

China Turning Into a Liability For the iPhone

This article is by Tripp Mickle, Chang Che and Daisuke Wakabayashi. SAN FRANCISCO — Every September, Apple unveils its latest iPhones at its futuristic Silicon Valley campus. A few weeks later, tens of millions of its newest handsets, assembled by legions of seasonal workers hired by its suppliers, are shipped from Chinese factories to customers around the world.

The annual release of Apple's iPhones usually runs like clockwork, a prime example of how the U.S. tech giant has become the most profitable company of the globalization era by seamlessly navigating the world's two largest economies.

But this year, a smooth rollout for the iPhone 14 was marred by the latest casualty of the growing difficulties of doing business in China. Beijing's no-holds-barred approach to stopping Covid-19 and heightened tensions with the United States have forced Apple to re-examine major aspects of its business.

A recent outbreak of coronavirus cases in the region surrounding Apple's largest iPhone factory, in Zhengzhou, in central China, prompted local officials to order a seven-day lockdown last week. As a result, the company's supply chain, it will not be able to produce enough phones to meet the demands of the holiday season.

For much of this year, Apple has also been the focus of a bipartisan intervention in Washington, where alarm over Beijing's military provocations and its growing ambitions has opened orthodox who freed trade.

Word tricked out in March that Apple was in talks with an obscure Chinese memory chip maker, Yantai Memory Technology Corporation, or YMTIC, to supply components for the iPhone 14.

That collided with work being done by a coalition of lawmakers and more than a dozen congressmen. Continued on Page A6

Fears and Suspicions Cast Shadow as Voters Head to Polls



Filling out a ballot on Monday in West Bloomfield Township, Mich. About 40 million Americans have voted early in the midterms.

As Los Angeles Selects Mayor, City Is Losing Faith in Its Path

By SHAWN HUBLER LOS ANGELES — It was Saturday and sunny in the nation's second most populous city, but the Rev. James McKnight's mood was grim. "Los Angeles is in trouble, bottom line," the pastor said, counting the ways into a supermarket in the Crenshaw District. Homelessness. Disorder. City leaders making racist remarks. Strangers "just being mean."

To the west of downtown, in Brentwood, Craig and Dana McFadyen, who work in television, echoed his assessment. How, they asked, were two incomes not going further? And when was the city going to finally feel safe again? Not long ago, the couple, who are in their late 40s and the parents of a young child, said they watched from their window as a knife fight broke out between a bicyclist and bystanders who had chased him into their carport.

To the east, in the neighborhood of Eagle Rock, Orhan Ayvuc, an architect, said that Los Angeles had become so fractured and expensive that he was pondering a move to Albuquerque. To the north, the San Fernando Valley residents Fred and Dora Cortez said the metropolis in which they had been born and raised seemed unrecognizable to them.

"There's lawlessness. There's corruption. There's bias," Mr. Cortez said, heading into a Costco in the Pacoima neighborhood. "The city's just going to hell."

As Los Angeles prepares to elect its first new mayor in nearly a decade, problems that have festered since the pandemic began are taking a psychic toll. In polls Continued on Page A15

Rising Threats of Lawsuits and Disruptions

By NICK CORASANTI and CHARLES HOGANS Voters go to the polls on Tuesday after a campaign season so filled with conspiracy theories and lies that officials worry they will undermine confidence in the election no matter how the balloting goes. While early voting has been largely uneventful — 40 million Americans have already cast their ballots — the signs of strain are everywhere.

A court ordered armed activists to stop patrolling drop boxes in Arizona. Tens of thousands of voter registrations are being challenged in Georgia. Voting rights groups have raised volunteers in de-escalation methods. Voters have been videotaped by groups hunting for fraud as they drop off their ballots.

Even Republican officials say they are bracing for a renewed onslaught after Election Day, one most likely to be fanned by their own.

"I've felt like I've been stabbed in the back repeatedly so much that I don't have anything but fear about this election," said Rick Helman, a Republican on the county board of supervisors in Maricopa County, Ariz., home to Phoenix. The county's election office, which was targeted in right-wing protests in 2020, has heeded up its security, fortifying the building with a new metal perimeter fence.

As Republican candidates to the county continue to simplify former President Donald J. Trump's false claims of corrupted elections, officials are readying for disruptions after polls have closed. Activists and lawyers are prepared to challenge ballots and dispute counting procedures, and losing candidates who have cast doubt on the integrity of the process may file lawsuits.

It is easy to see the potential hot spots. In Pennsylvania, thousands of ballots have been set aside because they do not include proper signatures or dates. The U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled that the ballots should not be counted, in response to a Republican lawsuit.

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Big Payday for College Women In Sports Is Met With Qualms

Olivia Dunne is a gymnast on Louisiana State's women's team. She was an all-American in her freshman year and made the Southeastern Conference's honor roll as a sophomore.

But Dunne, a petite blonde with a bright smile and a gymnast's toned physique, earns a staggering amount by posting to her Instagram account.

Dunne, 20, won't give specifics on her earnings, which at least one industry analyst projects will top \$2 million over the next year. "Seven figures," she said.

That is something she is proud of. Especially since "I'm a woman in college sports." She is not professional. Continued on Page A19

What's News

Business & Finance

Q of Bank CEO Sean Parnes: He will take a more substantial role at the company's earnings presentation on Friday, shift that comes amid a difficult year for the technology-investing giant. A1

The Supreme Court heard challenges to the enforcement powers of the FTC and SEC and their independent authority to adjudicate business disputes. A2

China's exports shrank unexpectedly in October, a sign global trade is in sharp retreat as consumers and businesses cut spending. A3

Major U.S. stock indexes rose, with the Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq adding 1.2%, 1% and 0.9%, respectively. B1

Lyft said its revenue growth slowed last quarter due to the number of people using its service remained below prepandemic levels. B1

Tyson Foods' CFO was arrested for criminal trespass and public intoxication over the weekend after authorities said he fell asleep in the wrong house. B1

Musk is cracking down on people who impersonate Elon Musk on Twitter, tightening policies and banning celebrities and having celebrities apologize to him. B1

The DOJ said it seized cryptocurrency assets valued at \$3.36 billion from the crypto exchange, which was targeted in right-wing protests in 2020, has heeded up its security, fortifying the building with a new metal perimeter fence.

Polcom is departing its investment in London-based Motors, the startup that recently began building its first all-electric pickup truck. B4

World-Wide

China leaders are considering steps toward reopening after nearly three years of tough pandemic restrictions, but are proceeding slowly and have not set a timeline, people familiar with the discussions said. A1

Democrats sought to keep control of Congress and Republicans looked to maintain their late momentum as candidates across the country made their closing arguments ahead of Election Day. A4

Trump again tested the forthcoming launch of his second presidential campaign, but stepped short of formally announcing his bid at the eye of the midterms. A7

Russia pressed the evacuation of civilian institutions from the occupied Ukrainian city of Kharkiv as Ukraine reported sophisticated Western air-defense systems that could help it protect its cities. A7

U.S. climate envoy Kerry is planning to propose a new carbon-capture program that aims to increase funding from businesses and governments in wealthy economies to help developing countries cut back on fossil fuels. A9

The founder of the Oath Keepers sought to distance himself from other members of the group in testimony at his solicitor-conspiracy trial in connection with the attack on the U.S. Capitol. A9

A French cardinal said he abused a 14-year-old girl in the 1980s, building the first Catholic church in his rank to admit to personally abusing a minor. A9

St. Andrews, Scotland—Scientists have been arguing for years about the starting point for the Anthropocene, the unofficial epoch when humans really began having an impact on how the world looks.

Others say it began with the agrarian revolution, when forests were cleared for farmland or with the first nuclear tests in the 1940s.

Others say it began when the first started digging holes. Sometimes deep. Sometimes not. Sometimes for no particular reason at all. Please turn page A19



Around the country, candidates made their final appeals to voters Monday, including, in the top row, Rep. Gabe Goff and the bottom row, in the Pennsylvania governor's race, Democrat Josh Shapiro in Philadelphia campaigns against Republican nominee Doug Mastriano in Newtown, Pa.

High-Stakes Midterm Election Heads Into the Final Moments

Democrats sought to keep control of Congress and Republicans looked to maintain their late momentum as candidates across the country made their closing arguments on Monday ahead of Election Day. Republicans are seen by nonpartisan analysts as the favorites to take the House majority in Tuesday's midterm elections, with surveys showing key voting blocs trending away from Democrats as many voters said their top concerns are inflation and economic uncertainty. Senate control remains a tossup, but polls show GOP candidates as favorites in Arizona, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania have made gains in the final weeks. Democrats were also seeking to hold on to governors' offices in Oregon and New York, states that were once seen as safely Democratic but have become competitive this year.

"There's many Democrats who wish this was held even a month ago. It seems the closer we get to Election Day, there is deterioration for Democrats," said Jessica Taylor, the Senate and governors editor for the nonpartisan Cook Political Report.

Mr. Taylor recently changed the group's projection for Senate and governors' offices in Oregon and New York, states that were once seen as safely Democratic but have become competitive this year. "There's many Democrats who wish this was held even a month ago. It seems the closer we get to Election Day, there is deterioration for Democrats," said Jessica Taylor, the Senate and governors editor for the nonpartisan Cook Political Report.

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China Weighs Easing Pandemic Policies

Beijing takes gradual approach despite rising concerns about impact on economy

By Kami Zhai

Chinese leaders are considering steps toward reopening after nearly three years of tough pandemic restrictions, but are proceeding slowly and have set no timeline, people familiar with the discussions said.

Chinese officials have grown concerned about the costs of their zero-tolerance approach to smothering Covid hotspots, which has resulted in lockdowns of cities and whole provinces, crushing business activity and confining hundreds of millions of people at home for weeks and sometimes months on end. But they are weighing those against the potential costs of reopening.

As a result, they are proceeding cautiously despite the deepening impact of the Covid policies, the people said, looking for a way to balance the economic and health costs of approaching prepandemic levels of activity, with the time from a one-stop Democratic gain to a two-seat pickup by Republicans. On the House floor, the Senate and governors' offices for the nonpartisan Cook Political Report.

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Gripping Aside, Europe Sticks With Ukraine

By JASON HOROWITZ and CATHERINE PORTER

ROME — The high cost of living is provoking strikes, protests and widespread grumbling. Talk about nuclear weapons has heightened anxieties and encouraged some to demand rapid negotiations. And President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia is wooing politicians, including many from popular parties on the right and the left who have flirted with him in the past.

But while Mr. Putin may have bet on European fatigue and intolerance for hardship to divide the alliance and buckle its weakest members, most of the past eight months into Russia's war on Ukraine, the scale of the challenges has been leveraged effectively by leaders to stiffen the public spine and Europe is holding firm.

Many analysts believe that commitment will last as long as the United States holds the line, but gains in Tuesday's midterm elections by Republicans, some of whom have questioned the cost of the war, could alter those expectations.

Despite some hissing and screaming, governments across the ideological spectrum and the continent — in Western and East-

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Princes and Presidents Discuss Global Warming On the first day of COP27, the U.N. climate summit, world leaders urged faster action. Page A7.

Advertisement for Dell Technologies, featuring a laptop and the text 'The future of multicloud data protection is here. Protect your business with modern, simple and resilient solutions.'