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Democracy Dies in Darkness

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ELECTION 2024

Campaign pitches may send prices on upswing

Fed has made headway, but Trump, Harris ideas pose inflationary risks

BY DAVID J. LYNCH

Inflation is just about dead — unless the next president brings it back to life.

Both Vice President Kamala Harris and former president Donald Trump are pushing economic ideas that — whatever their merits — could raise prices on many goods and services, some economists said.

Harris has proposed an expanded child tax credit and wants to give some first-time home buyers \$25,000 toward their down payment. Both moves would add gas to an economy that is already growing faster than its long-run potential.

Trump says he will eliminate taxes on Social Security payments, remove millions of workers from the labor force with the largest deportation of unauthorized migrants in history, and impose new tariffs on everything that the United States imports. Those moves would boost costs throughout the economy.

Investors view Trump as the greater inflation risk, according to analysts at Macquarie Group, a global investment firm based in Sydney. His policies could add a full percentage point to the annual inflation rate, said Thierry Wizman, Macquarie's global foreign exchange and rates strategist.

"There's still this sense out there, among traders, that Trump is more inflationary," he said.

The former president's tax, tariff and immigration policies probably would trigger a faster pace of price increases and higher interest rates to combat them, which would raise the value of the U.S. dollar, Macquarie told clients this week.

Recent financial market moves show investors reevaluating the

SEE INFLATION ON A4

After uneven path, a historic nominee



RICKY CARIOTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

Vice President Kamala Harris takes the stage on the final night of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago to formally accept the Democratic nomination for president and become the first woman of color to lead a major-party ticket.

Democrats' plans to expand voting rights face tall hurdles

BY PATRICK MARLEY

CHICAGO — Democratic leaders say passing sweeping legislation to expand voting rights and curb gerrymandering will be at or near the top of their governing agenda should Vice President Kamala Harris win the presidency this fall in a blue wave that also ushers in unified control of Capitol Hill.

To enact the measures, they say, they are even willing to bypass the filibuster, a staple of the Senate that the party increasingly sees as one among a number of

tools that Republicans have used to thwart the popular will.

The focus on changing the systems for elections and governance that undergird American democracy reflects widespread frustration among Democrats that they have been unable to accomplish more on issues such as guns, abortion and the climate — despite polling that suggests many of their policy positions have widespread support.

In recent years, Republican-led states have limited mail vot-

SEE VOTING ON A6

Harris has Trump in a box, and he's struggling to get out



Dan Balz
THE TAKE

CHICAGO — In his history as a candidate for president, Donald Trump has never experienced anything like the past month. Vice President

Kamala Harris, a Black and Indian American woman, has pushed the White alpha male to the sidelines of the national conversation, denying him the spotlight he craves and constantly demands.

Democrats concluded their electrifying national convention here on Thursday night with Harris as the main event, delivering an address sculpted to keep her on the crest of a wave that has changed the contours of the presidential election.

The Democrats are in the game, the former president is in a box, and it's not clear whether he knows what to do.

Trying to free himself from this bind, Trump has plucked from what was once a tested

SEE THE TAKE ON A9

HARRIS OUTLINES A 'NEW WAY FORWARD'

She takes Trump to task, appeals to bipartisanship

BY TOLUSE OLORUNNIPAN AND TYLER PAGER

CHICAGO — Vice President Kamala Harris accepted the Democratic presidential nomination Thursday, using the most consequential speech of her political career to cast herself as an avatar of America's middle class and an avenue to usher the country away from the abrasive style of politics embraced by Republican nominee Donald Trump.

"Our nation with this election has a precious, fleeting opportunity to move past the bitterness, cynicism, and divisive battles of the past," she said in a speech that reflected on her unexpected journey to the top of her party and to the cusp of becoming the nation's first female president. "A chance to chart a new way forward. Not as members of any one party or faction, but as Americans."

Harris delivered a withering critique of Trump while also making several appeals to bipartisanship and patriotism over the course of her speech, combating efforts by Trump and his allies to brand her as radical or somehow foreign. As she spoke, a packed, jubilant crowd of supporters clapped and waved American flags. Many were wearing white, the color associated with the suffragist movement. More than 100,000 red, white and blue balloons dropped at the end of her speech.

The celebratory moment marked how swiftly Democrats' fortunes have changed over the

SEE HARRIS ON A7

Shared history: Kamala Harris's bond with her longtime pastor. **A4**

'When we fight, we win': The story behind the campaign slogan. **A9**

Intraparty tension: Pro-Palestinian activists sought a slot onstage. **A12**

The scene: Focus is on the future, but nostalgia is part of the vibe. **C1**

USPS eyes post-election slowdown for rural mail

BY JACOB BOGAGE

Top U.S. Postal Service officials are considering plans to allow slower mail delivery in the coming months for long-distance and rural service to cut costs at the financially troubled agency — but not until after the election.

The changes would give customers within 50 miles of the Postal Service's largest processing facilities faster delivery service, which accounts for the vast majority of mail and packages, Postmaster General Louis DeJoy told The Washington Post. But the agency cannot afford to maintain the same model for deliveries into far-flung areas, he said. That could add an additional day to current delivery timetables.

"At the end of the day, I think some portion of the mail showing up 12 hours later, I think it's a price that had to be paid for letting this place be neglected," DeJoy said. "You look around every other country, [delivery] is longer, it's much more expensive."

SEE MAIL ON A22

British tech tycoon is confirmed dead



LOUIZA VRADI/REUTERS

Rescuers near Palermo, Italy, recover the remains of a person killed after a luxury sailing yacht sank early Monday in a sudden storm. Five bodies have been found, with one person still missing. Tech entrepreneur Mike Lynch, 59, who built one of the biggest software companies in Britain, was identified Thursday. **Obituary, B4**

Ailing Lebanon braces as border violence rages

Strikes by Hezbollah, Israel leave many fearing war, and feeling trapped

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE AND SUZAN HAIDAMOUS

NABATIYEH, LEBANON — For weeks, the Middle East has been on edge, waiting for a retaliatory Iranian attack on Israel that many fear could trigger an all-out war. While a nervous calm prevails, and Tehran has signaled it will bide its time, daily violence continues to rage along the Israel-Lebanon border.

Israel has targeted what it says are Hezbollah weapons caches along the border and in Lebanon's east, as deep as 50 miles inside the country. Hezbollah has responded with deeper attacks inside Israel, and on Wednesday released a wave of more than 50 rockets and drones at the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The "center of gravity" of Israeli military operations is shifting away from Gaza and toward the border with Lebanon, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant

said this week. Recent strikes on alleged weapons stockpiles were "preparation for anything that might happen."

In Lebanon, already suffering through political paralysis and a protracted economic collapse, people say they feel trapped between the warring parties — and fear there is no way out. In the impoverished south, where Hezbollah holds sway and attacks have been most intense, Syrian refugees have borne the brunt of the recent violence.

Israel and Hezbollah have been nemeses for decades, and have fought two costly and indecisive wars. Hezbollah ignited the latest round of hostilities the day after the Oct. 7 attack on Israel, launching strikes inside Israel in support of Hamas, its ideological ally and fellow member of the self-styled "axis of resistance," a collection of Iranian-backed militant groups across the region.

Over more than 10 months of attacks and counterattacks — which have displaced tens of thousands of civilians on both sides of the border — each side

SEE LEBANON ON A14

Hostages: Recovered bodies had gunshot wounds, Israel says. **A14**

IN THE NEWS

Coronavirus vaccines approved Updated shots could start hitting pharmacy shelves and doctor's offices within a week. **A22**

Husband charged Naresh Bhatt was arrested in connection with the disappearance of his wife, Mamta Kifle Bhatt, of Manassas Park, Va., after a search of the couple's home. **B1**

THE NATION

An ex-Army financial counselor got 12 years in prison for defrauding Gold Star families. **A2**
NASA said hard data will help get stuck astronauts home, but past disasters loom large. **A3**

THE WORLD

Kamala Harris would be our first female president. The world is running ahead of us. **A13**
Some Ukrainians are conflicted over possible consequences of the incursion into Russia. **A16**

THE ECONOMY

To make extra money, entrepreneurial adults in their 20s and 30s turn to a new side hustle: lemonade stands. **A17**
The Canadian government ended a railroad strike by ordering two rail companies and the Teamsters union into arbitration. **A18**

THE REGION

Student test scores in the District have reflected slight improvement as the educational recovery from the pandemic continues. **B1**
A North Carolina police officer was suspended after being arrested on charges linked to the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. **B1**

STYLE

A trailer for the Francis Ford Coppola film "Megalopolis" was pulled over fake quotes attributed to critics about his past films. **C1**

WEEKEND

The section is off this week. Movie reviews and listings are in today's Style section.

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