

Election 2024: You
Asked For It, America



REVIEW

WSJ

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEEKEND



Supermodel
Makeup
Moves
OFF DUTY

What's
News

Business & Finance

◆ **The Autopilot system** that prompted Tesla's recent recall of two million vehicles has been the subject of lawsuits claiming the company promised more than it delivered, and in some cases, put people in danger. **A1**

◆ **Companies in finance** and accounting are now recruiting for interns nearly 18 months before college students would be expected to start. **A1**

◆ **The Dow set a record** for a third straight day Friday, as it rose 0.2%. The S&P 500 slipped 0.01% and the Nasdaq gained 0.4%. **B9**

◆ **Fed officials offered** competing views of when they might begin to lower interest rates next year after Chair Powell suggested they were likely done raising them. **A2**

◆ **Activision Blizzard** has agreed to pay more than \$50 million to settle a lawsuit by a California regulator that helped spur Microsoft's takeover of the company. **B9**

◆ **A.P. Moller-Maersk** and Hapag-Lloyd have stopped their ships from entering the southern entrance of the Red Sea after attacks on their vessels. **B9**

◆ **A process to sell** the venture-capital arm of bankrupt SVB Financial, the former parent of Silicon Valley Bank, has fallen flat. **B9**

World-Wide

◆ **The Israeli military** said it mistakenly killed three Israeli hostages that it misidentified as militants during fighting in Shujaiyeh, in the east of Gaza City. **A1**

◆ **Residents of the Gaza Strip** are facing widespread starvation for the first time in recent history, as Israel and the U.N. trade blame over why aid deliveries are falling short of soaring needs. **A9**

◆ **Jake Sullivan**, the national security adviser, pressed Palestinian leaders to help provide security for the postwar Gaza Strip. **A9**

◆ **EU leaders pledged** to continue providing Ukraine financial aid despite failing to agree on a proposed \$54 billion funding package after deciding to begin membership talks with the nation. **A8**

◆ **The U.S. count** of homeless people surged to the highest level on record, reaching more than 653,000 people early this year. **A3**

◆ **Matthew Perry died** from the acute effects of ketamine, according to an autopsy of the "Friends" actor. **A4**

◆ **The mother** of the 6-year-old boy who shot his teacher earlier this year was sentenced to two years in a Virginia prison. **A4**

◆ **A British court** awarded Prince Harry nearly \$180,000 after finding that U.K. tabloids hacked his phone. **A10**

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What universities
have done to
themselves **A15**

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: AHMAD GHARIB/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE; KETTY IMAGES; HOSTAGES AND MISSING FAMILIES FORUM/REUTERS (3)

Families and supporters of hostages held in Gaza demonstrated in Tel Aviv on Friday, calling for their release in exchange for Palestinian prisoners. The Israeli army said it accidentally killed three hostages, from left, Samer Talalka, 25, Alon Shamriz, 26, and Yotam Haim, 28.



Israeli Troops
Accidentally
Kill Hostages

By ANAT PELED

The Israeli military said it mistakenly killed three Israeli hostages that it misidentified as militants during fighting in Shujaiyeh, in the east of Gaza City on Friday, an incident that sparked protests asking the government to redouble efforts to free the remaining people in captivity.

"This is a sad and painful event for all of us, and the IDF is responsible for everything that happened," Israeli military spokesperson Daniel Hagari said, adding that the event was currently being investigated.

The killed civilian hostages were identified as Yotam Haim, 28, Samer Talalka, 25, and Alon Shamriz, 26, according to Israeli officials and the Hostages and Missing Families Forum. All three men were abducted from kibbutzim near the Gaza border on Oct. 7.

Haim, a drummer, and Shamriz, who was about to start his studies in computer engineering, were both from kibbutz Kfar Aza. Talalka, an Arab Israeli from the town of Hura, was abducted from the chicken hatchery where he worked in kibbutz Nir Am.

Hagari said that the military believes that the three Israeli hostages either ran away or were abandoned by their captors. "There will be full transparency to the public about this event," he said.

The accidental killing of the three hostages was the first incident of its kind since the start of the war, and it comes as the Israeli military is engaged in combat in densely packed urban areas. Since the

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◆ **Gaza faces widespread starvation.....** **A9**

◆ **U.S. presses Palestinians to secure Strip after war....** **A9**

Fintech Fugitive Sought in Huge Theft
Is Now Suspected of Spying for Russia

Wirecard's ex-COO helped Moscow fund covert operations around the world, officials say

By BOJAN PANCEVSKI AND MAX COLCHESTER

BERLIN—Soon after payment-processing giant Wirecard reported in June 2020 that nearly \$2 billion had gone missing from its balance sheet, its chief operating officer Jan Marsalek boarded a private jet out of Austria. After a landing in Belarus, he was whisked by car to Moscow, where he got a Russian passport under an assumed name.

Western intelligence and security officials now say they have reached the unsettling conclusion that Marsalek had likely been a Russian agent for nearly a decade.

Marsalek already stands accused of stealing hundreds of millions of dollars from investors. Following multiple international investigations, officials from intelligence, police and judiciary agencies in several countries now say the 43-year-old native of Austria used his defunct payments company to illegally help Russian spy agencies move money to fund covert operations around the world.

One of the most wanted men in the world, Marsalek has also provided assistance to the mercenary organization of Yevgeny Prigozhin, the late Russian warlord, and is now involved in the reconfiguration of his business empire in Africa on behalf of Russian officials from his new domicile in Dubai, according to Western intelligence.

Wirecard got its start processing payments for pornography websites on its way to becoming an Internet finance behemoth. During its heyday,

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EXCHANGE



ROUGH ROAD
The CEO of General Motors struggles with setbacks on her big bets. **B1**

Democrats
Get Antsy
As Biden
Faces Key
Stretch

By ANNIE LINSKEY

WASHINGTON—President Biden heads into the end of the year with Democratic worries about his re-election deepening, his effort to aid allies in two wars hanging in the balance on Capitol Hill and an impeachment inquiry into him and his family moving forward.

At the same time, some rays of hope are peeking through for the incumbent as a tough 2024 contest looms, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average reaching a record high and—perhaps most important from an electoral perspective—consumer confidence rebounding faster than expected this month.

A round of dismal polls is intensifying jitters among Democrats, including some in the West Wing, who are worried that voters' negative views about the president are going unchallenged, and who are growing impatient for a full-fledged campaign to start.

Those with concerns include former President Barack Obama, who "knows this is going to be a close race" and "feels that Democrats very well could lose" the 2024 election.

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Giuliani Told to Pay \$148M



JUDGMENT DAY: A jury said former Trump campaign lawyer Rudy Giuliani must pay \$148 million for falsely claiming two Georgia election workers rigged the 2020 presidential vote. **A3**

Who's a Lucky Dog? (Hint, His Owner Has a \$700 Million Deal)

* * *

Shohei Ohtani signed a record contract;
many fans just want to yap about his pooch

By LINDSEY ADLER

Douglas Tsao and his beloved dog Hercules were sitting down at home in New York to watch the annual Major League Baseball Most Valuable Player Award announcement in November when they found themselves looking into a mirror. Shohei Ohtani, the most famous baseball player in the world, appeared on screen with a cute dog that looked just like Hercules.

The sight of a Nederlandse Kooikerhondje on television was more shocking to Tsao than Ohtani's unanimous MVP designation—it is a rare breed, and Kooiker owners in the U.S. are a passionate

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Most valuable pup

Lawsuits Allege Tesla
Oversold Autopilot

By REBECCA ELLIOTT
AND RYAN FELTON

The Autopilot system that prompted Tesla's recall of two million vehicles this past week has been the subject of a series of lawsuits claiming the company promised more than it delivered, and in some cases, put people in danger.

Tesla faces at least a dozen lawsuits in the U.S. related to the driver-assistance system, many of them brought by the families of people who died in crashes allegedly involving

Autopilot. Consumers and investors have also sued Tesla, claiming its marketing of Autopilot and an upgrade called Full Self-Driving Capability is deceptive and misleading.

Several cases are poised for trial next year, including one over a fatal crash in California that is set to be presented to a jury in March.

Tesla Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk has said repeatedly over the years that the company's cars were close to operating autonomously.

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Summer Interns Are
In Demand—for 2025

By LINDSAY ELLIS

The starter pistol has sounded for college internship applications—for the summer of 2025.

Companies in finance and accounting are now recruiting for interns nearly 18 months before college students would be expected to start.

The investment bank Guggenheim Securities and the Royal Bank of Canada, in addition to accounting stalwarts Grant Thornton and PricewaterhouseCoopers among others, started advertising for 2025 summer internships this fall.

Many summer 2024 internship slots are already filled, several companies say.

The advanced timeline means that college students who may have taken just one business class are trying to prove their mettle in competitive application processes that can launch careers after graduation.

To prepare students, colleges are hosting recruiting events and prepping their students earlier. Many applicants for 2025 are sophomores striving for a coveted internship after their junior year. The stints often lead to a full-time job.

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