

New York Times News Quiz – Dec.01, 2023

- 1) Israel and Hamas agreed this week to extend a cease-fire to allow for a prisoner swap and for humanitarian aid to enter the Gaza Strip. The cease-fire was originally supposed to last 4 days but was extended. The cease-fire enabled the release of dozens of hostages that Hamas and its allies had been holding in exchange for Palestinians imprisoned by Israel, and allowed hundreds of aid trucks to reach Gaza.
- 2) The conservative political network founded by the Koch brothers endorsed Nikki Haley. The endorsement by the network, Americans for Prosperity Action, was a blow to DeSantis, who is vying with Haley to be the Trump alternative. Haley has risen in recent polls but still trails Trump.
- 3) A memorial service and funeral were held this week for Rosalynn Carter, the former first lady who died last month at 96. As first lady, she pushed to improve mental health care and was co-founder of the Carter Center, an aid group. Rosalynn Carter transformed the role of first lady during her husband's single term as president, after which they wrote books and focused on humanitarian work. The Carters, married for 77 years, were America's longest-married presidential couple. All five living first ladies attended her memorial service this week. Read her New York Times obituary.
- 4) On Nov. 17, the artificial intelligence company OpenAI fired its chief executive, Sam Altman. On Nov. 21, it hired him again as its leader. Four members of OpenAI's board abruptly removed Altman, claiming that he could no longer be trusted with the company's mission to build artificial intelligence that "benefits all of humanity." Five days later, Altman was brought back, and the board of directors was replaced.
- 5) Pope Francis announced a plan to punish his most vocal critic inside the Catholic Church, the conservative American cardinal Raymond Burke, according to multiple reports. He said he would evict Burke from his Vatican-subsidized apartment. It's the second time in recent weeks that Francis has punished a critic, deepening the rift between the reform-minded pope and the conservative Catholic leadership in the United States.
- 6) Paris Hilton recently welcomed a baby, her second child born via surrogacy. She named the girl London.
- 7) Dolly Parton's new album, "Rockstar," became the highest-charting album of her career this week. It comprises covers of rock songs. Parton, who doesn't consider herself a rock artist, said she was inspired to put out "Rockstar" after she was nominated for inclusion in the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The Times critic Lindsay Zoladz calls the album "a referendum on how incredibly well liked Parton is at this moment."
- 8) Rescuers saved 41 workers this week from a collapsed tunnel in the Himalayas. The workers became trapped when a landslide caused a tunnel in the northern

Indian state of Uttarakhand to collapse; they were rescued 17 days later. Environmentalists had warned that the road project they were working on was destabilizing the fragile landscape.

- 9) The billionaire Mark Cuban agreed to sell his majority ownership stake in the Dallas Mavericks (NBA). Cuban bought the team in 2000 for \$285 million, and sold his stake this week for around \$3.5 billion, The Athletic reported. Cuban, who was one of the league's most public owners — often seen sitting courtside, shouting at referees — will remain in control of the team's basketball operations.
- 10) The racketeering and gang conspiracy trial of an influential Atlanta rapper, Young Thug, began this week in Georgia. The case seeks to answer whether the rapper, born Jeffery Williams, was the head of a criminal enterprise. It will be closely watched — Trump was indicted under the same racketeering law in Georgia.
- 11) Henry Kissinger, both celebrated and reviled as the most powerful secretary of state in the post-World War II era, died this week at 100. He served under both Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.