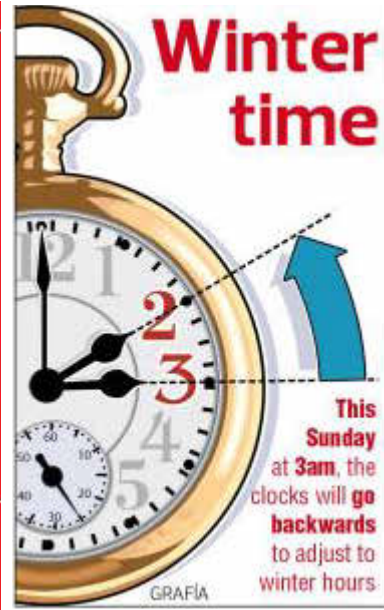


**YOUR FULL FIVE-DAY WEATHER FORECAST:** SEE INSIDE

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**Spotlight  
on north of  
the island.  
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**THE BIG PARTY IS OFF**

## Spain holds off on curfews, but struggles to curb COVID-19

*Madrid.*—Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez exhorted Spaniards yesterday to further limit social contact to combat Europe's worst COVID-19 hotspot, but he stopped short of announcing new measures amid political disputes over potential curfews. Qurelling between the Socialist-led gov-

ernment and mostly conservative regions - and also among regions - has hampered the response to the pandemic for months, exasperating citizens and creating uncertainty. With total cases soaring this week to over a million, the health minister said the pandemic was out of control and

recommended curfews. But the government lacks a majority in parliament to push bold steps and override sometimes reluctant regions which decide on health matters and fear further economic damage as Spain already enters its worst recession since the Civil War.

