



# WSJ

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEEKEND



**DOW JONES** | News Corp \*\*\*\*\* SATURDAY/SUNDAY, AUG. 31 - SEPT. 1, 2024 ~ VOL. CCLXXXIV NO. 53 **WSJ.com** ★★★★★ \$6.00

### What's News

Business & Finance

◆ **Major U.S. stock indexes** closed the books on a tumultuous August with monthly gains, riding a string of encouraging economic data to overcome concerns about the health of the labor market. **A1**

◆ **Goldman Sachs plans** to eliminate more than 1,300 employees from its global workforce as part of an annual process to cull the low performers, according to people familiar with the matter. **B10**

◆ **Efforts to avoid** a walkout by dockworkers at some of the nation's busiest seaports are entering a crucial phase. **B10**

◆ **SpaceX can restart** flights with its Falcon 9 rocket as it investigates why one of the boosters failed to land following a launch earlier this past week, the FAA said. **B10**

◆ **Defense company RTX** has agreed to pay \$200 million to settle State Department allegations that it violated U.S. export controls, including by transferring some aircraft technology to China. **B11**

◆ **Eurozone inflation** fell sharply in August to its lowest level since mid-2021, opening the way for the ECB to cut its key interest rate for the second time this year. **A8**

### World-Wide

◆ **Each presidential campaign** has a state that is arguably "must-win," which explains why Harris and Trump are expending so much time, energy and money in Pennsylvania and Georgia: To secure their own prize and block the other. **A1**

◆ **Trump's pledge** to force insurance companies to cover fertility treatments, or make the government pay for them, was met with concern from antiabortion groups and skepticism from advocates. **A4**

◆ **Jewish students** at Columbia University were threatened, attacked, shunned and harassed last school year, and many faculty refused to believe their complaints or act to stop the problem, a report said. **A3**

◆ **Israel has expanded** its air campaign against enemy targets in Syria since the start of the war in Gaza. **A6**

◆ **Brazil's highest court** banned X, outlawing the social-media platform for millions of people as tensions escalate between Musk and the country over what speech is protected online. **A8**

◆ **The Biden administration** has rejected a plan to send American contractors to Ukraine to maintain Western military equipment over concerns about safety. **A7**

### OPINION

The roots of STEM excellence **A13**

### NOTICE TO READERS

WSJ.com and WSJ mobile apps will publish throughout the Labor Day holiday weekend. The Wall Street Journal print edition won't be published on Monday, Sept. 2.

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## In Paris, Everything's Going Swimmingly



**MAKING A SPLASH:** China's Guo Jincheng competes in the Mixed 4x50m Freestyle Relay 20 Points heat on Friday at the Summer Paralympics in Paris. China took the gold in the relay. Guo, 23 years old, won the silver in the 100m freestyle S5 event.

## Harris, Trump Each Takes Aim At Other's 'Must-Win' State

For Kamala Harris, it is Pennsylvania. For Donald Trump, it is Georgia.

By Ken Thomas  
in Washington  
and Vivian Salama  
in Johnstown, Pa.

Each campaign has a state that is arguably "must-win" in its path to 270 electoral votes, which explains why both nominees are expending so much time, energy and money in those two places—to secure their own prize and block the other.

The Democratic vice president will spend part of the Labor Day holiday in Pittsburgh alongside President Biden, after a postconvention bus tour Wednesday and Thursday that took her through rural Georgia. The former Republican president, meanwhile, has been traveling across the so-called "Blue Wall" states, including the biggest battleground prize of Pennsylvania.

"There are two pivot points for the election: Pennsylvania and Georgia. If Trump can win Pennsylvania or Harris can win Georgia, I think they are

then overwhelming favorites to win the election," said Doug Sosnik, a Democratic strategist and adviser to former President Bill Clinton. "It's still possible for Trump to win without Georgia, it's still possible for Harris to win without Pennsylvania, but it's a lot more difficult."

Based on the results of the 2020 map and internal assessments by the Trump campaign, Trump could return to the White House by simply recapturing the swing-state trifecta of Georgia, Pennsylvania and North Carolina—losing

battleground states including Nevada, Arizona, Michigan and Wisconsin.

For Harris, winning Georgia's 16 electoral votes and Pennsylvania's 19 electoral votes would put her on the cusp of the 270 threshold. A victory in any of four states—Michigan, Wisconsin, North Carolina or Arizona—would then put her over the top.

Trump and Harris and allied groups have poured

◆ **Trump plan to cover IVF** faces skepticism..... **A4**

## Telegram Arrest Sows Russian War Worries

By YAROSLAV TROFIMOV

Russian authorities have reacted with unusual fury to the arrest of Telegram founder Pavel Durov by French authorities.

Telegram is more than a mere social-media app to Moscow. Russian soldiers and spies depend on it for battlefield communications, including the guidance of artillery, the coordination of movements and intelligence gathering.

"Many are joking that the arrest of Pavel Durov is essentially the arrest of the chief signals officer of the Russian armed forces," said Aleksey Rogozin, a Russian parliament

adviser and former senior military industry executive.

The Russian military found out quickly after the 2022 invasion of Ukraine that its units had a hard time communicating with one another, and that its unencrypted radio traffic was easily intercepted by Ukrainians. Modern communications capabilities were scarce, and remain so, given the rapid expansion of the Russian armed forces since then.

Legacy Soviet technologies, meanwhile, have proved ill-fated.

◆ **Ukraine general's plan** surprised own troops..... **A7**

## A Key Western Ally Buckles Under Pressure From Moscow

As Georgia's government draws closer to former overlord, national elections mark a flashpoint for the entire region

By YAROSLAV TROFIMOV

TKVIAVI, Georgia—Georgian defenses collapsed within days of Russia's invasion in 2008. Moscow-backed militias killed and rampaged in the countryside as Russian tanks roared unopposed on the highway to capital Tbilisi.

A pharmacist from this leafy village, Fatima Papiashvili, and her daughter Diana, aged 9 at the time, witnessed the murders of their neighbors, and were fortunate to escape to safety with the help of a Wall Street Journal reporter.

Today, the legacy of that catastrophic

military defeat still drives Georgian politics. In recent months, as Russia regained momentum in Ukraine, the government in Tbilisi has hewed closer and closer to Moscow, moving away from the Caucasus nation's longstanding pro-Western aspirations.

Weeks of often violent mass protests and clashes with police have already rocked Tbilisi, and the U.S. has imposed sanctions on leaders of Georgia's ruling party. In a country that experienced a bloody civil war, three conflicts with Russia and a revolution since independence in 1991, national elections set for October loom as a major flash-

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## EXCHANGE



**UNIT 8200**  
Silicon Valley's hot talent pipeline is the Israeli army. **B1**

## 'Flamping' Is the Wind Beneath Their Wings

Hobby of plane-side camping is taking off; wet clothes hanging on the propeller

By ALISON SIDER

OSHKOSH, Wis.— Forget #Vanlife. These campers are all about #Planeflife.

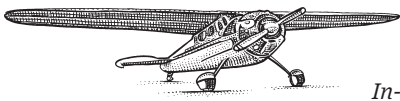
For millions of Americans, camping is a way to flee the rat race and embrace the fresh air. But then there is that special breed who want to awake

to the smell of airplane fuel. Meet plane campers.

They incorporate an obsession for aviation into their rustic getaways, and pitch tents beneath the wings of their small aircraft.

"There's something about camping with your airplane that's different from camping with your car," explains Roger Roberts,

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In-tents pastime

## Debunked Cancer Study Has Wide Ripple Effects

By NIDHI SUBBARAMAN

Four years ago, a team of researchers led by a heavyweight in the field of microbiology made a stunning claim: Cancers have unique microbial signatures that could one day allow tumors to be diagnosed with a blood test.

The discovery captured the attention of the scientific community, as well as investors.

A prestigious journal published the research. More than 600 papers cited the study. At least a dozen groups based new work on its data. And the microbiologists behind the

claim launched a startup to capitalize on their findings.

Since then, the work has suffered multiple setbacks.

The paper was retracted in June following criticisms by other scientists who questioned the methodology and said the findings are likely invalid. Support for the startup has dried up. And published research that relied on the study's data might have to be corrected or retracted.

The events illustrate the far-reaching ripple effect of flawed science.

"It has polluted the literature

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