

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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DJIA 37440.34 ▲ 10.15 0.03% NASDAQ 14510.30 ▼ 0.6% STOXX 600 477.68 ▲ 0.7% 10-YR. TREAS. ▼ 23/32, yield 3.990% OIL \$72.19 ▼ \$0.51 GOLD \$2,042.30 ▲ \$8.10 EURO \$1.0947 YEN 144.63

## What's News

### Business & Finance

- ◆ **Google is proceeding** with sweeping changes to how companies track users online, starting with a limited test that will restrict cookies for 1% of the people who use its Chrome browser. **A1**
- ◆ **Perplexity, a startup** going after Google's dominant position in web search, won backing from Jeff Bezos and venture capitalists betting that AI will upend online search. **B1**
- ◆ **Alberto Musalem**, an economist who was previously a senior adviser at the New York Fed, will become the St. Louis Fed's next president and chief executive. **A2**
- ◆ **U.S. stocks ended mixed**, with the S&P 500 and Nasdaq falling 0.3% and 0.6%, respectively, while the Dow edged up less than 0.1%. **B11**
- ◆ **Eli Lilly started a** new online service offering telehealth prescriptions and direct home delivery of its antiobesity drug Zepbound. **B1**
- ◆ **Electric-vehicle startup** Fisker abandoned a direct-to-consumer sales model in the U.S. in favor of using traditional dealerships. **B1**
- ◆ **Carrefour, which** operates thousands of supermarkets in more than 30 countries, said it would drop several PepsiCo products to protest against what it called unacceptable price increases. **B3**
- ◆ **APA agreed to buy** smaller peer Callon Petroleum in a stock-swap deal valued at about \$4.5 billion including debt. **B4**
- ◆ **Conagra expects** organic sales to decline instead of grow in the current financial year, after revenue in the most-recent quarter slipped. **B3**

### World-Wide

- ◆ **Islamic State militants** claimed responsibility for a pair of bombings that killed dozens of people a day earlier in the largest attack in Iran since the country's 1979 Islamic Revolution. **A1**
- ◆ **Russia plans to buy** short-range ballistic missiles from Iran, a step that would enhance Moscow's ability to target Ukraine's infrastructure at a critical moment in the conflict, U.S. officials said. **A7**
- ◆ **An American drone** strike in Baghdad was the first known targeted killing of an Iranian-backed militia leader by the Biden administration. **A6**
- ◆ **A 17-year-old student** shot and killed a sixth-grader and injured five others at a high school in the rural community of Perry, Iowa, police said. **A3**
- ◆ **New York City sued** 17 transportation companies that brought migrants to the city from Texas, seeking to recoup the roughly \$700 million the city said it spent on those migrants' care. **A3**
- ◆ **China and Saudi Arabia** topped a list of 20 countries whose governments or state-linked entities pumped millions of dollars into Trump properties while he was president, according to a new report and previously undisclosed records that shed light on Trump's potential business conflicts as he seeks a second term. **A3**
- ◆ **The U.S. Supreme Court** review of Purdue's \$6 billion opioid settlement could open the door for Canada's municipalities and indigenous First Nations to seek compensation they say has been denied them. **A16**

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## U.S. Kills Tehran-Backed Militia Leader in Iraq



ARMAD AL-BAYAN/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

**DRONE HIT:** A 'precision strike' on a vehicle in eastern Baghdad killed a leader of Harakat al Nujaba who a U.S. official said 'had American blood on his hands.' It is the first known targeted killing of an Iranian-backed militia leader by the Biden administration. Above, Iraqi paramilitaries affiliated with Harakat al Nujaba rode in a funeral Thursday after the attack. **A6**

## Islamic State Admits Attacking Iran With Two Suicide Bombers

By STEPHEN KALIN  
AND ARESU EQBALI

Islamic State militants claimed responsibility Thursday for a pair of bombings that killed dozens of people a day earlier in the largest attack in Iran since the country's 1979 Islamic Revolution, dispelling suspicions that Israel might have been behind the attack amid worries of a broadening regional conflagration.

The blasts took place with

the Middle East on edge because of the war in Gaza between Israel and Hamas—an Islamist militant group that has moved closer to Iran in recent years—and increasing tensions between the U.S. and Israel on one side and other Iranian-backed militant groups in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Yemen on the other.

A U.S. airstrike killed an Iran-backed militia leader Thursday in Baghdad, raising concern that the Israel-Hamas

conflict could spread to multiple fronts and pull the U.S. into a more direct confrontation. The Iran-backed Houthi rebel force in Yemen has stepped up attacks on shipping in the Red Sea, and this week Israel killed a Hamas commander in a strike in Lebanon.

Islamic State said that two of its operatives had detonated explosive belts at the public ceremony in Iran's southeastern town of Kerman where crowds were commem-

orating the death of Qassem Soleimani, commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' elite Quds Force, who was killed in January 2020 by a U.S. airstrike. Islamic State, a hard-line Sunni group, considers Shiite Muslims, who make up a majority of Iran's population, to be apostates.

*Iranian authorities are in-  
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◆ **Moscow is closer to buying** missiles from Iran..... **A7**

## Hamas 'CEO' Keeps Group Funded From Base in Turkey

When Zaher Jabarin ran a Hamas cell in the 1980s, he borrowed cash from his mother to buy weapons. Now, he oversees a financial empire

By RORY JONES, Benoit Faucon, Ian Talley and Abeer Ayyoub

the U.S. estimates is worth hundreds of millions of dollars and funds Hamas's operations against Israel.

The 55-year-old militant

manages Hamas's financial relationship with its main benefactor Iran and handles how Tehran gets cash to the Gaza Strip, U.S. and Israeli officials said. He looks after a portfolio of companies that deliver income annually for Hamas and runs a network of private donors and businessmen who invest for the Islamist group.

Jabarin's influence over Hamas's finances is so significant that current and former U.S. and Israeli security offi-

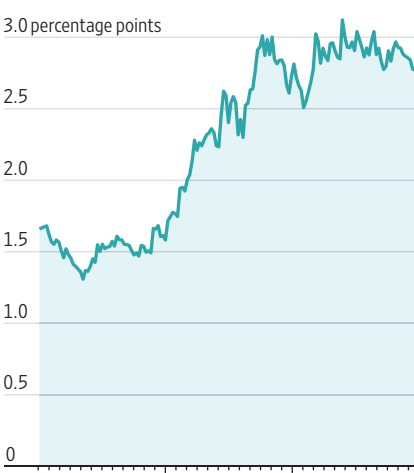
cials believe he enabled the group to pay for weapons and fighters' wages to mount the Oct. 7 attacks.

"Jabarin played a huge role because he handles all of Hamas finance outside Gaza," said Uzi Shaya, a former Israeli security official who has researched illicit finance. "Jabarin is the CEO of Hamas."

Jabarin was close to Saleh al-Arouri, the Hamas official killed on Tuesday in an explo-

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Differential between the 30-year fixed mortgage rate and 10-year Treasury yield



Sources: Freddie Mac; Federal Reserve

## Spread In Rates Shrinks

The narrowing spread between average 30-year fixed mortgage rates and benchmark Treasury yields is giving hope to home buyers. The spread helped push mortgage rates higher over the past two years but in recent months has kept them in check. **B1**

## INSIDE



### SPORTS

Women's basketball drives value of NCAA's new broadcast deal with ESPN. **A12**



### MANSSION

Deep-pocketed buyers kept the ultraluxe real-estate market robust in 2023. **M1**

## Disney Day Drinkers Club Feuds With Epcot Over Trashy Mascot

Outrage erupts after 'Binny,' a garbage can adopted by tipling superfans, is moved

By ROBBIE WHELAN

WALT DISNEY WORLD—Staff at Disney's Epcot theme park recently decided to relocate a nondescript garbage can. For the trash bin's thousands of admirers, Disney's decision to tinker with it was rubbish.

The receptacle in question is more beastly than beautiful: roughly 4-foot tall, grayish in color, and dinged with lovingly documented scratches and rivets. The trash can has been "baptized" by a Roman Catholic priest. Its name is "Binny."

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## Harvard Crisis Signals Broader Fight Over Colleges

Claudine Gay was at center of debate over purpose of education

By DOUGLAS BELKIN

On its face, the resignation Tuesday of Claudine Gay, Harvard's first Black president, was a direct response to mounting allegations of plagiarism.

Yet even before those accusations emerged—and before Gay attracted sharp criticism for her testimony at a congressional hearing on antisemitism on college cam-

puses—Gay was at the center of a raging debate on the Harvard campus over a much bigger question: what a university should be.

Gay ascended to the presidency just days after the Supreme Court struck down affirmative action last summer, a ruling that unleashed a rolling debate across the country

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◆ **Conservatives look to build on Ivy wins...** **A4**

## Push for Diversity Is Under Fire On Campuses and at Companies

By RAY A. SMITH  
AND LAUREN WEBER

The management philosophy known as DEI, which has gathered momentum since 2020, has been under siege over the past year amid a collision of legal, economic and geopolitical forces.

The Supreme Court struck down affirmative action in colleges, removing the legal rationale buttressing many di-

versity programs. An expected slowdown in the economy prompted companies to cut jobs and financial support for diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. And the Israel-Hamas war and college presidents' responses to antisemitism on campus led some to question whether DEI programs and the values behind them extended to all students.

This week brought the resignation of Harvard University

President Claudine Gay, whose championing of diversity initiatives made her a target of conservative critics. Gay, Harvard's first Black female president, had come under additional fire in recent weeks for allegations of plagiarism and for congressional testimony in which she and other college presidents struggled in their responses to questions about antisemitism on campuses.

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