

The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

SU V1 V2 V3 V4

Partly sunny 80/67 • Tomorrow: Shower 78/69 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2021 • \$2

Biden team divided over end of jobless aid

Some advisers see harm in cutoff, but president says it is 'appropriate'

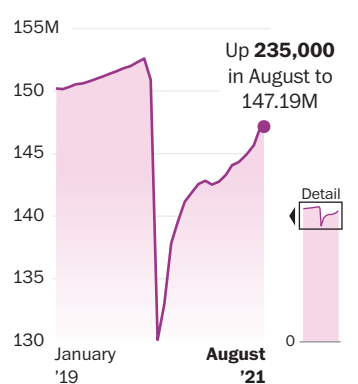
BY JEFF STEIN

Biden administration officials have been at odds over the consequences of allowing unemployment benefits to expire for millions of workers next week, with numerous White House economic advisers frustrated by President Biden's support for letting the aid lapse.

In private conversations, senior officials across multiple parts of the government — including the White House National Economic Council, the White House Council of Economic Advisers, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Labor Department — have made clear that they think the benefits cutoff poses a serious danger to millions of Americans who remain out of work, according to two senior administration officials and five people in frequent communication with administration officials.

SEE BENEFITS ON A16

U.S. nonfarm payrolls, seasonally adjusted



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
ANDREW VAN DAM/THE WASHINGTON POST

Hiring slows: August job growth fell far short of forecasts. **A15**

Powerless and in peril, Karzai still seeks to sway Taliban

BY JOSHUA PARTLOW

The day the Taliban swept into Kabul, former president Hamid Karzai, who had spent much of the past two decades atop a government that was now in the midst of collapsing, called Abdullah Abdullah, another veteran survivor of Afghanistan's game of thrones.

Karzai, who lives in a compound near the grounds of the presidential palace, had bombshell news: President Ashraf Ghani had just fled the country. And he had a question for a man who once had been his chief rival: Would Abdullah stay or go?

"He asked me two or three times," Abdullah recalled. "We were back and forth on the telephone. And then he [asked] if the two of us could be together. I said, 'That's a good idea.'"

The two men stayed in Kabul after the Taliban seized power. **SEE KARZAI ON A13**



MATT SLOCUM/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Electricity poles damaged by Hurricane Ida remain slumped over in Reserve, La., on Friday. An estimated 825,000 electric meters remained offline Friday. Entergy, Louisiana's largest utility, said it would be another five days before its grid was fully restored.

Still no power, short on supplies

BY JACOB BOGAGE

Five days after Hurricane Ida lashed the Southeast, and with more than 800,000 homes and businesses still without power, the hunt for life's essentials — groceries, cleaning supplies and fuel — was fueling dread of the challenges still ahead.

Lines stretched for blocks Friday at gas stations in Louisiana. Some supermarkets had begun

Nearly a week after Ida, shortages are weighing on Louisianians

rationing water, ice, bread, milk and other staples, while one pharmacy chain had deployed mobile units to devastated communities. Aid workers have been

filing into darkened neighborhoods at night to serve food by the taillights of their trucks.

Residents with generator power or a place to stay outside the hardest-hit regions have peppered social media with offers of help for shut-in neighbors. One Louisianian ran groceries and ice from a supermarket in Lafayette to an elderly Catholic nun in New Orleans, some 2½ hours away in ideal

conditions.

The fuel shortages have made other essential resources more scarce as families stock up to avoid multiple shopping trips and wasting critical supplies. **SEE HURRICANE IDA ON A20**

Still reeling: Shaken Northeast vows to better prepare. **A8**

Animal rescue: D.C. area eases crowded Louisiana shelters. **B1**

At least 7 states move to follow Texas on abortion

BY MERYL KORNFELD, CAROLINE ANDERS AND AUDRA HEINRICH

Republican officials in more than a half-dozen states across the country moved this week to replicate Texas's restrictive abortion ban after the Supreme Court declined to step in and stop the

law from taking effect.

GOP officials in at least seven states, including Arkansas, Florida, South Carolina and South Dakota, have suggested they may review or amend their states' laws to mirror Texas's legislation, which effectively bans abortions after six weeks. Kentucky, Louisiana, Oklahoma,

Ohio and more are expected to follow, after a year abortion activists have deemed "the worst legislative year ever for U.S. abortion rights."

"It's something we're already working on," Florida Senate President Wilton Simpson told local news station WFLA-TV when asked about copying the Texas

law, which empowers private citizens to report and sue providers who offer the procedure after six weeks.

Announcing he planned to introduce a copycat bill, Arkansas state Sen. Jason Rapert (R), the founder and president of the National Association of Chris- **SEE ABORTION ON A5**



BRIAN SNYDER/REUTERS

Ex-cardinal McCarrick pleads not guilty

Theodore McCarrick passes victims of clergy sexual abuse Friday in Dedham, Mass., after facing charges of molesting a teen in 1974. McCarrick once led the Washington Archdiocese. **Story, A3**

College football's fall return is sparking cheers and fears

The University of Florida will gather 88,000 fans, with few restrictions

BY NICK ANDERSON AND SUSAN SVRLUGA

GAINESVILLE, FLA. — Come Saturday night, college football fans will converge on the stadium here known as the "Swamp" in numbers not seen since 2019.

For the first time since the pandemic began, the University of Florida will let up to 88,000 people into the stands to watch their beloved Gators take on Florida Atlantic University in the season opener. These fans can watch the marching band actually take the field for a halftime show. They can sing the Tom

Petty anthem "I Won't Back Down" between the third and fourth quarters, a recent home-game tradition honoring the late rocker from Gainesville.

They won't have to be vaccinated and won't have to wear masks. They will be outdoors but packed close together. This spectacle and others like it around the country are stirring passions for the resumption of a fall pastime with major cultural influence — and with it fears about what could happen next on campuses.

Skeptics wonder if the full return of college football — the pregame tailgates, the mingling of home and visiting fans, the postgame partying and barhopping — will spread the coronavirus and jeopardize the reopening of colleges amid another dangerous wave of infections. **SEE FLORIDA ON A6**

IN SUNDAY'S POST



KRIS ANDREW SMALL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

<< How 9/11 changed ...

Television, art, sports, education, immigration, millennials, policing, fiction, love — and more. Two dozen writers and artists reflect on our altered lives. **Magazine**

Sweet, sweet solitude

Alaska's Denali National Park provides solace in a summer of overcrowded outdoor spaces. **Travel**



BILL O'LEARY/THE WASHINGTON POST

<< Kennedy Center turns 50

Has it lived up to its mission? The arts palace is challenged by architecture, isolation and shifts in taste, with its opera house, symphony hall and recital space mostly marginal to U.S. culture. Other centers have done the one thing that the Kennedy Center can't really do: connect more organically to their urban environments. **Arts & Style**

INSIDE

REAL ESTATE Showered in luxury

A renaissance in bathroom design is turning functional spaces into sophisticated retreats.

THE REGION Deal for 'Qanon Shaman'

Jacob Chansley pleaded guilty to felony obstruction of Congress and faces at least three years in jail. **B1**

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THE NATION Prop-up for Trump Tower

Donald Trump's PAC pays more than \$37,000 a month as other key tenants have moved away. **A4**

STYLE A textbook return

Jill Biden readies for the start of a new semester, this time in person rather than via Zoom. **C1**

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