

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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Last week: DJIA 38798.99 ▲ 112.67 0.29% NASDAQ 17133.13 ▲ 2.4% STOXX 600 523.55 ▲ 1.0% 10-YR. TREASURY ▲ 22/32, yield 4.428% OIL \$75.53 ▼ \$1.46 EURO \$1.0818 YEN 156.65

## What's News

### Business & Finance

◆ **Elliott Investment** Management has built a stake of nearly \$2 billion in Southwest and plans to push for changes aimed at reversing the airline's underperformance. **A1**

◆ **The Fed is expected** to hold interest rates steady at the highest level in more than two decades when policymakers wrap up a two-day meeting on Wednesday, extending the central bank's fight against inflation. **A2**

◆ **Tesla faces a \$25 billion** question mark over the cost of reviving CEO Elon Musk's pay package when shareholders vote on the matter at the company's annual meeting this week. **B1**

◆ **Countries around the globe** are pouring billions of dollars into new domestic computing facilities for artificial intelligence, stimulating a rapidly growing source of sales for Nvidia and other technology companies. **B1**

◆ **The latest "Bad Boys"** sequel came for the domestic box office over the weekend, grossing \$56 million in receipts for the second-highest opening for the franchise. **B1, B2**

◆ **Alphabet and Google's** new chief financial officer, Anat Ashkenazi, is slated to receive a signing bonus of \$9.9 million and an annual base salary of \$1 million. **B4**

◆ **Nordic Capital disclosed** the sale of Sunrise Medical to Platinum Equity, a deal that ended plans for an initial public offering of the German wheelchair maker. **B6**

### World-Wide

◆ **Benny Gantz**, a centrist member of Israel's war cabinet, quit the government over Netanyahu's handling of the war in Gaza, after a daring Israeli commando mission to rescue four hostages threatened to trip up efforts to end the conflict and free the remaining captives. **A1, A7-8**

◆ **Right-wing parties put** on a show of strength in European Union elections, prompting France's president to call national elections and underscoring the German chancellor's position lagging behind two rival parties, according to initial projections. **A1**

◆ **Internal fissures and external pressure** have intensified at the Supreme Court as it heads to the end of the current term, with pending cases that could remake the presidential election and with ethical questions dogging some of its members. **A4**

◆ **The Biden administration** is close to completing a treaty with Saudi Arabia that would commit the U.S. to help defend the Gulf nation as part of a long-shot deal to encourage diplomatic ties between Riyadh and Israel. **A8**

◆ **A large section of a** mountain highway linking Idaho and Wyoming collapsed after a landslide, closing the Teton Pass indefinitely, officials said. **A2**

◆ **Iran approved** six candidates, almost all conservatives, to run in a presidential contest on June 28 following the death of President Ebrahim Raisi last month. **A18**

### JOURNAL REPORT

Investing Monthly: Summer personal-finance reads. **B7-8**

<b>CONTENTS</b>	Markets Digest.....B9
Arts in Review.....A13	Opinion.....A15-17
Business & Finance.....B26	Personal Journal A11-12
Business News.....B3	Sports.....A14
Closed-End Funds.....B10	Technology.....B4
Crossword.....A14	U.S. News.....A2-6
Heard on Street.....B11	World News.....A7-8,18



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LUDOVIC MARIN/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

French President Emmanuel Macron arrived to vote in the European Parliament election Sunday.

## Right Wing Scores EU Wins, Macron Calls Snap Elections

Right-wing parties put on a show of strength in European Union elections, prompting French President Emmanuel Macron to call national elections and underscoring German

By *Laurence Norman*  
in Berlin and Noemie Bissesse in Paris

Chancellor Olaf Scholz's position lagging behind two rival parties, according to initial projections.

Sunday's results still appeared to leave the mainstream pro-EU parties with a lock on

power in Brussels. The center-right EU political grouping that now leads the bloc looked set to win the most seats in the European Parliament, boosting European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's hopes of keeping her job for a second term. She has forged a close working relationship with the Biden administration.

Still, France's far-right opposition party National Rally looked set to be among the pan-European election's biggest winners. Marine Le Pen's party appeared on target to become the largest single party in the

European Parliament. Projections based on early ballot counts on Sunday evening suggested National Rally had gained about 31% of the vote, twice the support for Macron's Renew Party.

After the French results, Macron announced that he was dissolving parliament to call fresh elections. His party already lacked a majority in the National Assembly. The first round of the elections will take place June 30, followed by a second on July 7, Macron said.

"I have decided to give you  
*Please turn to page A8*

## Israel's Gantz Quits Cabinet Over Gaza War

Netanyahu rival's move aims at early elections, follows raid to free hostages

By **DOV LIEBER**

A centrist member of Israel's war cabinet quit the government on Sunday over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's handling of the war in Gaza, after a daring Israeli commando mission rescued four hostages but threatened to trip up efforts to end the conflict and free the remaining captives.

Benny Gantz, who leads the National Unity party and was one of three war cabinet members, said he was leaving the government due to a lack of

long-term strategy for the war in Gaza, among other reasons. "Fateful strategic decisions are stuck due to hesitancy and procrastination out of political considerations," Gantz said in televised remarks.

The Israeli government shake-up comes as U.S. and Israeli officials are set to renew a push to strike a deal with Hamas to free hostages and halt the war. But after the Israeli military rescue operation on Saturday, Israel's strategic position in Gaza remains little changed, while the fallout might give both sides reason to  
*Please turn to page A8*

◆ **Israel hostage rescue undoes calculations.....** **A7**  
◆ **U.S. to offer Saudis pact to spur deal with Israel.....** **A8**

## Activist Elliott Buys Big Southwest Stake

By **LAUREN THOMAS**  
AND **ALISON SIDER**

Elliott Investment Management has built a stake of nearly \$2 billion in Southwest Airlines and plans to push for changes aimed at reversing the airline's underperformance.

The activist is one of Southwest's largest investors, according to people familiar with the matter.

Elliott plans to engage with the management team at Southwest, which has a market capitalization of \$16.6 billion. Other details of Elliott's plans couldn't be learned.

The firm is known for taking on tech companies and others and forcing changes that include management shake-ups

and outright sales. Several companies in which Elliott has recently built positions have ultimately replaced their chief executives, including the big wireless-tower owner Crown Castle, NRG Energy and Good-year Tire & Rubber.

It is a critical moment for Southwest, which took flight as a scrappy Texas upstart in the 1970s and grew into the largest domestic airline by passengers. It was known for undercutting competitors' fares and stimulating demand for air travel. The Dallas-based carrier kept costs low in part by flying one type of plane, the Boeing 737, and became a customer favorite known for exceptional service.

But the formula that gener-  
*Please turn to page A5*

## Jobs Grow For Autistic Employees Beyond Tech Firms

By **PREETIKA RANA**

More companies are tapping a reservoir of talent the tech industry has used to develop better artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and other products: the autistic.

Microsoft, SAP, Salesforce and other tech giants have long had programs to recruit and retain employees whose brains process information in ways that aren't typical. Now banks, retailers and others are recognizing the special skills of those with autism and other types of neurodivergence.

The disproportionate number of people with neurodivergence in tech has been known for years. Elon Musk has publicly said he has Asperger's syndrome. Sam Bankman-Fried has requested access to his ADHD medicine in prison.

Alex Karp, chief executive of AI software company Palantir Technologies, called himself a "hyper, inexplicably dyslexic outsider" at an event last month. "Tech is maximally tolerant of any personality if you're delivering," he said.

As the focus on people's mental health has increased since Covid-19, more companies are discovering that atypical ways of thinking can be a qualification rather than a disability.

Specialists said some autistic workers have the ability to work long hours on repetitive tasks such as labeling photos and videos for computer-vision systems to train AI. Other  
*Please turn to page A6*

## PART 2 | GOOGLE'S SECRET WEAPON

## Professor's Affairs Went Unpunished

Joshua Wright drew millions in tech donations—and got away with seducing students

By **BRODY MULLINS**

Anhvinh Wright called Lindsey Edwards to ask if she was having an affair with her husband, setting off a string of damning conversations that threatened one of Big Tech's greatest allies.

*Lindsey says you have a lot of things to tell me. Like about other women,* she told her husband, Joshua Wright, in February 2020.

Wright had hidden a yearslong sexual relationship with Edwards that started when she was a law student and he was a professor at her school. Wright helped Edwards join him at the law firm Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in Washington, where the affair continued.

Edwards had gone house hunting with Wright and told friends she looked ahead to marriage, children and a comfortable life together. For more than a decade, Wright built a multimillion-dollar career protecting Google, Amazon, Facebook, Qualcomm and other companies from antitrust regulators in his roles as a consultant, law professor and member of the Federal



JOE GOUGH

Trade Commission.

But Wright put off divorce, and the affair soured. Edwards told a friend she was prepared to tell Wright's wife everything.

"I have her number ready to go anytime," Edwards wrote on Feb. 21, 2020, "he thinks he can just get away with all of it."

*Please turn to page A10*

## Gen Z Thinks Everyone Is Doing The Heart Sign Wrong

\* \* \*

Zoomers' variations confound their elders; 'I feel like I'm making shadow puppets'

By **SARAH E. NEEDLEMAN**

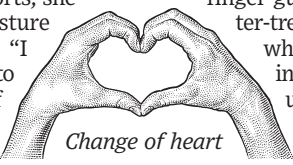
Kim Chen has tried imitating how her Gen Z daughter poses for selfies, holding up her thumb across her index finger to form a tiny heart. Despite her best efforts, she fails to get the gesture right every time. "I can never live up to her expectation of what it should look like," says

Chen, a 56-year-old dental hygienist in the Seattle area. "I get the double eye roll."

Her daughter, Nicole Chen, sees anything but an expression of love.

"It looks like she's making a finger gun," says the water-treatment engineer, who is 24. "Genuinely, she can't figure it out."

*Please turn to page A2*



Change of heart

## INSIDE



### U.S. NEWS

The U.S. Postal Service's \$40 billion overhaul is off to a rough start. **A3**



### SPORTS

Spain's Carlos Alcaraz springs back to win his first French Open and third Grand Slam. **A14**

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