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REVIEW

WSJ

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WEEKEND



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DOW JONES

News Corp

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, AUGUST 15 - 16, 2026 ~ VOL. CCLXXXVIII NO. 39

WSJ.com

★★★★ \$6.00

What's News

Business & Finance

◆ **The Trump administration** doesn't want Apple to buy memory chips from China, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said, but Apple may do so anyway to alleviate a supply crunch. **A1**

◆ **PayPal is in talks** to sell itself to a group that includes Stripe and the private-equity firm Advent International, according to people familiar with the matter. **B9**

◆ **Berkshire has added** to its stakes in Google's parent and America's home-building industry while selling off its position in Constellation. **B9**

◆ **World Liberty Financial**, the Trump family's flagship crypto venture, said its trust company has received preliminary conditional approval to become a bank. **B10**

◆ **Trading firm Jane Street** lost about \$15 billion in July partly because of the troubles at hedge fund Situational Awareness. **B10**

◆ **For the week**, the S&P 500 rose 0.4% for its third consecutive weekly gain. The Dow fell 0.6%, and the Nasdaq gained 0.1%. **B10**

◆ **Nvidia and OpenAI** are nearing a deal to finance a large-scale data-center campus in Ohio, but the revised plan will cut the chip maker's \$250 billion financial guarantee by more than half. **B9**

Worldwide

◆ **Senior Trump officials** have doubled down on economic pressure on Iran, making lower oil prices a top war aim and vowing unprecedented financial sanctions to force Tehran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz. **A1**

◆ **Luigi Mangione pleaded** guilty to two federal stalking charges in the death of UnitedHealthcare leader Brian Thompson. **A1**

◆ **The administration asked** the Supreme Court to allow construction to continue on Trump's planned White House ballroom, after lower courts said it must stop. **A3**

◆ **A son of a former** Mexican president said that the U.S. had revoked his visa in what the country's current leader said was a politically motivated attack. **A3**

◆ **An American missionary** who was kidnapped in Niger in October has been released. **A4**

◆ **Trump played down** concerns about the living conditions aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln, an aircraft carrier deployed for more than 250 days. **A7**

◆ **NATO scrambled** jet fighters to shoot down a foreign drone that entered Latvian airspace amid concerns that Russia's war in Ukraine is breaching the alliance's borders. **A8**

◆ **The Cambridge professor** who resigned amid allegations he plagiarized his doctoral thesis was found dead. **A9**

PEGGY NOONAN

Trump is starting to look precarious. **A15**

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Mangione Admits to Killing CEO

28-year-old pleads guilty to federal stalking charges in executive's death

By CORINNE RAMEY
AND ANNA WILDE MATHEWS

NEW YORK—Luigi Mangione, whose coldblooded killing of an insurance executive on a Manhattan sidewalk rattled the nation and struck fear into corporate America, pleaded guilty Friday to two

federal stalking charges in the death of UnitedHealthcare leader Brian Thompson.

"On the morning of Dec. 4, 2024, I shot Mr. Thompson in Manhattan and he died," Mangione solemnly told the judge during a court hearing.

Mangione, wearing tan jail garb, told the judge that he spent years enduring severe pain, including a broken back, and witnessed others with similar experiences.

He said that after learning of an investor conference, he emailed UnitedHealthcare,

posing as an investor at a firm managing more than \$50 million in assets, to request information about it.

"Unlike my previous interactions with insurers, I received an immediate response within an hour," Mangione said. He said he made part of a gun using a 3-D printer and planned the killing.

U.S. District Judge Margaret Garnett said Mangione faces up to life in prison at his sentencing, which she set for December. Jamie McDonald, the U.S. attorney for the

Southern District of New York, said after Friday's hearing that his office intended to seek the maximum penalty, saying Mangione committed the crime in order to "draw public attention to his dislike of certain businesses."

"No grievance, political belief or ideological cause can ever justify murder," McDonald said. "There can be no celebrity in assassination."

Thompson's family sat in the front row of the courtroom during the hearing.

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Luigi Mangione on Tuesday.

STEVEN HIRSCH/POOL

Farage Wins Back U.K. Seat, Count Binface Is No. 2



UNUSUAL ELECTION: Trash can-wearing comic Count Binface celebrates his second-place finish Friday after Nigel Farage, leader of the anti-immigration Reform UK party, regained his Parliament seat. Farage skipped the official declaration. **A10**

Even Claude Is Unclear About Anthropic CEO's Wife—and Her Strong Influence

Cami Clark—who started a 'revolutionary porn company'—is a key adviser to the AI chief

By KEACH HAGEY AND LUKE JEROD KUMMER

When Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited AI leaders to a meeting in New Delhi this year, security protocols allowed each executive to bring one additional person with them. Most brought colleagues, but Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei brought his wife, Cami Clark.

Clark doesn't work at Anthropic, but she is often seen sitting in the front row while Amodei talks at events such as Davos or can be found chatting up investors at gatherings such as the Allen & Co. conference in Sun Valley.

She acts as a sounding board and strategic adviser for Amodei, according to people close to the company. She also brought Anthropic a key investor, former Google CEO Eric Schmidt—whom she had dated—as it was getting off the ground in early 2021, some of the people said.

Despite her influence, there are scant details about Clark online—and efforts have been made to remove references to her, according to a Wall Street Journal analysis and a person familiar with the matter.

The pair married in 2022, but Amodei's Wikipedia page didn't say he was married until this summer, and still doesn't say to whom. Searches for "Dario

Amodei's wife" on Google often turn up a photograph of his sister, Daniela Amodei, who helps run the company.

Even Claude, Anthropic's AI chatbot, responds to queries by saying "Dario Amodei's marital status doesn't seem to be clearly confirmed."

As Anthropic hurtles toward an IPO that could top \$2 trillion as soon as this fall, Clark is one of the most influential voices shaping the decisions of a CEO at the forefront of AI—a revolution remaking all aspects of work and life.

It's a remarkable rise for a woman who didn't graduate from college, had a previ-

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The \$449 Music Festival Wedding, Gophers and DJ Included

Couples say adieu to \$50,000 ceremonies, and 'I do' to nuptials with strangers

By JIM CARLTON

SAN FRANCISCO—Alex Sorenson and Lizzie Silvers were about to tie the knot at an outdoor ceremony when a group of tipsy young men stumbled in out of the gloom, tittering at discovering nuptials in progress.

The couple kept their eyes locked on each other and sealed their vows with a kiss under a grove of eucalyptus trees.

"We were just walking

through," 21-year-old Leo Schwartz later confided to Sorenson, who nodded his head with understanding. "I mean, look, I'll admit, like, I'm a little drunk."

Brian Fiore-Silfvast, who presided over the ceremony, wasn't surprised. After all, the wedding unfolded at the Outside Lands music festival, where alcohol, drugs and sometimes questionable behavior mix.

"I think all the couples *Please turn to page A11*



Headliner

EXCHANGE



THE OTHER KUSHNER
Joshua steps into the spotlight with \$12.5 billion Lakers deal. **B1**

War With Iran Hinges On Who Blinks First

By GEORGI KANTCHEV
AND LAURENCE NORMAN

Senior Trump administration officials have doubled down on economic pressure in the fight with Iran, making lower oil prices a top war aim and vowing financial sanctions that would force Tehran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

Nevertheless, Iran late Thursday attacked two United Arab Emirates ships in the strait, Emirati officials said, an indication Tehran is impervious to more economic sanctions and is willing to take the military initiative even when President Trump appears reluctant to return to a shooting war.

With President Trump relying more on the Navy's block-

ade of Iranian ports as financial pressure on Tehran, Iran's leaders are trying to show they won't relent and will keep the strait closed until energy prices force the U.S. to back off, analysts said.

"Tehran has drawn a simple lesson from every game of chicken with Washington: Hold your nerve long enough, and America swerves first," said Ali Vaez, International Crisis Group's deputy program director for the Middle East and North Africa. "For a system that believes it is fighting for survival...existential threats tend to harden resolve, not im-

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◆ **Trump downplays concerns** about aircraft carrier **A7**