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DJIA 46108.00 ▲ 617.08 1.36% NASDAQ 22043.07 ▲ 0.7% STOXX 600 555.33 ▲ 0.6% 10-YR. TREAS. (Reopening) yield 4.010% OIL \$62.37 ▼ \$1.30 GOLD \$3,636.90 ▼ \$6.70 EURO \$1.1734 YEN 147.22

What's News

Business & Finance

◆ **Paramount Skydance** is preparing a majority cash bid for Warner Bros. Discovery backed by the Ellison family that will include Warner's cable networks and its movie studio. **A1**

◆ **Major U.S. stock indexes** hit records, with the Dow surpassing 46000 for the first time with a 1.4% gain, and the S&P 500 and Nasdaq reaching their milestones with respective gains of 0.8% and 0.7%. **B1**

◆ **Inflation firmed last month**, with price increases picking up for goods such as cars and clothes and essentials like food and housing, while signs of weakness in the labor market are accumulating. **A1, A2**

◆ **Mortgage rates fell** this week to their lowest level in nearly a year due to widespread expectations that the Fed will cut interest rates next week. **A2**

◆ **Microsoft and OpenAI** reached a deal to extend their partnership, an apparent detente between them that could ease the startup's path toward altering its structure to include a for-profit corporation. **B4**

◆ **AbbVie struck a deal** with generic drugmakers aimed at extending patent protection for its autoimmune drug Rinvoq well into the next decade. **B2**

◆ **Kroger raised its** full-year outlook on improving grocery volumes despite mixed results for its latest quarter. **B3**

◆ **Barrick sold its last** active gold mine in Canada, the Hemlo, to Carcetti Capital for up to \$1.09 billion as it streamlines its portfolio. **B3**

◆ **Noba Bank plans to list** its shares on the Nasdaq Stockholm exchange at an implied equity value equivalent to \$3.74 billion. **B3**

World-Wide

◆ **Investigators searching** for the sniper who killed conservative political activist Charlie Kirk shared images of a man described as a person of interest in the second day of the chaotic manhunt for the shooter. **A1, A4-5**

◆ **Brazil's Supreme Court** found former President Jair Bolsonaro guilty of plotting a coup to overturn the 2022 election, sentencing the right-wing politician to 27 years in prison. **A1**

◆ **Trump trailed** European leaders in responding to the Russian drone incursion into Poland, commenting on, without condemning, the provocation. **A16**

◆ **Ten Democratic senators** called for a congressional hearing about JPMorgan Chase's decision to keep Jeffrey Epstein as a bank client for about 15 years. **A6**

◆ **The U.K.'s ambassador** to Washington was removed from his post after emails showed he continued to support Epstein long after the financier was jailed for sex offenses. **A9**

◆ **Senate Republicans** invoked the so-called nuclear option to fast-track confirmation of the Trump administration's subcabinet nominees after negotiations with Democrats broke down. **A6**

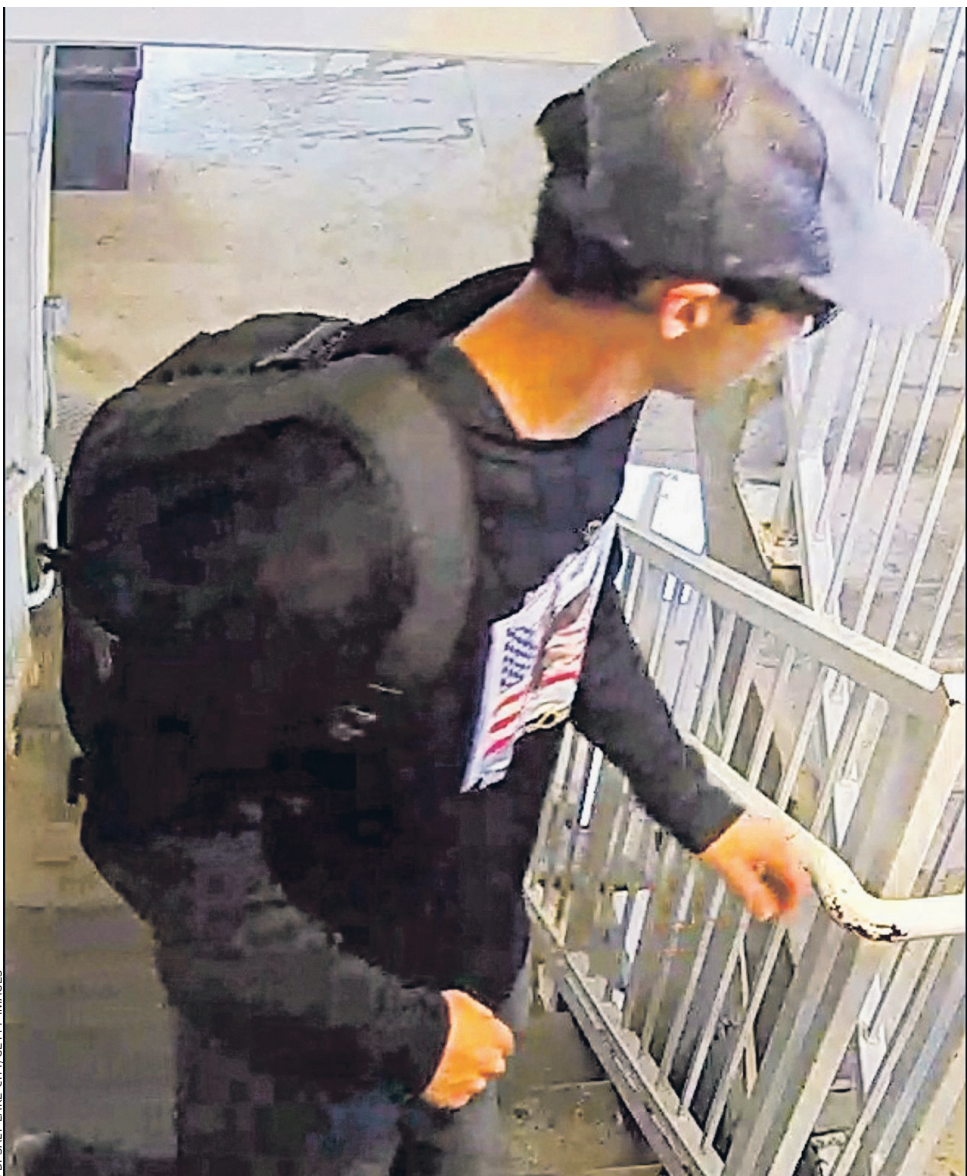
◆ **U.S. authorities released** more than 300 South Koreans arrested in Georgia for alleged immigration violations, ending an incident that threatened America's reputation as an attractive investment destination. **A3, B1**

◆ **The wife of former** New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez was sentenced to 4½ years in prison for conspiring with him to peddle his office's influence. **A3**

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The FBI released this image of a 'person of interest' sought in Charlie Kirk's shooting.

Officials Sow Confusion in Hunt for Killer

Contradictory public statements risk undermining confidence in probe

Investigators searching for the sniper who killed conservative political activist Charlie Kirk shared images of a man described as a person of interest in the second day of the chaotic manhunt for the shooter.

By Sadie Gurman, James Fanelli and Jack Morphet

Officials said a high-powered rifle was recovered in a wooded area where the suspected shooter fled. Investigators said the suspect is of college age and that it remains unclear how far the suspect might have traveled overnight from the Utah Valley University campus in Orem, which will remain closed for the rest of the week.

The swirl of information also included the sharing among law-enforcement agencies of an internal bulletin that said investigators found ammunition engraved with expressions of "transgender and antifascist ideology" inside the rifle that authorities believe was used in the fatal shooting. But some officials close to the investigation later Thursday urged caution, saying the probe was in its early stages, investigators were still analyzing the ammunition and the bulletin might not accurately reflect the messages.

The Utah Department of Public Safety said that no one was in custody after Wednesday's shooting.

Utah Gov. Spencer Cox urged people to help identify the person of interest Thursday night, as officials released

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◆ **Political violence embedded in the U.S.**..... **A5**

◆ **Family is devastated by Kirk's death.**..... **A5**

Trump Security Tightens in Doleful Aftermath

By ALEX LEARY AND TARINI PARTI

WASHINGTON—President Trump's team began tightening security as shock and anger reverberated through the White House following the killing of conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

A Pentagon ceremony to mark the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks was moved to a more secure location so Trump could

deliver a speech, according to a senior White House official. At Yankee Stadium in New York, where Trump attended a game on Thursday evening, the law enforcement presence was expanded, the Secret Service said.

Beyond this week's events, Trump's team is having broader discussions about how to increase the president's security, the White House official said.

Trump, a Republican, and

his aides were reeling, with an acute sense of sadness blanketing the West Wing, according to the president's advisers. Kirk, who died Wednesday after being shot by a gunman at an outdoor event in Utah, cultivated close ties to the president, his family, Vice President JD Vance and many of the young aides who work in the administration.

Kirk, 31 years old, became one of the most prominent conservative voices of his gen-

eration, advocating for Trump's policy agenda and organizing a far-reaching voter turnout operation during the 2024 presidential election.

One White House official described the mood as one of mourning, adding that some advisers were scared for their safety.

White House chief of staff Susie Wiles gathered staff Wednesday evening and told them to go home and hug their family. She acknowl-

edged that not everyone is afforded security protection and told them to be vigilant. But she also said they shouldn't be deterred from doing the jobs, according to a person who was at the meeting.

For Trump, the shooting rekindled painful memories of a would-be assassin's attempt on his own life in July 2024,

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◆ **Killing heightens tensions on Capitol Hill.**..... **A5**

Persistent Inflation, Soft Jobs Data Pull Fed in Two Directions

By RACHEL LOUISE ENSIGN AND NICK TIMIRAO

Inflation accelerated in August while signs of weakness in the labor market accumulated, illustrating the tightrope the Federal Reserve will walk when officials consider cutting interest rates next week.

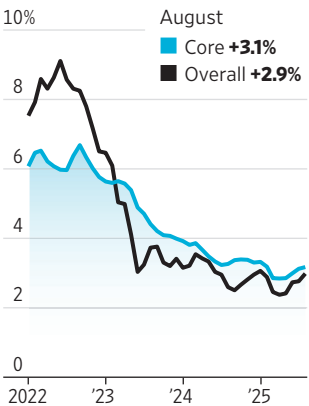
Consumer prices were up 2.9% last month from a year earlier, the Labor Department said Thursday, returning to the highest level since the start of the year.

That was up from 2.7% in July and a recent low of 2.3% in April, but in line with expectations from forecasters, who have expected businesses to steadily pass along higher costs from tariffs on imported goods and materials.

Separate data Thursday

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Consumer-price index, change from a year earlier



Note: Core excludes food and energy prices. Source: Labor Department

◆ **Mortgage-rate fall leaves other hurdles.**..... **A2**
◆ **Dow rallies above 46000 for first time.**..... **B1**

It's E-Bike Mayhem in London As Strike Shuts Down Tube

* * *

‘Strikelysts’ compare commutes to Tour de France; ‘riding around like crazy’

By NATASHA DANGOOR

LONDON—Charlotte Barmby set off Tuesday morning on her daily 2.5-mile commute across the city. It was a beautiful day, but she was about to encounter the ugly side of bike sharing.

Lime e-bikes, already a nuisance to some Londoners, became a cicada swarm this week as a Tube strike drove workers to look for alternate routes to the office. Many compared it to the Tour de France—if the cyclists wore

heels, suits and could barely ride a bike.

“I knew it was going to be chaotic when a middle-aged man in a suit and I were both trying to scan the same QR code for the same Lime bike,” said Barmby, 26.

It was worse than she imagined. Her usual Lime stand was bare. After losing out on the first bike she saw, Barmby spotted another and made her move. But as she paused to take a selfie before hopping on, someone else

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Paramount and Ellisons Ready Bid for Warner Bros.

By JESSICA TOONKEL

Paramount Skydance is preparing a majority cash bid for Warner Bros. Discovery that is backed by the Ellison family, according to people familiar with the situation.

The bid will be for the entire company, including its cable networks and movie studio, the people said. Warner said late last year it planned to restructure into two operating divisions, one focused on the legacy cable-television business

and the other on streaming and studios.

Such a deal would be a big swing. Warner Bros. had a nearly \$33 billion market capitalization early Thursday, before The Wall Street Journal's report on the potential bid, more than double that of Paramount Skydance. A bid hasn't yet been submitted, and the plans could still fall apart.

Warner shares soared 29% Thursday after The Wall Street Journal's report on the potential bid. Paramount shares rose

16%. By preparing a play for the company before Warner's planned split, Paramount is attempting to pre-empt a potential bidding war for the studio and streaming unit that could include deep-pocketed technology companies such as Amazon.com and Apple.

If successful, such a deal would bring together two of Hollywood's most storied studios and the parent companies of streaming services HBO Max and Paramount+.

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Brazil's Bolsonaro Convicted in Coup Plot

By SAMANTHA PEARSON

SÃO PAULO—Brazil's Supreme Court found former President Jair Bolsonaro guilty of plotting a coup to overturn the 2022 election, sentencing the right-wing politician to 27 years in prison and inflaming a dispute between President Trump and the country's current leftist leader.

A panel of justices in Brasilia voted 4-1 to convict Bolsonaro,

setting the 70-year-old's jail term at 27 years and 3 months.

The move defies Trump's efforts to derail a case that has electrified Latin America's largest country and thrust Brazil into the center of the U.S. administration's trade war. Trump leveled 50% tariffs on Brazilian exports because of what his administration calls a witch hunt against the former leader.

Because of his age, he could

spend the rest of his life in prison, though there is a movement to grant amnesty to him and others involved in the Jan. 8, 2023, storming of Brazil's Congress. He could also be released early after a near-fatal stabbing on the campaign trail in 2018 left him with health problems.

Justice Carmen Lúcia essentially sealed Bolsonaro's fate on Thursday by becoming

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Sept. 11 Victims Honored

A child places flowers on the name of a loved one at the 9/11 memorial in New York City on Thursday, the 24th anniversary of the terrorist attacks. Events were also held at the Pentagon and near Shanksville, Pa. **A3**



MICHAEL N. SANTIAGO/GETTY IMAGES