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From: noreply@mail.bloombergbusiness.com on behalf of Bloomberg QuickTake
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Sent: Thursday, December 05, 2019 8:08 PM
To: Madalyn Mercado (MSG)
Subject: France grinds to a halt

QuickTake by Bloomberg

Global news the world needs today

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Greetings, QuickTake readers! In this edition: Samoa shuts down, Biden lashes out, and Chile's feminists rise up.



France strikes against Macron plan

Hundreds of thousands of people in France walked off their jobs Thursday as more than 30 unions launched an open-ended, nationwide strike to oppose President Emmanuel Macron's pension reform plans. Protesters marched in Paris, Lyon, Marseilles and dozens of other cities, forcing the closure of metros and trains, hospitals, schools, and even the Eiffel Tower. Macron's plan is to replace the country's pension system with a universal points-based one to make it financially sustainable, which critics say would shrink benefits and force millions of people to work longer.

More:

Police deployed tear gas in Bordeaux and arrested more than 80 in Paris after masked activists smashed store windows, set fires and hurled flares into crowds of otherwise peaceful protesters.

The strike is being compared to France's crippling 1995 protests, also against retirement reform, and could become one of Macron's biggest challenges since the Yellow Vest protests started a year ago.

Significant figures

3,045 claims. Uber reported thousands of allegations of sexual assault involving drivers or passengers in the U.S. last year in its first-ever review of public safety.

62 people. At least that many have died from a measles outbreak in Samoa as the Pacific island nation began a two-day shutdown for a door-to-door vaccine campaign.

1,000 people. A senior U.S. State Department official, citing unspecified reports, said Iranian forces may have killed that many in response to recent protests.

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Highly quotable

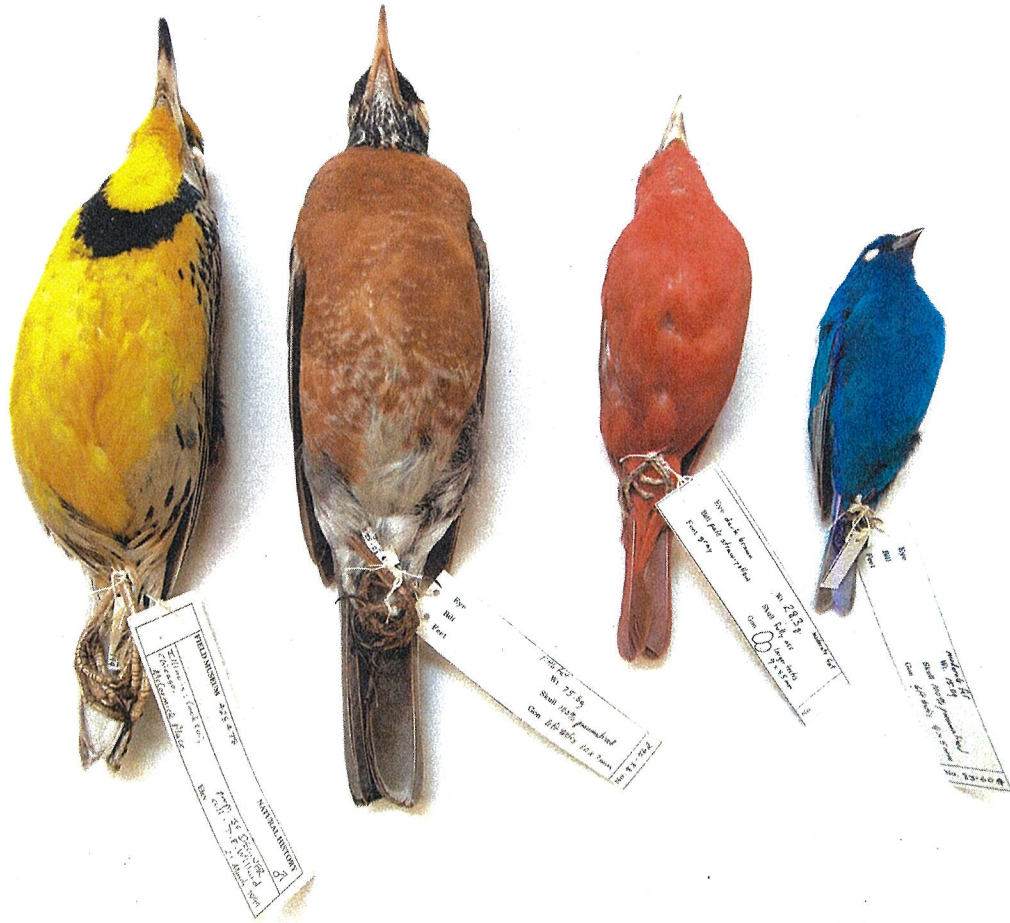
"No choice but to act." Nancy Pelosi said the House will draft articles of impeachment against Trump, possibly making him the third president to be impeached in U.S. history. Later, she told a reporter, "Don't mess with me" after he asked if she "hates" Trump.

"You're a damn liar." Joe Biden lashed out at an Iowa voter after he confronted him about his son's dealings with Ukraine and his age.

"The rapist is you." Thousands of Chilean women swarmed the capital city of Santiago and denounced sexual violence, chanting, "the fault is not with me, nor how I dressed."

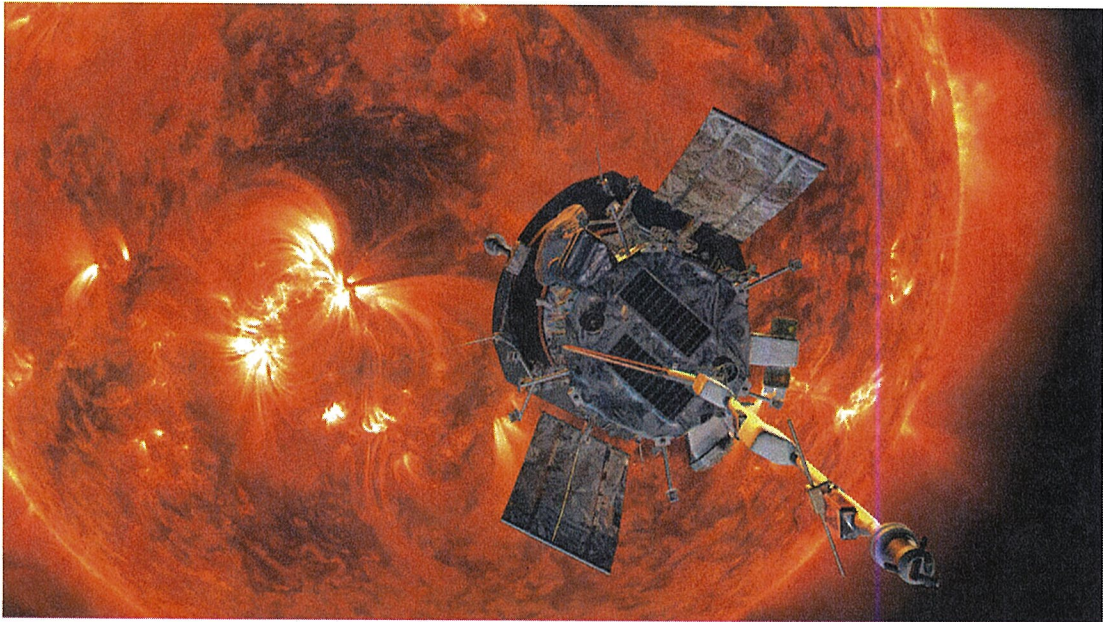
This is not normal

Warming adaptation. The climate crisis is causing birds to shrink and their wingspans to grow, according to a Chicago Field Museum study of 70,716 specimens from 52 migratory species collected over 40 years.



The future is now

Solar discovery. NASA released groundbreaking images from the closest-ever mission to the sun that reveal its magnetic field flips directions by 180 degrees and reverses within seconds or minutes.



What's good

Skin wisdom. As the market for senior-friendly makeup nears \$80 billion, Japan's top cosmetics makers are employing older saleswomen, including the world's oldest beauty adviser, 99-year-old Kikue Fukuhara.



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Before you go: Pantone has chosen Classic Blue as the 2020 Color of the Year for its calming, reassuring vibes. See for yourself.

Thanks for reading!

-Andrew Mach



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