

A MEXICAN SCION
TAKES ON GRAFT
AND IS TARGETED

HACKS AND TAX AUDITS

An Unlikely Challenger
Draws the Attention
of Officials

By AZAM AHMED
MEXICO CITY — President Enrique Peña Nieto sat before the nation’s titans of industry and allowed himself a smile. Mexico’s business elite had invested record amounts of money in the country, giving life to the president’s promise of an economic renaissance and a welcome bright spot in an otherwise bleak landscape of scandals hovering over his administration. But the president needed more from the nation’s top business leaders, perhaps his most important allies. He needed loyalty. According to five people who recounted the private gathering in May, the president turned to Claudio X. González Laporte, a corporate chairman revered in Mexico. Your son, the president told him, needs to stop being so critical of the government. The room fell quiet. Mr. González’s son had spent nearly two decades fighting the twin plagues of corruption and impunity blighting Mexico. But his latest endeavor, an investigative news group that has exposed contract rigging by Mr. Peña Nieto’s allies, was making too much noise for the president’s liking. “Civil society should not spend so much time talking about corruption,” the president scolded Mr. González. The powerful crowd sat stunned at the attack on one of their own, until Mr. González broke the silence. “I’m proud of my son and the work he is doing,” he responded. Even in Mexico, where state pressure is often delivered with a heavy hand, a president openly attempting to silence a member of one of his most trusted constituencies was seen as exceptional, according to several people familiar with the situation. Continued on Page A7

Pacifist Japan
Opens Its Arms
To Its Military

By MOTOKO RICH
GOTEMBA, Japan — The Japanese soldiers jumped out of the jeeps, unloaded the antitank missiles and dropped to the ground. Within minutes, they aimed and fired, striking hypothetical targets nearly a half-mile away. The audience of more than 26,000, crammed into bleachers and picnicking on camouflage-patterned mats on the ground, clapped appreciatively, murmuring “Sugoi!” — or “Wow!” — during live-fire drills conducted over the weekend by Japan’s military here in the foothills of Mount Fuji. Pacifism has been a sacred tenet of Japan’s national identity since the end of World War II, when the United States pushed to insert a clause renouncing war into the country’s postwar Constitution. But there are signs that the public’s devotion to pacifism — and its attitude toward the Japanese military, known as the Self-Defense Forces — have begun to change, in part at the urging of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Mr. Abe’s slow, steady efforts to remove pacifist constraints on the military may have gotten help Tuesday, when North Korea fired a ballistic missile that sailed over Japan’s northern island, Hokkaido, prompting the government to consider a more assertive posture. Continued on Page A10



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Britain’s Diana Divide
Princess Diana is a towering symbol for older Britons. But for younger adults, “she’s not really an icon.” PAGE A6

The Empire Stopper
Foreign powers have tried to control Afghanistan for three centuries. It has generally not gone well. PAGES A8-9

Stalled Over Gulf, Storm Deepens Texans’ Soggy Misery



DAVID J. PHILLIP/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nearly 50 inches of rain has fallen in parts of Houston, a record for the continental United States, and the death toll is believed to have risen to 30 people.

An Uneasy Time for Immigrants,
And Then the Rain Began to Fall

By SIMON ROMERO and MIRIAM JORDAN
HOUSTON — This has been a harrowing year for the hundreds of thousands of undocumented immigrants who have put down stakes in Houston. Stepped-up enforcement of immigration measures put many on edge over deportations, while Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas signed one of the nation’s most punitive laws against cities that do not cooperate with federal immigration authorities. President Trump has amplified his harsh line on illegal immigration and renewed his promise to build a border wall. Then came the chaos of Hurricane Harvey. Families among Houston’s estimated 600,000 undocumented immigrants — the largest number of any city in the United States except New York and Los Angeles, according to the Pew Research Center — fled their homes to escape the flooding despite their anxiety over being turned away at shelters or facing hostile immigration officials. Continued on Page A16



DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES
TRUMP IN TEXAS From Corpus Christi, the president praised the storm response. Page A11.



BARBARA DAVIDSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A boy was lowered to a boat Tuesday in northeast Houston. Officials have rescued about 7,000 people since the storm began.

Plying the Urban Sea, Armed
With a Boat and Raw Courage

By MANNY FERNANDEZ
HOUSTON — The men from East Texas had just boarded their boat here, when there was a sudden jarring bump underneath. “Fire hydrant,” explained Cody Cullum, 33, with a weary shrug. The men were riding down an urban sea off Beltway 8, in the dark. It was long after midnight on Tuesday in this residential section on the outskirts of Houston, and under the surface of floodwaters the color of coffee and cream lay the now invisible hallmarks of city life — gutters, sidewalks, front steps and mailboxes. In parts, the waterline left a visible sliver of the tops of abandoned cars and almost reached the bottom edge of stop signs. The volunteer rescue boat and many others like it are a sign of how the response to one of the worst disasters in decades in Texas has been, in many ways, improvised. Recreational vehicles — airboats, Jet Skis, motorized fishing boats — have rushed to the aid of people trapped in their homes, steered by welders, roofers, mechanics and fishermen wearing shorts, headlamps and ponchos. The working class, in large part, is being saved by the working class. “Since Monday morning at 1 a.m., we’ve pulled out 81 people, six dogs and one cat,” said Arik Modisette, 29, a sales representative for a construction company and a former soldier who lives in Lufkin, Tex., about 120 miles from Houston. Continued on Page A15



BARBARA DAVIDSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Volunteers and officials waited for more residents to arrive via boat after being rescued from their flooded homes on Tuesday.

They Don’t Ride the Subway, Though Its Future Rides on Them

By JAMES BARRON and VIVIAN WANG
Robert G. Ort is a Republican state senator from the Niagara Falls area who “hasn’t had a recent experience with the NYC subway system,” according to an email from his spokeswoman. Joseph A. Griffo, another Republican from upstate New York, who is the deputy majority whip in the State Senate, is not big on the subway when he visits New York City. “He usually either walks or takes an Uber or taxi,” his spokesman explained. The future of the nation’s busiest subway system, which has become engulfed in crisis, could well depend on New York State lawmakers like Mr. Ort and Mr. Griffo, who live hundreds of miles from the city and do not have day-to-day familiarity with its dilapidated transit infrastructure. But since they have a say over the finances of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which operates the subway, they can influence the lives of millions of subway riders. And in the drama that is state government in New York — with its complicated relationships between the mayor and the governor, as well as between the Democratic-controlled Assembly and the Republican-controlled State Senate — the Legislature has not always been kind to the needs of the city’s aging public transit system. Continued on Page A24

Scope of Disaster
Is Obscured by
Record Rain

This article is by Jack Healy, Richard Pérez-Peña and Alan Blinder.
HOUSTON — Five days after the pummeling began — a time when big storms have usually blown through, the sun has come out, and evacuees have returned home — Tropical Storm Harvey refused to go away, battering southeast Texas even more on Tuesday, spreading the destruction into Louisiana and shattering records for rainfall and flooding. Along 300 miles of Gulf Coast, people poured into shelters by the thousands, straining their capacity; as heavy rain kept falling, some rivers were still rising and floodwater in some areas had not crested yet; and with whole neighborhoods flooded, others were covered in water for the first time. Officials cautioned that the full-fledged rescue-and-escape phase of the crisis, usually finished by now, would continue, and that they still had no way to gauge the scale of the catastrophe — how many dead, how many survivors taking shelter inland or still hunkered down in flooded communities, and how many homes destroyed. For everybody, it was another head-shaking day. Local officials in Texas said 30 deaths were believed to have been caused by the storm through Tuesday, up from eight a day earlier. The dead included a Houston police officer, Sgt. Steve Perez, 60, who was caught in flooding on Sunday while trying to report for duty. “I expect that number to be significantly higher once the roads become passable,” said Erin Barnhart, the chief medical examiner for Galveston County. The city of Houston imposed a curfew from midnight to 5 a.m., starting Tuesday night and continuing through Wednesday. Continued on Page A12

IN DISARRAY As families flee, schools shut down, unsure when they will open again. PAGE A14

AT RISK The storm’s violence exposes the vulnerability of energy infrastructure. PAGE A18

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Inside Uber’s Selection Process
Before Uber’s board chose Dara Khosrowshahi as the next chief, there were power plays, leverage deployments and wild swings in support. PAGE B1

A Path to the Middle Class
Better pay can lead to higher-quality care in the fast-growing home health care industry. Economic Scene. PAGE B1

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Spy Revealed Hitler’s Rockets
Jeannie Rousseau de Clarens, 98, uncovered the V-1 and V-2 rocket program, using charm and guile. PAGE B16



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The Burnout of ‘Great Comet’
A bold musical adaptation of Tolstoy drew 12 Tony nominations and strong crowds. But casting decisions and financial concerns doomed it. PAGE C1

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Restaurant Preview
A special issue showcases the fall’s most anticipated openings in New York and explores how the whole business is changing — or ought to. PAGE D1

SPORTSWEDNESDAY B10-14
A Home for E-Sports
The rise of E-Sports, a broad term for competitive gaming, is fueling interest in new venues for fans. PAGE B10

