



250 DAYS

#ISTANDWITHEVAN

The Wall Street Journal's **Evan Gershkovich** was detained in Russia on March 29 while on a reporting trip. He is the first American journalist to be charged with espionage in Russia since the end of the Cold War. Coverage on page A10.



The Journal and the U.S. government vehemently deny the allegation against him and have called for his immediate release. Scan this code to read more about Evan, his work and how you can help.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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Last week: DJIA 36245.50 ▲ 855.35 2.4% NASDAQ 14305.03 ▲ 0.4% STOXX 600 466.20 ▲ 1.4% 10-YR. TREASURY ▲ 2 3/32, yield 4.225% OIL \$74.07 ▼ \$1.47 EURO \$1.0884 YEN 146.81

What's News

Business & Finance

◆ **Retailers that offered** only mixed assessments of the shopping season—including Foot Locker, Ulta Beauty and Victoria's Secret—are enjoying a stock surge as investors are cheered by economic data. **A1**

◆ **Alaska Air reached** a deal to buy Hawaiian Airlines for \$1 billion in a tie-up of nearly century-old rivals that are dwarfed by the biggest players in a time of travel upheaval. **B1**

◆ **Wars in Gaza and Ukraine** are complicating socially conscious investing for some people, as many funds have exposure to arms makers that benefited from the conflicts. **B1**

◆ **Electric-vehicle owners** are finding that repairs after a crash can cost thousands of dollars more than for conventional cars, as fixes require more parts and fewer people do such work. **B1**

◆ **Fashion retailers** including H&M, Uniqlo and Zara are aiming to operate fewer but more spacious and visually dazzling stores in the mold of Apple. **B3**

◆ **Beyoncé's 'Renaissance'** collected \$21 million in box-office gross in its opening weekend, matching Taylor Swift's feat of having a concert film open at No. 1. **B2**

◆ **Walmart said it halted** advertising on Musk's X, joining the parade of major marketers that have left the platform. **B3**

World-Wide

◆ **Talks between Israel** and Hamas to hand over hostages held in Gaza in return for a truce stalled, while Israeli forces escalated attacks and directed Palestinians in the enclave to move to a narrower strip of land. **A1**

◆ **A lawsuit to be** heard by the Supreme Court takes aim at a 2017 law imposing a tax on companies' overseas profits, and could have wider implications over Congress's taxing power. **A1**

◆ **A U.S. destroyer** and three commercial ships in the Red Sea came under drone and missile attacks, a significant escalation of recent strikes. **A8**

◆ **Global leaders** at the COP28 climate summit in Dubai are taking a big swing at cutting methane, while the U.S. set rules on domestic fuel producers to limit emissions of the gas. **A8**

◆ **Under voucher plans** that pay for private schooling with public funds, students who have already opted out of public schools are among the biggest beneficiaries, state data indicate. **A3**

◆ **Nicaragua charged** a Miss Universe franchise owner with being part of a plot to overthrow Ortega two weeks after the country won the pageant. **A10**

◆ **An Islamist radical** stabbed a foreign tourist to death near the Eiffel Tower in Paris, French authorities said, rattling a country already on alert. **A10**

JOURNAL REPORT

Investing Monthly: Four tax deductions seniors often miss. **R1-8**

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People in Rafah gathered around a crater after deadly Israeli bombardments in the southern Gaza Strip on Sunday.

Fighting in Gaza Intensifies As Talks on Cease-Fire Stall

Talks between Israel and Hamas to hand over hostages held in Gaza in return for a pause in fighting there have

By Stephen Kalin, Anat Peled, Summer Said and Dov Lieber

stalled, the White House said on Sunday, while Israeli forces stepped up attacks and directed Palestinians in the enclave to move into a narrower

strip of land.

"The negotiations have stopped. That said, what hasn't stopped is our own involvement, trying to get those back on track....We would like that to happen today," White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told NBC. He blamed Hamas for failing to provide a fresh list of civilian women and children to be released.

Israel recalled its negotiat-

ing team from Qatar on Saturday after it said talks had reached an impasse. Saleh al-Arouri, Hamas's deputy political chief, said the militant group has only hostages who are soldiers and "civilians serving in the army," and that it wouldn't release more of them until Israel ends its war.

Egyptian and Qatari mediators continue to seek a compromise, senior Egyptian officials said. Hamas has said it doesn't

hold the remaining civilian women and children and can't turn them over. Israeli officials said that while this may be true, Hamas, as the dominant force in Gaza, has the power to force other factions to release their hostages.

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◆ **Palestinians flee after settler strife**..... **A8**
◆ **U.S. warship faces attack in Red Sea**..... **A8**

A Soldier Vanishes In Chaos of Ukraine

Ruslan Finchuk was under Russian fire as he went missing; 'He just disappeared'

By IAN LOVETT AND NIKITA NIKOLAIENKO

KUPYANSK, Ukraine—For 48 hours in muddy trenches near this northeastern city, the Ukrainian troops had fought off waves of Russian infantry emerging from the tall grass, while artillery hammered everything around them.

They were exhausted, and officers had finally ordered

them to return to base with the six Russians they had taken captive. At 3 a.m., two Ukrainian soldiers and their commander set off with the prisoners, walking through a shattered tree line toward the evacuation point.

Suddenly, several silhouettes appeared a few yards to the column's left. Then the area exploded in gunshots. In the darkness, they

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Feel-Bad Christmas Film Turns Into an Annual Tradition

Mean characters, plot grievances keep viewers hate-watching 'The Family Stone'

By RUSSELL ADAMS

Most Christmas movies make people feel good. "The Family Stone" makes them mad. And yet the 2005 film has become a fixture of the holiday movie calendar. One reason: People love to hate it.

Viewers marvel at the characters' meanness, puzzle over their motives and pick apart the plot. They stockpile grievances and vow to stay away. Until next year.



Movie night

"Very few movies act as a narcotic the way 'The Family Stone' does," said Grant Ginder, who saw it in the theater when it came out, hated it and has watched it multiple times every year since.

The movie follows Everett, played by Dermot Mulroney, who brings his girlfriend Meredith home for the holidays to meet his family. Meredith, played by Sarah Jessica Parker, is uptight and annoying. Most of the Stone family is openly hostile to

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INSIDE



SPORTS

One-loss Alabama is in the College Football Playoff over unbeaten Florida State. **A16**

Opioid Settlement Divides Families

By ALEXANDER GLADSTONE

Ellen Isaacs lost her son to an opioid overdose. But she wants none of the settlement money offered by the family that sold billions of the same OxyContin pills that got her boy hooked.

Isaacs would rather see the family suffer years in court. "There's not enough money that's going to bring any of our kids back," said Isaacs, 58 years old.

The Sackler family members who own Purdue Pharma have offered \$6 billion to settle thousands of lawsuits alleging they

fueled the opioid epidemic. About 130,000 people would share \$750 million of the money. Nearly all who voted on the deal two years ago approved. State and local governments would get the remaining billions to fund opioid-related programs.

But the deal includes a provision that Isaacs and some others oppose: It would grant the Sacklers immunity from future civil opioid litigation. The settlement was drawn up in a New York bankruptcy court and has been appealed by the Justice Department to the Supreme Court.

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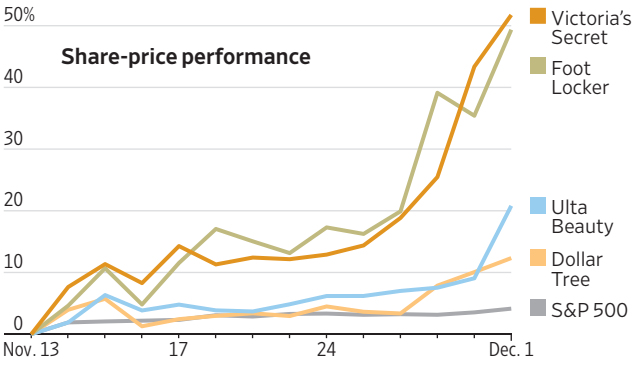
Retailers' Stocks Surge Despite Mixed Holiday Sales Outlook

By HARDIKA SINGH

Retailers are making modest predictions about the holiday shopping season—and their stocks are going gangbusters in response.

Victoria's Secret, Foot Locker, Ulta Beauty and Dollar Tree are among the companies that offered somewhat mixed assessments of the state of the shopper last week. Yet each received an ovation from investors.

Traders have piled into stocks since a softer-than-expected inflation reading on Nov. 14 bolstered wagers that the Federal Reserve is done raising interest rates and is



poised to cool the economy without tipping it into a recession. Treasury yields have sharply declined as well, giving equities a second wind.

The S&P 500 has risen 4.1% since the report, extending its gains for the year to almost 20%.

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