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The New York Times



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Tehran insisted that the cease-fire agreement’s vague language on the Strait of Hormuz gave it control over the waterway. That led to the collapse of the deal last month.

U.S. Military Is Tripped Up In A.I. Race

A Fight With Anthropic Is Just One Hurdle

This article is by **David E. Sanger, Dustin Volz, Ana Swanson and Julian E. Barnes.**

WASHINGTON — In mid-July, many of the country’s biggest military contractors received a letter from the Air Force with a stern warning: By Sept. 1, all the software they use for weapons and control systems must be free of products built by the A.I. company Anthropic. Failure to comply would put all their business with the Pentagon at risk.

Within a month, those same contractors received an unexpected reversal: They could — for now — disregard the earlier instructions about purging Anthropic.

It was one more example of the chaos and contradictions in the tsunami of A.I. disruptions that have swept through the national security establishment in recent months. Agencies like the Pentagon, which still use airplanes designed in the 1950s, are struggling furiously to keep up with A.I. models whose powers multiply in a matter of months.

The tension has been magnified in the case of Anthropic, whose chief executive, Dario Amodei, has been locked in a public feud with Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth over restrictions the company tried to put on the technology’s use by the world’s most powerful military.

Without Anthropic’s powerful Mythos model, it would be far more difficult for the National Security Agency to find and patch vulnerabilities in the Pentagon’s own systems, senior N.S.A. officials argued. And it turned out that, despite the original Anthropic ban, the N.S.A. was still allowed to use its products.

Critical tests were underway using Mythos to gauge its potential to hack into highly protected foreign networks, current and former officials said. Shutting down the use of Mythos, an A.I. model whose potential for conducting of-

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As War Becomes Economic Fight, U.S. Strategy Recalls Old Ones

This article is by **Aaron Boxerman, Zolan Kanno-Youngs and David E. Sanger.**

JERUSALEM — President Trump’s cease-fire with Iran in June envisioned a broader deal to end the war and rein in the country’s nuclear program, all negotiated within 60 days.

But that deadline, set to pass on Monday, has been essentially abandoned, and the war has transformed into a contest of willpower and economic endurance that has no end in sight.

There have been no publicly reported U.S. strikes on Iranian targets since late July. Yet the effective

A Deadline Is Expiring Without a Broader Deal With Iran

collapse of the agreement underscores how Mr. Trump has struggled to end the war he started in February alongside Israel, and how far he remains from the ambitions of the June deal, including fully reopening the Strait of Hormuz, a critical waterway where Iran has choked off oil and gas shipping since the fighting began.

Those inside the White House are well aware that they will blow past Monday’s deadline and that the conflict has largely morphed into one of economic warfare, according to two Americans familiar with the negotiations.

The current strategy bears a striking resemblance to previous, yearslong U.S. attempts to isolate Iran in the hopes of compelling it to abandon its nuclear ambitions. The policy had mixed results, and some analysts are skeptical that even severe economic pressure on its own will force Iran to change course. After all, that was the approach Mr. Trump attempted in his first term, even

though his Treasury secretary, Scott Bessent, said last week that he was about to impose financial penalties unlike any seen before.

The June memorandum of understanding was widely seen as a boon for Iran, granting the regime badly needed sanctions relief even as talks over tough concessions like nuclear enrichment were postponed for later. But Iranian leaders opted to escalate again rather than consolidate their gains from the deal, according to Nate Swanson, an Iran expert at the Atlantic Council, a Washington-based research group.

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TOMMY JOHN, 1943-2026

The Pitcher Whose 3rd Elbow Changed Baseball

By **BRUCE WEBER**

Tommy John, a canny pitcher who won nearly 300 major-league games, more than half of them after recovering from the innovative elbow surgery that came to be known by his name and has since saved the careers of dozens of players, died on Saturday at his home in Lakewood Ranch, Fla. He was 83.

The cause was bladder cancer, his wife, Cheryl John, said.

John pitched for 26 seasons; only Nolan Ryan lasted longer in the big leagues in the modern era. At the height of his success — and after his recovery from the risky surgery — he won 37 games for the Los Angeles Dodgers from 1977 to 1978 and then 43 for the New York Yankees from 1979 to 1980, for a cumulative four-year record of 80-35.

In 1974, the year that derailed his career — and, it can fairly be said, changed baseball — John was in his 12th major-league season and his third with the Dodgers. It was in Los Angeles that John had come into his own. Unlike his previous teams, the Dodgers had no qualms about the relative lack of juice on his fastball and urged him to rely on it. In his first two seasons with the team, he went 27-12, and at the All-Star break in 1974 he was 13-3, the best

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DIAMOND IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

Tommy John in a 1974 game, two weeks before the injury that led to surgery that saved his career and later many others.

Held by Russia, Ukrainian Feels ‘Crushing’ Fear

This article is by **Kim Barker, Valerie Hopkins and Oleksandra Mykolysbyn.**

KYIV, Ukraine — Russia says Artem Murdid is a killer who followed orders from Ukrainian intelligence to plant bombs in his Ukrainian city, Melitopol, after Russian troops captured it.

Mr. Murdid says he did nothing wrong. He also says that after he was arrested in March 2023, pro-Russian guards repeatedly beat him, shocked him with electric charges and forced him to watch his mother be subjected to the same.

In a letter detailing what he says happened, Mr. Murdid, 32, wrote that the guards also threatened to throw his mother and girlfriend into a trench “where they’ll be raped, while you watch all of this.” He said the guards then threatened to shoot him and leave him along a road for dogs to eat. The Russian authorities did not respond to a request for comment on Mr. Murdid’s claims.

Eventually, he wrote, he signed confession papers that were put in front of him, without reading them. So did his mother, Hanna Murdid, 52, and his girlfriend, Hanna Voshkoder, 29. He was given a life sentence, his mother 22

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THE WEATHER

Today, partly cloudy, humid, a morning shower, high 83. **Tonight**, mainly clear, humid, light winds, low 70. **Tomorrow**, mostly sunny, less humid, high 84. Weather map is on Page D8.

MIDTERM BATTLES SEE MORE ATTACKS ON STOCK TRADES

COMMON IN CONGRESS

Voters From Both Sides View Market Activity With Suspicion

By **ANNIE KARNI**

WASHINGTON — Since the day she began her campaign for Congress, Paige Cognito, the Democratic mayor of Scranton, has centered her pitch to voters on the prodigious stock trading of the House Republican she is seeking to unseat, Representative Rob Bresnahan Jr. of Pennsylvania.

“This year he’s already made 600 trades,” Ms. Cognito said in the announcement video for her campaign in September. “Sold Chinese stocks the week of a tariff. Buys missile stocks before a war. Buys jet stocks before a big contract. Oversees crypto? Buys crypto stocks before a vote.”

It may be the district where the issue rings the loudest. Democrats are running ads highlighting how Mr. Bresnahan profited from a data center development by trading stocks related to the industry, and recent polls show Ms. Cognito with a narrow lead. But she is not alone in zeroing in on stock trading by members of Congress as a potent line of attack in this year’s midterm elections.

Like many members of Congress who trade substantial amounts of stock, Mr. Bresnahan, the wealthy former chief executive of an electrical contracting company, has said he relies on a financial adviser to make his trades and never knows about the transactions before they happen or when they occur.

Mr. Bresnahan’s campaign said that Ms. Cognito’s descriptions of his trades were “lies” and that he has “taken legitimate steps to ban congressional stock trading.”

Still, at a time when many voters are experiencing economic hardship and have grown increasingly suspicious that the political system is rigged, the mere possi-

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Harbor Deaths Draw Spotlight To Wild Waters

By **COREY KILGANNON and MILES G. COHEN**

Jet Skis and booze cruises veer uncomfortably close to oil tankers and loaded barges. Ferries steaming past the Statue of Liberty send out rolling wakes that rock little sailboats and charter vessels that seem more suited for placid lakes.

New York Harbor, one of the busiest cargo ports in the country, has long been a crowded, chaotic waterway. Now, the tragic fate of a mother and her infant daughter, who died after an overloaded charter boat capsized near the Statue of Liberty this month, has put a spotlight on safety in the waters south of Manhattan.

Some mariners describe the harbor as something of a wild west, where there’s no guarantee that the practices and regulations designed to keep the waterway safe and orderly will be observed.

“It’s become a free-for-all,” said Roland Rexha, secretary-treasurer of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, an international union.

“You have everything from bootleg mariners to Jet Skis and people in canoes out there cutting in front of the Staten Island Ferry,” Mr. Rexha said. “And they just don’t realize that the ferry is not a

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INTERNATIONAL A4-8

Chided for Protesting in India

Widespread online abuse and visits from the police show the added risks women take for their activism. PAGE A5

In Toronto, Guns for Hire

A shooting at a U.S. consulate and the killing of a police officer highlight an emerging phenomenon. PAGE A4

SPORTS D1-8

Baseball’s Scooter Problem

The vehicles have become part of big-league life for players, but they can also be dangerous. There is little teams can do to police their usage. PAGE D2

Who Are the Top-Tier QBs?

In a survey of 50 N.F.L. coaches and executives, Lamar Jackson dropped into Tier 2 with a dozen others. PAGE D4

OBITUARIES A18, B5-6

Revived the Lower East Side

Carlos Garcia, 80, led a Puerto Rican group in turning a crumbling public school into a community center. PAGE B6

NATIONAL A9-15

Lethal Storms Strike Indiana

Hazardous weather has caused at least seven deaths in the state and displaced scores of residents. PAGE A13

Hey, Looks Aren’t Everything

Jinny Lu, a rescued pug who screams at her reflection in the mirror, won the World’s Ugliest Dog Contest. PAGE A13



ARTS C1-6

Unexpectedly Defiant Comedy

Stavros Halkias, who has a special coming out on Netflix next month, likes to joke about his weight, drug intake and fragile ego. But he feels compelled to talk about politics, too. PAGE C1

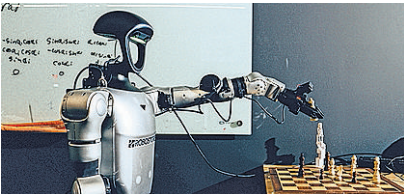
Salzburg at a Crossroads

The classical music festival finds itself at a turning point after ousting its artistic director as preparations for a disruptive \$600 million renovation and expansion project move forward. PAGE C1

OPINION A16-17

Peter Navarro

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BUSINESS B1-4

America Wants Its Own Robots

China already manufactures humanoids by the thousands. Some U.S. start-ups are betting that there is still time to compete, but it won’t be easy. PAGE B1

