

Weekly Crypto News Recap

May 5, 2023

TOP STORIES OF THE WEEK

First Republic Bank seized, sold in fire sale to JPMorgan

AP News Regulators seized troubled First Republic Bank early Monday, making it the second-largest bank failure in U.S. history, and promptly sold all of its deposits and most of its assets to JPMorgan Chase in a bid to end the turmoil that has raised questions about the health of the U.S. banking system. It's the third midsize bank to fail in less than two months. The only larger bank failure in U.S. history was Washington Mutual, which collapsed at the height of the 2008 financial crisis and was also taken over by JPMorgan in a similar government-orchestrated deal.

Speedy Sui Blockchain Officially Launches on Mainnet

Decrypt

The much-anticipated Move-based layer 1 blockchain network Sui finally launched on mainnet. Developed by former Meta (Facebook) engineers who worked on the now-defunct Novi project, Sui is the latest speed-focused alternative layer 1 network. According to the testnet's performance, the blockchain can reportedly achieve high throughputs between 10,871 transactions per second (TPS) to 297,000 TPS on various workloads. For comparison, Solana, one of the fastest layer-1 blockchains, boasts a TPS of roughly 4,000.

SEC steps back from defining digital assets in new hedge fund rules

Cointelegraph

The United States securities regulator is holding off from ratifying the definition of the term "digital assets" in rules that govern reporting disclosures for hedge and private equity funds, despite proposing to do so some nine months ago. The SEC originally included a digital assets definition in an August 2022 proposal for the changes that would have been the first time the SEC defined "digital assets." Fast forward to today, the SEC said, "We proposed adding 'digital assets' as a new term to

the Form PF Glossary of Terms. The Commission and staff are continuing to consider this term and are not adopting 'digital assets' as part of this rule at this time."

Bitcoin BRC-20 token standard becomes new destination for meme tokens

Cointelegraph

Bitcoin's BRC-20 token standard has become the latest trend in the crypto ecosystem, especially after the Pepe (PEPE) memecoin's rise on Ethereum this month. BRC-20 is an experimental token standard on the Bitcoin blockchain modeled on Ethereum's ERC-20. It allows programmers to create and send fungible tokens via the Ordinals protocol. A total of ~8,500 different tokens have been minted using the BRC-20 standard, with the majority of these BRC-20 tokens being memecoins, such as PEPE (different from ERC-20 PEPE) and Memetic (MEME). The BRC-20 token frenzy has also begun to dwarf regular Bitcoin transactions. The number of BRC-20 transactions on the Bitcoin blockchain between April 29 and May 2 reached over 50%, outperforming regular BTC transactions.

<u>Coinbase launches international perps exchange — starting with 5x leverage</u>

The Block

Crypto exchange Coinbase is officially entering the crypto perps market with the launch of Coinbase International Exchange. The firm, which has made headlines in recent weeks for its brouhahas with U.S. regulators and its plans to set up shop overseas, said Tuesday that it would enable institutional users in eligible jurisdictions to trade perpetual futures with up to 5x leverage through its new offshore platform.

BITCOIN

<u>Jack Dorsey's Cash App Posts \$2.16B in Bitcoin Revenue for Q1 2023</u>

Memecoin hype drives Bitcoin transaction fees to multi-year highs

New Bitcoin Token Overtakes WBTC on Avalanche

Blockstream Developer Neigut Expects 'Cambrian Explosion' of Bitcoin Layer 2 Protocols

Bitcoin Ordinals Surge to 3M Inscriptions, but Most Are Just Text

Balaji pays out his crazy \$1M Bitcoin bet, 97% under price target

Bitcoin spot trading volume plunged more than 65% in April as Binance added back fees

MicroStrategy says it could sell Bitcoin to pay long-term debt obligations

ETHEREUM

Ethereum Developers In 'Final Stages Of Planning' Next Major Upgrade
Ethereum's high gas fees see users flock to EVM-compatible chains

ALTCOINS



Pepe climbs to new ATH as market cap approaches \$1B

Decentralized Exchange SushiSwap Rolls Out V3 Liquidity Pool on 13 Chains

<u>Liquid Staking Platform Lido Surpasses 6M Ether Deposits as Shanghai Upgrade Spurs Inflows</u>

<u>Layer 2 Network Optimism to Use Ethereum Attestation Service to Promote User Trust</u>

Arbitrum-Based Exchange Chronos Attracts \$170M to Yield Pools in a Single Day

Funding Rates in the \$500M Market Cap PEPE Token Remain Negative

Arbitrum Teams Up With AltLayer In Layer 3 Push

Rocket Pool Adoption Surges After Atlas Upgrade

LayerZero Usage Triples After Arbitrum Airdrop

XEN Token Accounts For 11% of Ethereum Gas Consumption

Aragon Bans at Least 6 DAO Members During Treasury Discussion, Alleging 'Coordinated' Assault

Whales take profits on pepe's surge, market cap drops nearly \$200 million: Nansen

PEPE Meme Coin Liquidity Pool Becomes Most Active on Uniswap

Sui Token Surges to \$2 on Trading Debut as Network's Fully Diluted Value Hits \$13B

New Cosmos chain will use liquid staking tokens from other networks for security

Binance Users Deposited Over \$4B to Farm SUI Tokens Ahead of Mainnet Launch

Where to Get SUI and How Will Its Tokenomics Work?

PEPE Token Soars to \$500M Market Cap as Memecoin Fever Grips Crypto Traders

Axelar enables Sommelier DeFi vaults to connect to Arbitrum

Blur NFT lending protocol gets mixed reactions from the community

Over \$790M worth token unlocks scheduled for May

MakerDAO To Shutter SocGen's \$30M Credit Line

Ripple Sold \$336M Worth of XRP Tokens in Q1, Reports Strong XRPL Growth

STABLECOINS

Curve to redeploy crvUSD stablecoin on Ethereum after 'mistake in deployment script'

TUSD Lending Rates Spike After Stablecoin Briefly Rallies To \$1.20

Binance USD stablecoin activity slides to two-year low

Curve Finance's crvUSD stablecoin deployed on Sepolia testnet ahead of Ethereum mainnet launch

CRYPTO ECOSYSTEM

Fuse blockchain pledges \$10M for ecosystem development

Securities token platform launches MPC wallet for institutions

MoonPay pushes into retail space with new crypto app

ConsenSys Layer 2 network Linea adds loyalty NFT campaign to drive adoption

Institutionally-Focused Crypto Exchange Bullish Partners With Market Maker B2C2 in Liquidity Drive

Phantom Solana Wallet Adds Ethereum and Polygon Support

Liquid staking solutions now have more TVL than DEXs: DefiLlama

Gemini Warns Barry Silbert's Digital Currency Group of \$630M Default Risk

Genesis Bankruptcy Parties Agree to 30-Day Mediation Period

What's in a name? Lens Protocol swiftly rebrands scaling solution from Bonsai to Momoka

NFTS / GAMING / METAVERSE

Bitcoin Ordinals faces new challenge after developer inserts bug to throw out numbering



Solana Foundation launches NFT pitch contest for aspiring creators

LeBron James Spotted in RTFKT Nike Sneakers—Clone X NFT Holders Rejoice

Sports Illustrated launches Polygon-based NFT ticketing platform

Blur NFT lending surpasses \$16M in loans, led by Machi Big Brother

Art Auction Giant Sotheby's Unveils On-Chain NFT Secondary Marketplace

Increased liquidity is causing a paradigm shift in NFT markets, Floor founders say

Battle Royale Shooter 'Grit' Plays Like a Wild West PUBG—With NFTs

Adidas and Pharrell Release Digital Clothing for Doodles NFT Holders

MINING

Stronghold Digital to Add 400 PH/s Capacity Via 4K Bitcoin Miners From Canaan Subsidiary

Kazakhstan's Bitcoin mining industry has several challenges ahead

Bitdeer expands to Bhutan, expects to raise \$500M

White House advisers renew push for 30% digital mining energy tax

Canadian province New Brunswick has denied energy to crypto miners for months

Bitfarms Bitcoin production declined 10% in April despite hashrate growth

Jack Dorsey's nano Bitcoin mining chip heads to prototype

Bitcoin Miner Bitfarms Hits New Hashrate High Amid Argentine Expansion

Amid Bankruptcy, Core Scientific Signs Bitcoin Mining Hosting Contracts for Almost 18,000 Machines

EXCHANGES

Coinbase earnings beat estimates, interest income from USDC nears \$200 million

Coinbase to stop issuing Bitcoin-backed loans from next week

Crypto Trading Platform Enclave Starts Fully Encrypted Spot Exchange

Gemini launches derivative platform in 30 countries

3AC founders run into fresh trouble in Dubai over new exchange OPNX

Bybit joins crypto exchanges offering crypto lending services

Poloniex to Pay \$7.6 Million In Sanctions Violations Settlement

Aussie crypto exchange kicks off US expansion despite 'regulatory risk'

Dave Ripley takes over as Kraken CEO, set on next phase of growth and expansion

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

\$1.4 Trillion Investment Firm Launches Tokenized Mutual Fund on Polygon

New Crypto VC Firm Credibly Neutral Raises \$5.5M

Interest rate hike speculation triggers outflows from crypto investment products: Report

While Binance battles regulators, its \$9 billion VC arm keeps growing

TRADFI / TECH

Deloitte enters the Polkadot ecosystem to issue reusable digital credentials

US regional bank shares sink despite Fed calling banking system 'sound'

Fearing Leaks, Samsung Bans Employees From Using ChatGPT

Regional banks extend losses and some paused due to volatility; Bitcoin up 2%

Coinbase Faced With Too Much Regulatory Uncertainty, Rating Cut to Neutral: Citi

Digital Bank Revolut Now Offering Crypto Investments in Brazil



Samsung employees banned from using ChatGPT-like AI tools

First Republic Bank Seized by Regulators and Sold to JPMorgan Chase

How to Get Bluesky Invite Codes as Chrissy Teigen Joins Decentralized Twitter Rival

Elon Musk introduces Twitter monetization avenues for content creators

JPMorgan Pursues Tokenization Plans Despite Crypto Downturn and Regulatory Hurdles

CBDC

BNP Paribas Will Link Digital Yuan to Bank Accounts for Promoting CBDC Use: Report

North Carolina joins Florida in passing anti-CBDC legislation

Hebei, China, Issues Digital Yuan Discount Coupons

Visa to Develop Brazilian Blockchain-powered CBDC Project

REGULATORY / COUNTRIES

FDIC alleges Cross River engaged in 'unsafe' lending practices Sur

White House to build international standards for DLT

House Financial Services and Agriculture Subcommittees To Hold Digital Assets Hearing

President Bukele eliminates all taxes on tech innovations

SEC has 10 days to respond to Coinbase complaint: Legal exec

Blockchain Association Leaves New York as Federal Regulatory Fight Looms

UK Set to Ban Cold Calls Selling Financial Products, Including Crypto

BitFlyer USA Fined \$1.2M by NYDFS for Not Meeting Cybersecurity Requirements

Nigeria's SEC May Permit Asset-Backed Tokens, Crypto Trading Remains Off-Limits

Kenya introduces 1.5% tax to crypto companies

Nigeria SEC will support asset-backed tokens: Bloomberg

Liechtenstein adapts blockchain laws to developing crypto landscape

FDIC pins Signature Bank's failure on poor governance and illiquidity

Crypto Tax Guidance Could Come in '12-ish' Months, Says IRS Official

Tax law researchers propose IRS framework for deducting crypto losses

SURVEYS, HACKS, MISC

Voyager creditors could start seeing funds in the 'next few weeks'

Judge Upholds Freeze on SpartacusDAO's \$35M in Lawsuit Served Via Discord, NFT

Jailed French Crypto 'Fraudster' Loses Appeal in Morocco

'WallStreetBets' Themed Tokens Plummet 90% as Insider Dumps Treasury Holdings

First NFT Insider-Trading Trial Results in Guilty Verdict for Ex-Opensea Manager

Federal Reserve Raises Fed Funds Rate by 25 Basis Points, Signals Possible Pause

Crypto influencer named in FTX lawsuit served via tweet

Lisbon, Berlin, Paris among emerging crypto hubs in Europe, survey finds

Celsius eyes merge of entities as creditors claim distinctions were a 'sham'

Law enforcement agencies seize dark-web market amid crackdown on illicit crypto transactions

Coinbase insiders got \$1 billion richer by not disclosing negative information, lawsuit claims

Temasek denies investing in Array as another crypto project issues confusing announcement

Hundreds of Bitcoin Wallets Controlled by Russian Intelligence Agencies Exposed: Report

Justin Sun to Reverse \$56M Binance Transfer After CEO Zhao Warns Against Potential SUI Token Grab



Hackers stole \$93M from crypto projects in April
Polygon Lending Protocol 0VIX Pauses Protocol After \$2M Exploit
Tornado Cash developer Alex Pertsev tweets for first time following prison release

<u>LINK</u>





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