

DOW JONES | New-S Corp ****

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023 ~ VOL. CCLXXXI NO. 48

DJIA 32656.70 **v** 232.39 0.7%

NASDAQ 11455.54 ▼ 0.1%

STOXX 600 461.11 ▼ 0.3% **10-YR. TREAS.** ▲ 2/32, yield 3.914% **OIL** \$77.05 ▲ \$1.37

Paris Lights Up Fashion's Runways



Business ඒ Finance

Goldman Sachs CEO Solomon said the bank had significantly narrowed its ambition for its consumer strategy and was considering strategic alternatives for the consumerplatforms business. **A1**

◆ **The government** kicked off the application process for semiconductor manufacturing subsidies under the Chips Act, along with conditions aimed at advancing some of the Biden administration's priorities. **A1, A2**

◆ A third member of Bankman-Fried's inner circle pleaded guilty to fraud charges and agreed to assist prosecutors in their case against the FTX founder. **B1**

◆ Apollo Global is in talks to buy Arconic, according to people familiar with the matter, and advisers to Arconic have also reached out to other potential acquirers. B1

◆ Major U.S. stock indexes fell, with the S&P 500, Dow and Nasdaq shedding 0.3%, 0.7% and 0.1%, respectively. All three ended February with losses for the month. **B13**

◆ **Target said** slower sales growth and rising operating costs hurt its quarterly profit as shoppers continued to spend cautiously. **B1**

◆ **Instacart saw** sharply higher sales and profit in the fourth quarter, according to people familiar with the matter and an internal memo. **B1**

◆ A former Paramount Global executive offered to buy Showtime for more than \$3 billion but was turned down, according to people familiar with the situation. B2

World-Wide

◆ The Biden administration's plan to forgive student loans held by 40 million people faced a skeptical Supreme Court, with conservative justices at times incredulous that federal law allowing the education secretary to provide emergency relief to borrowers could be read to wipe \$430 billion from the Treasury's books. A1



IN STEP: Models present Saint Laurent's fall-winter 2023-24 collection on Tuesday for Paris's Fashion Week, capping a month of runway shows in the world's fashion capitals. At the preceding show in Milan, the world's economy was on designers' minds. A12

Court Skeptical Of Forgiving Student Debt

WSJ.com

GOLD \$1,828.90 **▲** \$11.90

By Jess Bravin

WASHINGTON—The Biden administration's plan to forgive student loans held by 40 million people faced a skeptical Supreme Court on Tuesday, with conservative justices at times incredulous that federal law allowing the education secretary to provide emergency relief to borrowers could be read to wipe \$430 billion from the Treasury's books.

The administration apparently believes, said Justice Samuel Alito, that when it comes to handing out benefits, "a trillion dollars here, a trillion dollars there, doesn't really make much difference to Congress," adding that hardly seemed "very sensible."

 $\star\star\star\star$ \$5.00

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EURO \$1.0578

Justice Neil Gorsuch asked whether Education Secretary Miguel Cardona was outside his area of competence in putting forth a regulation with such an economic impact. "I understand the secretary has considerable expertise when it comes to educational affairs, but in terms of macroeconomic *Please turn to page A6*

Goldman Reins In Consumer Strategy

By ANNAMARIA ANDRIOTIS

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. Chief Executive David Solomon all but admitted defeat on Tuesday on the bank's oncegrand plans for expansive Main Street offerings.

Speaking at the bank's second-ever investor day, Mr. Solomon said Goldman was "considering strategic alternatives" for its consumer-platforms business. That unit includes the specialty lender GreenSky and credit-card partnerships with Apple Inc. and General Motors Co. Mr. Solomon didn't offer details.

The consumer-platforms business doesn't include Goldman's consumer bank Marcus, which is best known for its mass-market savings accounts. Mr. Solomon praised the consumer deposits business.

"We've significantly narrowed our ambitions for our *Please turn to page A7*

Office Returns In Asia, Europe Outdo U.S.

Government 'Picking Winners' Holds Risks

By Greg Ip

The rollout of the federal \$53 billion semiconductor subsidy program dubbed Chips on Tuesday marks a historic embrace by the U.S. of "industrial policy"—the explicit use of government resources

to foster favored sectors. p There is a reason such for- s

ays have been rare in the U.S. Governments seldom know better than markets which technologies will succeed, and often burden the effort with objectives having nothing to do with helping the targeted industry thrive.

Such reservations are fading. Geopolitical competition, a pandemic-driven attention to supply shortages, and the tran-

sition to zero-carbon energy have governments everywhere putting their thumbs on the scale of industrial development. Chips is one of two such U.S. efforts approved last year, along with the Inflation Reduction Act, which pours billions of dollars into electric vehicles and other green energy.

History suggests that in the U.S., industrial policy has been most likely to succeed with a well-defined objective, such as putting a man on the moon or developing a Covid vaccine. It has been least successful when aimed at reversing economic decline or pursuing scattershot social and regional devel-*Please turn to page A2*

U.S. charts new course in chip industry...... A2

◆ Ukrainian officials said conditions for the country's forces in Bakhmut were becoming more difficult, as Russia said several drones were shot down or crashed in its territory. A8

◆ The Biden administration is considering revoking export licenses issued to U.S. suppliers for sales to Chinese telecom company Huawei, according to people familiar with the matter. A4

◆ Bola Tinubu of the ruling All Progressives Congress won Nigeria's presidency, the country's electoral commission said, an outcome that was disputed by opposition parties. A9

◆ The U.N. atomic agency confirmed its inspectors had found traces of near weapons-grade nuclear material at Iran's underground Fordow facility. A8

• **Biden said** he would nominate Julie Su, the No. 2 official at the Labor Department, to succeed Marty Walsh as the agency's leader. **A2**

◆ **Top Biden administration** officials urged Congress to renew an expiring surveillance law they say is vital to addressing a range of national-security threats. **A6**

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While U.S. offices are half empty three years into the Covid-19 pandemic, workplaces in Europe and Asia are bustling again.

U.S. employees have embraced remote work and turned their backs on offices with greater regularity than their counterparts overseas. U.S. office occupancy stands at 40% to 60% of prepandemic levels, varying within that range by month and by city. That compares with a 70%to-90% rate in Europe and the Middle East, according to JLL, a property-services firm that manages 4.6 billion square feet of real estate globally.

Return to office was even more common in Asia, JLL said, where rates ranged from 80% to 110%—meaning that in some cities more people are in the office nowadays than before the pandemic.

Bigger homes, longer commutes and a tighter labor market help explain why U.S. workers spend less time in the office than Europeans and Asians, workplace consultants said.

This divergence in returnto-office habits not only benefits overseas landlords more than their U.S. peers. It has a direct impact on how guickly metro areas rebound from the pandemic's economic shock. Cities in Europe and Asia have bounced back relatively well. But empty office buildings and missing commuters have undermined recoveries in U.S. cities such as New York and San Francisco, where local restaurants, shops and other businesses that rely on office workers as their primary customers have suffered.

The number of unemployed in New York City increased by 83,500 between early 2020 and the third quarter of 2022 as the city's unemployment rate surged far above the national average, according to a *Please turn to page A10*

◆ The Property Report...... B6

Chicago's Mayor Lightfoot Loses



Mayor Lori Lightfoot lost her fight for a second term Tuesday. Two candidates will face each other in an April runoff. A3

The Horror: Everyone Can See Your Work Calendar Entries

Employees discover how much they are revealing; is this your first colonoscopy?

BY TE-PING CHEN

Paul Jackson wanted to remind himself to buy a rotisserie chicken for dinner with his girlfriend, so he added a Friday event to his work calendar so he wouldn't forget.

Like many people, Mr. Jackson uses the work calendar on his computer and phone as a kind of ongoing to-do list, casually noting all kinds of appoint-

ments and remind- 2:30: Take nap ers, sometimes of a personal nature. Like many priva workers, he assumed what he able

wrote was private. Then a colleague messaged him about a product meeting. "The only good spot for most people, you have a blocker called 'get a chicken,' " she wrote. "Is that something you could move to join us?"

Once he got over his surprise, Mr. Jackson, a senior product designer in Manchester, England, laughed. "I can absolutely move that meeting," he responded, deadpan. People have adjusted to all kinds of new ways of working:

Zoom meetings, group Slack channels and more. But practices for work calendars, which often allow users to choose privacy levels, remain all over *e nap* the map. Some people keep their event details private, with co-workers unable to see details of any blocked-off slots. Others, wittingly or not, have work calen-

blocked-off slots. Others, wittingly or not, have work calendars through Microsoft or Google that are fully visible to their co-workers, creating surprise, mirth—and sometimes consternation, when those

At Salesforce, It Is One Big Family Until Trouble Hits Home

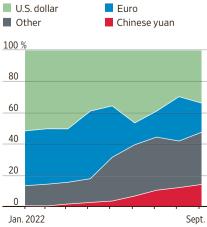
The business-software giant is laying off workers by the thousands

By Tom Dotan and Katherine Bindley

Through the sky's-thelimit boom years, Marc Benioff, the co-founder and chief executive of Salesforce Inc., told employees they were bound together like family. In today's leaner times, he is laying off thousands of them.

Since its founding in 1999, the San Francisco-based business-software company has grown fast and spent big. Salesforce put its name on skyscrapers in San Francisco, Tokyo, London and New York City and, according to people familiar with

Share of currency in Russian export settlements



 Initial and sometimes
 Note: 'Other' category is primarily made up of Russian ruble settlements.

 Please turn to page A12
 Source: Central Bank of Russia

the arrangement, agreed to pay actor Matthew McConaughey more than \$10 million a year to be a creative adviser and TV pitchman. Mr. Benioff added around 30,000 employees from the start of 2020 until the end of last year, roughly a 60% increase.

In January, the company said 8,000 workers had to go. "It's an unfortunate part that you have to say goodbye to folks who, in many cases, are your friends and you have relationships with," Mr. Benioff said in an interview. "But, ultimately, the success of the business has to be

Please turn to page A10

Russia Ditches Dollar For Yuan

Russia is turning to the Chinese yuan as it is restricted from Western financial networks and the U.S. dollar. The share of Russian exports paid for in yuan rose to 14% by September, according to data from the central bank, up from 0.4% before the war. **A8**

A2 | Wednesday, March 1, 2023

U.S. NEWS



One area where U.S. industrial policy succeeded: the space program. The Apollo 8 Command Module capsule in December 1968.

'Picking Winners' Holds Risks

Continued from Page One opment objectives.

The program documents released Tuesday suggest Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo has both learned from that history yet risks repeating some of its mistakes.

Industrial policy, often called "picking winners," is sometimes seen as un-American by elevating the judgment of politicians and bureaucrats over that of the free market. The U.S. has a long history of intervening to support particular industries. Alexander Hamilton, the first Treasury secretary, favored protection for U.S. manufacturers to help them compete with the U.K.

In the 1950s and 1960s the Pentagon and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration helped draw capital into nascent technologies, from jets to lasers. In need of semiconductors to guide ballistic missiles and the Apollo spacecraft, they were early customers for the likes of Texas In-

struments Inc. and Fairchild Semiconductor International Inc., whose top engineers went on to found Intel Corp. This model of industrial policy via "induced demand" was replicated with considerable success by the Trump administration with Operation Warp Speed, which spent billions of dollars financing the development and purchase of experimental Covid-19 vac-

BY ANDREW RESTUCCIA

WASHINGTON-President

Biden said he would nominate

Julie Su, the No. 2 official at

the Labor Department, to lead

the agency, maintaining conti-

nuity within a department that played a prominent role in

averting a rail strike last year.

secretary, was widely seen as

Ms. Su, the current deputy

AND KEN THOMAS

Democrats in supporting Chips cines. The result: several highly effective vaccines using breakthrough technology such as messenger RNA now being repurposed for other diseases, including cancer.

Along the way, the U.S. accumulated many examples of failed industrial policy. Efforts to develop supersonic airliners and fast-breeder nuclear reactors flopped. A flat-panel-display factory that Taiwan's Foxconn Technology Group promised to erect in Wisconsin at former President Donald Trump's urging remains unbuilt. Congress and presidents repeatedly turned to tariffs, quotas and other trade measures to protect industries deemed vital to the national interest. President John F. Kennedy used quotas to protect textiles. Mr. Trump used tariffs to protect steel and aluminum. The result has usually been higher prices for U.S. consumers and continued decline for the industry.

The lesson is that industrial policy is most likely to succeed when the goal is narrowly defined and leverages private sector incentives.

It is less likely to succeed when it is used to solve several social goals disconnected from the industry's economic viability.

Former Treasury Secretary

because of the industry's unique character. Semiconductors are vital to civilian and military technology, but in recent decades a growing share of their fabrication moved to China, South Korea, and Taiwan. That leaves the U.S. acutely dependent on one potentially hostile (China) and two geopolitically vulnerable locations. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has referred to this vulnerability as an "externality," economist-speak for a cost, like pollution, that doesn't enter a private actor's calculus, thus justifying government intervention.

Industrial policy is likely to succeed when the goal is narrowly defined.

Commerce officials say they have taken these points on board. The funding criteria Ms. Raimondo laid out Tuesdav target specific types of semiconductors that are vital to national security and for which production capacity is lacking either in the U.S. or its allies. That, they said, sends a clear signal to private industry where to put its resources. The criteria make it clear projects must be commercially viable once Chips funding ends, and encourages the development of two new industry clusters of suppliers, deemed essential for a viable ecosystem.

mine success. Funding recipients must provide "affordable, accessible, reliable, and highquality child care for both facility and construction workers," pay union-scale wages for construction and, preferably, use unionized labor. They can't use federal sub-

sidies to pay dividends or buy back stock. They can't enter into joint ventures or licensing agreements in China. They will have to share windfall profits with the federal government.

By adding to recipients? costs and reducing their financial flexibility, they make the program less attractive to companies. A lack of participa-tion would undermine the goals of Chips.

To be sure, these conditions haven't dampened interest yet. Commerce officials note many chip companies already provide child care and pay high wages, and that some criteria, like union wages and buyback limitations, are required by the enabling legislation. They say the windfall profit-sharing keeps applicants honest about how much subsidy they need.

These companies have alternatives. Japan, the European Union, South Korea, Taiwan, Canada and India are all offering or considering offering incentives of their own for chip production, and China's ambitions haven't slackened. This highlights a final risk: when so many countries pursue the same industrial policy, it is harder for any one to suc ceed. With so much public money chasing chip factories, a glut could materialize. Ms. Raimondo said she's talking to U.S. allies to avoid that. While good in theory, it remains to be seen if such coordination

can be achieved in practice.

hurt the so-called gig econ-

omy, and that she supervised

California's unemployment in-

surance office when it paid out

fraudulent unemployment ben-

efits, as occurred in many

other states. Mary Kay Henry,

president of the Service Em-

ployees International Union,

said: "She understands the ur-

gency of empowering workers

to improve their lives in this

rapidly changing economy."

U.S. Charts New Course in **Chip Industry**

BY YUKA HAYASHI AND ASA FITCH

* *

WASHINGTON-The Commerce Department kicked off the application process Tuesday for semiconductor manufacturing subsidies under the \$53 billion Chips Act, along with conditions aimed at advancing some of the Biden administration's priorities.

The program serves as a test of Washington's ability to invigorate and chart a future course for the semiconductor industry that was forged in the U.S. but in recent years has moved much of its manufacturing overseas.

The Commerce Department said it would impose requirements to help ensure that billions of dollars in taxpayer funding are spent wisely and that the funding will meet national security goals to coun-ter the technology advances by China.

Some of the terms also reflected the administration's social and economic priorities, such as diverse workforce and the use of union labor. Companies receiving incentives will be required to share part of their profits with the government and limit stock buybacks and dividends. Companies are also expected to use union workers, as well as U.S.-made iron and steel for the construction of facilities, while providing affordable child care for workers.

In a move that could limit their business potential for one of the world's largest chip markets, the government puts tough limits on the expansion of companies' operations in China for a decade.

'In giving out the funding, we'll be implementing a number of safeguards to ensure companies that receive funding are holding up their end of the bargain," Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said at a press briefing. "We are not writing blank checks."

The Chips Act is the latest example of Washington's efforts to bolster the domestic economy and industries with taxpayer funds and directives, a reversal of a free-trade policy that for decades encouraged U.S. businesses to pursue efficiency

as well as workforce advancement.

The government aims to target the funds to create at least two manufacturing clusters for leading-edge chips by 2030. Top candidates for receiving funds for advanced chip-making plants to anchor such hubs are Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Intel Corp., and South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co., the three companies that currently mass-produce such chips. They have already unveiled plans to build facilities in states including Arizona, Texas and Ohio.

Some of the conditions listed Tuesday, such as limits on stock buybacks, expansion in China and the use of union workers. have been known for months because they were part of the legislation. Yet, an extensive list of requirements, particularly the rules on profit-sharing and workforce, had some economists raising questions.

"There appear to be even more restrictions, or more conditions, in this funding than what the law demands," said Scott Lincicome, a trade and economics expert at Cato Institute, a libertarian policy group. He noted that rules on child care and "Buy America" requirements will raise the costs for the participants and could slow down the projects.

The Pentagon will have secure access to leading-edge semiconductors manufactured at facilities receiving funding from the Chips Act, Ms. Raimondo said, ensuring the industry can supply the military with the advanced chips it needs for modern weapons systems.

In an interview, Ms. Raimondo framed the Chips Act as a national security initiative. The U.S. buys more than 90% of its advanced chips from Taiwan, she said, calling that "a national security vulnerability that is untenable."

The condition that has raised most concerns among industry executives is the program's impact on their operations in China, a huge source of profits for many companies.

The Commerce Department said recipients of funds must

Larry Summers, generally a skeptic of government intervention, says, "I like industrial policv advisers how I like generals. The best generals are the ones who hate war the most but are willing to fight when needed. What I worry about is the people who do industrial policy love doing industrial policy."

Many Republican legislators, generally reluctant to intervene in markets, joined

the leading candidate to suc-

Marty Walsh. Asian-American

lawmakers and advocacy

groups threw their support

behind her, lobbying Mr. Biden

to pick his first Asian-Ameri-

can cabinet secretary. Ms. Su,

age 54, is Chinese-American.

been "a champion for workers.

and she has been a critical

partner to Secretary Walsh

Mr. Biden said Ms. Su has

departing Secretary

ceed

Biden to Nominate Deputy to Lead Labor

But in other ways, the Biden administration is pursuing broader social goals, the sort of mission creep that can under-

since the early days of my ad-

ministration." White House of-

ficials noted that Ms. Su

played a central role in the La-

bor Department's negotiations

with labor and freight rail

Louisiana Sen. Bill Cassidy,

the top Republican on the Sen-

ate Health, Education, Labor

and Pensions Committee, said

Ms. Su was overseeing Labor

Department rules that would

companies late last year.

by moving production overseas where costs are lower. The other programs include the Inflation Reduction Act. which allocated nearly \$400 billion for the shift to clean energy.

"The U.S. is moving very solidly into an aggressive and outward-facing industrial policy." said Todd Tucker. director of industrial policy and trade at Roosevelt Institute, a think tank.

The Chips Act was approved by Congress and signed by President Biden last year as chip shortages exacerbated by the pandemic and supply-chain snags hobbled auto makers, appliance makers and other manufacturers reliant on semiconductors. Lawmakers were also spurred by increasing tensions with China, which is investing heavily in its semiconductor industry and its military.

The program includes manufacturing incentives totaling \$39 billion to be given to companies to help invest in domestic semiconductor manufacturing. More than \$13 billion will fund research and development, 'We are not writing blank checks,' said **Commerce Secretary** Gina Raimondo.

agree not to engage in "certain significant transactions" involving expanding chip manufacturing capacity in China, or "countries of concern," for 10 years. Applicants will also be asked to return the full amount of an award if they knowingly engage in any joint research or technology licensing effort with a foreign country that raises national security concern.

Industry executives have been closely watching how the Commerce Department will define the limit on expansions in China, particularly which types of advanced chips will be covered by the prohibition. The department said it would soon release further information on the China-related rules.

CORRECTIONS ビ AMPLIFICATIONS

self-employment income, the contribution limit for SEP IRAs is \$61,000 for tax year 2022. A Personal Journal article on

For U.S. taxpayers with Monday about retirement accounts incorrectly said selfemployed taxpayers age 50 and above could contribute an additional \$6,500 to a SEP IRA.

Readers can alert The Wall Street Journal to any errors in news articles by emailing wsjcontact@wsj.com or by calling 888-410-2667.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

(USPS 664-880) (Eastern Edition ISSN 0099-9660) (Central Edition ISSN 1092-0935) (Western Edition ISSN 0193-2241)

Editorial and publication headquarters: 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036

Published daily except Sundays and general legal holidays. Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y., and other mailing offices

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Wall Street Journal, 200 Burnett Rd., Chicopee, MA 01020.

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Good **Fishing**

Two bald eagles swooped in to catch their prey Tuesday at Orlando Wetlands Park in Christmas, Fla. The 1,650acre park is a man-made wetland designed to provide advanced treatment for reclaimed water from Orlando and other local cities.

* * * * *

U.S. NEWS

Chicago Mayor Lightfoot Loses Election

BY BEN KESLING AND JOE BARRETT

CHICAGO-Mayor Lori Lightfoot lost her re-election bid by failing to garner enough votes to make a runoff election, a stunning fall for a candidate who had won all 50 of the city's wards four years ago but had sparred with a powerful teachers union and been under fire for her response to rising crime.

The Associated Press declared Tuesday night that Paul Vallas, a more moderate Democrat who had won the support of the city's police union, and Brandon Johnson, a liberal teachers-union organizer, secured the two spots in April's runoff election.

Ms. Lightfoot, who ran in third place, conceded the race shortly before 9 p.m. local time, well before all votes were counted. It was the first time in 40 years that the city didn't elect a sitting mayor who sought re-election. She told supporters that she appreciated the love they had shown her during the campaign.

After battling a pandemic, the teachers union and crime in

The top two votegetters will face each other in a runoff election in April.

the city, Ms. Lightfoot, 60 years old, faced a large field of opponents, with challengers on the left and right of her politically.

Mr. Vallas, a former publicschool executive, Mr. Johnson, a Cook County Board commissioner, and Jesús "Chuy" García, who serves in Congress, were her main challengers. Mr. Garcia was in fourth place Tuesday night.

'I am a lifelong Democrat." Mr. Vallas said Tuesday night, listing what he said were his progressive credentials, and reiterating his focus on public safety and changing the city's public schools as priorities.

Green Growth Puts Electricians in Demand By Amrith Ramkumar

Electricians, the essential workers in the transition to renewable energy, are in increasingly short supply. They are needed to install the electric-car chargers, heat pumps and other gear deemed essential to address climate change.

Electricians say they are booked several months out and struggling to find enough workers to keep up with demand. Many are raising wages and prices and worried that they won't be able to keep up as government climate incentives kick in.

"I'm tired of telling people I can't help them," said Brian LaMorte, co-owner of LaMorte Electric Heating & Cooling in Ithaca, N.Y., which does residential heat-pump installations and electric-service upgrades. His six-person company is booked roughly six months out, so he has been referring potential new customers to other firms in the area.

The 48-year-old brought on two apprentices last year and has seen the price of an average job rise to roughly \$20,000 from about \$16,000 two years ago due to rising raw materials, equipment and labor prices.

Dan Conant says he worries about getting enough electricians for his West Virginia renewable-energy company Solar Holler. The company started an internship program in partnership with a local high school and expects the state will need several thousand more electricians over the next decade. "Ultimately, this is the bottleneck," Mr. Conant said.

The scarcity is part of a nationwide labor shortage and most acute in the Northeast and California, where demand for green-energy products is highest, in part due to state incentives. Some economists expect the pinch to spread across the country as incentives from the new federal law known as the Inflation Reduction Act kick in.

The current total of more than 700,000 electricians in the U.S. is expected to grow about 7% over the next decade, slightly faster than the nationwide average of 5%, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The shift to renewable en-





Lee Eck, a worker with LaMorte Electric Heating & Cooling, installs a heat pump at a home in Ithaca, N.Y., top photo. Co-owner Brian LaMorte, right, checks a valve. His six-person company, which does residential heat-pump installations and electric-service upgrades, is booked roughly six months out.

ergy and the need to update electrical systems is expected to drive that growth.

The BLS includes a separate category of solar photovoltaic installers, some of whom could also be electricians. Growth in that much smaller sector is expected to be above 25%.

Industry analysts say it will be difficult to meet that demand, particularly because more electricians retire every year than are replaced, and many retired during the coronavirus pandemic.

The median age of electricians is over 40 years old. But nearly 30% of union electricians are between ages 50 and 70 and close to retirement, up from 22% in 2005, according to the National Electrical Contractors Association.

The average annual electrician salary rose from roughly

\$50,000 to about \$60,000 from 2018 to 2022, an increase roughly in line with the national average, according to the BLS.

The climate law will put several hundred billion dollars' worth of incentives into the economy designed to accelerate the energy transition and boost clean-energy supply chains in the U.S. The law followed an infrastructure spending package and incentives for domestic semiconductor manufacturing that are also expected to spur demand for labor and could end up pushing up total construction costs.

The impact of these policies differs from that of broadbased stimulus passed under the Trump and then Biden administrations in 2020 and 2021. Those packages raised demand across the board for goods and services. These latest policies are much smaller in total dollars, but also more focused, with their effects falling acutely on certain types of workers and products and in certain regions.

"There's not enough people to do all this," said Georgia Republican Gov. Brian Kemp, who argues the programs should have been spread out over a longer period.

Product makers such as Schneider Electric SE are working to make simpler products and drive down installation times. The company has been investing tens of millions of dollars in expanding its product manufacturing in North America and partnering with trade associations on training programs for electricians who install them, said Michael Lotfy, senior vice president of power products.

On a recent week in Ithaca, three of Mr. LaMorte's employees were installing a heat pump for Matthew Minnig, a 40-year-old engineer. Mr. Minnig ordered the units in April, but was told installation would take several months. "There are times I can remember last summer thinking, 'We've already paid a considerable amount for this project, and I'm still sweating in my house,' he said.

Jesse Kuhlman, owner of Kuhlman Electrical Services Inc. in Massachusetts, said the company's South Shore division is booked out to the summer, its longest such backlog in recent years. The company has been doing many more electric-car charger installations lately.

Mr. Kuhlman has tried to grow the company by training apprentices over time. "You can't just take people off the street and throw them into what we do," he said.

> -Greg Ip contributed to this article.

FDA Curbs Tranquilizer Linked to Overdoses shipments of the drug into the

Mr. Vallas said that if elected, he would focus on the entire city, including those areas that have been neglected. "I will not be a successful mayor until I've reversed the generations of disinvestments in Chicago's poorest communities," he said.

Mr. Vallas, 69, the grandson of Greek immigrants, served in the state legislature and then in the administration of longtime Mayor Richard M. Daley, including as head of Chicago's public schools before running schools in other major cities.

He has taken a tough-oncrime stance in the election and has the backing of the Chicago police union, the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 7.

Mr. Johnson, 46, is the son of a pastor and one of 10 siblings. The African-American candidate was a public-school teacher and was an organizer with the powerful Chicago Teachers Union. The union has endorsed Mr. Johnson and opposed Ms. Lightfoot after battling her over the past few years on contract disputes and return-to-classroom issues during the pandemic.

Mr. Johnson was elected a county commissioner in 2018, where he backed an ordinance that prohibited housing discrimination against formerly incarcerated people.

"We have shifted the political dynamics in this city," Mr. Johnson told supporters Tuesday night. He spoke about what he said was disinvestment in poor communities in the city and said that he would ensure money is spent in underserved areas.

"We are finally going to retire this tale of two cities," he said.

Ms. Lightfoot, a former federal prosecutor, was elected in 2019, winning all 50 wards and becoming the first Black woman and first openly gay person to serve as the city's mayor. But the pandemic and spats with unions, along with increased crime rates, have caused her popularity to fall.

By JULIE WERNAU

Federal regulators said they would restrict imports of xvlazine, an animal tranquilizer commonly manufactured in China that is being diverted into the illicit drug supply to deadly effect.

The Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday said it would more carefully scrutinize

U.S. to check that they are bound for legitimate factories, pharmacies and veterinarians. Xvlazine is used to care for large animals. In recent years it

20%

has also been diverted into the increasingly toxic illicit drug supply. Mixed with other substances including fentanyl. it can depress breathing. Injected into the body, it can kill tissue

and leave users with deep wounds, doctors have said.

"The FDA remains concerned about the increasing prevalence of xylazine mixed with illicit drugs," said Dr. Robert Califf, the FDA's commissioner.

Illicit drugs killed a record of some 107,000 people in the U.S. in 2021 as fentanyl in particular has pervaded more of the nation's supply. Dealers may mix xylazine into fentanyl to save money, federal law-enforcement authorities have said. The drug—known as "tranq" among some users can be purchased at low prices from Chinese suppliers and offset some of the opioid in the mix. officials have said.

The FDA said it could detain some xylazine shipments

into the U.S. if they aren't properly labeled or aren't bound for known customers in veterinary the supply chain. Cooperation between the U.S. and China on the drug crisis has stalled in recent months. U.S. Ambassador to China Nicholas Burns said in February that the U.S. is ready to work with China on shared interests including fentanyl.

Home-Price Increases Eased Last Year

By Nicole Friedman

Home-price growth decelerated in 2022 after a rapid rise in mortgage rates priced many buyers out of the market.

The S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller National Home Price 15 Index, which measures home prices across the nation, rose 5.8% in the year ended in December, down from a 7.6% annual rate the prior month. The increase was the lowest December-to-December change since 2019.

On a monthly basis, the index fell 0.8% in December compared with November, the sixth straight month-overmonth decline.

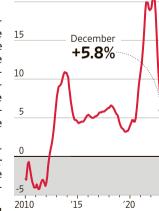
Existing-home sales dropped 17.8% in 2022 to the lowest level since 2014, as the surge in mortgage rates brought the pandemic-driven housing boom to an abrupt halt.

So far this year, home-shopping activity has been especially sensitive to changes in mortgage rates, economists say.

Demand picked up in January as rates ticked lower, but rates then increased for three straight weeks to 6.5% as of Feb. 23, according to Freddie Mac. Mortgage applications to purchase homes slid in the week ended Feb. 17 to the lowest level since 1995 on a seasonally adjusted basis, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association.

"This year ahead is very de-

The S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller National Home Price Index. change from a year earlier



Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices

pendent on what happens with inflation and mortgage rates," said Jeff Tucker, senior economist at Zillow Group Inc. "Just in the last couple weeks, we're seeing mortgage rates rise really dramatically."

Many economists expect prices to continue to slide from their spring peaks, with some calling for year-overyear price declines later this vear.

The Case-Shiller index fell 4.4% between June and December. Prices are declining fastest in Western markets, such as Phoenix, where prices fell 1.9% in December from the prior month, and Portland, Ore., also down 1.9%.

The Case-Shiller index. which measures repeat-sales data, reports on a two-month delay and reflects a threemonth moving average. Homes usually go under contract a month or two before they close, so the December data is based on purchase decisions made earlier in the year.

The national median existing-home price rose 1.3% in January from a year earlier to \$359,000, according to the National Association of Realtors, the smallest annual price gain since February 2012.

The Case-Shiller 10-city index gained 4.4% over the year ended in December, compared with a 6.3% increase in November. The 20-city index rose 4.6%, after an annual gain of 6.8% in November. Price growth decelerated in all of the 20 cities. Economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal expected the 20-city index to gain 5.2%.

Miami had the fastest annual home-price growth in the country, at 15.9%, followed by Tampa, at 13.9%. The weakest market was San Francisco, where prices fell 4.2% on an annual basis.

A separate measure of home-price growth by the Federal Housing Finance Agency also released Tuesday found a 6.6% increase in home prices in December from a year earlier. The FHFA index fell 0.1% in December from the prior month on a seasonally adjusted basis.



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U.S. NEWS

House Panel Examines China Policies Huawei

BY CHARLES HUTZLER

WASHINGTON-A new House committee focused on China held its first hearing Tuesday, sketching out the threat it says Beijing poses to U.S. interests and values and calling for a concerted American government response.

'We may call this a 'strategic competition," said Rep. Mike Gallagher (R., Wis.), chairman of the Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party, opening the hearing. "But it's not a polite tennis match. This is an existential struggle over what life will look like in the 21st century, and the most fundamental freedoms are at stake."

The committee heard testimony from former national-security officials, a Chinese democracy activist and a representative of a U.S. manufacturing association. Their testimony ranged widely from repression of human rights to China's military and economic coercion against its neighbors.

While much of the testimony and analysis weren't new, the committee's presentation was intended to create a forceful message, according to people involved in the planning. Held in the evening to draw more public attention, the hearing featured graphics on the U.S. trade deficits with China and loss of manufacturing jobs and videos cataloging the repressive policies of the Chinese Communist Party and Chinese leader Xi Jinping's vision of displacing the U.S. as the world's superpower.

Given that Washington's political and national-security establishments have largely settled on a hawkish view of China, the committee is being touted as a venue for bipartisan agreement in a divided Congress.

Beijing has criticized the hardening view on China in Washington as a product of Cold War thinking.

"This committee can help the United States catch up in



A protester interrupts testimony before the committee on Tuesday by H.R. McMaster, a former national-security adviser.

the competition with the CCP," H.R. McMaster, a former national-security adviser in the Trump administration, told the committee. "They can do so by holding hearings that reveal the nature of CCP aggression and what is at stake for Americans and citizens of the free world."

As Mr. McMaster spoke, two protesters interrupted him, holding up signs reading "China is not the enemy" and shouting, "This is about saberrattling." They were then led from the hearing chamber.

Mr. Gallagher and the top committee Democrat Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi of Illinois are pledging to overcome divisions, though they recognize that might not extend to every issue. Republicans have criticized the Biden administration for not taking a harder line with Beijing.

Political unity is especially needed because the Chinese

leadership believes the divisions in America "prevent us from making progress," said Mr. Krishnamoorthi.

Chinese diplomats have raised concerns with U.S. officials about the committee, worrying that its spotlight on China will generate negative headlines, adding to tensions between the governments.

U.S.-China relations, strained in recent years over Taiwan, technology, human rights and a global rivalry for influence, have plummeted in recent weeks over a suspected Chinese spy balloon, China's support for Russia's war in Ukraine and fresh U.S. assessments that Covid-19 may have leaked from a Chinese laboratory.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken, on a visit to Kazakhstan, warned Tuesday that the U.S. is prepared to impose sanctions on Chinese companies or individuals if Beijing delivers lethal assistance to Russia. Beijing hasn't done so yet, U.S. officials have said, though it has sent computer chips, jet parts and other goods that have commercial as well as military uses. 'We will not hesitate," Mr.

Blinken said, "to target Chinese companies or officials that violate our sanctions or otherwise engage in Russia's war effort."

China's more assertive foreign policy and rising military strength, pushed by leader Xi, have made the country a focus of concern across much of the U.S. government.

The Biden administration has singled out China, with its vast economy, as the only competitor capable of mounting a challenge to the U.S. and the world order.

Aside from the select committee, many other committees have China-related issues on their agenda.

On Tuesday, members of the House Foreign Affairs

Committee pressed administration officials over a range of China policies, from Chinese influence operations in the U.S. to export controls on technology and whether the administration will limit American investment in China as some members want. The Foreign Affairs Committee also took up a bill that would effectively ban the Chineseowned video and social-media TikTok app in the U.S.

* * * * *

The Biden administration has been working on an executive order regulating U.S. investments into China and other countries of concern for months, though progress on the order has been slow as officials have debated its scope.

> –James T. Areddy, Vivian Salama and Andrew Duehren contributed to this article.

> > **B8**

China data law strains multinationals



By JOHN D. MCKINNON

committee on Tuesday took up legislation that would effectively ban TikTok in the U.S., but postponed a vote on the

vote until Wednesday.

The bill calls for the Trea-WASHINGTON-A House sury secretary to issue a directive prohibiting U.S. transactions with any entity that might transfer sensitive personal data to an entity con-

The measure would also carve out an exception to a set of Cold War-era laws that have hobbled previous government efforts to move against foreign-owned apps such as Tik-Tok. Those laws, known as the

law were needed to give the federal government necessary tools to address security risks posed by apps such as TikTok.

"Anyone with TikTok downloaded on their device has given the [Chinese Communist Party] a backdoor to all their personal information," Mr. Mc-Caul said.

"We've been clear about our concerns about apps like Tik-Tok," said White House deputy press secretary Olivia Dalton. "We'll continue to look at other actions that we can take, and that includes how to work with

Export Licenses Face U.S. Review

By IAN TALLEY AND ASA FITCH

The Biden administration is considering revoking export licenses issued to U.S. suppliers for sales to Chinese telecom company Huawei Technologies Co., according to people familiar with the matter, part of a broader tightening of technology trade over national security concerns.

The administration previously indicated that it was considering not granting any new export licenses to companies such as Qualcomm Inc. and Intel Corp., which provide chips needed for smartphones and other devices. The action would cover products that use advanced 5G technology as well as older 4G products.

The new action would take that a step further by revoking existing licenses. It comes amid heightened U.S.-China tensions triggered by a suspected Chinese spy balloon traversing the U.S. and intelligence suggesting Beijing is considering provision of lethal aid to Russia for its Ukraine war.

"The policy that had allowed exports to Huawei, notwithstanding the entity listing, is being wound down," said a former senior security official familiar with the administration's policy deliberations. "The White House is now telling Commerce, 'Cut off the 4G sales, the time has come to do more pain to Huawei, to try to finish their demise," the former official said.

Intel declined to comment. Huawei and Qualcomm didn't respond to requests for comment. Huawei has said its products aren't a national-security risk

Huawei was placed on the Commerce Department's entity list in 2019 by the Bureau of Industry and Security.

-Dan Strumpf contributed to this article.

FBI Director **Ties Covid** Pandemic

measure until Wednesday.

The bill would effectively block U.S. interactions with the popular Chinese-owned video-sharing app.

The DATA Act (for "Deterring America's Technological Adversaries"), is being considered by the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The measure reflects increasing political jeopardy for TikTok, even though an outright ban still faces high hurdles. Lawmakers debated the measure late Tuesday before pushing off a trolled or influenced by China. It also directs the president to impose sanctions on any entity that operates a connected

software application that is subject to the influence of China and might facilitate Chinese surveillance, propaganda or censorship. It allows for the president to waive sanctions under some circumstances. It calls for the president to report to Congress on whether TikTok or its parent or any of its subsidiaries or successors meets the criteria for sanctions.

Berman amendments, have allowed films, books and music to flow freely between the U.S. and hostile foreign countries since the late 1980s.

In 2020, TikTok used the Berman amendments in court to block a Trump-era effort to shut it down or force its sale to a majority-U.S. group. Tik-Tok is owned by Beijing-based ByteDance Ltd.

Rep. Michael McCaul (R., Texas), the Foreign Affairs Committee chairman and sponsor of the bill, said the changes in U.S.

U.S. WATCH

Some committee Democrats raised objections, saying the bill was being rushed to a vote. Some also said it could inadvertently ensnare U.S. businesses that pose no national security risk. But Republicans rejected those arguments.

A White House spokeswoman on Tuesday signaled that the Biden administration might engage more actively with Congress on the issue.

Congress on this issue further.' TikTok has disputed assertions that it poses a security

threat to the U.S. or its users. 'Over a hundred million Americans use and love Tik-Tok," spokeswoman Brooke Oberwetter said ahead of the hearing. "It would be unfortunate if the House Foreign Affairs Committee were to censor millions of Americans, and do so based not on actual intelligence, but on a basic misunderstanding of our corporate structure."

To Lab Leak

By MICHAEL R. GORDON AND WARREN P. STROBEL

WASHINGTON-FBI Director Christopher Wray said Tuesday that the Covid pandemic was probably the result of a laboratory leak in China, providing the first public confirmation of the bureau's classified judgment of how the virus that led to the deaths of nearly seven million people worldwide first emerged.

"The FBI has for quite some time now assessed that the origins of the pandemic are most likely a potential lab incident in Wuhan," Mr. Wray told Fox News. "Here you are talking about a potential leak from a Chinese government-controlled lab."

Mr. Wray added that the Chinese government has been trying to "thwart and obfuscate" the investigation that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, other parts of the U.S. government and foreign partners have been carrying out into the origin of the pandemic, but that the bureau's work continues.

The Wall Street Journal reported Sunday that the FBI had come to the conclusion with "moderate confidence" in 2021 that the Covid-19 pandemic was likely the result of an accidental lab leak and still holds to this view.

The Energy Department, the Journal also reported, now also judges the pandemic was most likely the result of an unintended lab leak. The department reached that assessment with "low confidence" as a result of new intelligence, and it represents a shift from its previous position in 2021, which was undecided.

The FBI and Energy Department's assessments are included in a classified report that was provided to the White House and some lawmakers earlier this year.

> –Lindsay Wise contributed to this article.

NORTHEAST

Storm Brings Snow **To Parts of Region**

A winter storm blanketed parts of the Northeast on Tuesday, bringing New York City's first considerable snowfall this season.

Millions of people from Pennsylvania to Maine woke up to snow on the ground early Tuesday.

The National Weather Service reported that as much as 7 inches of snow had fallen by the early morning in upstate New

York. Connecticut and Massachusetts. The snow was expected to give way to rain before easing up by Wednesday morning, the service added.

In New York City, the storm was gentle but still the biggest of the season, with many residents seeing snowpacks around

the city for the first time this vear. Forecasters said the city could expect as much as 5 inches of snow during the storm.

CAPITOL

GAO Cites Lapses by

Agencies Before Riot

Federal agencies responsible

for securing the Capitol failed to

about potential violence ahead of

adequately share intelligence

Jan. 6, 2021, hindering the re-

sponse to the pro-Trump mob

that stormed the building and

disrupted the peaceful transfer

As of Tuesday afternoon, Central Park had gotten 1.8 inches of snow, while a weather station in the Bronx recorded 3 inches.

Another storm was expected to arrive in the Northeast on Friday, forecasters said, bringing several inches of snow and rain. –Alyssa Lukpat

of power, according to a new report by the Government Accountability Office.

Snowblowers were out Tuesday in New Bedford, Mass., as a storm moved through the Northeast.

In a 122-page report, the nonpartisan GAO found that the FBI and Capitol Police identified "credible threats" in the weeks leading up to Jan. 6, 2021, and received tips, including one about plans to confront Democratic lawmakers and block them from entering the building. But a failure by multiple agencies to "fully

process" and share information left law enforcement unprepared for the unprecedented attack on the Capitol as lawmakers convened to certify the results of the 2020 election, the report said.

Some tips did get acted upon. The Secret Service received a tip from its Denver field office about a Proud Boys member who had recently "obtained ballistic helmets, armored gloves, vests, and

purchased weapons, including a sniper rifle and suppressors for the weapons," according to the GAO report

In response, the agency interviewed the Proud Boys member and his son upon their arrival at the airport on Jan. 5, 2021, and took steps to determine whether they were armed, the report said. –C. Ryan Barber

HOUSE GOP to Give Jan. 6 Footage to All Media

House Republican lawmakers said they plan to allow a broad group of media outlets to view security-camera footage from the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol, about a week after Fox News host Tucker Carlson said his show was granted access to the tapes.

House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R., La.) said Tuesday that lawmakers would distribute the footage to a wide group of outlets. The comments came after Democrats and some Republicans voiced concerns about Fox having exclusive access to the video.

"It will be ultimately released to all media," Mr. Scalise said. That's a process that's ongoing right now."

Mr. Carlson's show was given access to the footage at the direction of House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R., Calif.).

-Andrew Ackerman



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U.S. NEWS

States Propose Billions in Tax Relief

BY JIMMY VIELKIND

Tax-relief measures on the table in more than a dozen states vary widely but the trend cuts across political divides: Governors and state lawmakers are using surpluses to give residents a break, despite concerns about a possible recession.

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy on Tuesday proposed another \$2 billion in propertytax rebate checks as part of a \$53 billion state budget, continuing a program that was enacted in 2022.

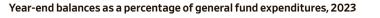
"This is a budget focused on the pocketbooks of our families," Mr. Murphy, a Democrat, said during a speech to lawmakers in Trenton. "Further, this budget will help insulate our state for uncertain economic times.'

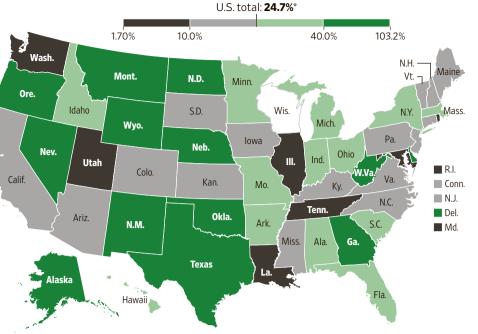
A year ago, states were swimming in cash from federal pandemic relief programs and higher-than-projected sales and capital-gains levies. Reserve funds have collectively grown to historically high levels, according to the National Association of State Budget Officers, or Nasbo.

Now, budget officials in New York and California are predicting that revenue growth will slow in the coming months. Fiscal analysts are unsure whether they are outliers or the leading edge of a municipal downturn. Tax cuts, they said, should be considered with caution.

The sector outlook for state governments in 2023 is deteriorating but stable, Eric Kim, head of U.S. state ratings for Fitch Ratings, said recently.

'Enacting significant tax policy changes amid an uncertain economic environment increases the risk of unexpected consequences," said Mr. Kim, who has tallied 17 states that have proposed tax cuts or rebates this year.





*Doesn't include Wisconsin Note: Enacted figures; year-end balances includes both ending balance and rainy-day funds. Data for Wisconsin unavailable Source: National Association of State Budget Officers

The Northeast has seen a nancial shape in history and spate of proposals. In New Jersey, Mr. Murphy said his budget would include a full \$7 billion payment toward the state's underfunded pension liabilities and would increase reserve funds to \$10 billion. Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey, a Democrat, this week said her coming budget proposal would include a reduction in the state's capital-gains tax as well as a new \$600 tax credit for dependent children and seniors. Ned Lamont, the Democratic governor in Connecticut, recently proposed the first income-tax rate cut for that state in almost 30 years.

The tax-relief efforts differ in size and scope, from Michigan legislation that would make pension payments tax-exempt Mississippi Gov. Tate to Reeves's multiyear push to eliminate his state's income tax. "Our state is in the best fiour residents deserve to get a bigger piece of the pie," Mr. Reeves, a Republican, said in his state of the state address. He said he wants Mississippi to compete with states such as Florida, Tennessee and Texas

Surpluses prompt breaks for taxpayers, but some analysts advise caution.

that have no individual income taxes. Mr. Reeves said growth in the state's overall personal income made it possible to cut tax rates.

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin, a Republican, proposed using part of a \$3.6 billion surplus for an additional \$1

billion in tax relief for the second year of a biennial budget adopted in 2022.

Some states and cities are ramping up their pursuit of new jobs by showering companies with big tax breaks. States and local governments, including in Georgia, Michigan and West Virginia, agreed to give out at least \$1 billion in subsidies eight times in 2022, according to an analysis from Good Jobs First, a nonprofit research group that is often critical of subsidies.

States raise funds from a different mix of sales, income and severance taxes. Thirtythree states reported receiving more revenue than projected in their current fiscal years, according to Nasbo. Budget proposals for the coming fiscal year, which in most states starts July 1, are projecting nominal growth in collections, Nasbo said.

California, whose budget is particularly reliant on income taxes levied on some of its wealthiest residents, experienced budget whiplash after a record \$97 billion budget surplus last year dissolved into an estimated \$22.5 billion deficit in Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom's January spending proposal.

Recent revenue data and analysis from the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office suggest the shortfall could be billions more by the time Mr. Newsom submits a revised spending plan in May. The anemic collections are partly explained by the decrease in initial public offerings for tech companies, which can provide windfalls for founders and early investors that are taxed as income. There were 168 in 2022 versus 1,035 in 2021, the LAO said.

In New York, tax collections that rely heavily on the financial sector are expected to peak this quarter, acting Budget Director Sandra Beattie said in February. The state, where Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul isn't proposing cutting income taxes, projects it will end its current fiscal year with an \$8.7 billion surplus but anticipates slower growth will lead to deficits totaling \$22 billion over three years starting in the 2024-25 fiscal year.

We are therefore harvesting the gains of the last two years to prepare for the uncertainties ahead," Ms. Beattie said.

Ms. Hochul has proposed higher payroll taxes on downstate businesses to bolster mass transit in New York City, and unions and progressive lawmakers in New York have held rallies calling for additional levies on high-income individuals to raise money for increased spending on social programs.

-Christine Mai-Duc contributed to this article.

U.S. Asks Congress To Renew Spy Law BY DUSTIN VOLZ

WASHINGTON-Top Biden administration officials urged Congress to renew an expiring surveillance law they say is vital to addressing a range of national security threats, launching what is expected to be a difficult campaign to persuade lawmakers to not curtail spying powers.

In a letter on Tuesday to congressional leadership, Attorney General Merrick Garland and Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines said the law, Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, protects the U.S. from foreign-based cyberattacks and arms traffickers and yields intelligence to address challenges posed by China, Russia, Iran and North Korea.

"Over the last 15 years, Section 702 has proven invaluable again and again in protecting American lives and U.S. national security," Mr. Garland and Ms. Haines wrote. They called its renewal a "top legislative priority" for the Biden administration ahead of its expiration at the end of the year. which is in doubt due to bipartisan concerns about the law's impact on Americans' privacy.

In a separate talk at the Brookings Institution think tank Tuesday morning, Assistant Attorney General Matt Olsen drew attention to the tools' value in gathering intelligence on China, among other security challenges.

The spying program was created in the years following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The spy program allows the National Security Agency to collect without a warrant phone calls, texts, emails and other data that pass through the U.S. and are believed to belong to foreigners living abroad. It gathers communications directly from U.S. telecommunications firms and others. Privacy advocates say the program is inappropriately shrouded in secrecy and argue that it gives the Federal Bureau of Investigation access to Americans' data without a warrant.

House Passes Bill Targeting ESG Investments

BY ERIC BAZAIL-EIMIL

The House passed a Republican-led bill Tuesday disapproving of a new Biden administration regulation that would allow retirement-plan managers to consider climate change and other factors when they make investment decisions.

The legislation to overturn the regulation on environmen-

Sen. Mike Braun (R., Ind.) has introduced a companion measure in the Senate, where Democrats have a 51-49 advantage, and the measure's fate is uncertain.

Unlike most legislation, overturning the ESG regulation would require only a simple majority to pass and then head to President Biden's desk, meaning Republicans would only need a handful of Democratic votes. Mr. Biden has said he would veto the measure. Last November, the Labor Department drafted a new rule under the Employee Retire-

ment Income Security Act allowing fiduciaries the right to consider climate change and ESG factors as they invested in privately held retirement plans. Considering ESG factors has become common in the finance world as hedge funds and investment firms have sought to address climate change and environmental im-

pacts. Such investment efforts on investment returns rather than be driven by factors they term political.

The Biden administration "wants to let Wall Street use workers' hard-earned savings to pursue left-wing political initiatives instead of trying to maximize the return for their clients' retirements," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.).

in a way that reflects their values. such as combating climate change, without sacrificing investment returns," Rep. Bobby Scott (D., Va.), the top Democrat on the House Education and Workforce Committee, said on the House floor.

The bill faces uncertain odds in the Senate, where key moderate Democrats have yet to announce their positions on Lawmakers To Press

tal, social and corporate-governance guidelines, or ESG, passed 216-204. One Democrat joined with Republicans in support of the measure, which was introduced by Rep. Andrew Barr (R. Ky.).

have become a target of Republicans in recent years, who call them irresponsible and part of a "woke" agenda. Proponents of the bill said fund managers should be focused

Democrats meanwhile, characterized the matter as a question of empowering Americans to make investment decisions.

"Workers should be able to invest their retirement savings

the legislation.

"Another one I got to take a look at," Sen. Jon Tester (D., Mont.), who is facing re-election this year, said Tuesday when asked about the Senate bill

Justices Weigh Debt Forgiveness

Continued from Page One policy, do we normally assume that every cabinet secretarylearned as they are-has that kind of knowledge?"

Liberal justices said that when Congress authorized the education secretary to respond to national emergencies by waiving or modifying legal provisions "applicable to the student financial assistance programs" so that borrowers weren't worse off financially, debt cancellation obviously was part of the equation.

"Congress doesn't get much clearer than that," Justice Elena Kagan said. "We do congressional statutes every day that are really confusing. This one is not," she said, referring to the program's basis in a 2003 statute called the Heroes Act.

For its part, the Biden administration argued the issue shouldn't have come before the court at all because the six Republican-led states that filed one of the two cases argued Tuesday, as well as the two individual borrowers who brought the second, weren't harmed by the debt-relief program and therefore lacked the legal standing to sue.

U.S. Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar, representing the government, said loan servicers that would lose revenue from debt forgiveness would have such standing. None actually challenged the program, she said, casting doubt on argu-



Demonstrators in favor of the Biden student-debt gather plan outside the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

ments that Missouri could sue on behalf of a state-affiliated student loan authority that distanced itself from the suit.

While the case centers on an interpretation of statute, the justices' views of the underlying policy at times surfaced on Tuesday.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor noted that tens of millions of people would benefit from debt forgiveness. "Many of them don't have assets sufficient to bail them out after the pandemic," she said. Addressing James Campbell, the Nebraska solicitor general representing the state plaintiffs, she said: "And what you're saying is now we're going to give judges the right to decide how much aid to give them," rather than the secretary of education.

Chief Justice John Roberts highlighted the hardship that fell on those who hadn't taken

on student debt. Imagine, he said, a high-school graduate who borrowed money to set up a lawn-care business, while a classmate instead went to college on a student loan.

"We know statistically that the person with the college degree is going to do significantly financially better over the course of life than the person without, and then along comes the government and tells that person, you don't have to pay your loan," Chief Justice Roberts said. "Nobody is telling the person who is trying to set up the lawn-service business that he does not have to pay his loan," he said, "even though his tax dollars are" subsidizing his classmate.

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson said the political branches should be left "to hash this out without interference from a

torrent of lawsuits brought by states and entities and individuals who don't have a real personal stake in the outcome."

If states can challenge any program based on the arguments in the student-loan case, she said, "I'm concerned that we're going to have a problem in terms of the federal government's ability to operate."

The government began providing relief to student borrowers in March 2020, almost immediately after then-President Donald Trump declared the Covid-19 pandemic a national emergency. Then-Education Secretary Betsy DeVos temporarily suspended payments and interest accrual for borrowers with federal student loans. The Education Department extended the payment pause eight times under the Trump and Biden administrations.

With the temporary relief

set to end last August, Mr. Cardona invoked the Heroes Act to cover permanent forgiveness of up to \$10,000 for borrowers who earn less than \$125,000 a year and an additional \$10,000 of relief for those who held Pell Grants, which typically are awarded to the neediest students.

Mr. Cardona reasoned that borrowers were at increased risk of default as a result of the pandemic, citing research showing such a pattern following previous emergencies.

Republicans accused the White House of using the Heroes Act as a backdoor to fulfill a Biden campaign pledge to forgive some student debt, a proposal that didn't get through Congress. In arguments Tuesday, Ms. Prelogar said that Republican bills to forbid loan forgiveness likewise died. She said Congress anticipated debt cancellation in a 2021 bill providing various Covid-related programs that excluded forgiven loan amounts from income taxes.

The forgiveness plan was expected to face an uphill climb at the Supreme Court, where the conservative majority has taken a critical eye to other Biden initiatives and invalidated several related to the pandemic, including a moratorium on tenant evictions.

Justices Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett, while evincing some discomfort with the loan program, focused on the procedural questions of legal standing and the education secretary's responsibility for student financial aid, suggesting that they might cast votes for the program's future.

–Jan Wolfe and Gabriel T. Rubin contributed to this article.

Document Inquiries

By SADIE GURMAN

WASHINGTON-Top lawmakers on the Senate Intelligence Committee said they would continue to press for information about the classified documents that ended up in the personal possession of two presidents, after a Tuesday briefing from U.S. officials "left much to be desired."

The meeting with officials from the Justice Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation and intelligence community "helped shed some light on these issues," Chairman Mark Warner (D., Va.) and Sen. Marco Rubio (R., Fla.), the panel's vice chairman, said in a statement, adding that they would "continue to press for full answers to our questions."

The briefing to congressional leaders came after both Democrats and Republicans expressed frustration about the Justice Department's refusal to share much information about its continuing investigations into classified documents found at former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida as well as President Biden's Delaware home and former private office.

The Senate intelligence panel has been unable to obtain access to the underlying Biden and Trump material, thwarting its ability to assess the extent of any damage, lawmakers have said. For its part, the Justice Department has said providing nonpublic information to the committee could complicate the continuing investigations. Representatives for the Justice Department, FBI and Office of the Director of National Intelligence declined to comment.

—Aruna Viswanatha and Warren P. Strobel contributed to this article.

U.S. NEWS

DeSantis Seeks To Dismiss Suit From Migrants

By JON KAMP AND ARIAN CAMPO-FLORES

Gov. Ron DeSantis and other Florida officials said a federal lawsuit over migrants the state flew from Texas to Massachusetts last year should be dismissed, arguing in legal filings the Boston court lacks jurisdiction and that migrants were told where the planes were going.

Perla Huerta, a woman migrants said recruited them onto the Martha's Vineyardbound flights, filed a separate motion in the Boston federal court Tuesday to dismiss the case. The lawsuit was brought by some of the 49 migrants and an advocacy group in September. The contractor Florida hired to arrange the flights and the company's chief executive also asked for the case to be dismissed.

The defendants in an additional joint motion asked for the case to be transferred to a federal court in Florida, saying the Massachusetts court lacks jurisdiction. The Florida officials said transporting migrants within the U.S. has merit.

the overwhelmed "For states and localities, transporting migrants to other parts of the country that don't bear the brunt of this problem alleviates the stress, spreads the burden, and provides better living conditions for the migrants themselves," the filing from Mr. DeSantis and other state officials said.

Iván Espinoza-Madrigal, an attorney for the plaintiffs, said, "It is not surprising that Gov. DeSantis and his co-defendants are throwing up every procedural argument they can think of, in a desperate attempt to avoid facing the music for this callous political stunt."

Florida chartered two planes to carry 49 migrants, mostly people who came from Venezuela, from San Antonio to the exclusive Massachusetts island. Some of the migrants and Alianza Americas, an advocacy group for Latino immigrants, filed the lawsuit in

A Venezuelan migrant being led onto a bus on Martha's Vineyard in September, after he was flown to the island from Texas. Massachusetts claiming they were induced to travel by fraud and misrepresentation. The lawsuit claims that recruiters told migrants they were headed to Boston or Washington, D.C., to receive

jobs, housing and other help. Defendants in the case said the migrants were told they were headed to Massachusetts, citing a form each migrant signed that said Massachusetts was the final

grade," said Annie Kennedy,

chief of policy, advocacy and

patient engagement at the Ev-

Diseases, a nonprofit advocacy

group. "This approval is proof

ral history studies don't test a

drug. Instead, patients every

year undergo a battery of tests

to track how a disease is pro-

gressing. For its omavelox-

vestigators compared disease

progression in patients who

Unlike clinical trials, natu-

of that principle."

that form, included in Tuesday's filings, didn't say the miwere specifically grants headed to Martha's Vineyard.

Lawyers for migrants have said their clients identified Ms. Huerta as someone who played a key role in recruiting them onto the Massachusettsbound flights. She served in the Army for 20 years until last August and worked in part as a counterintelligence

destination. Language from and human intelligence senior sergeant, according to records provided by the service.

In the filing, Ms. Huerta argued that the Massachusetts court was an improper venue because none of her alleged actions involving the plaintiffs took place in the state. The motion also challenged plainallegation that she tiffs' preyed on Latino immigrants in her recruitment efforts. Florida hasn't flown any

migrants since the original flights in September, though the state had set aside \$12 million for that program and paid more than \$1.5 million in total to contractor Vertol Systems Co. Mr. DeSantis signed a bill earlier in February that replaced that migrant-relocation program with a new transport program while sending unspent money under the previous one back to the state's

general fund.

Drug's Approval Widens Path for Rare-Disease Treatments

BY AMY DOCKSER MARCUS

Federal regulators approved a drug to treat a debilitating disease using data collected about patients over decades, creating an opening for researchers of other rare conditions who often struggle to prove their treatments work.

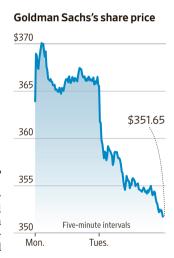
The Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday approved Reata Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s drug Skyclarys, or omaveloxolone. for treating the neurological disorder Friedreich's ataxia in adults and adolescents age 16 and older.

Goldman

Softens Strategy

The FDA last year said recommunities can be regulatory sults from a single clinical trial didn't sufficiently demonstrate the drug slows the progression of a disease that eryLife Foundation for Rare causes progressive damage to the spinal cord, muscle weakness, and movement problems and often kills people by age 35. Instead of running another trial, Reata submitted additional data including an analysis from a so-called natural history study that has continolone analysis, the Reata inued to collect information about patients for more than two decades.

received the drug with people "Data created by patient



couldn't criticize Mr. Solomon for trying to take a stake in consumer lending—and Mr. Wachenheim said he prefers that over a CEO who doesn't try new things.

Mr. Solomon didn't explain exactly what he meant by "strategic alternatives" for GreenSky and the card partnerwho were close matches based on factors including gender and age of diagnosis but didn't take omaveloxolone.

The FDA typically requires results from two clinical trials demonstrating a drug's efficacy to ensure positive results in one trial are replicable. But with rare conditions, finding enough patients to run two clinical trials can be daunting, said Jennifer Farmer, chief executive officer of the Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance, which funds research about the disease including the natu-

in the natural history study ral history study. Families of to take it over three years expatients have raised about \$1 million a year to fund the study, Ms. Farmer said.

Reata's pivotal trial included 103 patients, drawn primarily from the approximately 22,000 people worldwide with the disorder, mainly in the U.S., Europe and Australia. Some traveled hundreds or more miles to reach trial sites. Not everyone interested in participating was eligible.

An analysis by Friedreich's ataxia clinicians and Reata determined that people who received the drug and continued

perienced an almost 55% reduction in the progression of the disease compared with people in the natural history study who didn't receive the drug.

"The data collected in the natural history study were critical to showing the drug's benefit," said Reata CEO J. Warren Huff.

The company said it plans to charge \$370,000 a year for the drug and that through insurance and a patient-assistance program, patients should be able to gain access.



Continued from Page One consumer strategy," he said. Goldman's shares fell 3.8%

Tuesday.

Goldman's identity crisis reflects a broader shift on Wall Street. The 2007-09 recession left the bank's reputation in tatters. New regulations drained some of the power from its traditional stalwarts of investment banking and trading.

Goldman started experimenting with consumer finance as a way to smooth out the up-anddown returns of those Wall Street businesses. Customer deposits as a steady source of funding were another appeal. Marcus launched in 2016, when Mr. Solomon was a top executive but before he was CEO. Soon, a firm used to making money work for millionaires would be running a commercial of a suburban dad singing about his high-yield savings account.

Almost from the start, investment bankers and traders complained that the new consumer push would sap resources and damage Goldman's brand.

Competing for middle-class customers was difficult. Many already had longtime relationships with banks that, unlike Goldman, could offer them mortgages, checking accounts and credit-card options.

Goldman's plans for a massmarket checking account under the Marcus name never took off, and the bank has already said it is winding down personal-loan originations. On Tuesday, Goldman said it is in the process of selling part of that portfolio.

Mr. Solomon started publicly telling investors about his plans to scale back the consumer business several months ago.

A broad reorganization announced in October was meant to reduce the bank's reliance on investment banking and trading, by placing more focus on asset and wealth management. On Tuesday, Mr. Solomon called asset and wealth management "the key driver for growth."

Those businesses can produce steady fees. The problem, some investors and analysts

Source: FactSet

said, is that several banks, including Morgan Stanley and JPMorgan Chase & Co., have already made them a priority, potentially leaving less room for Goldman to grow.

It can be difficult for any bank to find a significant foothold in the fragmented wealthmanagement market, said Glenn Schorr, an analyst at Evercore ISI. "It's hard to execute and it takes time to win over a wealthy person's business," Mr. Schorr said. But, he added, "Goldman has a lot more tools and relationships to help execute on that."

Some investors have grown frustrated, saying Goldman doesn't appear to know what it wants to be. Goldman shares are up about 2.4% for the year. Rival Morgan Stanley is up almost 14%

"I think there had been an expectation or hope by the investment community that management would announce a more drastic plan to scale back the consumer business, but that didn't happen," said Michael Farr, chief market strategist at Hightower Advisors, which is a Goldman shareholder. Mr. Farr praised Goldman's overall performance, including the growth in its book value over time.

Ed Wachenheim, chief executive of Greenhaven Associates, a Goldman shareholder, said he equates Goldman's consumer lending to "a pimple on a beautiful lady—the whole world is focusing on the pimple."

Instead, he said, the focus should be on global banking and markets, which account for an oversize share of Goldman's earnings power in a normal year. Mr. Wachenheim said he

ships. Such language could sug gest a sale. It could also represent restructuring the card agreements to make them more lucrative for Goldman or allowing another bank to become an issuer alongside Goldman.

Goldman is working to make GreenSky and cards profitable. If it does, it is possible that Goldman wouldn't pursue a sale or other big change.

Behind Mr. Solomon's comments is the large amount of money that Goldman has lost with credit cards and other consumer-facing businesses.

In earnings results released in January, the bank disclosed that the unit it calls Platform Solutions had lost \$3.8 billion on a pretax basis since the start of 2020.

Platform Solutions includes GreenSky and the card partnerships-together called consumer platforms. It also includes another business called transaction banking, which provides payment services to banks and corporations. That unit is profitable, the company said.

Goldman said Tuesday it aims to reach a pretax break-even in Platform Solutions by 2025.

Mr. Solomon's statements were a departure from Goldman's investor day in 2020. Then, the firm said it was building a leading digital consumer bank that would address a range of consumer banking and borrowing needs.

"It became clear that we lacked certain competitive advantages and that we did too much too quickly," Mr. Solomon said Tuesday.

The potential for a slowing economy, where overall delinquencies rise and banks have to set aside more money for bad loans, also helped convince Goldman to pull back.

Goldman disclosed last year that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is investigating its credit-card business. The Federal Reserve is probing whether the bank had appropriate safeguards as it ramped up consumer lending, The Wall Street Journal previously reported.

POST-ER CHILD GEORGE HUGHES

"Post" cover. American illustrator. Nostalgic sentiment.



Learning to Ride a Bike by George Hughes showcases the great American illustrator's signature nostalgia and humor. This whimsical original work was created for the July 12, 1954 cover of the Saturday Evening Post. Hughes' renderings of American life found their place in the hearts and homes of families nationwide, appearing on 115 covers of the Post. Hughes' illustrations also earned the esteem of museums and were

displayed at the Detroit Museum, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art and the Art Institute of Chicago during his lifetime. Oil on board. Painted 1954. Board: 20"h x 19¹/₄"w. Frame: 27³/₈"h x 26³/₄"w. #31-6200



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A8 | Wednesday, March 1, 2023

WORLD NEWS **Bakhmut Conditions Are Dire, Kyiv Says**

Officials acknowledge deteriorating situation for Ukrainian troops in the eastern city

By IAN LOVETT AND ANN M. SIMMONS

Ukraine's officials said conditions for its forces in the besieged eastern city of Bakhmut were becoming more difficult, as Russia said several drones were shot down or crashed in its territory.

Officials in Russia reported several drone attacks overnight Monday and on Tuesday. A drone fell near the village of Gubastovo, about 60 miles from Moscow, but caused no damage or injuries, said Moscow regional Gov. Andrei Vorobyov.

Alexander Bogomaz, governor of Russia's Bryansk region, said on Telegram that a drone was shot down over one of the region's districts but caused no casualties or damage. The Russian Defense Ministry also reported that it shot down two Ukrainian drones that it said attacked civilian infrastructure in southern Russia.

Ukraine's Defense Ministry didn't respond to requests to comment. But the string of drone attacks—coming just one day after the latest wave of Russian drone attacks on Ukrainesuggests a growing Ukrainian willingness and ability to strike



A Ukrainian soldier walks through the front-line city of Bakhmut, which has been the target of intense attacks from Russian forces.

deep into Russian territory. Though Ukraine occasionally has hit targets outside artillerv range, those attacks were rare in the first year of the war.

The downing of the drones inside Russian territory followed reports overnight that fragments of three drones were found in Russia's Belgorod region, near the border

with Ukraine. The weapons broke windows and caused some damage to cars, Belgorod's regional Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov said on Telegram. On Tuesday, Russian Presi-

dent Vladimir Putin called on the country's security forces to strengthen the work of counterintelligence and step up efforts to thwart what he described as Ukrainian saboteurs. Meanwhile, several Ukrainian officials acknowledged deteriorating conditions for their troops in Bakhmut, which has been the focus of Russian attacks in recent months, with both sides suffering heavy losses. "The enemy is constantly destroying everything that can be used to protect our positions," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Monday. Col. Gen. Oleksandr Syrskyi,

the commander of Ukraine's ground forces, recently visited troops in Bakhmut. On Tuesday, he called the situation there extremely tense, adding that Russia's paramilitary Wagner Group is still leading the assault.

The Institute for the Study of

War, a Washington-based think tank, said the regular Russian military around Bakhmut might also be adopting practices that Wagner has used, including frontal attacks by smaller groups as Russian artillery stocks have dwindled during the six-month fight for the city. "Such tactics are likely to waste Russian combat power and not effectively counter conventional Ukrainian battalions and brigades," the institute wrote.

Mr. Zelensky renewed calls for allies to send modern jet fighters to fully protect civilian areas from missile and drone attacks. On Sunday night and Monday morning, Moscow launched another wave of Iranian-made drones. Though Ukrainian officials said that 11 of the 14 drones were shot down, the attack killed two rescue workers in the central city of Khmelnytskyi.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Tuesday that the U.S. has warned China about the implications of providing lethal support to Russia. "We will not hesitate, for example, to target Chinese companies or individuals that violate our sanctions or otherwise engage in supporting the Russian war effort," he said in Kazakhstan.

U.S. officials have told The Wall Street Journal that China is considering delivering artillery and drones to Russia that could prolong the war—an assertion Beijing has rejected.

Russia Turns to Yuan in Effort to Ditch the Dollar

Russia's economy, restricted tin," Mr. Gabuev said. "If de- Composition of Russian from Western financial networks and the U.S. dollar, has embraced a burgeoning alternative: the Chinese yuan.

By Chelsey Dulaney, Evan Gershkovich and Victoria Simanovskaya

Energy exporters increasingly are getting paid in yuan. Russia's sovereign-wealth fund, a war chest used to fund operations on the battlefield in Ukraine, is using the Chinese currency to store its oil riches. Russian companies have borrowed in yuan, also known as renminbi, and households are stashing savings in it.

The Chinese currency's rise inside Russia deepens ties between two countries that have long rivaled each other for global influence but have grown closer amid shared discontent with the West. It also serves China's longstanding but mostly frustrated campaign to make the vuan a more prominent feature of global finance and commerce. Moscow has jettisoned concerns about giving China too much leverage over its economy. said Alexander Gabuev, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

pending on renminbi is the lifeline that helps you to be less exposed and less dependent on hostile currencies, then you take this route."

A spokesperson for the Russian Ministry of Finance said the yuan is "taking an increasingly important role" in its sovereign-wealth fund, which doubled the share of yuan it can hold to 60% in December. The ministry started selling yuan in January to plug its widening budget deficit.

The share of Russian exports paid for in yuan rose to 14% by September, according to data from the central bank. That is up from 0.4% before the start of the war.

Representatives for China's central bank didn't respond to a request to comment.

Russia began cutting its de-

central bank reserves as of June 2021



Source: Central Bank of Russia

ing system that underpins most global payments in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Russians don't face an out-

rency worth the equivalent of bonds, he said. Some didn't almore than \$7 billion last year, according to Refinitiv data. In recent weeks, the yuan-ruble often was the most traded currency pair on the Moscow Exchange based on daily volume.

Aluminum giant Rusal was the first company to issue yuan bonds inside Russia last August, and other commodity exporters such as oil firm Rosneft followed. Most trade with China and can use yuan raised for everyday business, for example to pay invoices.

Bistrodengi, a Russian lending platform, started selling yuan bonds last year despite not doing business in the Chinese currency. The company's chief finance officer, Yakov Romashkin, said borrowing in yuan was far cheaper than rubles. Its bonds offer a coupon from zero at the start of the rate of 8% instead of the 19% that it likely would have had to pay to borrow in rubles.

low investors to buy bonds using their app, instead requiring trades be done over the phone.

'Gradually we are solving these problems and subsequent placements have had fewer technical problems compared to when we started the process late last year," he said.

Households are warming up to the yuan. Nearly 50 financial institutions offer yuan savings accounts, according to comparison site Banki.ru. The first yuan-denominated exchange-traded fund launched on the Moscow Exchange in January.

Households held nearly \$6 billion of yuan deposited at the end of last year at Russian banks, according to data from the central bank. That is up year, and is now more than a 10th of the \$53 billion in foreign currency that households held. Russian financial blogger and consultant Olga Gogaladze. who has more than two million Instagram followers, in October published a guide to the vuan after being inundated with questions about the currency last year. Russians have long bought dollars and euros to protect themselves against the ruble's volatility. That changed last year as banks instituted fees on those accounts and many worried about the impact of Western sanctions.

"Conversations were going around about the end of the dollar," Ms. Gogaladze said. "The yuan was presented as an available alternative."

She has a yuan bank account at Russian digital bank Tinkoff but still prefers to hold most of her money in rubles, euros and dollars. She said yuan accounts typically have lower interest rates than those for rubles, but they can be a good option for people worried about a devaluation of the ruble.

"When people see the ruble is getting weaker and weaker, they don't care about the yield, they just want to save their money," she said.

While still in its early days, some see Russia's vuan use as a test case in a debate that has

"Now it's the only rational choice for Russia and for Pu-

pendence on the dollar in 2014 after its annexation of Crimea. By 2018, as the U.S. imposed additional economic sanctions, the country began to sell its holdings of U.S. Treasury bonds and explore trade in rubles and other currencies.

De-dollarization went into overdrive, and widened to include the euro. last year. Western countries froze some \$300 billion of Russia's foreign reserves and banned some of its banks from the Swift messagright ban on using dollars or euros, and nonsanctioned banks continue to do business in foreign currencies.

Booming trade between Russia and China added to the yuan's appeal. China has become a major buyer of Russian oil that is shunned by the West, while Russia has grown more dependent on China for semiconductors and other technology.

Russian companies have also turned to the yuan and issued bonds in the Chinese cur-

The Russian broker that arranged Bistrodengi's previous ruble bond offerings ran the deal, and buyers were predominantly individual Russian investors, he said. It swapped the yuan back into rubles.

Mr. Romashkin said there were technological hiccups. Some brokers weren't fully set up to sell yuan securities, with some displaying incorrect information about Bistrodengi's

long captivated the financial world: Will the yuan eventually rival the dollar as the world's dominant currency?

But building the infrastruc ture to circumvent the dollarbased financial system developed over decades is slow, difficult and expensive, said Eswar Prasad, a professor at Cornell University and former head of the International Monetary Fund's China division.

-Rebecca Feng contributed to this article.

U.N. Says Iran Boosts Uranium Enrichment | Switzerland Neutrality **Blocks Arms Transfers**

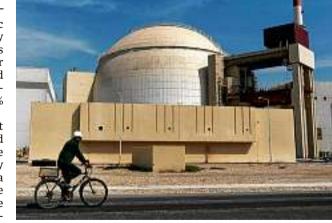
BY LAURENCE NORMAN

The United Nations atomic agency confirmed Tuesday that its inspectors found traces of near weapons-grade nuclear material at Iran's underground Fordow facility, but said Tehran continues to produce 60% enriched uranium at the site.

enrichment levels." Weapons-grade enriched uranium generally is considered to be from about 90%-enriched uranium. "Discussions between the Agency and Iran to clarify the matter are ongoing," the report said.

Iran has been producing highly enriched material of 60% purity since early 2021 higher than any other nonnuclear weapons state, according to the IAEA.

If Iran deliberately starts producing weapons-grade material, it could lead to crisis concerning the country's nuclear activities. European diplomats have said that would be the



The Bushehr nuclear power plant, seen in 2010, in southern Iran.

trigger for them to move to formally kill a 2015 nuclear deal, which lifted most international sanctions on Tehran in exchange for strict but temporary limits on Iran's nuclear work.

Western officials also say it could prod Israel to pursue a military attack on Iran's nuclear program.

Iran has greatly expanded its nuclear work since 2019, a vear after the Trump administration took the U.S. out of the 2015 nuclear accord. President Biden's efforts to revive the pact so far have failed.

Under the 2015 pact. Iran was supposed to enrich uranium only up to 3.67% for 15 years.

The particles of near weapons-grade were found the same day as inspectors discovered that Iran had joined up cascades of centrifuges, machines that enrich uranium, without reporting this to the agency. The IAEA reported this undeclared work as a breach of Iran's commitment to its member states on Feb. 1.

Diplomats involved in the oversight of Iran's nuclear activities say Tehran also might have experimented with pathways to producing weaponsgrade material at the same time as they changed the configuration of the cascades.

A person close to the IAEA said it isn't clear if Iran's production of near weapons grade material was an accident or deliberate but noted the increase in the level of enrichment was a big jump. The person said the amount of 84% material produced likely was very small.

The IAEA didn't issue a separate report on the production of near weapons-grade material, saying it needed to discuss the issue with Iran first. That has raised concerns among some member states who are keen to ensure any Iranian decision to accumulate weapons-grade material would be immediately known.

The agency said in the report that in recent weeks they have increased the frequency of their visits to Fordow.

When the 84% enrichment was first reported last weekend, senior diplomats from the European countries said that. if confirmed, it would be an "unprecedented and extremely grave development."

The IAEA Board of Governors meets next week, and the U.S. and the European countries will have to decide whether to again censor Iran over its nuclear activities.

Iranian officials and two senior diplomats in Vienna have said IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi may visit Tehran in coming days to hold talks with Iranian officials. The IAEA hasn't responded to questions about whether the visit will happen.

The West's efforts to keep Ukraine supplied with enough ammunition to push back Russian forces has hit a major roadblock: Switzerland's centuries-old tradition of neutrality.

By BOJAN PANCEVSKI

The wealthy Alpine nation is home to a mature weapons industry, but is steeped in the principle that it keeps out of foreign wars. Switzerland's adherence to a ban on the export and re-export of weapons and ammunition to conflict zones is blocking North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries in Europe from giving Ukraine their stocks of Swiss-made ammunition and arms, none of which are easily substituted.

The ban is affecting Western-provided weapons systems such as aerial defense batteries and tanks—and prompting a rethink in Switzerland's parliament about a pillar of Swiss identity.

The prohibition is adding another bottleneck to already stressed weapons and, above all, ammunition supply chains, with Ukraine expending far more shells and rockets in a month than its Western partners can produce.

In addition to Western pressure, Ukrainian lawmakers from the parliament's foreignaffairs committee are planning a special delegation to visit Bern, the Swiss capital, to call for a policy change.

Spain and Denmark complained after Bern refused to allow the export of Aspide airdefense systems and Piranha III infantry fighting vehicles to Ukraine, both of which have Swiss-made parts.

Berlin has repeatedly lobbied Bern to shift policy after requests for permission to send Ukraine Swiss-made ammunition acquired by Germany decades ago were denied. These include rounds for the Gepard aerial flak system that Ukraine has successfully deployed against Iranian-made suicide drones, in particular, As a result, Ukrainian forces have been compelled to save ammunition, reducing the effectiveness of the vital system.

Bern argues that there can be no waiver for the ban because it is part of its constitutional order. Swiss lawmakers have drafted amendments to the law regulating arms trade that would unlock re-export permissions but it isn't clear whether these can muster a majority in parliament. Even if the proposal is adopted soon, the change would only come into force early next year at the earliest, several lawmakers said.

* * * * *

WORLD NEWS

U.K.'s Sunak Touts Revised Brexit Deal In Northern Ireland

BY MAX COLCHESTER

LONDON—British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak traveled to Belfast to sell his Northern Ireland deal, amid tentative signs the pact could allow the U.K., and his Conservative Party, to begin to move on from a Brexit saga that has dragged on for years.

Mr. Sunak met in Belfast on Tuesday with major political parties in the province in a bid to win their backing of the deal, which reshapes terms of the U.K.'s 2019 divorce from the European Union when it comes to Northern Ireland, which is part of the U.K. but shares the same island with the Republic of Ireland, which is part of the EU.

So far, the deal—which revamps Brexit by reducing customs checks for goods entering Northern Ireland and giving it greater veto power over EU laws-has received generally positive reviews, including by some key euro-skeptic members of his own party and the British press. But it has yet to get backing from some leading pro-U.K. unionist politicians in Northern Ireland who don't want any customs checks between the province and the rest of the country.

If Mr. Sunak succeeds in getting support for the deal, even over the opposition of some unionists in the province, officials say it could reset previously strained relations with the EU, help cement peace in Northern Ireland and appease President Biden, who has urged the U.K. to find a compromise solution to Northern Ireland.

The issue surrounding the so-called Northern Ireland Protocol is an arcane trading dispute but with potentially deep ramifications. Brexit meant the U.K. leaving the EU's single market and the erection of a trade border around the country. But it left the U.K. with a difficult choice: place a border between Northern Ireland and the republic to its south and risk angering nationalists who want reunification, or put the border between the mainland of Britain and the province, and risk angering unionists who want to remain part of the U.K.

It chose the latter, for fear of damaging the 1998 Good Friday agreement, which brought peace to the region after more than three decades of bloodshed. But that decision left Northern Ireland within the EU customs area and answerable to EU courts. This upset pro-U.K. unionists in Northern Ireland, who felt they were being segregated from the rest of the U.K. It also annoyed some Conservative lawmakers, who felt they had ceded sovereignty to the EU in a part of their own country.

The issue has remained a perennial headache. Almost as soon as the U.K. agreed to a Brexit deal with the EU, saying it would put a border within its own country, it began trying to water it down. The Democratic Unionist Party in Northern Ireland refused to take part in a power-sharing agreement with Irish nationalist parties over the issue, causing political paralysis in the province. Conservative Party infighting over relations with Europe, meanwhile, has cost the careers of several previous prime ministers.

A deal finally took shape under Mr. Sunak, who has adopted a much friendlier posture to Europe, and during the war in Ukraine has reminded European leaders that they are stronger with healthy U.K. relations. The refreshed deal, called the Windsor Framework, aims to ease this political gridlock by reducing the EU's influence in Northern Ireland and easing some of the border checks.



Presidential candidate Bola Tinubu, center, celebrated Wednesday after he was called the winner by Nigeria's electoral commission.

Nigerian's Election Win Disputed

By Gabriele Steinhauser And Gbenga Akingbule

ABUJA, Nigeria—Bola Tinubu, a longtime kingmaker in Nigeria's governing All Progressives Congress and twotime governor of Lagos, has been elected president of Africa's most populous nation, the country's electoral commission said early Wednesday, an outcome that was disputed by opposition parties.

Mr. Tinubu won 37% of the vote, ahead of Atiku Abubakar of the main opposition People's Democratic Party, who received 29%, according to the commission tally. Peter Obi of the Labour Party, whose candidacy was propelled by young, social-media-savvy Nigerians frustrated with an underperforming economy and rising insecurity, got 25%, with the balance going to candidates from smaller parties.

On Tuesday, before final results had been announced, representatives of the PDP and the Labour Party said the vote count had been rigged and called for a rerun of Saturday's vote. The dispute by opposition parties adds to the challenges Mr. Tinubu will face as president of a country that, by the middle of this century, is expected to surpass the U.S. as the third most-pop-

Another candidate called the process 'irretrievably compromised.'

ulous in the world behind India and China.

"The election is irretrievably compromised and we have totally lost faith in the entire process," Julius Abure, Labour Party chairman, said at a news conference, flanked by his counterpart from the PDP as well as the running mates of Messrs. Abubakar and Obi. International observers from the U.S. and the European Union have flagged issues with the election, including violence and widespread delays at polling stations, but said their assessments were preliminary.

Nigeria's electoral commission has defended its handling of the election and the tallying of votes. "Contrary to the insinuation by both parties, results emanating from the states point to a free, fair and credible process," the commission said in a statement Tuesday.

Suspicions about the election were fueled by the slow uploading of results from individual polling stations on the commission's website, an issue the commission has blamed on "technical glitches."

There also were reports of raids on polling stations and local vote-collation centers to intimidate voters and steal election materials—including machines used to check voters' identities.

When Mr. Tinubu was announced as the winner of the presidential vote, results from around 30% of polling stations hadn't yet been published on the electoral commission's website. Although the actual tallying of votes wasn't done using the uploaded result sheets, civil-society groups had counted on them being available shortly after polls closed to run parallel tallies. The commission had billed the process as a way to improve the transparency of elections.

The main cause behind the problems was difficult to determine. Nigeria was plagued by severe shortages of fuel and cash in the run-up to the vote and has unreliable mobile internet connectivity.

Watch a Video



Turkish Families Grieve Loved Ones Missing in Quakes

By Sune Engel Rasmussen And Vildan Ay

ANTAKYA, Turkey—For three weeks, Gülhan Aslan kept a vigil, sitting by the ruins of a high-rise building. Her 23-year-old daughter, Zeyna,

"Every day we die," Mevlüt Aslan said.

As Turkey's recovery from the quakes, which devastated a swath of the country as well as part of neighboring Syria, moves forward, families of the missing face the possibility



people and caused significantly more damage.

At least 185,345 buildings, containing nearly 554,000 units, collapsed or were so damaged that they need demolition, Turkish President Recep

earthquake, Ms. Cebeci and 18 families of other missing victims sued the government to exhume 11 unidentified bodies. In the last grave, they found a person whose clothing matched the description of Serkan from nearly five years earlier. Ms. Cebeci carried his bones in a shoe box to Istanbul and confirmed through a DNA test that the remnants were indeed her son. In Antakya, the government finished removing debris from the site of the Ronesans Residence this weekend. Relatives of Zeyna Aslan were sure of her whereabouts when the earthquakes struck. Zeyna's friend, Dilan Akansel, said she left her boyfriend Mehmet in her apartment on the eighth floor with Zeyna, when she left for her shift as a night nurse.

was staying in a friend's apartment inside when two earthquakes hit Turkey in February. She hasn't been seen since.

About 80 people who were believed to be in the collapsed apartment complex, the Ronesans Residence, are still missing, relatives said. Rescue operations at the site have given way to reconstruction, with large excavating machines clearing away the rubble.

Ms. Aslan and her husband, Mevlüt, say they now visit hospitals in what they acknowledge is the very unlikely event that their daughter survived and is being treated.

that they will never know for sure the fate of loved ones who disappeared under the rubble.

More than 50,000 people died from the Feb. 6 earthquakes—about 44,300 in Turkey and at least 5,900 in Syria. The death toll is expected to rise, as bodies remain buried under the tens of thousands of collapsed buildings.

The first quake, with a magnitude of 7.8, toppled the Ronesans building, turning the 249-unit development into a tomb. Search-and-rescue teams with dogs left after about a week, and heavy machinery moved in as authorities piv-

A woman in Hatay holds photos of her missing grandchildren.

WORLD WATCH

oted from the recovery of bodies to cleaning up debris.

Turkey's disaster-management agency, AFAD, didn't respond to requests to comment.

There are no public statistics on how many people have gone missing after the earthquakes. When a quake hit western Turkey in 1999, at least 17,000 people were killed and some 300 were still missing a year later, according to civil-rights groups at the time. February's earthquakes killed nearly three times as many

The recent earthquakes rekindled emotional trauma for some Turks. During the 1999 earthquake, Emine Cebeci's house in Gülcök collapsed, burying her under rubble alongside her adult son Serkan. She was pulled out of the debris after 10 hours but never saw Serkan again.

After being discharged from the hospital eight months later, Ms. Cebeci spent years searching for her son. "It is unconscionable for a mother to believe her child is dead without seeing the body," Ms. Cebeci said.

Nearly five years after the

"I prefer to have her body and a grave," Ms. Aslan said. "Now I don't have anything."

GREECE

Train Collision Kills 26, Injures Scores

A passenger train and an oncoming freight train collided in a fiery wreck in northern Greece early Wednesday, killing 26 people and injuring at least 85, Fire Service officials said.

Multiple cars derailed and at least three burst into flame after the collision near Tempe, 235 miles north of Athens. Hospital officials in nearby Larissa said at least 25 people had serious injuries. "The evacuation process is on-

going and is being carried out under very difficult conditions due to the severity of the collision between the two trains," Fire Service spokesman Vassilis Varthakoyiannis said.

> Hospital units used to treat burn victims had been alerted, he said, and dozens of ambulances were involved.

Rescuers wearing head lamps worked in thick smoke, pulling pieces of mangled metal from the railcars to search for trapped people.

Passengers who received minor injuries or were unharmed were transported by bus to Thessaloniki, 80 miles north.

—Associated Press



Railcars burned early Wednesday after a freight train and passenger train collided near Tempe, Greece.

Economy Slows Amid High Inflation

INDIA

India's economy grew 4.4% in the October-to-December quarter from a year earlier, weighed down by sluggish consumer demand and high inflation.

The gross domestic product figure released Tuesday for the fiscal third quarter shows a slowing of growth compared with the preceding two quarters. The economy climbed 6.3% in the period from July to September and 13.2% in the April-to-June guarter.

Demand surged as the country emerged in early 2022 from two years of intermittent Covid-19 restrictions. The job market also recovered from the lows of the pandemic, but many people had to accept pay cuts or move to lower-paying work, affecting their ability to spend, said Kunal Kundu, an economist at the Société Générale Corporate & Investment Bank.

Retail inflation that had eased toward the end of last year firmed again in January to 6.52%, breaching the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance limit of 6%, according to the National Statistical Office. The central bank in February raised its key lending rate by 0.25 percentage point to 6.5%.

Economists said inflation in India could take two years to ease to the central bank's target of 4%. -Vibhuti Agarwal

ITALY

At Least 65 Migrant Bodies Are Recovered

Rescue teams pulled more bodies from the sea on Tuesday, bringing the death toll from Italy's latest migration tragedy to 65, as prosecutors identified suspected smugglers who allegedly charged 8,000 euros, about \$8,500, for each person making the "voyage of death" from Turkey to Italy. Authorities delayed a planned viewing of the coffins to allow more time for identification of the bodies, as desperate relatives and friends arrived in the Calabrian city of Crotone in hope of finding their loved ones, some of whom hailed from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria and Iraq.

At least 65 people, including 14 minors, died when their overcrowded wooden boat slammed into shoals and broke apart Sunday in rough seas. Eighty people survived, but more are feared dead because survivors indicated the boat carried about 170 people when it set off from Izmir, Turkey.

-Associated Press

UGANDA

Lawmaker Offers New Anti-LGBTQ Bill

A Ugandan lawmaker on Tuesday introduced draft legislation that he said seeks to prohibit homosexuality in the East African country, voicing widespread antigay sentiment that has peaked in recent days.

The legislator, Asuman Basalirwa, said his bill would punish "promotion, recruitment and funding" related to LGBTQ activities. Most lawmakers in the parliamentary chamber in Uganda's capital city Kampala stood up to show support for the bill.

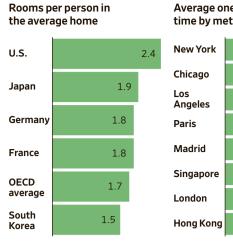
"You are either with us or you're with the Western world," Speaker Anita Among said, announcing that legislators would show support by raising their hands when the bill eventually is put to a vote.

Harsh antigay legislation enacted in 2014 later was annulled by a panel of judges amid international condemnation. That bill in its original draft called for the death penalty for some gay acts. The new bill will be assessed by a parliamentary committee before it is debated. Details of the bill weren't available.

—Associated Press

A10 | Wednesday, March 1, 2023

FROM PAGE ONE



Average one-way commute time by metro area



Sources: OECD Better Life Index (rooms per person); Moovit (commute time)

Europe, Asia Offices Rebound

Continued from Page One

report by the New School Center for New York City Affairs. Many of those who lost their jobs worked in Manhattan in face-to-face industries such as retail, accommodation and food services.

While Manhattan has been particularly hard hit because of its dependence on office commuters, other U.S. central business districts are also struggling. Falling office values are threatening to hit city budgets that depend on property taxes. Lower transit ridership is weighing on the finances of public-transportation authorities. Adding more apartments can help revitalize central business districts, but that will take time.

Several overseas capitals experienced periods where more than 75% of their workers were back at their desks in 2021 and 2022, JLL said. That includes Tokyo, Seoul and Singapore in Asia. Paris regularly topped the list of workers back in the office in Europe. Stockholm wasn't far behind with several months at a more-than-75% return-to-office rate.

No major U.S. city tracked by JLL achieved that high a return rate during the period.

"The U.S. has borne the brunt of this," said Phil Ryan, director of city futures at JLL.

Living arrangements are one reason for the difference in work habits. U.S. workers are more likely to live in spacious suburban houses. That makes it easier to set up a home office away from distractions. Hong Kong's small apartments, for example, often house multiple generations,



Commuters at the Bank station in London. WeWork said 81% of its desks in the city were leased as of the fourth quarter of 2022.

making working from home less appealing.

Suburban sprawl means many people in the U.S. have longer, more tedious commutes plagued by worsening traffic jams—another reason to stay home. While a number of European cities also have long average commutes, New York and Chicago are unmatched, according to mobility-services company Moovit Inc. Publictransit systems in Europe and Asia are often more reliable and less prone to delays, making it easier to get to work.

"We have high-density cities with effective public-trans-

port systems," said Caroline Pontifex, London-based director of workplace experience at consulting firm KKS Savills. "That makes a difference."

Another explanation for the U.S.'s office exceptionalism is its labor market. At 3.4%, the U.S. unemployment rate is barely more than half the European Union's unemployment rate of 6.1%. While Europe is also facing labor shortages, U.S. companies have been particularly hard hit, said JLL's Mr. Ryan.

That has forced them to look farther afield for employees and hire remotely. Tech firms, which account for a particularly high share of employment in some big U.S. cities, have long been more tolerant of remote work.

Co-working companies are also reporting lower occupancy in some U.S. cities. We-Work Inc. said 72% of its desks in New York were leased as of the fourth quarter of 2022, compared with 80% in Paris, 81% in London and 82% in Singapore.

Workplace consultants said they expect the office-use gap between the U.S. and the rest of the world to persist. It doesn't help that U.S. offices were emptier long before the pandemic. A construction glut led to high vacancy rates, and even within leased offices companies tended to put fewer people on each floor than their European and Asian peers.

All that empty space is now creating a negative reinforcing cycle, said Phil Kirschner, an associate partner at business consulting company McKinsey & Co.

U.S. workers sitting in big, mostly empty offices find the experience depressing, making them more likely to stay at home in the first place. "It feels less energetic," he said.

Salesforce Lays Off Thousands

Continued from Page One paramount."

The \$160 billion company, a leading tech-era star that makes workhorse business software, has joined the industry's retrenchment. One of the first things to take a hit is the company's vaunted business culture. Mr. Benioff, who lives part-time at a large compound in Hawaii, has for years used the Hawaiian word "ohana," or familial bonds, to describe the company's close relationship with employees and customers.

After an executive retreat

marketing and sales data, reports fiscal fourth-quarter earnings.

At least five activist investors have taken positions in the company, including Elliott Management Corp. and Starboard Value LP. They are pressuring Mr. Benioff to change the way he runs things. In a presentation last year, Starboard said Salesforce wasn't doing enough to increase profits.

Like other tech companies facing their first downturn in more than a decade, Mr. Benioff and his lieutenants have now turned their focus to performance, efficiency and costcutting.

Silicon Valley companies for years sold workers on the idea that they operate as communities with shared values and where people come first. Highflying firms could easily afford such amenities as on-site dry



tress Emilia Clarke and wellness guru Deepak Chopra. In 2016, the band U2 performed.

Mr. Benioff helped bring Mr. Benioff helped bring Mr. McConaughey, a friend, to Salesforce, according to people familiar with the arrangement. His compensation, a combination of cash and equity, required approval by the Salesforce compensation committee, said one of the people familiar with the arrangement. Mr. Benioff said he played no part in the deal.

Salesforce paid \$5 million to run a Super Bowl ad last year that featured Mr. McConaughey in an astronaut suit aboard a hot-air balloon. Such marketing expenses constitute small change compared with the payroll of more than 70,000 employees, Mr. Benioff said.

For years, Mr. Benioff made quarterly sales growth, and the investment it would take Mr. Benioff said he didn't apply that standard companywide but acknowledged pushing hiring over efficiency. Salesforce for years relied on a flood-the-zone sales style.

In the past, the company didn't closely track how many deals each salesperson made, former employees say. More recently, managers have been diving into spreadsheets, analyzing metrics and scrutinizing the number of deals salespeople closed during the quarter.

"This is the way we should be running our business all the time, which is you're constantly looking at underperforming people," Salesforce Chief Operating Officer Brian Millham said at an analyst conference in December. "Treat them with grace and dignity, but you have to move them out if they're not per-

forming."

in February, he proposed in a draft of a year-ahead strategy plan that the company rank employees based on metrics, including how much money salespeople bring in. Those in the bottom 5% would be routinely dismissed, according to a draft of the policy posted on the company's Slack channel and described to The Wall Street Journal.

Employees, especially those from Microsoft Corp., where such ranking is common, found the change "triggering," Mr. Benioff said. In a matter of days, he dumped the ranking and dismissal proposals. His workers, he said, "made a very passionate case that that is not a culture that they want to bring to Salesforce."

Salesforce executives in the proposed strategy plan said "wellness culture overpowered high performance culture during the pandemic" to explain the company's recent headwinds. After employees complained on Slack—"Most disturbing and tone deaf is this sad excuse," one post said the line was changed.

Some of the specialty-coffee baristas at the company's San Francisco tower, the city's tallest, were shown the door. Salesforce also cut ties with a 75-acre wellness retreat, known as the Trailblazer Ranch, where employees enjoyed a mix of training and getaway activities such as hiking and yoga.

Early in the pandemic, Salesforce offered salespeople a "well-being day," essentially an extra day off a month. That ended in January.

Salesforce's stock peaked at \$311.75 on Nov. 9, 2021, and is now down 47%. The Nasdaq is down 28% over the same period. Analysts expect its revenue growth in the coming fiscal year to be less than half the annual growth rate the company has experienced on average over the past five years. On Wednesday, Salesforce, which sells software to help businesses manage their cleaners, workout classes and free food.

Management is now cracking down. Sundar Pichai, CEO of Google parent Alphabet Inc., is aiming to get a 20% productivity boost out of his employees. Mark Zuckerberg, CEO of Facebook parent Meta Platforms Inc., called 2023 the "year of efficiency." The tech industry last year was estimated to have laid off more than 150,000 employees, according to Layoffs.fyi, a website tracking news reports and company announcements.

"Layoffs are always hard," Mr. Benioff said, but the Salesforce culture of family bonds only goes as far as business allows. "You can continue to keep a company going with excess employees, but it's not healthy for the company," he said. "If you don't have a performance culture, and you don't operate the company with that kind of efficacy, you're not doing anybody any favors."

Sales forces

The company's success to this point has secured Mr. Benioff a place on the global stage. At 6 feet 5 inches tall, he is easy to spot hobnobbing at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. In 2018, Mr. Benioff and his wife, Lynne, bought Time Magazine for \$190 million.

Mr. Benioff in an interview offered suggestions of people to contact who could speak about him. The list included renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma. who serves with Mr. Benioff on the board of the World Economic Forum, California Gov. Gavin Newsom and Larry Ellison, chairman of Oracle Corp., a rival business-software giant where Mr. Benioff worked for 13 years, as well as the chief executives of Ford Motor Co., Amazon.com Inc. and Walmart Inc.

Mr. Ma said he didn't know Mr. Benioff well but compliSalesforce CEO Marc Benioff speaking last year in San Francisco; actor Matthew McConaughey, seated right, in black T-shirt.

mented him for living his values. Gov. Newsom said Mr. Benioff was the godfather of his first daughter and described him as a mentor and coach. Others on the list praised his business acumen.

Mr. Benioff, 58 years old, grew up in the Bay Area, where his father owned a chain of dress shops and served as an inspiration, according to Mr. Benioff's ofttold origin story, which he included in his book about Salesforce called "Trailblazer." His father worked long hours to meet with suppliers and tend to finances.

Mr. Benioff graduated with a degree in business administration from the University of Southern California and worked for Oracle before finding his fortune—estimated at \$7 billion—in cloud-based business software. Mr. Be-

nioff's winning idea was to Wall billing help business owners manage

customer data. Salesforce's subscriptionbased offerings freed businesses from the expense of buying their own servers, licensing software and hiring IT workers to keep operations running smoothly.

operations and sell more prod-

ucts by tracking and analyzing

The company's behind-thescenes product line stands in contrast to its flashy marketing history. Before the pandemic, Salesforce's annual conference, Dreamforce, drew more than 170,000 people to San Francisco. For three days, at a price tag of around \$50 million, Salesforce customers and employees swarmed the city. They got to see former President Barack Obama, soccer star Megan Rapinoe, ac-

I≥ to get there, a priority over profitability and efficiency.

In the two most recent quarters, Salesforce missed Wall Street's expectations for billings-a measure of business transacted during the period-by roughly 8% and 5%, respectively. That slowing growth left investors to focus on other measures of profitability. Salesforce's adjusted operating margins—which takes out such expenses as stock compensation—was 18.9% over the past four quarters, lower than competitors ServiceNow Inc., at 25.7%, and Adobe Inc., 45.1%, over the same period.

Mr. Benioff had long set a directive for underlings that he was interested only in plans that called for increasing most sales teams by more than 20% a year, according to people familiar with the arrangement. He believed any slowdown in sales hiring would hurt revenue growth, these people said.



Airing complaints

Flexible-working arrangements that originated during the pandemic are on the way out. In 2021, Salesforce said more than 65% of its workforce would have to be at the office once a week or three days at the most.

The proposed strategy plan also alerted employees who deal directly with customers that they may need to show up at least four days a week.

The changes and belt-tightening have frayed employee relations. A company Slack channel called "airing of grievances" has more than 22,000 members and a string of complaints about attendance proposals and perquisite cuts.

"The idea that the wellness initiatives that were started during the pandemic (which is, contrary to what some people are saying, still going) are somehow no longer needed is utterly absurd," said one comment viewed by the Journal.

One employee asked Chat-GPT, the viral chatbot made by OpenAI, to speculate about the effect Elliott Management would have on Salesforce culture.

"If Elliott Management pressures Salesforce to cut costs and focus solely on short-term financial gains, it could mean layoffs, reduced benefits, and a shift away from the Ohana culture," said the computer-generated response.

"Maybe ask GPT a different question," Mr. Benioff said on the Slack channel.

Then he offered one of his own: "What can salesforce's employees, its Ohana, do to amplify its amazing culture regardless of any outside adversity."

Nora Chao, right, and Maria Garzon, left, taking a photo with two Salesforce mascots in September.



PERSONAL JOURNAL.

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 | A11

Doctors Tap Al to Augment Diagnostics

Artificial intelligence can help spot conditions that are brewing, accelerating treatment



rtificial intelligence is slowly changing the care that you get at the doctor's office and in hospitals. At Mayo Clinic's car-

diology department, doctors use an artificial-intelligence program to help detect new heart problems. Elsewhere, a group of primary-care doctors is using it to help identify an eye condition that can lead to blindness. A number of hospitals are using it to catch patients at risk for sepsis.

Doctors aren't relying on the technology alone to diagnose patients, and their use of generative AI such as ChatGPT is largely limited to paperwork. Some doctors, however, are using AI to aid them in reaching a diagnosis, often earlier than they otherwise would.

Physicians say AI holds promise, but they are also wary of yielding to machines, both because the technology is still emerging and also because research has shown that biases in AI can harm the care some people receive. Some earlier big bets that artificial intelligence would transform healthcare proved disappointing, or at least premature, including IBM's Watson Health effort.

"I don't think we are at a place where we can just let algorithms run and make the decisions," said Michael Pencina, director of Duke AI Health, an initiative at Duke University School of Medicine that works on AI and machine-learning presearch.

One challenge lies in how the technology is developed, said John Halamka, president of Mayo Clinic Platform, which works with health technology companies to develop AI tools. The algorithms use information, often from electronic health records, such as demographic and health history, vital some modifications.

A high-profile 2019 study in the journal Science found racial bias in an algorithm that led Black patients to be deprived of extra care they should have been qualified for. To address these issues, a group of tech and healthcare professionals last year started working to develop guidelines for fair, unbiased use of AI in healthcare.

Here are three examples of where AI is used to help diagnose patients.

Red flags for the heart

At Mayo cardiology, an AI tool has helped doctors diagnose new cases of heart failure and cases of irregular heart rhythms, or atrial fibrillation, potentially years before they might otherwise have been detected, said Dr. Paul Friedman, chair of the clinic's cardiology department in Rochester, Minn.

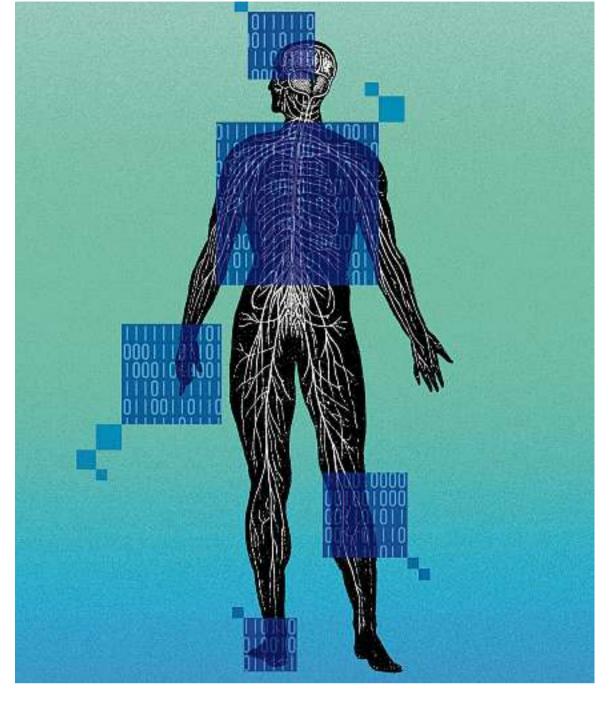
Doctors can't tell on their own whether someone with a normal electrocardiogram, or ECG, might have atrial fibrillation outside of the test. The AI, however, can detect red-flag patterns in the ECGs that are too subtle for humans to identify.

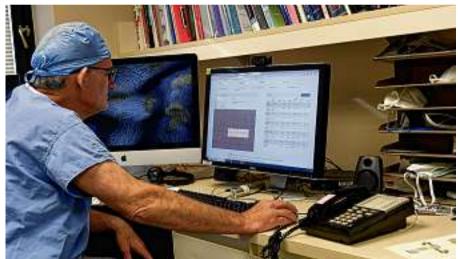
In a 2022 study in the journal

Lancet, Mayo researchers ran algorithms on more than 600,000 patients' ECGs to see whether they might be at risk of silent atrial fibrillation. The AI program identified 1,000 people, who were then asked to wear a heart monitor for a month. **Researchers** found those patients had a fivefold-increased risk of being diagnosed with atrial fibrillation after a month of heart monitoring, compared with patients in a control group.

Eye problems

Cano Health, a group of primarycare physicians in eight states and Puerto Rico, did a pilot last year using AI to analyze images from a special eye camera to identify diabetic retinopathy, a leading cause of blindness that can afflict people with diabetes. The test in four Chicago-area offices went well enough that the group now is looking to expand its use, said Robert Emmet Kenney, senior medical director at Cano Health.





When the AI says that patients

the care that they need," said Dr.

Dr. Paul Friedman uses AI to look at electrocardiogram information.

moving response to an infection which is a main cause of death in hospitals.

The algorithm examines more than 250 factors, including vital signs, demographic data, health history and labs, said Suchi Saria, a professor of AI at Johns Hopkins and chief executive of the health AI company Bayesian Health, which developed the program.

The system alerts doctors if it determines a patient is septic or deteriorating. Doctors then evaluate the patient and start antibiotic treatment if they agree with the assessment. The system adjusts over time based on the doctors' feedback, said Esti Schabel-

g signs and labs to determine whether a patient might have a certain health issue.

The technology improves the more that it is used, as doctors report whether the algorithm's assessment was accurate or not. But an algorithm developed based on data from patients in Minnesota, for example, might not be applicable to patients with different demographics—at least not without are positive for diabetic retinopathy, they must still visit an ophthalmologist to confirm the diagnosis and get a treatment plan, Dr. Kenney said. But the program helps primary-care doctors identify patients with diabetic retinopathy right in their office without having to go to a specialist first.

"For this patient population there is a lot of times they fall through the cracks and don't get Kenney of the group's largely Spanish-speaking, elderly population, estimating that more than a third have diabetes and are supposed to get their eyes checked by a specialist once a year.

Catching sepsis risk

Sinai Hospital in Baltimore is one hospital that uses an algorithm to identify hospitalized patients who are most at-risk for sepsis, a fastman, the hospital's chief medical officer.

Studies published in the journal Nature Medicine last year indicated that using the algorithm in hospitals could result in patients getting sepsis treatment nearly two hours earlier on average, reducing the condition's hospital mortality rate by 18%.

"Every hour is a big deal in sepsis," Dr. Schabelman says.

MY RIDE | A.J. BAIME

Red Cadillac Turns Heads As It Parades About Town

eslie Zemeckis, an actor, documentarian and author living in Montecito, Calif., on her 1954 Cadillac Eldorado convertible, as told to A.J. Baime.

I HAVE ALWAYS been into vintage stuff. I like past eras. Years ago, I wrote a book and made a documentary about the history of burlesque, and I acquired a large collection of clothes from past burlesque stars. A friend of mine had an old Cadillac, and when I saw that car. I thought: "I get it." It had that same vibe. This friend was the one who found my 1954 Cadillac at a dealership in Canada. It was a reputable dealer. I thought: This car is for me.

The day the Eldorado arrived on a big truck in 2017, I thought, "Oh, my God!" It was huge. And it was in such pristine condition. The paint just sparkled. The car immediately reminded me of a famous burlesque star that I had interviewed years earlier named Tempest Storm. She had red hair, and my car's paint was

Leslie Zemeckis at the wheel of her 1954 Cadillac Eldorado.

red. Tempest was brassy and bold, a real head-turner. And so was this car. I decided to name the car after her. I had a license plate made— TEMPSST. It's not the exact spelling, but it was the closest I could get.

Ever since, I have been driving this car about once a week. I live in a small town, and this is a cruisearound-town car. I drive really slowly, like a little old lady. It is not like driving a normal car. It is more like driving a boat. It floats down the street, and when I park it, it takes up two full spots.

I used to take my kids to school and pick them up in Tempest. [Ms. Zemeckis is the wife of filmmaker Robert Zemeckis.] I have driven it in

> the local Christmas parade and in the Fourth of July parade. I am in a local antique car club. For my next book, about the Montecito debris flow of 2018 (where 23 people died), I have interviewed a lot of firefighters in the town where I live. The car is almost the same red color as the fire engines. So I take Tempest to the station, and the firefighters appreciate the car.

What I enjoy most about it is the way it

The car's license plate does its best to honor the burlesque dancer Tempest Storm.



takes me back into the past. You can envision while you're driving what the town looked like in 1954, and what the traffic looked like. I always dress up when I drive Tempest—vintage gloves and a hat and a scarf. More than anything, Tempest is a make-people-happy car. People see it and they smile and flock to it. Every time I drive it, it feels like it makes the world a little bit brighter.





PERSONAL JOURNAL.

Exuberance, With a Lid



At Milan Fashion Week designers offer up investment-grade artistry

t the fall/ winter collections in Milan, where much of the world's luxury fashion is marketed, money was on everyone's minds. Will the luxury industry contract along with the economy—or will it manage to churn out clothing that is recession-proof? And why is this tagliatelle or that handbag so darn expensive?

But in other ways, fashion is an island. With prices at luxury brands rising in recent yearssome, like Chanel, eyepoppingly so-the resilience in demand makes fashion feel a world apart from economic anxieties. "We haven't encountered any resis-

tance yet" said one luxury executive that I spoke with about raising prices. At shows, people still peacocked for mobs of photographers in alarmingly revealing ensembles; Kim Kardashian showed up to Dolce & Gabbana wearing a reworked scarlet crystal bra top. And Prada literally raised its roof to reveal hordes of fragrant lilies on the orange columns above its runway.

So, two moods are at play: austerity and exuberance—sometimes within the same brand.

At Gucci, which is between designers, the orphaned team put on a slap-happy show of Gucci references past and present-a Pinterest board put through a blender: flashy Y2K bags, visible thongs and fluffy faux-fur coats, but also slouchy suiting. Gucci's incoming creative director, Sabato De Sarno, who is Valentino's former fashion director, has his work cut out for him when he arrives in May to succeed Alessandro Michele, with his first show

happening in September. With Kering's €10 billion baby on his back, what's the best way forward during ☆ challenging times?

These four brands may offer $\overline{\underline{\partial}}$ some clues:



PRADA: Poetry for keeps

Now three years into their co-creative direction of Prada, Miuccia Prada and Raf Simons have hit their stride with what many are saying is their best collection together yet. The brand's slightly off-kilter heroines—Dua Lipa, Hunter Schafer and Thuso Mbedu, to name a few—crowded onto benches to watch a show full of sensory delights, from the scent of lilies in the air to the stiff floral appliqués on bridal-inspired white skirts. Still, nothing looked too precious: The skirts were casualized with wool crew-neck sweaters.

The brand proposition this season is pieces that have the longevity of classics, but also that you have never seen before. That can mean: long and short duffle coats, in workaday navy with practical toggles, that are transformed by sculpted couture-ish domed backs. Or classic black leather pumps (like the ones worn by Mrs. Prada to take her bow) with an unexpected triangular shape on the toe box. Wool blazers come with button-off pointed and knitted collars. Although Prada's prices now

rival Chanel's as some of the more vertiginous in the luxury industry, its two legendary designers are making poetic clothing worthy of wearing and saving.

FERRAGAMO: Fresh energy

For his second collection for the stalwart Florence- and Milan-based brand Ferragamo, 27-year-old British designer Maximilian Davis showed a confident, clean men's and women's collection that proved his mettle. The tailoring, one of the young designer's specialties, was particularly strong, with looks like a men's houndstooth coat and matching pants, and a sharp red suit for women. The colors—navies, scarlet, cream and plenty of blackwill appeal to more customers than the offbeat 1980s shades offered at Burberry or Coach. Betting on tailoring is smart, as everyone needs a good suit and coat, and these are pieces that can be worn at least once a week.

The bags, too, were ultraclean and minimalist, in simple flat shapes and mostly in glossy leather. But some of the high women's sandals and pumps with sculpted heels felt fussy and unwearable. There's

The Prada show sported pieces promising the longevity of classics.

still a huge opportunity for the brand to create desirable everyday shoes—especially as the creator of the classic bow flat. As the brand's CEO Marco Gobbetti said a few months back, "This brand is built on leather goods and shoes. So clearly those will be somehow the economic engine and the volume engine of the company."

BALLY: Enjoy the good life

Rhuigi Villaseñor, the energetic Los Angeles designer behind multimillion-dollar brand Rhude who was tapped last year to reinvigorate the snoozy Swiss house Bally, isn't afraid of a little strategically placed drama.

His fall men's and women's show was delayed for over half an hour as the press team whispered anxiously into their headsets: "How many minutes?" (Everyone's guess? That Rihanna was en route. The actual tardy guests? Adrien Brody and designer Georgina Chapman in a silk revenge dresspotent timing as news circulated

she says.

of her ex-husband Harvey Weinstein's sentencing.)

A tabloid-inflected opening fits for a brand pitching a new kind of glamour, one that both buys into and winks at tropes of sexiness and opulence.

In an interview, Mr. Villaseñor said the collection was a "wild ride" which was ultimately about "the rich history and heritage of Bally, which I experimented with and put my own spin on." With their thigh-high boots and miniskirts and fluffy colored faux furs, his women are characters from a 1970s Martin Scorsese film who've just hit it big in Vegas or Monte Carlo.

Even during an uncertain economy, some folks are winning and want the clothes to show it. Like the man in the front row wearing a baseball cap—from Bally-that read "St. Moritz."

BOTTEGA VENETA: Craftsmanship and chaos

A Bottega Veneta runway show, under creative director Matthieu Blazy for three seasons now, has the same aesthetic allure as a trip to a Frieze art fair. It's all unexpected colors and fabrications, a cast of characters that ranges in age and style, and accessories that make you want to look closer and give compliments. Think: a mintgreen gown patterned with rubber wavy swirls, a voluminous coat that looks like a mix of stracciatella gelato and a Dalmatian.

Mr. Blazy's signature is trompe l'oeil clothing that appears to be one thing—jeans, or a pinstriped oxford shirt-but is actually fabricated in fine leather. It's a gimmick, but also a feat that will make connoisseurs want to shell out \$5,000 for nubuck pants. Less gimmicky are the intrecciato bags, many of them hand-woven with a funkiness that feels new for a brand once beloved by tidy bourgeois dames. Since November 2022, Bottega bags also boast a "certificate of craft," meaning buyers are entitled to lifetime warranty and unlimited repairs. Take that, fickle fashionistas.

> felt like we were our investigative team," he says. Because Mr. Manessis

line retailer, recalls how he

at executives' calendars to

try to figure out what was

and co-workers used to peek

going on. "All of us were into

murder-mystery podcasts. It

ROLEX



OYSTER PERPETUAL DATEJUST 31



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ROLEX # OYSTER PERPETUAL AND DATEJUST ARE ® TRADEMARKS

Continued from Page One who were in the dark find out.

We All Can

Your Work Calendar

In Minneapolis, Savannah Tracy, an administrative worker at a nonprofit, recently created an event on her Google calendar at work to remind herself about a coming medical appointment. She adjusted the permissions on her calendar to make the details private—or so she thought.

Then, on a Zoom call with her boss, he inquired if it was her first time having a colon-OSCODV

Ms. Tracy went red. "I was like, oh my God," she says. She told him that yes, it was, and apologized, saying she hadn't realized the event details were visible to others.

Users can change their calendars' settings to make their event details private, though Google advises that such details may remain visible to whoever administers a user's calendar. Given how blended people's work and personal lives have become. it's unsurprising that some workers are putting personal notations on work calendars, says Wangui McKelvey, a Microsoft Corp. general manager. The company said it recommends that organizations inform employees about corporate policies regarding their calendars and wavs to configure them.

At some companies, all event details are private. At others, they're public, and at many organizations, employees can pick and choose how they want to manage the visibility of event details.

In Los Angeles, Elena Weinberg, who works as a content producer for a retail brand, says she keeps her calendar details public, while her husband, who works for the same employer, keeps his private. She says she doesn't mind co-workers seeing what she's up to, whether it's a work meeting or drinks with

pecially with more people working remotely, the ability to easily glance at colleagues' calendars and see what meetings they are participating in helps replicate the buzzy feeling of being in an office.

a friend. "If I'm going to

snoop on other people's cal-

endars, I can't be a hypocrite,"

Marc McCole, chief prod-

uct officer at a video-stream-

public calendars makes for a better workplace culture. Es-

ing platform, says having

As more people work from home, he mourns what he sees as a trend toward more colleagues keeping their calendar details private. "Now, when booking time with people, it's just this wall of 'busy,' " he says, referring to how calendar events look when details aren't shared. Mr. McCole doesn't hesiuses his calendar as a running tally of work-related tasks, it often is packed.

He says he tells colleagues trying to book time with him to ignore the "busy" notations that blanket his calendar, the details of which are private, per company policy.

"I'll be, like, three of those are fake, you can schedule over whatever," says Mr. Manessis. "My 2-4 p.m. is not a real meeting."

In Austin, Amina Choudhury, a program manager working in cybersecurity and data privacy, says she makes a point of keeping her calen-



Some employees are embarrassed to learn their personal entries, such as "nap," are fully visible to their co-workers

tate to put personal items on his work calendar, including calendar blocks to watch the World Cup. He says he enjoys seeing colleagues add the same to theirs, describing them as "little breadcrumbs that give you a sense of who people are and what matters to them."

Even when calendar events are of a more mundane work nature, their descriptions—and participants. when visible—can prove revealing. At a previous employer, Nicholas Manessis, an associate director at an ondar details completely transparent. As someone who manages a team of around 20 people, she says communication is essential, and that she wants her colleagues to know what she is up to.

She also wants to remind them of the importance of self-care. For that reason, she doesn't shy away from adding things to her calendar that others might be embarrassed to share. "My naptime is important. My lunch is important," she says. "I really do want to make a point to remind them I'm also human."

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

ARTS IN REVIEW



MUSIC REVIEW | MARK RICHARDSON

Lofty Sounds, Grounded Lyrics

Swedish musician Karin Dreijer returns with a third album as Fever Ray

etween 2001 and 2006, Swedish siblings Karin and Olof Dreijer released three increasingly ambitious and successful experimental electronic records as the Knife. These albums, culminating with 2006's landmark "Silent Shout," were filled with an unlikely collision of spooky atmosphere, surreal visuals, dancefloor rhythms, heav ily processed vocals, and heady lyrics that touched on politics and postmodern theory. The project excelled at making dance music with enough textural variety and emotional shading that it worked as well in the living room as it did in the club. At first glance, it didn't necessarily look like a recipe for international success, but the Knife became critical favorites who also proved exceedingly influential. Later artists like Grimes. Iamamiwhoami and Crystal Castles-and an entire indie subgenre,



the gloomy and goth-inflected brand of synthpop known as witch house—owed a great deal to the Knife's innovations.

Though the Knife would re-

ver Ray strays further from dance music and burrows deeper into brooding pop that ranges from shadowy and subtle to jarring and visceral. A second LP, "Plunge," followed in 2017, and it was harsher but almost as good. In 2019 Fever Ray collaborated on a brief remix EP with Björk, who was a clear influence on Karin's work. On March 10, Fever Ray returns with its third studio album, "Radical Romantics" (Mute/Rabid), which expands the project's emotional range while staying true to its dark sonic vision.

While the music seems to come from deep in a hallucinatory world where every element has been twisted and transformed, the lyrics are sometimes about earthbound concerns-a domestic moment in a kitchen, the life of a working mother, the complicated relationship between love and desire. The opening cut, "What They Call Us," begins with an admission of vulnerability that's startling for those who remember Fever Ray's most freakish moments: "First, I'd like to say that I'm sorry," Karin sings in a low register with a guttural rasp, as if all future happiness depends on getting this apology right. A thwack of bass drum and shifting drones build tension that is never quite released and carries over to the rest of the album.

Visually, as seen on record covers and onstage, Karin's work with both the Knife and Fever Ray focuses on the instability of the body, where a face might transform into an abstract shape that is both grotesque and beautiful. The singer identifies as nonbinary, and uses they/them protones and frequencies and seem to exist outside of gender-when chest-heavy and delivered low, they can sound as if they're rumbling up from a crack in the earth; elsewhere they come across as disarmingly childlike or sharply accusatory.

The second track on "Radical Romantics," "Shiver"—like its pre-decessor co-produced and cowritten by Olof—posits physical longing as a primal compulsion, expressing a barely controlled sensation of lust in a clattering electronic production that seems constantly on the verge of breaking apart. Karin's fierce vocals on the primary melody are framed by echoing pitch-shifted trills that sound like seagulls echoing off into the distance. It's a brilliantly seductive piece of music that ranks among Fever Ray's best.

Hallucinatory, synthheavy music meets writing that contains surprising vulnerability.

Two tracks are co-produced by Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross of industrial-rock band Nine Inch Nails, and they reflect the obvious connections between the artists. "Even It Out" has squelchy synths and the gentle sway of a newwave ballad by Gary Numan while Karin sings with a pronounced sneer. The contemptuous phrasing suits the lyrical content, which is, strangely enough, a warning to a child who tormented the singer's son. "This is for Zacharias / Who bullied my kid in high school / There's no room for you / And we know where you live." She follows this line with the chanted refrain "and then we cut, cut, cut," and it's so convincing one senses Zacharias may soon come to regret his days inflicting misery in the schoolyard. Yes, it's an odd subject for a pop song by a 47year-old, but the result is thrilling. "North," the other collaboration with Messrs. Reznor and Ross, is almost as strong as it finds Karin purring carnal fragments—"Sex / Forward / Like a way to thrive"—over a gently pulsing synth line.

"Radical Romantics" is an intense record filled with jagged sounds and big feelings, and by the time we get to the closing track, "Bottom of the Ocean," one might feel a little worn out. Fortunately, the dreamy closer, built from Karin's wordless vocalizations and electronic drones, provides a soft landing. Though the new album hews closely to the sonic template established on earlier records, Karin Dreijer's songwriting is more varied and expansive than ever, and Fever Ray has lost none of its hypnotic power.

lease two albums in the 2010s before disbanding in 2014, the most stirring music from a Dreijer after "Silent Shout" came from Karin's solo offering Fever Ray, which released its self-titled debut in 2009. Compared to the Knife, Fe-

nouns, and the music, too, is steeped in fluidity. Johannes Berglund is credited as "vocal producer," underscoring just how important the timbre of Karin's voice is to the sound of Fever Ray. The vocals convey a wide range of

Mr. Richardson is the Journal's rock and pop music critic. Follow him on Twitter @MarkRichardson.

TELEVISION REVIEW | JOHN ANDERSON Counterintelligence **Couple Comes Back**

he old James Cameron/Arnold Schwarzenegger collaboration "True Lies" has needed a reboot since, oh, about the time it was released. Its premise was close to preposterous: A long-married woman wouldn't know her husband was a globe-trotting, veteran counterterrorism agent? It made a very likable wife look like an idiot. And one needn't have been a radical feminist to think that the abduction, abuse and jealous-minded interrogation of said wife (Jamie Lee Curtis) by said husband (Mr. Schwarzenegger) was both appallingly dumb and politically tone-deaf, even way back in the stone age of 1994

While it may have a few problems with what's actually possible, the new "True Lies" series, which stars Steve Howey and Ginger Gonzaga, is one of the more refreshing revivifications of a familiar title in recent times and picks up more or less in the last act of

having been inspired by the French actioncomedy "La Totale!"). Linguistics professor. yoga enthusiast and mother of two Helen Tasker (Ms. Gonzaga) has been married to Harry Tasker (Mr. Howey) for 17 years. Yet she has no idea that all his business

the Cameron

movie (itself

travel for that job in "computer sales" really involves him and his cohort saving the world. This doesn't earn her a lot of



our respect, but the show wisely dispenses with the whole façade in the first episode: Helen becomes an agent, too. Now they just have to keep it from the kids

Harry and Helen aren't exactly Nick and Nora. As members of the "Omega Sector" of U.S. counterintelligence, they worry about their percolating kitchen sink back home in Maryland while trying to intercept a rogue nuclear device in Salzburg, Austria, or bringing down the Terrorist International Liberation

Front (kind of a funny title) in Madrid. Keeping an eye on the kids is their cat-lady neighbor and Omega colleague, Mrs. Myers (Deneen Tyler, whom one hopes to see more of). But it seems only a matter of time before the offspring get involved, too. There's much more of a "Spy Kids" vibe to this "True Lies" than anything traditionally Schwarzeneggerian.

Mr. Howey is rather colorless, but his lack of palette serves his co-star well: Ms. Gonzaga ("She-

Steve Howey and Ginger Gonzaga in 'True Lies'

Hulk: Attorney at Law") is the spark that lights up "True Lies," which is a pretty funny show when not trying to dazzle us with car chases, gunfights and displays of computer graphics that are probably gibberish. Her comic timing is as precise as Helen's martial-arts prowess is impressive. (She claims to have learned it all through workout videos.)

The rest of Harry's crew on the show, only three episodes of which were made available for review. include Maria and Luther (Erica Hernandez and Mike O'Gorman), and Gib (Omar Miller), who is their facilitator, navigator and mother hen. No one asks Helen how she remained so

clueless for so long, but she is relieved after she finds out about Harry's not-so-side hustle. "Finally," she says, "everything makes sense." She needn't go guite that far, but "True Lies" is certainly a lot more fun than one would expect from a reanimated '90s thrilluh.

True Lies

Begins Wednesday, 10 p.m., CBS

Mr. Anderson is the Journal's TV critic.

SPORTS

BY ROBERT O'CONNELL

wo months into his NBA career, San Antonio Spurs rookie Jeremy Sochan had a problem. Over his first 23 games, he'd shot 24 free throws and made just 11. Only four players in the league with at least 20 attempts had a worse percentage.

Then Sochan found a fix—in the form of one of the stranger tactics to grace a professional basketball floor recently.

The change came in a mid-December game between the Spurs and the Houston Rockets, when Sochan stepped to the line at the end of the first quarter. Instead of using his normal stroke, with his left hand supporting the ball as he launched it with his right, Sochan hoisted it up from his waist with his right hand alone. He then held it at shoulder height, in waiterwith-platter posture, and spun it up toward the rim.

There were no immediate dividends—Sochan missed that first free throw and went 1-for-4 overall from the foul line against the Rockets—but the debut was a blip in what has since proven to be an astonishing statistical turnaround. Over 26 games since the switch, Sochan has improved his freethrow percentage by more than 30 points, to 77.5%. The technique gets him sideways looks. It may also save his career.

The idea came from Gregg Popovich, the Spurs' five-time champion head coach, and assistant Brett Brown, who approached ្អ Sochan during the pregame shootaround and suggested he try the new routine right away. "They were smiling when they said it, so I was like, 'Are you serious?' Sochan said. When they insisted that they were, the rookie quickly got over his hesitation. "I'm already shooting 40-something percent, so I don't think it can get any $\stackrel{\scriptstyle{\scriptstyle{\frown}}}{=}$ worse than that," he said, and g flashed his own gaptoothed grin. 'So why not?"

Sochan's reworked free-throw stroke mimics a practice-floor regs imen Brown assigned him at the start of the season, intended to break a shot down into component parts. Taking the left hand away forced Sochan to center his right arm under the ball, and once he ່ອ did. Brown noticed that every other element—balance, left-right precision, arc—clicked into place.

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NBA Rookie Finds a Fix For His Free-Throw Woes

Jeremy Sochan was one of the league's worst shooters from the charity stripe. Then his coaches told him to try them one-handed.



Jeremy Sochan's reworked free-throw stroke mimics a practice-floor regimen he was assigned.

"The thing that was most apparent when he shot one-handed at the free-throw line, he not only made it, it looked fundamentally damn near perfect," Brown said.

Taken alone, the boost provided to San Antonio by Sochan's higher hit rate is marginal. Sochan shot one free throw a night, on average, before the switch, and has shot 2.7 since. The accuracy uptick means that the Spurs get about a point and a half more out of his trips to the stripe than they did before. Unsurprisingly, that margin hasn't made much difference to their present fortunes; the team is 14-47 and has lost its last 16 games.

But for a young player and rebuilding franchise, the benefits extend beyond specific box scores. Sochan—a 19-year-old whirlwind with rangy athleticism, an ever-up-

19

23

22

dated dye job, and the nickname "The Destroyer"-plays at fullbore, driving hard into the lane to drop off short-angled passes or launch himself through defenders for dunks. The approach is the kind that can animate an ascendant team, but is also susceptible to a scaling back, if the player carrying it out frets over trips to the foul line.

"There needs to be a mentality that you're just dying to get there," Brown said. "He's been excellent at attacking. He doesn't fear going to the free-throw line at all.'

NBA history offers warnings of what can happen when that fear creeps in. The most notorious may be Ben Simmons, who entered the NBA as the top draft pick in 2016 with a supercharged version of

Simmons's freethrow percentage never rose above 62, though, and his career has been marked by a decreasing willingness to go to the basket. This year, Simmons's first with the Brooklyn Nets, he is shooting worse than ever from the foul line. His field-goal attempts and scoring numbers-6.9 points per game—are also at career lows, and teammates have on occasion had to beg him to assert himself on the court. Though basket-

Sochan's skill set.

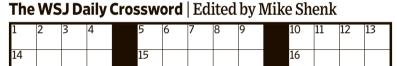
ball players have been hampered by free-throw struggles since the first stripe was painted on hardwood, they have been willing to go only so far to solve them. The Hall-of-Fame guard Rick Barry, who made $89\overline{\%}$ of his free throws in the ABA and NBA in the 1960s and '70s, has bemoaned the scarcity of players copying his iconic underhand form. Wilt Chamberlain made more than 60% of his free throws only once in his career, when he adopted the "granny shot" technique during the 1961-62 season. He dropped the approach shortly thereafter because, as he would later write, it made him feel "silly."

Helpfully, Sochan has an appetite for the unorthodox. "One of his strengths is, he doesn't care about what the outside world might think," said Scott Drew, Sochan's coach during his one college season at Baylor, where he shot 59% from the line. "The fact that someone would make fun of something, that it's unique or different, would prohibit it for some players."

Popovich has said that Sochan shows courage in being willing to try the one-hander. Even switching hands altogether is more common; the big men Tristan Thompson and Mason Plumlee have both done so in recent seasons. But Sochan himself considers the shot a mark of self-expression, as distinguishing as his green-then-pink-then-blond hair. "It just shows who I am," he

said. "I think it's cool." In a game against Phoenix on January 28, Sochan offered the clearest glimpse yet of what he might eventually

become as an NBA player. He scored a career-best 30 points—by way of bruising lay-ins, a smattering of jump shots, and one thunderous jam—to go along with eight rebounds and five assists. The excellence of his allaround box score might have made one particular stat go unnoticed, were it not for how he tallied it. Sochan made all five of his free throws.



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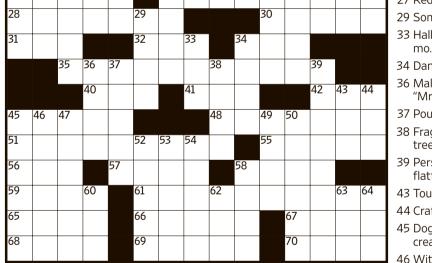
18 Burger joint beverage 22 Farm units 24 Downed 25 Homer's neighbor 26 Skimpy skirt

Lawsuit Alleges NFL Films **Catalogs Lewd Shots of Women**

BY LOUISE RADNOFSKY AND ANDREW BEATON

"Ms. Russell didn't have credentials for the logging system, nor did any aspect of her responsibilities involve ac-

persistent performance-related issues. These people said that there were numerous conversations with her



ICY CONDITIONS | By Gary Larson & Amy Ensz

Across	28	Mayor	51	Mental lapses
1 1920s chief justice		Alireza Zakani, for one		caused when confronting sound
5 Dogpatch surname	30	Right, in a		reasoning?
10 14-time French Open	31	way Dean's	55	Affectedly styled
champ, familiarly	21	email address	56	Vacation rental
14 Declare definitively	32	ender You say it	57	Architect Saarinen
15 Bring down		when you're down to a	58	Brewpub selections
16 "Yeah, right!" 17 Vocal		single card	59	Second son
paralysis caused by fear	34	Phone bill item	61	Stomach distress
of singing?	35	Nervous condition		caused by bringing up
19 Temerity		that causes		a sore
20 Sporty Pontiacs		one's hands to clench		subject?
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26 Emotional disorder	45	Final words	Do	wn
caused by excessive		from Rhett Butler		Call on One of
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Solve this puzzle online and discuss it at WSJ.com/Puzzles.

27 Red root 29 Some sisters 33 Halloween mo. 34 Dandy 36 Malek of "Mr. Robot" 37 Pound part 38 Fragrant trees 39 Persuasive flattery 43 Tour ride 44 Crafty 45 Dogpatch creator 46 Within one's powers 47 Concurs 3 Literally, 49 Polio "wind and vaccine water" developer 4 Less original 50 Poll finds 5 Doesn't shut 52 "Kiss of the up Dragon" star 6 Part of a 53 E.M. Forster's geisha's _With a attire View' 7 Letter before 54 Handle final lambda details of 8 Employ as __-deucey 58 part of 60 Back muscle, 9 Soccer star briefly Lionel 62 Cuba or 10 Equip Aruba: Abbr. 11 Early adding 63 Number machine before 12 Burmese or quattro Siamese 64 Embroider, 13 Finally e.g



AS THE NATIONAL Football League's official production arm, NFL Films has long generated popular content that chronicles the history of America's most popular sport from an up-close, behind-thescenes perspective. A new lawsuit alleges that it also created something much different in its vast archive: a catalog of lewd shots of women-fans and cheerleaders—at games.

The existence of an index of such content in NFL Films' archives was alleged in an employment discrimination lawsuit filed in New Jersey court earlier this year by a former temporary worker, Victoria Russell. Her complaint against NFL Films and the league says that NFL Films had a database of timestamps on its footage with descriptions including "cheerleaders buttocks," "cheerleaders rear end," "female fan in bikini top," "naughty camera work," "close up of cheerleader's breasts; cleavage shot," "shot of endowed woman" and "random woman, cleavage shot." NFL spokesman Brian

McCarthy said images are marked as "sensitive" to ensure they won't be used in future content and are no longer accessible for productions. He also said that a number of the descriptions that Russell alleged are used are inaccurate. NFL Films logs every frame of footage shot by its camera people and broadcast networks, he said, and that inevitably includes images that may not be appropriate for inclusion in videos.

"Those frames are logged as 'sensitive' so that they can be removed from circulation. meaning they will not be accessible to employees whose job it is to locate footage for productions," McCarthy said.

cessing footage.

Russell is suing over her treatment as a Black woman who worked in human resources for the NFL between 2018 and 2022. She alleges that she was denied a dedicated workspace, pay raises and advancement opportunities that white and male employees enjoyed. She says she was abruptly fired after she complained to the league's

managers about her productivity falling far short of her peers before her contract wasn't renewed.

These people added that two-thirds of the league's hires last year were women or people of color, and that figure was even higher the year before that.

The top three human resources executives at the NFL are Black, and two are



NFL Films has been behind some of football's most popular content.

chief diversity officer, six months after she had received a promotion that she said was significantly delayed. while she was pregnant, and without having received any warnings about her performance.

The league denies discriminating or retaliating against her.

"We are committed to providing all employees a workplace that is respectful, diverse, inclusive and free from discrimination and harassment," McCarthy said. "The NFL didn't discriminate or retaliate against Ms. Russell during her time as a temporary staff member. We will vigorously defend against these claims."

People familiar with the league's thinking said her contract as a temporary employee through an agency wasn't renewed because of

women.

The league has approximately 1,100 employees, not including contractors.

The claim over the NFL Films database is sensitive because of a separate furor over the league's response to allegations of a toxic culture at the Washington football team, where the treatment of female employees—and cheerleaders in particularwas central to the accusations of wrongdoing.

KI/ASSOCIAT

OPINION

Putin Is the West's Target



BUSINESS WORLD By Holman W. Jenkins, Jr.

probably right to see Ukraine's growing attachment to the West, its development as a democratic, market-based economy under a rule of law, as a threat to their own survival.

terests but

Vladimir Pu-

tin and his

circle were

The Putin regime has been a friend to the Russian people and their interests in about the same way the Hitler regime was a friend to German interests. The damage inflicted has been astonishing.

In fact, the war makes sense only as a play to keep Mr. Putin in power, first by delivering an easy and popular victory; when that didn't work, by using the failed war to militarize society and ban opponents.

The ironies are rich for the self-proclaimed realists, who keep insisting Western blundering forced Russia into war to defend its objective interests.

Those objective interests consisted of, until Mr. Putin invaded Ukraine, 60,000 Russian soldiers still being alive; those interests consisted of NATO being a sleepy and unaggressive alliance, without Sweden and Finland.

Those objective Russian

Its Ukraine itself being better known for relationship with his body corruption than a ferocious politic. The West turns on acceptable to NATO, Russia's invasion was destined to fighting spirit, and having an its head last century's dubibe a geopoaging Soviet military rather litical catasthan a modern Western one. in which civilian population for

After a year of fighting, Hitler and Napoleon are still nowhere in sight. The big threat to Russia's geographical and state survival turns out to come from Mr. Putin himself. Igor Girkin, the Russian nationalist provocateur who helped start the war in 2014, is slightly redeemed by bestowing on Mr. Putin the sarcastic title of Russia's "unique strategic ing the war, might like to readvantage."

A combination of escalation and deterrence must bring Russia to the table.

After a year of war, despite accusations to the contrary, the West actually has a strategy: It's focused on making Mr. Putin own the failure of his war until the temperature in Moscow becomes too hot for him and his allies and they change course.

Not without argument and often suboptimally, NATO has avoided visiting the war directly on Russian soil, and has limited the weapons provided to Ukraine to do so, to avoid giving substance to Mr. Putin's claim that war was forced on him or that Russia itself is under threat.

The endgame is implicitly interests consisted of Ukraine aimed at Mr. Putin and his be the time.

ous conception of total war, is a target. No war aims have been stated that impinge on Russia's citizens. Mr. Putin is the one abducting their sons and sending them home three weeks later in body bags. Their family living standards are steadily eroding because of choices that began in Moscow and nowhere else.

As much as Mr. Putin, uscreate his regime in North Korea's image, he can't. He friends in Kyiv will have to shrinks even from depriving his citizens of YouTube despite pressure from domestic subordinates to do so. There's a vulnerability here if we can make use of it.

Missing is only a Western propaganda campaign aimed at the Russian people, though it might be hard to improve on what the Russians can see with their own eves. One way the U.S. might help: It has largely kept silent on the 1999 Russian apartment block bombings that the little-known Mr. Putin used to propel himself to the presidency, which killed nearly 300 Russians, many of them elderly, in their beds.

а

Attributed to Chechen terrorists at the time, the evidence is overwhelming that the attacks were carried out by Mr. Putin's own security services. The U.S. has never made its own intelligence ever combination of escalafindings known. Now might

To end the war on terms internal politics are going to have to crack, as they did in the Cold War. In the age of nuclear weapons, this is how great-power struggles are fought.

Mr. Putin will never admit defeat but at some point he will grandly propose a ceasefire while his troops are still on Ukrainian territory. (The least plausible idea yet is that the war will somehow end, like a sporting event, if Ukrainian troops reach Rus-

sia's pre-2014 borders.) Then the U.S. and its hold a difficult discussion. Making it less difficult should be a recognition of just how friendly a post-hostilities world will be to the growth of Ukrainian power versus Russian power. Case in point: Already up and running is a new train line to the port of Constanta, in NATO-member Romania, to insulate Ukraine's export Russian economy from threats.

To describe today's war as proxy war, as some U.S. critics do, is imprecise. There would be a war in Ukraine, with local and regional powers taking sides, even if the U.S. had staved out. In the event, our piecemeal interventions have made the U.S. Ukraine's ally and committed Washington to a strategy of forcing Russia to the table with whattions and deterrence is required to do the job.

Time Is on Russia's Side, Not Ukraine's



POLITICS & IDEAS By William A. Galston

to the Berlin Wall. His remarks were stirring, but they raised more questions about the West's strategy for countering Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"A natural part of the com-Russo-Ukraine War," says the

President Bi- faltering start, he has managed nearly to double the have concluded that Mr. Zelnumber of Russian troops in Ukraine, enough to sustain the assaults on Ukrainian positions that have yielded incremental gains for Russia at master stroke the cost of heavy losses.

of diplomatic Mr. Putin's Feb. 21 speech to Russia's Federal Assembly stagecraft, riseemed designed to prepare valing Ronald his people for a long conflict. Reagan's visit which, he argued, they could endure. He said the West's effort to cripple Russia's economy has failed, the ruble has stabilized, growth is resuming, and there will be no need to choose between guns and mentary surrounding the first butter. Russia will continue anniversary of the start of the the war until it achieves its objectives, however long that might take. The message from Ukrainians at the Munich Security Conference in February was very different. They weren't confident that time is on their side, and they don't want a long war. In a report from Munich, former U.S. ambassador to Russia Michael McFaul summarizes their views: "They want the war to end as soon as possible. The longer the war drags on, the more Ukrainians will die. They worry that eventually, they will not have enough soldiers to fight a long war against the more populous Russia." They want more and better weapons delivered as fast as possible so that they can achieve victory this year. Mr. Zelensky summed it up in his address ammunition, the essentials of to the conference: "We need

diplomats concur. In a recent former U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine, John Herbst and William Taylor, and a former senior State Department official, David J. Kramer, urge the West to move at the speed of war. They argue that the U.S. should work with its allies to accelerate the delivery of modern heavy tanks, which could break through entrenched Russian defenses.

The U.S. and its allies need to act at the

Leading defense experts defense has forced Russia to abandon its initial aim of deensky is right, and veteran capitating the Zelensky government and installing a puparticle in Foreign Affairs, two pet regime, Mr. Putin still claims sovereignty over four regions in eastern Ukraine. Establishing effective control over these regions is the focus of his revised military campaign. Halting this effort and then taking the offensive will be Ukraine's main task in the war's second year.

There is no way to know how much occupied territory the Ukrainian forces can regain. But the West should supply them with what they need to give their counteroffensive-now planned for the spring and summer-everv **BOOKSHELF** | By Peter C. Mancall

Braving the **Old World**

On Savage Shores

By Caroline Dodds Pennock (Knopf, 302 pages, \$32.50)

hen Christopher Columbus landed in the West Indies in October 1492, he laid claim to the islands in the name of his patrons, Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile, even though he was aware that the islands were already occupied. The next month, his men captured some 25 of these native islanders. Columbus planned to bring them to Spain, where they could be converted to Christianity and learn Spanish, becoming bilingual interpreters to help advance Spain's imperial agenda. Only six or seven of the captives survived the journey, yet Columbus nevertheless boasted of his actions. In his mind, he hauled the indigenous away from a savage culture and into civilization.

As Caroline Dodds Pennock maintains in her imaginative



and passionately argued book, savagery existed in the eye of the beholder. Columbus thought that the Western Hemisphere would be an excellent source of raw materials and enslaved bodies. Indigenous people, he believed, would benefit from receiving the Gospel, a necessary step on the path to civilization. But the West Indies' native inhabitants. known as the Taínos, did not share his views. One after another of those who went to Europe believed they had left civilization and landed. as Ms.

Pennock puts it in her title, "on savage shores."

Ms. Pennock, who teaches history at the University of Sheffield, is a renowned authority on the history of the Aztecs. Here she expands her geographical focus, moving north and south from Mesoamerica to look at Native Americans as diverse as Inuit from Nunavut and Incans from the Andes, many of whom shared the unfortunate fate of being kidnapped by Europeans and taken eastward across the Atlantic. Some sailed as diplomats eager to establish relations in European courts and castles. But most, like those nabbed by Columbus, did not choose their fate.

Histories of what is commonly still called the "age of discovery" often convey the story of intercultural contact from the perspective of Europeans. That is not surprising, since the vast majority of evidence that scholars use was produced by European observers. As many historians have noted, such evidence privileges the view of these visitors. To make matters worse, many extant reports published in the 15th and 16th centuries conformed to existing literary conventions. Artists altered the look of some indigenous subjects to make them fit European ideals of human beauty or notions about "primitive" peoples. Writers dwelled on the unsavory aspects of the cultures of the Western Hemisphere to justify efforts to claim territory. Native Americans needed Europeans—so the explorers and their supporters argued if they were to become civilized.

Ms. Pennock, drawing on sources in multiple languages, reveals that such evidence often distorts what happened. The indigenous who were captured and enslaved saw through the invaders' lies. Even those treated more fairly objected to their circumstances. Take, for example, Francisca Pizarro Yupanqui, the daughter of the Spanish explorer Francisco Pizarro and the Inca princess Quispe Sisa. Even

den's surprise appearance in with President Volodymyr Zelensky was a

noted military expert Lawrence Freedman, was "speculation about whether it will have concluded by the time of the second or even third anniversaries." To a significant extent, this depends on choices the U.S. and its allies are making (or failing to make) right now

Vladimir Putin is betting that time is on his side. It would be risky for the Western alliance to base its strategy on the presumption that he is wrong.

While Mr. Putin isn't indifferent to public opinion, he isn't constrained by it to the extent that leaders of democracies are. He is putting his economy on a wartime footing, which will increase the production of artillery and his military power. After a to hurry up."

speed of war as they deliver arms to Kyiv.

The authors also urge the West to expand beyond the weapons it has already pledged to deliver. The Biden administration should overcome its hesitation to give them longer-range Army Tactical Missile Systems, or ATACMS, and advanced war planes—including F-16s if necessary. ATACMS can shoot rockets as far as 185 miles, depriving Russia of the ability to establish logistical hubs behind the front lines that the Ukrainians can't reach, and the war planes would allow Ukraine to provide air support the bridge Russia has built to ground forces and cut Russia's land bridge to Crimea. Although a heroic Ukrainian down.

opportunity to succeed. While this conflict might end with a negotiated peace, now isn't the time to talk about negotiations. Ukraine won't attain through diplomacy what it can't regain on

the battlefield this year. Ukraine's recovering lost territory wouldn't be enough to end the war, and a frozen conflict would work to Russia's advantage. Mr. Putin must be left with no alternative except to sue for peace. The military strategists I've consulted believe that the most promising option for accomplishing this is to endanger his control of Crimea. If Ukraine can cut the land bridge to Crimea and destroy over the Kerch Strait. Mr. Putin might be forced to stand

Why Elite Schools Can't Stand U.S. News

By Eric J. Gertler

he decision by some elite law and medical schools to opt out of the U.S. News & World Report ranking surveys has ignited a national debate on meritocracy and equity. But lost in this discussion is the reason U.S. News ranks academic institutions and why our rankings are so important to aspiring students.

Choosing the right school is one of the most important decisions students will ever make. Besides being a significant investment of time and money, it is a critical first step to ensuring a student's future career opportunities, earning potential, and quality of life.

But absent U.S. News's academic rankings, it's difficult to find accurate, comprehensive information that empowers students to compare institutions and identify the factors that matter

the few places that do.

Our rankings don't capture every nuance. Academic institutions aren't monolithic or static; comparing them across a common data set can be challenging. But we reject our critics' paternalistic view

We provide students vital, accurate data. Schools don't like to be held accountable.

that students are somehow incapable of discerning for themselves from this information which school is the best fit.

Moreover, the perspective of elite schools doesn't fit with that of the broader lawand medical-school community. Our editors held meetings with 110 law deans following the outcry over our most to them. We are one of rankings. Excepting the top

14 law schools, almost 75% of can't control and they don't the schools that submitted surveys in 2022 did so in 2023. For medical schools, the engagement level was higher.

rankings are important to students, we're incredulous that our critics blame our rankings for just about every issue academia confronts. Debates on campuses—whether on free speech, equity or the cost of degrees-have nothing to do with our rankings. We simply provide students with a destination for comprehensive information.

Our rankings also don't prevent any school from pursuing greater diversity or transparency. Nor do they seem to prod schools to shine light on the most opaque part of admissions: how schools decide who they accept.

Instead, elite schools object to our use of a common data set for all schools because our rankings are something they

want to be held accountable by an independent third party.

There is added urgency as the Supreme Court considers While we know that our a pair of cases on affirmative action that could change admission norms. Some law deans are already exploring ways to sidestep any restrictive ruling by reducing their emphasis on test scores and grades-criteria used in our rankings

> By refusing to participate, elite schools are opting out of an important discussion about what constitutes the best education for students, while implying that excellence and important goals like diversity are mutually exclusive.

Is it tolerable to leave schools unaccountable for the education they deliver to students? We think not.

Mr. Gertler is executive chairman and CEO of U.S. News & World Report.

Many Native Americans were brought to Europe to be civilized. What they found instead was a land of inequality and cruelty.

though Francisca came from powerful and wealthy parents, imperial authorities in Peru dispatched her to the town of Trujillo in Spain to reduce political rivalry in the Andes. She traveled to her new home with a Spanish governess tending to her needs. When she arrived, she came to the attention of an imprisoned uncle, who soon married her. She spent the next decade confined to a fortress. She had five children there, three of whom survived to adulthood. Eventually, after her husband's death, she remarried and moved to Madrid. There she pursued a legal claim, eager to gain the wealth owed to her as the daughter of one of Spain's most illustrious-and, one could add, brutal-conquistadors.

Francisca's story makes a crucial point: Indigenous Americans in Europe, at least those who were not enslaved. often studied how their new communities operated. Some embraced their marginal status, mastering nepantla, the Nahuatl word for the "in-between space," to become powerful intercultural brokers. Others had less-privileged vantage points, including individuals paraded as spectacles around London, Paris and Madrid, a phenomenon so common that Shakespeare referred to it in "The Tempest." But even those who were forced to perform for audiences became shrewd observers of the Europeans in front of them. They bore witness to gross economic inequities and the cruel treatment of the powerless. Many, like the three Tupinambás that the philosopher Michel de Montaigne met in France, concluded that the real savages were those who clothed themselves in claims of moral superiority while tolerating daily abuse of the less fortunate.

Ms. Pennock's book operates on two levels: historical and ethical. Deep familiarity with the archival record allows her to tell the stories of individuals who may seem familiar to some specialists, such as Manteo and Wanchese-Algonquians who, as the author notes, were "probably convinced rather than coerced" to sail to London from Carolina's Outer Banks in 1584 and returned the following year as crucial participants in the effort to establish a colony. But many more will be unknown even though they have been hiding in plain sight in the chronicles of famous explorers like Jacques Cartier and Martin Frobisher.

There is more here than recounting tales now four to five centuries old. Throughout the book, we are told that names and words matter. We do not know the identities of countless thousands of Native Americans "who have been historically oppressed, marginalised and insulted," the author writes, because of "colonial attempts to erase Indigenous identities, and to obliterate their languages and beliefs, through deliberate cultural genocide." Through Ms. Pennock's efforts we now know more about exiles like Arnaq and Kalicho, Inuit whose bodies lay in the burial ground of St. Stephen's Church in Bristol, England, and Francisca Pizarro Yupanqui, whose sculpted face stares out at those who visit the Palace of the Conquest in Trujillo. They perished far from home, on shores they found savage.

Mr. Mancall is a professor of history and anthropology at the University of Southern California.

OPINION

REVIEW & OUTLOOK

Biden's New Industrial Social Policy

• overnment subsidies are never free, and now we are learning the price U.S. pay for signing on to President Biden's industrial policy.

They will become the indentured servants of progressive social policy.

Democrats last year snookered Republicans into passing

their \$280 billion Chips Act, which includes \$39 billion in direct financial aid for chip makers and a 25% investment tax credit. Republicans hoped this would satisfy West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin, but after Chips passed he quickly flipped and endorsed the Inflation Reduction Act.

Now the Administration is using the semiconductor subsidies to impose much of the social policy that was in the failed Build Back Better bill. On Tuesday Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo rolled out the new rules for chip makers and summed up the politics to the New York Times: "If Congress wasn't going to do what they should have done, we're going to do it in implementation" of the subsidies.

*

Start with child care, which chip makers applying for more than \$150 million in federal aid will be required to provide to their employees and construction workers. Finding workers to run child-care facilities, especially in rural areas, may prove even more challenging than finding workers to build and operate the plants. The U.S. child-care workforce is still 58,000 smaller than before the pandemic. By boosting demand for child care, Commerce's mandate will increase costs for all parents living near a chip plant.

But not any child care will do. Chip makers will have to craft their "child care plans in tandem with community stakeholders, including state and local governments and local groups with expertise administering child care"—i.e., labor unions and progressive outfits. Start the woke indoctrination early.

Chip makers will also have to pay construction workers prevailing wages set by unions and will be "strongly encouraged"-i.e., required—to use project labor agreements (PLAs), which let unions dictate pay, benefits and work rules for all workers. States restricting PLAs may have to change their laws if they want to benefit from the federal largesse.

Companies will have to comply with the Administration's "Good Jobs Principles" that guarantee "full-time and part-time workers are provided family-sustaining benefits that promote economic security and mobility," including "paid leave and caregiving supports."

In their applications, chip makers will have to describe their "wraparound services to support semiconductor firms and others will individuals from underserved and economically

> Raimondo uses the Chips Act to drive progressive demands.

disadvantaged communities,' such "as adult care, transportation assistance, or housing assistance." The Administration is imposing a cradle-to-grave

welfare system via corporate

subsidies. Ms. Raimondo is no socialist, but here she is doing the bidding of the Democratic left. Does she have a promotion in mind? She justifies this gigantic intervention in the private economy by claiming that chip makers won't be successful unless they "find a way to attract, train, put to work and retain women." But companies don't need the government to tell them how to attract and retain workers. Ms. Raimondo's mandates will merely raise business costs.

The irony is rich because chip makers have shifted manufacturing to Asia to reduce costs. Producing chips in the U.S. is 40% more expensive than overseas. One reason is the U.S. permitting thicket. But chip makers that receive

Oh, and Commerce is also demanding that companies receiving more than \$150 million share "with the U.S. government a portion of any cash flows or returns that exceed the applicant's projections above an established threshold." No buying back stock for five years either. What a wonderful life if you're a politician. First, pile on regulation that increase business costs. Then dangle subsidies to drive your social policy and demand a cut of business profits in the bargain.

Ms. Raimondo's demands weren't specified in the Chips Act, and they will do nothing to bolster national security, the ostensible purpose of the subsidies. The money may not even boost U.S. chip manufacturing by much. Goldman Sachs last autumn estimated the subsidies might increase the U.S. market share of global chip capacity by less than 1%.

We took a lot of grief from the big-government right for opposing the Chips Act, but these conservatives look like chumps for voting for an industrial policy that is now an engine for progressive policy. And one subsidy is never enough. The chip subsidies are "a good first step," Semiconductor Industry Association president John Neuffer recently said.

Welcome to French industrial policy, where the government pays business to invest in what, where and how government wants. Let's hope it turns out better here.

Brazil Welcomes Iranian Warships

he arrival of two Iranian warships in ington sometime in February to discuss "a Brazil on Sunday is unsettling for democracies in the Western hemisphere. Worse is that the Biden Ad-

wide-ranging shared agenda."

But the Iranian ships weren't a good fit for a Biden plan to showcase the new Brazilian government as

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Retirees Get a Bad Deal From Social Security

Johan Norberg correctly points out the relative success of Sweden's partial privatization of Social Security ("How Sweden Saved Social Security," op-ed, Feb. 23), but he omits the more compelling case for complete privatization, namely, ownership.

Diversification, both in timing and investment vehicles, virtually eliminates the bogus dot-com crash crisis scenario. Plus, there is no 40-year period in U.S. history, including the Great Depression, during which stocks haven't outperformed moneymarket funds or their equivalent.

But the drafted participants in our Social Security system nevertheless have no ownership of the assets they are forced to contribute to nonexistent retirement accounts. Such assets go directly into the federal government's general revenues. How much you pay in so-called payroll taxes and how much you receive at retirement is entirely up to 535 politicians. That is another way of saying it isn't your money, which is why you can't leave these hard-earned taxes to your loved ones-no inheritance under our mandated Social Security system. It is such a bad deal.

> EDWARD H. CRANE President emeritus, Cato Institute Falls Church, Va.

The Republicans should be sending one message to the American people loud and clear: The Democrats want to cut your Social Security benefits by 26% in 10 years. There is no other pertinent debating point. If the GOP is going to be vilified for trying to save the program with responsible alterations, the alternative should be made clear. Should the Democrats have their way, the program will collapse, and everyone will face major cuts to their benefits. That's their Plan A. The GOP offers Plan B. **RICK WALLACE**

Malibu, Calif.

William Galston's "How the U.S. Can Prevent a Debt Spiral" (Politics & Ideas. Feb. 22) caught my attention with the idea that everything be put on the table for negotiations. But then he immediately starts taking items that would negatively affect the middle- and lower-income groups off the table, putting all the burden on the upper-income group. This entails no structural changes to Social Security like raising the retirement age. So, his bottom line is to put everything on the table but then simply soak those with higher incomes. KENNETH J. BRUSDA

Oshkosh, Wis.

War in Ukraine and in the Republican Party

Kimberley Strassel's column "Ron DeSantis's Security Test" (Potomac Watch, Feb. 24) offers an accurate picture of prospective GOP presidential candidates' positions on Ukraine. I think she is also correct in arguing that a strong defense is a deterrent to autocratic adventurism. Perhaps Vladimir Putin would have limited Russia to saber rattling had he known in advance how Ukraine and the West would respond. Gov. DeSantis would be wise to use his prior military service to his advantage, arguing for a strong defense and swinging the military advantage to Ukraine before a negotiated end to the war.

THOMAS DWYER Niceville, Fla.

Ms. Strassel points to an opening to straddle the Ukraine issue against Donald Trump's hard isolationist po-

Slavery, Capitalism and the Color of Money

Regarding David Henderson and Phillip Magness's op-ed "The 1619 Project' Vindicates Capitalism" (Feb. 21): If blame for racial inequality can be placed on the government, the request for the government to pay reparations to the descendants of slaves will have been vindicated.

EDDRICK BEDFORD

that "every man, as long as he does not violate the laws of justice, is left perfectly free to pursue his own interest." Slavery fits much easier into Karl Marx's "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs," with the slave owner determining ability and need with the assent of the government.

when he famously said "I'm a hawk, but I'm a cheap hawk." If foreign policy is the salient issue in 2024, Mike Pompeo may be uniquely qualified with his military, CIA and State Department background. WILLIAM J. DOYLE Atlanta

sition. The "no blank check" approach

was used in 1995 by Newt Gingrich,

Ms. Strassel is right that national security remains a top voter priority. This may be why an increasing number of voters worry about a possible nuclear conflict. Don't think this is off the table for Mr. Putin if he thinks himself backed into a corner amid escalation in Ukraine. Messrs. DeSantis and Trump see where the wind is blowing on this issue.

> SAM B. WATTS Birmingham, Ala.

federal largesse will still have to comply with more regulation under the National Environmental Policy Act.

ministration seems to have been complicit in trying to bury the news.

According to press reports, on Jan. 13 the government of Brazilian President

Luiz Inácio "Lula" da Silva granted permission for the ships to dock at a port in the state of Rio de Janeiro later that month. Under normal circumstances a decision to support militarv exercises by a sworn U.S. enemy would have sent a diplomatic chill across the two continents. But in this case President Biden's domestic political agenda trumped security in the Americas.

On Jan. 8 an anti-government mob had stormed and destroyed federal buildings in Brasilia, claiming that the October election that brought Lula back for a third term had been stolen from former President Jair Bolsonaro. Mr. Bolsonaro resembles Donald Trump in many ways and Mr. Biden spied a political opening. The next day he reached out in solidarity with Lula by inviting him to visit Wash-

The White House keeps the visit quiet around Lula's visit to see Biden.

a model of democracy. On Feb. 9 Reuters reported that Brazil had bowed to U.S. pressure to delay the ships arrival in the South American

country-but not to stop the visit. The new authorization dates were "between Feb. 26 and March 3, Brazil's foreign ministry said," according to Reuters.

In other words, to avoid the embarrassing optics of the warships of a repressive theocracy cruising into a Brazilian port while Mr. Biden heaped praise on the guy who invited them, the two sides arranged a work-around. Put off the docking until after the D.C. tour.

During Lula's visit at the Oval Office. Mr. Biden cheerfully extolled "the rule of law, freedom and equality," which he described as "core principles we both believe in" and boasted about "our mutual agendas." Too bad those mutual agendas don't include unity of purpose to protect regional security from a rogue regime that spreads terrorism around the world.

Major Questions in the Student Loan Case

SG Prelogar tries to

rewrite a landmark

ruling from last year.

ral argument didn't go well Tuesday for ecutive action doesn't impose any "correspond-President Biden's decree wiping out \$400 billion of student-loan debt, as

most Justices were skeptical of such sweeping action without Congressional assent. But give Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar points for audacity in trying to diminish a Court precedent from last year.

The current Court has been vigorous in enforcing the separation of powers when an administrative agency tries to hang an expansive new program on a tiny peg of legislative authorization. This has become known as the "major questions doctrine," which the Court fortified in last year's landmark West Virginia v. EPA ruling that struck down an Obama Administration plan to re-engineer the electric grid.

"A decision of such magnitude and consequence," Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for the majority, "rests with Congress itself, or an agency acting pursuant to a clear delegation from that representative body." Congress doesn't "hide elephants in mouseholes," Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in 2001.

Enter Ms. Prelogar, scavenging for constitutional mouseholes. She argued that the majorquestions doctrine "shouldn't apply in the same way to benefits programs," since that kind of exing cost to individual liberty interests."

It's a clever if desperate argument, and we

assume the Justices will see through her gambit. Her implication is that if the regulatory state directly places duties or penalties on private citizens, the Justices should then be on their highest alert.

But if the White House is merely tweaking payouts from Uncle Sam, the courts should wave it through.

What other exclusions would Ms. Prelogar advocate? If the Court goes along here, it will begin the gradual erosion of the major-questions doctrine. Agencies will start to target the Prelogar exception, and many lower courts will oblige. The major-questions doctrine will soon become a minor obstacle to Presidents who want to impose by executive diktat the policies they can't get through Congress.

It's disappointing, if not surprising, that Mr. Biden's Solicitor General picked executive power over the separation of power. But there's no reason for the Court to oblige. If Congress didn't clearly authorize a major climate regulation, the White House lacks the power to impose it. If Congress didn't clearly authorize a major student loan jubilee, ditto.

I have never understood how

chattel slavery could be considered capitalism. Liberty, Adam Smith's prerequisite for capitalism, requires

Sexism in the Chemistry Lab And the Fight for Equality

Reading about Nancy Hopkins's experience at MIT in the 1970s (Diane Cole's review of "The Exceptions," Books, Feb. 25) took me back to my university chemistry lab in 1973. One of only two women in the lab, I had a front-row seat to misogyny in science. Not once in four months when I raised my hand for assistance did the TAs even acknowledge me, much less help me. It was by the grace of my fellow students that I got through that lab. Remarkably, I didn't immediately connect this to sexism—at the time I just found it exceedingly strange and rude. The courage and tenacity of women like Ms. Hopkins moved us forward, as did the support of men like the students in my chem lab.

> BETH WHITE Rochester, N.Y.

Theories of the Human Brain

Near the end of her review of "The Once and Future Sex" (Bookshelf, Feb. 17), the novelist Elizabeth Lowry takes a swipe at the "discredited neurosexist theories" of Simon Baron-Cohen, a Cambridge professor who is among the world's most distinguished developmental psychologists. Mr. Baron-Cohen has found, based on considerable scientific evidence, that biology plays a role in sex differences in the human mind and brain. His "discredited" findings haven't been withdrawn or even harshly criticized except by extreme social determinists, who believe what they would like to be true regardless of the weight of evidence.

JON JEWETT Ashland, Va.

Letters intended for publication should be emailed to wsj.ltrs@wsj.com. Please include your city, state and telephone number. All letters are subject to editing, and unpublished letters cannot be acknowledged.

MICHAEL MARZ Mount Pleasant, Wis.

As black economists Thomas Sowell and the late Walter Williams have said, capitalism has no color except green. Under capitalism, you freely purchase the product or service that best fits you, regardless of who produced it. If you don't, you are going against your self-interest. Discrimination is made costly.

TICO MORENO Naples, Fla.

Kids Stuck on the Wait List

Josh Zumbrun focuses on pinpointing the number of teens with mental illness ("Teens' Distress May Be Worse Than It Looks," U.S. News, Feb. 18). But measurement isn't the problem. Measure and screen away. There aren't enough resources to provide follow-up care. In my area, the waiting list for mental-health counselors, psychiatrists and neuropsychologists is large, and children can wait for up to a year. Additionally, there aren't enough beds for inpatient adolescent psychiatric care. General practitioners aren't fully equipped to address the volume and therapy needs of mentally ill children. Parents, insurers and the medical field need to figure out how to prevent depression and treat the children who need help.

SHARON RINK, M.D. Chilton, Wis.

Pepper ... And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"Tonight it's 'from can to table' cuisine."



OPINION

Republicans Ought to Be All for ESG

By Chuck Schumer

nvesting in a free-market economy involves choice. There are 8,000 securities listed on U.S. stock exchanges alone. Investors take many different factors into account when evaluating their investment decisions. Three such factorsenvironmental, social and governance, also known as ESGhave recently gotten a lot of attention from some more conservative Republicans, including Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis.

It's up to asset managers whether to consider such factors or not. That's the free market at work.

In the House, Republicans just passed a bill that would reverse a Labor Department rule recognizing that retirement fiduciaries may use ESG when evaluating investments. That bill will soon come before the Senate. I will strongly oppose this ill-considered proposal.

ESG opponents are trying to turn it into a dirty acronym, deploying attacks they have long used for elements of a so-called woke agenda. They call ESG wokeness. They call it a cult. They call it an incursion into free markets. We've heard it all before. I say ESG is just common sense.

Republicans conveniently ignore something very important: America's most successful asset managers and financial institutions have used ESG factors to minimize risk and maximize their clients' returns. In fact, according to McKinsey, more than 90% of S&P 500 companies publish ESG reports today.

This isn't about ideological preference. Investors and asset managers increasingly recognize that maximizing returns requires looking at the full range of risks to any investment-including the financial risks presented by increasingly volatile natural disasters, aging populations and other threats that the public doesn't normally associate with financial modeling.

Nothing in the Labor Department rule imposes a mandate. It simply states that if fiduciaries wish to consider ESG factors-and if their methods are shown to be prudent—they are free to do so. Nothing more, nothing less.

The present rule gives investment managers an option. The Republican rule, on the other hand, ties inves-

Why I Stood Up to Disney

By Ron DeSantis

n Monday, I signed the law ending the Walt Disney Co.'s self-governing status over 43 square miles in central Florida, an area almost as big as Miami. Disney no longer has its own government. It has to live under the same laws as Universal Studios, SeaWorld and every other company in our state and is still on the hook for the old district's municipal debt.

Disney's special arrangement, which dates to 1967, was an indefensible example of corporate welfare. It provided the company with favorable tax treatment, including the ability to assess its own property valuations and to enjoy the benefits of regional infrastructure improvements without paying taxes toward the projects. It exempted Disney from Florida's building and fire-prevention codes. It even allowed Disnev to build a nuclear power plant and to use eminent domain to seize private property outside the district's boundaries. While special districts are common in Florida, Disnev's deal was conspicuous in the massive benefits it conferred. Disney's self-governing status endured because the company's unrivaled political power in Florida made its arrangement virtually untouchable.

For more than 50 years, the state of Florida put Disney on a pedestal. That all changed last year, when left-wing activists working at the company's headquarters in Burbank, Calif., pressured Disney to oppose Florida's Parental Rights in Education Act. The legislation bans classroom instruction on sexuality and gender ideology in kindergarten through third grade and requires that sex instruction in other grades be age-appropriate. Disney executives were seen on videos boasting about the company's plans to inject sexuality into its programming for children

Democrats often rail about corporations' nefarious influence over politics and oppose favorable exceptions for big companies. Yet they supported keeping Disney's special self-governing status. This confirms



Magic Kingdom Park at Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

how much the modern left has jettisoned principle in favor of power. As long as large corporations help advance the left's woke agenda, the left is willing to do their bidding.

The question many people asked me after the Disney face-off was: Why would a company like Disney tarnish its family-friendly brand, built up over almost 100 years, by publicly aligning itself with the fringe left's agenda to limit the

Old-fashioned corporate Republicanism won't do in a world where the left has hijacked big business.

rights of parents to have a say in what is taught to very young children? The answer lies in how the left has pressured big companies like Disney to use their power to advance the woke political agenda.

As a basic matter, the fiduciary duty that the CEO and board of a publicly traded corporation owe to shareholders is inconsistent with allowing the company to be turned into a partisan political fighting machine. Fiduciary duty aside, most CEOs and directors understand that as a matter of prudence, big companies seldom benefit from taking positions on contentious political issues, particularly those unrelated to their businesses.

In recent years, two factors have altered this calculation. First. groups of employees at some corporations want their employer to reflect their own political values. Such employees aren't a majority, but they are loud and militant. Executives often try to placate these employees, without success. Instead, such gestures embolden the entitled employees to presume that their employer will fall into line in the next political battle. The inmates soon run the asylum.

The second factor is power. A traditional corporate executive may have power within the company, but a woke CEO can use the corporate bully pulpit to exert influence over society. This is especially true amid the push for environmental, social, and governance responsibility in corporate America. ESG provides a pretext for CEOs to use shareholder assets on issues like reducing the use of fossil fuels. ESG is a way for the left to achieve through corporate power what it can't get at the ballot box.

In Florida, we understand the implications of the ESG movement. We prohibited the state's pension fund managers from using ESG criteria when making investment decisions. Florida has recovered its shareholder

voting rights from large asset managers and is seeking to pool its votes with other states to create a potent anti-ESG voting bloc. In its coming session, the Florida Legislature will codify anti-ESG initiatives into law and protect Floridians from discrimination by large financial institutions on the basis of political or religious beliefs

The regrettable upshot of the woke ascendancy is that publicly traded corporations have become combatants in battles over American politics and culture, almost invariably siding with leftist causes. It is unthinkable that large companies would side with conservative Americans on the Second Amendment, the right to life, election integrity or religious liberty.

In this environment, old-guard corporate Republicanism isn't up to the task at hand. For decades, GOP elected officials have campaigned on free-market principles but governed as corporatists-supporting subsidies, tax breaks and legislative carve-outs to confer special benefits on entrenched corporate interests. But policies that benefit corporate America don't necessarily serve the interests of America's people and economy.

When corporations try to use their economic power to advance a woke agenda, they become political, and not merely economic, actors. In such an environment, reflexively deferring to big business effectively surrenders the political battlefield to the militant left. Having private companies wield de facto public power isn't in the best interests of most Americans.

Woke ideology is a form of cultural Marxism. Leaders must stand up and fight back when big corporations make the mistake, as Disney did, of using their economic might to advance a political agenda. We are making Florida the state where the economy flourishes because we are the state where woke goes to

Mr. DeSantis, a Republican, is governor of Florida and author of "The Courage to Be Free: Florida's Blueprint for America's Revival."

It Doesn't Make Sense to Blame Crime on Poverty

Being mayor of New York comes with lots of media attenbut anyone tion, who has held the job can tell vou that the real power is in **UPWARD** Albany, the state MOBILITY capital, where the By Jason L. governor and Legislature hold major sway over everyroot cause of crime may be popular, but it doesn't hold up to scrutiny. For starters, most poor people aren't criminals. In a previous era, when Americans were significantly poorer than they are today, crime rates were significantly lower. Crime during the Great Depression was lower than during the 1960s, a decade of tremendous economic growth and prosperity. In 1960 the black male homicide rate was 45 per 100,000. By 1990 it had climbed by more than 200% to 140 per 100,000, even though black average incomes by then were much higher, and the black poverty rate much lower, than 30 years earlier. In a recently published book about criminal-justice reform, "Criminal (In)justice," Rafael Mangual notes that this disconnect between crime and poverty continues today. Mr. Mangual writes that between 1990 and 2018, murders in New York City declined by 87%, a period during which the city's poverty rate increased slightly. Black residents today "experience poverty at a lower rate (19.2 percent) than their Hispanic (23.9 percent) and Asian (24.1 percent) counterparts. who account for much smaller shares of the city's gun violence."

rise in customers looking for fivefinger discounts. It featured footage of laundry detergent and other items that had to be kept behind the counter or chained to shelves in the aisles to deter thieves. The piece perfectly illustrated the concerns of Mr. Adams, a former police officer who understands that crime victims shouldn't be an afterthought.

cost of doing business in high-crime neighborhoods. Decriminalizing theft significantly increases the cost of opening and operating a business, especially a mom-and-pop shop relying on small profit margins to begin with Lenders are more reluctant to extend credit. Insurance premiums are higher. Security is more expensive. What the left derides as exploitation is more accurately described as a rational economic response to

tors' hands.

Sen. Rick Scott (R., Fla.) asserted that the Labor Department rule "allows Wall Street fund managers to make choices on behalf of Americans based on their own beliefs and social agenda." Yet his Republican colleagues have introduced bills requiring fiduciaries to consider factors that don't strictly relate to financial returns, including whether a particular investment has ties to Russia or the Chinese Communist Party.

For some Republicans, these are all perfectly fine extra-financial considerations. But when it comes to investing in workers, or hedging against the dangers of a changing climate, or guarding against risks of corporate malfeasance-suddenly that's a bridge too far. You can't have it both ways.

Republicans talk about their love of the free market, small government and letting the private sector do its work. But their obsession with eliminating ESG would do the opposite, forcing their own views down the throats of every company and investor. Republicans would prevent investors from adapting to the future, for their own good and the good of the country.

I say let the market work. If that naturally leads to consideration of ESG factors, then Republicans should practice what they've long preached and get out of the way.

Mr. Schumer, a New York Democrat, is U.S. Senate majority leader.

thing from the subways to the public schools.

Riley

Mayor Eric Adams was back in Albany this month asking his state overlords to rethink bail-reform measures passed in 2019 that protect crime suspects from pretrial detention. The number of shoplifting complaints in New York City rose by 45% in 2022 to more than 63,000, according to New York City Police Department data. The mayor sees an obvious connection that too many of his fellow liberal Democrats willfully ignore.

In his testimony, Mr. Adams argued that soft-on-crime policies hit poor communities the hardest, not only in terms of public safety but also economically. "When you do a real analysis in our pursuit of making sure people who commit crimes are receiving the justice they deserve, we can't forget the people who are the victims of crimes," he said

The mayor also pushed back at the common argument made by social-justice advocates that arresting and prosecuting lawbreakers is tantamount to "criminalizing" poverty. "People who state that we're criminalizing the poor," he said, are wrong. Moreover, crime is costing the city jobs and businesses. New Yorkers are "unemployed because we're losing those businesses in our city. We can't allow repeated offenders to make a mockery of the criminal justice system."

The belief that poverty is the

Robert Thomson

Last month the local Fox station in New York did a story on how local bodegas are trying to combat the

New York's homicide rate dropped sharply after 1990 even as the poor share of population rose slightly.

New businesses are less likely to open in unsafe neighborhoods where the police can't be counted on to protect private property. Existing businesses are more likely to flee the community and take employment opportunities with them when they leave. Worse, those establishments that remain must take more costly measures to stay open-costs that invariably are passed on to paying customers.

Liberals have long alleged that merchants in ghetto neighborhoods are exploiting their low-income shoppers by charging higher prices. Those prices, however, reflect the misguided public policies.

In his testimony, Mr. Adams called public safety "the prerequisite to our prosperity" and stressed that the problem isn't previously lawabiding New Yorkers turning to crime but career criminals running rampant with no fear of being prosecuted. "This is critical because a disproportionate share of the serious crime in New York City is being driven by a limited number of extreme recidivists," he said. "Approximately 2,000 people who commit crime after crime while out on the street on bail."

Mr. Adams is fighting the good fight, but he's outnumbered by progressive Democrats who are more concerned with racial parity in punishment than with safe streets. Cities such as New York and Philadelphia and Chicago have essentially manufactured a crime wave, and no one knows when it will crest.

Bring Taiwan's President to Capitol Hill

By Craig Singleton

Y peaker Kevin McCarthy is weighing a trip to Taiwan. In-stead, he should invite Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen to address a joint session of Congress at the end of her term early next year.

Mr. McCarthy's predecessor, Nancy Pelosi, visited Taiwan last summer, and while the trip was wellintentioned, the consequences were regrettable. Beijing seized on Mrs. Pelosi's trip to establish a "new normal" in the Taiwan Strait, with China now regularly conducting military maneuvers much closer to the island. China more than doubled its fighteriet incursions into Taiwan's air-defense zone, from 538 in 2021 to 1,241 in 2022.

Meanwhile, Taiwan remains a sitting duck. Its dilemma has been compounded by Congress's inability to clear a multivear \$19 billion arms sale. U.S. lawmakers' lack of urgency appears to be partially due to their limited contact with Taiwanese officials. Last year, only four congressional delegations, consisting of some two dozen members, visited the selfgoverned island nation.

Most members similarly hadn't

traveled to Ukraine or met President Volodomyr Zelensky until he addressed Congress in December and argued that arming Kyiv was in America's interest. Hosting Ms. Tsai in Washington could accomplish the same for Taiwan.

Inviting Ms. Tsai to speak before Congress would be historic, but it wouldn't signal formal recognition of Taiwan's government. Congress has

Rather than visit the island, Kevin McCarthy should invite Tsai Ing-wen to address a joint session.

hosted other prominent democratic leaders who weren't heads of state, including Lech Walesa, head of Poland's Solidarity movement, in 1989. Ms. Tsai visited the U.S. in 2018 and 2019, eliciting only mild recriminations from Beijing.

Provided she steers clear of the White House, the Biden administration can confidently assert her visit is consistent with America's one-China policy and the Taiwan Relations Act, which affirms that Taiwan be treated the same under U.S. law as other "foreign countries, nations, states, governments, or similar entities."

If Mr. McCarthy traveled to Taipei this year, it could have unintended consequences for Taiwan's upcoming 2024 election. Beijing would conclude its recent short-of-war displays have failed to achieve their desired deterrent effect, which would only increase China's appetite for risk in future disputes. Meanwhile, the all but certain show of Chinese force following Mr. McCarthy's visit could further erode the Democratic Progressive Party's popular support following its local election losses to the Beijing-backed Kuomintang last November.

China would protest Ms. Tsai's trip to Washington and could conduct limited drills in response. Yet splitscreen images of Ms. Tsai speaking at the U.S. Capitol and Chinese bombers circling the island would do wonders for the 535 members of Congress as they grapple with the urgent case for aiding Taiwan's self-defense.

Mr. Singleton is senior China fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies and a former U.S. diplomat.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED SINCE 1889 BY DOW JONES & COMPANY

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Bankman-Fried Ally Pleads Guilty Abollo A third member of FTY a hearing Tuesday in federal more annealing to investors. Scheduled for October, Mr. if federal prosecutors request In Talks

inner circle pleaded guilty to fraud charges and agreed to assist federal prosecutors, ex-

By James Fanelli, Corinne Ramey and Alexander Osipovich

panding the pool of cooperating witnesses against the former head of the failed crypto exchange.

Nishad Singh, the company's former director of engineering, pleaded guilty to six criminal counts, including conspiring to commit securities and commodities fraud, during

A third member of FTX a hearing Tuesday in federal more appealing to investors. founder Sam Bankman-Fried's court in Manhattan. "I had a strong belief that

"I'm unbelievably sorry for my role in all of this and the harm that it has caused," Mr. Singh, 27 years old, told U.S. District Judge Lewis Kaplan.

Mr. Singh said that in mid-2022 he learned that Mr. Bankman-Fried's crypto hedge fund, Alameda Research, was borrowing FTX customer funds. By September 2022, Alameda could no longer repay the billions of dollars that it had taken from FTX, Mr. Singh said. He said that, at the direction of Mr. Bankman-Fried, he falsified FTX's revenue to make the company

"I had a strong belief that he would not share FTX's full

financial condition," Mr. Singh said of Mr. Bankman-Fried. Mr. Singh also pleaded

guilty to defrauding the U.S. in a campaign-finance scheme. He admitted in court that he made illegal donations to political-action committees and candidates using Alameda funds. The contributions were to enhance Mr. Bankman-Fried and FTX's political influence, he said.

A spokesman for Mr. Bankman-Fried declined to comment.

The FTX founder's trial is

Bankman-Fried in December was arrested and extradited from the Bahamas on fraud and conspiracy charges related to the implosion of FTX. Last week, prosecutors unveiled a new indictment charging him with additional crimes. Prosecutors said Mr. Bankman-Fried stole billions of dollars of FTX customer funds and misled investors and lenders.

Mr. Bankman-Fried has pleaded not guilty and denied committing fraud and stealing customer funds.

Under the terms of Mr. Singh's plea agreement, he is required to testify at any trial

Target's net profit

scheduled for October. Mr. if federal prosecutors request that he do so.

In parallel actions, the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission on Tuesday filed civil fraud lawsuits against Mr. Singh.

Mr. Singh created software code that allowed FTX customer funds to be diverted to Alameda, and he knew Mr. Bankman-Fried was improperly using such funds for venture investments and other purposes, according to the SEC. In September and October, despite knowing about the shakiness of FTX and

Please turn to page B13

January

U.S. retail sales,

To Buy Arconic

BY LAUREN THOMAS AND LAURA COOPER

Private-equity firm Apollo Global Management Inc. is in talks to acquire industrialparts maker **Arconic** Corp., according to people familiar with the matter.

Apollo submitted a bid in February and has debt financing in place, the people said.

Arconic's advisers at Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Evercore Inc. have also reached out to other potential acquirers, the people said. There is no guarantee there will be a deal with any of them.

Arconic stock leaped 19.5% Tuesday to close at \$26.44 after The Wall Street Journal reported on the bid, giving the company a market value of about \$2.6 billion. It also has a hefty debt load of more than \$1.5 billion. Should there be a deal, it would be expected to carry a significant premium to where the stock traded before Tuesday, the people said.

Pittsburgh-based Arconic, which makes parts for the aerospace, automotive, building and energy industries, has had a bumpy history. After being separated in 2016 from the aluminum business that is now called Alcoa, it faced a campaign from activist investor Elliott Investment Management LP that resulted in the Please turn to page B2

Amazon Lets Staff **Use Stock** For Homes By Dana Mattioli

Target's Profit Suffers as Sales Grow

By SARAH NASSAUER AND DEAN SEAL

Target Corp. said slower sales growth and rising operating costs hurt its profit in the most recent quarter as shoppers continued to spend cautiously with inflation hitting their budgets.

The retail chain's comparable sales, or those from stores or digital channels operating for the past 12 months, rose 0.7% in the quarter ended Jan. 28 compared with the same period a year earlier. More shoppers visited Target stores in the fourth quarter but spent differently than last year, the company said Tuesday.

Strong sales in food, beauty and essentials such as paper towels are offsetting weaker consumer spending in other categories, according to Chief Executive Brian Cornell.

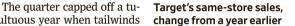
Target's shares rose 1% to \$168.50 on Tuesday, as investors welcomed quarterly sales and earnings that came in higher than analysts had forecast. Shares of the company are down about 23% over the past year, compared with an 8% decline in the S&P 500.

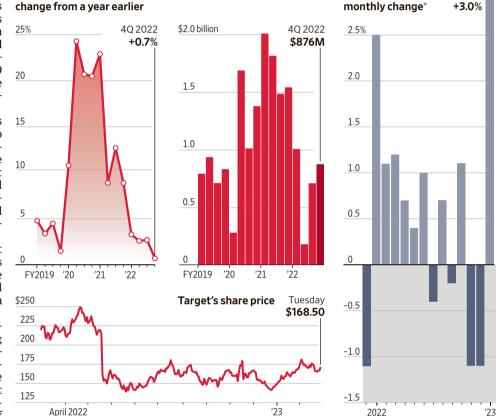
multuous year when tailwinds that spurred the company's strong performance earlier in the Covid-19 pandemic ended abruptly. Sales climbed starting in the second half of 2020 as spending surged on home goods, electronics and healthand-wellness products.

Target and other retailers stepped up product orders to avoid supply-chain delays, anticipating demand would be present. But with inflation last year reaching the highest level in decades, U.S. shoppers began to shift spending and pulled back on some discretionary purchases.

"Our growth in 2022 didn't come easily. It wasn't nearly as profitable as we expect to be over time," Mr. Cornell said during a Tuesday meeting with investment analysts.

Target executives said Tuesday that they aren't expecting a steep improvement in business soon. The company predicted sales this year could rise or fall by a low-single-digit percentage from 2022. Returning to its prepandemic rate of profitability could take nearly Please turn to page B2





*Seasonally adjusted Note: Target's fiscal year ended Jan 28 Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (retail sales); S&P Capotal IQ (profit); FactSet (share price); the company (comparable sales)

As Black-Owned Banks Fade, **Group of Investors Steps Up**

BY DION RABOUIN

Black-owned banks are disappearing. But a group of investors led by a former Trump administration policy adviser and a daughter of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. is creating one.

Working through a publicbenefit corporation called Redemption Holding Co., the group said Tuesday that it plans to buy a Utah bank named Holladay Bank & Trust. It expects to call the new bank Redemption Bank.

If the deal goes through, Redemption officials said it would mark the first time that Black investors have bought a nonminority-owned bank.

Bernice King will be senior vice president. She and venture capitalist Dhani Jones, a former National Football League player, will sit on an advisory board. Ashley Bell, a White House

policy adviser on entrepreneurship and innovation in the



Bernice King, a daughter of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Trump administration, will be chief executive. Additional investors include New York Community Bank and Rvan Smith. the billionaire owner of the National Basketball Association's Utah Jazz. The deal doesn't yet have regulatory approval.

Public-benefit corporations are required to balance a firm's stated purpose with the financial interests of shareholders, extending the business's benefits to stakeholders such as communities and employees. Online insurance provider Lemonade Inc.; footwear and apparel company AllBirds Inc.; and online education provider Coursera Inc. have all structured themselves as PBCs. Redemption said it is seeking regulatory approval to become a registered bank holding company.

"We think Redemption can be a platform by which we can build something special that cannot only be the first Blackowned bank in the Rocky Mountains, but can be a bank that can reach the entire country," Mr. Bell said.

The number of Black-owned banks has declined sharply this century, falling to 16 in 2022 from 47 in 2002, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. As of the third quarter, Please turn to page B12

INSIDE



MEDIA Paramount rejected a \$3 billion-plus offer to buy Showtime. **B2**

Instacart Earnings Climb Before Listing

Instacart Inc. generated same period a year earlier, sharply higher sales and profit in the fourth quarter, according to people familiar with the

By Jaewon Kang, Berber Jin and Corrie Driebusch

matter and an internal memo, as the company prepares for its highly anticipated initial public offering of stock.

The grocery-delivery company told employees on Tuesday that its revenue increased more than 50% in the fourth quarter, compared with the

while gross profit rose more than 80%, according to a memo viewed by The Wall Street Journal.

PROPERTY REPORT

Pimco is saddled with

a \$1.7 billion default

as interest rates bite.

B6

Instacart's full-year revenue increased 39% to about \$2.5 billion for 2022, people familiar with the matter said, as the company reaped the benefits of a push into advertising while it has struggled to increase order volume at the same pace it did during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Instacart in 2022 processed \$29 billion in overall sales Please turn to page B2

Amazon.com Inc. employees can now use their company shares as collateral when buying homes, under an arrangement with online mortgage lender **Better.com**.

A new Better.com product, Equity Unlocker, will allow employees to pledge stock for loans for down payments, the companies said, rather than having to sell the stock to raise cash.

To protect itself from a continued slide in Amazon's stock price, Better.com will charge a higher rate on the mortgages of employees pledging stock—between 0.25 and 2.5 percentage points above the market rate, depending on how the down pavment is structured, the company said.

However, unlike in stockbased loans that carry the risk of margin calls, requiring borrowers put up more collateral or sell assets to reduce debts, Amazon employees' loan arrangements would be protected if the stock price slides, Better.com Chief Executive Vishal Garg said in an interview.

The plan, which doesn't involve any financial agreement between the companies, is designed to give flexibility to a workforce paid largely in company stock.

Amazon historically has given less cash compensation to employees than its big-tech Please turn to page B6



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BUSINESS & FINANCE

These indexes cite notable references to most parent companies and businesspeople in today's edition. Articles on regional page inserts aren't cited in these indexes Paramount Declined an Offer to Reata PharmaceuticalsA7 Reynolds American...B14 **Buy Showtime for \$3 Billion-Plus**

By JESSICA TOONKEL

Former Paramount Global executive David Nevins offered to buy Showtime for more than \$3 billion in recent weeks but was turned down by Paramount executives, according to people familiar with the situation.

Mr. Nevins's approach, which was backed by privateequity firm General Atlantic, was the latest in a number of offers Paramount has received over the past few years for Showtime, people familiar with the matter said. Other suitors included Mark Greenberg, another former Showtime executive who most recently ran the premium network Epix, and Lions Gate Entertainment Corp., some of the people said.

Paramount has decided to hold on to the premium channel and streaming service while it seeks cost savings and revenue from folding the Showtime streaming service into Paramount+ this year, as The Wall Street Journal first reported. As part of that change, Paramount Global-home to the Paramount movie studio, the Paramount+ streaming service and cable channels including Nickelodeon and Comedy Central—will increase the price of the ad-free premium tier of Paramount+, which will include the Showtime programming, to \$11.99 from \$9.99.

Paramount's decision not to sell Showtime indicates the tough calls entertainment com-

cide what scale and portfolio they need to compete in the quickly changing media landscape. Paramount is betting the plan will result in cost savings and revenue generation that exceed what the company could get by selling Showtime. whose shows include hits like "Billions" and "Yellowjackets." Paramount, like many of its

panies are making as they de-

peers, is struggling with declines in pay-television subscribers and a volatile advertising market. The company has said it would have negative cash flow this year as it hits peak spending, but will hit positive cash flow and earnings growth in 2024.

Mr. Nevins offered to buy Showtime shortly after leaving Paramount Global, where he was chairman and chief executive of the Paramount Premium Group and chief creofficer of scripted ative content for Paramount+. He also oversaw Showtime, Paramount Television Studios and Black Entertainment Television.

Mr. Greenberg expressed interest in buying Showtime recently but discussions didn't advance, according to some of the people. Lions Gate Entertainment in recent years also has approached Paramount about merging Showtime with Starz, according to other people familiar with the situation. Last month on Paramount's earnings call, executives were asked by an analyst why the company chose to fold Showtime into Paramount+ instead of selling it for cash, in light of "credible multibillion-dollar offers for Showtime."

"We think there's enormous value to unlock with the integration of Showtime and Paramount+," Paramount CEO Bob Bakish said in response. The company reviewed the offers and concluded that its operating plan would create more value for shareholders, Mr. Bakish said.

–Miriam Gottfried contributed to this article.

said after releasing quarterly earnings reports last week.

Walmart relies on groceries for the majority of its sales and has benefited from a larger share of consumer budgets being spent in the category and gaining higher-income customers looking to save money. Target relies more heavily on nonfood sales, and its business faces more pressure when sales slow for things such as apparel and other discretionary items that carry higher profit margins.

"Customers are still spending money," Walmart Chief Executive Doug McMillon said last week. "It's obviously not as clear to us what the back half of the year looks like."

Overall, 2022 U.S. holiday sales rose 5.3% to \$936.3 billion, falling short of the forecast the National Retail Federation issued last year.



Continued from page B1 across the platform, a measure known as gross transaction volume, up about 16% from the previous year, the people said. The company in the fourth quarter reported positive net income and generated more than \$100 million in adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, the people said.

Instacart shared those numbers Tuesday during a call with investors. During the call, executives said the company was waiting for more cooperative markets to go public.

Instacart, which grew to be one of the most valuable private U.S. startups since its founding in 2012, in 2022 filed confidentially for an IPO with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The company planned to launch its listing late last year before pushing back its plans, citing turbulent market conditions. Instacart told employees then that going public in 2022 had been a priority and that it was waiting for an open market window.

launch an IPO at any time, idein the next several ally months, according to people familiar with the matter. Instacart and other delivery

companies got a boost to their business when Covid-19 spread and people stayed at home. That growth cooled as people resumed in-person shopping and dining out at restaurants, but consumers continue to buy more groceries online than they did before the pandemic.

Instacart added more stores to its platform and introduced food-stamp payments last year and its Instacart+ membership grew, according to the memo. The company's advertising products generate a more than 15% increase in sales for brands and are resonating with companies, according to the memo.

The memo said that Instacart is on track to generate more profitable growth and will focus on expanding its core business while investing in newer areas such as Instacart Health.

Shares of competitors such as DoorDash Inc. have fallen over the past year, partly as fears of a possible recession grow and their pandemicdriven boom winds down. The food- delivery company said recently its revenue for the three months ended Dec. 31 rose 40% from the same period a year earlier, which it attributed to strong consumer demand. DoorDash said it benefited from having more Dash-Pass subscribers

Target's Results Take a Hit

Continued from page B1

two years, depending on economic conditions and consumer demand, the company said.

Target reported progress in paring back its inventory levels from last year's peak, particularly for products that were big sellers during the pandemic, such as televisions and kitchen appliances, while seeking ways to wring costs out of its business.

Over the next few years. Target's goal is to achieve \$2 billion to \$3 billion in cost savings, it said. Capital-spending priorities for the next year include expanding services such as next-day delivery and driveup product returns, in addition to making the company more efficient. The company also is bracing for retailers across the industry to amp up their deals and promotions as they compete for a dwindling number of con-

Sam's Club to Add **Fulfillment Centers**

Sam's Club is expanding its supply-chain network as it looks to build on recent e-commerce sales growth by speeding up order fulfillment while cutting shipping costs.

The Bentonville, Ark.-based warehouse-club chain, owned by Walmart Inc., said it would open five new highly automated fulfillment centers this year, and about 14 to 16 warehouses in total over the next five years, as well as upgrade its existing warehouses.

The retailer also plans to open 30 more stores that will include space to handle more ecommerce orders.

Sam's Club said its plan is to shrink the average distance beand its stores and members. "We really need to evolve the supply chain to match that future growth and continue to double down in creating that fantastic experience for our members," said Joseph Godsey, chief supply-chain officer for

Sam's Club. The new supply-chain facilities will add to the retailer's network of about 55 warehouses. The fulfillment centers will be able to ship orders directly to customers, while other new facilities will also stow what the retailer calls ambient items, which have a long shelf life at room temperature, as well as replenishing stores.

Sam's Club reported its net e-commerce sales grew 21% for the quarter ended Jan. 27 compared with the year-ago period, driven by curbside pickup and orders shipped to customers'



Since its initial filing. Instacart has provided updated financial information to regulators, meaning it is prepared to tween its supply-chain facilities

sumer dollars. Chief Financial Officer Michael Fiddelke told analysts. In response, the company plans to launch or expand more than 10 private-label brands and introduce more items that appeal to value-conscious shoppers.

Caution about consumers'

homes. —Liz Young

moods and the economy was echoed by other large retailers in recent weeks. Consumers are spending more on food and less on electronics, apparel and home improvements as inflation and changing habits zap demand for many goods, Walmart Inc. and Home Depot Inc.

On Tuesday, Target said total revenue for the most recent quarter hit \$31.4 billion, up 1.3% from the same period the previous year.

Net earnings fell 43% to \$876 million, in part because of higher worker wages and more product promotions to unload inventory.

> –Kathryn Hardison contributed to this article.

Arconic in Play After Apollo Bid

Continued from page B1 resignation of Arconic's then-CEO, Klaus Kleinfeld, and an overhaul of its board.

Arconic is now run by Timothy Myers, who took the CEO role in 2020.

The Journal reported in 2018 that Apollo had expressed interest in Arconic. Apollo came close to an agreement to pay upward of \$10 billion for the company, but the deal never happened. Arconic

instead further divided into two independent, publicly traded businesses in 2020. Arconic's Engineered Prod-

ucts and Forgings businesses remained in the existing company, which was renamed Howmet Aerospace Inc. Its Global Rolled Products group became part of a new company now known as Arconic.

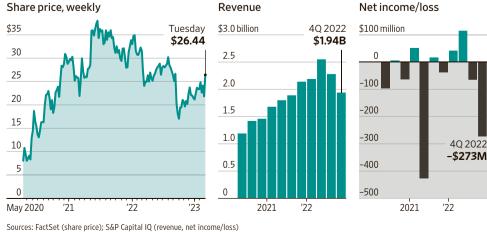
> Arconic recently reported fourth-quarter revenue of \$1.9 billion, down 9% from the prior year as higher interest rates fanned anxiety about the economy. Its net loss widened to \$273 million, or \$2.70 a share, from \$38 million, or 36 cents a share, a year earlier.

The deal would come at a muted time for private-equity buyouts. A tough financing market-coupled with a disconnect between buyers and sell-



A worker loads aluminum coil onto a truck at the Arconic manufacturing facility in Alcoa, Tenn.

Arconic



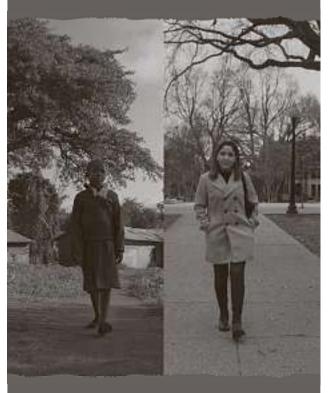
ers on price after equity values plummeted last year-has created roadblocks to deals.

Private-equity firms have turned more to private lenders, while some have opted to put more of their cash to work in new investments. Apollo, which has a large credit arm. has the ability to be creative in the structuring of its deals. The firm, which has over

\$500 billion in assets under management, recently led the purchase of \$900 million in convertible preferred stock of Western Digital Corp., along with Elliott

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BUSINESS NEWS

Norwegian Cruise Line Issues McDonald's Draws Franchisees' Pique On Celebrity Meals

By HEATHER HADDON

McDonald's Corp.'s celebrity-sponsored meals, which have generated strong sales for the chain, are drawing criticism from franchisees who say some of the artists don't reflect the company's values.

Some U.S. McDonald's restaurant owners have raised concerns over the chain's collaborations with celebrities including rappers Cardi B and Offset, according to franchisees and email messages to other owners and the company that were reviewed by The Wall Street Journal. Some owners said a number of McDonald's locations have declined to promote the current Cardi B and Offset meal, because of concerns about being associated with the artists.

In messages sent to the U.S. division in recent weeks, several McDonald's franchisees said that the artists' lyrics and lifestyles aren't aligned with the company's brand. Some owners wrote that the chosen celebrities could erode McDonald's family-friendly image, and urged other franchisees to remove advertising and merchandise associated with the Cardi B and Offset meal in their stores.

It couldn't be determined how many of McDonald's more-than-1,000 franchise owners were declining to promote the meal, or agreed that they were unsuitable for the brand. Franchisees raising concerns over the meals include some operating restaurants in southeastern and Mid-Atlantic states, according to the messages reviewed by the Journal.

McDonald's on Tuesday said the chain has received widespread support and excitement from owners and their restaurant employees regarding the Cardi B and Offset meal. The

company said the couple's promotion was meant to focus on love and celebrating special moments.

"Across our marketing, we're focused on putting McDonald's at the center of culture," McDonald's U.S. Chief Marketing Officer Tariq Hassan said.

Representatives for Cardi B and Offset didn't respond to requests for comment.

McDonald's "Famous Orders" meals, which typically combine a handful of celebrity-handpicked menu items in promotional packaging, have been among the burger chain's most successful marketing endeavors in recent years, executives have said.

The meals' introduction in 2020 helped the company recover U.S. sales lost at the Covid-19 pandemic's outset, and capture business from other burger chains, Wall Street analysts and the company have said.

The celebrity-backed meals largely draw on McDonald's existing menu, adding sales without increasing complexity in restaurants, McDonald's said. They also helped the chain drive more online orders and app downloads, one of the company's priorities, executives have said.

Cardi B, a Grammy-winning rapper, has stirred controversy over the explicit content of some of her lyrics and videos, particularly her 2020 hit "WAP," and she and Offset have collaborated on several songs. After the meal's announcement, some U.S. McDonald's operators relayed their concerns to the company, according to messages viewed by the Journal.

Some operators have questioned whether the celebrity tie-ins could conflict with the company's brand standards and franchisee rules.

BY WILL FEUER

Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd. issued soft earnings guidance for the year as it works to contain surging costs and mount a comeback from pandemic-constrained operations.

The Miami-based cruise operator said Tuesday that it expects to be profitable this year for the first time since the pandemic halted U.S. cruising in 2020. However, the company's 2023 earnings guidance fell below Wall Street expectations amid rising costs tied to food, fuel and labor.

Shares sank 10% to \$14.82 Tuesday. The downbeat outlook also weighed on shares of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. and **Carnival** Corp. Both fell 2%

Norwegian and rivals such as Carnival and Royal Caribbean are grappling with surging costs for fuel, food, labor and more after three years of pandemic constraints. Higher interest rates are also weighing on the companies, which issued billions of dollars in debt to make it through the pandemic.

Norwegian said it has taken steps in recent months to cut costs and boost margins. Adjusted nonfuel cruising costs per capacity day are expected to drop almost 15% this year, compared with the second half of last year.

"We are now squarely focused on the future and are taking deliberate and strategic actions to best position the company for its next chapter," Chief Executive Frank Del Rio said.

The company said it expects to post an annual adjusted profit of 70 cents a share this year, below the \$1.04 a share expected by Wall Street analysts, according to FactSet.

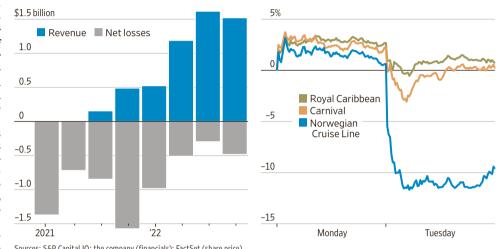


The company said it has taken steps in recent months to cut costs and boost margins.

Norwegian Cruise Line's quarterly financials

Soft 2023 Earnings Guidance

Share-price performance, past two days



Sources: S&P Capital IQ; the company (financials); FactSet (share price)

ended Dec. 31, Norwegian's revenue more than tripled to \$1.52 billion, topping the \$1.50 billion expected by analysts, according to FactSet. At the same time, cruise operating costs surged 70%.

of \$482.5 million, or \$1.14 a sure of how full a ship is, to share, compared with \$1.57

For the three months billion, or \$4.01 a share, in the same period a year earlier. Adjusted loss came to \$1.04 a share. wider than the 86 cents a share expected by analysts, according to Fact-Set.

For 2023, the company said The company posted a loss it expects occupancy, a meareturn to historical levels this

spring.

The company also expects to sail more than it did in 2019, with capacity expected to be 19% above 2019 levels, boosted by the introduction of new ships. Carnival and Royal Caribbean have said they expect to sail 3.3% and 14% more than they did in 2019, respectively.

Who's Who of Distinguished Leaders: 2023 Honorees

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TECHNOLOGY

WSJ.com/Tech

Rivian Issues Recall For Trucks, SUVs

Campaign comes as company's cash burn accelerates and its net losses continue

By SEAN MCLAIN

Rivian Automotive Inc.'s continued troubles on the manufacturing floor led it to report mixed quarterly results in the fourth quarter and a new safety recall as pressure mounts for EV startup to prove it can overcome its initial growing pains.

On Tuesday, Rivian said it was recalling 12,716 vehicles to fix a faulty sensor in the front passenger seat, its second maior recall in less than six months. The recall covers nearly 89% of the vehicles it produced through September, after which it fixed the problem on subsequently built sport-utility vehicles and trucks.

The car maker said it was unaware of any accidents or injuries related to the issue.

The Irvine, Calif., automotive startup also released financial results Tuesday, reporting a net loss of \$1.72 billion for the fourth quarter, compared with \$2.46 billion in the year-ago period.

The startup its per-share loss was \$1.87. That was narrower than the loss of \$2.06 a share analysts had expected, according to FactSet.

Rivian depleted its cash reserves at a faster rate than in previous quarters, reporting that it had \$11.6 billion in cash and cash equivalents as of Dec. 31, about \$2.2 billion less than at the end of the previous three-month period.

The startup also fell short of Wall Street's expectations on revenue, reporting sales of \$663 million for the Octoberto-December period.

Rivian shares fell 9.5% in after hours trading.

The auto industry is confronting rising interest rates that threaten to soften demand for new cars and trucks. Rivian took an additional hit this past year when the U.S. changed the rules on federal tax credits for EV purchases, setting both local manufacturing requirements and price

caps on qualifying vehicles. As a result. many Rivian customers do not qualify for the tax credit

"What we're seeing in terms of interest rates is, across the industry, having an impact on moderating demand," said Rivian Chief Executive RJ Scaringe. The company no longer reports how many reservations it has for its vehicles, but Mr. Scaringe said the backlog of orders will last until 2024. The company reported it had 114,000 reservation holders in September.

For this year, Rivian said it aimed to produce 50,000 vehicles this year, below what several analysts had predicted ahead of earnings. In a note to clients sent to clients last week, Wells Fargo analyst Colin Langan reduced its production expectations from 79,000 to 63,000 to reflect production halts during the current quarter as Rivian prepares to produce vehicles with a new battery and electric motor.

Rivian said production this year would be hit by supplychain issues and planned factory shutdowns to boost ca-



* *

The recall covers nearly 89% of the vehicles Rivian has produced through September of last year.

\$0 billion

-0.5

-1.0

-1.5

-2.0

-2.5

-3.0

2020

'21

pacity for consumer vehicles at its plant in Normal, Ill.

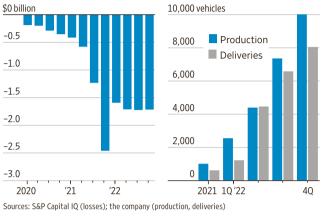
The company produces pickup trucks and SUVs in one half of the factory and commercial vans in the other half. While the plant has the potential to produce as many as 150,000 vehicles a year, Rivian said it could make only 65,000 R1T pickups or R1S SUVs.

Watch a Video

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Vehicle production and Rivian's quarterly net losses

deliveries



Tesla to Build a Monterrey Plant, Mexican Official Says

BY ANTHONY HARRUP

Electric-car maker Tesla Inc. plans to build a plant in the northern Mexican industrial hub of Monterrey, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said Tuesday.

Mr. López Obrador, who spoke several times in recent days with Tesla Chief Executive Elon Musk, added at his morning news conference that details of the investment would be made known on Wednesday. "This will mean a considerable investment, and many jobs," he said.

Mr. López Obrador said Tesla agreed to a series of commitments to address water-shortage problems in Monterrey, including the use of rewater cvcled in the manufacture of electric vehicles

"They are going to help," he said.

Tesla didn't respond to a request for comment.

Mr. López Obrador had thrown into question the possibility of the electric-car maker building a plant in Monterrey, arguing the city suffers water shortages be-

growth in recent years. His administration had hoped to persuade Tesla to build elsewhere in Mexico, in central Hidalgo state close to the new Mexico City airport, or in the southeast of the country.

Growing demand for electric vehicles has set off a frenzy in the U.S. for building new car plants, with foreignowned car companies targeting the U.S. for expansion and EV startups building out their manufacturing capabilities.

Mr. Musk said last year that the electric-vehicle maker

cause of its rapid urban would likely need about a dozen factories to reach its goal of selling 20 million vehicles annually by 2030. Tesla produced over 1.3 million vehicles last year and has been steadily adding production capacity at its plants in the U.S., China and Germany.

The car maker said in January it would spend more than \$3.6 billion to expand its plant near Reno, Nev., where it assembles batteries and produces car parts. Tesla also filed paperwork for a potential \$775 million expansion at its electric-vehicle plant near

Austin, Texas.

Mexico, the world's seventh-largest auto maker and fifth-largest exporter of cars and light trucks, has stepped up its efforts to advance production of electric vehicles. Vehicles and auto parts account for around 3.5% of Mexico's gross domestic product and a third of its manufactured goods exports.

German luxury car maker BMW AG said in early February that it is investing €800 million, equivalent to about \$848 million, to produce fully electric cars at its plant in the

Mexican state of San Luis Potosí.

The shift toward electric vehicles was among topics at January's North American Leaders Summit.

Mexico has starting seeing the benefits of companies moving production and supplies closer to the U.S. market in a trend known as nearshoring, which gathered pace after the global supply-chain disruptions suffered by manufacturers during the Covid pandemic.

> —Rebecca Elliott contributed to this article.



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MEDIA

ΝY

BAE Fighter Drone Can Take Off Vertically BY MIKE CHERNEY Quires significant logistical for its military to be able to hold potential adversaries far

AVALON, Australia-BAE Systems PLC unveiled a design for a large drone that can take off vertically and fly alongside manned helicopters, the latest bet on autonomous warfare as countries seek to upgrade their militaries.

The new system, called Strix, aims to be affordable and easy to deploy, while still offering substantial range and firepower. A video animation played by BAE at the Avalon Airshow in Australia, where it announced the new aircraft and displayed a model, showed Strix taking off from the back of boats. Another video showed the drone, with wings folded, being stored in a shipping container and then driven away on a truck.

Unmanned aerial systems have become a key focus for militaries worldwide, as a force multiplier and a way to project power over long ranges while minimizing human losses. But many of those drones, such as Turkey's Bayraktar TB2 drone that has been used effectively by



The drone has a range of nearly 500 miles with a 350-pound payload.

Ukraine, and the longer-range MQ-9 Reaper operated by the U.S., require runways to take off and land.

"The unique capability of Strix is that it combines all the benefits of helicopters in terms of vertical takeoff and landing, but with the speed. range and payload characteristics of conventional aircraft," said Ben Hudson, the chief executive of BAE Systems Australia, the BAE unit that designed the drone.

The conflict between Ukraine and Russia has illustrated how lightweight and precise weaponry can lead to successes on the battlefield. At the center of this shift are weapons that are highly mobile, meaning that they can be loaded and launched from vehicles that are able to move before an enemy can fix upon their location. Such weapons offer an alternative to traditional artillery, which can be cumbersome to move and re-

BAE said the drone, which has a range of nearly 500 miles with a 350-pound payload, could be used for a variety of missions, including an air-to-ground strike against a hostile target, surveillance and reconnaissance, and as a wingman for manned helicopters.

Mr. Hudson said the drone could fly alongside manned helicopters but then accelerate as it enters an area of operations-thus drawing fire away from the helicopters. He said the target customer for the system would be armies and navies, rather than air forces.

Many drones of this caliber require large runways and lots of support infrastructure, Mr. Hudson said. "With our vertical takeoff and landing, none of that's required anymore, so we can get close to the front line and provide intimate support to troops on the battlefield," he said.

Australia, a key ally for the U.S., has been interested in other long-range unmanned platforms, and Australian officials have stressed the need

from its shores as strategic competition between the U.S. and China increases. BAE has also worked with Boeing Co. on the fixed-wing MQ-28 Ghost Bat, which was designed and built in Australia and is aimed at flying autonomously and operating alongside jet fighters.

Whether BAE's Strix will ever enter military service remains uncertain. BAE said it is still working on a prototype of the drone, though it could be operational by 2026. Mr. Hudson said two international customers had expressed interest in the system so far, though the company didn't say if there had been any firm commitments from Australia or other countries. The drone, codeveloped with Perth-based Innovaero, would be manufactured in Australia.

With air defenses more able to take out conventional aircraft, Mr. Hudson said militaries are more interested in affordable. unmanned systems that won't stretch the budget if they are shot down.

Vs. Apple

BY KIM MACKRAEL

The European Union sent a revised charge sheet to Apple Inc., narrowing the scope of its allegations that the company abused its position in the market for distributing musicstreaming apps.

The European Commission, the bloc's antitrust watchdog, said Tuesday its concerns now focus on contractual restrictions that Apple imposed on app developers, which the commission said prevented them from informing iPhone and iPad users about other ways to subscribe to musicstreaming services.

The regulator said it no longer takes a position on Apple imposing its own in-app payment technology on streaming app developers, dropping earlier allegations as part of an antitrust action announced nearly two years ago. Apple said it was pleased the commission had narrowed its case.

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CLASS ACTION

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

IN RE CLOUDERA, INC. SECURITIES LITIGATION Lead Case No. 19CV348674

SUMMARY NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION

TO: ALL PERSONS AND ENTITIES WHO ACQUIRED THE COMMON SHARES OF CLOUDERA, INC. PURSUANT TO THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORMS S-4 AND PROSPECTUS ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH THE MERGER OF CLOUDERA, INC. AND HORTONWORKS, INC.

Please be advised that your rights may be affected by a class action lawsuit pending in the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Santa Clara if you acquired common shares of Cloudera, Inc. ("Cloudera") in connection with Cloudera's January 3, 2019 merger and acquisition of Hortonworks, Inc. ("Hortonworks") (the "Merger").

solicitation from a lawyer.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to a court Order dated November 20, 2022, a class has been certified in a class action entitled *In re Cloudera, Inc. Securities* Litigation, Lead Case No. 19CV348674 (the "Action"), pending before Judge Patricia M. Lucas of the Superior Court of the State of California, Santa Clara County (the "Court").

The Action is brought on behalf of all persons and entities who acquired Cloudera common shares pursuant to the Registration Statement on Form S-4 and the Form 424B3 Prospectus (the "Offering Materials") issued in connection with the Merger (the "Class"), and asserts claims under the federal Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") against: (1) Cloudera, (2) Intel Corporation; and (3) certain of Cloudera's current and former officers and (s) technic of solution of the offering Materials for the Merger (collectively, "Defendants"). Plaintiffs, on behalf of the Class, allege that all Defendants violated Section 11 of the Securities Act because the Offering Materials, pursuant to which Cloudera common shares were offered, contained materially false or misleading statements and/or omitted material information required to be disclosed therein. Plaintiffs also allege, on behalf of the Class, that Cloudera violated Section 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act and that, pursuant to Section 15 of the Securities Act, each Defendant is liable as a "controlling person" of one or more of the other Defendants (or their employees or other agents) who violated Sections 11 and 12(a)(2).

A court authorized this notice. This is not a Defendants' immediate families; (iii) the officers and directors of Cloudera and Intel; and (iv) any entity in which the Defendants have or had a controlling interest."

> If you are a member of the Class, your rights may be affected by this Action. If you have not received a detailed Notice of Pendency of Class Action ("Notice"), you may obtain copies by writing to Notice Administrator, *Cloudera Class Action*, c/o Epiq, P.O. Box 6074, Portland, OR 97228-6074, tel. (800) 655-8220, or by downloading this information at www.ClouderaSecuritiesLitigation.com. Inquiries, other than requests for a copy of the Notice, may be made to class counsel: Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, c/o James I. Jaconette, 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900, San Diego, CA 92101, tel. (619) 231-1058 or Scott+Scott Attorneys at Law LLP, c/o John T. Jasnoch 600 West Broadway, Suite 3300, San Diego, CA 92101, tel. (619) 233-4565.

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CAREERS

Financial Services

FINANCIAI SerVICes Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC hiring for following roles in NY, NY: Vice President to gather req'mts for the content & campaigns to be executed on Morgan Stanley Online, Mor-gan Stanley Mobile, Etrade, & ShareWorks plat-forms (3215235, salary range \$158,000 to \$180,000); Vice President, Wealth Manage-ment Field to be responsible for Digital Engage-ment Team's daily email content publishing for direct bnft of Wealth Mgmt fin'l advisors, clients & stock plan participants (3228467, salary direct bnft of Wealth Mgmt fin'l advisors, clients & stock plan participants (3228467, salary range \$\$172,000 to \$180,000); & Assistant Vice President to collab w/ bus. partners to identify bus. problems & how they rel to organi-zation's key strategic objectives (3221279, sal-ary range \$137,400 to \$137,400). All positions req rel degree &/or exp &/or skills. Multiple open positions at various prof/ levels. For more info & to apply, visit https://ms.taleo.net/careersec-tion/2/jobsearch.tft?lang=en Scrofl down to "Join our team" heading & search for these opp'tys. No calls please. EOE

Portfolio Management Associate Portfolio Management Associate Morgan Stanley Investment Management Inc. hiring for following role in NY, NY: Portfolio Management Associate to work as member of Real Estate Investing Portfolio Management team & support Portfolio Managers on various funds across platform (salary range \$130,000 to \$130,000, Position req's rel degree &/or exp &/or skills. For more info & to apply, visit https://ms.taleo.net/careersection/2/ jobsearch.fil?lang=en Scroll down & enter 3221250 as "Job Number" & click "Search jobs." No calls please. EOE

Vice President

Morgan Stanley Capital Group Inc. hiring for fol-lowing role in NY, NY: Vice President to provide physical & fin'l commodity risk mgmt & financ'g solutions, daily mkt updates, & bespoke trade solutions, daily mkt updates, & bespoke trade tideas to domestic & internat'l corporations (sal-ary range \$240,000 to \$250,000). Position reg's rel degree &/or exp &/or skills. For more info & to apply, visit https://ms.taleo.net/ careersection/2/jobsearch.ft?lang=en Scroll down & enter 3221137 as "Job Number" & click "Search jobs." No calls pls.

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a) 17, JUUJ; Director to dvip strategic acctg solutions to respond to bus. dvipnts, whilst collab wi internal clients in Bus. Units, Technology, & Operations & Finic (3226160, salary range \$114,000 to \$135,000); Vice President to work wi team to store Party data from various sources & provide to different softw apps thru new strategic initiative projects (3215443, salary range \$174,000 to \$200,00); Vice President to work wi stakeholders at all levels wii bus. to provide wide variety of technology solutions, incl maintenance of highly sensitive data, content creation, real time electronic trading softw app support. Ensure app avail for end clients & monitor for unknown/known issues that might interrupt app performance or cause latero(3221145, salary range \$142,273 to \$150,000); & Sencior Manager to execute technology-led audits & integrated audits wi bus' auditors from initiation to completion (3215241, salary range \$149,000 to \$180,000). All positions red rel degree &/or exp &/or skills. Multiple open positions at various prof1 levels. For more info & to apply online, visit https://ms.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobsearch. ftl?lang=en Scroil down to "Join our team" ase. EOE

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GBM Client Insights & Analytics

GBM Client Insights & Analytics Socia Capital (USA) Inc. seeks Associate Di-rector, US Lead – GBM Client Insights & Ana-lytics in NY, NY to work closely w/ GBM US Chief Operating Officer (COO) & designated bus. leaders to assist w/ design, dvlpmt, & exe-cution of GBM US Strategy. Req mts: Bache-lor's or foreign equiv in Bus. Admin, Economics, Math, CS, or rel & 5 yrs progressively responsi-ble exp in job offered or rel occupation: utilizing exp in fin1 srvcs, reporting, or analytics role; working w/ wholesale banking products, focus-ing on corp lending; utilizing quantitative & ana-lytical skills to manage Irg data sets; designing & delivering reporting using Power BI & Tab-leau, utilizing Advanced Excel incl. Pivot Ta-bles, Nested Formulas, & Charting; interpreting data & spotting patterns, anomalies, & opp'tys;

data & spotting patterns, anomalies, & opp'tys; presenting to s execs & creating supporting ma-terials; liaising w/ stakeholders & forming cross-

terials; liaising wi stakeholders & forming cross-functional partnerships. Telecommuting &/or working from home permissible pursuant to co. policies. When not telecommuting, must report to work site. In alternative, employer will accept Master's in above-listed fields & 3 yrs exp in above-listed skills. Offered salary is betw \$153,525 & \$203,600 per yr/40 hrs wk. Submit resumes to HR_VC, Scotiabank, 250 Vesey St., NY, NY 10281. Indicate code WR021523WJ.

Financial Services

Financial Services Morgan Stanley & Co., LLC hiring for following roles throuot facilities in NY, NY: Associate to trade EM corp debt for retail trading team wii Fixed Income (3221220, salary range \$200,000 to \$200,000); Associate to engage wi sales, trading & prime brkrge leadership globally to dvlp strat plans & tactical initiatives (3223590, salary range \$150,000 to \$180,000); Associate to work wil Inst. Equity Div. (IED) & help provide finil experise on liquidity, content dist & prod-uct solutions to help manage risks, procure tech benefits, & launch new funds for potential inves-tors (3215251, salary range \$175,000 to \$180,000); Vice President, Strats to be respon-sible for research in Quant Research (QR)

Sta0,000): Vice President, Strats to be responsible for research in Quant Research (QR) group (32515236, salary range \$225,000 to \$250,000); Vice President to work closely w/ traders to provide quant anlys, assist decision making, & increase efficiency in trading (3221276, salary range \$225,000 to \$250,000); & Vice President, Risk Management to perform risk anlys of global multi-asset portfolios to assess mitk & liquid risks, w/ focus on energy, fixed income, equity, forex, & base metal futures (3231379, salary range \$176,000 to \$190,000). All positions req rel degree &/or exp &/or skills. Multiple open positions at various prof1 levels. For more info & to apply online, visit https://ms.taleo.net/careersection/2/jobsearch.ftf?lang=en Scroll down to "Join our team" heading & search for these opp tys. No

team" heading & search for these opp'tys. No calls please. EOE

Auctioneer, via email at mdmannion@jpandr.com or via telephone at +1 (212) 267-6698 to receive deposit

Instructions and Terms of Sale. FLOREK & COUNSEL, LLC, Attorneys for Secured Party By: Stephen A. Florek III, Esq., 238 Route 206, Suite A, Branchville, New Jersey 07826, Tel.: (973) 862-5052 ext. 701, Fax.: (914) 219-0948

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF COLLATERAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF COLLATERAL Please take notice that 100% of the membership interests in Life Hotel One LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the "Company"), will be offered for sale at a public auction and sold to the highest "qualified bidde" on April 21, 2023 at 11 a.m. (New York time). The sale will be conducted virtually (i.e., not in person by auctioneer Matthew D. Mannion of Mannion Auctiones, LLC, via Zoom through the following link: https://bit/JifeHotel (case sensitive); Dial-in: +1 464 558 8656; Meeting ID: 844 0356 1608; and Meeting Password: 70664. The principal asset of the Company is the hotel located at 19 West 31st Street, New York, NY. This sale is held to enforce the rights of 1921 West 31st Street Funding LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as secured party (including its successors and assigns, "Secured Party") under that certain Amended, Restated and Consolidated Loan Agreement, dated as of July 19, 2017, between the Company and Deutsche Bank AG, New York Branch and that certain Pledge and Security Agreement dated as of November 3, 2017, executed by Life Hotel PREF in favor of Deutsche Bank AG, New York Branch, both of which are currently held by Secured Party. Secured Party reserves the right to reject all bids and terminate or adjourn the sale to another time, without further publication. Interested parties who would like additional information regarding the Company, the collateral, property

Increase parties who would like additional information regarding the Company, the collateral, property visits, and the terms of the public sale (including the requirements to be a "qualified bidder") should execute the non-disclosure agreement which can be reviewed at the website https://tinyuri.com/LifeHotel (case sensitive). For questions and inquiries, please contact Joanne Au of CBRE Capital Markets at joanne.au@cbre. com.

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF NEW YORK MICHAELANGELO GIIK FLATIRON LLC, NEW TRIPLE CROWN LLC, FLATIRON NEWMARK PARTNERS LLC and FLAT IRON ACQUISTION LLC, Plaintiffs - against - MRS FLATIRON LLC, Defendant. Pursuant to an Interlocutory Judgment dated January 6, 2023 and entered on January 19, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at a public auction, to be held outside at the portico at the front entrance of the New York County Courthouse, located at 60 Centre Street, New York, New York, or such other space in said Courthouse as the Court may designate, on March 22, 2023 at 200 p.m., the real property located at 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, being the building commonly known as "The Flatiron Building," and described as follows: ALL that, certain plot, piece, or parcel of land, lying and

described as follows: ALL that certain plot, picee, or parcel of land, lying and being in the Borough of Manhattan, County, City, and State of New York, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side of East 22nd Street and easterly side of Fifth Avenue.

THENCE easterly along the northerly side of East 22nd Street, 85 feet 8 inches to the westerly side of Broadway.

THENCE northerly along the westerly side of Broadway, ZH4 feet 6 inches to the southerly side of Madison Square South;

Square South; THENCE westerly along the southerly side of Madison Square South, 2 feet to the easterly side of Fifth

Avenue; THENCE southerly along the easterly side of Fifth Avenue; 197 feet 6 inches to the point or place of

THENCE southerly along the easterly side of Fifth Avenue, 197 feet 6 inches to the point or place of BEGINNING. The Premises will be sold subject to the provisions of the said Interlocutory Judgment and Terms of Sale, which may be reviewed on the New York County Supreme Court's electronic docket under Index Number 654176/2021. The purchaser shall pay the charge for recording the deed to be given by the Referee, any charge or tax (excluding any applicable real property transfer taxes) upon the delivery or recording of said deed, and the reasonable charge of the Referee for drawing the deed. The reasonable costs of the Referee actions are expenses of the sale and shall be paid by the Referee from the proceess ful bidder will be required to agree to be bound by the terms of the Interlocutory Judgment and Terms of Sale, including but not limited to the terms specifying the successful bidder's liability Judgment and Terms of Sale, including but not limited to the terms specifying the successful bidder's liability for damages in the event of a default; and to pay a down payment of ten percent (10%) of the amount of the successful bid as detailed in the Interfocutory Judgment and Terms of Sale. Please consult the Interfocutory Judgment and Terms of Sale for other conditions applicable to this auction. PETER A. AXELROD, ESQ., Referee 260 Madison Avenue, 15th Floor New York, New York 10016

Defendants deny all of these allegations, deny that they engaged in any wrongdoing, and deny that they have any liability or violated the Securities Act.

The Court has decided that the Action should proceed as a class action on behalf of a Class that (subject to certain exclusions) consists of "All persons who acquired Cloudera common stock in exchange for Hortonworks, Inc. securities pursuant to the registration statement and prospectus issued in connection with Cloudera's January 2019 merger and acquisition of Hortonworks. Excluded from the Class are (i) Defendants; (ii) the Individual

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DO ANYTHING AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, IF YOU WISH TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASS, YOU MUST SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION BY MAY 15, 2023, IN THE MANNER AND FORM EXPLAINED IN THE NOTICE. ALL MEMBERS OF THE CLASS WHO DO NOT VALIDLY REQUEST EXCLUSION FROM THE CLASS WILL BE BOUND BY ALL OF THE DETERMINATIONS, INCLUDING ORDERS AND JUDGMENTS, THAT THE COURT HAS MADE OR WILL MAKE IN THIS ACTION EVEN IF THERE IS NO RECOVERY.

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT OR THE CLERK'S OFFICE REGARDING THIS NOTICE. Dated: March 1, 2023 BY ORDER OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF

CALIFORNIA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY

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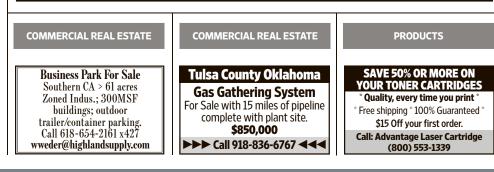
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This could be the most important call you will ever make. You will be glad you did. I look forward to hearing from you.



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THE PROPERTY REPORT **Pimco Saddled With \$1.7 Billion Default**

Columbia Property Trust feels the fallout of rising interest rates in office real estate

BY PETER GRANT AND KONRAD PUTZIER

In 2021, the asset-management firm known as Pimco banked on an office-market comeback. Interest rates were near historic lows and the economy was humming. Cities were expecting a surge in newly vaccinated workers returning to the office.

In September of that year, Pacific Investment Manage**ment** Co. said it was acquiring Columbia Property Trust Inc., which owned 19 office buildings in New York, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and other cities. The deal valued Columbia at \$3.9 billion.

Columbia has now defaulted on more than \$1.7 billion of debt backed by seven of its buildings, according to people familiar with the matter, which makes it one of the biggest office defaults during the pandemic period.

The company suffered from the rise in borrowing costs and return-to-office plateauing rates in big cities. But Columbia also faced unusual circumstances, such as when Twitter Inc. stopped making rent payments in New York and San Francisco, say people familiar with the matter.

The default marks the latest sign that a meltdown is unfolding in the office market as more high-profile landlords default on debt or engage lenders in restructuring discussions.

High interest rates and the glut of vacant space aggravated by remote and hybrid-work strategies are threatening to send shock waves through the economy while upending one of the mainstay investments of the commercial property world.



Columbia was stung by a plateau in return-to-office rates and Twitter's nonpayment of rent in San Francisco, above, and New York.

"We, like most office owners, are addressing the unique and unprecedented challenges currently facing our asset class and customer base. We have engaged with our lenders on a restructuring of our loan on seven properties within our larger national portfolio," said a Columbia spokeswoman.

Pimco, a unit of German insurer Allianz SE, was one of the most active buyers of commercial real estate during the pandemic. The firm, which had \$1.74 trillion of assets under management as of Dec. 31, was buying office, hotels and other property types that offered higher yields than investmentgrade corporate bonds.

with signs of a rebound. Government stimulus checks, low interest rates and hiring by technology companies stoked the economy. In the summer of 2021, when the deal was negotiated, companies were telling employees who had been working at home since the pandemic hit to return to offices after Labor Day. But by the time the acquisition was complete, the Delta variant of Covid-19 had dashed hopes of a robust post-Labor Day return to office.

Even with the job growth of the past two years, vacancy has soared as businesses have adopted hybrid and remote workplace strategies.

Pimco's acquisition of Co-The Columbia sale coincided lumbia also turned out to be a

bad call on interest rates. Instead of taking out a fixed-rate mortgage. the company in December 2021 took out a roughly \$1.7 billion floating-rate loan backed by seven of the office buildings. Floating-rate loans tend to be cheaper and make it easier to sell property, brokers say, but come with the risk of a sudden rise in debt payments.

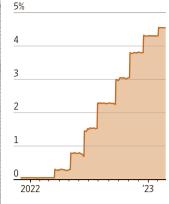
On top of the senior debt, Columbia put a \$125 million mezzanine loan on the seven buildings, according to bond documents. The total \$1.842 billion of debt on the portfolio was equal to about 81% of the buildings' appraised value, the documents said, a steep loanto-value ratio compared with other office building deals in

recent years.

At the time, the risk didn't look unreasonable. Most investors expected rates to remain low, and the yield on 10-year Treasury notes hovered around 1.5%. The floating interest rate on the debt was around 3% at the time of the deal.

The seven buildings were 87% leased to blue-chip tenants including Verizon Communications Inc., Snap Inc. and Twitter, according to people familiar with the matter.

In 2022, interest rates started rising amid persistent inflation, pushing up the portfolio's debt cost to around 6% today. At that interest rate, annual debt payments are higher than the buildings' most recent U.S. Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)



Note: Data through Feb. 24 Source: FactSet

annual cash flow at the time the loan was issued, according to the documents. And the interest rate could rise even higher at the end of 2023, when a derivative contract Columbia bought to cap the rate at around 6% expires, according to the documents. The occupancy rate of the portfolio, meanwhile, dropped to 84% as of Dec. 31, according to people familiar with the matter.

Columbia also started having trouble with the biggest tenant in the portfolio: Twitter, which leases most of one of the company's Manhattan buildings and a small space in a San Francisco building. In late December, an affiliate of Columbia sued Twitter for \$136,260 in unpaid rent at the San Francisco office, according to court records. Twitter didn't respond to requests for comment.

With the debt in default, Pimco's choices include giving up the buildings to creditors or reaching a deal with creditors to restructure the debt. Relief might also come if the office market strengthens greatly or interest rates fall. But neither seems likely very soon. The Federal Reserve's preferred inflation gauge rose 5.4% in January, which could prompt the Fed to raise rates further.

New Home Sales in China Pick Up After Long Slump

By CAO LI

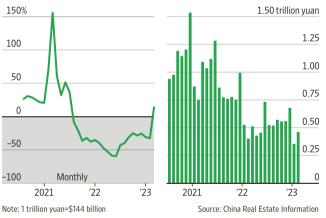
New home sales at China's largest property developers rose on a yearly basis in February after a long downturn, as the country's reopening and lower mortgage rates helped draw home buyers back to its moribund housing market.

default on their international debt, leaving investors with huge losses, contractors and suppliers with unpaid bills and many homeowners with unfinished and undelivered homes. In November 2022, after monthly new home sales declined in double-digit percentage terms for more than a



Total sales at China's 100 largest residential developers, change from a year earlier

Monthly sales at China's top 100 developers



Monthly sales at the country's top 100 real-estate developers increased 14.9% from February 2022 to the equivalent of \$66.5 billion, according to private data released Tuesday by China Real Estate Information Corp., which tracks the industry. It was the first time this measure of sales grew annually since the sector began slumping in July 2021, when China Evergrande Group began to struggle with liquidity problems.

China's property sector, a major engine for the world's second-largest economy, has been mired in a long slump that followed a government campaign to curb excessive borrowing by developers. The deleveraging push caused Evergrande and dozens of its peers to run short of cash and

year, Chinese authorities dialed back some of their property-sector curbs. State-owned commercial banks began showering stronger developers with credit, immediately alleviating their financial pressures and giving potential home buyers confidence that the companies would be able to finish building apartments they presold.

The Chinese government, on central and local levels, rolled out measures to encourage people to buy homes. Many cities scrapped restrictions on how many properties each person can purchase and how much a homeowner can borrow.

Chinese commercial banks also lowered benchmark lending rates that mortgages are pegged to, taking the country's average mortgage rate to its lowest since 2019. The average



China's housing market—a major growth engine for the world's second-largest economy—is showing signs of bottoming out.

mortgage rate for first-time home buyers is currently 4.04%, according to Beike Research Institute.

The new-home-sales growth in February was partly because of a low comparison base. Last year's Lunar New Year holiday, which is usually a slower period for home sales, took place in February. Later that month, Covid-19 infections started to pick up across China, and restrictions on movement were

applied in some cities that limit people's ability to visit properties and showrooms.

Still, the year-over-year increase was noteworthy and signaled that China's housing market could be starting to bottom out. There have been other signs of a nascent recovery; Country Garden Holdings Co., a large private developer, is planning to buy residential land in government auctions again after a long hiatus, The Wall Street Journal reported last week.

The growth trend could continue in the coming months, led by increased sales in top-tier cities, said Bruce Pang, chief China economist at Jones Lang LaSalle. March is also usually a better month for home sales. Lower-tier, or economically poorer Chinese cities, on the other hand, may experience lackluster growth, said Mr. Pang.

When the broader housing market will recover remains uncertain, said Song Hongwei. a research director at Tongce Research Institute, which tracks and analyzes China's real-estate market. Developers have been acquiring far less land, and consumer confidence hasn't yet returned, he notes. "Our forecast is that the market won't touch bottom and rebound until the second half of this year," said Mr. Song.

Amazon Workers Get Perk

Continued from page B1 peers, and tried to make up the difference with restricted stock units-shares given to employees that vest over several vears.

The longer employees stay with Amazon, the more their compensation can depend on these stock awards, with shares making up more than half of total income for some executives.

Last year, amid a tight labor market and a slumping stock price, Amazon raised the cap for the cash component of salaries to \$350,000 from \$160,000.

The stock-based compensation was predicated on the assumption that Amazon's stock would rise at least 15% each year, a mark it had been beating until recently.

But over the past year, Am-



Better.com's Equity Unlocker will let Amazon staff pledge stock for home loans for down payments.

stock longer to experience an

increase in the price, accord-

ing to statements from

spokespeople and training

azon's share price is down more than 35%, dropping compensation below internal targets, The Wall Street Journal has reported.

As a result, Amazon is guid-

ing its employees to "think documents viewed by the like owners" and hold the Journal.

> The Better.com arrangement is similar to a service that banks offer high-networth clients, issuing loans

backed by their portfolios of stocks and bonds. Such securities-backed loans can be risky for the banks when asset prices fall sharply.

The partnership between Amazon and Better.com would allow Amazon employees to hold stock longer if they want to wait for the price to recover, while still participating in buying a home.

"Any company that wants to maintain an RSU-centric strategy is going to have to be creative about figuring out ways that the RSUs can be valuable to employees when those employees don't want to sell them when stock prices are going down," Better.com's Mr. Garg said, referring to restricted stock units.

An Amazon spokesman said the new service aligns with Amazon's benefits program that seeks to care for the financial wellness, mental wellness and physical wellness of its employees.

which The program, launched Tuesday in states including Washington, New York and Florida, will also be available to laid-off Amazon employees who still retain restricted stock units. Over the past few months, Amazon has laid off around 18.000 employees, joining other tech companies in cutting the workforce to reduce costs as demand weakens.

Better.com is a customer of Amazon's cloud-computing business, Amazon Web Services. The company pitched the partnership to Amazon's innovation team as a result of that relationship, said Mr. Garg. He hopes to work with other companies with Better.com's Equity Unlocker product.

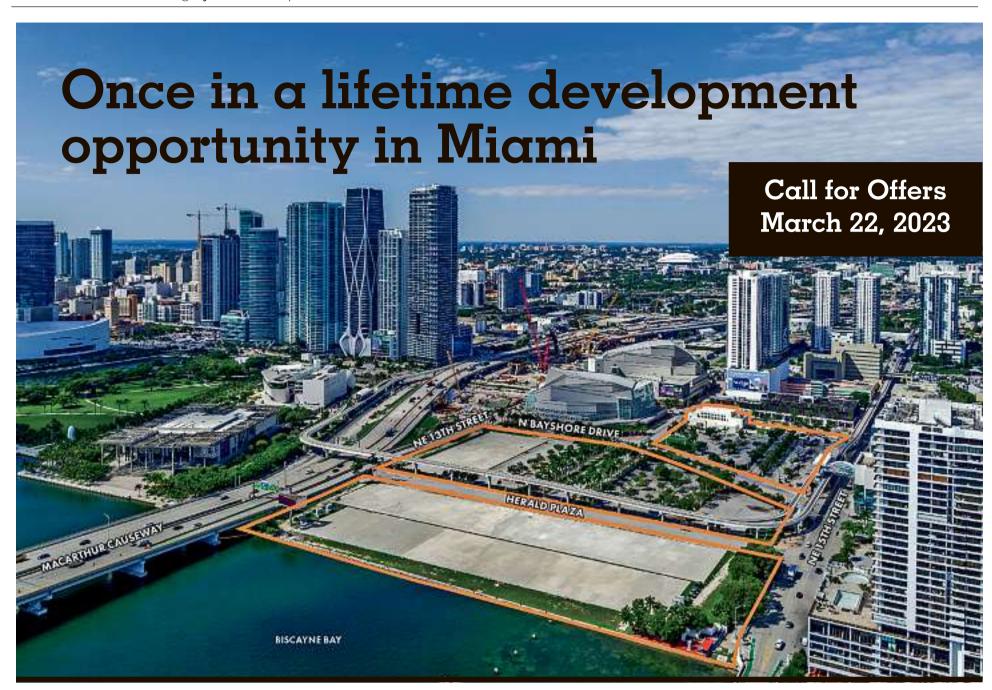
Better.com was launched in 2014. The company benefited from the boom in housing prices and wave of mortgage refinancing that accompanied the pandemic and low interest rates.

It has since been rocked by the rise in interest rates and resulting sharp pullback in refinancings, as well as a controversy when Mr. Garg laid off 900 workers via a Zoom call in late 2021.

He apologized for his handling of the layoffs. The company has since cut thousands more jobs.

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BUSINESS NEWS

Dish Network Reports Cyber Breach

Company is trying to determine whether personal information was affected

BY WILL FEUER

Dish Network Corp. said Tuesday it was hit by a cybersecurity incident and that certain data was taken from internal systems.

The company said in a securities filing it was working to determine whether personal information was affected. The company has notified law-enforcement authorities and is working with third-party experts and advisers to investigate the incident.

Last week, company executives said on a conference call to discuss the quarterly results that Dish had experienced a network outage that affected internal servers and IT telephony.

The company has notified lawenforcement authorities.

The company said its Sling TV service and its wireless and data networks are still operational, but internal communications, customer call centers and some websites have been affected.

On Tuesday, Dish's website had a notice that it was facing problems. "We are experiencing a system issue that our teams are working hard to resolve," the notice read.

Separately, Bank of America analysts on Tuesday downgraded Dish shares to underperform from buy, saying that opportunities for the company to leverage its growing 5G wireless infrastructure could be fading. They said that established players are chasing the same partnerships that Dish would need for its 5G network once it is at scale.

Axel Springer to Shift Focus to U.S. Market By BOJAN PANCEVSKI

BERLIN—The German owner of Politico and other U.S. outlets announced a restructuring of its domestic operation, floated potential disposals and unveiled plans for a new headquarters in New York City as it shifts its focus to the U.S.

Axel Springer SE, one of Europe's largest news organizations and the only one with a major U.S. presence, said it would slim down its corporate structure in Germany and phase out the print editions of its publications as it seeks to become a leading digital-only publisher.

The company aims to boost earnings in its German media business by around 100 million euros, equivalent to \$106.1 million, in part through cost cuts over the next three years, Chief Executive Mathias Döpfner said.

The cuts will mainly affect the company's German dailies Bild—Europe's biggest-selling



The publisher of Bild plans to phase out its print operations.

tabloid—and Welt. Springer will focus on developing its U.S. assets, which include Washington politics portal Politico, general news outlet Insider and business-focused website Morning Brew, Mr. Döpfner said in an interview.

Mr. Döpfner said that the print editions of the company's newspapers would be phased

out in the coming years and that artificial intelligence will replace humans for some news coverage. Journalists will focus on scoops, investigations and long-form features.

He said media companies must take ChatGPT, the popular language module that can generate well-written-though often factually inaccurate-essays, and other AI developments seriously as a challenge to their business.

"Only those who create the best original content will survive, and the only way forward is to invest in original journalism," Mr. Döpfner said.

Springer has acquired several U.S. businesses in recent year and the company's U.S. expansion could include another major acquisition. Mr. Döpfner said, "if a super-brand with extremely big journalistic quality and proven digital strategy were to come to market."

The expected job cuts in Germany will hit middle management and supporting functions such as layout and production, but some journalists could also be affected, according to the company. Employees will initially be offered buyouts, but layoffs can't be ruled out, Mr. Döpfner said.

Mr. Döpfner wants to keep expanding Springer's U.S. presence and plans to make Politico the company's global

flagship publication, with the goal of ultimately overtaking the New York Times and The Wall Street Journal in audience numbers and advertising revenue.

Springer is now setting up a new American headquarters in New York's SoHo district, in a futuristic building designed by award-winning Japanese architect Toshiko Mori, Mr. Döpfner said.

growth "The biggest chances for our digital assets are in the U.S.A.—the biggest media market and largest democratic market in the world," he said.

Politico is expanding in the U.S., notably in California, and in parts of Europe such as France and Britain. In just over a year, the group hired 400 journalists across its U.S. newsrooms, and it will continue to hire in the coming years, Mr. Döpfner said.

—Alexandra Bruell in New York contributed to this article.

China Data Law Strains Multinationals |DeSantis's

BY RAFFAELE HUANG

SINGAPORE-Multinational companies doing business in China raced to submit their data practices for Beijing's review ahead of a Wednesday deadline as the country seeks to identify national security and cybersecuritv risks from the increasingly global flow of data.

In September, Beijing gave companies operating in China six months to seek approval before allowing some locallygenerated data to be exported outside its borders, part of a broader tightening of data security as geopolitical tensions rise between China and the West.

That mandate set off a costly rush among companies to scrutinize their data-handling methods.

Beijing's internet regulator said last week that 48 foreign and domestic entities, including Amazon.com Inc., JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Volkswagen AG, have filed for government reviews. Some 140 companies including **Apple** Inc. and Siemens AG were preparing documents, the agency said.

JPMorgan declined to comment, while the others didn't respond to requests for com-

The country's main internet regulator, the Cyberspace Administration of China, didn't respond to a request to comment.

> structure operators"-companies processing data for industries such as telecom, defense, energy and finance—must pass a security review by the internet regulator before they can transfer users' personal data abroad.

Entities that are required to go through such reviews also include those handling the data of one million people or more, as well as those that have been transferring personal data abroad of at least 100,000 people or sensitive personal information of 10,000 people or more.

The broad scope of the regulations means that whole industries, such as airlines and banks, both Chinese and foreign, are affected by the rules.

Book Hits No. 1 on Amazon

BY JEFFREY A. TRACHTENBERG AND ALEX LEARY

Ron DeSantis says he sees his record as Florida governor as a model for the rest of the country, in a new book that comes out ahead of a widely expected campaign for president in 2024.

His book, "The Courage to Be Free: Florida's Blueprint for America's Revival," which went on sale Tuesday, has already hit No. 1 on the Top 100 list of Amazon.com Inc.

"Florida has stood as an antidote to America's failed ruling class," Mr. DeSantis writes. He describes his battles against Covid-19 restrictions, corporations and the education system that "strike at the heart of what it means to be a Floridian and an American." He rails against the left but criticizes the Republican establishment as well, portraying himself as a commonsense leader.

Mr. DeSantis, 44 years old, has sustained plenty of political heat since first being elected as governor in 2018. a narrow victory followed by a blowout re-election in November. But a presidential campaign, which people familiar with his plans expect him to announce after the Florida legislative session ends in May, would subject him to an unprecedented level of scrutiny.

Volkswagen is among 48 entities to have filed for Chinese government reviews as of last week.

ments.

Over the past six years, Beijing has built up a data-governance system to shore up controls over how it handles the increasing reams of information made available by technology, especially those that it considers critical to national security. The regulatory regime has increased compliance costs for businesses and is pushing more multinationals to store data locally and adjust business practices, legal experts say.

According to the September rule, "critical information infra-

"Imagine you built a better mousetrap, but there were no mice," the analysts wrote in a research note. "A once-exciting and seemingly-clear set of opportunities to leverage its 5G wireless infrastructure now feels further away, in our view."

Dish shares fell 6.5% on Tuesday to \$11.41. They are down by nearly two-thirds over the past 12 months.

Stellantis Weighs Expanding Ram Brand Outside U.S.

BY RYAN FELTON

Global auto maker Stellantis NV is looking to expand its highly profitable Ram truck brand globally, bolstering its presence in overseas regions that are well outside its home

U.S. market, Chief Executive Carlos Tavares said on Tuesday

Ram, a name well known in the U.S. for its brawny pickup trucks and commercial vans, has long concentrated its sales in North America.

Mr. Tavares said he sees potential for it to appeal to consumers in other regions.

"The potential to go global on Ram is very, very high, and vou will have some news on that front very soon," Mr. Tavares told reporters during an

Showroom

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event in New York City.

He added that the opportunity is similar to the company's rollout of Jeep, an American SUV brand that was once mostly focused on the U.S. but has since expanded to Europe and Asia.

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Year ago

31.76

24.78

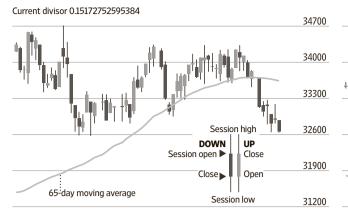
0.74

MARKETS DIGEST

EQUITIES

Dow Jones Industrial Average

32656.70 232.39, or 0.71% High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.



Bars measure the point change from session's open

30500 Nov. Feb. Dec. Jan.

*Weekly P/E data based on as-reported earnings from Birinyi Associates Inc; †Based on Nasdaq-100 Index

Major U.S. Stock-Market Indexes

			Latest					52-Week —		0/	chg —
	High	Low	Close	Net chg	% chợ]	High	Low	% chg		3-yr. anr
Dow Jones											
Industrial Average	32873.47	32636.43	32656.70	-232.39	-0.71		35294.19	28725.51	-1.9	-1.5	8.7
Transportation Avg	14895.58	14715.43	14722.68	-102.00	-0.69		16718.54	11999.40	-2.0	9.9	16.2
Utility Average	923.16	906.72	906.99	-15.52	-1.68		1071.75	838.99	-3.4	-6.2	2.6
Total Stock Market	40427.86	40143.36	40147.32	-102.51	-0.25		46941.20	36056.21	-8.3	4.2	10.0
Barron's 400	990.00	981.71	981.75	-1.27	-0.13		1051.05	825.73	-1.2	6.7	15.1
Nasdaq Stock Marke	et										
Nasdaq Composite	11548.23	11435.39	11455.54	-11.44	-0.10		14619.64	10213.29	-15.3	9.4	10.2
Nasdaq-100	12146.52	12021.32	12042.12	-15.67	-0.13		15239.32	10679.34	-14.0	10.1	12.5
S&P											
500 Index	3997.50	3968.98	3970.15	-12.09	-0.30		4631.60	3577.03	-7.8	3.4	10.4
MidCap 400	2623.72	2600.57	2600.84	-4.33	-0.17		2773.72	2200.75	-0.3	7.0	12.8
SmallCap 600	1260.35	1248.88	1249.23	-0.93	-0.07		1357.33	1064.45	-3.2	7.9	12.2
Other Indexes											
Russell 2000	1913.18	1896.44	1896.99	0.72		0.04	2133.10	1649.84	-5.6	7.7	8.7
NYSE Composite	15518.78	15427.21	15428.97	-63.96	-0.41		17014.76	13472.18	-4.0	1.6	7.0
Value Line	576.67	572.58	572.67	-1.30	-0.23		653.15	491.56	-7.4	6.8	6.3
NYSE Arca Biotech	5288.22	5229.18	5261.05	2.38		0.05	5644.50	4208.43	5.4	-0.4	2.
NYSE Arca Pharma	813.87	803.62	803.89	-9.99	-1.23		887.27	737.84	3.0	-7.4	10.6
KBW Bank	110.29	109.28	109.65	0.33		0.30	132.22	94.66	-13.3	8.7	6.2
PHLX [§] Gold/Silver	114.80	111.86	113.72	0.97		0.86	167.76	91.40	-23.9	-5.9	6.5
PHLX [§] Oil Service	88.97	87.05	87.12	-0.92	-1.04		93.94	56.08	28.4	3.9	18.7
PHLX [§] Semiconductor	2998.01	2937.00	2958.39	7.18		0.24	3625.58	2162.32	-10.5	16.8	20.2
Cboe Volatility	21.37	20.10	20.70	-0.25	-1.19		36.45	17.87	-37.9	-4.5	-19.8
§ _{Nasdaq} PHLX							:	Sources: Facts	Set; Dow J	Jones Mai	rket Dat

International Stock Indexes

Region/Country	/ Index	Close	Net chg	— Latest — % chg	YTD % chg
World	MSCIACWI	629.02	-1.69	-0.27	3.9
monta	MSCI ACWI ex-USA	292.93	-0.70	-0.24	4.1
	MSCI World	2714.57	-7.06	-0.26	4.3
	MSCI Emerging Markets		-3.24	-0.33	0.8
Americas	MSCI AC Americas	1511.83	-4.66	-0.31	3.7
Canada	S&P/TSX Comp	20221.19	-38.94	-0.19	4.3
Latin Amer.	MSCI EM Latin America		-15.80	-0.72	2.7
Brazil		104931.93	-779.12	-0.74	-4.4
Chile	S&P IPSA	3250.67	22.77	0.71	2.5
Mexico	S&P/BMV IPC	52758.06	-255.56	-0.48	8.9
EMEA	STOXX Europe 600	461.11	-1.47	-0.32	8.5
Eurozone	Euro STOXX	456.00	-0.84	-0.18	11.2
Belaium	Bel-20	3902.21	-0.84	-0.16	5.4
Denmark	OMX Copenhagen 20		-13.49	-0.69	5.3
France	CAC 40	7267.93	-27.62	-0.38	12.3
Germany	DAX	15365.14	-16.29	-0.11	10.4
Israel	Tel Aviv	1734.34	11.80	0.69	-3.5
Italy	FTSE MIB	27478.37	34.06	0.12	15.9
Netherlands		752.93	-4.06	-0.54	9.3
Norway	Oslo Bors All-Share	1413.19	3.75	0.27	3.7
South Africa	FTSE/JSE All-Share	77733.87	220.09	0.28	6.4
Spain	IBEX 35	9394.60	80.30	0.86	14.2
Sweden	OMX Stockholm	853.48	0.41	0.05	9.2
Switzerland	Swiss Market	11098.35	-121.58	-1.08	3.4
Turkey	BIST 100	5237.33	39.89	0.77	-4.9
U.K.	FTSE 100	7876.28	-58.83	-0.74	5.7
U.K.	FTSE 250	19903.28	17.18	0.09	5.6
Asia-Pacific	MSCI AC Asia Pacific	157.98	-0.25	-0.16	1.4
Australia	S&P/ASX 200	7258.40	33.59	0.46	3.1
China	Shanghai Composite	3279.61	21.57	0.66	6.2
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	19785.94	-157.57	-0.79	0.02
India	S&P BSE Sensex	58962.12	-326.23	-0.55	-3.1
Japan	NIKKEI 225	27445.56	21.60	0.08	5.2
Singapore	Straits Times	3262.63	-0.61	-0.02	0.3
South Korea	KOSPI	2412.85	10.21	0.42	7.9
Taiwan	TAIEX	15503.79		Closed	9.7
Thailand	SET	1622.35	-5.00	-0.31	-2.8

S&P 500 Index

*

Last Year ago

17.60

2.12

All-time high 36799.65, 01/04/22

18.47

17.90

2.09

Nov.

Dec.

Trailing P/E ratio 21.67

P/E estimate *

Dividend vield

3970.15 ¥12.09, or 0.30% High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.

P/E estimate Dividend vield *

Last Year ago Trailing P/E ratio 17.82 23.83 17.92 19.49 1.71 1.41 All-time high 4796.56, 01/03/22

Nasdaq Composite Index

Last **11455.54 1**1.44, or 0.10% Trailing P/E ratio *+ 24.61 P/E estimate ** 24.02 High, low, open and close for each Dividend yield ** 0.90 trading day of the past three months. All-time high: 16057.44, 11/19/21





Late Trading

Jan.

and Nasdaq issues from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. ET as reported by electronic trading services, securities dealers and regional exchanges. Minimum share price of \$2 and minimum after-hours volume of 50,000 shares.

		Volume	-				
Company	Symbol	(000)	Last	Net chg	After Hour: % chg	High	Low
VF Corp	VFC	29,113.6	24.82		unch.	24.90	24.75
Lumen Technologies	LUMN	25,701.9	3.43	0.03	0.88	3.43	3.39
SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust	SPY	16,189.7	395.93	-0.34	-0.08	397.64	379.52
Western Union	WU	13,665.9	13.00	0.04	0.31	13.08	12.91
Columbia Banking System	COLB	12,015.4	29.84	0.11	0.37	29.96	29.58
Exelon	EXC	8,632.3	40.39		unch.	40.39	40.05
Rivian Automotive	RIVN	6,796.8	17.61	-1.69	-8.76	19.43	17.48
AMC Entertainment	AMC	5,696.7	6.61	-0.53	-7.42	7.55	6.56

Percentage gainers...

. er contage gan							
Lionheart III CI A	LION	391.9	18.40	3.80	26.03	25.00	10.96
National Vision	EYE	68.1	44.95	7.59	20.32	44.95	37.36
Mount Rainier Acqn	RNER	672.0	5.94	0.95	19.04	6.39	4.90
Sarepta Therapeutics	SRPT	438.8	142.13	20.00	16.38	143.57	122.00
B&G Foods	BGS	392.8	14.62	1.95	15.39	14.70	12.57
And losers							
Novavax	NVAX	3,809.9	6.95	-2.31	-24.95	9.27	6.25
Marqeta	MQ	1,472.2	4.79	-1.01	-17.41	5.98	4.26
BrightSpire Capital	BRSP	147.4	6.34	-1.05	-14.21	7.39	6.25
FIGS	FIGS	429.8	8.10	-1.11	-12.05	9.50	7.96
Cutera	CUTR	136.2	29.00	-3.43	-10.58	32.43	28.44

-9.4

21.3

Trading Diary

Volume, Advancers, Decliners

	NYSE	NYSE Amer.						
Total volume*1,483	3,201,057	14,013,423						
Adv. volume* 584	,797,556	6,586,161						
Decl. volume* 839	,474,573	6,135,751						
Issues traded	3,164	309						
Advances	1,454	146						
Declines	1,568	136						
Unchanged	142	27						
New highs	80	4						
New lows	36	4						
Closing Arms [†]	1.23	0.87						
Block trades*	5,160	117						
	Nasdaq	NYSE Arca						
Total volume*5,340),951,479	280,048,472						
Adv. volume*2,896	,438,464	117,837,081						
Decl. volume*2,340),463,777	160,988,506						
Issues traded	4,722	1,730						
Advances	2,261	607						
Declines	2,196	1,092						
Unchanged	265	31						
New highs	103	5						
New lows	101	10						
Closing Arms [†]	0.83	0.64						
Block trades*	2/ 717	1 232						
Block trades* 34,717 1,232 * Primary market NYSE, NYSE American NYSE Arca only. '(TRIN) A comparison of the number of advancing and declining								

issues with the volume of shares rising and falling. An Arms of less than 1 indicates buying demand; above 1 indicates selling pressure.

Percentage Gainers...

			itest Sess			•52-Wee	
Company	Symbol	Close	Net chg	% chg	High	Low	% chg
Lionheart III CI A	LION	14.60	7.50	105.63	14.85	6.11	47.3
Sky Harbour Group	SKYH	7.34	1.96	36.43	43.41	2.50	-51.8
RenovoRx	RNXT	4.65	0.95	25.51	5.00	1.50	40.1
Rayonier Advanced Matls	RYAM	8.20	1.48	22.02	9.84	2.44	42.4
Progyny	PGNY	37.56	6.47	20.81	53.10	25.67	-12.9
Hyster-Yale Materials	HY	38.91	6.66	20.66	39.76	20.99	15.6
Kontoor Brands	KTB	52.15	8.65	19.89	52.97	30.98	16.0
Arconic	ARNC	26.44	4.31	19.48	31.24	16.33	-5.7
Genelux	GNLX	14.87	2.37	18.96	14.87	5.35	
SiNtx Technologies	SINT	2.80	0.44	18.64	70.80	2.18	-94.2
Asure Software	ASUR	13.35	2.09	18.56	13.69	4.87	91.3
Palatin Technologies	PTN	3.17	0.50	18.50	13.00	2.14	-69.1

Percentage Losers

Latest Sessio		sion —	on — 52-Week ~ 5				
Company	Symbol	Close	Net chg	% chg	High	Low	% chg
Professional Diversity	IPDN	2.45	-2.57	-51.20	7.77	0.92	35.8
Hammerhead Energy	HHRS	10.80	-4.17	-27.86	39.30	8.98	9.8
BYND Cannasoft Ents	BCAN	2.48	-0.93	-27.27	16.38	2.12	
AdaptHealth	AHCO	15.99	-5.99	-27.25	27.48	11.40	0.4
ContraFect	CFRX	3.47	-1.27	-26.79	363.20	3.02	-98.7
Paltalk	PALT	2.64	-0.91	-25.63	4.60	1.28	-0.4
Asset Entities CI B	ASST	1.66	-0.55	-24.89	6.98	1.43	
Consolidated Comm Hldgs	CNSL	3.03	-0.94	-23.68	8.49	2.79	-58.1
EverQuote	EVER	13.65	-3.88	-22.13	18.86	5.23	-3.2
Owens Minor	OMI	15.33	-4.28	-21.83	47.24	14.10	-64.5
Moolec Science	MLEC	6.00	-1.65	-21.57	42.25	4.35	-39.4
NewtekOne	NEWT	15.31	-3.96	-20.55	28.42	14.75	-43.3

Feb.

65-day moving average

Most-active and biggest movers among NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE Amer.

Most-active issues in late trading

Hims Hers Health HIMS 11.27 1.62 **16.79** 11.77 2.72 **123.2** 19.78 2.84 **16.74** 23.71 11.14 SI-BONE SIBN Chico's FAS 5.75 0.80 **16.16** 7.31 3.80 CHS

Most Active Stocks

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	%chg from = 65-day avg	Latest S Close	ession % chg	52-W High	eek Low
Mullen Automotive	MULN	234,073	11.7	0.23	6.96	4.18	0.18
Lucira Health	LHDX	225,349	1874.8	0.93	82.35	5.67	0.11
Troika Media Group	TRKA	161,742	499.1	0.39	-2.61	1.42	0.10
Tesla	TSLA	152,300	-8.7	205.71	-0.92	384.29	101.81
ProShares UltraPro QQQ	TQQQ	125,222	-32.4	22.13	-0.49	62.96	16.10
AMC Entertainment	AMC	108,825	215.8	7.14	-6.18	21.09	3.77
ProSh UltraPro Shrt QQQ	SQQQ	107,377	-12.1	39.13	0.51	69.55	31.17
Cardio Diagnostics Hldgs	CDIO	99,551	19869.2	3.45	158.47	10.25	0.80
Lumen Technologies	LUMN	96,494	252.9	3.40		12.54	3.30
SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust	SPY	95,615	18.6	396.26	-0.37	462.07	348.11
* Volumes of 100,000 shares or m	iore are ro	unded to t	he nearest t	housand			



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Agora ADR API 3.06 -0.78 **-20.31** 12.50 2.50 -73.9 Lindblad Expeditions 8.58 -2.15 **-20.04** 17.57 5.91 LIND -48.9 11.56 -2.85 **-19.78** 25.05 **TPI** Composites TPIC 8.46 -17.6

Volume Movers Ranked by change from 65-day average*

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	%chgfrom = 65-day avg	Latest S Close	Session % chg	52-W High	eek Low
Sky Harbour Group	SKYH	1,544	12931	7.34	36.43	43.41	2.50
Mount Rainier Acqn	RNER	9,790	11490	4.99	-1.19	16.98	4.81
Invsc DB G10 Curr Harv	DBV	978	10436	25.47	0.60	28.40	24.25
XPAC Acquisition	XPAX	3,478	3291	10.14	0.10	10.60	9.63
Columbia Banking System	COLB	37,894	3211	29.73	-1.36	36.68	26.97
Verra Mobility	VRRM	36,190	2808	17.23	1.12	17.60	12.70
Resolute Forest Products	RFP	14,924	2763	21.92	-0.36	22.62	11.55
A SPAC II Acquisition	ASCB	2,026	2440	10.35	0.10	10.48	9.81
Colombier Acqn Cl A	CLBR	668	2186	10.14	0.20	10.20	9.63
PROOF Acquisition I CI A	PACI	465	2137	10.31	0.29	10.34	9.84

* Common stocks priced at \$2 a share or more with an average volume over 65 trading days of at least 5,000 shares *†*Has traded fewer than 65 days

CURRENCIES & COMMODITIES

Currencies

U.S.-dollar foreign-exchange rates in late New York trading

			US\$ vs,				US\$ vs,
Country/currency	in US\$	ues per US§	YTD chg (%)	Country/currency	in US\$	ues per US\$	YTD chg (%)
Americas	11054	per 004	(/0)	Vietnam dong	.00004209	23760	0.5
				Europe	.00001207	22700	012
Argentina peso		197.1270					
Brazil real	.1909			Czech Rep. koruna		22.218	
Canada dollar	.7327	1.3648	0.7	Denmark krone	.1421	7.0377	1.3
Chile peso	.001209	827.46		Euro area euro	1.0578	.9454	1.2
Colombia peso	.000208	4809.75	-0.8	Hungary forint	.002795	357.75	
Ecuador US dollar	1	_	unch	lceland krona	.006944	144.01	1.7
Mexico peso	.0546	18.3053	-6.1	Norway krone	.0963	10.3865	5.9
Uruguay peso	.02560	39.0550	-2.3	Poland zloty	.2248	4.4489	1.6
Asia-Pacific				Russia ruble	.01332	75.050	1.8
Australiadollar	.6729	1.4861	1.3	Sweden krona	.0955	10.4683	0.3
China yuan	.0729	6.9334	0.5	Switzerland franc	1.0615	.9421	1.8
	.1442	0.9554 7.8496	0.5	Turkey lira	.0530	18.8848	1.0
Hong Kong dollar				Ukraine hryvnia	.0271	36.9500	0.3
India rupee	.01210	82.632		UK pound	1.2023	.8317	0.6
Indonesia rupiah	.0000656	15240		Middle East/Afr	ica		
Japan yen	.007341	136.22	3.9			2770	0.01
Kazakhstan tenge	.002246	445.25		Bahrain dinar	2.6525	.3770	
Macau pataca	.1236	8.0890	0.5	Egypt pound		30.6250	
Malaysia ringgit	.2228	4.4875	1.9	Israel shekel		3.6544	3.7
New Zealand dollar		1.6168	2.7	Kuwait dinar	3.2572	.3070	0.3
Pakistan rupee		261.575		Oman sul rial	2.5974	.3850	
Philippines peso	.0180	55.520		Qatar rial	.2739	3.651	-0.4
Singapore dollar	.7417	1.3483	0.6	Saudi Arabia riyal	.2665	3.7529	
South Korea won	.0007556		4.9	South Africa rand	.0545	18.3585	7.8
Sri Lanka rupee	.0027630	361.93	-1.5		CI		TD & CL
Taiwan dollar	.03254	30.730	0.3		Close Net C		
Thailand baht	.02839	35.220	1.7	WSJ Dollar Index	97.97 0.2	21 0.21	1.46

Sources: Tullett Prebon, Dow Jones Market Data

Commodities

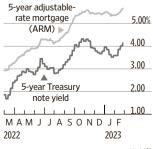
	Close	Net chg	day % Chg	High	52-Week Low	% Chg	% chg
DJ Commodity	1006.30	3.06	0.30	1264.48	990.27	-11.72	-4.04
Refinitiv/CC CRB Index	269.84	1.24	0.46	329.59	263.69	-3.92	-2.85
Crude oil, \$ per barrel	77.05	1.37	1.81	123.70	71.02	-25.49	-4.00
Natural gas, \$/MMBtu	2.747	0.016	0.59	9.680	2.073	-39.93	-38.61
Gold, \$ per troy oz.	1828.90	11.90	0.65	2040.10	1623.30	-5.84	0.51

CREDIT MARKETS

Consumer Rates and Returns to Investor

U.S. consumer rates

A consumer rate against its benchmark over the past year



Bankrate.com avg†:	5.67%
Raymond James Bank, NA	3.00%
St. Petersburg, FL	800-718-2265
RTN Federal Credit Union	4.63%
Waltham, MA	781-736-9900
Clinton Savings Bank	5.00%
Clinton, MA	888-744-4272
Hanscom Federal Credit Union	5.13%
Hanscom AFB, MA	800-656-4328
Star One Credit Union	5.13%
Sunnvvale. CA	408-742-2801

Selected rates

Interest rate	−Yield/R Last (●)	ate (%) - Week ago		2-Week Ra 0 2 4	ange (%) 6 8) High	3-yr chg (pct pts)			
Federal-funds rate target	4.50-4.75	4.50-4.75	0.00)	4.75	3.00			
Prime rate*	7.75	7.75	3.25			7.75	3.00			
Libor, 3-month	4.97	4.92	0.51			4.97	3.51			
Money market, annual yield	0.47	0.45	0.07			0.47	-0.03			
Five-year CD, annual yield	2.75	2.75	0.43			2.79	1.37			
30-year mortgage, fixed [†]	7.07	6.92	4.12		•	7.41	3.41			
15-year mortgage, fixed [†]	6.32	6.17	3.38			6.53	3.20			
Jumbo mortgages, \$726,200-plus	7.10	6.94	4.12			7.44	3.40			
Five-year adj mortgage (ARM)	5.67	5.54	2.92			5.67	2.07			
New-car loan, 48-month	6.77	6.69	3.58			6.77	2.27			
Bankrate.com rates based on survey of over 4,800 online banks. * Base rate posted by 70% of the nation's largest banks.† Excludes closing costs. Sources: FactSet: Dow Jones Market Data: Bankrate.com										

Sources: FactSet; Dow Jones Market Data; Bankrate.com

Treasury yield curve Yield to maturity of current bills, notes and bonds

Tradeweb ICE

Tuesday Close

years

maturity

One year ago 🕨

1

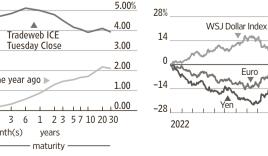
month(s)



Euro

٩ů

2023



Sources: Tradeweb ICE U.S. Treasury Close; Tullett Prebon; Dow Jones Market Data

Corporate Borrowing Rates and Yields

Bond total return index	Close		d (%) — Week ago	— 52-V High	/eek — Low	Total Re 52-wk	eturn (%) 3-yr
U.S. Treasury, Bloomberg	2090.740	4.380	4.360	4.560	1.650	-10.084	-4.204
U.S. Treasury Long, Bloomber	g 3198.920	4.040	4.100	4.570	2.170	-24.086	-10.959
Aggregate, Bloomberg	1956.980	4.810	4.800	5.210	2.240	-9.730	-3.774
Fixed-Rate MBS, Bloomber	g 1945.640	4.760	4.770	5.380	2.390	-9.124	-3.604
High Yield 100, ICE BofA	3193.397	n.a.	8.077	8.753	5.077	-4.822	0.728
Muni Master, ICE BofA	557.982	3.417	3.379	3.936	1.630	-4.6 84	-1.396
EMBI Global, J.P. Morgan	774.690	7.800	7.863	9.159	5.919	-8.269	-4.516
S	ources: J.P. N	Aorgan: B	loombera I	Fixed Inco	me Indic	es: ICE Dat	ta Service

B10 | Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Motal & Dotroloum Euturos

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. П

wsj.com/market-data/commodities

Source: FactSet

COMMODITIES

Futures Contracts

	Μ	etal & P	eti	oleum	Future	s	
		Con	trac	t			Open
	Open	High h	ni lo	Low	Settle	Chg	interest
Coppe	r-High (Cl	MX) -25,00	0 lbs	;;\$ per lb.			
March	4.0125	4.1005		4.0030	4.0975	0.0885	4,924
May	4.0100	4.0945		3.9915	4.0895	0.0785	120,504
Gold (C	MX) -100 tr	roy oz.; \$ pe	r tro	y oz.			
March	1808.10	1830.00		1808.10	1828.90	11.90	1,606
April	1823.90	1838.60	▼	1810.80	1836.70	11.80	324,475
June	1841.00	1855.00	V	1827.60	1853.20	11.60	59,933
Aug	1858.60	1872.70	▼	1845.70	1871.40	12.00	14,893
Oct	1878.00	1889.60	V	1863.00	1889.40	12.10	4,738
	um (NYM)Z.; \$			(10	11/
March	1409.00	1411.00		1370.50	1404.40	-6.10	116
June Diatinu	1420.50 IM (NYM)	1440.00	e n	1389.50	1420.90	-7.00	11,591
March		-50 troy 02.	, φ μι	er troy oz.	955.20	13.60	
April	941.10	962.10		931.50	955.50	13.60	55,088
	CMX)-5,00		t ner		,,,,,	19.00	<i>JJ</i> ,000
March	20.640	21.010	V	20.475	20.961	0.291	3,116
May	20.740	21.125	×	20.505	21.071	0.278	106,839
	Oil, Light		NYN				
April	75.76	77.83		75.55	77.05	1.37	301,061
May	75.87	77.93		75.68	77.19	1.38	191,933
June	75.87	77.85		75.64	77.14	1.35	213,620
July	75.70	77.60		75.47	76.90	1.29	140,669
Sept	74.96	76.77		74.77	76.05	1.13	115,588
Dec	73.78	75.35		73.51	74.59	0.95	203,485
	bor ULS		2,00				
March	2.8199	2.8613		2.7875	2.8209	.0011	2,934
April	2.8013	2.8461		2.7685	2.8056	.0053	77,314
	ne-NY RE		I) -42			0//0	4 0 0 1
March	2.3942 2.5822	2.4475 2.6562		2.3784 2.5757	2.4343 2.6420	.0660 .0580	4,921 93,944
April Natura	I Gas (NY		MAN			.0560	90,944
April	2.723	2.788	IVIIV	2.568	2.747	.016	192,699
May	2.842	2.898		2.701	2.863	.010	267,159
July	3.169	3.243		3.072	3.212	.017	82,948
Sept	3.190	3.260		3.095	3.231	.024	94,295
Oct	3.264	3.339		3.168	3.310	.023	96,726
Jan'24	4.190	4.253		4.106	4.246	.035	68,480
		_		_			
		Agric	П(t	ure Fut	ures		
Corn (C	BT) -5,000	bu.; cents p	er bi	J.			
March	642.00	644.75	▼	629.25	629.50	-13.25	16,999
May	643.25	646.75	▼	630.00	630.25	-13.25	522,700
	BT) -5,000	bu.; cents p	erb	u.			
March	356.00	370.00		336.75	359.75	-18.50	208
May	343.25	344.50		333.50	335.00	-8.50	2,869
Soybe	ans (CBT)	-5,000 bu.; (cent	s per bu.			
March	1518.25	1518.25		1489.50	1490.50	-27.75	12,051
May	1512.50	1513.25		1477.75	1479.00	-33.75	331,945
Soybea	an Meal (CBT) -100 t	ons;	\$ per ton.			
March	499.80	499.80		485.70	487.60	-11.10	8,817
May	481.00	482.20		466.20	467.10	-14.70	242,674
	an Oil (СВ		lbs.;				
March	60.28	60.28		59.64	59.75	29	2,152
May	60.34	60.52		59.78	60.04	30	187,398
Rough March	16.92	17 -2,000 cw 17.01	/t.;\$	per cwt. 16.92	16.97	02	372

	Open	C High h	ontract ilo Low	Settle	Chg	Oper interes
May Whoat	17.37 (CBT) -5,0	17.42	17.24	17.35	02	6,003
March	694.00	699.50	▼ 687.00	691.50	-4.50	2,639
Mav	710.00	715.00	▼ 702.50		-4.50	2,039
	(KC)-5,00		102.20	705.50	-4.90	1/0,009
March	823.00	826.00	813.00	815.75	-7.25	1,755
May	817.25	823.00	807.75	812.75	-4.25	84,421
			007.75 000 lbs.; cents		-4.20	04,421
March	189.175	190.200		189.800	.625	10,855
April	194.050	190.200	193.950	195.075	.850	15,139
			lbs.; cents per		.020	10,109
Feb	164.825	167.500		167.500	2,500	178
		165.725		165.475	.500	
April	165.200		164.650 lbs.; cents per l		.500	142,230
					.450	02 222
April	85.025	85.675	84.225	85.175		93,233
June	102.400	102.650	100.575	101.725	375	42,711
			ft., \$ per 1,000		7 10	702
March	395.70	406.90	394.70	402.80	7.10	703
May Millere	420.90	436.80	420.20	435.60	22.80	1,716
	ME)-200,0					
Feb	17.85	17.86	17.85	17.85		4,157
March	17.90	18.23	17.87	18.03	.17	5,892
	(ICE-US)-10) metric to	ons; \$ per ton.			
March				2,748	33	52
May	2,757	2,804	2,748	2,789	33	134,142
	(ICE-US)	37,500 lbs.	; cents per lb.			
March				190.40	30	273
May	186.80	189.85	184.90	186.30	15	86,935
Sugar-	World (IC		2,000 lbs.; cent	s per lb.		
March	22.11	22.36	▲ 22.00	22.08	01	16,226
May	20.31	20.47	19.96	20.07	22	403,593
Sugar-	Domesti	C (ICE-US	5) -112,000 lbs.;).	
May				37.24		2,554
Cotton		50,000 lbs	s.; cents per lb.			
March	84.75	84.75	83.75	84.19	81	10
May	84.47	84.98	83.50	84.03	77	94,462
			,000 lbs.; cents			
March	276.50	282.50		279.35	5.85	726
Мау	250.00	256.95	▲ 250.00	253.60	4.00	9,594
		Intere	st Rate Fi	itures		
			CBT) - \$100,00			
March	134-160	134-250	133-100		-1.0	43,785
June	135-020	135-100	133-270	135-020		1,439,592
			100,000; pts 3			
March	124-060	124-090	123-080	124-040	-3.0	35,934
June	125-080	125-130	124-090	125-070	-3.0	1,180,551
Treasu	iry Notes	(CBT)-\$1	.00,000; pts 32	2nds of 100	%	
March	111-050	111-070	110-240	111-055	1.0	63,699
June	111-210	111-230	111-065	111-210		4,217,863
5 Yr. Tı	reasury N	lotes (C	BT)-\$100,000	pts 32nds	of100%	
March	106-230	106-232	106-137	106-215	.5	69,844
June	107-030	107-037	106-257	107-017		4,155,676
			BT)-\$200,000			.,,
March	101-220	101-223	101-192			73,079
June	101-226	101-225	101-192	101-219		2,603,643
			CBT)-\$5,000,0			2,000,040
Feb	95.4275	95.4300	95.4275 (CDT)	95.4275		485,853
Fed April	95.4275 95.1250	95.4300 95.1300	95.4275	95.4275 95.1250		485,855 411,687
			aps (CBT)-\$1		 22pdc.of	
10 11.1	100 005	ate 3W	100-020	100,000, pts	JZHUS 01	100%

Cash Prices | wsj.com/market-data/commodities

These prices reflect buying and selling of a variety of actual or "physical" commodities in the marketplaceseparate from the futures price on an exchange, which reflects what the commodity might be worth in future months.

March 100-035 100-205

	Tuesday		Tuesday		Tuesda
Energy Coal,C.Aplc,12500Btu,1.2SO2-r,w Coal,PwdrRvrBsn,8800Btu,0.8SO2-r,w	135.700 15.500	Iron Ore, 62% Fe CFR China-s Shredded Scrap, US Midwest-s,m Steel, HRC USA, FOB Midwest Mill-s Battery/EV metals	124.1 n.a. 1000	Wheat,Spring14%-pro Mnpls-u Wheat,No.2 soft red,St.Louis-u Wheat - Hard - KC (USDA) \$ per bu-u Wheat,No.1soft white,Portld,OR-u	10.0675 6.9350 8.6675 8.1000
Metals Gold, per troy oz Engelhard industrial Handy & Harman base	19.900 1816.00 1824.60	BMI Lithium Carbonate, EXW China, =99.2%-v.w BMI Lithium Hydroxide, EXW China, =56.5%-v.w BMI Cobalt sulphate, EXW China, >20.5%-v.m BMI Nickel Sulphate, EXW China, >22.%-v.m BMI Flake Graphte, F08 China, 100 Mesh, 94-9%-v.m	62925 66700 5760 5616 768	Food Beef,carcass equiv. index choice 1-3,600-900 lbsu select 1-3,600-900 lbsu	261.88 249.02
Handy & Harman fabricated LBMA Gold Price AM LBMA Gold Price PM	2025.31 *1809.05 *1818.65	Fibers and Textiles Burlap,10-oz,40-inch NY yd-n,w	0.7125	Broilers, National comp wtd. avgu,w Butter,AA Chicago-d Cheddar cheese,bbl,Chicago-d	1.2212 2.4500 159.00
Krugerrand,wholesale-e Maple Leaf-e American Eagle-e Mexican peso-e	1912.66 1958.42 1958.42 2361.27	Cotton,11/16 std Iw-mdMphs-u Cotlook 'A' Index-t Hides,hvy native steers piece fob-u Wool,64s,staple,Terr del-u,w	0.7125 0.8353 *99.35 n.a. n.a.	Cheddar cheese,blk,Chicago-d Milk,Nonfat dry,Chicago lbd Coffee,Brazilian,Comp-y Coffee,Colombian,NY-y Eqos,Iarqe white,Chicago-u	191.00 118.00 1.9841 2.3756 2.4750
Austria crown-e Austria phil-e	1797.06 1921.82	Grains and Feeds		Flour,hard winter KC-p Hams,17-20 lbs,Mid-US fob-u	20.85 0.80
	20.7000 20.8290 26.0360 *£17.3000	Barley,top-quality Mnpls-u Bran,wheat middlings, KC-u,w Corn,No. 2 yellow,Cent IL-bp,u Corn gluten feed,Midwest-u,w Corn gluten meal,Midwest-u,w	n.a. 175 6.1500 209.0 669.9	Hogs,Iowa-So. Minnesota-u Pork bellies,12-14 lb MidUS-u Pork Ioins,13-19 lb MidUS-u Steers,TexOkla. Choice-u Steers,Teeder,Okla. City-u,w	79.02 1.1921 0.9721 n.a. 217.00
(U.S.\$ equivalent) Coins,wholesale \$1,000 face-a	*20.7300 18804	Cottonseed meal-u,w Hominy feed,Cent IL-u,w	393 218	Fats and Oils	
Other metals LBMA Platinum Price PM Platinum,Engelhard industrial Palladium,Engelhard industrial Aluminum, LME, \$ per metric ton Copper,Comex spot	*950.0 958.0 1425.0 *2314.0 4.0975	Meat-bonemeal,50% pro Mnpls-u,w Oats,No.2 milling,Mnpls-u Rice, Long Grain Milled, No.2 AR-u,w Sorghum,(Milo) No.2 Gulf-u SoybeanMeal,Cent IL,rail,ton48%-u,w Soybeans,No.1 yllw IL-bp,u	418 4.0000 37.00 n.a. 503.10 14.7400	Degummed corn oil, crude wtd. avgu,w Grease,choice white,Chicago-h Lard,Chicago-u Soybean oil,crude;Centl IL-u,w Tallow,bleach;Chicago-h Tallow,edible,Chicago-u	n.a. n.a. n.a. 0.6311 n.a. n.a.

KEY TO CODES: A=ask; B=bid; BP=country elevator bids to producers; C=corrected; D=CME; E=Manfra,Tordella & Brookes; H=American Commodities Brokerage Co; K=bi-weekly; M=monthly; N=nominal; n.a.=not quoted or not available; P=Sosland Publishing; R=SNL Energy; S=Platts-TSI; T=Cotlook Limited; U=USDA; V=Benchmark Mineral Intelligence; W=weekly; Y=International Coffee Organization; Z=not quoted. "Data as of 2/27

Source: Dow Jones Market Data

100-020 **100-180** 1.5 16,725

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

	Contract Open									
	Open	High h	nilo	Low	Settle	Chg	interest			
Three-M	/lonth S	OFR (CM	ИЕ) -\$	1,000,000);100 - dail;	y avg.				
Dec	95.5525	95.5550		95.5525	95.5525		708,013			
March'23	95.0025	95.0075		95.0000	95.0050	.0025	1,384,426			
Eurodo	llar (CME)-\$1,000,	000; p	ots of 100	%					
March	94.9250	94.9325		94.9200	94.9275	.0025	775,021			
June	94.4850	94.4850		94.4550	94.4700	0100	712,853			
Sept	94.3350	94.3400	▼	94.3000	94.3350		636,587			
Dec	94.4900	94.5000	▼	94.4400	94.4900	.0050	617,454			
		Cur	rend	:y Futu	res					
law average	V									
Japane										
March	.7353	.7381	V	.7316	.7360	.0006	190,203			
June	.7455	.7487	▼	.7422	.7466	.0006	6,684			
Canadia										
March	.7368	.7375		.7327		0026	158,722			
June	.7378	.7384		.7338	.7350	0025	5,349			
British										
March	1.2063			1.2020	1.2057	0004	209,147			
June	1.2091	1.2169		1.2046	1.2081	0004	3,141			
Swiss F			25,00							
March	1.0701	1.0721		1.0627	1.0648		40,630			
June	1.0816	1.0832		1.0740	1.0760	0054	636			
			-AUD		\$ per AUD					
March	.6741	.6761		.6707		0001	124,385			
June	.6770	.6783		.6731	.6761	0001	1,527			
Mexica										
March	.05430	.05459		.05418	.05446	.00021	283,448			

*

		Co	ontra	t			Open
	Open	High hi	lo	Low	Settle	Chg	interest
June	.05330	.05357		.05318	.05347	.00021	1,578
Euro (CME)-€125	,000; \$ per	€				
March	1.0617	1.0654		1.0583	1.0592	0026	770,384
June	1.0676	1.0713		1.0642	1.0652	0027	20,129
		Inc	dex	Future	es		
Mini D	J Indust	rial Aver	age	(CBT)-\$5	xindex		
March	32940	33021	▼	32607	32682	-227	87,706
June	33200	33275	▼	32879	32948	-223	1,312
Mini S	&P 500 (CME)-\$50	x ind	ex			
March	3991.50	4003.75		3965.00	3975.50	-12.50	2,069,905
June	4028.00	4040.00		4001.25	4011.75	-12.75	33,796
Mini S	&P Midc	ap 400 (d	(ME	-\$100 x ir	ndex		
March	2615.80	2627.40		2597.10	2603.20	-5.00	44,760
June					2626.30	-3.00	1
Mini N	lasdaq 10)(CME)-	\$20>	index			
March	12093.50	12172.75		12025.75	12072.25	-11.00	258,574
June		12304.75		12160.25	12206.00	-10.50	5,328
Mini R	ussell 20	000 (CME)) -\$50) x index			
March	1900.70	1916.70		1889.10	1899.10	.20	431,648
Mini R	ussell 10	00 (CME)	-\$50) x index			
March	2195.00	2205.80		2188.30	2191.20	-5.90	12,784
U.S. D	ollar Inde	X (ICE-US) -\$1,0	000 x inde	ex		
March	104.61	104.95		104.36	104.83	.20	35,048
June	104.26	104.59		104.03	104.48	.20	2,055

Bonds | wsj.com/market-data/bonds/benchmarks

Tracking Bond Benchmarks

Return on investment and spreads over Treasurys and/or yields paid to investors compared with 52-week highs and lows for different types of bonds

Total return close	YTD total return (%)	Index			6) <u>—</u> High	Total return close	YTD to return		Index		íield (% t Low	
Broad M	arket Bloomber	rg Fixed Income Indices	;			Mortgage-Backed Bloomberg Fixed Income Indices						
1956.98	0.4	U.S. Aggregate	4.810	2.240	5.210	1945.64		0.5	Mortgage-Backed	4.760	2.390	5.380
U.S. Corp	orate Indexes	Bloomberg Fixed Incor	ne Inc	lices		1917.25		0.7	Ginnie Mae (GNMA)	4.790	2.360	5.370
2888.93	0.7	U.S. Corporate	5.510	3.010	6.130	1144.31		0.5	Fannie mae (FNMA)	4.740	2.400	5.390
2796.91	0.5	Intermediate	5.470	2.570	6.050	1750.71		0.3	Freddie Mac (FHLMC)	4.870	2.400	5.370
3834.94	1.1	Long term	5.590	3.730	6.370	557.98		0.3	Muni Master	3.417	1.630	3.936
557.73	0.4	Double-A-rated	4.940	2.600	5.320	399.79		0.4	7-12 year	3.037	1.636	3.794
765.38	0.8	Triple-B-rated	5.770	3.260	6.440	445.76		0.7	12-22 year	3.839	1.893	4.428
High Yield Bonds ICE BofA						416.93		1.1	22-plus year	4.488	2.391	5.131
475.30	2.6	High Yield Constrained	n.a.	5.639	9.623	Global G	Governm	nent J.P.	Morgan [†]			
447.97	6.6	Triple-C-rated	n.a.	9.506	16.916	523.40		0.3	Global Government	3.130	1.220	3.250
3193.40	2.6	High Yield 100	n.a.	5.077	8.753	767.05		0.4	Canada	3.400	1.740	3.780
416.16	2.6	Global High Yield Constrained	n.a.	6.002	9.945	333.22		0.1	EMU§	3.382	0.652	3.382
318.32	3.0	Europe High Yield Constrained	7.258	4.244	8.508	618.37	-0.2		France	3.210	0.500	3.210
U.S Ager	ncy Bloomberg I	Fixed Income Indices				441.40	-0.5		Germany	2.660	-0.140	2.660
1692.00	0.2	U.S Agency	4.890	1.660	4.910	280.39		0.9	Japan	0.920	0.450	1.060
1496.27	0.05	10-20 years	4.890	1.590	4.910	476.86	-0.6		Netherlands	2.920	0.100	2.920
3246.75	1.8	20-plus years	4.740	2.480	5.240	776.92	-0.7		U.K.	3.970	1.260	4.690
2548.98	0.7	Yankee	5.330	2.640	5.840	774.69		0.8	Emerging Markets **	7.800	5.919	9.159
	*Constrained indexes limit individual issuer concentrations to 2%; the High Yield 100 are the 100 largest bonds 1 In local currency § Euro-zone bonds *EMBI Global Index Sources: ICE Data Services; Bloomberg Fixed Income Indices; J.P.Morgan											

Global Government Bonds: Mapping Yields

Yields and spreads over or under U.S. Treasurys on benchmark two-year and 10-year government bonds in selected other countries; arrows indicate whether the yield rose(▲) or fell (▼) in the latest session

							,	(
Coupon (%)	Country/ Maturity, in years	s Latest(•)-1	0	1	2 3 4	(%) 5 Previous	Month ago	Year ago	Spread Under/Over U.S. Ti Latest	reasurys, in basis Prev	points Year ago
4.625	U.S. 2	4.795 A		-	•	4.791	4.205	1.426	Editori		rearay
3.500	10	3.914 🔻			٠	3.921	3.517	1.836			
0.250	Australia 2	3.661 🔻			•	3.700	3.196	1.104	-114.2	-109.1	-32.9
1.750	10	3.865 🔻			•	3.889	3.571	2.143	-5.2	-2.9	31.6
0.000	France 2	3.212 🔺			•	3.183	2.660	-0.423	-159.1	-160.7	-185.
2.000	10	3.120 🔺			•	3.065	2.709	0.632	-79.7	-85.3	-119.
2.500	Germany 2	3.146 🔺			•	3.068	2.586	-0.545	-165.8	-172.3	-197.
2.300	10	2.649 🔺			•	2.580	2.244	0.134	-126.8	-133.8	-169.
2.500	Italy 2	3.603 🔺			•	3.570	3.076	0.012	-120.1	-122.0	-142.
4.400	10	4.477 🔺			•	4.431	4.101	1.756	56.0	51.3	-7.1
0.005	Japan 2	-0.039 🔻	•			-0.025	0.006	-0.029	-484.3	-481.6	-146.
0.500	10	0.503 🔻	•			0.505	0.485	0.185	-341.4	-341.3	-164.
0.000	Spain 2	3.358 🔺			•	3.304	2.811	-0.052	-144.6	-148.7	-148.
2.550	10	3.609 🔺			•	3.536	3.226	1.152	-30.8	-38.2	-67.5
0.125	U.K. 2	4.069			•	4.062	3,430	1.041	-73.4	-72.8	-39.1

Borrowing Benchmarks | wsj.com/market-data/bonds/benchmarks

Money Rates

February 28, 2023	C
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Key annual interest rates paid to borrow or lend money in U.S. and international markets. Rates below are a guide to general levels but don't always represent actual transactions.

	Infl	ation				Late	Week est ago	—52 Hig	2-WEEK— h Low		Latest	Week ago	—52- High	WEEK— Low
	Jan. In Ie	ndex vel	Chg Froi Dec. '22		Federal fu	nds				Libor				
U.S. consu	mer prie	ce ind	ex		Effective rate High				$0.0800 \\ 0.1000$	One month Three month	4.66943 4.97100		4.66943 4.97100	
Allitems		9.170	0.80	6.4	Low	4.5500	4.5700	4.5900	0.0500	Sixmonth	5.26343		5.27700	
Core	301	.962	0.62	5.6	Bid				0.0700	One year	5.68157	5.63943	5.69143	1.17671
In	ternati	ional	rates		Offer	4.6000	4.6200	4.6200	0.0900	Secured	Overnight	Financ	cing Ra	ate
		onar	lates		Treasury b	oill auct	ion				4.55	4.55	4.56	0.05
	Latest	Wee ago	k – 52 High	-Week – Low	4 weeks 13 weeks	4.5	15 4.51		0 0.050 0 0.360		Latest	Value Traded		Week – Low
Prime rate	es				26 weeks	4.94	4.91	5 4.94	0 0.670	DTCC GC	F Repo Ind	ex		
U.S.	7.75	7.75	5 7.75		Se	econda	ry ma	rket		Treasury		34.500		
Canada	6.70	6.70			Fannie Ma					MBS		43.008	4.644	0.042
Japan	1.475	1.475	5 1.475	1.475	30-vear mor	-	lde			Notes on da				
Policy Rat	es				30 davs	5.5.7		1 6 91	2 3.225		ate is the bas by at least 7			
Euro zone	3.00	3.00) 3.00	0.00	60 days				8 3.277	U.S. banks, a	ind is effective	e Februa	ry 2, 202	23.
Switzerland	1.50	1.50) 1.50	0.00							e rates aren't tices vary wid			able;
Britain	4.00	4.00			Oth	er shor	t-tern	1 rate	s	Discount ra	te is effective	Februar	ry 2, 202	
Australia	3.35	3.35	5 3.35	0.10			Week	- 52	-Week –		ernight Fina			
Overnight	repurch	nase				Lates		high			, 2023. DTCC Trust & Cleari			
U.S.	4.58	4.59	9 4.59	0.01	c "	_					overnight tra ue traded is in			مالعده
U.S.	gover	nmer	nt rates	5	Call money	۷ 6.5	50 6.5	0 6.5	0 2.00	Federal-fur	ids rates are			
Discount					Commonal					of 5:30 p.m. Sources: Fee	t I . deral Reserve	Bureau	ofLabo	r
Discount	4.75	4.75	5 4.75	0.25	Commerci					Statistics; D	TCC; FactSet		5. 2000i	
	4./2	4.73	4./0	0.25	90 days	4.8	32 n.a	. 4.8	2 0.49	Tullett Preb	on Informatio	n, Ltd.		

Exchange-Traded Portfolios | WSJ.com/ETFresearch

	Larg	jest 100		ETF	Symbo	Closin Price								
Tuesday,	February	28, 202	3				Closing			SPDR S&PMdCpTr SPDR S&P Div	MDY SDY	474.75 125.87	-0.22 -0.40	7.2 0.6
		Closing	a Cha	YTD	ETF	Symbol	Price	(%)	(%)	TechSelectSector		136.52	-0.40	9.7
ETF	Symbol	Price	(%)	(%)	iSh1-5YIGCorpBd	IGSB	49.92	-0.02	0.2	UtilitiesSelSector	XLU	65.00	-1.75	-7.8
CnsmrDiscSelSector	XLY	145.54	-0.07	12.7	iSh1-3YTreaBd	SHY	80.99	-0.02	-0.2	VangdInfoTech		352.12	-0.10	10.2
CnsStapleSelSector	XLP	72.03	-0.83	-3.4	iShPfd&Incm	PFF	32.70	0.25	7.1	VangdSC Val		169.30	-0.10	6.6
DimenUSCoreEa2	DFAC	25.41	-0.16	4.7	iShRussMC	IWR	71.21	-0.32	5.6	VangdExtMkt		144.75	-0.04	8.9
EnSelSectorSPDR	XLE	83.69	-1.44	-4.3	iShRuss1000	IWB	219.15	-0.28	4.1			151.98	-0.04	0.5
FinSelSectorSPDR	XLF	35.72	0.20	4.4	iShRuss1000Grw	IWF	229.32	-0.24	7.0	VangdFTSEAWxUS	VEU	52.11	-0.74	3.9
HealthCareSelSect		127.17	-0.74	-6.4	iShRuss1000Val	IWD	153.83	-0.31	1.4	VangdFTSEDevMk	VEO	44.17	-0.74	5.2
IndSelSectorSPDR		100.97	-0.23	2.8	iShRussell2000	IWM	188.18	0.01	7.9	VangdFTSEEM	VEA	39.42	-0.72	5.2 1.1
InvscQQQI		293.56	-0.13	10.2	iShS&P500Grw	IVW	60.56	-0.44	3.5	VangdFTSEEurope	VWO	39.42 59.70	-0.61	7.7
InvscS&P500EW		146.60	-0.29	3.8	iShS&P500Value	IVE	150.48	-0.18	3.7	VangdGrowth		231.89	-0.11	8.8
ShCoreDivGrowth	DGRO	49.91	-0.44	-0.2	iShSelectDiv	DVY	121.05	-0.77	0.4			231.89	-0.11	ö.ö -5.4
ShCoreMSCIEAFE	IEFA	65.03	-0.73	5.5	iSh7-10YTreaBd	IEF	95.76	0.16	-0.02	VangdHlthCr			-0.59	-9.4
ShCoreMSCIEM	IEMG	47.35	-0.67	1.4	iShShortTreaBd	SHV	110.23		0.3	VangdHiDiv		106.88 77.96	-0.01	-1.2
ShCoreMSCITotInt	IXUS	60.28	-0.69	4.1	iShTIPSBondETF	TIP	107.18	0.37	0.7	VangdIntrCorpBd	VCIT			
ShCoreS&P500	IVV	397.97	-0.38	3.6	iSh20+YTreaBd	TLT	101.71	0.45	2.2	VangdIntermTrea	VGIT	58.29	0.07	-0.3
ShCoreS&P MC	IJH	259.34	-0.25	7.2	iShUSTreasuryBd	GOVT	22.75	0.11	0.2	VangdLC		181.02	-0.34 -0.31	3.9 5.0
ShCoreS&P SC	IJR	102.39	-0.03	8.2	JPMEquityPrem	JEPI	53.79	-0.39	-1.3	VangdMC		214.08		
ShCoreS&PTotUS	ITOT	88.58	-0.26	4.5	JPM UltShIncm	JPST	50.30	0.02	0.3	VangdMC Val		139.77	-0.42	3.3
ShCoreTotalUSDBd	IUSB	45.10	-0.02	0.4	SPDRBbg1-3MTB	BIL	91.71	0.01	0.3	VangdMBS	VMBS	45.77	0.04	0.5
ShCoreUSAggBd	AGG	97.31	-0.01	0.3	SPDR DJIA Tr	DIA	326.57	-0.76	-1.4	VangdRealEst	VNQ	85.72	-0.14	3.9
ShESGAwareUSA	ESGU	87.87	-0.40	3.7	SPDR Gold	GLD	169.78	0.46	0.1	VangdS&P500ETF		364.11	-0.38	3.6
ShEdgeMSCIMinUSA	USMV	70.64	-0.66	-2.0	SPDRPtfDevxUS	SPDW	31.29	-0.64	5.4	VangdST Bond	BSV	75.17	0.03	-0.1
ShEdgeMSCIUSAQua	al QUAL	118.75	-0.13	4.2	SPDRS&P500Value	SPYV	40.36	-0.17	3.8	VangdSTCpBd	VCSH	75.28	-0.01	0.1
ShGoldTr	IAU	34.62	0.49	0.1	SPDRPtfS&P500	SPLG	46.60	-0.36	3.6	VangdShtTmInfltn	VTIP	46.89	0.11	0.4
ShiBoxx\$HYCpBd	HYG	74.53	-0.19	1.2	SPDRS&P500Growt	SPYG	52.47	-0.49	3.6	VangdShortTrea	VGSH	57.69		-0.2
ShiBoxx\$InvGrCpBd	LQD	105.92	0.04	0.5	SPDR S&P 500	SPY	396.26	-0.37	3.6	VangdSC		197.52	0.05	7.6
ShJPMUSDEmBd	EMB	85.24	-0.42	0.8	SchwabIntEquity	SCHF	33.92	-0.73	5.3	VangdTaxExemptBd	VTEB	49.55	0.04	0.1
ShMBS	MBB	93.01	-0.04	0.3	SchwabUS BrdMkt	SCHB	46.79	-0.23	4.4	VangdTotalBd	BND	72.07	0.03	0.3
ShMSCIACWI	ACWI	88.22	-0.52	3.9	SchwabUS Div	SCHD	74.55	-0.43	-1.3	VangdTotIntIBd	BNDX	47.76	-0.04	0.7
ShMSCIEAFE	EFA	69.35	-0.73	5.7	SchwabUS LC	SCHX	46.98	-0.34	4.1	VangdTotIntlStk	VXUS	53.81	-0.70	4.0
ISh MSCI EM	EEM	38.23	-0.70	0.9	SchwabUS LC Grw	SCHG	60.32	-0.23	8.6	VangdTotalStk	VTI	199.52	-0.33	4.4
ShMSCIEAFEValue	EFV	48.55	-0.45	5.8	SchwabUS SC	SCHA	43.91	-0.05	8.4	VangdTotWrldStk	VT	89.83	-0.43	4.2
iShNatlMuniBd	MUB	105.45	0.03	-0.1	Schwab US TIPs	SCHP	52.12	0.39	0.6	VangdValue	VTV	139.61	-0.49	-0.5

Source: Tullett Prebon, Tradeweb ICE U.S. Treasury Close

Corporate Debt

Prices of firms' bonds reflect factors including investors' economic, sectoral and company-specific

I	expectations
	Investment-grade spreads that tightened the most

5 .	i caub tilat ti			-	Spre	ad*, in basis poi	nts ——	
lssuer	Symbol	Coupon (%)	Yield (%)	Maturity	Current	One-day change	Last week	
JPMorgan Chase	JPM	4.125	5.11	Dec. 15, '26	61	-11	n.a	
Kimberly–Clark	КМВ	2.750	4.78	Feb. 15, '26	23	-11	n.a	
John Deere Capital		4.050	4.86	Sept. 8, '25	7	-10	23	
Polar Tankers		5.951	5.75	May 10, '37	177	-8	n.a	
Nordea Bank	NDASS	0.750	5.27	Aug. 28, '25	47	-8	n.a	
Cooperatieve Rabobank	RABOBK	3.750	5.69	July 21, '26	118	-8	n.a	
Comcast	CMCSA	5.250	5.01	Nov. 7, '25	20	-7	24	
Banco Santander	SANTAN	2.749	6.37	Dec. 3, '30	242	-7	240	

Vistra	VST	5.125	6.70	May 13, '25	191	27	n.a.
Credit Suisse	cs	2.950	7.85	April 9, '25	304	23	n.a.
HSBC Holdings	HSBC	4.300	5.49	March 8, ′26	100	21	102
Nomura Holdings	NOMURA	6.181	5.96	Jan. 18, ′33	206	13	199
Citigroup	c	4.300	5.50	Nov. 20, '26	95	12	n.a.
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial	SUMIBK	2.222	5.54	Sept. 17, '31	161	12	n.a.
Credit Agricole	ACAFP	5.301	5.40	July 12, '28	120	10	n.a.
Raymond James Financial	RJF	4.950	5.65	July 15, '46	154	8	139

High-yield issues with the biggest price increases...

Symbol	Coupon (%)	Yield (%)	Maturity	Bond Prid Current	e as % of face v One-day change	alue – Last week
	7.750	8.60	June 1, '27	97.000	0.75	n.a.
RCL	7.500	9.00	Oct. 15, '27	94.400	0.65	92.750
BBWI	6.875	8.36	Nov. 1, '35	88.500	0.50	87.000
BHCCN	11.000	16.96	Sept. 30, '28	79.000	0.50	75.000
VENTGL	4.125	6.29	Aug. 15, '31	86.000	0.50	84.176
OMF	7.125	7.91	March 15, '26	97.910	0.41	96.000
LUMN	6.875	18.58	Jan. 15, ′28	63.500	0.40	71.870
ТІТІМ	6.000	8.23	Sept. 30, '34	83.550	0.36	82.950
ce decre	ases					
RAKUTN	10.250	10.25	Nov. 30, '24	99.970	-0.78	n.a.
	7.750	16.78	July 1, '26	77.625	-0.75	77.015
SEE	6.875	6.63	July 15, '33	101.780	-0.68	100.375
USM	6.700	7.78	Dec. 15, '33	92.196	-0.50	88.831
	8.750	5.99	March 15, ′32	119.049	-0.35	118.375
F	7.400	7.41	Nov. 1, '46	99.850	-0.35	n.a.
	6.150	7.33	Feb. 1, '36	90.250	-0.35	91.750
	 RCL BBWI BHCCN VENTGL OMF LUMN TITIM Ce decre RAKUTN SEE USM F		7.750 8.60 RCL 7.500 9.00 BBWI 6.875 8.36 BHCCN 11.000 16.96 VENTGL 4.125 6.29 OMF 7.125 7.91 LUMN 6.875 18.58 TITIM 6.000 8.23 CE CECECESES 7.750 SEE 6.875 6.63 USM 6.700 7.78 8.750 5.99 F 7.400 7.41	7.750 8.60 June 1, '27 RCL 7.500 9.00 Oct. 15, '27 BBWI 6.875 8.36 Nov. 1, '35 BHCCN 11.000 16.96 Sept. 30, '28 VENTGL 4.125 6.29 Aug. 15, '31 OMF 7.125 7.91 March 15, '26 LUMN 6.875 18.58 Jan. 15, '28 TITIM 6.000 8.23 Sept. 30, '34 CE decreases Sept. 30, '24 7.750 10.25 Nov. 30, '24 7.750 16.78 July 1, '26 SEE 6.875 6.63 July 1, '26 SEE 6.875 6.63 July 1, '26 March 15, '32 March 15, '32 '34 8.750 7.99 March 15, '32 8.750 5.99 March 15, '32 F 7.400 7.41 Nov. 1, '46	Symbol Coupon (%) Yield (%) Maturity Current 7.750 8.60 June 1,'27 97.000 RCL 7.500 9.00 Oct.15,'27 94.400 BBWI 6.875 8.36 Nov.1,'35 88.500 BHCCN 11.000 16.96 Sept.30,'28 79.000 VENTGL 4.125 6.29 Aug.15,'31 86.000 OMF 7.125 7.91 March 15,'26 97.910 LUMN 6.875 18.58 Jan.15,'28 63.500 TITIM 6.000 8.23 Sept.30,'34 83.550 Ceteeceses 7.750 16.78 July 1,'26 77.625 SEE 6.875 6.63 July 1,'26 77.625 SEE 6.875 6.63 July 1,'26 77.625 SEE 6.875 6.63 July 1,'26 77.625 SEE 6.875 5.99 March 15,'32 119.049 8.750 5.	7.750 8.60 June 1, '27 97.000 0.75 RcL 7.500 9.00 Oct. 15, '27 94.400 0.65 BBWI 6.875 8.36 Nov. 1, '35 88.500 0.50 BHCCN 11.000 16.96 Sept. 30, '28 79.000 0.50 VENTGL 4.125 6.29 Aug. 15, '31 86.000 0.50 OMF 7.125 7.91 March 15, '26 97.910 0.41 LUMN 6.875 18.58 Jan. 15, '28 63.500 0.40 TITIM 6.000 8.23 Sept. 30, '34 83.550 0.36 CE General-Ses Sept. 30, '24 99.970 -0.78 7.750 16.78 July 1, '26 77.625 -0.75 SEE 6.875 6.63 July 1, '26 77.625 -0.75 SEE 6.700 7.78 Dec. 15, '33 92.196 -0.50 8.750 5.99 March 15, '32

*Estimated spread over 2-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year or 30-year hot-run Treasury; 100 basis points=one percentage pt; change in spread shown is for Z-spread. Note: Data are for the most active issue of bonds with maturities of two years or more

Source: MarketAxess

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

BIGGEST 1,000 STOCKS

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How to Read the Stock Tables The following explanations apply to NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE American and Nasdaq Stock Market listed securities, Prices are composite quotations that include primary market trades as well as trades reported by Nasdaq BX (formerly Boston), Chicago Stock Exchange, Cboe, NYSE National and Nasdaq ISE. The list comprises the 1,000 largest companies based on market capitalization. Underlined quotations are those stocks with large changes in volume compared with the issues average trading volume. Boldfaced quotations highlight those issues whose price changed by 5% or more if their previous closing price was \$2 or higher. Wall Street Journal stock tables reflect composite regular trading as of 4 p.m. and changes in the closing prices from 4 p.m. the previous day. Vall Street Journal stock tables reflect composite regular trading as of 4 p.m. and changes in the closing prices from 4 p.m. the previous day. Tuesday, February 28, 2023 Stock Sym Close Chg BoozAllen BAH 94,73 -0.63 BorgWarrer BWX 50.28 0.28 DiscoverFinSves DFS 112.00 0.55 BostonProps BW 65.48 0.28 DiscoverFinSves DFS 112.00 0.55 BostonProps BW 65.48 0.50 Discover Journal 3 1.59	Humana HUM 495.02 11.49 NIO NIO 9.39 0.06 Samsara IOT 16.66 0.41 JBHunt JBHT 180.79 -3.24 NOV NOV 21.88 -0.26 Sanofi SMV 46.85 -1.00 HuntingtonBcsh HBAN 15.32 0.01 NRG Energy NRG 32.79 -0.23 SareptaTherap SRPT 122.13 4.00 Huntingingalls HII 215.20 -2.18 NVR NVR 5173.62 6.69 Sasol SL 14.45 -0.06	Stock Sym Close Chg Stock Sym Close Chg Stock Sym Close Chg Verizon VZ 38.81 -0.07 WasteMgt WM 149.76 -1.31 WoodsideEnergy WDS 24.33 0.41 VertexPharm VTRS 11.40 0.20 Waters WAT 310.89 0.85 Workfay WM 149.76 -1.31 WoodsideEnergy WDS 24.33 0.41 Viatris VTRS 11.40 0.20 Waters WAT 50 0.28 Woodrifin WF 28.00 0.06 Visatris VTRS 11.40 0.20 WeltsFargo WFC 46.77 0.01 WymnResorts WMNN 108.37 3.23 Vistra VST 21.99 -0.26 Weltower WEL 74.12 -0.15 XP XP 22.42 0.06 Vodafone VWMI 10.13 -0.80 Wescolnt WCC 165.58 -0.61 XPeng XPEV 8.92 0.32 Vodafone VWM 10.26
ABB ABB 33.30 -0.20 BostonSci BSX 46.72 -0.10 DolbyLab DLB 82.28 0.23 ADT ADT 7.54 -0.32 BoydGaming BYD 65.13 1.15 DollarGeneral DG 216.30 0.20 AECOM ACM 86.36 -0.41 BristolMyers BMY 68.96 -1.03 DollarTree DLTR 145.28 1.46	HyattHotels H 116.24 -0.09 NXP Semi NXPI 178.48 0.74 Schlumberger SLB 53.21 -1.19 ICICI Bank IBN 20.68 0.15 Nasdaq NDAQ 56.06 -0.29 SchwabC ScHw 77.92 0.04 ICL Group ICL 7.03 0.13 NationalGrid NGG 62.91 -1.12 Sea SE 62.49 2.51 IdexxLab IDXX 473.24 5.06 Natlinstruments NATI 50.51 0.03 Seagate STX 64.56 0.31	Dividend Changes
AES AES 24.68 -0.20 BritishAmTob BTI 38.06 -0.58 I DominionEner D 55.62 -0.71 Affac AFL 68.15 -0.08 BrixmorProp BRX 22.64 -0.01 Domino's DPZ 294.01 -1.62 AGCO AGCO 140.81 -0.36 Broadcom AV6O 594.29 8.84 Donaldson DCI 63.25 0.09 Ansys ANSS 303.61 7.93 BroadridgeFinl BR 140.78 0.23 DoorDash DASH 54.66 0.47	ING Groep ING 13.97 0.07 NatlRetailProp NNN 45.32 -0.11 Seagen SGEN 179.69 1.53 Invesco IVZ 17.66 0.19 NatWest NWG 7.08 0.08 SealedAir SEE 48.62 -0.88 IQVIA IQV 208.47 -0.41 NetApp NTAP 64.55 -0.22 Sempra SRE 149.96 -4.92	Amount Payable/ Company Symbol Yld% New/Old Frg Record
APA APA 38.38 -0.85 BrookfieldAsset BAM 33.62 0.12 Dover DOV 149.90 -0.10 ASE Tech ASX 7.17 0.02 Brookfield BN 33.25 -0.41 Dow DOW 57.20 0.21 ASML ASML 617.73 -14.35 BrookfieldInfr BIP 33.01 -0.54 DrReddy'sLab RDY 52.25 -1.49	ITT ITT 90.89 0.55 NetEase NTES 77.64 -1.34 SensataTechs ST 50.58 0.45 IcahnEnterpises IEP 53.81 0.21 Netflix NFLX 322.13 -0.90 ServiceCorp SCI 67.53 -0.67 Icon ICLR 225.63 2.50 Neurocrine NBIX 103.10 90.90 ServiceNow NOW 432.17 3.60 IDEX IEX 224.98 -0.24 NewFortressEner NFE 32.99 -5.75 ShawComm SLR 28.97 -0.17	Increased Simulation No. New Solution
AT&T T 18.91 -0.12 BrowkfieldRenew BEPC 27.85 -0.18 DraftKings DKNG 18.86 0.06 AbbottLabs ABT 10.172 1.95 Brown&Brown &BRO 56.07 0.11 Dropbox DBW 20.40 -0.09 AbbVie ABBY 103.29 -0.38 Brown-Forman BEFA 64.29 -0.45 DukeEnergy DUK 94.26 -1.55 AcadiaHealthcare ACHC 72.51 -7.98 Brown-Forman B BF.B 64.87 -0.37 DuFONT DD 73.03	IllinoisToolWks ITW 233.16 0.36 NewOrientalEduc EDU 38.72 -0.50 Shell SHEL 60.77 -0.43 Illumina ILLMN 199.20 2.30 Newmont NEM 43.61 0.27 SherwiNWilliamSHW 221.35 -0.59 ImperialOli IMO 49.36 -1.34 NewsCorp A NWSA 17.15 -0.12 ShinhanFin SHG 29.27 0.04 Incyte INCY 7.698 0.37 NewsCorp B NWS 17.26 -0.19 ShockwaveKed SWAV 190.24 0.72	Fed Agric Mtg Cl C AGM 2.7 1.10/.95 Q Mar31/Mar16 Macy's M 3.1 .1654/.1575 Q Apr03/Mar15 Stocks
Accenture ACN 265.55 -0.70 Bruker BRKR 68.92 -0.38 Dynatrace DT 42.53 -0.50 ActivisionBiliz ATVI 76.25 -0.49 JulidersFirst BLDR 84.78 3.29 EMCOR EME 167.22 1.18 Adobe ADBE 323.95 1.63 Bunge BG 95.50 -0.69 ENI E 28.36 -0.17 AdvanceAuto AAP 144.96 4.33 BurlingtonStrs BUL2 14.25 -2.86 EOG Rscs EOG Rscs	Infosys INFY 17.94 -0.22 NexstarMedia NXST 185.90 -6.40 Shopify SHOP 41.14 0.66 I IngersollRand IR 58.07 -0.29 NextEraEnergy NEE 71.03 -0.83 SignatureBank SBNY 112.05 1.24 Ingredion INGR 99.40 -1.23 Nike NKE 118.79 0.26 SignifyHealth SGFY 28.79	New York Mortgage Tr NYMT 1:4 /Mar09 Foreign
AdvDrainageSys WMS 88.73 0.72 CACI Intl CACI 293.00 -2.23 EPAM Systems EPAM 307.65 -5.21 AdvMircoDevices AMD 78.58 -0.19 CBRE Group CBRE 85.14 -0.05 EQT EQT EQT 31.8 -0.35 Aegon AEG 5.17 0.02 CDW CDW 202.42 -0.10 EastWestBncp EWBC 76.21 -0.68	InspireMedical INSP 259.93 4.21 NISource NI 27.43 -0.06 SimonProperty SPG 122.09 -0.42 Insulet PODD276.36 -5.58 Nokia NOK 4.60 -0.07 SiriusXM SIRI 4.39 -0.07 Intel INTC 24.93 0.03 Nomura NMR 4.12 -0.04 SiteOneLandscape SITE 148.34 -0.14 InteractiveBrkrs IBKR 8.611 -0.10 Nordson NDSN 219.64 -0.55 SkcethersUSA SkXX 44.51 0.57	Banco de Chile ADR BCH 5.0 1.36875 A Mar30 / Mar17 Centerra Gold CGAU 3.3 .0516 Q Mar28 / Mar14 Consolidated Water CWC0 2.2 .085 Q Apr28 / Apr03
AerCap AER 62.44 0.16 CF Industries CF 85.89 0.60 EastGroup EGP 163.27 -0.05 AglientTechs A 141.97 -0.21 CGI GIB 89.62 -0.46 EastGroup EGP 163.27 -0.05 agilon healt AGL 21.21 0.05 CHR Poblson CHRW 99.60 -1.00 Eaton ETN 174.93 0.55 AgnicoEagleMines AEM 46.03 0.49 CME 185.36 1.22 eBay EBAY 45.90 0.10	ICE ICE 101.80 0.29 Norfoll/Southern NSC 224.82 -0.49 Skyworks SWKS 111.57 0.25 InterContinenti IIIG 68.86 0.29 NorthernTrust NTRS 95.27 1.02 SmithAO AOS 65.63 0.31 IBM IBM 129.30 -1.19 NorthropGrum NOC 464.11 -5.96 Smith&Nephew SNN 28.57 -0.32	ENIADR E 4.4 .46226 Apr07/Mar21 Nordic American Tankers NAT 2.5 .15 Q Mar28/Mar14
Airboduction APD 235.98 0.56 CMS Energy CMS 58.97 -0.73 Ecclab ECL 159.37 -0.39 Airboducts ABBB 123.28 -0.25 CNA Fin CNA 43.78 -0.01 Ecolab ECL 159.37 -0.39 Airboducts ABBB 123.28 -0.25 CNA Fin CNA 43.78 -0.01 Ecolab ECL 15.93 -0.39 V AkamaiTech AKAM 72.60 -0.70 CNH Indi CNH 16.47 0.01 EdisonIntil EIX 66.21 -1.92	IntlFlavors IFF 93.20 -1.33 NorwegCruise NCLH 14.82 -1.68 Smucker SJM 147.89 -0.17 IntlPaper IP 36.39 -0.19 Novartis NVS 84.12 -1.43 Snap Snap 0.15 0.27 Interpublic IPG 35.54 -0.10 NovoNordisk NVO 140.99 -2.37 Snap-On SNA 248.68 1.83 Intuit INTU 407.18 -5.44 Novocure NVCR 76.97 -0.33 Snowflake SNA 248.68 1.83	Rio Tinto ADR Rio 9.8 2.25 SA Apr20/Mar10 Smith & Nephew ADR SNN 2.6 .462 SA May17/Mar31 Telefonica Brasil ADR VIV 7.7 .01225 Mar01/Mar02
Albemarle ALB 254.31 -2.71 CRH CRH 47.31 0.25 EdwardsLife EW 80.44 3.10 VAlbertsons ACI 19.88 -0.36 CSX CSX 0.49 -0.28 ElbitStystems ESET 16.89 0.23 2.33 Alcoa AA 48.94 0.04 CVS 83.54 -1.30 ElectronicArts EA 110.94 0.04 CadenceDesign CDNS 192.94 -0.24 ElectronicArts EA 106.96 -6.63	IntuitiveSurgical ISRG 229.39 -2.35 NuHoldings NU 5.04 0.07 SOQUIMICH SQM 88.75 -0.58 InvitatHomes INVH 31.26 -0.07 Nucor NUE 167.44 3.16 SolarEdgeTech SEDG 31.79 4.29 iQIY1 IQ 7.73 0.04 Nutrien NTR 7.78 0.03 Sony SONY 83.58 0.23	Sources: FactSet; Dow Jones Market Data KEY: A: annual; M: monthly; Q: quarterly; r: revised; SA: semiannual; S2:1: stock split and ratio; SO: spin-off.
AlexandriaRIEst ARE 149.78 -1.75 CAE CAE 22.58 -0.03 EmersonElec EMR 82.71 0.61 Alibaba BABA 87.79 -1.46 CaesarsEnt CZR 50.76 0.29 Enbridge ENB 37.52 -0.50 AlignTech ALGN 309.50 4.86 CamdenProperty CPT 114.76 -0.07 Endeavor EDR 22.31 0.02	IronMountain IRM 52.75 0.18 NVIDIA NVDA 232.16 -2.85 SoConstr SCCO 73.69 1.19 SouthwestAir LUV 33.58 0.04 SolutivestAir LUV 33.58 0.	
AllegroMicro ALGL 11:21:0-22 CampbellSoup CPB 52.52 0.60 Energy Motor SIMP AllegroMicro ALGM 43.68 0.75 CampbellSoup CPB 52.52 0.60 Energy ENPH 210.53 -0.25 AlliantEnergy LNT 51.27 -0.19 GIBC CM 45.73 -0.49 Entegris ENTG 85.23 1.17 Alletare All 13.89 -0.17 Cam/billSoup CPB 52.72 -0.60 Entegris ENTG 85.23 1.17	JD.com JD 44.44 -0.30 ONEOK OKE 65.45 -2.49 States backed with 0.301 -132 JPMorganChase JPM 143.35 1.19 OReillyAuto ORLY 830.10 -15.86 State Sta	BANKRATE.COM [®] MMA, Savings and CDs Average Yields of Major Banks Tuesday, February 28, 2023
AllyFinancial ALLY 30.05 0.44 CanNaturalRes CNQ 56.51 -0.58 EnterprisePord EPD 25.53 -0.31 AlnylamPharm ALNY 191.45 1.44 CanPacRwy CP 75.94 -1.32 Equifax EFX 202.53 2.84 Alphabet C 6006 90.30 0.20 CanDa CAU 21.47 -0.38 EFX 202.53 2.84 Canon CAU 21.47 -0.38 EFX 202.53 2.84 CAU 21.47 -0.38 EFX 202.54 CAU 21.47 -0.38 EFX 202.54 CAU 21	Jabil JBL 83.03 -0.48 OakStreetHealth OSH 35.40 0.17 StateStreet State 1 83.68 -0.13 JackHenry JKHH 164.24 -1.51 OccidentalPetrol OXY 58.56 -0.40 SteeDynamics STLD 126.11 4.77 JacobsSoins J 119.50 -1.86 Okta OKTA 71.29 -0.35 SteeIDynamics STLD 17.52 -0.09 JamesHardie JHX 20.86 0.13 OldDomFreight ODFL 339.26 -2.73 Steris STE 18.80 -0.30	Type MMA 1-MO 2-MO 3-MO 6-MO 1-YR 2-YR 2.5YR 5YR National average
Alphabet A Boolds 9.05 1.27 CardinalHealth CAH 75.71 1.70 Equitable EQH 31.42 0.04 20.14 0.000 40.05	JazzPharm JAZZ 140.40 -0.91 OldRepublic ORI 26.37 0.06 StrifelFinancial SF 66.83 0.34 JefferiesFin JEF 37.79 0.17 Olin OLN 57.75 -1.93 STMicroelec STM 48.16 -0.04 J.S.J JNJ 153.26 -2.37 Omnicom OMC 90.57 -0.45 Stryker SYK 262.88 0.26	Savings 0.31 0.20 0.25 0.63 0.86 1.33 1.20 1.07 1.05 Jumbos 0.74 0.20 0.25 0.73 0.95 1.44 1.33 1.18 1.15 Weekly change Image: Constraint of the second
Amcor AMCR 11.14 -0.07 CarMax KMX 69.04 1.91 Ereindemnity A Ereit 233.39 0.15 Amdocs DOX 9.61 -1.00 Carnival CCL 10.62 -0.21 EssentialUtil WTR6 42.78 -0.65 Ameren AEE 82.71 -1.19 Curk 9.64 -0.20 EssexProp ESS 228.06 0.48	JohnsonControls JCI 62.72 -0.02 OnHolding ONON 21.87 0.56 Sumitomotivits JMPR 8./3 0.04 Jonestang JLL 174.46 6.14 ON Semi ON 7/41 -0.32 SunComms SUI 143.14 -2.05 JuniperNetworks JNPR 30.78 0.10 OpenText OTEX 34.38 0.28 SunLifeFinancial SLF 48.30 -0.16 KB Financial KB 38.53 0.03 Oracle ORCL 87.40 -0.56 Suncorenergy SU 33.60 -0.51	Savings 0.01 0.00 0.00 0.02 0.03 0.04 0.02 0.00 0.01 Jumbos 0.03 0.00 0.00 0.02 0.04 0.05 0.03 0.01 0.02
Americality Amore Autor 20:35 -0:01 Cases/GenStores CASE 207.95 -2.77 Escendador ETSY 12:14 0.81 Ameria/Mines AAL 15.98 0.35 Catalent CTLT 68.22 0.98 Everestice EVERSTER 88.397 2.83 AFD AFD AFG 7.97 7.10 Caterpillar CAT 235.55 -0.43 Everence 238.37 2.83 1.38	KBR KBR 55.11 -0.31 Orange ORAN 11.48 -0.11 Suzano SUZ 9.13 0.20 9.13 0.21 0.21 Suzano SUZ 9.13 0.20 9.17 0.21	Consumer Savings Rates
AmerExpress AXP 173.99 0.69 Celanese CE 116.23 -1.23 Etrogy 0.69 -1.73 AmericanFin AFG 13.11 1.02 Celanese CELH 90.80 0.78 ExactSciences EXAS 62.33 2.12 AmHomes4Rent AMH 31.02 -0.16 Cemex Cemay Cenay 0.08 Exelon Exelon -1.04 AIG AIG AII 0.11 0.46 CenovusEnergy CVE 18.44 -0.14 Expedia EXPE 10.87 2.13	KLA KLAC 379.38 0.29 Ovintiv OVV 42.77 -3.17 Sysco SYY /4.57 -1.13 Kanzhun BZ 20.15 0.10 OwensCorning OC 97.79 -0.28 T U V KarunaTherap KRTX 199.42 2.11 PDD PDD 87.73 1.73 T U V Kellogg K 65.94 -0.98 PG6E PCG 15.62 -0.13 TC Energy TRP 39.81 -0.84	Below are the top federally insured offers available nationwide according to Bankrate.com's weekly survey of highest yields. For latest offers and reviews of these financial institutions, please visit bankrate.com/banking/reviews. Information is believed to be reliable, but not guaranteed.
AlG AlG AlG AlG AlG AlG Centere CNC 68.40 1.69 Expedia EXPE 108.97 2.13 AmerTowerREIT AMT 198.01 2.93 * Centere CNC 68.40 -1.69 Expedia EXPE 108.97 2.13 AmerCodReatty COLD 2.940 -0.33 CentralsElBrase BBR 6.57 -0.13 ExtraSpaceSt EXX 164.65 2.77 AmericoldReatty COLD 2.940 -0.33 CentralsElBrase BBR 6.57 -0.13 ExtraSpaceSt EXX 0.001 0.90 -0.04 CentralsElBrase BBR 0.07 FC FCN 140.45 2.77	KeurigbrPeper KDP 34.55 -0.82 PNC Fin PNC 157.92 0.22 TD Synnex SNX 96.52 -0.08 KeyCorp KEY 18.29 0.19 POSCO PKX 60.99 -0.33 TE connectivity TEL 127.32 0.12 KeysightTech KEYS 0.19 PDG 132.06 0.45 Telus TU 19.88 -0.12	High yield savings Bank Yield Bank Yield
Ameriprise AMP 342.87 3.03 Certification CM CMA 72.73 6.07 F5 FFIV 142.98 2.29 AmerisourceBrgn ABC 155.56 -1.07 CharlesRiverLabs CRL 21.93 -2.32 FMC FMC 12.93 -0.07 Ametek AME 141.56 0.21 CharterCommis CHTR 367.61 -7.44 FACSet FDS 414.55 -5.37 Amgen AMON 233.66 -2.79 CheckPoint CHLP 123.72 -0.72 Filtsaac FICS FT/20 6.77.39 6.98	KimcoRealty Kim 20.61 -0.02 PTC PTC 125.33 -0.97 TFI Intl TFI 122.04 -0.87 KinderMorgan KMI 17.06 -0.30 Paccar PCAR 72.20 0.09 TX TX 76.60 -0.30 KinsaleCapital KNSL 138.70 1.66 PackagingCAm PKG 136.72 -0.15 T-MobileUS TMUS 142.18 -1.95	Phone number Minimum Phone number Minimum (%) Money market and savings account Six-month CD Six-month CD Vio Bank \$500 4.50
Amphenol APH 77.52 0.56 Chemice CHE 521.58 15.97 Fastenal FAST 51.56 -0.01 AnalogDevices ADI 183.47 0.30 CheniereEnergy LNG 157.34 -1.16 FederalRealty FRT 106.78 0.06 AngloGoldAsh AU 16.66 -0.03 CheniereEnergy LNG 157.34 -1.12 FederalRealty FRT 106.78 0.06	Knight-Swift KNX 56.84 -0.54 PalantirTech PLTR 7.84 -0.19 TPG TPG TPG TPG TPG TBG 33.02 0.84 Philips PHG 16.33 -0.40 PaloAltoNtwks PANW 188.37 -0.14 T.RowePrice TROW 112.28 0.73 KoreaElecPur KEP 6.63 -0.22 ParamountA PARA 24.58 -0.74 TaiwanSemi TSM 87.07 -0.23 KraftHeinz KHC 38.94 -0.72 ParamountB PARA 24.58 -0.74 TaiwanSemi TSM 87.07 -0.23	(877) 472-9200 (888) 999-9170 CFG Community Bank \$1,000 4.55 Merrick Bank \$25,000 4.45
AnnalyCap NLV 20.68 -0.03 AnnalyCap NLV 20.68 -0.03 AnteroResources AR 2.6.20 -0.70 Chevron CVX 160.77 -2.05 HervyA CHWY 40.55 -0.29 FidNattFin F7 39.86 0.19 Chipotle Chip Chip Chip Chip Chip Chip Chip Chip	Kroger KR 43.14 -0.27 ParkerHannifin PH 351.85 1.37 TakedaPharm TAK 15.35 -0.04 LKQ LKQ 57.29 -0.15 Paychex PAYY 110.40 -0.59 Tapestry TPR 43.51 0.32 LPL Financial LPLA 249.56 3.01 PaycomoSftware PAYC 289.06 -5.06 TargaResources TREP 74.10 -1.16	(888) 205-8388 (866) 638-6851 BankPurely, adivision of Flushing Bank \$25,000 4.45 (800) 581-2889 First Internet Bank of Indiana (888) 873-3424
ApellisPharm APLS 65.48 0.32 Chubb CB 211.02 0.06 FifthThirdBncp FITB 36.30 0.23 ApolloGibMgmt APO 70.90 0.48 ChunghwaTel CH 37.41 -0.19 FirstCitizEcshA FirstCitizEcshA FICA 7.52 Apple AAPL 147.41 -0.51 Church@Dwight CHD 83.78 -0.10 FirstCitizEcshA FICA 73.76 -7.52 Apple AAPL 147.41 -0.51 Church@Dwight CHD 83.78 -0.10 FirstHorizon FHN 24.77 0.02	L3HarrisTech LHX 211.19 0.49 Paylocity PCTY 192.61 -0.95 Target TGT 16.69 1.69 LabCorpofAmerica LH 239.36 -1.29 PayPal PYPL 73.60 -0.71 TechnipFMC FTI 15.29 -0.38 LamResearch LCX 486.01 3.30 Pearson PSO 10.98 -0.71 TecknipFMC FTI 15.29 -0.38 Lamarkav LAMR 104.56 0.83 PembinaPipeline PBA 32.84 -0.71 TeckResourcesB TECK 39.02 -0.07	One-month CD One-year CD VirtualBank \$10,000 2.48 CFG Community Bank \$500 5.15 (877) 998-2265 (888) 205-8388 \$500 5.15
ApplMaterials AMAT116.15 4.08 Charterial council counci council council council counci council council counc	LambWeston 100.64 0.39 PenskeAuto PAG 144.15 -0.76 Telefiex TFX 23.82 -0.70 LasVegasSandsUVS 57.47 1.48 Pentair PNR 55.94 -0.36 Ericsson ERIC 5.50 -0.04 LatticeSemi LSCC 84.96 1.31 Penumbra PEN 259.99 -4.33 TelefonicaBras VIV 7.45 -0.10	Colorado Federal Savings Bank \$5,000 0.75 Vio Bank \$500 4.85 (877) 484-2372 (888) 999-9170 5 5 10,000 4.80 State Bank of India California \$1,000 0.50 Popular Direct \$10,000 4.80
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AtmosEnergy ATO 112.81 -2.09 Cognex CGNX 4/.42 0.51 Fock Fock Fock 50.02 -0.41 Autodesk ADSK 198.69 2.01 CognizantTech CTSH 62.63 -0.87 Fock Fock Fock Fock Fock Fock Fock Fock Fock 50.02 -0.41 Autoliv ALV 92.58 -0.58 ColpatePalm CL 73.30 -0.30 France-Nevada FNV 127.57 0.67	LibertyGinobal A LBTYA 20.49 -0.49 -1.73 I PlainsAllAmPipe PAA 13.25 0.03 TexasRoadhouse TXRH 101.54 -0.66 LibertyFormOne A FWONA 60.76 -1.73 I Plains6P PAG 13.25 0.03 TexasRoadhouse TXRH 101.54 -0.66 LibertyFormOne A FWONA 60.76 -1.73 I Plains6P PAG 13.25 0.04 Textorn TXT 72.53 -0.53 LibertyFormOne C FWONK 67.87 -1.49 PlanetFitness PLUT 81.05 0.56 ThermoFisher TMO 541.76 0.41 LibertyBraves A BATRA 34.25 0.48 PlugPower PLUG 14.87 0.21 Tomosneuters TRI 121.03 -0.64	Three-month CD Five-year CD Popular Direct \$10,000 4.10 GTE Financial Credit Union (U) \$500 4.54
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Avantor AVTR 24.37 0.05 SAUES SBS 5.79 0.25 Full Truck YMM 7.00 -0.01 AveryDennison AVY 182.19 1.07 ConagraBrands CAG 36.41 -0.35 Full Truck YMM 7.00 -0.01 AvisBudget CAR 219.66 -1.51 Concentrix CNX2 13.64 -1.16 G H I AversDestorprise AV003.03 5.24 Confluent CFLT 24.39 0.32 G H I	LifeStorage LSI 120.52 0.06 PrincipalFinI PFG 89.55 0.88 Toro TTC 110.44 -0.28 EliLIliy LLY 31.122 -5.40 ProcoreTech PCOR 66.99 1.21 TorontDomBkTD 66.55 -0.14 Lincohelectric LECO 167.93 -0.09 Procter&Gamble PG 137.56 -1.58 TotalEnergies TTE 61.91 -0.52 Linde LIN 348.37 3.89 Progressive PGR 143.52 1.83 Toyoktor TM 135.92 -0.33	Luana Savings Bank \$2,000 3.55 First Internet Bank of Indiana \$1,000 4.39 (800) 666-2012 (888) 873-3424
BCE BCE 44.25 0.24 Concord-millips COP 103.35 -2.51 GE HealthCare Getter / 76.00 -0.04 BHP Group BHD 60.97 0.52 ConEd B9.35 -1.50 GELEnvironmental GFL 30.37 -0.29 'BILL BILL 84.63 -0.43 ConstBrands ASTZ 223.70 -0.99 GSK GK 34.27 -0.55	LithiaMotors LAD 255.18 -2.98 Prologis PLD 123.40 0.49 TractorSupply TSCO 233.26 -1.17 LiveNationEnt LVY 72.06 0.23 ProsperityBicshie B7.349 0.49 TradeDesk TTD 55.96 0.88 LloydsBanking LYG 2.25 0.04 PrudentialFin PRU 100.00 0.97 TradeDesk TTW 70.89 0.06	High yield jumbos - Minimum Is \$100,000 Money market and savings account Six-month CD
BOK Fin BOKF 104.68 -0.42 Cooper COO 326.97 -5.33 Gaming&Leisure GLPI 53.88 0.12 BP BP 39.60 -0.62 Corpert CPRT 70.46 0.50 Garmin GRMN 98.13 -0.25 BRP DOOD 86.46 -0.60 CorebridgeFin CRBG 20.22 0.09 Gartner IT 327.81 0.42	Loews L 61.09 0.19 PublicServiceEnt PEG 60.43 -1.09 TransDigm TDG 743.87 -3.53 LogitechInti LOGI 54.55 -0.78 PublicStorage PSA 298.95 3.73 TransDigm TEQ 65.43 -0.42 Lowe's LOW 205.75 1.51 PulteGroup PHM 54.67 0.97 Travelers TRV 185.12 -0.21	CFG Community Bank 4.55 Vio Bank 4.50 (888) 205-8388 (888) 999-9170 4.55 UFB Direct 4.55 Merrick Bank 4.45
Baldu BIDU 137.69 1.67 Corning GLW 33.95 -0.30 T GenDigital GEN 19.51 -0.48 BakerHughes BKR 30.60 -0.44 Corteva CTVA 62.29 -0.33 Generatic GNRC 12:001 0.40 Ball BALL 56.21 0.31 Corteva CSGP 70.66 -0.23 GeneralDynamics GD 227.91 -2.71	Lululemon LULU 309.20 -1.10 Qiagen QGEN 45.95 -0.36 Trip.com TCOM 35.55 0.06 LyondellBasell LYB 95.99 0.18 Qorvo QRV0 100.89 0.86 TruistFini TFC 46.95 -0.12 Oualcomm Oculatorm Oculatorm TruistFini TFC 46.95 -0.12	(877) 472-9200 (866) 638-6851 BankPurely, a division of Flushing Bank 4,45 First Internet Bank of Indiana 4,39 (800) 581-2889 (888) 873-3424 (888) 873-3424 4,39
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BacoSantChile BSAC 16.78 0.09 Crane CR 119.78 0.87 Genpact G 4.7.73 -0.03 BacoSantAnder SAN 3.91 0.16 Credicorp BAP 127.42 -0.07 Genpact GMTX 28.55 0.01 BankolonAmerica BAC 3.30 0.09 CreditSuisse CS 3.07 0.03 GenulerParts GPC 17.88 -1.48 BankofAmerica BAC 3.30 0.09 CreditSuisse CR0X 121.71 -1.87 Gerdau GGB 5.47 0.03	MPLX MPLX 34.63 -0.23 R S UDR UDR 42.84 -0.22 MSCI MSCI 52.15 -3.64 UGI UGI 37.23 -0.22 MagellanMid MMP 53.16 -0.08 RBC Bearings RBC 229.81 -3.64 UHAul 04.22 -0.85 MagnaInt MGA 55.73 0.40 RELX RELX 30.29 -0.28 UHAul 04.21 -0.79	(877) 998-2265 (888) 205-8388 Colorado Federal Savings Bank 0.75 Vio Bank 4.85 (877) 484-2372 (888) 999-9170 4.85
BankofMontreal BMO 94.76 -1.63 CrowdStrike CRWD 120.69 0.04 GileadSciences GILD 80.53 -0.33 BankNY Mellon BK 50.88 0.04 CrownCastle CC 130.75 0.90 GlobalPayments GPN 112.20 -1.34 BankNyosotia BNS 94.88 -322 CrownCastle -0.17 GlobalPayments GPN 112.20 -1.34	ManhattanAssoc MANh 143,75 -0.72 RH RH 299.03 -3.93 US Foods USFD 37.53 -0.37 ManulifeFini MFC 19.76 0.18 RPM RPM 88.63 0.26 UWM UWMC 4.26 -0.03 MarathonOil MRO 25.15 -0.68 RalphLauren RL 118.19 -0.91 Uber UBER 33.26 -0.29	State Bank of India California 0.50 Popular Direct 4.80 (877) 707-1995 (800) 274-5696
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Biogen BIB 269,86 0.66 DellTechC DELL 40.64 -0.36 HP HPQ 29.52 0.13 BioMarinPharm BMRN 99.59 -3.65 DeltaAir DAL 38.34 0.50 HSBC HSBC 48.52 0.33 0.33 BioNTech BNTX 130.05 -0.81 DentsplySirona XRAY 38.07 3.52 H World HTH 47.37 0.21	McKesson MCK 349.81 -5.00 RexfordIndRealty REX 60.46 -0.30 VF VFC 24.82 0.50 Medtronic MDT 82.80 -0.59 RioTinto RIO 69.73 0.57 VICI Prop VICI 33.53 -0.15 MercadoLibre MELI 1220.00 37.01 RitchieBros RBA 61.17 0.23 VailResorts MTN 23.49 -3.45	(480) 281-8200 (888) 205-8388 Luana Savings Bank 3.70 First Internet Bank of Indiana 4.39 (800) 666-2012 (888) 873-3424 4.39
BlackKnight BKI 59.60 -1.25 DeutscheBank DB 12.46 0.21 Haleon HLN 7.88 -0.04 BlackRock BLK 69.43 6.37 DevonEnergy DVN 53.92 -0.60 Halliburton HAL 36.23 -0.79 Blackstone BX 90.80 0.87 DexCom DXCM 111.01 0.43 HarleyDavidson HOG 47.55 0.30 Block SQ 76.73 1.59 Diageo DE0 173.04 -2.76 Harter/DariofFini HG 78.28 0.44	MetLife MET 71.73 -0.05 Robinhood HOOD 10.07 0.35 ValmontInds VMI 317.33 6.82	Notes: Accounts are federally insured up to \$250,000 per person. Yields are based on method of compounding and rate stated for the lowest required opening deposit to earn interest. CD figures are for fixed rates only. MMA: Allows six (6) third-party transfers per month, three (3) of
BlueOwlCapital OWL 12.34 0.03 DiamondbkEner FANG 140.58 -3.78 Hasbro HAS 55.01 -0.28 Boeing BA 201.55 1.09 Dick's DKS 128.63 -1.13 HealthrareReality IR 19.50 -0.10 BookingHidgs BKNG 2524.00 2.92 DigitalRealty DL 104.23 -0.65 HealthreakProp PEAK 24.06 -0.27	MicrochipTech MCHP 81.03 0.41 RocketCos. RKT 7.86 -0.02 Ventas VTR 48.65 -0.68 MicronTech MU 57.82 -0.08 Rockwell ROK 294.93 0.54 VeriSign VRSN 196.83 -1.45	which may be checks. Rates are subject to change. Source: Bankrate.com, a publication of Bankrate, Inc., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 Internet: www.bankrate.com

Mutua	al Funds	5		Data pi	rovided by L	IPPER (Fund		Net Yi Chg %R	D et Fund		Net YTD Chg %Ret		NAV	Net Y1 Chg %R		NAV	Net \ Chg %	(TD Ret Fund	Ne NAV Ch	t YTD g %Ret	Fund NAV	Net YT Chg %Re		Net YTD NAV Chg %Ret
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e-Ex-distribu	ution. f -Previous	day's quotati	on. g -Footi	notes x	and s apply	. j-Footnotes e	Stock DoubleLine		•1.21 3	.1 Balanc BluCh			IntlEq Invesco Fu		-0.16 4	.7 ParnEqF PGIM Fu		2 -0.04	2.8 500Adml BalAdml	367.15 -1.0 40.79 -0.0		TotStAdml 97.20 TxMCapAdml206.20			72.42 -0.25 3.3 72.73 -0.11 6.6
and s apply.	k-Recalculated	by Lipper, usi	ng updated	l data. p	 Distributio 	n costs apply,	TotRetBdl		0.02 1	IA Contra	125.00 4		EalncA		-0.0/ 1	.7 TotalReturn		0	1.1 CAITAdml				9-0.57 4. 9-0.08 5.	n TotBd2	9.37 0.5
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		BlackRock Fi			5GlbFxdInc		0.5 SeriesBond SeriesOverse			.6 SrsIntlVal .5 TotalBond			Lord Abbe ShtDuring			- HelSci	86.1	0 -0.44 ·	-4.1 LarCapAd	ml 8.34 +0.0 91.44 -0.2	JI U.8		7 -0.04 3.		58.58 -0.15 5.0 288.92 -0.73 5.0
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		BlackRock Fi					2.6 SmCpldxInstPr					0.01 1.3	TotRetBd			7 MidCap	93.8	2 -0.19		nl 265.19 -0.0			2 -0.03 2.		94.64 -0.04 7.6
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N PerA	50.15 -0.13 6.0	CoreBond	8.86 +0.0	01 0.8	US SmCpV	al 42.28 -0.06	7.6 FF2030	15.11 -	0.03 3	3 FrankTem	p/Franklin	A	LCVal Inst	t 42.39	-0.23 -1	5 Schwab	Funds		SmCapAd	ml 94.64 -0.0				.7 TotStInst	97.22 -0.24 4.4
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BANKING & FINANCE

SEC Scrutinizes Profit Metrics

Some companies are being questioned about adjustments that go beyond GAAP standard

By MARK MAURER

The Securities and Exchange Commission is expected to ask more companies to explain how they calculate performance measures that go beyond U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, a move to gauge whether these metrics could potentially mislead investors.

The U.S. securities regulator for years has monitored companies' use of so-called non-GAAP earnings measures in their financial statements, such as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or Ebitda, and adjusted revenue. Such measures are commonly used and typically exclude abnormal, nonrecurring items.

The SEC in 2016 warned companies that non-GAAP measures that replace GAAP-

based methods with individually tailored disclosure could violate its rules. These activities include moving the timing of recognition of an expense or revenue from one period to another and depreciating operating leases instead of recording rent expenses.

In December, the regulator expanded the guidance with more details on what constitutes a possible violation. For example, companies that change their accounting for revenue or expenses from an accrual basis under GAAP to a cash basis might mislead investors, as the latter is an unofficial accounting practice, the SEC said.

Companies rely increasingly on these measures, often to present an overly optimistic picture of profitability, accounting researchers said. Executives usually say that focusing on core operating earnings is the most accurate way to depict financial performance to investors, but their approach may vary.

Investors might assume that non-GAAP measures represent a company's earnings minus abnormal, nonrecurring items and then be fooled when the measures mean something different, said Nick Guest, an assistant professor of accounting at Cornell University. "That's what the SEC doesn't want and why they're not allowing each company to come up with their own definition of a non-GAAP measure," Mr. Guest said.

The SEC in a series of recent letters to businesses focused on companies' presentations of non-GAAP metrics that seem tailored to the specific firm. It has asked many of them to make changes for future filings so that investors can adequately assess the business. The agency's corporate-finance division regularly sends letters to public companies to inquire about their disclosures or accounting practices tied to filings such as quarterly or annual reports.

Ride-hailing firm Lyft Inc., mattress maker Sleep Number Corp., and media and education business Graham Holdings Co. were among the companies the SEC sent such letters to in exchanges the regulator made public in recent weeks. SEC letters released in Jan-

uary and February showed a total of 20 companies were questioned about their compliance with Question 100.04, a section in its guidance focused on calculations of non-GAAP measures, according to My-LogIQ, a data provider. That is up from 11 companies in letters released in January and February 2022. SEC questions on the topic totaled 161 in 2022, down from 206 a year earlier and up from 124 two vears earlier, MyLogIQ said.

That number will likely grow in the coming months due to the SEC's apparent focus and some companies' lack of awareness of the new guidance, accountants and academics said. The SEC typically makes correspondences public 20 business days after resolving matters, meaning inquiries Mattress maker Sleep Number is among the companies that was queried by the SEC on its nonstandard accounting. following the December guidance could be released starting in early spring, said Olga Usvyatsky, a former vice president of research at research firm Ideagen Audit Analytics

at Boston College. The SEC has long expressed concerns about companies placing too much emphasis on their non-GAAP disclosures compared with GAAP disclosures. But its scrutiny on non-GAAP calculations could push companies to overhaul how they compute measures of fi-

and a Ph.D. accounting student

nancial performance. Changing how certain non-GAAP measures are calculated can be embarrassing and even costly for companies, accountants said. The SEC declined to comment. In letters released recently,

the SEC asked Lyft to explain how it considered agency rules in excluding insurance reserve costs, or funds allocated by a company for future insurance claims, in its adjusted Ebitda. The SEC also inquired about Sleep Number's use of a non-GAAP measure known as return on invested capital.

Investors Plan New Bank

Continued from page B1 the 16 institutions held just over \$5.2 billion in total assets, less than 0.03% of the assets at all FDIC-insured banking institutions and 1.6% of the assets at minority depository institutions tracked by the FDIC.

In the summer of 2020, after the murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis Police officers, companies such as Netflix Inc., PayPal Holdings Inc. and others made efforts to move capital to Black-owned banks as a way to counter the U.S. racial wealth gap.

Those efforts aligned with similar pushes from the likes of former Atlanta Mayor and United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young and hip-hop artist and activist Michael Render, known as Killer Mike; the MDI Keeper's Fund, sponsored by the National Bankers Association; Mr. Bell's Black Bank Fund; and the FDIC's Mission-Driven Bank Fund. Despite such efforts, there are fewer Black-owned banks and they hold fewer assets than they did at the start of 2020.

The racial wealth gap also re-



Ashley Bell, ex-Trump administration adviser, will be chief executive of the new bank..

Mr. Jones came together over a shared belief that "racial and economic justice are inseparable twins," Mr. Bell said.

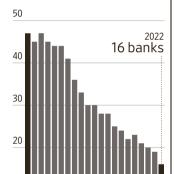
Black-owned banks flourished in the late 19th and early 20th century, according to a study by Lila Ammons, a Howard University African-American studies professor. They were often the only banks that would lend to people in Black neighborhoods.

The decline of Black bank ownership has worried some analysts who argue the trend bers of racial and ethnic minorities and low-income residents from financial services.

A study by the FDIC found that if all U.S. banks had behaved in a manner consistent with minority-owned banks through the 2008 global financial crisis, "at least 1.9 million more minority jobs would have been maintained and at least \$50 billion more in credit would have been available to small businesses on an annual basis."

Holladay Bank & Trust, with a branch in the suburbs of Salt Lake City, held roughly \$68 million in total assets and \$56 million in total deposits at the end of 2022. That would make the newly formed bank the fifthsmallest of the current Blackowned banks.

Number of Black-owned banks in the U.S.



Credit Suisse Group Faulted for Greensill

By MARGOT PATRICK

Credit Suisse Group AG failed in its duties as an asset manager and violated Swiss supervisory law in its operation of \$10 billion in investment funds with now-bankrupt financing partner Greensill Capital Management.

Switzerland's financial regulator, Finma, outlined a range of measures the bank must take to improve governance and comply with Swiss rules. It said it opened enforcement proceedings against four former Credit Suisse managers.

Finma doesn't have any powers to impose direct financial penalties or to prosecute companies. Its main enforcement tool is to require remedial work at deficient companies. It also can censure companies and individuals and impose bans, and it can order the disgorgement of illicit profit.

In this case, it didn't impose profit penalties on Credit Suisse. Finma previously directed Credit Suisse to hold additional capital against the matter.

The moves represent the culmination of Switzerland's regu-

Between 2017 and 2021, Credit Suisse joined with Greensill Capital to offer funds that invested in company supply-chain finance deals. Greensill made the loans to companies and then packaged them up into notes backed by the loan repayments and insurance protection against defaults. Credit Suisse's assetmanagement unit sold the notes as low-risk investments. Greensill abruptly went bankrupt two years ago when the insurance on the funds expired and couldn't be renewed.

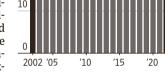
Finma said Credit Suisse didn't fulfill its supervisory duties as an asset manager, and more broadly breached its supervisory duty to identify, limit and monitor risks in the relationship over years with Greensill and its founder, Lex Greensill. Credit Suisse also lent money to Greensill. The regulator said it found serious deficiencies in the bank's organizational structures that allowed the lapses.

Credit Suisse has said it didn't know until the last minute in February 2021 that Greensill's business was at risk and insurance on debtors in the funds was expiring, precip itating Greensill's bankruptcy. So far, Credit Suisse has recovered \$7.4 billion, or 74%, of the funds for investors. The matter hit the bank's revenue after it agreed to waive some fees for affected clients. Negative revenue from the waived fees was around \$94 million in 2022. Last year, Credit Suisse said it could have averted the reputational damage and economic failure from Greensill if individual managers and employees had conducted themselves "more appropriately."

mains stubbornly high. As of the second quarter of 2022, Black families had 25 cents for every dollar of white family wealth, on average, according to data from the St. Louis Fed.

Mr. Bell, Dr. Bernice King and

will expand what are known as financial deserts—communities with few or no banking institutions-and increase the likelihood of redlining, a discriminatory practice that excludes neighborhoods with large num-



Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

Investcorp Raises \$1.2 Billion for Fund

By MARIA ARMENTAL

Alternative assets manager Investcorp Holdings has closed on more than \$1.2 billion in commitments for its debut North America privateequity fund to make control investments in middle-market services businesses.

While Bahrain-based Investcorp has long backed North American midsize businesses, the new fund's structure lets the firm broaden its investor base and take on larger deals in the region. said Dave Tayeh, head of private equity for North America.

"Fundraising has gotten more challenging, for sure, given some of the allocation and the denominator effect

challenges that some institutional investors have," he said. referring to the misalignment of asset values and goals that can occur when prices of listed securities decline broadly. "It just took a little longer than we'd hoped, but we effectively got to our targeted amount."

Backers of the vehicle, Investcorp North American Private Equity Fund I LP. include Canadian investment manager Public Sector Pension Investment Board and Carlyle Group Inc.'s AlpInvest Partners, Mr. Taveh said.

Investcorp initially followed a merchant banking approach and focused on deal-by-deal investments, linking wealthy families in the Middle East with opportunities outside the region. Over time, the firm sought to expand its institutional investor base and by December it managed more than \$50 billion, according to a news release.

In 2016, Investcorp sold a 20% stake in itself to Abu Dhabi's Mubadala Investment Co. to support the "institutionalization" of its shareholder structure and improve its capital base.

In 2018, the firm began pursuing a strategy of making minority investments in midmarket-focused private fund managers. A year later, it acquired private-equity placement agent and advisory firm Mercury Capital Advisors.

The firm started raising money for its new North

American fund in the fall of 2020, said Mr. Tayeh, who works from the firm's New York office. Some of the fund's backers invested alongside Investcorp in recent years.

"Having an [investor] who's committed to your fund who also has the desire to co-invest allows us to upsize deals in a more effective, more consistent way," said Mr. Tayeh.

Investcorp has deployed nearly half of the new fund across seven deals. Among the transactions are the acquisitions of technology services consulting firm Resultant LLC.

Typically, the fund looks for family- and founder-owned businesses with enterprise values from \$200 million to about \$1 billion, Mr. Tayeh said.

latory actions against the bank over the Greensill implosion.

The end to Finma's work on Greensill without major penalties will provide some relief to Credit Suisse, but it comes at a critical juncture for the 166year-old bank. Greensill's collapse in 2021 was followed two weeks later by Credit Suisse losing \$5 billion from the default of another client, Archegos Capital Management.

The two events precipitated the exit of many of the bank's top executives and triggered strategy changes that are still fluctuating. Credit Suisse's share price hit a low last week because of uncertainty about its future. Its latest restructuring plan includes spinning off its investment bank and cutting 9,000 jobs, but analysts fear that recent large outflows from customers will hinder a recovery.

A separate probe by Zurich's public prosecutor into the Greensill funds is continuing.

Credit Suisse said Finma's review reinforced many of its own findings and that it had made a raft of improvements. Credit Suisse shares edged

down around 1% on Tuesday.



Lex Greensill in 2019

New High	hs and	d Lows						Stock		2-Wk Hi/Lo C			2-Wk % Hi/Lo Ch	g Stock		2-Wk % li/Lo Chg	g Stock		52-Wk % Hi/Lo Cl	ng Stock		-Wk % li/Lo Chg	Stock		-Wk % li/Lo Chg
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MARKETS

Stocks Closed February With Declines

10-year Treasurys see largest one-month yield rise since September

BY CAITLIN MCCABE AND ALEXANDER OSIPOVICH

Stock indexes dropped in a relatively quiet session, ending a down month on a disappointing note.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 232.39 points, or 0.7%, to 32656.70. The S&P 500 ticked down 12.09 points, or 0.3%, to 3970.15, while the technology-focused Nasdaq Composite slipped 11.44 points, or 0.1%, to 11455.54. The indexes

TUESDAY'S were in the red MARKETS for the month of

February, after charging higher to kick off 2023. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite peaked for the year on Feb. 2.

But the gains unraveled as hotter-than-expected economic releases, including data on the labor market and consumer spending, spurred investors to reassess their expectations for inflation and monetary policy.

The Dow dropped 4.2% in February and is down 1.5% in 2023. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq declined 2.6% and 1.1%, respectively, for the month. They are hanging on to gains of 3.4% and 9.4% this year.

Derivatives markets show

Enters Plea

Alameda's finances, Mr. Singh

withdrew about \$6 million

from FTX for personal use. in-

cluding the purchase of a

house and charitable dona-

Ex-FTX

Official

Continued from page B1

0.6% Nasdaq Composite 0.4 0.2 S&P 500 -0.2 -0.4 -0.6 Dow Jones Industrial Average -0.8 Five-minute intervals 11 10 a.m. noon 1 p.m

Source: FactSet

traders now expect the Federal Reserve to lift interest rates well above 5% this year and then hold them there, as officials try to bring inflation under control.

Index performance Tuesday

Earlier this year, traders had anticipated the central bank would cut rates in 2023. That change spurred many investors to reshuffle their portfolios throughout February. Some investors pulled money out of equity funds and scooped up hedges to protect against a downturn.

"The growing realization through February was that actually the U.S. economy is not responding sufficiently to the Fed hikes" so far, said Seema Shah, chief global strategist at Principal Asset Management. "And that has meant that the labor market has continued to tighten and that, as a result, inflation pressures are still hot and heavy and simply not likely to decelerate.³

Ms. Shah added that while the Fed had early success in bringing year-over-year inflation down from its peak of 9.1% in June to 6.4% in January, the next leg lower may be a harder battle. She said she remains pessimistic about U.S. stocks.

Government-bond yields, meanwhile, rose in February, another sign of investors' shifting interest-rate expectations. Yields climb when bond

In recent weeks, the yield on the benchmark 10-year vanced back toward 4%. On down from 3.921% Monday. Despite the daily decline, the one-month climb in the yield was the biggest since September.

February, while a gauge of regional business activity fell further into contractionary

Among individual stocks,

Target climbed \$1.69, or 1%, to \$168.50 after the retailer said its same-store sales rose 0.7% in its most recent quarter from a year earlier.

Shares of Zoom Video **Communications** gained 87 cents, or 1.2%, to \$74.59, boosted by higher sales in the fourth quarter and a stronger profit forecast than Wall Street expected. The videoconferencing company was a pandemic-era market darling whose shares have suffered over the past half-year as many Americans have returned to the office.

Front-month futures on Brent crude, the international benchmark for oil prices, rose 1.7% to \$83.89 a barrel.

Overseas, the pan-continental Stoxx Europe 600 fell 0.3%. Data showing that inflation accelerated in France and Spain sent European government bond yields higher, and investors raised bets that the European Central Bank will raise interest rates to a record later this year.

In February, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index fell 9.4%, but Japan's Nikkei 225 and the Shanghai Composite finished the month in the black.

Early Wednesday, the Hang Seng was up 2.4%, the Shanghai Composite was up 0.5%. South Korea's Kospi was up 0.4% and the Nikkei was unchanged. S&P 500 futures fell 0.1%.

tions, the SEC alleged.

The SEC said that Mr. Singh had agreed to a settlement, subject to court approval, under which he would be barred from serving as an officer or director of a public company and pay a penalty, the size of which has yet to be determined. Similarly, the CFTC said Mr. Singh wasn't contesting its claims.

Mr. Singh's lawyers said that their client would do everything he could to make things right for FTX victims.

Mr. Singh's plea follows similar admissions in December by former Alameda Chief **Executive Caroline Ellison and** Gary Wang, FTX's former chief technology officer. Both pleaded guilty to fraud offenses and are cooperating with prosecutors.

Mr. Singh attended the same elite Silicon Valley prep school as Mr. Bankman-Fried and was close friends with his vounger brother. Gabriel Bankman-Fried.

Nishad Singh withdrew about \$6 million from FTX

2017 and became one of the technical architects of FTX when the exchange launched in 2019.

As FTX was unraveling in He joined Alameda in late November, Ms. Ellison told

Alameda employees that four executives knew about the diversion of customer funds: herself, Mr. Bankman-Fried, Mr. Singh and Mr. Wang, according to a lawsuit filed by the SEC in December and previous reporting by The Wall Street Journal.

Like Mr. Bankman-Fried, Mr. Singh used his crypto wealth to become a political megadonor, showering millions of dollars last year on candidates, political-action committees and branches of

the Democratic Party.

Last week's new indictment of Mr. Bankman-Fried, while not identifying Mr. Singh by name, alleged he took part in a straw-donor scheme to funnel money to left-leaning candidates and causes that Mr. Bankman-Fried didn't want connected to his own name. Another FTX executive backed conservative candidates as part of the scheme, aimed at winning influence in Washington, according to the indictment.



Shares of Zoom Video Communications gained 1.2%, boosted by higher sales in the fourth quarter.

prices fall.

U.S. Treasury note has ad-Tuesday, it traded at 3.914%,

The S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller National Home Price Index showed U.S. home-price growth decelerated in 2022. Other data showed that consumer confidence declined in

territory.







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