

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, sunny, turning more humid, high 86. Tonight, cloudy, low 70. Tomorrow, clouds and sun, some gusty afternoon thunderstorms, high 87. Weather map appears on Page A24.

VOL. CLXXIII ... No. 60,184 © 2024 The New York Times Company THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024 Prices in Canada may be higher \$4.00



LAKPA SHERPA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

For Even the Best Sherpas, There Is No Escaping the Danger

By HANNAH BEECH and BHADRA SHARMA

KATHMANDU, Nepal — In July 2023, the mountaineer Tenjen Lama Sherpa guided a Norwegian climber to summit the world’s 14 highest peaks in record time. In a sport that demands an alchemy of sinewy resolve and high-altitude faith, Mr. Lama did everything his client did and more. But she received most of the money, fame and attention.

The kind of lucrative endorsements enjoyed by foreign athletes are not usually given to Nepal’s ethnic Sherpas. For them, the profession of Himalayan guide offers a path out of deep poverty, but also a possible route — strewn with avalanches and icefalls — to a premature death.

Mr. Lama could not afford to rest after guiding the Norwegian, he told The New York Times. Life in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal,



NIRANJAN SHRESTHA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tenjen Lama Sherpa last August. Months later he was killed while serving as a guide on Mount Shishapangma.

was expensive. He could not read or write, but he wanted his sons to get the best education, a costly endeavor.

So only three months after climbing the 14 peaks, Mr. Lama was back working as a Sherpa — his name, his ethnicity, his profession and, ultimately, his fate. Another foreigner chasing another record had hired him as a guide. This time, it was Gina Marie Rzuicidlo, who was trying to become the first American woman to climb the world’s tallest mountains. Another American woman, also guided by a Sherpa, was climbing separately in pursuit of the same record.

But on Oct. 7, avalanches broke loose on Mount Shishapangma in Tibet. Both pairs of climbers were killed.

Mr. Lama’s death was the latest in a series of tragedies to shear his family tree of siblings. In

Continued on Page A14

Saudis Poured Cash Into Golf. Boxing Is Next.

By TARIQ PANJA

Saudi Arabia has already launched a hostile takeover of professional golf. It has invested billions of dollars in world soccer. Now it wants to own professional boxing, too.

An ambitious and expensive Saudi plan that would reshape the economics, structure and future of boxing is in the final stages of approval, according to two people with direct knowledge of the plan.

Saudi Arabia’s giant sovereign wealth vehicle, the Public Investment Fund, would finance the project. The fund is holding final negotiations about dispersing the initial investment — said to be as much as \$2 billion — that the plan would require, according to the two people involved in the planning. Both people declined to be identified because the project does not have final approval.

The Public Investment Fund, known as the P.I.F., declined to comment.

Under the Saudi proposal, about 200 of the top men’s boxers in the world would be signed and then divided into 12 weight classes in what would amount to a global boxing league.

Each class would include about 15 fighters each, allowing the best talents to regularly face off. The move would effectively create a single boxing entity that would re-

Continued on Page A9

Sharpshooting Laker Who Embodied the N.B.A.

By BRUCE WEBER

Jerry West, who emerged from West Virginia coal country to become one of basketball’s greatest players, a signature figure in the history of the Los Angeles Lakers and a literal icon of the sport — his is the silhouette on the logo of the National Basketball Association — died on Wednesday. He was 86.

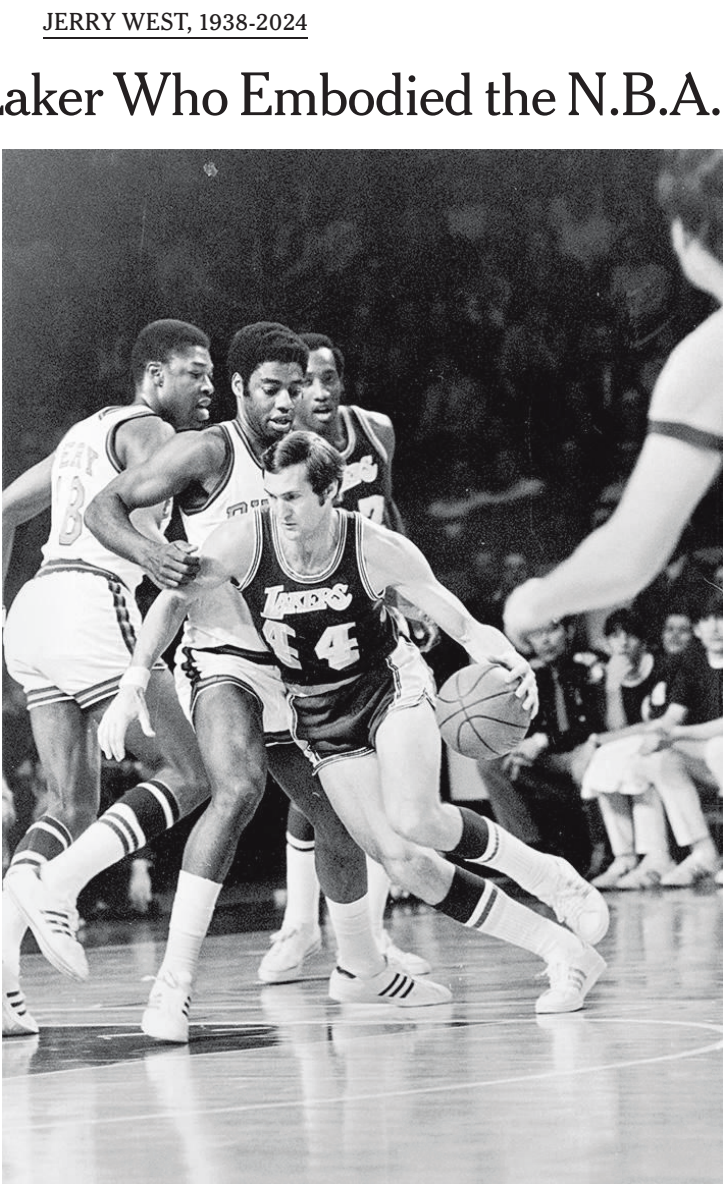
The Los Angeles Clippers announced his death but provided no other details. West was a consultant for the team in recent years.

For four decades, first as a player and later as a scout, a coach and an executive, West played a formidable role in the evolution of the N.B.A. in general and the Lakers in particular, beginning in 1960, when the team moved from Minneapolis to Los Angeles and he was its first draft choice.

He won championships with several generations of Laker teams and Laker stars and was an All-Star in each of his 14 seasons. But except for his longtime teammate, the great forward Elgin Baylor, who retired without a championship, there may have never been a greater player who suffered the persistent close-but-no-cigar frustration that followed West for the bulk of his career on the court.

During his tenure, the Lakers buzzed almost perpetually around the championship, but West had the misfortune to play while the Boston Celtics, with Bill Russell at

Continued on Page A25



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jerry West in 1972 en route to a championship. He also captured titles as an executive, and his silhouette became the N.B.A. logo.

Israeli Inquiry Of War Critic Raises Unease

A Professor Is Detained After Speaking Out

By DAMIEN CAVE and RAWAN SHEIKH AHMAD

JERUSALEM — Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian, a Palestinian professor at a prominent Israeli university, first waded into the debate over the Gaza war by joining academics worldwide in signing a letter that called for a cease-fire. It branded Israel’s assault on the territory a “genocide,” and the leaders of her university responded by urging her to resign.

That was soon after the war began on Oct. 7. Months later, the professor drew even more scrutiny for saying it was time to “abolish Zionism” and accusing Israel of politicizing rape. She was briefly suspended in March by Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she has taught law and social work for nearly three decades. But right-wing Israeli politicians demanded more severe punishment, and in April, the police detained her overnight.

“I have been persecuted and defamed, my academic production of knowledge flattened, and my home and even my own bedroom invaded,” Professor Shalhoub-Kevorkian, 64, told The New York Times.

The professor is now under investigation for incitement to terrorism — a crime punishable by up to five years in prison. And though she has not been charged, her case has prompted a profound debate inside Israel about the repression of free speech and academic freedom since the war began more than eight months ago.

The professor’s lawyers say she is being punished for her political views. And some other Israeli professors and students worry that the country’s universities — which had long defended the values of relative diversity and open-mindedness — have contributed to the suppression of dissent.

While universities argue they are simply trying to keep campuses calm, critics say there is a clear double standard across Israeli society: Violent rhetoric toward Palestinians from Jewish Israelis is often brushed aside, while Palestinian citizens of Israel who express support for Palestinians in Gaza or criticize the conduct of the war face discipline or even criminal investigation.

As of May, police records show, 162 indictments for incitement to terrorism had been filed since the Hamas-led attack on Israel on Oct. 7. Nearly every case, according to Adalah, a legal center for the rights of the Arab minority in Israel, involved Arab citizens of Israel or Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem, who mostly declined offers of citizenship after Israel.

Continued on Page A8

UKRAINE TO SELL STATE BUSINESSES TO FUND THE WAR

TRIAGE FOR ECONOMY

Mall, Hotel, Mines and Chemical Companies Up for Auction

By CONSTANT MÉHEUT and DARIA MITIUK

KYIV, Ukraine — Towering over Kyiv for six decades, Hotel Ukraine has witnessed some pivotal moments in Ukraine’s recent history.

Crowds gathered on the square in front of the 14-story hotel to celebrate the fall of the Soviet Union. Popular uprisings on what was later called Independence Square toppled Ukrainian leaders. Today, blue and yellow flags cover lawns near the hotel, serving as a reminder of the many lives lost in the war between Ukraine and Russia.

Now, Hotel Ukraine is up for auction as part of an effort to sell off some large state assets to help fund the military and bolster an



BRENDAN HOFFMAN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The view from the state-owned Hotel Ukraine, which is up for auction starting at \$25 million.

economy battered by a grueling war that has drained the country’s coffers. The starting price for Hotel Ukraine is \$25 million.

Beginning this summer, the government will auction some 20 state-owned companies, including Hotel Ukraine, a vast shopping mall in Kyiv, and several mining and chemical companies.

The privatization push has two main goals: to raise money for a state budget that is short \$5 billion this year for military spending, and to strengthen Ukraine’s flagging economy by attracting investment that will, officials hope, make it more self-sufficient over time.

“The budget is in the red,” Oleksiy Sobolev, Ukraine’s deputy

Continued on Page A10

UKRAINE AID G7 nations are close to agreeing to a loan backed by frozen Russia assets. PAGE A11

Southern Baptists Reject I.V.F., Despite Evangelicals’ Wide Use

By RUTH GRAHAM

INDIANAPOLIS — Southern Baptists, the country’s largest Protestant denomination, voted on Wednesday to oppose the use of in vitro fertilization. The vote was an indication that evangelicals are increasingly open to arguments that equate embryos with human life, and that two years after the overturning of Roe v. Wade, “fetal personhood” may be the next front for the anti-abortion movement.

More than 10,000 delegates, called “messenger,” have gathered in Indianapolis for the denomination’s annual meeting, which is closely watched as a barometer of evangelical sentiment on a variety of cultural and political issues. The vote on Wednesday

was the first time that attendees at the Southern Baptist meeting have addressed the ethics of in vitro fertilization directly.

The resolution proposed on Wednesday called on Southern Baptists “to reaffirm the unconditional value and right to life of every human being, including those in an embryonic stage, and to only utilize reproductive technologies consistent with that affirmation, especially in the number of embryos generated in the I.V.F. process.”

It also exhorted them to “advocate for the government to restrain” actions inconsistent with the dignity of “every human being, which necessarily includes

Continued on Page A22

<p>SPORTS B7-10</p> <p>Nadal and Alcaraz to Team Up</p> <p>Spain’s Olympic tennis squad will include the doubles pair of Rafael Nadal, 38, and Carlos Alcaraz, 21. PAGE B9</p> <p>A Molder of Links</p> <p>Angela Moser, who led construction on the newest course at Pinehurst, the U.S. Open host, is rising in her field. PAGE B7</p> 	<p>INTERNATIONAL A4-15</p> <p>Pope Accused of Slur Again</p> <p>Two news agencies said the pontiff used a homophobic term during a meeting with priests, after being accused of uttering the same word in May. PAGE A12</p> <p>Officer’s Posts Lead to Firing</p> <p>The police say a Toronto officer’s public complaints about harassment tried to destroy the agency’s reputation. PAGE A4</p> <p>BUSINESS B1-6</p> <p>Musk’s Pay Under Review</p> <p>Tesla shareholders will decide in a vote if Elon Musk’s \$45 billion compensation package is too much. PAGE B1</p>	<p>NATIONAL A16-24</p> <p>A Vote Against Garland</p> <p>House Republicans want to hold the attorney general in contempt for refusing to turn over recordings of the president in the documents case. PAGE A20</p> <p>Alito’s Words Echo Movement</p> <p>The justice’s remarks on Christianity come as many conservatives believe that a ‘godliness’ view should guide U.S. democracy. News Analysis. PAGE A21</p> <p>Nuclear Power Has Big Backer</p> <p>Work is starting in Wyoming coal country on a new type of reactor. Its main supporter, Bill Gates, says he’s in it for the emissions-free electricity. PAGE A16</p>	<p>ARTS C1-6</p> <p>Exploring Other Stages</p> <p>The multi-instrumentalist Julius Rodriguez hones a bigger, more audacious sound on his second album. PAGE C1</p> <p>Bumper Crop of Creativity</p> <p>The Basel Social Club event in Switzerland blurs the boundaries between the art world and everyday life. PAGE C5</p> 	<p>THURSDAY STYLES D1-6</p> <p>An Epidemic of ‘Brainrot’</p> <p>The term describes the condition of being perpetually online, though some of the afflicted don’t seem to mind. PAGE D5</p> <p>Welcome to Their Conversation</p> <p>Or YouTube video. Or baseball game. Widespread use of speakerphones is driving some of us batty. PAGE D1</p> <p>OPINION A26-27</p> <p>David Quammen PAGE A27</p> 
--	---	--	--	--