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★★★★ \$5.00

DJIA 40743.33 **A** 203.40 0.50%

NASDAQ 17147.42 ▼ 1.3%

STOXX 600 514.08 ▲ 0.4%

10-YR.TREAS. ▲ 8/32, yield 4.143%

OIL \$74.73 **▼** \$1.08

GOLD \$2,405.00 ▲ \$27.20

EURO \$1.0817 **YEN** 152.78

What's News

Business & Finance

◆ Microsoft reported growth in its main cloud-computing business that narrowly missed expectations, causing its stock to fall in after-hours trading amid investor jitters over the outlook for the artificial-intelligence boom. A1 ◆ Tech shares extended

their recent slide, helping to depress the S&P 500 and Nasdaq by 0.5% and 1.3%, respectively, while the Dow, lighter in tech, rose 0.5%. B11

- ◆ Amazon.com is expanding its one- to two-day delivery capabilities throughout the U.S. as it seeks to boost sales in less-populated regions. B1
- ◆ Tesla recalled more than 1.8 million vehicles in the U.S. because of a software issue that could result in the hood fully opening and obstructing the driver's view. B4
- ◆ Airbus posted a slump in profit for the second quarter and confirmed it would deliver fewer planes than forecast this year amid persisting supply-chain hurdles. B2
- ♦ BP's underlying profit rose in the second quarter, beating market forecasts after higher volumes offset significantly lower refining margins. **B5**
- ◆ Prada reported a rise in first-half revenue despite challenges in a luxury sector grappling with slowing sales growth and lower demand in China. B3
- ◆ Diageo expects demand to remain soft after consumers in North and Latin America pulled back spending on alcohol in its past fiscal year. B3
- **♦** A new investment fund from Bill Ackman expects to raise around \$2 billion in an IPO, well below his initial \$25 billion vision. B10

World-Wide

- ♦ Hamas's political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, was targeted and killed in the Iranian capital of Tehran, the country's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said, and Hamas said he was assassinated by Israel. A1
- ◆ The U.S. agreed to arm dozens of F-16 jet fighters being sent to Ukraine with American-made missiles and other advanced weapons, addressing a longstanding question about the Western aircraft. A1
- ♦ Nicolás Maduro's regime vowed to crush a burgeoning protest movement against election results cementing his grip on power in Venezuela, amid growing evidence he lost by a wide margin and violent clashes between demonstrators and security forces. A7
- ◆ The Senate passed legislation that would require tech companies to take steps to protect children from harmful content on the internet. but the effort faces an uncertain fate in the House. A3
- ◆ Texas reached a \$1.4 billion settlement with Facebook parent Meta Platforms over the company's sincediscontinued use of facialrecognition technology. A3
- ◆ Secret Service Acting Director Ronald Rowe said in a hearing that he was ashamed of the security lapses that allowed the shooter a clear line of sight to fire at Trump at a rally earlier this month. A3
- ◆ Top Philippine officials said they were determined to press ahead with the resupply of a military outpost in the South China Sea despite differences with Beijing about a deal covering deliveries to disputed Second Thomas Shoal. A8

Crossword....

Arts in Review.... A12
Business News.. B3,5
Property Report... B6 Sports. Technology..... B4 Heard on Street.. B12 U.S. News....... A2-4,6



Venezuelan Regime Moves to Silence Protests



CRACKING DOWN: Members of the Bolivarian National Guard riot squad arrested opponents of President Nicolás Maduro in Caracas on Tuesday, amid demonstrations that followed growing evidence he lost Sunday's election by a wide margin. A7

Hamas Leader Killed in Iran, Militant Group Accuses Israel

Hamas's political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, was targeted and killed in the Iranian capi-

By Rory Jones, Jared Malsin, Anat Peled and Adam Chamseddine

tal Tehran, the country's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said early Wednesday.

The IRGC said it was still investigating the cause of the incident, which occurred after Israel said it killed one of Hezbollah's top military leaders in an airstrike in Beirut.

Hamas in a statement confirmed the death of Haniyeh, saying the leader had been killed by Israel after attending the inauguration ceremony Tuesday of the new president of Iran, Masoud Pezeshkian. Israel didn't immediately

comment on Haniyeh's death. The country has said it would target Hamas leaders for launching the Oct. 7 attacks that sparked the war in Gaza.

The targeted killing of Haniyeh would mark the highest-ranking death of a Hamas political official since the conflict began.

The announcement of Haniveh's death came just hours after Israel said it killed Hezbollah leader Fuad Shukr, the highest-ranking Hezbollah leader to be killed in years, in a strike that already risked further expanding the war in Gaza beyond the strip to the wider Middle East.

Israel said that the Beirut strike was intended as retaliation for a Saturday attack on the Israel-controlled Golan Heights that killed 12 young people. Hezbollah didn't say whether Shukr had died in the

fell 7.5%, but executives said

early turnaround efforts are

starting to bear fruit. B1

same-store sales, change

U.S.

Global

Starbucks quarterly

from a year earlier

20%

15

10

Iran, the Middle East's Shiite power, backs both Hamas and Hezbollah, and Haniyeh's killing on Iranian soil is likely to heighten regional tensions just as the U.S. is pushing Israel and Hamas to agree on a cease-fire in Gaza.

The death would be viewed as a major win for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has vowed to take out Hamas leaders for launching the Oct. 7 attacks that Israel says killed 1,200 people and saw 250 taken hostage.

Israel's military operations Please turn to page A8

Microsoft Cloud Sales Lag Behind **Forecasts**

Tech giant's results stoke worries about strength of AI boom, rattling investors

By AARON TILLEY

Microsoft reported growth in its main cloud-computing business that narrowly missed expectations, causing its stock to tumble during after-hours trading amid investor jitters over the outlook for the artificial-intelligence boom.

The tech giant's overall sales and profit growth beat expectations in the latest quarter. But revenue for its Azure cloud business—a central part of its AI operation rose 29%. That was below the prior quarter's 31% growth and lagged behind analysts' expectations that it would rise by 30%, according to FactSet.

Microsoft's stock was down 4% in after-hours trading, a sign of how sensitive traders are to the slightest sign of weakness in the company's allimportant cloud business, which is at the heart of chief executive Satya Nadella's artificial-intelligence strategy.

"There's a segment of the investing community that is hyper-focused on very small changes to the Azure business," said Brad Reback, an analyst at Stifel Financial.

On a call with analysts, Microsoft Chief Financial Officer Amy Hood said Azure growth came in at the low end of the company's guidance due to soft demand in a few European markets for non-AI services, as well as limits in its AI-related hardware.

"We are constrained on AI Please turn to page A2

China Helps Huawei Make a Comeback

The telecom giant struggled under U.S. sanctions—then Beijing stepped in

Five years ago, Washington sanctioned Huawei, cutting off the Chinese company's access to advanced U.S. technologies because it

> By Liza Lin, Stu Woo and Raffaele Huang

feared the telecommunications giant would spy on Americans and their allies. Many in the industry thought it would ring the death knell for one of China's most vital tech players.

Huawei struggled at first-

but now it's come roaring back.

Bolstered by billions of dollars in state support, Huawei has expanded into new businesses, boosted its profitability and found fresh ways to curb its dependence on U.S. suppliers. It has held on to its leading position in the global telecom-equipment market, despite American efforts to squeeze Huawei out of its allies' networks. And it's making a big comeback in high-end smartphones, using Please turn to page A9

Note: Latest fiscal quarter ended June 30. Source: the company

Weaker Sales | American Weapons All Starbucks To Boost Capability The coffee giant's net income Of Ukraine F-16 Jets

By Lara Seligman AND ALISTAIR MACDONALD

WASHINGTON—The U.S. has agreed to arm dozens of F-16 jet fighters being sent to Ukraine with American-made missiles and other advanced weapons, addressing a longstanding question about the Western aircraft.

Denmark and the Netherlands are preparing to send the first American-made F-16s to Ukraine this summer, and more will come later from Belgium and Norway. But until now, the source of critical weapons for the planes has

been unresolved.

Though the Pentagon has limited inventory and production capability, it will supply the F-16s with air-to-ground munitions, precision-guidance kits for bombs and advanced air-toair missiles in sufficient quantities to meet Kviv's most urgent needs in its war with Russia, a senior U.S. official said.

'We are confident that we will be able to supply all of those [weapons], at least the critical volumes that they need," the U.S. official said.

The F-16 is one of the highest-profile pieces of equip-Please turn to page A8

Five-Year Feud Over Oysters Divides Two New England Towns

Seaside neighbors in Massachusetts are split over farms in a shared harbor

By Nicholas G. Miller

Cohasset and Scituate were friendly for more than 250 years. Now, the Massachusetts neighbors can't find common ground. The reason: oysters.

Scituate, a seaside town of fewer than 20,000 people that shares a harbor with the smaller Cohasset, wants to allow oyster farms in its portion of the bay. Cohasset says the farms inhibit swimming and boating.

Political feuds in smalltown New England are nothing new. But this one stands out for its stamina—five years and counting—and spite. Five

lawsuits have been filed, including one against the Massachusetts attorney general. More than 30 boat moorings have been seized. And a proposed joint sewer system that advocates hoped would stimulate development and

clean up waterways? Circling the drain. Technically the fight is over 3 acres of oyster

farms in a more than 250-acre harbor. But for those involved, much more is at stake. "For Cohasset, it's about

shellfishing. For Scituate, it's about sovereignty," said Scituate Town Administrator Jim Please turn to page A9

Blood-Test Tech Moves Beyond Theranos Failure

By Peter Loftus

Theranos's ambitions for a finger-prick blood test are finally being realized—by other companies.

Since May, needle-phobic people in Austin, Texas, have been able to visit pharmacies for routine medical tests on drops of blood squeezed from their fingertips, rather than the usual way of plunging a needle into a vein in the arm and drawing large vials of

The rise and fall of Thera-Silicon Valley nos—the startup that promised to revolutionize blood testing but ended dissolved, with its founder Elizabeth Holmes convicted of fraud—cast a pall over the idea that critical medical tests could be run on

mere drops of blood. Demand for alternatives to

standard blood draws never went away, however. And companies-including Becton Dickinson and Babson Diagnostics, which make the tests rolling out in Austin—have been working out technological kinks that foiled Theranos.

Becton's hand-held fingerprick device and Babson's sample-handling machine are the first to hit the market. Drawbridge Health received regulatory clearance in April for a device that collects a small amount of blood from the upper arm and can be self-administered at home.

Truvian Health is developing an instrument that can process small blood samples close to the point of collec-Please turn to page A6

INSIDE



SPORTS

Simone Biles leads U.S. women's gymnastics team to gold at the Olympics. A13

JOANNA STERN

Timeline takes shape for Apple's rollout of Al features for the iPhone. A10