

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

DOW JONES | News Corp \*\*\*\*\* TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024 ~ VOL. CCLXXXIV NO. 102 WSJ.com ★★★★★ \$5.00

DJIA 42387.57 ▲ 273.17 0.65% NASDAQ 18567.19 ▲ 0.3% STOXX 600 520.95 ▲ 0.4% 10-YR. TREAS. ▼ 11/32, yield 4.277% OIL \$67.38 ▼ \$4.40 GOLD \$2,742.90 ▲ \$2.00 EURO \$1.0814 YEN 153.28

## What's News

### Business & Finance

◆ **Oil futures careened** toward some of their cheapest prices in years after Israel's strikes on Iran avoided energy facilities and damped fears of a wider war that could disrupt global supplies. The Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq rose 0.6%, 0.3% and 0.3%, respectively. **A1, B10**

◆ **Boeing is looking** to raise about \$19 billion through stock sales to shore up its balance sheet following a tough year for the aircraft and rocket maker. **B1**

◆ **VW's works council** said the auto giant aims to shut at least three factories in Germany, downsize plants and lay off tens of thousands in a cost-cutting drive. **B1**

◆ **Estée Lauder has picked** longtime senior executive Stéphane de La Faverie to be its CEO, according to people familiar with the matter. **B1**

◆ **Ford said** its adjusted profit for the full year would come in at the low end of its guidance, disappointing investors after rivals posted surprisingly strong results. **B1**

◆ **Philips cut** its full-year sales target after third-quarter revenue unexpectedly fell amid weak demand in China. **B3**

◆ **AbbVie has agreed** to buy Aliada Therapeutics, a biotech backed by Johnson & Johnson, for \$1.4 billion. **B3**

◆ **McDonald's suffered** a slowdown in business in the wake of the E. coli outbreak. **B2**

### World-Wide

◆ **The U.S. is running low** on some types of air-defense missiles, raising questions about the Pentagon's readiness to respond to the ongoing wars in the Middle East and a potential conflict in the Pacific. **A1**

◆ **The Biden administration** took steps meant to alleviate shortages of cancer drugs for children, part of a final push for one of the president's effort to reduce the nation's cancer burden. **A3**

◆ **Scientists advising** the U.S. government on dietary guidelines have drafted recommendations that would tell Americans to limit how much red meat they eat. **A3**

◆ **Separate emergency** voting appeals from Pennsylvania and Virginia have started to draw the Supreme Court into the coming election. **A3**

◆ **The Philadelphia** district attorney's office is suing Musk and his PAC, under accusations of running an illegal lottery by awarding \$1 million cash prizes to registered swing-state voters. **A4**

◆ **Treasury Secretary Yellen** warned that the West Bank's economy could collapse if Israel doesn't preserve its banking relationship with Palestinian financial institutions in the territory it occupies. **A6**

◆ **Ukraine is widening** its dragnet in the search for troops to replenish its ranks on its creaking front lines. **A7**

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## Volkswagen Workers Brace for Cuts



ON THE LINE: Employees of the Volkswagen plant in the eastern German city of Zwickau protest Monday after the company works council said the auto giant aims to shut at least three factories in Germany and lay off tens of thousands. **B1**

## Oil Prices Slide as Israeli Strike Avoids Iran's Energy Facilities

By DAVID UBERTI

Oil futures careened on Monday toward some of their cheapest prices in years after Israel's strikes on Iran avoided energy facilities and damped fears of a wider war that could disrupt global supplies.

Benchmark U.S. crude futures logged their steepest one-day decline since 2022, when recession concerns and easing disruptions from Russia's invasion of Ukraine

sparked a selloff. Contracts for deliveries of West Texas Intermediate next month declined by 6.1% Monday to \$67.38 a barrel.

Crude prices' retreat marks the latest twist for a market that has struggled to gauge the scope of Israel's response to a historic ballistic-missile strike by Tehran this month. In a multiwave assault Saturday that included dozens of warplanes, Israel hit missile-production sites and

air-defense systems spanning three Iranian provinces, killing four soldiers.

The tit-for-tat violence has thrust the Middle East into a new, dangerous era of direct conflict between two of the region's largest military powers. Even so, analysts said the lack of strikes on Iranian oil or nuclear facilities has provided an off-ramp from additional escalation in one of the world's most crucial chokepoints for energy.

The price premium that traders had put on oil futures to account for the wartime risk "is melting away," said Daniel Ghali, a commodity strategist at TD Securities. Ghali, who tracks trend-following trading firms that bet on price fluctuations, said Monday's price slide was steep enough to trigger additional

◆ **Eni lowers its full-year guidance**..... **B6**

## Pentagon Runs Low On Air Defense Missiles

Large number of interceptors used in Middle East raises readiness concerns

By NANCY A. YOUSSEF AND GORDON LUBOLD

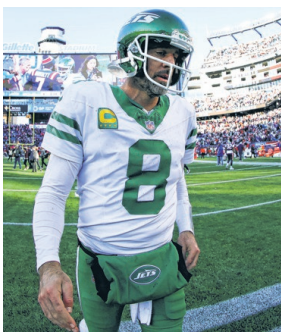
WASHINGTON—The U.S. is running low on some types of air-defense missiles, raising questions about the Pentagon's readiness to respond to the continuing wars in the Middle East and Europe and a potential conflict in the Pacific.

Interceptors are fast becoming the most sought-after ordnance during the widening crisis in the Middle East, as Israel and other U.S. allies face an increasing threat from missiles and drones fired by Iran and the militias it supports. The shortfall could become even more urgent after Israel's Friday night strikes on Iran, which U.S. officials fear might spark another wave of attacks by Tehran.

Standard Missiles, which are ship launched, are among the most common interceptors the U.S. has used to defend Israeli territory from Iranian missile attacks and are critical for stopping Houthi attacks on western ships in the Red Sea. The U.S. launched more than 100 Standard Missiles since Hamas's October 2023 attack on Israel, the U.S. officials said.

The Defense Department said it doesn't publicly disclose its stockpiles because the information is classified and could be leveraged by Iran and its proxies. "Over the

### INSIDE



**JASON GAY**  
A brutal season for Aaron Rodgers and the Jets keeps getting worse. **A12**



**U.S. NEWS**  
Trump rally's gamble on comic backfires after demeaning remarks. **A4**

## World Series Grips a Nation Halfway Around the World

In Japan, Shohei Ohtani's presence is likened to a coronation—'multiplied by a million'

By JARED DIAMOND

LOS ANGELES—In some ways, Naoyuki Yanagihara's job sounds pretty straightforward. In other respects, it's completely mind-blowing.

As a reporter for the Japanese sports daily Sports Nippon, he has to deliver a front-page article about Los Angeles Dodgers superstar Shohei Ohtani every day, for 364 days of the year.

The only reason it isn't 365, he explains, is because the newspaper doesn't publish on New Year's Day.

There is seemingly no limit to Ohtani-mania in Japan, where he is so famous that he practically qualifies as his own religion. He is the country's biggest celebrity, a national-wide phenomenon that transcends age, gender, political affiliation and even sports



Glove affair

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## The Middle East Drug Fueling War, Crime and Parties

Captagon is bringing big profits to Syria's Assad regime

By SUNE ENGEL RASMUSSEN AND SUHA MA'AYEH

AMMAN, Jordan—Another urgent conflict in the Middle East is playing out on the border between Syria and Jordan: a war against captagon, an amphetamine-like drug that's taken off across the region.

The drug cuts across social class and borders. It's used by taxi drivers handling late-night shifts, militia fighters looking to induce courage, students studying for exams, and high-powered executives wanting to work, or

party, long hours.

It's all added up to a multibillion-dollar drug trade that is fueling more conflict in the region. Money from drug smuggling has lined the pockets of Iran-backed militias, including Hezbollah, which has spent vast amounts of its proceeds on weapons to fight Israel. The drug props up Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, whose regime has become one of the world's biggest drug syndicates, helping it offset years of punishing Western economic

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## CEOs of Boeing, Starbucks Employ Similar Playbooks to Solve Crises

By CHIP CUTTER

Boeing's new boss wants to return the manufacturer to its engineering roots. Starbucks's new chief executive says the chain must embrace its own origins as a coffeehouse.

Both executives are aiming to solve a tricky problem: how best to revive a flagging company?

The dual turnaround attempts playing out at the same time and in the same place—Seattle—are drawing the attention of management gurus and CEOs, along with employees, investors, coffee drinkers and fliers, all looking to decipher how the executives will

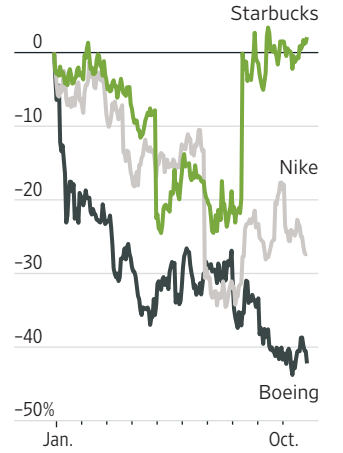
change their organizations.

The leaders took their jobs within weeks of each other. Boeing's Kelly Ortberg started on Aug. 8, while Brian Niccol's first day at Starbucks was Sept. 9. They are confronting wildly different problems. (Only Boeing, for instance, has a union on strike and is burning through its cash reserves.) But the playbook for fixing the companies is proving to be remarkably similar so far.

As the two CEOs addressed investors and employees in recent days, they used some of the same language and emphasized familiar concerns.

"First, we need a fundam... Please turn to page A5

Share-price performance, year to date



Source: FactSet

### ADVERTISEMENT



## Two Diseases, One Goal: Accelerate Pancreatic Cancer and Diabetes Research

Thank you to Dr. Norman and Melinda Payson for their \$20 million gift supporting City of Hope's trailblazing research to end pancreatic cancer and diabetes. Learn more about this incredible work, bringing new hope to patients and families.



Learn more.