

# That Disney magic eludes Bob Iger

Ex-CEO was brought back to fix the tilting Mouse House. No one said it would be easy.

By MEG JAMES

During his first 15 years running the Walt Disney Co., Bob Iger had a magical touch. Acquisitions of Pixar Animation, Marvel Entertainment and Lucasfilm turbocharged the company's creative engines. Movies minted billions of dollars, sports king ESPN spawned staggering profits, and Disney's theme parks teemed with delighted guests. Iger embraced the role of celebrity chief executive, flirting briefly with a bid for president. As the industry's senior statesman, he was treated with reverence. As media analyst Michael Nathanson noted in an earnings call this month, Iger, during his first CEO stint, had presided over "one of the most amazing content cycles in film we've ever seen."

But no longer. "What are you doing ... to fix the film slate?" Nathanson asked.

In the year since Iger returned to replace his beleaguered successor, Bob Chapek, he has been trying to fix one problem after another in nearly every corner of the Burbank behemoth.

Disney's organizational structure was broken. Expenses had soared. Disney's fans were furious about price hikes at the vaunted theme parks, and Florida's governor, presidential hopeful Ron DeSantis, was taking swipes, saying the company was too "woke." Then, in May, 11,500 screenwriters went on strike, joined later by 160,000 actors.

The film business that Nathanson referred to, [See Iger, A9]

ROSALYNN CARTER, 1927 - 2023



DIANA WALKER Getty Images

## REDEFINING A ROLE

First Lady Rosalynn Carter climbs the steps to her plane during a Texas trip in September 1978. She faced criticism for traveling on President Carter's behalf because she was not an elected official.

# A first lady and a lifelong partner in public service

Former President Carter's wife dies peacefully at home

By VALERIE J. NELSON AND BEVERLY BEYETTE

Rosalynn Carter, the formidable first lady who helped modernize and expand the role of a U.S. president's wife as she sat in on White House Cabinet meetings, spoke freely and pushed for mental health reform, has died.

Carter, who with her husband, Jimmy, remained steadfastly committed to public service after returning to private life, died peacefully at home Sunday in Plains, Ga., with family by her side, the Carter Center said in a statement. The nation's oldest living first lady was 96.

The center announced that she was suffering from dementia in May, three months after the former president entered hospice care at home. On Saturday, the center announced that Rosalynn also was in [See Carter, A12]



HORACE CORT Associated Press

## A LONG LIFE TOGETHER

Carter with then-Georgia state Sen. Jimmy Carter at his gubernatorial campaign headquarters in 1966.

## COLUMN ONE

# 'I want to protect them. But I cannot'

As a boy, he lost his mom and leg in a Gaza bombing. Now he tries to keep his family safe.

By KATE LINTHICUM

Since they fled northern Gaza last month, Abdullah Alathamna and more than two dozen of his relatives have lived in a cramped classroom at a school near the border with Egypt.

At night, he lies down on a thin mattress alongside his wife and two young daughters. He closes his eyes, but rarely sleeps. Explosions sound in the distance, violently shaking the walls.

Each blast transports him to the moment during [See Gaza, A4]



DON BARTLETT Los Angeles Times

IN 2010, Abdullah Alathamna, left, plays in a Yorba Linda home with the daughter of the family who took him in while he recovered from leg surgery.

## Babies evacuated from Gaza facility

The 31 infants were struggling to survive at the besieged hospital. They are to be taken to Egypt. **WORLD, A3**

## 10 Freeway is open once more

Traffic returns to the route, which is ready for the Monday commute, a day earlier than expected. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Deep cuts in video game industry

Thousands are being laid off as the video game industry dials back after a pandemic boom. **CALENDAR, E1**

## Weather

Lots of sunshine. L.A. Basin: 76/50. **B6**



# Univision is facing backlash over cozy Trump interview

By HANNAH WILEY AND JULIA WICK

Univision has found itself at the center of a growing controversy after a recent interview with former President Trump that critics have blasted as too friendly.

The interview that aired Nov. 9 was noticeably warm, and Trump received little pushback as he gave false or misleading statements on border security and immigration policies he instituted as president.

Backlash from certain corners of the Latino community was swift, including calls for more balanced reporting and an outright boycott of the television network ahead of the 2024 election.

Latinos are considered a crucial voting bloc — and largely up for grabs — in next year's election, likely to be a rematch between Trump and President Biden. Although Latino voters have historically favored Democrats, the Republican Party

in recent years has made significant progress in courting their votes.

The exclusive interview with Trump therefore raised significant alarms within the Democratic Party and its allies that the leading Republican candidate was making unchecked claims to important swing voters.

Actor John Leguizamo posted a video to his 1 million Instagram followers Thursday criticizing the Spanish-language media company for "softballing Trump" and reportedly canceling ads for Biden. He said the television network has become "MAGA-vision."

He implored fellow entertainers, athletes, activists and politicians to join him in boycotting the network until it reinstated "parity, and equality and equity" between the presidential candidates. The television network has also requested an interview with Biden, according to the Washington Post.

The more-than-hourlong [See Univision, A7]



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