

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

What's News

Business & Finance

- ◆ **Tesla plans to slash** more than 10% of its global workforce and two of Musk's top deputies said they were leaving the company, a shake-up that reflects a cooling in consumer demand for electric vehicles. **A1, B1**
- ◆ **Goldman Sachs's** first-quarter profit jumped 28%, bolstered by strong performance in investment banking and the firm's growing wealth-management business. **A1**
- ◆ **U.S. stocks fell broadly**, extending a recent slump that Monday trimmed the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow by 1.2%, 1.8% and 0.7%, respectively. **B11**
- ◆ **The Justice Department** is preparing to sue Live Nation in an antitrust challenge that could spur major changes at the biggest name in concert promotion and ticketing. **B1**
- ◆ **China's economy grew 5.3%** in the first quarter from a year earlier, in line with the government's official growth target of around 5% for the year. **A7**
- ◆ **The Biden administration** granted Samsung up to \$6.4 billion to build chip-making facilities in Texas, another subsidy aimed at reviving semiconductor production in the U.S. **B1**
- ◆ **New York gained** more relocating tech workers than any other U.S. city last year, according to a data analysis by venture firm SignalFire. **A3**
- ◆ **More big book publishers** joined a lawsuit originally filed by Penguin Random House that seeks to block school-book banning in Iowa. **B1**
- ◆ **The New York Times** ended its probe into whether staffers leaked confidential information about its Gaza war coverage without a conclusive finding. **B2**

World-Wide

- ◆ **Israel intends to punish** Iran for the direct attack on its territory, Israeli officials said, but it faces a difficult challenge in finding a way of doing so that avoids further escalation, preserves the partnership that helped repel the assault and doesn't derail its war aims in Gaza. **A1, A5-6**
- ◆ **The FBI opened a** criminal investigation into the circumstances leading up to the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore, a law-enforcement official said. **A3**
- ◆ **Speaker Johnson plans** to bring separate bills funding Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan to the House floor, in a maneuver aimed at breaking a month-long deadlock over a \$95 billion foreign-aid package the Senate passed earlier this year. **A5**
- ◆ **President Biden and** first lady Jill Biden earned \$619,976 in adjusted gross income in 2023, according to their annual tax returns released by the White House. **A4**
- ◆ **Hannah Gutierrez-Reed**, the armorer on the set of "Rust" where a cinematographer was fatally shot, was sentenced to 18 months in prison. **A3**
- ◆ **A Christian leader** in Australia who was stabbed at a church was the victim of a religiously motivated terror attack, authorities said. **A16**
- ◆ **U.N. agencies warned** that starvation could kill 700,000 Sudanese children this year, a toll that could rival that of the Ethiopian famine of the 1980s. **A16**
- ◆ **Singapore's leader** will step down after nearly two decades in office, in an engineered transition of power. **A16**

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Jury Selection Begins in Trump Hush-Money Trial



ON THE DOCKET: Donald Trump appeared in a Manhattan courtroom Monday as jury selection got under way in a criminal trial involving the alleged coverup of a payment to buy a porn star's silence. Trump said the case was 'political persecution.' **A4**

Goldman's Profit Climbs 28% As Investment Banking Surges

By ANNA MARIA ANDRIOTIS AND CHARLEY GRANT

Goldman Sachs's first quarter profit jumped 28%, bolstered by strong performance in investment banking and its growing business of managing money and investments for wealthy clients.

The results topped expectations and reinforced the reasons behind its current strategy to refocus and expand on its core businesses serving Wall Street and asset- and wealth-management clients, while moving away from its ill-fated foray into consumer lending.

Chief Executive David Solomon and President John Waldron continue to incentivize Goldman employees to direct business across those core units of the bank. For instance, within its global banking and markets division, the bank has boosted revenue by lending more to institutional clients who are served by trading and banking teams. In asset and wealth management, one focus is to increase lending to its very wealthy clients.

The stock rose 2.9%, the best performer in the Dow Jones Industrial Average on a

down day for the index. Revenue from investment banking and trading, Goldman's traditional powerhouses, were both up for the quarter.

Investment-banking revenue was \$2.08 billion, up 32% from a year ago, led by equity and debt underwriting, though the bank said its backlog of future banking revenue fell from the end of 2023. Investment-banking activity is normalizing after an industrywide protracted slowdown, but it remains below historic norms.

"CEOs need to make strategic decisions for their firms,

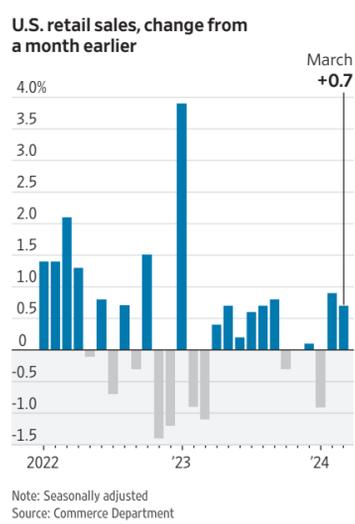
companies of all sizes need to raise capital and financial sponsors need to transact to generate returns for their investors," Solomon said on a call with analysts Monday. "Where we stand today it's clear that we're in the early stages of reopening the capital markets."

Trading revenue of \$7.6 billion was up 10%, powered by lending to institutional clients. *Please turn to page A2*

◆ **Stock market slumps as Treasury yields surge....** B11
◆ **Heard on the Street: Goldman turnaround isn't over.....** B12

Retail Sales Tick Up

U.S. retail sales rose a seasonally adjusted 0.7% in March compared with a month earlier, outpacing economists' expectations. The monthly report is the latest sign that consumers continue to spend, defying the assumption that Americans are starting to pinch pennies. **A2**



Israel Gauges Retaliatory Strike Following Iran's Aerial Assault

TEL AVIV—Israel intends to punish Tehran for the drone- and missile barrage that represented Iran's first-ever direct attack on its territory, Israeli officials said, but it faces a difficult challenge of finding a way of doing so that avoids further escalation, preserves the partnership that helped fend off the assault and doesn't derail its war aims in Gaza.

By *Dov Lieber, Carrie Keller-Lynn and Anat Peled*

Israel's war cabinet met on Monday to discuss how and when to respond to Iran's attack, which Tehran said was in response to the killing by Israel of a senior Iranian general at an Iranian diplomatic building in Damascus, Syria. Israel hasn't confirmed or denied involvement.

"We are looking ahead and considering our steps. The launching of so many missiles, cruise missiles and drones into Israeli territory will be met with a response," said the head of Israel's military, Herzi Ha-

levi, during a visit to an Israeli air force base damaged by the Iranian attack. Halevi said while Israel could manage alone, "with such a widespread and distant threat, we are always happy to have support," and he singled out U.S. support.

Israel faces an increasingly difficult choice. *Please turn to page A6*

◆ **Iran further clouds Biden's Israel issue.....** A5
◆ **Mideast alliance was years in the making.....** A6
◆ **Defense of Israel frustrates Zelensky.....** A7

The School Car Line Is a Study In Tantrums and Turf Wars

More parents drive their kids in race to beat the tardy bell; 'DO NOT cut the line'

By SCOTT CALVERT

Arguments. Arrests. Lawsuits. Police.

The bumper-to-bumper jockeying at school drop-off and pickup is lurching past annoyance en route to true-crime drama.

"DO NOT cut the line. DO NOT drive on the gravel path near the water tower," Principal Michael Girouard told Red Oak Middle School parents in Battleboro, N.C., in a scolding missive. "If you find yourself running late, get up earlier."

Jordyn Hon of Plant City, Fla., fed up with people driving through neighbors' yards to jump the line before and after school, posted a map on Facebook with hand-drawn arrows showing the proper pro-

cedure at Springhead Elementary School.

"There's two different blocks you can take to simply act like a decent human being," Hon wrote. Her post drew a stream of huzzahs, including one woman's observation that "there isn't a worse car line than Springhead and that's a hill I'll die on."

Parents have long dreaded the nerve-fraying navigation required for car caravans ferrying students to and fro. It seems to be getting worse. New federal data show a rising share of students who ride in cars to school. It isn't clear whether the growth comes from bus-driver shortages, more work-from-home parents or other

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Stunning behavior

Chinese Money Flows To U.S. Universities

Lucrative contracts continue despite the countries' deepening rivalry

By JAMES T. AREDDY

Chinese companies are feeling a cold shoulder in the U.S.—except at universities, where they are welcomed as customers.

American universities sign contracts around the world to sell their research and training expertise, and some of their most lucrative agreements have been with companies based in China. The decadeslong trade thrives despite a deepening U.S.-China rivalry and rising sensitivities about Beijing's influence on American campuses.

Nearly 200 U.S. colleges and universities held contracts with Chinese businesses, valued at \$2.32 billion, between 2012 and 2024,

according to a review by The Wall Street Journal of disclosures made to the Education Department. The Journal tallied roughly 2,900 contracts.

The extensive trade in American expertise presents a quandary for universities and policymakers in Washington: Where's the line between fostering academic research and empowering a U.S. rival?

"It seems clear that when the Chinese contract with U.S. universities they are getting a capability they can't get anywhere else," said Daniel Currell, a Trump administration Education Department official who has tracked foreign influence in higher education. *Please turn to page A8*

INSIDE



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Why some taxpayers are still waiting for last year's refund checks. **A9**



SPORTS
The Indiana Fever pick Caitlin Clark No. 1 in WNBA draft, and ticket sales soar. **A12**

