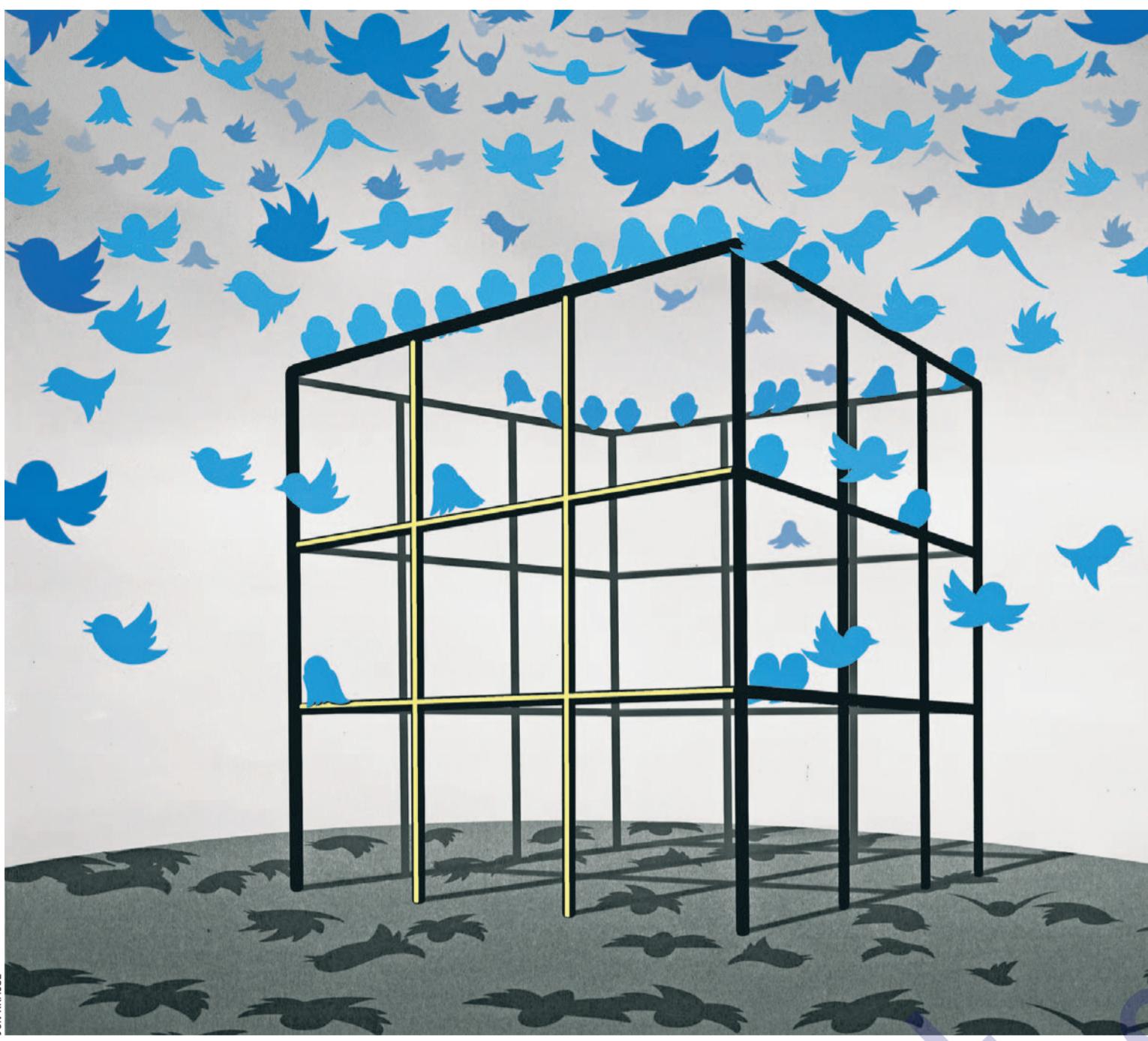


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## GEAR & GADGETS



for a host of shady teen tweeters. For those willing to go the "honest" route, you can get the same effect by adding an empty remark like "this really made me think" to your retweet of something already viral.

Or you can take a popular post and simply affix an introduction. "This!" is a popular one, often with a finger emoji pointing to the post. Or "I'm dead!!!" (presumably from laughter) tends to crop up a lot.

After posting a few disingenuously "personalized" viral tweets, you might earn an audience and start to experiment with your own sense of humor. However silly or subtle or weird or dark it is, there's an audience somewhere among the 335 million on Twitter. But here's the secret of going viral: It's often more trouble than it's worth.

**'The things that go super-viral, hundreds of thousands of faves and retweets, has shifted to the very mundane.'**

"It sucks so bad," said @BrandyLJensen, a writer in New York with 87k followers. "Best case scenario," she said, "You are flooded with responses from people telling you that you 'Won the internet today' or trying to improve on your joke." Worst case: People send you hateful tweets in response.

Getting inundated with notifications can also cripple your phone, which will thwart more attempts to post viral tweets, continuing the cycle as you chase that high, something that will inevitably fail, leaving you wondering why you sought internet fame in the first place.

"I think the average person gets the dopamine hits we all look for, that sense of approval," said Mr. Monahan. "And they get to plug their SoundCloud or their Go-FundMe page for a lifesaving surgery in the replies."

But going viral on Twitter isn't about making yourself happy—if any of us really wanted to do that we'd delete social media and toss our phones in the river. It's about making other people laugh. Which brings me back to our test tweet.

What @ceejoyner did was combine a few common tricks: Reference a few pop culture icons everyone would immediately be familiar with, find an amusing, obvious connection and then tie it all together with a little bow of absurdity.

"Ultimately it's the juxtaposition of Ice T and Arnold Palmer that drives it," he said. "Beyoncé is the facilitator because she's a huge cultural touchstone. Concise phrasing makes it feel clever, even though it's just a nuanced dad joke."

After someone told Mr. Joyner a similar joke had been done, he deleted it. But not before some pretty impressive stats: 2,300 retweets, and 11,200 likes in about 12 hours.

Was it worth it to sell a piece of his soul online? No. Was he glad he tried anyway? Still no. Will he do it again. Of course. That's Twitter.

## Retweet Me Right

For anyone who wants to feel the perverse thrill of going viral on Twitter, online comedians offer their tips—but no guarantees

By LUKE O'NEIL

**S**O YOU WANT to go viral on Twitter? You yearn for the ideas and jokes in your brain to be retweeted upward of 5,000 times, reaching hundreds of thousands of strangers? I've got bad news: Much like desperately striving to be cool, going viral is an elusive art—those most eager to do it are ultimately bound to fail. Because when it comes to achieving viral status, "You don't get to decide!" said Eliza Skinner, a Los Angeles comedian with 50k Twitter followers, who was actually able to do it three times on Sept. 2.

The good news is that going viral can be cynically manipulated to a degree, depending on how filthy you're willing to feel about your hunt for internet fame. So when my

editor asked if there was a trick to infecting the internet, I rallied a few Twitter comedians to see who could offer an instructive lesson. Here's our test tweet, broadcast Sept. 25 by Montreal-based comedian and yarn dyer Chris Joyner (@ceejoyner) to his 55k followers: "Ice T should rap over an instrumental of Beyoncé's lemonade and call the album Arnold Palmer."

I'll tell you how it did later.

The factors that help a tweet like that—or any attempt to delight or upset the public—skyrocket have changed in the decade since the online platform sprouted. Once, genuinely funny people tossed one liners or odd observations into the machine for the love of the game, earning followers, careers, book deals. "I feel like five years ago someone would tweet about how they saw a

McDonald's hamburger fall out of a dude's pocket as he was playing basketball and that tweet would go viral and everyone would be happy," said @IkeBarinholtz, an L.A. actor, director and star of the upcoming film "The Oath" who has more than 280k followers.

Now it isn't uncommon to see someone with few followers tweet "Who remembers these?" above an image of a grade-school pencil sharpener and watch it blow up.

"If we're talking things that go super-viral, like hundreds of thousands of faves and retweets, it seems to have shifted to the very mundane. Something like 'Thanks to the guy who came up with the idea for toast,'" said Patrick Monahan, aka @PattyMo, a New York comedian with more than 132k followers. "It's insane to me, but clearly the people have spoken."

Political tweets from either side of the aisle can also tip Twitter's scales with a heavy thumb: Short, acerbic, and brutal remarks do well. As do saccharine tweet-essays and photos of dogs meant to comfort those of us in pursuit of order in this chaotic universe.

Then there are the celebrities and digitally hyperactive teens who, much as in the real world, operate outside the Internet's laws, dominating the landscape, commanding dedicated audiences and wielding the most power to determine how a tweet might perform. Getting them to see and boost your post might be a surefire way to go viral—do you know any celebrities or teens?

But these are just general observations. "I don't think there's a reliable formula," said @Pixelated-Boat, an anonymous humorist in Australia with 251k followers who now with his outsize audience seems to achieve the feat daily. A lot of it comes down to luck and timing, he said, like "being the first person to make the most obvious joke about a current event."

If you still insist on trying—bless your heart—there are insidious techniques that might help you beat the odds. Copy-and-pasting someone else's post has worked wonders

## Black Water, Keep On Warmin'

We tested the Ember smart coffee cup to see if a high I.Q. makes for a better brew

**A**CCORDING TO MY extremely unscientific, improvised testing methods, it seems that coffee lives in the Goldilocks Zone—not too hot, not too cold—for only about 8 minutes. Typically, after pouring a cup, I sip it tentatively, anxiously, until it reaches my preferred temperature, then gulp the rest down the way I chug Gatorade after a 5K run so I don't waste its peak.

Apparently there's a better way. The Ember ceramic smart mug (\$80, [ember.com](http://ember.com)) comes equipped with a built-in microprocessor and a dual-zone heating element at its base that lets you control it via smartphone. This discreet bit of tech lets you handily dial up or down the coffee's temperature and keep it stable for about an hour (until the battery fades), which is right on target according to experts.

"Coffee degrades after an hour. Period," said Paul Schlader, co-founder of New York City's Birch Coffee chain. "You can't stop that. But a heater can help prolong a bit of that sweet spot."

The coffee's temperature is measured using three internal sensors and is displayed in real time on the mug's companion app, where you

can customize preset temperatures or use theirs—126 for a latte, 130 for coffee, 132 for tea.

"Most coffees from different regions are going to be represented well in that space," explained Mr. Schlader. "But the optimal temperature for flavor, aftertaste, the correct amount of acidity and body is about 135 degrees."

For coffee drinkers who don't enjoy feeling the burn, Ember's pricier travel mug option (\$150) has a "rapid cooling system" that pulls heat out of the cup to cool it more quickly so you're not left waiting.

I recklessly pushed the Ember and my caffeine intake to the limits one Sunday, testing cups at varying degrees from the mug's max of 145 F—not recommended—to its low of 120 F, where you begin to see how the quality of a brew stands up, according to Mr. Schlader.

Each time the Ember performed. However, getting bombarded with persistent smartphone notifications about updated temps and the need to charge my mug got old very quickly. I don't need yet another device distracting me from my work—not when I have all this important science to do. —Matthew Kitchen

**JOE NOT-TOO-COOL**  
Ember's app displays real-time temperatures and notifies you when your coffee is perfect.



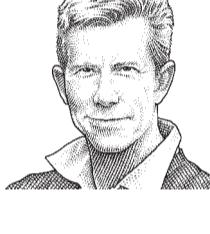
## GEAR &amp; GADGETS



**REWARDS POINT** Mastering the Acura's TTI gains you access to a very good car.

HONDA NORTH AMERICA

RUMBLE SEAT / DAN NEIL



## Acura RDX's High-Tech Interface Is a Touchy Subject

**I'M TORN.** On the one hand I feel for readers who say they are baffled by the latest infotainment interfaces, such as touch screens, touchpads, joystick- or mouse-like rotary controllers, voice and even gesture recognition. On the other hand, and with great respect, they should try harder. It only takes about five minutes to grasp any halfway decent infotainment system. Ten if it's one

in the redesigned 2019 Acura RDX.

The RDX is Acura's compact-to-midsized mover of suburbanites, a premium crossover competing against smart cookies such as Lexus RX 350, Infiniti QX60, Jaguar F-Pace, Volvo XC40 and Alfa Romeo Stelvio. And if you were to spend a day driving these cars back to back, you would have to devote several minutes in each unlearning and

learning the pushes, swipes, taps, double-clicks and joy-sticking that make them go. Each manufacturer speaks hand jive a little differently.

Some systems are harder than others. The Lexus Enform responds to a small padded joystick about the size of a pack of matches, with force-feedback and haptic response, providing a palpable bump when you hit a target or click through a menu. The

idea is to reduce the amount of time the driver's eyes spend off the road. It requires the exact opposite. I cannot navigate the navigation or browse the browser without looking at the screen for what seems an insanely long time. What am I, Zatoichi the blind swordsman?

I feel for the auto makers, too. Basically, consumers expect vast functionality with zero learning curve. Over the years I have watched one car maker after another groping for a more intuitive system until we have arrived at the RDX's system, called True Touchpad Interface, which is so intuitive as to be, initially at least, unfathomable.

Imagine a soft-plastic touchpad about the size of a playing card, slightly bowed, positioned at your lower right hand (bad if you're left-handed like me, but I'm used to this discrimination). A padded handrest provides support, and suggests to me at some point a development engineer's wrist got tired after prolonged fiddling. The idea is that the touchpad is a miniaturized version of the display, responding as it would if it were a touch screen, or a physical button, only remotely.

Above the touchpad are the fail-

safes, the Home and Back buttons. Buyers should get acquainted.

The touchpad has a raised ridge at its perimeter so users can feel the corners as landmarks. And then—using the human mind's astonishing, lightning slide-rule compensation—they are meant to associate the tactile landscape at their fingertips with the 10.2-inch high-definition display ahead.

Well, how do you get to Carnegie Hall? The TTI requires practice, a learned finesse, even delicacy, that

**The RDX's True Touchpad Interface** requires a finesse, even delicacy, that took me several days to acquire.

took me several days to acquire; and many times I felt like Anne Sullivan spelling out what I wanted in the palm of an uncooperative Helen Keller. One bit of relearning: With the TTI, you push through a detent to select, not click or double-click. The capacitive touchpad can be flummoxed if you lift finger pressure slightly, or hold down too long, in which case it's possible to click through to "edit" mode or inadvertently send an icon flying. Also, the pages don't carousel. They should.

The Advance Package also features Acura's new voice recognition system, though it can't understand if you speak through gritted teeth.

Be patient. Remember, in the words of Sir Anthony Hopkins in "The Edge": "What one man can do, another can do!" The finger-stylings of the TTI notwithstanding, the infotainment system is bright, blazing fast and well ordered—mastering it gains access to a very good car.

This, the third-generation RDX, was designed in America for Americans. It's gone up a whole dress-size, it seems, with more room in the cabin and cargo hold. It has also taken a big step up in premium credentials, with acoustic glass, noise-cancellation, a finer cut of upholstery (depending on trim level) and a lot more included content.

Acura retired its V6 and stuffed in a hard-hitting version of the Civic Type R's mill: a 2.0-liter turbocharged four producing up to 280 pound-feet of torque, sliding through the new 10-speed automatic transmission. The all-wheel-drive version's dynamic chops come by way of its uniquely articulate torque vectoring across the rear axle, imbuing RDX with surprising on-power bite and corner-straightening abilities, if you feel like mixing it up with the local motor-trash on the way to soccer practice.

Our RDX SH-AWD with Advance Package (\$48,395) came loaded, including panoramic sunroof, navigation, leather seats, heated steering wheel and an excellent head-up display—a readout so good it makes me wonder why it needs a view-blocking center screen at all. And the 16-speaker ELS Studio 3D audio system is the voice of the gods, once you give it the finger.



### 2019 ACURA RDX SH-AWD, ADVANCE PACKAGE

**Price, as Tested** \$48,395

**Powertain** Turbocharged and direct-injected 2.0-liter DOHC inline four cylinder; 10-speed automatic with manual mode; permanent all-wheel drive with torque vectoring across the rear axle  
**Power/Torque** 272 hp at 6,500 rpm/280 lb-ft at 1,600-4,500 rpm  
**Length/Width/Height/Wheelbase** 186.8/74.8/65.7/108.3 inches  
**Curb Weight** 4,068 pounds  
**0-60 mph** 5.6 seconds (est)  
**EPA Fuel Economy** 21/27/23 mpg, city/highway/combined

**AS I WAS** recently fiddling with my new Tamagotchi, a glinting rehash of the "original virtual reality pet" from 1997, I couldn't help but think back to my bustling sixth grade lunchroom. My 2018 pink leopard-print egg-shaped plastic plaything, which would have been the preteen status symbol among my friends, looked and operated just like the pale blue one that seemed permanently clipped to my hip or backpack as a kid.

Developed by Bandai in Japan, the little dancing blobs that sprout into animals living on LCD screens the size of watch faces have evolved since their '90s days as needy digital "pets" children loved to nurture. Today, you can even find high-tech versions for the Nintendo DS. But the one in my hand, the latest nostalgia play for millennials, replicates the simplistic first-gen edition, with the same basic software and ear-piercing beeps for attention.

Three rubbery unmarked buttons let you control your Tamagotchi's universe. Toggle through menus to give it a snack or meal when its food icon lights up, exercise it with childlike games, nurse it to health and tediously clean up after virtual steaming messes.

It leaves behind. Neglect it for too long, and an angel swoops down to take your heartbroken Tamagotchi, forcing you to begrudgingly push reset.

"My favorite part was taking care of something," recalled Nicole Montano, 25, an artist manager who, as a kid in Eatontown, N.J., was enraptured with her pink Tamagotchi. "You got to check in throughout the day and see what it needed. It was the electronic way of taking care of a baby doll as a kid."

My replay didn't go so well. As an adult struggling to feed it or play with it enough (and keep it quiet so co-workers wouldn't revolt), I remembered how demanding a budding Tamagotchi can be. As a skull icon flashed above my gremlin, foreshadowing its demise, I was oddly stressed. Maybe I was a bad Tamagotchi parent even as a grown-up.

"There's a pause button if you really need to take a break," teased Tara Badie, a company rep at Bandai after I detailed my struggle. "Millennials today are a bit busier than they were back in school."

Sorry little guy. It was a fun reminder, but I'll stick to houseplants. \$20, [bandai.com](http://bandai.com)

—Haley Velasco

### TECH NOSTALGIA

## Life in Your Hands

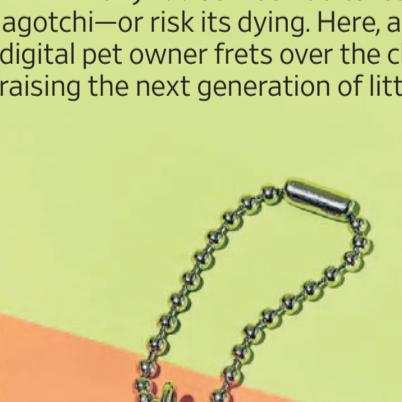
Many 1990s kids had to learn to feed a Tamagotchi—or risk its dying. Here, a once-proud digital pet owner frets over the challenges of raising the next generation of little monsters

**THEN**



TAMAGOTCHI

**NOW**



TAMAGOTCHI

**PET PROJECTS**

Beyond a flashy paint job, the new 2018 model differs little from the 1997 Tamagotchi—but that's part of the kick.



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**CELINE**