



HALLDOR KOLBEINS/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

A Lava-Tinged Glow Over Reykjavik

Authorities in Iceland said a volcanic eruption on Saturday night north of the town of Grindavik was the most powerful of a series that started in December. Page A10.

Trump Hurries to Catch Biden  
In Race for Campaign Money

Legal Troubles Create Personal Crunch, Too

By SHANE GOLDMACHER and MAGGIE HABERMAN

As many as three nights a week, Donald J. Trump has been hosting private dinners at Mar-a-Lago, schmoozing with some of the Republican Party’s biggest financiers as he races to address a sizable cash shortfall against President Biden.

There is no request for money from the attendees at these meals, which have included Larry Ellison, the billionaire co-founder of Oracle, and Pepe Fanjul, the sugar magnate, according to people familiar with the sessions. But advisers to Mr. Trump’s campaign and his super PACs hope the charm offensive will eventually pay political and financial dividends.

One of the most pressing issues facing Mr. Trump is the financial disparity he and allied groups now face with Mr. Biden and the Democratic Party. Mr. Biden’s campaign announced on Sunday that it entered March with \$155 million in cash on hand with the party, after raising \$53 million in February. The Trump operation has not released a more recent total, but his campaign account and the Repub-

lican National Committee had around \$40 million at the end of January.

Mr. Trump enters the general election ahead of Mr. Biden in public polls. But Mr. Biden has taken full advantage of one of the benefits of incumbency, both socking away cash and building out a political operation earlier than his challenger [Page A14].

Despite years of professing massive wealth and boasting of his desire to “drain the swamp,” the deeply transactional former president is leaning yet again on the cash of others, turning Mar-a-Lago into a staging ground for billionaires and others with their own agendas. One potential leverage point with the biggest G.O.P. financiers is the package of tax cuts Mr. Trump signed into law in 2017. Many of those cuts expire at the end of 2025, and Mr. Biden has vowed not to extend them for the nation’s highest earners.

Money often winds up mattering less in presidential races than in down-ballot races. Voters pay attention to the candidates natu-

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An Embrace of the Provocative,  
The Profane and the Holy Spirit

By RUTH GRAHAM

The “Conservative Dad’s Real Women of America” 2024 pinup calendar features old-school images of sexiness — bikinis, a red sports car, a bubble bath.

The models are influencers and aspiring politicians familiar to the very online pro-Trump right. In one image, a BlazeTV host in a short skirt lights a copy of The New York Times on fire with a cigar. Another model, the former N.R.A. spokeswoman Dana Loesch, hoists two rifles.

Published by a “woke-free beer” company hastily launched last year as an alternative to Bud

Light, the calendar was clearly meant to provoke liberals. But when photos of it began circulating online in December, progressives did not pay much attention. Instead, it sparked a heated squabble on the right over whether “conservative dads” who happen to be Christians should reject the calendar on moral grounds, or embrace it as an irrev-erent win for the good guys.

Allie Beth Stuckey, an evangelical commentator and podcaster, condemned the calendar as “soft porn” marketed to married men,

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Russians Quietly Express Discontent at the Polls

By ANATOLY KURMANAEV and NANNA HEITMANN

Long lines of voters formed outside polling stations in major Russian cities during the presidential election on Sunday, in what opposition figures portrayed as a striking protest against a rubber-stamp process that is certain to keep Vladimir V. Putin in power.

Before he died last month, the Russian opposition leader Aleksei A. Navalny had called on supporters to go to polling stations at midday on Sunday, the last day of the three-day vote, to express dissat-

With Putin Claiming  
Victory, Opposition  
Cheers On Protest

isfaction with Mr. Putin, who claimed his fifth presidential term Sunday night [Page A9].

Mr. Navalny’s team, which is continuing his work, and other opposition movements reiterated calls for the protest in the weeks leading up to the vote. Simply appearing at the polling station, for

an initiative known as Noon Against Putin, they said, was the only safe way to express discontent in a country that has drastically escalated repression since its full-scale invasion of Ukraine two years ago.

The opposition leaders said showing solidarity with like-minded citizens by their mere presence was more important than what the voters chose to do with their ballots, because the election lacked real choice.

“This is our protest — we don’t have any other options,” said Lena, 61, who came to a polling

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JES AZNAR FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Trees vs. Jobs

Southeast Asian countries say a new E.U. rule on deforestation threatens livelihoods. Page B1.

Shouts, a Fight, Then a Gun Goes Off in a Crowded Subway Car

By MICHAEL WILSON

It always seems to start the same way.

I’ll beat you up!

A brush-fire confrontation between strangers in a subway loudly skyrockets toward hostility before anyone else is even sure who is yelling at whom, or why.

C’m on man! Do something about it!

A moment so familiar that other passengers hardly bother to look up from their phones or pause their conversations.

I’m gonna beat you up — only you. Just you.

But a fight on Thursday on a speeding A train in Brooklyn that started with those taunts did not

end there. It continued to escalate before a rush-hour crowd, from words to fists to a blade to, finally, a gun.

The encounter came just over a week after New York’s governor took the extraordinary step of ordering the National Guard below ground to make the trains feel safer. The shooting undermined the city’s message that riding the

subway is, statistically speaking, quite safe.

The episode fueled a sense of futility about a system that seems to catch all the troubles from the city above — mental health crises, illegal guns — and squeezes them into crowded steel tubes.

For those on that A train on

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INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Gangs Closing Haiti’s Hospitals

Many centers in the capital have been abandoned by their staffs or looted amid the rampant violence. Page A8

The Hunt for Food in Gaza

Aid is scarce and prices are high. Three families shared their daily struggles to find something to eat. Page A6

BUSINESS B1-5

TikTok Bill Snarled in Senate

The House passed legislation to force the platform’s Chinese owner to sell the app or to ban it in the U.S. Page B1

Former Tech Mogul on Trial

Mike Lynch is accused of defrauding Hewlett-Packard of billions when he sold it his software company. Page B1

OBITUARIES B6-7

The Filmmaker Behind ‘Benji’

Joe Camp, who defied industry odds by turning a live-action series, filmed from a lovable dog’s perspective, into a smash hit, was 84. Page B7



NATIONAL A11-17

Tracking Migrant Families

The goal of President Biden’s program is to keep people from skipping out on their asylum hearings. Page A11

For Willis, New Turmoil Ahead

An array of problems awaits Fani T. Willis and her prosecution of Donald Trump in his Georgia case. Page A16

SPORTS D1-8

When the Circus Leaves Town

The Angels find that life after the two-way superstar Shohei Ohtani has a few silver linings. One of them is a smaller media contingent that gives players more space in the clubhouse. Page D1

Inside Bears-Steelers Trade

The Bears get a sixth-round pick (that could turn into a fourth) for Justin Fields, and the Steelers get a talented if uneven performer to back up their new field general, Russell Wilson. Page D2

OPINION A18-19

David French

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ARTS C1-6

Giving the Lenape Their Say

A new exhibition acknowledges the notorious “purchase” of Manhattan 400 years ago, but makes sure to provide a Native American viewpoint. Page C1

