

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

What's News

Business & Finance

- ◆ **A jury rejected** Elon Musk's claims against OpenAI, finding that he brought his lawsuit against the company and Chief Executive Sam Altman after the statute of limitations expired. **A1**
- ◆ **NextEra Energy agreed** to buy Dominion Energy in a roughly \$67 billion deal that would create an East Coast heavyweight serving Florida the Carolinas and Virginia. **A1**
- ◆ **Google and Blackstone** plan to create an AI cloud company that would be launched with \$5 billion in capital with the goal of rivaling the likes of CoreWeave. **B1**
- ◆ **Major U.S. stock indexes** ended mixed, with the S&P 500 losing less than 0.1%, the Nasdaq shedding 0.5% and the Dow rising 0.3%. **B11**
- ◆ **The Justice Department** said it would drop its criminal fraud case against Indian billionaire Gautam Adani. **B1**
- ◆ **Darsana Capital Partners** stands to make more than \$10 billion on its investment in Space X when Musk's rocket maker goes public. **B1**
- ◆ **Christie's auctioned** a Pollock painting for \$181 million and a Brancusi sculpture for \$108 million, underscoring confidence in the art market. **B1**
- ◆ **Astra-Zeneca received** U.S. approval for a new hypertension treatment, a drug it expects to generate multibillion-dollar annual sales at its peak. **B3**
- ◆ **Ford outlined** a broad product-and-technology strategy for Europe and signed a battery energy-storage agreement in North America. **B2**
- ◆ **Thyssenkrupp will close** a plant in Terre Haute, Ind. **B3**

Worldwide

- ◆ **The Trump administration** created an extraordinary settlement fund with nearly \$1.8 billion to compensate people who claim the federal government weaponized the legal system against them. **A1**
- ◆ **The Treasury's top lawyer** resigned as the settlement fund was announced. **A2**
- ◆ **Three men were killed** in a shooting at the Islamic Center of San Diego and two teen-aged suspects were found dead in what is being investigated as a hate crime. **A3**
- ◆ **Prosecutors in Minnesota** charged an ICE agent with assault in the shooting of a Venezuelan immigrant during its surge in Minneapolis. **A3**
- ◆ **A deal was reached** to end the three-day strike by Long Island Rail Road workers in the New York area. **A3**
- ◆ **A New York judge** ruled prosecutors can use a notebook and gun found in Luigi Mangione's backpack as evidence in his trial for a CEO's murder. **A3**
- ◆ **The New York Times** filed a second lawsuit against the Pentagon over rules restricting press access there. **A5**
- ◆ **Trump said he would** hold off on a planned U.S. attack on Iran at the request of Persian Gulf leaders to make room for negotiations with Tehran. **A7**
- ◆ **Anthropic began letting** some users of its AI model Mythos share cybersecurity data, modifying an earlier stance. **A4**
- ◆ **Two senators introduced** legislation to ban digital gambling ads targeting people under the age of 18. **A4**
- ◆ **Died: Mark Fuhrman**, 74, figure in O.J. Simpson trial. **A2**

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Jury Rejects Musk Suit Against OpenAI

Mogul found to have filed case too late; path clear for chatbot maker to launch IPO

By GEORGIA WELLS AND ANGEL AU-YEUNG

OAKLAND, Calif.—A jury unanimously rejected Elon Musk's claims against OpenAI, finding that he brought his lawsuit against the company and Chief Executive Sam Alt-

man after the statute of limitations expired. In deliberations that lasted less than two hours, the nine-person panel found against Musk on technical grounds. He had alleged in testimony that the startup behind the world's most popular chatbot "stole a charity" when it converted into a for-profit company. U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers, who presided over the case, accepted the verdict and dismissed the claims. Musk's attorney said

in court that his side will reserve its right to appeal. Musk, in a post on his social network X, said he will appeal and described the ruling as a "destructive" precedent. In a post that he apparently deleted later, he accused the judge of using the jury as a fig leaf. "She just handed out a free license to loot charities if you can keep the looting quiet for a few years!" Musk wrote. OpenAI now has a clear path to a public listing. In the past year, the company that

makes ChatGPT has managed a host of challenges. These have included renegotiating a relationship with longtime partner Microsoft that had grown acrimonious at times, gaining regulatory approval for a conversion to a for-profit business, and the rise of rival Anthropic as a formidable competitor that has emerged as a presumptive front-runner in the AI revolution. The company also closed the largest funding round in Silicon Valley history, raising

\$122 billion from a host of technology giants and funds, in an effort to help settle questions about its finances that have rattled markets. Meanwhile, Musk is racing to hold an initial public offering in less than a month for SpaceX, his rocket company, which merged with xAI, his struggling AI startup. The verdict brings to a close a case that fixated the tech world on the grievances and drama of some of the

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Alarm Grows Over Ebola After Outbreak in Congo



CAUTIOUS: A border health officer at the Busunga crossing between Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo checks a traveler's temperature on Monday. An American missionary contracted Ebola while working in Congo, where the outbreak began. **A6**

DOJ Fund Opens Path For Trump Allies to Get \$1.8 Billion

WASHINGTON—The Trump administration created an extraordinary settlement fund with nearly \$1.8 billion to compensate people who claim that the federal government weaponized the legal system against them, a move that could direct federal money to President Trump's allies with minimal oversight.

By C. Ryan Barber, Richard Rubin and Sadie Gurman

The Justice Department announced the fund Monday along with Trump's decision to withdraw a lawsuit seeking billions of dollars from the Internal Revenue Service for disclosure of his tax returns. Instead of attempting legal arguments against Trump, the government lawyers who work for him settled the case and opened a path for aggrieved people to get money from the U.S. without going into federal court.

Trump is also dropping two other claims against the government that he runs, one that sought damages for the Federal Bureau of Investigation's 2022 search of his Mar-a-Lago estate and another about the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election, which loomed over much of his

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◆ **Treasury's top lawyer quits** as settlement reached... **A2**

NextEra to Buy Dominion for \$67 Billion

By JENNIFER HILLER AND BEN DUMMETT

NextEra Energy agreed to buy Dominion Energy in a roughly \$67 billion deal that would create the largest U.S. electricity producer and represent one of the biggest tie-ups of the year. The companies said Monday that they plan to combine in a mostly stock deal. NextEra is offering the equivalent

of around \$76 a share to Dominion shareholders, based on Friday's closing stock prices. In addition, they will receive a one-time cash payment of \$360 million once the deal closes, the companies said. Dominion Energy shares surged 9.4% to \$67.56 on Monday, while NextEra dropped 4.6% to \$89.04. In the deal, NextEra is offering 0.8138 of its shares for each Dominion share.

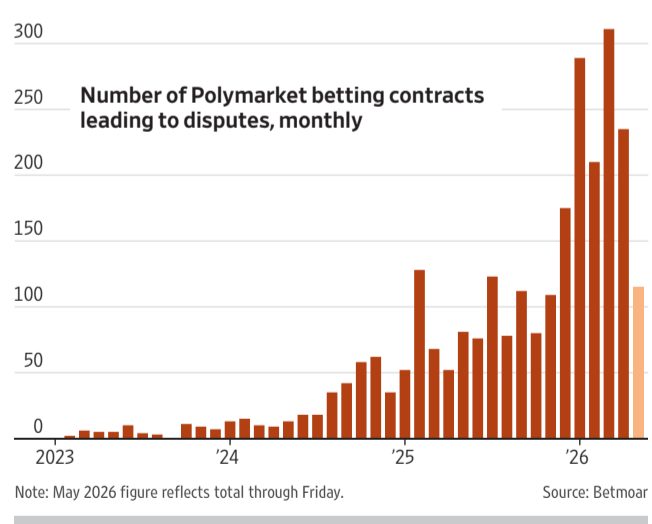
The tie-up would combine two of the largest U.S. utilities into an East Coast energy titan with 10 million customer accounts in Florida, the Carolinas and Virginia. It is expected to close within the next 18 months and would require approval from a handful of state and federal regulators. It comes as the utility industry faces a big upswing in customer demand for the first time in decades, much of

it driven by the mania over artificial intelligence and the build-out of data centers that require an insatiable amount of electricity. Access to power has become a key hurdle in the race to build data centers quickly. Utilities also are facing pressure over rising costs and rate increases, and energy affordability has emerged as a national political topic.

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Judges Settle Bet Disputes

Disputed bets are a growing headache for prediction markets, including Polymarket, which outsources the sorting out of such disagreements to a third-party service. **B6**



How Nicki Minaj Became The President's 'No. 1 Fan'

Rap superstar is throwing her weight behind the White House after being courted by Trump's 29-year-old celebrity whisperer

Shortly before the 2024 election that would move him back into the White House, Donald Trump took a phone call on his plane from a secret supporter.

By Erich Schwartzel, Josh Dawsey and Maggie Severns

Nicki Minaj was on the line, and she wanted Trump to know she was supporting his re-election, according to people familiar with the matter.

Trump's campaign managers, sensing an op-

portunity to score an endorsement from the rap world's most popular female star, asked Minaj to take her support public. But Minaj—and her management team—said she needed to stay behind the scenes because taking a political stance posed a risk to her brand and businesses, some of these people said.

Not anymore. Today, the 43-year-old best known for chart toppers like "Starships," for leading an online army of mega-fans known as "Barbz" and for bringing a theatrical streak to contemporary

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Parents Fume Over Other Kids Getting Extra Time on Tests

Unlimited breaks for bowel problems? Families get creative in pursuit of an edge

By TARA WEISS

Adarsh Vijay Mudgil thought his children had every advantage for college admissions: a top high school in Long Island that offers plenty of AP courses, test-prep tutors and a private adviser to guide them on applications. Then his daughter told him at least 60 peers received extra time to finish the ACT during their junior year at Jericho High School.

Mudgil said he doubts they all had legitimate reasons for the special accommodation. More likely, they had parents who found a loophole. "It's cheating," said Mudgil, 50, whose daughter is now at the University of Virginia. "It puts our kids at a disadvantage." Test time has emerged as a fierce battleground among parents of high-schoolers. Students with diagnosed disabilities

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INSIDE



U.S. NEWS
Deal reached to resolve Long Island Rail Road strike after three days of halted service. **A3**

Imperfect Chips Power Apple Products, Profits

By ROLFE WINKLER AND YANG JIE

Apple, long revered for its premium-priced products, has managed to develop a booming business selling cheaper devices when most gadget makers are being hammered by rising costs. One of its secrets: using chips with slight defects that might otherwise be thrown out. The strategy is apparent in the technical minutiae of the newly released \$599 MacBook Neo, which early data suggest is a hit with customers. The chip powering the Neo

is Apple's A18 Pro, the same chip first used inside the iPhone 16 Pro two years ago, but with one key difference. The Neo version of the chip has a "5-core" graphics processor, one less than the version inside the 2024 iPhones, indicating that Apple was able to save some of the A18 Pro chips with a defective core for future use. Defective cores can be disabled, leaving a chip that still functions perfectly well to power different, often cheaper devices—in this case an entry-level laptop instead of a top-of-the-line iPhone.

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