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Democracy Dies in Darkness

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024 • \$3

Jobs report reflects fear of brewing recession

Markets down on news; unemployment at highest since pandemic's end

BY LAUREN KAORI GURLEY AND RACHEL SIEGEL

Employers added 114,000 jobs in July and the unemployment rate spiked to 4.3 percent, reflecting a weaker-than-expected labor market that is stoking fears that interest rates have been too high for too long.

With the unemployment rate now at its highest since coming out of the pandemic downturn in 2021, economists, banking analysts and investors warned that recession signals are flashing.

Financial markets on Friday reflected worries that the Federal Reserve missed an opportunity to save the economy from a downfall by holding out for a September rate cut, reversing recent optimism about the strength of the economy. All three of the major stock indexes fell significantly throughout the day, with the S&P 500 closing down 1.8 percent and the tech-heavy Nasdaq composite index down by 2.4 percent by market's close Friday.

"It's a pretty awful report on a lot of levels," said Joseph LaVorgna, a former Trump White House economist who is now at SMBC Nikko Securities, noting the "broad hiring trends clearly downshifting" and the "even more troubling" rise in unemployment.

SEE JOBS ON A12

Markets: Tech stocks plunge as Nasdaq hits a correction. **A12**

Plea deals in 9/11 case voided after backlash

Austin's decision puts death penalty back in play for alleged plotters

BY MARÍA LUISA PAÚL, DAN LAMOTHE AND AMBER FERGUSON

The man accused of plotting the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and two of his co-defendants could once again face the death penalty after Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on Friday took direct oversight of the case and withdrew the plea deals that were signed earlier this week.

In a memo, Austin announced his decision to remove retired Brig. Gen. Susan K. Escallier from overseeing the cases. He also revoked the pretrial agreements that would have removed the possibility of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, Walid bin Attash and Mustafa al-Hawsawi facing the death penalty.

After the plea deals were made public Wednesday night, there was immediate and severe backlash from 9/11 families, Republican lawmakers and the New York City firefighters union, which lost more than 340 of its members. In all, about 3,000 people died in the deadliest terrorist attack on U.S. soil when hijackers, at Mohammed's alleged direction, flew two planes into the

SEE SEPT. 11 ON A2

\$10M withdrawal drove secret probe

BY AARON C. DAVIS AND CAROL D. LEONNIG

Five days before Donald Trump became president in January 2017, a manager at a bank branch in Cairo received an unusual letter from an organization linked to the Egyptian intelligence service. It asked the bank to "kindly withdraw" nearly \$10 million from the organization's account — all in cash.

Inside the state-run National

CASE ON TRUMP AND EGYPT WAS SHUT DOWN

Investigators examined if he took money from nation

Bank of Egypt, employees were soon busy placing bundles of \$100 bills into two large bags, according to records from the bank. Four men arrived and carried away the bags, which U.S. officials later described in sealed court filings as weighing a combined 200 pounds

and containing what was then a sizable share of Egypt's reserve of U.S. currency.

Federal investigators learned of the withdrawal, which has not been previously reported, early in 2019. The discovery intensified a secret criminal investigation that

had begun two years earlier with classified U.S. intelligence indicating that Egyptian President Abdel Fatah El-Sisi sought to give Trump \$10 million to boost his 2016 presidential campaign, a Washington Post investigation has found.

Since receiving the intelligence about Sisi, the Justice Department had been examining whether money moved from Cairo to Trump, potentially violating federal law that bans U.S. candidates

from taking foreign funds. Investigators had also sought to learn if money from Sisi might have factored into Trump's decision in the final days of his run for the White House to inject his campaign with \$10 million of his own money.

Those questions, at least in the view of several investigators on the case, would never be answered, The Post found.

Within months of learning of the withdrawal, prosecutors and
SEE EGYPT ON A8

Reports of repression, voter fraud plague Maduro's claim of victory



MAXWELL BRICENO/REUTERS

Delsa Solórzano, an opposition representative to Venezuela's electoral council, brandishes one of the thousands of voting records that opponents say prove that Edmundo González defeated President Nicolás Maduro in the country's election. As Maduro asked the supreme court Friday to verify his claimed victory, opposition leaders denounced what they said was rising repression, including an attack by masked men on their headquarters in Caracas.

PARIS OLYMPICS

Athletes' parents finally get a chance to cheer

Barred from Tokyo by pandemic restrictions, families relish watching the Games in person

BY ADAM KILGORE AND RICK MAESE

PARIS — Three years ago, Jim Huske and his wife, Ying, watched their 18-year-old daughter endure heartbreak and devastation on the biggest stage in the world, and there was nothing they could do. They couldn't wrap their arms around Torri Huske and tell her everything would be okay after she finished fourth, just 0.01 second away from a medal. They were 6,800 miles away.

"It was heartbreaking when we saw that look on her face," Jim says.

The Huske family — like most everyone else — was barred from attending the Tokyo Olympics, as the world was in the throes of the coronavirus pandemic. Those Games were held without fans, the athletes performing in empty stadiums and arenas in a made-for-TV Olympics.

The most tormented people during those Olympics may be the happiest at the Paris Games. Parents of second-time Olympians who yearned to be with their children at the biggest moments of their athletic lives — to console them, celebrate with them,

SEE PARENTS ON A7



MARVIN JOSEPH/THE WASHINGTON POST

Rick and Betty Roberts got to see their daughter, Hannah, compete in BMX at the Paris Olympics. Three years ago, they had to watch from home in Buchanan, Mich. — "not quite the same," Betty said.

She has arrived: Sprinter Sha'Carri Richardson, the fastest woman in the world, gets on the track in Paris. **D1**

ELECTION 2024

Harris secures Democrats' nomination

Vote by delegates makes her first woman of color to top major-party ticket

BY MICHAEL SCHERER, MATT VISER AND TYLER PAGER

Vice President Harris formally secured the Democratic presidential nomination on Friday, culminating a long career and dramatic rise to become the nation's first Black woman selected as a major party's nominee and capping one of the most tumultuous months in recent American political history.

The virtual vote by nearly 4,000 Democratic delegates began at 9 a.m. on Thursday, and by a little after 1 p.m. on Friday, Harris had secured enough votes to win the nomination. Ultimately there was little suspense — Harris was the only candidate who qualified for the roll call vote, and most of the delegates
SEE HARRIS ON A4

Running mate: Harris narrows her VP field to six finalists. **A4**

Kremlin hails swap, says it will not thaw peace talks

Effort reflects mutual interests, not progress in U.S.-Russia relations

BY ROBYN DIXON AND MARY ILYUSHINA

As journalist Evan Gershkovich and other Americans released in a historic prisoner exchange arrived in Texas for medical treatment, and freed members of the Russian opposition reunited joyfully in Cologne, Germany, the Kremlin on Friday voiced triumph at bringing home elite spies and an operative convicted of murder.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov also swiftly squashed any suggestion that the swap — the most complex since the Cold War — marked any thawing of relations that could open the way for peace talks in the war against Ukraine. His remarks suggested that releasing prisoners was a low

SEE RUSSIA ON A10

Freed but frustrated: Ilya Yashin wanted to remain in Russia. **A10**

IN THE NEWS

More see a 'critical threat' A poll found that Americans' concerns about immigration have risen sharply in the past year. **A2**

Out of a job Rep. Bob Good, the House Freedom Caucus chairman, narrowly lost the GOP primary to a Trump-backed candidate, according to recount results in Virginia. **B1**

THE NATION
A report said the Secret Service "did not anticipate" violence during the Jan. 6, 2021, riot. **A3**
Sonya Massey's mother asked officers not to hurt her daughter in a released 911 call. **A3**

THE WORLD
Israelis brace for more retaliation after the assassinations of top militant leaders. **A5**
Al Jazeera denies Israel's claim that a slain journalist was a Hamas operative. **A6**

THE ECONOMY
Over 200 online content creators have been issued credentials to cover the Democratic National Convention. **A11**
TikTok violated a child privacy law by collecting data on millions of Americans younger than 13, a Justice Department lawsuit alleges. **A12**

THE REGION
A federal judge in D.C. regained control of Donald Trump's election obstruction case, after the high court's immunity ruling. **B1**
A shooting outside a rec center in Northeast Washington killed a 14-year-old and wounded an 18-year-old. **B1**

STYLE
Some Black Americans plan to celebrate the anniversary of the Montgomery Riverfront brawl, also known as the "Day of the Chair." **C1**

SPORTS
The Commanders cut a sweltering training camp practice short after temperatures grew heated. **D3**

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