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DJIA 39065.26 ▼ 605.78 1.53% NASDAQ 16736.03 ▼ 0.4% STOXX 600 521.56 ▲ 0.1% 10-YR. TREAS. ▼ 11/32, yield 4.474% OIL \$76.87 ▼ \$0.70 GOLD \$2,335.00 ▼ \$54.20 EURO \$1.0816 YEN 156.92

What's News

Business & Finance

◆ **The SEC approved** the first U.S. exchange-traded funds holding ether, the largest cryptocurrency behind bitcoin, in an about-face that surprised the crypto community. **A1**

◆ **The Justice Department** lawsuit against Live Nation tees up a legal battle with the potential to redistribute power in the live-events business and change how consumers buy tickets to concerts and sporting events. **A1**

◆ **Boeing said it would** burn billions of dollars more than expected in the coming months and likely won't generate cash for the full year, signaling the jet maker is struggling to contain the financial fallout from cascading production and supply-chain issues. **B1**

◆ **Major U.S. stock indexes** fell for a second straight day, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow retreating 0.7%, 0.4% and 1.5%, respectively. **B1**

◆ **TD fired more than** a dozen people for conduct issues related to failings in the bank's anti-money-laundering program in the U.S., a person familiar with the matter said. **B1**

◆ **South Korea unveiled** a \$19 billion support package to bolster its semiconductor industry, seeking to catch up with international rivals amid soaring demand for advanced chips. **B4**

◆ **Xiomi's first-quarter** net profit and revenue beat expectations, thanks to stronger sales from its smartphone and internet-of-things and lifestyle product segments. **B4**

◆ **James Gorman said** he would step down as executive chairman of Morgan Stanley's board at the end of the year. **B9**

World-Wide

◆ **A 6-3 Supreme Court** approved a white-dominated congressional district enacted by South Carolina's Republican-controlled legislature, overruling a lower court that found the map divided Charleston County into different districts to reduce Black voters' political power. **A3**

◆ **The NCAA and the five** most prominent athletic conferences agreed to a \$2.77 billion settlement of a class-action lawsuit, allowing colleges to pay athletes directly. **A1**

◆ **The Louisiana Senate** passed legislation classifying abortion pills as controlled substances, setting up the state to become the first in the U.S. to criminalize possession of the drugs without a prescription. **A5**

◆ **Lawmakers grilled** the leaders of Northwestern, Rutgers and UCLA over antisemitism and how they handled recent pro-Palestinian protests on their university campuses. **A4**

◆ **U.S. officials forecast** a record-breaking Atlantic hurricane season with the largest number of major storms since NOAA began issuing seasonal hurricane outlooks in 1998. **A3**

◆ **Norfolk Southern agreed** to pay hundreds of millions of dollars to resolve the federal government's investigation into the 2023 train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio. **A5**

◆ **Russia detained** the deputy chief of its general staff on corruption charges, the fourth top defense official to be held within a month. **A16**

◆ **Macron said he was** open to suspending a contentious voting-rights bill that triggered riots in New Caledonia, subject to conditions. **A8**

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China Sends Taiwan Message With Military Drills



SURROUNDED: A giant screen in Beijing shows news Thursday that China's military began maneuvers encircling Taiwan, days after the island's new president took office. For a video on the operations, scan the code with the article on A7.

DOJ Seeks Overhaul Of Ticket Industry

By Dave Michaels
And Anne Steele

The Justice Department suit against Live Nation on Thursday tees up a legal battle more than a decade in the making, one with the potential to redistribute power in the live-events business and change how consumers buy tickets to concerts and sporting events.

The lawsuit, joined by more than two dozen states and filed in federal court in New York, alleges Live Nation used its power to squelch competition and retaliate against promoters and venues that threatened its dominance. The company chokes off competition in key pieces of the concert system, driving prices and fees higher for fans, the department said. "It is time to break up Live Nation," Attorney General Merrick Garland said.

Live Nation said that it doesn't have a monopoly in ticketing or promotion and will fight the government's case. The company said its subsidiary Ticketmaster doesn't set prices, artists and teams do, and they are subject to high demand and low supply, while

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SEC Expands Options For Crypto Investing

By Vicky Ge Huang
And Caitlin Ostroff

The Securities and Exchange Commission approved the first U.S. exchange-traded funds holding ether—the largest cryptocurrency behind bitcoin—an about-face that surprised the crypto community.

The new funds, known as spot ether ETFs because they buy and sell the digital currency itself, will allow main-

stream investors to buy and sell ether as easily as stocks or mutual funds. Ether is the in-house token on the Ethereum blockchain, an open-software platform for developers to build and operate crypto applications, much like iOS or Android.

A spokesperson for the SEC said the agency won't be commenting beyond Thursday's approval order.

The filings approved by the

agency pave the way for the eventual trading of ether ETFs, by allowing exchanges to list such products. Individual issuers still need approval to start trading their specific funds on those exchanges through a filing called an S-1. The agency could stall on approving that step.

The approval of the funds marks at least a partial retreat from SEC Chair Gary Gensler's

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INSIDE



MANSION

Architect David Galullo's California home has stories to tell. **M1**

Inside Scarlett Johansson's Battle With OpenAI

Dispute shows ongoing collision between AI and Hollywood

Scarlett Johansson's powerful Hollywood agent, Bryan Lourd, wanted answers when he made an urgent call to Sam Altman last week: What do you think you're doing?

By Sarah Krouse,
Deepa Seetharaman and Joe Flint

Altman's artificial intelligence powerhouse, OpenAI, had for months unsuccessfully courted Johansson, who memorably voiced an AI assistant in the 2013 film "Her." Last

September, Johansson turned down an offer to work with OpenAI and voice a new assistant feature.

Altman didn't give up. In mid-May, he texted Lourd, co-chairman of Creative Artists Agency, asking if Johansson might reconsider—he wanted to show the actress something he'd been working on, people familiar with the interaction said. The camps couldn't settle on a time to meet.

Then on May 13, OpenAI showcased an up-

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Nvidia Surge Faces Test From Rivals, Market

By Asa Fitch

Nvidia is riding high after another quarter of blockbuster sales and earnings, even as threats are emerging that could weaken the company's position at the center of the artificial-intelligence boom.

Rivals and key customers are looking to produce chips that can close the gap with Nvidia's products. Meanwhile,

the AI market, which has proven tricky for some startups, is shifting in ways that could diminish the popularity of Nvidia's chips.

Despite the power and promise of AI, startups are struggling to come up with a business model that can recoup the massive investment in hardware the technology requires. Sequoia Capital estimated in March that the in-

dustry put \$50 billion into Nvidia's chips to train large language models, but generative AI startups had only made \$3 billion in revenue.

Some AI startups that built products using Nvidia's AI chips have run into turmoil, including Inflection AI, a Nvidia-backed company that had its co-founder and other employees decamp for Microsoft in March. The chief exec-

utive of Stability AI, which built the popular image-generation AI tool Stable Diffusion, left abruptly in March.

AI companies big and small

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- ◆ **Stocks drop despite Nvidia's big rally**..... **B1**
- ◆ **South Korea unveils chip industry boost**..... **B4**
- ◆ **Heard on the Street: Nvidia keeps sales hot**..... **B10**

Poll Workers Go to Great Lengths

* * *
The race to reach voters in world's largest election

By Shan Li and Rajesh Roy

AJAD ISLAND, India—The hovercraft cut across the water and slid onto the sandy beach of a nearly deserted island. Vijay Nandaniya and nine other election workers clambered off the craft totting electronic voting machines.

They took a mile-long hike across sandy terrain hiding scorpions and venomous snakes, clutching the voting machines in their arms like newborns. They waded one stream and tiptoed across another on a bridge of grain bags and wooden sticks.

When they reached the island's sole village, the men, drenched in sweat, flopped down on the mud floor of a stone hut. No one said democracy was easy.

"I didn't imagine I had to walk this much," said Nandaniya, a 32-year-old high-school math teacher and first-

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'We Were Going to Die': Passengers Recall Singapore Airlines Turbulence

Ali Bukhari was still groggy from a midflight nap when he felt the plane plummet. It wasn't the end he was expecting for his honeymoon.

By Stuart Condie
in Sydney, Feliz
Solomon in Bangkok
and Jon Emont
in Singapore

The 27-year-old Australian engineer and his wife, Ramiza, had spent two idyllic weeks in Iceland—a trip for which they had been saving since their wedding a couple of years ago. They had wanted to go some-

where extra special, Bukhari said. Getting back meant a lot of flying—first to London, then Singapore and finally home to Sydney—but they thought it would be worth it.

That changed 10 hours after their departure from London's Heathrow Airport. The Singapore Airlines plane they were on lurched, violently. An elderly man sitting in front of Bukhari was thrown through the air and across the aisle, slamming into the bank of seats running down the middle. Oxygen masks dropped, and so did some of the boxes that held them.

"My wife and I thought we

were going to die," Bukhari said. "We didn't think we were going to make it."

Bukhari and his wife were unharmed; they were wearing their seat belts. But many others were badly hurt. Someone was pumping the chest of a man whose body lay on the floor, Bukhari said.

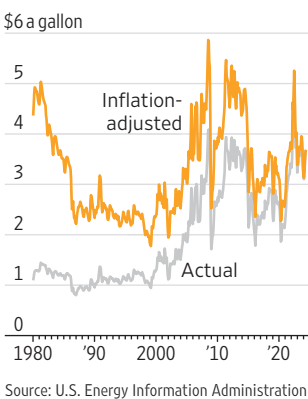
Just then, he had a frightening thought: What if something was wrong with the plane? He considered looking through a window for signs of external damage but resisted for fear of what he might see. Surely, turbulence couldn't cause that

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Prices Drop At the Pump

Gasoline prices on average have fallen as Memorial Day weekend nears. **A3**

Retail prices for regular gasoline, monthly



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration