What’s News

Business & Finance

Oil closed below $190 in Nymex trading for the first time since 2012 after Saudi Arabia cut prices for crude sold to the U.S. A!

Stocks erased early gains after the oil-price drop sparked sales of energy shares. The Dow fell 24.25 to 6,284.04.

The yen fell to a 7-year low against the dollar, boosting investors who had bet against the Japanese currency.

The real estate empire of Nicholas Schoeneman fell into terminal financial as REZ called off a deal with a Mexican realty giant.

U.S. manufacturing edged up in October, with data suggesting the economy is growing at about 2.5% rate.

Barclones manufacturing edged up in October, largely because of price cuts.

Initial home buyers made up the smallest share of U.S. buyers in nearly three decades.

Hyundai and Kia agreed to pay a record combined penalty of $500 million for overrating fuel-economy claims.

U.S. auto sales rose in October, to a decade-high 65.2% pace, as cheap fuel boosted demand for cars and trucks.

Publics agreed to buy Boston-based Sagent for $5.5 billion, boosting the French firm’s digital-advertising exposure.

Apple and Google struck a deal over sharing rights to digital content from Disney.

World-Wide

Polls suggest the GOP will win control of the Senate in Tuesday’s vote. Both parties are pouring millions into last-minute TV ads. A1, A4-A6

Fighters from al-Nusra, al Qaeda’s Syrian branch, have advanced into moderate rebels’ stronghold near the border with Syria. A1

The assassination in Yemen of a key negotiator in talks between the government and rebels has raised tensions ahead of a Shiite holiday. A1

The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in a passport case with a bearing on the status of Jerusalem. A1

U.S. officials condemned Russia’s threat to dismount disputes in elections in rebel-controlled areas of Ukraine. A9

U.S. faces a tough hur

TODAY IN PERSONAL JOURNAL
East Meets West in the Lab

PLUS The Best Kind of Guilt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

DOW JONES

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Sullen Voters Set to Deliver Another Demand for Change

by Janet Hook

Odds are good that the U.S. midterm elections will mark the fourth time in less than a decade that voters cast a party from control of Congress and the White House, a remarkable period of instability that has left neither party with a firm grip on power.

If, as polls suggest, Republicans win a majority in the Senate, they will face anew the question:

What can the party do to address the voter dissatisfaction that keeps washing through the electorate and producing "change elections," as in 2006, 2008 and 2007?

"Traditionally in American history, politics is like a seesaw: When one side is up, the other side is down," said Peter Weinberg, a former aide to President George W. Bush. "Now it's as if the seesaw is broken; the public is distrustful of both parties. As voters head to the polls on Tuesday, the most important test of this mood lay in about a dozen closely contested Senate races. Americans need a net gain of six seats to win control of the Senate.

Across the country, candidates and party leaders made their final appeal to voters. Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, who stands to become Senate Majority Leader if Republicans win the majority, flew around his home state campaigning with Sen. Rand Paul (R., Ky.).

"We're going to send a message to President Obama," Mr. Paul said at a joint rally. "This will be a repudiation of President Obama's policies." Former President Bill Clinton, who has maintained a punishing campaign schedule this year, traveled to Florida to appear Monday night at a rally with Charlie Crist, who is running for governor in Florida. Former GOP

Border, health care in focus.

Saud Oil Price Cut Scrambles Market

The decision by the world's largest oil exporter sent the dollar lower, which could push oil prices for domestic consumers.

Saud Arabia is the world's largest oil exporter. The price cut will boost the dollar, which could boost oil prices for domestic consumers.

Saud Arabia has reduced its prices for its oil in order to gain back some of its market share. This has led to a decrease in the price of oil, which has benefited American consumers in the long run.

However, this could also lead to higher prices for other goods, as the domestic market adjusts to the new price. It is important for consumers to be aware of these changes and to plan accordingly.

HOW WE EAT

Shoppers Push Meat Industry To Wean Itself Off Drugs

By David Neeleman, Jacob Burack and Ben McKay

OAKVILLE, Ky.—The Food and Drug Administration, responding to concerns about anti-biotic-resistant bacteria, asked the meat industry to reduce the use of antibiotics in livestock production.

The request is among a growing group of food producers moving to limit the routine use of antibiotics in livestock production—less in response to regulatory action than to consumer pressure.

The FDA recently proposed to ban the use of antibiotics to promote growth in livestock, which is a major source of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The proposal is likely to face opposition from the meat industry, which has been slow to address the issue.

Despite this, the meat industry is slowly moving towards reducing the use of antibiotics. They are taking steps to make changes and ensure the health and safety of their products.

Taking Flight

Consumer spending on chicken raised without antibiotics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Full year</th>
<th>Through Aug 10</th>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>$1.48bn</td>
<td>$1.2bn</td>
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Militant Gains in Syria

Cloud U.S. Strategy

By Noor Malas

AND MOHAMMED NASSER ALBAKRA

BEIRUT—Fighters from al-Nusra, Syria’s most radical group, advanced along a northern road bordering Turkey after driving out several moderate factions from their stronghold, rebels said, complicating the U.S. effort to recruit and train the Syrian opposition forces to back the President Bashar al-Assad.

The threat of a general strike by the al-Nusra front was a signal to the regime that it would not stand by and let the rebels advance.

Syria's most Western-friendly rebel groups—those from eastern and southern Syria—have been fighting the regime for years. These rebels have been trying to shore up their efforts and push the regime out of power. But the rebels have faced criticism from other groups, including the more radical members of the Free Syrian Army (FSA), who have accused them of being too moderate. These groups have been working to build up their own forces and push the regime out of power.

This conflict has been a major source of tension in the region, with the U.S. and other Western countries providing military support to the rebels, while Russia and other countries have been providing military support to the regime. This has led to a stalemate in the conflict, with neither side able to gain a decisive advantage.

The U.S. and Russia have been trying to work towards a political solution to the conflict, but have been unable to reach an agreement.

The conflict has also had a major impact on the region’s economy, with the U.S. and European countries imposing sanctions on Syria to pressure the regime to leave power.

In recent weeks, the rebels have been gaining ground on the battlefield, and appear to be gaining momentum.

The rebels have been receiving support from a number of sources, including the U.S. and European countries, who have been providing military assistance and funding.

The rebels have also been gaining support from the local population, who are tired of the regime’s rule.
New Data on Ancient Remedies
Doctors Apply Modern Research Techniques to Traditional Chinese Medicine

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS | Inflammatory autoimmune disease that causes pain, swelling and stiffness in joints

Western Medicine

Postulated cause: The immune system turns on itself and begins to attack the tissues that line the joints.

Diagnosis: Medical history, clinical exam, laboratory tests and MRI

Treatment: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS) and corticosteroids to reduce inflammation, disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) to slow disease progression

By Shirley S. Wang, Hong Kong

Traditional Chinese medicine teaches that some people have hot constitutions, making them prone to fever and inflammation in parts of the body, while others tend to have cold body parts and get chills.

Such Eastern-rooted ideas have been developed over thousands of years of experience with patients. But they aren’t backed up by much scientific data.

Researchers in some of the most highly respected universities in China, and increasingly in Europe and the U.S., are working Western techniques for analyzing complex biological systems to the Chinese notion of seeing the body as a networked whole. The idea is to study how genes or molecules interact throughout the body as a disease develops, rather than to examine single genes or molecules.

"Traditional Chinese medicine views disease as complete a pattern as possible," says Jennifer Wan, a professor in the school of biological sciences at the University of Hong Kong who studies traditional Chinese medicine, or TCM. "Western medicine tends to view events or individuals as discrete particles." But one gene or biological marker alone typically doesn’t yield comprehensive understanding of disease, she says.

To reach these goals, the overall quality of research on traditional Chinese medicine must improve. With studies of Chinese herbal remedies, for instance, rarely are scientists expected to self authentication of herbs they’re studying, which makes it difficult to know what’s really in the concoctions. The hurdle also makes it harder for other scientists to replicate the findings, says Qiu Ge, a professor in pelvic medicine at King’s College London. Dr. Xu served as the coeditor of a recent 200-scientist consortium to study good practices for studying traditional Chinese medicine, dubbed GP-TCM.

TCM treatments of herbal concoctions could be authenticated and standardized with more scientific study, and could serve as leads for drug development, experts say.

One example of this possible development is Yale University pharmacology professor Yung-Chi Cheng’s work looking at four-herb combination known as PEO900 for reducing the side effects of chemotherapy. The treatment appears to contain more than 65 chemicals. Researchers are studying it for its ability to reduce nausea and diarrhea and to enhance colon-cancer treatment.

The field also must develop standard definitions and ways of measuring TCM syndromes, important for research and clinical care, Dr. Xu says. His European Union-funded consortium

Researchers Make Case
For MRI Use in Biopsies

Every Friday and Monday, Samir Talreja conducts a biopsy at NYU Langone Medical Center in New York to diagnose prostate cancer. Unlike conventional prostate biopsies, these procedures are guided by MRI images, which he says allow for more precise targeting.

Dr. Talreja is one of a growing number of doctors and researchers investigating how an MRI scanner can be used to help detect and treat prostate cancer. The American Cancer Society estimates that prostate cancer is the second most common cancer among men in the United States, behind skin cancer. The disease is expected to strike 193,000 new men in 2014, and 28,000 deaths, according to the National Cancer Institute.

Currently, the routine procedure for men is getting screened for prostate cancer with a PSA, a prostate specific antigen, blood test. If a PSA...
Back to Traditional Chinese Medicine With Data

Continued from page D1

published a set of guidelines for good practices last year in the journal BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine, one of about 30 papers published by the consortium since 2010. "If it’s not reproducible, it’s not science," he says.

"According to traditional Chinese medicine, disease arises from imbalances in the body due to unhealthy factors in the natural environment and one’s lifestyle. General symptoms like dry mouth or film coating the tongue are signals that certain bodily systems are out of whack. While these signs may be ignored by Western doctors more focused on more specific ailments, TCM doctors often use the symptoms as guides for treating patients.

A doctor practicing TCM who knows whether someone has hot or cold syndrome could use that as a first clue in testing for problems involving the immune or metabolic systems. They might also diagnose other health conditions, such as gout, rheumatoid arthritis or cancer. One day there also may be effective treatments if a person’s constitution is taken into account when treating them, says Shao Li, deputy director of the bioinformatics division at Beijing’s Tianghuan University.

In parts of China, doctors practicing Western and Chinese medicine can both be found. Many patients go to Western doctors for certain situations, such as acute illness, but see TCM practitioners in college often to prevent disease.

TCM was largely ignored by Western medicine until recent years, but is slowly gaining traction among some doctors and clinicians. The Cleveland Clinic in Ohio recently opened a herbal medicine center. The U.S. government established the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine in 1998. The organization now has a budget of over $250 million to study the efficacy and safety of alternative medicines, including those rooted in traditional Chinese medicine.

One promising area of TCM research involves studying the nature of hot and cold syndromes. The work is still in its early stages, but could result in a new direction for TCM research by using the systems approach and integration with Western medicine.

In a series of studies, Tianghuan’s Shao Li and his colleagues examined people with hot and cold syndromes and whether they exhibited different signs of inflammation, a common disease disorder in which the lining of the stomach becomes inflamed or irritated.

To gauge whether a patient is hot or cold, researchers asked questions like whether individuals had chilly body parts or a preference for hot beverages or a susceptibility to catching colds. Doctors dig into patients’ subjective feelings, asking whether they experienced so-called cold feelings like fatigue. The scientists also measured proteins linked to the immune response and markers of the bacteria in the gut and imaged the bacteria in the tongue coating.

They found some variations depending on whether patients were identified as hot or cold. They also found differences in the bacteria of patients’ tongues that corresponded with tongue-coating color and whether patients had been diagnosed with hot or cold syndrome.

These results suggest that some easily detectable and nonspecific symptoms could be clinically useful. Dr. Li says, however, it remains to be seen whether gastritis patients classified as having hot syndrome would actually respond to different treatments than those classified as cold.

In the Netherlands, van der Greef, a professor of analytical biochemistry at Leiden University, and his colleagues have looked at how gut bacteria might influence treatment choices for patients with inflammatory bowel disease, as well as patients with metabolic diseases such as diabetes and obesity.

They found higher levels of one steroid and 11 other molecules in the urine of arthritis patients depending on their TCM diagnosis.

Many other diseases are linked to gut bacteria, and in recent years researchers have found that people who are most likely to develop cancer have certain bacteria in their gut. The next step would be to develop more individualized treatments for patients with cancer, says Dr. Li. "It could be such a big-data era, a new way can be eventually found to connect Eastern and Western medicine at the molecular and systematic levels," Dr. Li wrote in an email.

Researcher Makes Case for MRI Use in Prostate Biopsies

Continued from page D1

reading is high, a biopsy is usually performed with needles guided by an ultrasound probe. Ultrasound can visualize the prostate very well, but it is sometimes difficult to repeat the procedure. The prostate is a walnut-size gland and in some cases at least 1 centimeter or less, said William Darby, clinical director of the Center for Cancer Research at the National Cancer Institute, which has been using MRI in prostate-cancer research for nearly a decade. "How many times do you need to biopsy a walnut with a small needle before you have the full walnut?"

At centers like NYU and the University of California, Los Angeles, most men will have an MRI before undergoing a biopsy. With the MRI, the institutions use a multiparametric technique that includes measuring blood flow and water movement in the prostate, which can help identify cancer cells. Suspicious areas are identified by a radiologist and rated on a five-point scale reflecting degree of suspicion.

Specialized software is used to build a three-dimensional model of the MRI that can be fused with the ultrasound at the time of biopsy. Robotic spatial tracking allows doctors to align the biopsy needle guide with the MRI.

Because conventional biopsies can’t always distinguish when a cancer is clinically insignificant, patients sometimes undergo unnecessary surgery, radiation or other therapies. Such overtreatment has been a concern in the medical community for some time.

"We’ve postulated that [MRI] imaging can correct all of these problems," said Dr. Taneja. "The cancers we primarily miss when we do the targeted biopsy tend to be the smaller, lower-grade cancers that we think are commonly found on routine biopsies," he said.

More doctors have been including MRIs in their diagnoses, although the technique isn’t without controversy. Some urologists say comparing detection rates of different types of biopsy procedures is difficult because missed cancers aren’t always later discovered. There is also disagreement on when to consider a cancer aggressive. Many urologists, including Dr. Taneja, say a high-grade, aggressive tumor is one that ranks 7 or higher on the Gleason scale, a commonly used measure to classify a cancer’s aggressiveness based on a pattern of abnormal cells. Some urologists say a score of 6 or higher is sufficiently aggressive to warrant treatment. Gleason scores

continue to test biomarkers associated with hot and cold syndrome to study other diseases, including cancer. The next step would be to develop more individualized treatments for patients with cancer, says Dr. Li. "It could be such a big-data era, a new way can be eventually found to connect Eastern and Western medicine at the molecular and systematic levels," Dr. Li wrote in an email.

In another study, published in Molecular Cell in 2012, Dr. van der Greef’s group looked at another hormone, testosterone in OJ, known as life energy, or the energy within the human body and the environment. Again, they found differences between biological markers in one with different body classifications. TCM-based research provides a model for early detection of health problems, the authors say.

"Groups are coming to test biomarkers associated with cold and hot syndrome to study other diseases, including cancer. The next step would be to develop more individualized treatments for patients with cancer, says Dr. Li. However, before a big-data era, a new way can be eventually found to connect Eastern and Western medicine at the molecular and systematic levels," Dr. Li wrote in an email.

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