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★★★★ \$5.00

DJIA 37710.10 **A** 53.58 0.14%

NASDAQ 15095.14 ▼ 0.03%

STOXX 600 478.08 ▼ 0.1%

10-YR.TREAS. ▼ 17/32, yield 3.849%

OIL \$71.77 ▼ \$2.34

GOLD \$2,073.90 ▼ \$9.50

EURO \$1.1062 **YEN** 141.41

What's News

Business & Finance

- ♦ Apple's widening effort to turn its nine-year-old watch from a luxury timepiece into the ultimate all-inone medical device is taking it into territory that is legally treacherous as well as potentially profitable. A1 ◆ Apple is slipping behind Chinese rivals in the development of high-tech cars. B1
- ♦ The S&P 500 again closed just shy of a record, rising 0.04%, while the Dow industrials advanced 0.1% and the Nasdag fell 0.03%, B1
- ♦ Investors are hoping to cap 2023 and welcome 2024 with a Santa Claus rally, the gains that stocks often make during the last five trading days of one year and the first two of the next. **B1**
- ◆ Hedge fund HG Vora, a top shareholder in Penn Entertainment, is in talks with the casino operator about placing directors on its board, according to a securities filing. B3
- ◆ Boeing 737 MAX airplanes are being inspected for potential loose bolts in the rudder-control system, and the FAA said it was closely monitoring the inspections. B3
- ◆ Chilean lithium company SQM reached an agreement with state-run mining company Codelco to jointly produce the metal. B9
- ◆ The low prices seen this year for metals used in batteries, including lithium, cobalt and nickel, appear likely to persist in 2024. B4
- ◆ Aspen Skiing sued skiwear maker Perfect Moment for allegedly appropriating its Colorado resorts' reputation by falsely associating itself with the company. B3

World-Wide

- ◆ Maine's top election official barred Trump from appearing on the state's primary ballot, marking the second state to knock the Republican former president off its ballot and escalating a national legal effort to disqualify him from office. A1
- ◆ Colorado Republicans asked the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse a decision by the state's high court that Trump is ineligible for reelection in the state for having incited an insurrection. A6
- ◆ The Biden administration extended for two years a temporary measure to suspend Trump-era tariffs on steel and aluminum from Europe, a stop-gap that fails to resolve trade frictions with the bloc. A1
- ◆ Republican presidential candidate Nikki Haley said the Civil War was caused by a fight over slavery as she tried to tamp down a political uproar hours after she failed to mention it when asked about the conflict's origins. A4
- **♦ The shooting deaths** of three Israeli hostages by Israeli forces in Gaza this month could have been prevented, an Israeli military investigation found. A10
- ◆ Ukraine's prosecutor general is investigating an alleged execution of prisoners of war by Russian troops, part of what Ukrainian officials say amounts to systemic mistreatment of captive soldiers by the Russians. A10
- ◆ New Mexico health officials are testing wastewater at public high schools for a range of opioids and stimulants in an effort to gauge young people's drug use. A3

CONTENTS Business News..... B3

Sports.... Technology...... Heard on Street.. B10 U.S. News. M1-6 World News..... A8-10



Storms Drive High Surf, Battering West Coast



ON ALERT: People watch from a balcony on Faria Beach as huge waves crash on the shore Thursday in Ventura, Calif. The waves stirred up by storms in the Pacific Ocean were predicted to reach up to 40 feet high on the Northern California coast. A3

Tech and Legal Hurdles Hinder Apple's Quest for Medical Watch

By Dalvin Brown AND AARON TILLEY

Apple's widening effort to turn its nine-year-old watch from a luxury timepiece into the ultimate all-in-one medical device is taking it into territory that is legally treacherous as well as potentially profitable.

This month's suspension of Apple Watch sales was the starkest sign yet that the

world's most valuable tech company is treading new ground as it adds health features to the device. While Apple on Wednesday won a reprieve to resume sales, specialists in medical devices said the technical and legal challenges are likely to continue.

For years, Apple has enhanced the gadget with potentially lifesaving monitors for atrial fibrillation, falls and blood-oxygen issues—raising its appeal for an aging population.

Many medical professionals envision a day when devices like the Apple Watch could also allow users to track blood pressure without the need for a bulky cuff, or blood sugar without the pain of skin punctures.

But for that, customers might have to wait. Just as Apple has been a pioneer in personal electronics, companies large and small that have been working in the healthcare tech space for years have their own intellectual property-and lawyers.

'Apple is entering into a new space where their own innovation engine isn't as up to speed," said Andrei Iancu, a Please turn to page A2

◆ Apple is losing to rivals in

Trump Is Barred From Maine's Ballot

State's top election official says former president is ineligible due to Jan. 6 actions

By Jacob Gershman

Maine's top election official on Thursday barred Donald Trump from appearing on the state's primary ballot, the second time a state knocked the Republican former president off its ballot and escalating a national legal effort to disqualify him from office.

In a 34-page decision, Maine Secretary of State Shenna Bellows, a Democrat, said the Constitution bars a second Trump term because of his actions surrounding the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol following his loss in the 2020 presidential election.

Her decision, in which she found "he is not qualified to hold the office of the President," comes after Colorado's highest court ruled last week that Trump is ineligible for that state's ballot. Both rulings invoked the same section of the post-Civil War 14th Amendment that disqualifies from public office those who swore to defend the Constitution and then "engaged in insurrection or rebellion" against the U.S.

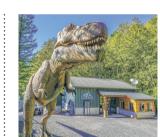
A Trump campaign spokesman said it would "quickly file a legal objection in state court to prevent this atro-Please turn to page A6

♦ Colorado GOP appeals to U.S. high court over ban... A6

INSIDE



What happened in college football in 2023 will reverberate for decades. A14



MANSION

How real-estate agents managed to sell unusual or quirky properties. M1

Trade Frictions Bedevil Biden Ahead of Next Year's Election

By Yuka Hayashi

WASHINGTON—The Biden administration on Thursday extended for two years a temporary measure to suspend Trumpera tariffs on European steel and aluminum, the latest sign that the president is finding it difficult to resolve trade frictions as an election year approaches.

Washington and Brussels have failed to find a permanent

solution to eliminate the levies more than two years after the negotiations began. With the announcement, the administration will keep in place a temporary import quota system that replaced Trump-era tariffs while talks continue. The European Union has criticized the temporary fix, which could be undone if Biden loses his re-

election bid. Without the extension, import duties of 25% on steel and 10% on aluminum would have returned, inviting retaliatory tariffs from the EU on U.S. products such as Bourbon whiskey and Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Amid political pressures from the left and the right ahead of the 2024 elections. the administration has failed clinch much-anticipated agreements with Asian and Eu-Please turn to page A2

Israeli Strike Hit Hamas— **And Scores of Civilians**

Mix of intentional tactics and unintended consequences contributed to one of the deadliest bombings of the Gaza war

By David S. Cloud, Dov Lieber AND OMAR ABDEL-BAQUI

The alley-like streets and closely spaced buildings of the Block 6 neighborhood in Gaza's Jabalia refugee camp were packed with people the afternoon of Oct. 31. Some stood in a long line at the local bakery. Others were crammed more tightly than usual into tiny apartments.

Many had ignored or were unable to heed repeated calls from the Israeli military to evacuate farther south to avoid its approaching troops and aerial bombardment, believing they were relatively secure deep inside the sprawling, densely populated camp.

We were at home, with many relatives and even people we never met before, seeking refuge with us in a place that was safe,"

Please turn to page A11

Hostage Deaths Avoidable



Protesters in Jerusalem called for the release of hostages in Gaza. A military probe found the Dec. 15 shooting deaths of three hostages by Israeli forces could have been prevented. A10

Meet the Neighbors Who Actually Want Your Fallen Leaves

Leaf thieves roam streets for what they say is a valuable resource, sparking confusion

By Sarah Nassauer

Monica Schaefer drove up and down the streets of Kingston, N.Y., one recent evening scanning the roadside for other people's leaves.

The 39-year-old pulled up to a cluster of brown paper bags. Marvin Warren, a fellow

leaf thief who lives nearby, was already there. The two stood on the sidewalk answering questions from a confused homeowner, then turned to the task of figuring out who should take home this haul. This would be Schaefer's day, they decided.

Please turn to page A11

China Is Looking to Move Ahead, But Xi Revives Mao-Era Playbook

By Lingling Wei

A song called "Tomorrow Will Be Better" became a sensation in mainland China in the 1980s, as the nation was emerging from the turmoil of Mao Zedong's rule and looking forward to a brighter future.

Now people in China are listening to the song again—but for a very different reason. Videos of the tune are circulating on WeChat and other communications apps, often with taglines expressing sadness about the end of that era.

For many Chinese, the country appeared to be on an irreversible path toward more growth, openness and opportunity. But China's leader Xi Jinping is restoring aspects of Mao's rule, forcing people to confront a more uncertain future rooted in the past.

Xi's predecessors, beginning with Deng Xiaoping, embraced

market forces, growth, and limited freedoms. Xi, by contrast, is placing national security over the economy, tightening government control, and putting the Communist Party—and himself-at the center of Chinese society.

Gone is the booming China that inspired many young people and entrepreneurs to take risks and bet on the future. Home prices are falling, youth

Please turn to page A9