

"All the News That's Fit to Print"



A branch of the Loire River in Loireauxaise, France. Warmed rivers in the country have complicated the flushing of nuclear reactors.

## 'We Need Water': A Parched Europe Swelters

By JASON HOROWITZ  
ASERAL, Norway — In a Nordic land famous for its steep fjords, where water is very nearly a way of life, Sverre Eikeland scalded down the boulders that form the walls of one of Norway's ski reservoirs, past the driftwood that protruded like something caught in the dam's teeth, and stood on dry land that should have been deeply submerged. "You see the sand where the vegetation stops," said Mr. Eikeland, 43, the chief operating officer of Agder Energi, pointing at a



A statue on the collector Douglas A.J. Latchford's computer, left, and later displayed at the Met.

## Quest for Lost Cambodia Artifacts Leads to Met

By TOM MASHBERG and GRAHAM BOWLEY  
In the 1970s, long after its encyclopedic collection had been acknowledged as among the world's finest, the Metropolitan Museum of Art recognized it had slender holdings in South or Southeast Asian art. One in-house estimate suggested that no more than 60 objects were worth exhibiting. But over the next two decades it built a world-class collection, acquiring hundreds of artifacts for

## Sun Belt Cities Top the Nation In Rising Costs

By JEANNA SMIALEK  
A. J. Frank watched the Phoenix real estate market and its entire economy implode as he was graduating from high school in 2009, a scarring experience that has made him a cautious saver. He is again living through a major economic upheaval as the cost of living climbs sharply. Phoenix — among the hardest-hit cities during the housing crisis — is now at the leading edge of another painful economic trend as the United States faces the most rapid inflation in 40 years. The city is experiencing some of the fastest price increases in the nation, something Mr. Frank has felt firsthand. His landlord tried to raise his rent nearly 30 percent this year, prompting him to move. Mr. Frank, a 31-year-old engineer, is still paying \$250 a month more than he was previously, and rising grocery and gas bills have reduced his disposable income. "It's always traditionally been a pretty affordable city to live in, but it's getting more expensive," Mr. Frank said of Phoenix. While inflation has been rising quickly across the country, it is especially intense in Sun Belt cities like Phoenix, Atlanta, Miami and Tampa, which have experienced price increases of up to 21 percent this year, much higher than the national rate of 8.5 percent in July. Prices in the southern part of the United States have risen 9.4 percent over the past year, the fastest pace of any region in the nation and more rapid than in the Northeast, where prices are up 7.3 percent. Part of the divide can be traced to fuel and electricity costs, which surged earlier this year. Because many Sun Belt cities depend on cars and air-conditioning, those purchases make up a larger percentage of consumer budgets in the region. And, just as it did in 2008, housing is playing a crucial role — this time, through the rental market, which is a major contributor to overall inflation. In Phoenix, rents are up 21 percent from a year ago, and in Miami, they are up about 14 percent. For Sun Belt dwellers nationally, rent is up nearly half as much, 6.3 percent. Mr. Bell's intense bout of inflation matters for several reasons. While inflation is painful everywhere, having a disproportionate impact on low- and middle-income households should threaten who are not



Michigan and the other Big Ten schools will be flush with money.

## With \$7 Billion Television Deal, Big Ten Follows N.F.L. Playbook

By ALAN BLINDER and KEVIN DRAPER  
The Big Ten Conference has reached the richest television agreement for a college athletic league, selling the rights to its competitors for an average of at least \$1 billion a year. The seven-year arrangement, announced Thursday and worth at least \$7 billion over the life of the contract, cemented the Big Ten as one of the nation's pre-eminent college sports leagues. It also promises to fuel the intensifying debate over how universities should treat athletes who are not

National Edition  
Upper Midwest, clouds. Thunderstorms north and west. Highs 70s to mid-80s. Partly cloudy tonight. Thunderstorms north and west. Weather map, Page A18.  
Printed in Chicago \$3.00

## Trump's C.F.O. Admits to Role In Tax Scheme

Legal Blow to Former President's Company

This article is by Jonah E. Bronwicz, Ben Prosser and William K. Rashbaum.

Allen H. Weisselberg, one of Donald J. Trump's most trusted lieutenants, stood before a judge in a Lower Manhattan courtroom on Thursday and admitted that he had conspired with the former president's company to commit numerous crimes. Mr. Weisselberg's guilty plea, which followed more than a year of the Manhattan district attorney's office pressuring him to cooperate in a broader investigation of Mr. Trump, painted a damning picture of the beleaguered company, which now faces significant financial penalties if it loses its own trial on similar charges. But for prosecutors who have long sought to indict Mr. Trump, Thursday's hearing was something of a consolation prize. Mr. Weisselberg refused to turn on Mr. Trump himself, something prosecutors had hoped he would do since they charged him with 15 felonies last July. Under the plea deal, Mr. Weisselberg must pay nearly \$2 million in taxes, penalties and interest after accepting lavish off-the-books perks from Mr. Trump and his company, including leased Mercedes-Benzes, an apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side and private school tuition for his grandchildren. He also must point the finger at his longtime employer, the Trump Organization, as its trial in October. In exchange, Mr. Weisselberg, who was facing years in prison, is likely to receive a five-month jail sentence and a time credited for good behavior, he might serve as little as 100 days. The deal emerged after weeks of pitched back-and-forth negotiations. Even as his trial in October loomed, Mr. Weisselberg's 75th birthday, when his lawyers gathered with prosecutors in the judge's chambers, according to people with knowledge of the matter. Mr. Weisselberg's lawyers, Nicholas A. Granante Jr. and Mary E. Mulligan, pressed for leniency, emphasizing the client's age, frail health and past service in the National Guard and arguing

that he was leaning toward releasing portions of the document, adding that "whether those portions would be meaningful for the public or the media" was not for him to decide. He also acknowledged that the resolution process could often be extensive and sometimes turned documents into "meaningless gibberish." In its final form, the affidavit supporting the warrant would reveal critical details of the broader investigation into Mr. Trump's handling of sensitive documents, chief among them what led prosecutors to believe there was probable cause that evidence of a crime existed at Mar-a-Lago. Even as the trial in October shed light on aspects of the inquiry, such as the back-and-forth new approach, researchers from the Rapid Epidemiologic Study of Prevalence, Networks, and Demographics of Monkeypox Infection



A sequoia hollowed out by a high-intensity fire in California's Kings Canyon National Park. The trees are among the world's largest.

## As sequoias burn, so too does preservation debate

Park managers say logging is part of the answer. Some environmentalists intensely disagree.

## TRUMP AFFIDAVIT MAY BE UNSEALED WITH REDACTIONS

RULING ON F.B.I. SEARCH Judge, Striking Balance, Says Public Should Have Information

BY PATRICIA MAZZEI AND ALAN FEUER  
WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A federal judge ordered the government on Thursday to propose redactions to the highly sensitive affidavit that was used to justify a search warrant executed by the F.B.I. last week at former President Donald J. Trump's private home and club, saying he was inclined to unseal parts of it.

Ruling from the bench, Judge, Bruce E. Reinhart, said it was "very important" that the public have as "much information" as it can about the historic search at Mar-a-Lago, Mr. Trump's Florida residence. He noted later in a written order that the government "had not met its burden of showing that the entire affidavit should remain sealed." Judge Reinhart went on to say that he was leaning toward releasing portions of the document, adding that "whether those portions would be meaningful for the public or the media" was not for him to decide. He also acknowledged that the resolution process could often be extensive and sometimes turned documents into "meaningless gibberish." In its final form, the affidavit supporting the warrant would reveal critical details of the broader investigation into Mr. Trump's handling of sensitive documents, chief among them what led prosecutors to believe there was probable cause that evidence of a crime existed at Mar-a-Lago. Even as the trial in October shed light on aspects of the inquiry, such as the back-and-forth new approach, researchers from the Rapid Epidemiologic Study of Prevalence, Networks, and Demographics of Monkeypox Infection

White House officials on Thursday touted steps to expand access to monkeypox vaccine, including a deal to finish 2.5 million vials in the United States. Although some local health officials applauded the move, others were unswayed by a rapid plan to stretch existing supply by splitting vaccine doses into fifth, clamoring for more time to examine the data and train providers to deliver the shots correctly. The Biden administration is "forcing our hand," said one local health official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they did not want to jeopardize vaccine orders. "It's extraordinarily frustrating because we have to execute and defend this strategy — it's just a question of giving us the time and the does to bridge to that strategy."

BY DAN DIAMOND AND FENIT NIRAFFIL  
U.S. splitting monkeypox doses into fifth until more vials are finished

## New plan to speed a vaccine has critics

U.S. splitting monkeypox doses into fifth until more vials are finished



Allen Weisselberg, center, longtime chief financial officer of the Trump Organization, departs a New York court Thursday. The trusted associate of Donald Trump over a span of decades pleaded guilty to more than a dozen felonies and faces jail time and probation.

## Trump CFO pleads guilty

CRIMINAL TAX FRAUD AND GRAND LARCENY  
Weisselberg agrees to testify at company trial

BY SHEILA McCLEAN AND MARK BERMAN  
NEW YORK — Allen Weisselberg, the longtime top financial officer of former president Donald Trump's company, pleaded guilty on Thursday to committing more than a dozen felonies, including criminal tax fraud and grand larceny. Weisselberg and the Trump Organization were indicted last year by authorities in New York who charged them with concealing certain financial compensation as part of what they called a years-long scheme to avoid paying taxes. The case is part of the charring legal maelstrom still surrounding Trump and his close allies, with local, state and federal authorities scrutinizing everything from his namesake business to his handling of classified government documents since leaving office. Appearing in a Manhattan courtroom, Weisselberg, 75, acknowledged his part in the scenario outlined by prosecutors — and agreed to testify, if called, at a pending trial for the company. As part of his plea agreement, Weisselberg, Trump's close and trusted

## Parts of Mar-a-Lago affidavit likely to be unsealed

BY JOSH DAWNEY AND PERRY STEIN  
WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A federal judge said Thursday that he is "inclined" to unseal some of the FBI search of former president Donald Trump's Florida home, instructing the Justice Department to redact the document in a way that would not undermine its ongoing investigation if made public. Federal Magistrate Judge Bruce E. Reinhart, appearing to reject the government's argument for keeping the entire document sealed, said he would make a determination after next Thursday, when Justice Department officials are expected to submit their proposed redactions. The affidavit has become the latest flash point in a criminal probe scrutinizing materials tak-

## Big Ten's TV deals are richest in college sports

Media rights agreements with Fox, CBS and NBC net more than \$7 billion

By BEN STRAUSS AND EMILY GAMBALVO  
The Big Ten Conference unveiled seven-year media rights agreements Thursday expected to be worth more than \$1 billion annually, a monumental windfall that arrives amid a rapidly changing landscape of schools hopping conferences and athletes advocating for a greater share of the increasing riches flowing through athletic departments. The deals, with Fox, CBS and NBC, are the largest in college sports history. Once synonymous with the Midwest, the Big Ten soon will have 16 teams spread from New Jersey to California, a newly minted national conference in a sporting realm once prized for its regional appeal. The conference recently announced the planned additions of USC and UCLA, which will give the conference a