

▲ DOW 30,603.36 +300.19	▲ NASDAQ 13,337.16 +66.56	▲ S&P 500 3,787.38 +36.61	▲ 30-YR T-BOND 1.82% +0.04	▼ CRUDE OIL \$52.34 - .51	▼ GOLD \$1,837.90 - 7.00	▲ SILVER \$25.91 + .53	▲ EURO \$1.2132 + .0033
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BRIEFING

J.R. Simplot builds in Baker City

The J.R. Simplot Co. is building a liquid fertilizer storage and distribution facility in Baker City's industrial park that is slated to open in early spring. The Simplot Grower Solutions operation will employ seven people initially, with the potential to increase to about a dozen workers, Josh Jordan, senior manager for communications and public relations for the J.R. Simplot, wrote in an email to the Herald. Based in Boise, Idaho, Simplot is a major supplier of frozen french fries. The company paid \$235,620 for a 14.28-acre parcel from Baker City in the city's 64-acre Elkhorn View Industrial Park. The facility is "part of a longer-term plan to build a permanent facility to meet the needs of area farmers, many of whom grow potatoes that we use at our processing facilities," Jordan wrote. The Baker City facility will not produce fertilizer. Simplot has two main production plants, one in Pocatello, Idaho, and one in Rock Springs, Wyoming, that supply the company's more than 200 Grower Solutions stores, Jordan wrote in his email.

Another top Oregon engineer returns to Intel

Former Intel Vice President Sunil Shenoy is returning to the company as head of its design engineering group, joining newly hired CEO Pat Gelsinger who is himself coming back to Intel after a dozen years away. Intel has endured a series of manufacturing setbacks over the past several years, with repeated delays to new generations of microprocessor technology. Those troubles corresponded with upheaval in the company's executive and engineering ranks, especially under former Intel CEO Brian Krzanich, who ran the business from 2013 until 2018. Shenoy left Intel in 2014 after 33 years with the company. At the time, he was vice president of Intel's platform engineering group in Hillsboro. He starts his new position in Oregon on Monday. "His experience inside and outside of Intel will enable him to combine the best of Intel culture with an entrepreneurial spirit and fresh perspective as we work to strengthen the company's technical leadership team and to coach and develop a new generation of technical talent," said Bob Swan, Intel's outgoing CEO. — Bulletin wire reports

COVID-19 rescue plan

Dems push forward on \$1.9T aid

BY LISA MASCARO AND JOSH BOAK
The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Democrats in Congress and the White House rejected a Republican

pitch to split President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 rescue plan into smaller chunks on Thursday, with lawmakers appearing primed to muscle the sweeping economic

and virus aid forward without GOP help. Despite Biden's calls for unity, Democrats said the stubbornly high unemployment numbers and battered U.S.

economy leave them unwilling to waste time courting Republican support that might not materialize. They also don't want to curb the size and scope of a package that they say will

provide desperately needed money to distribute the vaccine, reopen schools and send cash to American households and businesses.

See **Aid** / A8

Mittened memes generate over a million for charity

Sen. Bernie Sanders' presidential inauguration look benefits home state of Vermont



Billy Calzada/The San Antonio Express-News via AP

Tobey King speaks to her crochet Bernie Sanders doll as the bidding continues on eBay on Tuesday in Corpus Christi, Texas. The doll sold for \$20,300, and all of the proceeds are being donated to Meals on Wheels.

BY LISA RATHKE • The Associated Press

About those woolly mittens that U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders wore to the presidential inauguration, sparking endless quirky memes across social media? They've helped to raise \$1.8 million in the last five days for charitable organizations in Sanders' home state of Vermont, the independent senator announced Wednesday.

The sum comes from the sale of merchandise with the Jan. 20 image of him sitting with his arms and legs crossed, clad in his brown parka and wool mittens. Sanders put the first of the so-called "Chairman Sanders" merchandise, including T-shirts, sweatshirts and stickers, on his campaign website Thursday night and the first run sold out in less than 30 minutes, he said. More merchandise was added over the weekend and sold out by Monday morning, he said. "Jane and I were amazed by all the creativity shown by so many people over the last week, and we're glad we can use my internet fame to help Vermonters in need," Sanders said in a written statement. "But even this

"Jane and I were amazed by all the creativity shown by so many people over the last week, and we're glad we can use my internet fame to help Vermonters in need."

— Sen. Bernie Sanders

amount of money is no substitute for action by Congress, and I will be doing everything I can in Washington to make sure working people in Vermont and across the country get the relief they need in the middle of the worst crisis we've faced since the Great Depression." See **Memes** / A8



Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., attends President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration ceremony Jan. 20 in Washington.
Jonathan Ernst/AP

GAMESTOP

Brokerages limit trading, sparking outcry

BY ALEX VEIGA
The Associated Press

Robinhood and other retail brokerages took steps to tamp down the speculative frenzy surrounding companies such as GameStop, but the actions only sparked more volatility in the market and an outcry from users of the platforms and some members of Congress who say small investors are being treated unfairly. GameStop stock has rocketed from below \$20 earlier this month to close around \$350 Wednesday as a volunteer army of investors on social media challenged big institutions who had placed market bets that the stock would fall. The action was even wilder Thursday: The stock swung between \$112 and \$483 before closing down 43.2% at \$197.44. Robinhood said Thursday that investors would only be able to sell their positions and not open new ones in some cases. Robinhood also required investors to put up more of their own money for certain trades instead of using borrowed funds. Besides GameStop, Robinhood said trading in stocks such as AMC Entertainment, Bed Bath & Beyond, BlackBerry, Nokia, Express Inc., Koss Corp., American Airlines, Tootsie Roll, Trivago and Naked Brand Group would be affected by the new restrictions. After the market closed, Robinhood said it would allow limited buying of those securities starting Friday. The frenzy surrounding shares of GameStop, AMC and others has drawn in an influx of investors with little or no experience trading stocks. That poses a challenge for brokerages that cater to small investors, said Andy Nybo, managing director at Burton-Taylor International Consulting. "The brokers were forced to take action because they would be in the firing line if an unsophisticated investor loses money," he said. The surge in the use of stock options fueled by individual investors has some brokerages nervous and explains why some have taken steps to restrict trading. The potential issue centers on the possibility that a brokerage that isn't capitalized well enough could run into trouble if a large number of investors suddenly lose money on options trades that don't go their way. Brokerages often lend investors money to make their trades, and could be exposed to huge losses if many investors are suddenly wiped out and can't pay back the borrowed funds. Robinhood's stated goal is to "democratize" investing and to bring more regular people into investing. See **GameStop** / A8

University of California, Davis releases new walnut variety

BY SIERRA DAWN MCCLAIN
Capital Press

FOLSOM, Calif. — The University of California, Davis, in partnership with the California Walnut Board, released a new walnut variety this month. Researchers say the new variety, named UC Wolfskill, will enable growers to harvest earlier, lengthen the harvest season and improve efficiency. The trees produce walnuts of the color most desired by consumers, and early tests show the trees perform better than some other varieties when facing the disease walnut blight. "She's a good variety. Give her a try,"



UC-Davis/capitalpress.com

UC Wolfskill, the new walnut variety.

said Charles Leslie, a UC Davis researcher. He grinned. UC Wolfskill — named after the

Wolfskill family, who donated experimental orchards to the university in 1934 — has been in development for 18 years. In 2003, researcher Gale McGranahan crossed a Chandler, the most popular walnut variety, with a Solano walnut, which is harvested earlier in the year. "Since then, UC Davis researchers have experimented with the seedlings, grafted and propagated the trees and worked with dozens of growers who were willing to act as 'guinea pigs.'" The research was funded by the California Walnut Board. Now, nearly two decades later, re-

searchers say they're excited to release the new variety. Joe Grant, research director of the walnut board, told the Capital Press having an earlier-harvesting walnut will allow growers to spread out their harvest season as evenly as possible. "This enables growers and hullers/dryers to have a steady flow of product to handle, rather than being sporadic," he said. Pat Brown, an associate professor and nut crops breeder at UC Davis, said consumers likely won't notice a significant difference in texture or flavor; the researchers mainly designed the variety to meet growers' needs.