

POPE BENEDICT XVI, 1927-2022



Pope Benedict XVI during Mass at Yankee Stadium for 60,000 people in April 2008, during his first papal trip to the United States.

Quiet Scholar Defended Doctrine and Unexpectedly Retired

By IAN FISHER and RACHEL DONADIO  
Benedict XVI, the pope emeritus, a quiet scholar of diamond-hard intellect who spent much of his life enforcing church doctrine and defending tradition before shocking the Roman Catholic world by becoming the first pope in six centuries to resign, died on Saturday. He was 95.  
Benedict’s death was announced by the Vatican. No cause was given. This past week, the

Vatican said that Benedict’s health had taken a turn for the worse “due to advancing age.”  
On Wednesday, Pope Francis asked those present at his weekly audience at the Vatican to pray for Benedict, who he said was “very ill.” He later visited Benedict at the monastery on the Vatican City grounds where he had lived since announcing his resignation in February 2013.  
In that announcement, citing a loss of stamina and his “advanced age” at 85, Benedict said he was stepping down freely and “for the

good of the church.” The decision, surprising the faithful and the world at large, capped a papacy of almost eight years in which his efforts to re-energize the Roman Catholic Church were often overshadowed by the unresolved sexual abuse scandal in the clergy.  
After the selection of his successor that March — Pope Francis, the former Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Buenos Aires — and a temporary stay at Castel Gandolfo, the papal summer residence, Benedict moved to a monastery in Vatican City. It was the

first time that two pontiffs had shared the same grounds.  
The two men were reportedly on good terms personally, but it was at times an awkward arrangement, and Francis moved decisively to reshape the papacy, firing or demoting many of Benedict’s traditionalist appointees and elevating the virtue of mercy over rules that Benedict had spent decades refining and enforcing.  
Benedict, the uncharismatic intellectual who had largely preached to the church’s most fer-

Continued on Page 12

Made in China?  
U.S. Companies  
Shift to Mexico.

By PETER S. GOODMAN  
MEXICO CITY — As American companies recalibrate the risks of relying on Chinese factories to make their goods, some are shifting business to a country far closer to home: Mexico.  
The unfolding trend known as “near-shoring” has drawn the attention of no less than Walmart, the global retail empire with headquarters in Arkansas.  
Early last year, when Walmart needed \$1 million of company uniforms — more than 50,000 in one order — it bought them not from its usual suppliers in China but from Preslow, a family-run apparel business in Mexico.  
It was February 2022, and the contours of global trade seemed up for alteration. The worst pandemic in a century had upended shipping. The cost of transporting products across the Pacific had skyrocketed, and ports were choked with floating traffic jams — a stark indication of the dangers of depending on a single far-away country for critical goods.  
Among multinational companies, decades of faith in the merits of making things in China had come under scrutiny, especially as animosity intensified between Washington and Beijing.  
At his office in Mexico City, Isaac Presburger, director of sales at Preslow, took Walmart’s order as a sign of his country’s evolving role in the economy, and the op-

Continued on Page 11



LAURA BOUSHNAK FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Year in Pictures

The war produced images of anguish. Above, nap time at a shelter in Ukraine. A special section.

Deadly Year in Ukraine Ends With a Big Assault

By ANDREW E. KRAMER and ANTON TROIANOVSKI  
KYIV, Ukraine — Russia rained missiles and exploding drones on Ukraine’s capital and other cities on Saturday in a deadly New Year’s Eve assault, punctuating President Vladimir V. Putin’s stated resolve to prosecute a war he called a “sacred duty to our ancestors and descendants.”  
The aerial bombardments

killed at least one person and partly destroyed a hotel in the capital, Kyiv, inflicted damage elsewhere and forced Ukraine’s war-ravaged electric utilities to pre-emptively shut off power.  
“There are explosions in Kyiv!” Kyiv’s mayor, Vitali Klitschko, wrote on the Telegram messaging app. “Stay in shelters!”  
Describing the New Year’s Eve assault as “inhuman” and Russia as a “terrorist state,” President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

directed his rage at Mr. Putin and his subordinates, declaring in a videotaped reaction that “those who give orders for such strikes, and those who carry them out, will not receive a pardon. To put it mildly.”  
Even for residents injured to brazen Russian bombings, the wail of air-raid sirens and the explosive thuds on New Year’s Eve were especially galling. If Mr.

Continued on Page 8

Steep Decline  
In Teen Births  
Over 30 Years

Drop in Child Poverty  
Suggests a Link

By JASON DePARLE  
JENNINGS, Mo. — Brittnee Marsaw was born to a 15-year-old mother in St. Louis and raised by a grandmother who had given birth even younger. Half grown by the time her mother could support her, Ms. Marsaw joined her three states away but never found the bond she sought and calls the teen births of preceding generations “the family curse.”  
Ana Alvarez was born in Guatemala to a teenage mother so poor and besieged that she gave her young daughter to a stranger, only to snatch her back. Soon her mother left to seek work in the United States, and after years of futilely awaiting her return Ms. Alvarez made the same risky trip, becoming an undocumented teenager in Washington, D.C., to reunite with the mother she scarcely knew.  
While their experiences diverge, Ms. Marsaw and Ms. Alvarez share a telling trait. Stung by the struggles of their teenage mothers, both made unusually self-conscious vows not to become teen mothers themselves. And both say that delaying motherhood gave them — and now their children — a greater chance of success.  
Their decisions highlight profound changes in two related forces that shape how opportunity is conveyed or impeded from one generation to the next. Teen births have fallen by more than three-quarters in the last three decades, a change of such improbable magnitude that experts struggle to fully explain it. Child poverty also plunged, raising a complex question: Does cutting teen births reduce child poverty, or does cutting child poverty reduce teen births?

While both may be true, it is not clear which dominates. One theory holds that reducing teen births lowers child poverty by allowing women to finish school, start careers and form mature relationships, raising their income before they raise children. Another says progress runs the other

Continued on Page 23

EDUCATION DEPT.  
LOGS BIG SURGE  
IN BIAS CLAIMS

A RECORD HIGH IN 2022

Reflection of a Pandemic  
and a Divisive Civil  
Rights Climate

By ERICA L. GREEN  
WASHINGTON — The Education Department’s Office for Civil Rights logged a record number of discrimination complaints in the past year, the latest indicator of how the social and political strife roiling the country is reverberating in the nation’s schools.  
Nearly 19,000 complaints were filed to the office in the last fiscal year — between Oct. 1, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2022 — more than double the previous year and breaking the record of 16,000 filed in fiscal year 2016, according to figures provided by the department. The surge reversed the decline in complaints filed to the office under the Trump administration, which rolled back civil rights protections.  
Officials say the complaints — most alleging discrimination based on disability, race or sex — reflect grievances that amassed during the worst public health crisis in a century and the most divisive civil rights climate in decades. The complaints were logged as schools struggled to recover from pandemic-related closures, and add to the declining test scores and growing mental health challenges that display the fragility in large parts of the country’s education system.  
Catherine Lhamon, the assistant secretary for civil rights, said the jump in the number of complaints, which have not yet been made public but will be reflected in the office’s annual report in the coming months, is both encouraging and sobering.  
“It reflects the confidence in the Office for Civil Rights as a place to seek redress,” Ms. Lhamon said. “At the same time, the scope and volume of harm that we’re asking our babies to navigate is astronomical.”

Continued on Page 19

‘Today Girl’ to TV Icon, Walters  
Traversed News and Celebrity

By TIFFANY HSU  
Long before she became the first woman to co-anchor a network newscast and the foremost prime-time interviewer of heads of state and Hollywood stars, Barbara Walters understood the power of television.  
When she was a teenager in New York City, she saw that TV provided an escape for her cognitively disabled sister, who spent hours watching “I Love Lucy” and “Texaco Star Theater.” And it wasn’t lost on her how her father’s nightclub business fell off in part because of television’s ability to keep people in their living rooms at night, rather than out on the town.  
Ms. Walters, who died on Friday at age 93, had spent more than five decades in front of the camera and become a titan of the medium: lauded for the subjects she scored, criticized for her coziness with them, even memed for how she presented herself.  
But when she started out, the industry was against her. Men



LOU ROCCO/ABC

Barbara Walters in 2014 on “The View,” the ABC talk show she helped create in 1997.

did the hiring. Men decided what went on the air. Men delivered the news.  
She wrote in her 2008 memoir, “Audition,” that it was her legs, not her skills, that persuaded the head of a small Manhattan advertising agency to give her a job soon after she graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in 1951. She quit when her boss “became overly amorous,” as she described it. She went on to find

Continued on Page 21

INTERNATIONAL 6-16

**Statue Figures in Race Debate**  
A restoration darkened a statue at the birthplace of the French writer Victor Hugo. Complaints ensued — and then vandalism. PAGE 6

ARTS & LEISURE

**Out of the Supporting Ranks**  
Giancarlo Esposito has stolen scenes for decades as a popular character actor. Now he makes a splash in a lead role, in Netflix’s “Kaleidoscope.” PAGE 1

METROPOLITAN

**A Mayor’s First Year in Office**  
Eric Adams has focused his attention on fighting crime in New York City, but his critics say he has other urgent challenges to tackle. PAGE 1

SUNDAY BUSINESS

**We’re All Memory Hoarders**  
We can store our photos, videos and important documents in the near-limitless digital clouds of Google, Apple or Meta. Is it too much? PAGE 1

SUNDAY OPINION

**Sarah Andersen** PAGE 4



Digital.  
The traditional way.



Since its launch in 2009, the concept of the ZEITWERK has remained unique in the field of mechanical watches. It combines a digital display with an ingenious mechanical, manually wound calibre. The new ZEITWERK generation presents a subtly reworked design as well as the evolved L043.6 manufacture calibre. Thanks to the patented mainspring barrel, the power reserve was doubled to 72 hours. Additionally, a button now ensures that the time can conveniently be set in intervals of one hour. [www.alange-soehne.com](http://www.alange-soehne.com)

A. LANGE & SÖHNE  
GLASHÜTTE 1/SA