



Why I No Longer Judge Boob Jobs

REVIEW

WSJ

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEEKEND



JOSH O'CONNOR
WSJ. MAGAZINE

DOW JONES | News Corp. ***** SATURDAY/SUNDAY, APRIL 27 - 28, 2024 ~ VOL. CCLXXXIII NO. 99

WSJ.com ★★★★★ \$6.00

What's News

Business & Finance

- ◆ **Exxon Mobil and Chevron** posted lower first-quarter profits in part because of anemic natural-gas prices and refining margins, as their run of record-setting results tapers off. **A1**
- ◆ **Paramount Global's board** is considering replacing CEO Bob Bakish, according to people familiar with the situation. **B9**
- ◆ **Regulators seized** troubled Philadelphia bank Republic First Bancorp and sold it to regional lender Fulton Financial. **B10**
- ◆ **Anglo American rejected** a \$39 billion takeover proposal from rival BHP, setting the stage for a potential bidding war. **B9**
- ◆ **Federal auto-safety** regulators are examining the adequacy of Tesla's recall of two million vehicles with Autopilot software, tying the technology to at least 14 fatalities. **B9**
- ◆ **Thyssenkrupp agreed** to sell a 20% stake in its steel business to Czech billionaire Daniel Kretinsky's EP for an undisclosed sum. **B10**
- ◆ **Rémy Cointreau posted** a decline in sales for its fourth quarter as it continues to destock in the U.S., but saw a better-than-expected performance in China. **B10**
- ◆ **Stocks rose** with the Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq gaining 0.4%, 1% and 2%, respectively. **B11**

World-Wide

- ◆ **U.S. intelligence agencies** believe Putin likely didn't order the killing of Alexei Navalny in an Arctic penal colony in February, a finding criticized by the Russian dissident's allies. **A1**
- ◆ **Trump's allies** are quietly drafting proposals that would attempt to erode the Federal Reserve's independence if he wins a second term. **A1**
- ◆ **The IRS declared** its foray into online tax preparation a success and is considering expansions. **A2**
- ◆ **The Biden administration** won't move to ban menthol cigarettes, after the White House weighed the potential public-health benefits of a ban against the political risk of angering Black voters. **A3**
- ◆ **Egypt's president** dispatched his intelligence chief to Israel in a last-ditch effort to revive talks toward a cease-fire in Gaza. **A6**
- ◆ **Secretary of State Blinken** warned Chinese leader Xi that the U.S. was prepared to act if Beijing didn't cut back on its support for Russia's defense industry. **A8**
- ◆ **A British man** has been charged with being a Russian operative following an arson attack on a Ukrainian-linked business in London. **A8**
- ◆ **King Charles III** will soon resume public royal duties as he makes good progress in his battle against cancer. **A6**

NOONAN

The uglification of everything **A13**

CONTENTS

Obituaries.....	A10
Books.....	C7-12
Business & Finance B9-10	Opinion..... A11-13
Sports.....	A14
Food.....	D4,6
Style & Fashion D2-3	
Gear & Gadgets D7-8	Travel..... D9-10
Heard on Street...B12	U.S. News..... A2-5
Markets.....	B11
World News.....	A6-9

We Happy Few: Veterans Remember D-Day



LIVING HISTORY: Alec Penstone, 98, who served with the Royal Navy, was greeted by D-Day Darlings singers in London. Nine Normandy vets, ages 98 to 103, got together Friday to launch commemorations of the 80th anniversary of D-Day on June 6.

Trump Allies Draw Up Plans To Blunt Fed's Independence

WASHINGTON—Donald Trump's allies are quietly drafting proposals that would

By *Andrew Restuccia, Nick Timiraos and Alex Leary*

attempt to erode the Federal Reserve's independence if the former president wins a second

term, in the midst of a deepening divide among his advisers over how aggressively to challenge the central bank's authority.

Former Trump administration officials and other supporters of the presumptive GOP nominee have in recent months discussed a range of proposals, from incremental

policy changes to a long-shot assertion that the president himself should play a role in setting interest rates. A small group of the former president's allies—whose work is so secretive that even some prominent former Trump economic aides weren't aware of it—has produced a roughly 10-page document outlining a

policy vision for the central bank, according to people familiar with the matter.

The group of Trump allies argues that he should be consulted on interest-rate decisions, and the draft document

Please turn to page A4

◆ **Uneasy peace marks Fed-White House history..... A4**

China Stays Strangely Quiet As U.S. Moves to Ban TikTok

By *Liza Lin and Chun Han Wong*

SINGAPORE—A new law banning or forcing a sale of TikTok's U.S. operations has escalated the tech war with China by taking direct aim at the country's first mobile app to break through globally.

Yet, so far, Beijing appears to be pulling its punches.

Chinese officials have in the past described U.S. maneuvers against TikTok as an attempt to suppress a Chinese company and an example of American hypocrisy. Asked repeatedly about the new law this past week, they passed on the

opportunity to inveigh against Washington.

Chinese officials "have previously made clear China's principled position on the U.S. Congress's passage of the bill on TikTok, which you may refer to," a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday. The following day, officials gave similar answers.

On Friday, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who visited China this past week, said that TikTok didn't come up in his conversations with Chinese officials.

ByteDance, TikTok's China-based owner, said on its Chinese news app Thursday that

it wasn't considering a sale. Chinese officials at the country's main internet regulator have privately indicated to the company their preference is for the app to pull out of the U.S. if forced to do so, instead of selling its operations there, The Wall Street Journal has reported.

Beijing hasn't been shy about lashing out at the U.S. when it chooses to do so. The relatively muted response this past week stands in contrast, in some ways, to China's often

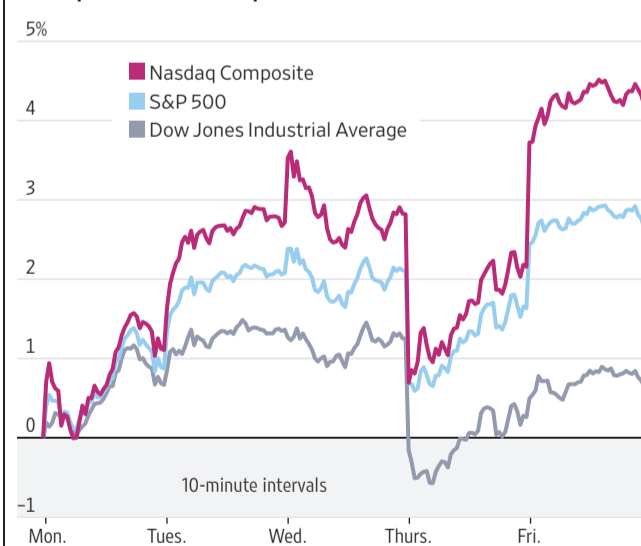
Please turn to page A9

◆ **Blinken presses Xi on support for Russia..... A8**

Stock Indexes Bounce Back

Gains by big tech shares Friday powered indexes to weekly advances even after more data showing stubborn inflation. **B11**

Index performance this past week



Source: FactSet

U.S. Spies Doubt Putin Ordered Navalny Death

WASHINGTON—Alexei Navalny's February death in an Arctic penal colony prompted a new wave of sanctions targeting Russia's economy, upended deli-

By *Aruna Viswanatha, Dustin Volz, Warren P. Strobel, Alan Cullison and Thomas Grove*

cate negotiations to exchange prisoners between Russia and the West, and left Russia's limited opposition in disarray.

Russian President Vladimir Putin might not have planned for it to happen when it did. U.S. intelligence agencies have determined that Putin likely didn't order Navalny to be killed at the notoriously brutal

prison camp in February, people familiar with the matter said, a finding that deepens the mystery about the circumstances of his death.

The assessment doesn't dispute Putin's culpability for Navalny's death, but rather finds he likely didn't order it at that moment. The finding is broadly accepted within the intelligence community and shared by multiple agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the State Department's intelligence unit, the people said.

Some European intelligence agencies have been told of the

Please turn to page A8

The New Most Dreaded Word In the Workplace: 'Hey'

Instant messages with nothing more than a quick greeting spark office anxiety

By *Anne Marie Chaker*

Harrison Luongtran's three-letter missives strike fear into the hearts of his colleagues at the Lucky Generals ad agency in New York.

"Hey. My mind goes to the worst places," says Atheina Hasbani, a 31-year-old account director who works with Luongtran, a creative director. There is no other information in the Slack instant

message as she waits for the proverbial other shoe to drop. "It's like, 'Am I fired? Am I in trouble? Is your mom OK?'"

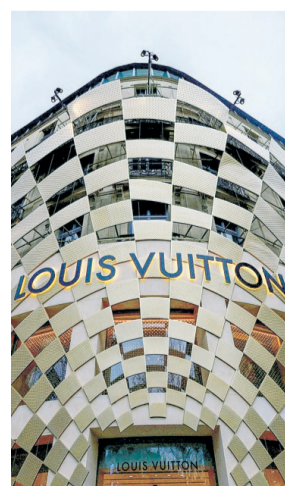
The hey-and-wait instant-message phenomenon comes in other iterations: "hi," "hi there," "hi-hi," "hiya" and "hey-o!" But the effect is the same. While the quick-drop salutation is often innocuous, it sends recipients into a tizzy, fearing the worst.

It also has a name: Hey *Please turn to page A10*



Yes, what?

EXCHANGE



LUXURY TITAN
LVMH is also a power in real estate **B1**



© 2024 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved