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Digging at roots of disparities earns Nobels

MIT economists among 3 honored for showing democracy's role in prosperity

By Alexa Gagosz
GLOBE STAFF

Born to Armenian parents in a middle-class family in Turkey in the late 1960s, Daron Acemoglu grew up during a tense period of political unrest and economic crises, and he would speculate why Turkey's development lagged other industrialized countries.

He pursued that interest, becoming an influential economist and MIT professor, and on Monday, at

67, Acemoglu was awarded the Nobel Prize in economics. He and fellow MIT professor Simon Johnson, 61, along with James A. Robinson, 64, of the University of Chicago, received the prestigious award by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences for their research into how institutions and political systems shape which countries become prosperous. Their studies have shown the importance of giving people a real democratic voice for countries' eco-



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

From left, Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson.

conomic survival, the Nobel committee said.

"It's been a long journey," Acemo-

glu said of his career, during a call with Johnson and reporters. "The

NOBEL PRIZE, Page A10

Netanyahu to target Iranian military

Israeli leader tells Biden of limited retaliation plan to avoid wider conflict

By Shira Rubin and Ellen Nakashima
WASHINGTON POST

TEL AVIV — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has told the Biden administration he is willing to strike military rather than oil or nuclear facilities in Iran, according to two officials familiar with the matter, suggesting a more limited counterstrike aimed at preventing a full-scale war.

In the two weeks since Iran's latest missile barrage on Israel, its second direct attack in six months, the Middle East has braced for Israel's promised response, fearing the two countries' decadeslong shadow war could explode into a head-on military confrontation. It comes at a politically fraught time for Washington, less than a month before the election; President Biden has said publicly he would not support an Israeli strike on nuclear-related sites.

When Biden and Netanyahu spoke Wednesday — their first call in more than seven weeks after months of rising tensions between the two men — the prime minister said he was planning to target military infrastructure in Iran, according to a US official and an official familiar with the matter.

MIDEAST, Page A4

Young voters on both sides fault Harris

Her Mideast stance reveals a vulnerability, with some vowing to back third party

By Emma Platoff and Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

Four years ago, Violet Barron was a proud Democrat, campaigning for President Biden at phone banks and with text blasts, and even working the polls on Election Day. This fall, the student activist and leading organizer of Harvard's pro-Palestinian encampment plans to vote for a third-party candidate for president, convinced that the Democrats she once revered are enabling human rights abuses in the Middle East.

Joe Fahn, another Harvard student who once aligned with the Democratic Party, is unsure whom he will support. Fahn said he is concerned that top Democrats, including Harris, have failed to condemn pro-Palestinian demonstrations, which troubles him because he feels they sometimes veer into antisemitism.

"What I'm looking for . . . is to feel like they're understanding what Jewish students are going

YOUNG VOTERS, Page A7



BETTMANN ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES

Parts of Providence resembled a lake after Hurricane Carol swept through the area in September of 1954.

Scant shelter from climate change

The region is not immune to hurricanes, and they are only growing in ferocity

By Sabrina Shankman and Ken Mahan
GLOBE STAFF

When Hurricane Helene blasted through western North Carolina in late September, devastating a region normally immune to severe damage from hurricanes, it woke up a wide swath of the country to a hard fact: We're not as safe as we think.

That's true in New England, too.

The nature of hurricanes has shifted as the planet

warms due to climate change, with bigger, wetter, and stronger storms — something we've now seen happen twice in rapid succession, with Hurricane Milton following Helene.

Experts say that warmer waters, sea level rise, and changes in the atmosphere have loaded the dice to make it more likely that intense hurricanes could land in regions

HURRICANES, Page A5

►As conspiracy theories expand, federal emergency workers and meteorologists face threats. **A2.**



TED DULLY/GLOBE STAFF

Hurricane Gloria battered New Bedford and other parts of the Massachusetts coast in September of 1985.

Uber ballot question splits labor movement

Greater implications foreseen for burgeoning gig economy

By Katie Johnston
GLOBE STAFF

Getting unions to back a ballot measure that would give more workers the right to unionize seems like it should be easy.

But when those workers are Uber and Lyft drivers, nothing's easy.

Question 3 on the November ballot would allow drivers for the two ride-share giants to organize a union as independent contractors — a category of workers that isn't allowed to form a collective bargaining unit under federal law. But many in the labor movement, noting how much control the companies have and how essential drivers are to their business, maintain that gig drivers are actually employees according to Massachusetts law.

Unions are working with drivers around the country, and if the ballot initiative passes, Massachusetts would be the first state to create a framework for organizing them. Some say this could strike a blow to the fight for full employment rights, including access to unemployment benefits and workers' compensation insurance — not just for ride-hailing drivers here but for the burgeoning gig economy nationwide.

BALLOT QUESTION, Page A10

FAREWELL TO KENNEDY MATRIARCH



STEVEN SENNE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Max (left) and Chris Kennedy (back center left), both sons of the late Ethel Kennedy, joined Matt (center front) and Joseph Kennedy III (right), both grandsons of Kennedy, to carry her casket from Our Lady of Victory Church following funeral services Monday in Centerville. **B1.**



Breezy does it

Tuesday: Some sun, wind. High 55-60, low 40-45.

Wednesday: More sun, wind. High 54-58, low 37-42.

Sunrise: 6:57. Sunset: 6:01.

Weather and comics, **D5-6.**

Obituaries, **C9.**

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NASA successfully launched its latest ambitious mission: a six-year quest to see if conditions for life exist on an icy moon of Jupiter. **A5.**

Lilly Ledbetter died. She helped lead the fight for equal wages for equal work for women. **C9.**

Half of public high schools don't follow the state's guidelines for curriculum for college-bound students, a report says. **B1.**

Undisciplined Bruins fall to the Florida Panthers, 4-3. **C1.**



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