

DOW 33,290.08 -533.27	NASDAQ 14,030.38 -130.97	S&P 500 4,166.45 -55.41	30-YR T-BOND 2.03% -.07	CRUDE OIL \$71.64 +.60	GOLD \$1,767.90 -5.90	SILVER \$25.96 +.12	EURO \$1.1872 -.0041
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BRIEFING

Robotic ship returns to England

The Mayflower had a few false starts before its trailblazing sea voyage to America more than 400 years ago. Now, its artificial intelligence-powered namesake is having some glitches of its own.

A sleek robotic trimaran retracing the 1620 journey of the famous English vessel had to turn back Friday to fix a mechanical problem.

Nonprofit marine research organization ProMare, which worked with IBM to build the autonomous ship, said it made the decision to return to base "to investigate and fix a minor mechanical issue" but hopes to be back on the trans-Atlantic journey as soon as possible.

Piloted by artificial intelligence technology, the 50-foot Mayflower Autonomous Ship began its trip early Tuesday, departing from Plymouth, England, and spending some time off the Isles of Scilly before it headed for deeper waters.

Tariffs suspended on Scotch whisky

Scotch single malt whisky makers breathed a sigh of relief Thursday after the United States agreed to suspend tariffs on one of Scotland's main exports in the wake of the resolution of a long-standing transatlantic trade row over subsidies to aircraft companies Boeing and Airbus.

Earlier this week, the U.S. and the EU reached an agreement to end the aerospace dispute, paving the way for a 5-year suspension of tariffs. Parallel talks were held between the U.S. and the U.K. over the tariffs.

The tariffs on Scotch single malts were the most high-profile to affect Britain. The Scotch Whisky Association estimated that they contributed to a 30% fall in total whisky exports to the U.S., equivalent to around \$850 million in the 18 months to March 2021.

Astoria considers electric scooters

A proposal to bring electric scooters to the streets of Astoria is in limbo while one city councilor collects feedback from the community.

Bird, an electric scooter company, approached city leadership about running a pilot program for pay-to-ride scooters. The company recently rolled out a similar program in Hermiston.

In a City Council work session Wednesday, Mike Butler, a company representative, argued the scooter program would provide low-cost transportation options for tourists and residents and bring indirect benefits to the city.

But opinions were divided among city councilors. City Councilor Tom Hilton became the deciding voice about whether city staff would continue to talk with Bird about developing a pilot program. Hilton concluded that he wanted to hear from people in his district.

In Astoria, electric scooters — and any motorized vehicles — are not allowed on the Astoria Riverwalk. Bird would work with the city to designate no-ride zones. A scooter would automatically, slowly come to halt if riders tried to enter those areas.

— Bulletin wire reports

Culver farm seeks \$600K for lost hemp, using a hay insurance policy

BY MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI
Capital Press

A Culver farm is seeking at least \$600,000 for a destroyed hemp crop that it claims should be covered under an insurance policy for hay.

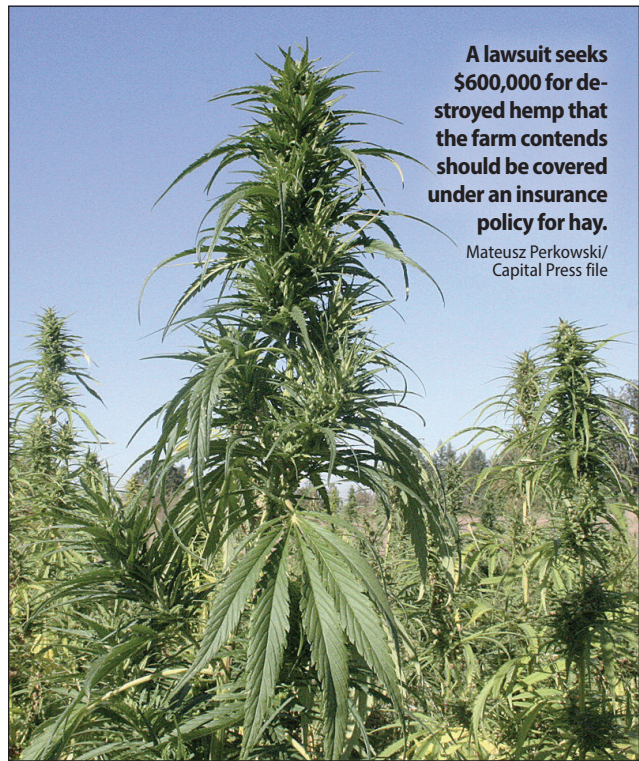
Mike & JD Alley Farms have filed a lawsuit alleging breach of contract, good faith and fair dealing against The American Insurance Company of Novato, California.

"It's not produce; it's not a grain; it's not a fruit. What is it?" asked Mike Alley, the farm's co-owner.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture considers hemp a form of "forage or feed," he said. "It's a plant material and there's lots of uses in the livestock industry."

The complaint alleges that a severe wind storm in May 2020 damaged about 20,000 pounds of "hemp hay foliage," which equated to 10,000 pounds of salable processed material, and 100,000 pounds of "thrashed hemp biomass straw."

See **Hemp** / A6



A lawsuit seeks \$600,000 for destroyed hemp that the farm contends should be covered under an insurance policy for hay.

Mateusz Perkowski/
Capital Press file

Stocks slump to worst lows in months

BY DAMIAN J. TROISE
AND STAN CHOE

The Associated Press

Stocks sank again Friday on Wall Street, knocking the S&P 500 to its worst weekly loss since February, as more steam comes out of banks and other stocks that soared earlier this year with expectations for the economy and inflation.

The S&P 500 fell 55.41 points, or 1.3%, to 4,166.45 in a widespread slump. It was the worst day for the index in a month as unease grows about the Federal Reserve making plans to eventually offer less help to markets.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 533.37 points, or 1.6%, to 33,290.08, and the Nasdaq composite fell 130.97, or 0.9%, to 14,030.38.

Investors are still recalibrating their moves following the Federal Reserve's signal this week that it may raise short-term interest rates twice by late 2023, earlier than expected. The Fed also began talks about slowing its bond-buying program that's helping to keep longer-term rates low. On Friday, St. Louis Federal Reserve President James Bullard said on CNBC his personal prediction was that the first rate increase may come as soon as next year.

It's an acknowledgment that a rebounding economy with near-record prices for homes and stocks may not need super low rates much longer. A recent burst of inflation may also be upping the pressure. But any pullback in Fed support would be a big change for markets, which have been feasting on ultra-low rates for more than a year. It marked a "U-turn on Easy Street," as strategists at BofA Global Research described it.

That's hurt stocks of banks, oil producers and other companies whose profits are closely tied to the strength of the economy in particular. On the other side, stocks of companies able to grow almost regardless of the economy's fortunes have held up better.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which is full of companies whose profits move more with the economy, lost 3.5% this past week. That's its worst since October. The Nasdaq composite, which has more high-growth tech stocks, dipped a much more modest 0.3%.

Of course, all the major U.S. stock indexes remain relatively close to their record highs, as the economy continues to leap out of the recession caused by the pandemic. The S&P 500 is only about 2% below its all-time high set on Monday, and the Dow is within 5% of its record set last month.

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FIRST FLIGHT



The final version of the 737 MAX, the MAX 10, passes other 737 MAX planes as it takes off from Renton Airport in Renton, Washington, on its first flight Friday. The plane flew over Eastern Washington and then landed at Boeing Field.

Ellen M. Banner/The Seattle Times via AP

Boeing's works on newest version of the 737 Max jetliner

The Associated Press

Boeing's newest version of the 737 Max jetliner made its first test flight

Friday, taking off near Seattle for an expected two-hour trip that the company hopes will signal improving fortunes for its most important plane.

The Max 10 is a slightly larger version of Max jets that are already flying. It is designed to seat up to 230 passengers and compete with the A321neo from

European rival Airbus.

Chicago-based Boeing expects to begin delivering Max 10s to airlines in 2023.

Max jets get better fuel mileage than previous versions of Boeing's venerable 737.

Airlines began using the plane in 2017, but Max 8 and Max 9 planes were grounded worldwide for nearly two years after crashes in October 2018 and March 2019 killed a total of 346 people.

U.S. regulators cleared the way

for Max jets to resume flying late last year after Boeing made changes, including overhauling flight-control software that played a role in the crashes. This spring, about 100 new Max jets were idled for several weeks because of an unrelated problem with electrical grounding of cockpit instruments.

The grounding of Max jets and reduced demand because of the pandemic pushed Boeing to an \$8.4 billion loss last year.

Scientists teach drones to hear human screams

Not the robot apocalypse: Technology could help locate victims after natural disasters

BY DALVIN BROWN

The Washington Post

If someone created a flying machine capable of tracking you down by listening for your voice, you might be creeped out.

But what if you were pinned under a pile of rubble after a

natural disaster and first responders couldn't locate you? Maybe then, a human-seeking drone wouldn't be such a terrible idea.

That concept is the focus for engineers at Germany's Fraunhofer FKIE institute, who've

built a drone prototype designed to find people by detecting human screams and listening for other signs of distress. One of the lead engineers, Macarena Varela, showcased the company's progress last week at an annual conference hosted by the Acoustic Society of America.

While it's easy to imagine human-seeking drones in a

sci-fi horror movie, Varela says the gadget would be ideal for post-disaster scenarios, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and wildfires. They could hover over an area that rescue crews have difficulty getting to and pinpoint where people may be trapped.

"(Drones) can cover a larger area in a shorter period of time than rescuers or trained dogs

on the ground," Varela said. "If there's a collapsed building, it can alert and assist rescuers. It can go places they can't fly to or get to themselves."

Unmanned aerial vehicles or drones are commonly used for search and rescue missions when disasters strike. Most often, they take aerial images of structural damage.

See **Drones** / A6