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DJIA 42011.59 ▼ 184.93 0.44% NASDAQ 17918.48 ▼ 0.04% STOXX 600 516.29 ▼ 0.9% 10-YR. TREAS. ▼ 17/32, yield 3.849% OIL \$73.71 ▲ \$3.61 GOLD \$2,657.10 ▲ \$10.00 EURO \$1.1033 YEN 146.95

What's News

Business & Finance

- ◆ **A rise in oil prices** intensified after Biden suggested that U.S. officials are considering whether to support an Israeli strike on Iranian oil facilities. Benchmark U.S. crude jumped 5.1%, to \$73.71. **A1, B8**
- ◆ **Major U.S. stock indexes** faltered, with the S&P 500 and Dow slipping 0.2% and 0.4%, respectively, while the Nasdaq fell less than 0.01%. **B8**
- ◆ **U.S. dockworkers** agreed to return to work after port operators sweetened their contract offer, ending a three-day strike that threatened to disrupt the U.S. economy. **A1**
- ◆ **The FDA said Lilly** had resolved a shortage of tirzepatide, likely leading to curbs on pharmacies that make knockoff versions of the diabetes and weight-loss drug. **B1**
- ◆ **Spirit Airlines** discussed with bondholders the terms of a potential bankruptcy filing in the wake of its failed merger with JetBlue, people familiar with the matter said. **B1**
- ◆ **Constellation Brands** booked a \$2.25 billion goodwill impairment tied to its wine and spirits business, handing it a loss for the summer quarter. **B3**
- ◆ **KLM said it plans** to cut costs, defer some investments and consider asset sales as part of the airline's plan to counter rising expenses and lift profitability. **B3**
- ◆ **The FAA completed** its review of United without finding any significant safety issues, leaving the carrier free to add aircraft and services. **B3**
- ◆ **U.K. supermarket chain** Tesco raised its profit guidance for fiscal 2025 after price cuts boosted sales volumes in the first half. **B3**

World-Wide

- ◆ **As Israel prepares** a retaliatory strike against Iran, the Biden administration increasingly resembles a spectator, with limited insight into what its closest Middle East ally is planning—and diminished influence over its decisions. **A1, A6**
- ◆ **The Israeli military** urged civilians in more than 20 towns and villages across southern Lebanon to leave their homes, expanding evacuation warnings as it intensifies its campaign to push Hezbollah back from its border. **A6**
- ◆ **Former first lady** Melania Trump signaled her support for abortion access, a topic that has vexed her husband's presidential campaign, in a video promoting her coming memoir. **A5**
- ◆ **The U.S.'s largest maker** of intravenous fluids will slash shipments to hospitals after Hurricane Helene took down one of its manufacturing plants in North Carolina. **A3**
- ◆ **Three former Memphis** police officers were convicted of obstruction of justice in the 2023 beating death of Tyre Nichols, but acquitted of the most serious civil-rights charge in a federal trial. **A3**
- ◆ **London struck a deal** with Mauritius to hand over a cluster of 58 tiny islands in the Indian Ocean known as the Chagos archipelago, ending a protracted battle over the U.K.'s last remaining African overseas territory. **A8**
- ◆ **At least 78 people** died when a boat overcrowded with 278 passengers capsized on Lake Kivu in eastern Congo, the provincial government said. **A8**

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Jews Celebrate Start of a New Year



FUTURE HOPES: A woman throws a small piece of bread into the sea in Tel Aviv on Thursday, the first day of Rosh Hashana, as part of the Tashlich ritual, where sins are cast away.

Dockworkers Agree to Go Back to Work After Offer

By PAUL BERGER AND ANNIE LINSKEY

U.S. dockworkers agreed to return to work after port operators sweetened their contract offer, ending a three-day strike that threatened to disrupt the American economy. The breakthrough Thursday came after port employers offered a 62% increase in wages over six years, according to people familiar with the matter. The agreement ends a strike that had closed container ports from Maine to Texas and threatened to dis-

rupt everything from the supply of bananas in supermarkets to the flow of cars through America's factories. The new offer, up from an earlier proposed raise of 50%, came after the White House privately and publicly pressed the large shipping lines and cargo terminal operators who employ the longshore workers to make a new offer to the union. President Biden applauded the agreement, saying in a statement: "Collective bargaining works, and it is critical to building a stronger economy from the middle out

and the bottom up." The International Longshoremen's Association and port operators, in a joint statement, said they had reached a tentative agreement on wages and union members would return to work. They said the agreement would extend the prior contract, which expired at the start of this week, through Jan. 15, 2025, while the two sides negotiate on other issues, including automation on the docks. *Please turn to page A9*

◆ **Pay on docks can be high, but not for all.....** A9

Gambler's Suit Sheds Light on FanDuel's VIP Perks

By KATHERINE SAYRE

They texted as many as 100 times a day, morning to night. Amit Patel, then a Jacksonville Jaguars financial administrator, had been identified as a high-value customer by FanDuel, an online fantasy-sports and sports-betting company. Brett Krause, the VIP host assigned as Patel's ambassador to the freebies and incentives that online-gaming companies use to keep heavy spenders sweet, became his booster and texting pal. Krause stayed in touch almost daily, and, over nearly two years, he and FanDuel doled out more than \$1 million in credits, according to a new lawsuit filed this week by Patel. Among the perks Patel received: free trips to the Formula One Grand Prix event in Miami, a college football national championship game and Masters golf tournaments. Federal prosecutors would later prove that the millions of dollars Patel spent with FanDuel during that time—largely on fantasy sports—had been stolen from his employer. Patel pleaded guilty to embezzling more than \$22 million and is serving a 6½-year prison sentence. Patel's suit sheds new light *Please turn to page A5*

TOMORROW



WSJ. MAGAZINE
INA GARTEN

Why Landlords, Tenants Pick Up After Other People's Pooches

By SARAH E. NEEDLEMAN

About once a month, Sinie Beck drops a small plastic bag with a foul odor outside the manager's office of her Minot, N.D., apartment building. Then she goes about her day. Beck, a 38-year-old stand-up comic and dog walker, isn't playing a prank. She's trying to help her landlord identify owners of hounds who leave

Machinery Mishaps Are Killing Workers as Rules Are Violated

By JOHN KEILMAN

Wayne Rothering was a few months away from retirement when a machine killed him. He worked on a laminator line at a large Wisconsin furniture factory. In December 2020, he stopped the conveyor and stepped inside the line to fix a torn roll of laminating paper. Behind him, powered rollers that fed 5-foot-by-6-foot slabs of fiberboard into the system continued to spin. As Rothering worked, the rollers caught hold of a board on the conveyor and propelled it into his back. The 65-year-old was crushed to death.

He was among hundreds of U.S. workers to die over the past decade in mishaps that a regulation known as "lockout/tagout" is supposed to prevent. The concept is simple: Before an industrial machine can be serviced, an employee must shut it down and place a lock over its power source. If that isn't possible, the employee should place a tag telling co-workers to leave the machine off. Lockouts are designed to prevent employees from being hurt by machines that start unexpectedly. Every year, an average of 85 people are killed and 364 suffer amputations,

according to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Among manufacturers, violations related to the lockout standard are the most common safety citations issued by OSHA inspectors. An agency spokesman said the incidents usually happen because employers fail to implement adequate safety measures. Human nature is also a factor, said Richard Fairfax, a former OSHA enforcement director who is now principal consultant for the nonprofit National Safety Council. "They take shortcuts, figure it's too much trouble to lock it *Please turn to page A2*

U.S. Sway Slips As Israel Looks To Strike Iran

White House says it has been blindsided in recent weeks by Netanyahu's actions

By LARA SELIGMAN AND VERA BERGENGRUEN

WASHINGTON—The Biden administration increasingly has limited insight into what Israel is planning and lessened influence over its decisions, even as its closest Middle East ally prepares a retaliatory strike against Iran. White House officials say they have been coordinating closely with their Israeli counterparts and are hopeful Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will limit a likely retaliatory attack against Iran in response to a barrage of missiles Tehran fired at Israel on Tuesday. Israel's air defenses were able to parry the Iranian attack, which caused only minor damage to one of its air bases.

Israeli officials have conveyed that they don't feel the need to retaliate immediately or in a massive way, White House officials said. U.S. and Israeli officials have been discussing potential targets, including Iran's oil facilities. President Biden said on Wednesday that he opposed any strikes on Tehran's nuclear facilities, but on Thursday left open the possibility that he would support an Israeli attack on the oil infrastructure, remarks that sent oil markets surging. But the White House has been blindsided repeatedly by Israel's decisions in recent weeks. From a New York hotel room last week, Netanyahu ordered the airstrike that killed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah. *Please turn to page A6*

- ◆ **Israel warns some Lebanese residents to evacuate.....** A6
- ◆ **Invasion gamble risks a quagmire.....** A6

Oil Prices Surge 5.1% On Supply Concerns

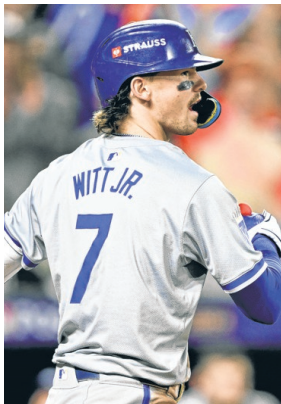
By DAVID UBERTI

A rise in oil prices intensified Thursday after President Biden suggested that U.S. officials are considering whether to support an Israeli strike on Iranian oil facilities, a move that could push gasoline prices higher just weeks before the presidential election. Benchmark U.S. crude jumped 5.1%, to \$73.71, its largest one-day gain since the early stages of Israel's war on Hamas a year ago. The tremors weighed down U.S. stock indexes and left investors scrambling to understand the potential fallout of a broader war. The oil market has been on edge since Tuesday, when Iran's launch of one of the largest ballistic-missile at-

tacks in history against Israeli targets reignited fears of a war between two of the region's largest military powers. Israel has promised forceful retaliation. Oil traders have snapped up supplies in response, bidding up prices that in recent weeks had languished near their lowest levels since 2021. Lower gasoline prices this summer helped pull down U.S. inflation, putting money back in drivers' pockets and likely buoying Americans' view of the economy—potentially a key factor in a presidential race that remains neck and neck less than five weeks from Election Day. *Please turn to page A4*

◆ **Dow declines and oil prices rise.....** B8

INSIDE



JASON GAY
Advertising on baseball helmets causes a fashion crisis at the playoffs. **A12**



MANSION
Old coastguard stations in the U.K. are getting a new life as vacation homes. **M1**