



Amir expresses condolences over demise of Norway King



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Mahboula blitz corners lawbreakers

Traffic crackdown puts 145 cars off road; Jahra speedster gets reality check

By Munif Naif

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The General Department of Emergency Police conducted a large-scale security campaign in Mahboula, Ahmadi Governorate, targeting violators and wanted individuals as part of ongoing field efforts to enforce the law and enhance security.

The operation was conducted in the presence of Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Hamoud Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and under the direct supervi-

sion of Assistant Undersecretary for Public Security Affairs Major General Hamad Ahmed Al-Munaifi and Head of the Traffic and Operations Sector Brigadier General Ahmed Fahd Al-Azmi.

The campaign resulted in the issuance of 790 traffic citations, the arrest of 109 individuals wanted in connection with criminal and security cases, 62 individuals for expired residency permits, and 31 individuals who were unable to provide identification. Authorities also apprehended 11 individuals found in an abnormal state, impounded nine wanted vehicles, and arrested eight individuals for possession of narcotics and alcoholic beverages.

The necessary legal measures were taken against all those arrested, and they

were referred to the appropriate authorities.

Meanwhile, the General Traffic Department at the Ministry of Interior carried out a traffic campaign recently, resulting in the impoundment of 145 vehicles for various violations, which were taken to the garage for impounded vehicles.

A security source stated that the campaign included putting wheel clamps on 19 vehicles due to traffic violations.

Separately, Jahra traffic police arrested a citizen for driving at a speed of 180 km/h on Jahra Road.

A security source stated that the citizen was detained at the traffic police station, his vehicle was impounded and legal measures were taken against him.



Opinion

Ahmed Al-Jarallah

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

Iran's media figures: Trojan horses

IT IS said, "Not all that glitters is gold." This proverb applies to the 'soft power' system that Iran has been instilling in the Arab mind since 1979 to deceive and beautify the ugly face of a regime built on internal repression and external distortion of facts.

This system was exposed in the recent war due to the continuous exposure of a regime that rules with an iron fist and terror.

As a result of freedom of opinion and expression, many media outlets and Arab channels host Iranian proxies presented as political or military analysts who attempt to portray the Iranian regime as an oppressed victim. This deception has reached a repugnant level, unacceptable even to a child.

These individuals have exploited the Iranian narrative of "American economic bases and principles in the region". Based on this, they issued numerous misleading statements, while ignoring objective political and economic realities. These analysts are attempting to promote a religious ideology that the regime has been instilling in the minds of people through its paid agents in the media and politics.

One of the points is that the political, military and economic alliances between the Gulf Arab states and the West in general, and the United States in particular, are neither recent nor an anomaly in international relations. These alliances have never been directed against any party.

More importantly, the alliances of Iran with the West were even more deeply rooted during the era of the Shah. Today, the Iranian regime maintains strategic alliances with major global powers, including military cooperation.

The second point these analysts are making is that the proxies the regime has built in the region were established on the basis of imposing sectarian doctrines through terrorism. We will not reiterate the crimes that these groups and the Iranian regime committed in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen, or the terrorist operations carried out in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and other countries.

Therefore, the narrative that Iranian bombing targets American bases in the region is completely unfounded.

It is important to note the prevailing media sentiment when Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. At that time, the media promoted the slogan, "The road to

Jerusalem passes through Kuwait."

Anyone with sense understands that the invasion of Kuwait targeted Arab solidarity and national security, and ultimately benefited Israel.

Under the guise of freedom of expression, many spread lies, promote the Iranian regime and mislead public opinion. I will not name them so as not to elevate them to the status of heroes, when in fact they are merely mouthpieces for Tehran, used to create a cacophony and divert attention from the realities witnessed by the Arab and Iranian television channels.

These analysts adopt a provocative and deceptive discourse only to earn money. This is the most dangerous deed of Arab media. Foreign television channels do not host such type of person, as they are rather careful not to allow anyone who misleads public opinion to appear on their screens, out of the sense of responsibility.

Several television interviews included severe insults on Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the UAE without providing even a piece of evidence. The guest accused these countries of being subservient to Zionism and America, while praising the Iranian-Russian-Chinese alliance. This guest lauded the terrorism of sectarian militias, conveniently forgetting the temporary alliance between Tehran and Washington for the 2003 invasion of Baghdad. He failed to mention that the United States helped the Revolutionary Guard control Iraqi decision-making for over 20 years.

The so-called 'political experts' are nothing but mouthpieces used to cover up Iranian terrorism. In reality, they are Trojan horses. Hosting them on television programs only mislead public opinion further. Has the Arab public not suffered enough misinformation and distortion of facts regarding the Palestinian cause over eight decades? This manipulation of public opinion included the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Lebanese Civil War, and the so-called 'Arab Spring', a diabolical scheme to dismantle the Arab world.

I reiterate, "Not all that glitters is gold."

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Premier reviews Sulaibikhat Cemetery development plans

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29, (KUNA): His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, accompanied by Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Minister of State for Housing Affairs Abdulatif Al-Mashari, inspected the development plans for Sulaibikhat Cemetery and the plans to establish future facilities.

During the tour, Kuwait Municipality officials briefed His Highness on the latest field preparations and arrangements, ongoing works, and the future plan to expand the cemetery.

On the occasion, His Highness the Prime Minister directed the continued field monitoring of the implementation stages of the plan, ensuring adherence to the specified timelines and the swift resolution of any obstacles that may hinder the progress of the works, in a manner that ensures completion according to the highest standards.

His Highness stressed the importance of continuing to develop service facilities and enhancing the quality of services provided to citizens, reflecting the government's commitment to improving the efficiency of public facilities and meeting the needs of society.

The tour comes as part of the Government's ongoing follow-up on the modernization of service facilities and efforts to enhance the level of services provided to citizens.



Top and above: HH the PM, accompanied by Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Minister of State for Housing Affairs, during an inspection of the development plans for Sulaibikhat Cemetery.

KD 1.21m mystery gets legal spotlight

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr Amthal Al-Huwailah said she has referred cases of misappropriation of public funds at the Public Authority for Disability Affairs to the Public Prosecution for legal action against several officials and employees.

In a statement to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on Saturday, she said that this is the second referral in a week, which comes within the framework of the protec-

tion of public funds.

She added that the committee discovered that funds had been disbursed for quantities and work that were not fully implemented onsite, noting that the estimated value of the damage under investigation is approximately KWD 1.211 million (USD 3.95 million). Minister Al-Huwailah stressed that protecting public funds is a non-negotiable responsibility, affirming that all violations with suspected criminal intent would follow the legal course.

Other Voices

Kuwait will always be your second home

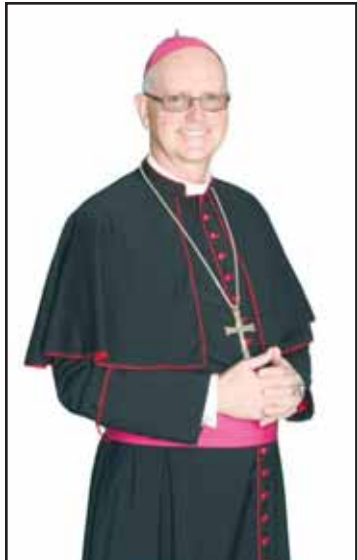
By Nasser Al-Hajeri

As His Excellency Archbishop Eugene Martin Nugent concludes his mission in Kuwait and prepares for his new assignment as Apostolic Nuncio to the Czech Republic, I would like to pay tribute to someone who has become a familiar and much respected presence in Kuwait over the past five years.

Archbishop Nugent arrived in Kuwait in 2021, at a difficult time for much of the world. During the years that followed, he became well known within the diplomatic and Catholic communities and among people from many different backgrounds.

He had a very natural way of dealing with people. He listened, welcomed others easily and was always approachable.

Before his arrival, I believe many people in Kuwait were not very familiar with the Apostolic Nunciature or the role it played. Archbishop Nugent helped change that. In many ways, he brought the walls down and opened the doors.



His Excellency Archbishop Eugene Martin Nugent

He welcomed people from different walks of life into the Nunciature and made it a place where people could meet, talk and feel comfortable. He showed that it was not only a diplomatic mission, but also a place where friendships and human connections could grow.

I had the privilege of knowing him personally, and one thing I particularly appreciated was his inter-

est in young people. He made time to attend youth events, meet young Kuwaitis and encourage their initiatives. Sometimes simply showing up, listening and taking an interest meant a great deal, and this is something I personally saw during the years I knew him.

His time in Kuwait also saw an important development for the Catholic community. The Church of Our Lady of Arabia in Ahmadi was elevated to the status of a Minor Basilica, the first in the Arabian Peninsula. In January 2026, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State of the Holy See, visited Kuwait for the occasion. It was a special moment for Catholics in Kuwait.

Archbishop Nugent has described Kuwait as his "second home." It is a simple phrase, but one that says a great deal about the relationship he developed with the country and its people.

As he leaves for the Czech Republic, I wish Archbishop Nugent every success in his new mission.

He leaves behind many people who will remember him not only for the position he held, but for the person they came to know.

Thank you, Archbishop Eugene, for these years in Kuwait. Your second home will always be ready to welcome you back.

Kuwait, India defense 'links' get fresh push

NEW DELHI, Aug 29, (KUNA): India and Kuwait held on Friday the inaugural meeting of the Joint Defense Committee (JDC) in New Delhi.

A statement from the Indian Ministry of Defense said that during the meeting both countries agreed to further strengthen bilateral defense cooperation across a wide range of areas, including training, military exercises, military medicine, staff talks, defense industry, and Research and Development.

Today's meeting marked a key step towards operationalizing the objectives outlined in the MoU on defense cooperation between the two countries, inked during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi

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KIB announces Retail Banking Department's key digital achievements during H1 2026

NBK advances SME growth through integrated banking & financing solutions

China-Kuwait at 55: Deeper ties, stronger call for peace

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: China and Kuwait are marking 55 years of diplomatic ties with a fresh push to deepen their strategic partnership, against a backdrop of close high-level exchanges and heightened regional tensions.

In remarks to local media, Chinese Ambassador to Kuwait Yang Xin assessed the steady growth of bilateral relations under the strategic guidance of President Xi Jinping and HH Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, highlighted the significance of Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah's recent official visit to Beijing, and outlined China's position on the Middle East conflict and its role in promoting peace and stability in the Gulf.

The following Q&A captures the Ambassador's responses on the state of China-Kuwait relations and China's approach to de-escalation and dialogue in the region.

Question: China and Kuwait had close high-level exchanges in recent years. How do you assess the current state of China-Kuwait relations?

Ambassador Yang Xin: High-level exchanges between China and Kuwait have led to a steady and sustained growth of China-Kuwait relations. In December 2022 and September 2023, HE President Xi Jinping met with HH Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait in Riyadh and in Hangzhou respectively. During the two meetings, they reached important common understandings, providing strategic guidance for taking bilateral relations to higher heights. In No-

vember 2025, Chinese Vice President Han Zheng, during his visit to Kuwait, had an in-depth exchange of views with the Kuwaiti side on efforts to implement the consensus reached between the two heads of state and to further advance China-Kuwait relations.

At the invitation of Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah paid an official visit to China from August 23 to 24. This is an important visit as this year marks the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Kuwait. Vice President Han Zheng and Foreign Minister Wang Yi had talks with Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah respectively. Chinese side spoke highly of its relations with Kuwait, noting that Kuwait was the first Gulf Arab country to establish diplomatic ties with the People's Republic of China (PRC) and that over the past 50-plus years, the two nations have always joined hands in solidarity. In recent years, under the strategic guidance of HE President Xi Jinping and HH Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait, China and Kuwait have managed to deepen political mutual trust, further solidify the foundation of mutually-beneficial cooperation and create an even brighter prospect for bilateral friendship, setting a fine example of state-to-state relations that feature mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit.

Continued on Page 5



H.E. Yang Xin, Ambassador of China to Kuwait



Prayer Timings

Fajr 04:03 Asr 15:23
Sunrise .. 05:24 Maghrib . 18:13
Zohr 11:49 Isha 19:35



HH the Amir



HH the Crown Prince

Amir expresses condolences over demise of Norway King

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of condolences on Friday to King Haakon VIII of Norway over the passing of his father King Harald V.

His Highness expressed sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the royal family and the friendly people of Norway.

Crown Prince

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Prime Minister

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Kuwait, Japan working closely for ME stability

Tokyo eyes active role in reconstruction, economic growth



Cabinet Public Affairs Office photo
H.E. Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait with Ms. TAKAICHI Sanae, Prime Minister of Japan.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan photo
H.E. Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait with MOTEGI Toshimitsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.

By H.E. Mukai Kenichiro
Japan Ambassador to Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: On August 26, H.E. Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait, paid an official visit to Japan. Japan-Kuwait bilateral relations have continued to be maintained and strengthened through high-level reciprocal visits; H.H. the Crown Prince, Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah's visit to Japan in May 2025, followed by the visit of Japan's then Foreign Minister, Mr. IWAYA Takeshi, to Kuwait in September 2025.

It is worth mentioning that this is the first solo visit by a Kuwaiti foreign minister to Japan since 2010. Furthermore, as the regional situation remains tense, the visit of H.E. Sheikh Jarrah at such a juncture is meaningful for both countries, and we would like to express our respect and gratitude to H.E. Sheikh Jarrah for his decision to visit Japan.

H.E. Sheikh Jarrah paid a courtesy call on Ms. TAKAICHI Sanae, Prime Minister of Japan, carrying a personal letter from H.H. Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Japan's Prime

Minister rarely meets with a foreign minister alone. Thus, the warm welcome extended by the Prime Minister to Sheikh Jarrah shows that Japan attaches importance to Kuwait as a partner that shares the fundamental values of the rule of law, respect for international law, and the resolution of issues through dialogue in the international community, and that contributes together to the resolution of international and regional challenges.

Prime Minister Takaichi, while conveying to Sheikh Jarrah her determination to continue to work closely with Kuwait for peace and stability in the Middle East, stated that Japan wishes to play an active role in enhancing the resilience of the GCC countries through reconstruction and economic growth.

Frequent

The closeness of the two countries is already seen in the frequent contacts between Mr. Motegi Toshimitsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, and Sheikh Jarrah over a short period (telephone calls in April and June, and a meeting in Ankara in July). During the latest bilateral meeting in Japan, Minister Motegi expressed his respect for Kuwait's efforts to maintain a secure and stable energy supplies to the global market under challenging regional circumstances and expressed - in particular - his gratitude for the long-standing stable supply of crude oil from Kuwait to Japan.

Asian countries are greatly affected by the current regional situation as well. Therefore, Japan launched "POWERR Asia" as a framework to reinforce energy security and finance

emergency crude oil procurement across Asia. This also contributes to expanding supply hubs and overseas stockpiles of the Gulf oil-producing countries in the Asian region, and cooperation with Kuwait is indispensable.

In addition, Japan is promoting Updated FOIP (Free and Open Indo-Pacific) which aims to enhance the autonomy and resilience of countries while maintaining a rules-based maritime order, ensure freedom of navigation and support economic prosperity in vital sea lanes.

For Japan, there is no doubt that Kuwait is an important country in terms of securing a stable supply of energy. However, the relationship today is not limited to that alone. Under the "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership," we have built a wide-ranging relationship that extends not only to the economy but also to education, culture, and sports.

It is noteworthy that on August 24, 2026, the Japanese Embassy held a send-off ceremony at my residence for Kuwaiti athletes participating in Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games & Asian Para Games, with the attendance of H.E. Dr. Tareq Al-Jalahma, Minister of State for Youth and Sports Affairs, H.E. Sheikh Fahad Nasser Al-Sabah, President of Kuwait Olympic Committee, and H.E. Mr. Mansour Al-Sarhid, President of Kuwait Paralympic Committee. The outcome of Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah's visit to Japan will further support such exchanges, and it is also my responsibility to solidify them here in Kuwait.



KUNA photo
Kuwaiti Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy team participates in the CIGRE Paris Session 2026.

Kuwait's MEWRE group takes part in CIGRE Paris Session '26

PARIS, Aug 29, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy (MEWRE) participated in the CIGRE Paris Session 2026, which is one of the world's major gatherings of electric power systems.

The Paris-hosted event brought together a host of international experts, specialists and decision-makers, said the ministry in a press statement on Saturday.

The Kuwaiti delegation was led by Undersecretary Dr. Mohammad Al-Zamel and included CIGRE Gulf Board Chairperson Eng. Athari Al-Mohammad, CIGRE Gulf Board Member Eng. Sanaa Al-Ghareeb, and Kuwait University representative, Dr. Abeer Al-Maimouni, in addition to a number of the ministry's power and energy engineers and specialists.

The delegation was kept posted on the latest studies and technologies regarding the development and operation of electric power systems, according to the statement.

The studies included Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), grid-forming technologies, and advanced monitoring, metering and control systems, as well as international experiences in electricity markets, energy exchange, digital solutions, and the integration of renewable energy sources, the statement said.

The delegation also toured a technical exhibition held on the sidelines of the conference, which drew over 330 specialized global companies, to get familiar with the latest equipment and solutions in high- and medium-voltage sectors, protection, monitoring, and control systems and digital technologies.

Also during the event, the GCC Interconnection Authority was given the award for the winning research paper in recognition of its outstanding technical and scientific contribution. Dr. Adel Al-Zamel was handed the prize in his capacity as member of the authority's board of directors, according to the statement.

Kuwait expands, diversifies humanitarian relief aid

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29, (KUNA): As part of Kuwait's humanitarian campaign "Kuwait by Your Side" and under high-level directives, Kuwait's humanitarian efforts continue to drive new paths for international aid.

Kuwaiti humanitarian initiatives put human needs at the core of projects, covering relief, education, water, healthcare, empowerment, and support for home- return and stabilization, signaling an approach that addresses immediate needs and strives to build a safer and more dignified life.

Kuwait has tangible presence in diverse forms across vast geographical areas as the goal remains the same. From a Sudanese refugee getting ready to return home to a student finding a classroom, a family gaining a livelihood, a patient receiving medical care, or a community re-

storing its religious and educational institutions, charitable initiatives turn into tangible daily realities capable of making a difference that transcends the time and place of the project.

Projects carried out over the past week in Uganda, Thailand, India, Sudan, and Benin show the expanding scope and diverse methods of Kuwaiti humanitarian work.

These initiatives combine crisis relief, family empowerment, educational support, water provision, and assistance to community institutions, signaling a shift in charitable giving from merely answering immediate needs to restoring stability and building a future.

In Uganda, Kuwaiti aid has taken on a humanitarian dimension pertinent to the repatriation of Sudanese refugees as more groups are

preparing to depart under a voluntary return program that funds the journey and supports families willing to begin a fresh phase following years of war and displacement.

Chief of the Kuwaiti Direct Aid Society office in Uganda Nour Al-Huda Al-Ajab said that preparations have been completed for the departure of 220 Sudanese refugees from Uganda under the Kuwaiti Society-funded voluntary return program.

Speaking to KUNA, Al-Ajab said that the program's fourth and fifth flights are scheduled to depart on Sunday and Monday, (August 30 and 31) following the distribution of travel tickets and departure documents to the returnees ahead of airlifting them from Entebbe International Airport to Khartoum Airport.

Caution sought in replacing carports

Provide property deals, co-ops urged

By Fares Ghaleb

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The Union of Cooperative Societies sent a letter to the chairpersons of the boards of directors of cooperative societies, as per the directive of the Ministry of Social Affairs on the need to provide it with the state property contracts belonging to each cooperative.

The union requested for an updated table that includes the name of the cooperative, area, contract num-

ber, plot number, automated address number, beneficiary, his civil identification number, business and site status -- occupied or vacant.

Meanwhile, the union stressed the need for cooperatives to adhere to the unified engineering and technical specifications for replacing carports in accordance with the directives of the Council of Ministers and the ministry.

It urged the executive bodies in cooperative societies to review the

instructions of the ministry and comply with the unified regulatory guide for replacing carports.

It clarified that the dimensions and technical and engineering specifications of the carports must be identical to the sample in Mubarak Al-Kabeer, Block Seven, specifically the parking lot of the central market, while the contractor and consulting firm must guarantee the quality of work and the application of safety and security regulations.

Indonesia hails Kuwait charitable work

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 29, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ambassador to Indonesia Khaled Al-Yassin discussed with Indonesian Minister of Villages and Development of Disadvantaged Regions Yandri Susanto, ways to expand cooperation between the two countries and support development efforts in rural areas.

They also discussed developing bilateral relations and strengthening areas of joint work to serve their mutual interests.

In a statement received by Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Ambassador Al-Yassin added that Minister Susanto affirmed the depth of bilateral relations between during their meeting on Wednesday.

Minister Susanto praised Kuwait's efforts in humanitarian and charitable work within Indonesia, noting that these efforts included establishing model villages, schools, health centers and mosques, as well as drilling water wells and providing other vital services that contribute to the development of rural areas.

Minister Susanto presented a certificate of appreciation to the Kuwaiti Embassy, expressing the Indonesian government's gratitude for Kuwait's tireless efforts and constructive contributions to sustainable development and alleviating the suffering of the most vulnerable.

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Solidarity with Algeria: Bahrain on Saturday expressed its solidarity with Algeria and offered its condolences regarding the recent forest fires that broke out in the north, causing multiple casualties and significant damage.



KUNA photo
Kuwait's Ambassador to Indonesia Khaled Al-Yassin meets the Indonesian Minister of Villages and Development of Disadvantaged Regions Yandri Susanto.

In a statement, the Bahraini Foreign Ministry extended the Kingdom's sincere condolences and sympathy to the government and people of Algeria, as well as to the families of the victims, wishing the injured a speedy recovery.

Several fires had broken out in Algeria's eastern provinces, reporting the highest number of fires in Bejaia (20 fires), followed by Tizi Ouzou (13 fires), Skikda (10 fires), and Jijel (6 fires), leaving 12 people dead and several others injured.

Other Voices

Brands that became a phenomenon

By Ahmad alsarraf

Some brand names become so closely associated with a particular product or service that they eventually enter everyday language as generic terms. This phenomenon, known as "genericization," or "the transformation of a brand name into a generic term" can be considered the ultimate sign of a brand's success, but it can also create a legal challenge, as widespread generic use may threaten the company's trademark protection.

The following examples illustrate this phenomenon:

1. Hoover: The name of the Hoover vacuum cleaner has become a widely used verb in English-speaking countries, particularly in the UK, meaning "to vacuum." The first commercially successful electric vacuum cleaner was invented by American James Murray Spangler in 1908 and was later manufactured and marketed by Hoover.
2. Xerox: The name of the Xerox document copier has become a verb in English - "to Xerox a document" - meaning to copy or photocopy a document.
3. Google: "Google" has become an official verb in English dictionaries - "to Google something" - meaning to search for information on the internet, even when the person uses a different search engine.
4. Band-Aid: In America, the name is commonly used as a generic term for any adhesive medical bandage, regardless of the manufacturer.
5. Kleenex: The name is widely used as a generic term for facial tissues in many English-speaking countries.
6. Thermos: The name became so widely used as a generic term for an insulated flask that the company lost its U.S. trademark protection in a 1963 court ruling due to the widespread use of the term.
7. Aspirin: Originally an exclusive trademark owned by the German company Bayer, "Aspirin" later became a generic name for the drug in many countries after Bayer lost its trademark rights as part of the reparations imposed on Germany following World War I.
8. Escalator: Originally a trademark of the American



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company Otis, "Escalator" lost its trademark protection in 1950 and became the generic term for a moving staircase.

9. Trampoline: Originally a registered trademark, "Trampoline" eventually became the generic name for this type of exercise equipment.
10. Jacuzzi: The name became widely used as a generic term for a hot tub or whirlpool bath, although it was originally the surname of the Italian-American family that founded the company.
11. Velcro: The name is sometimes used as a generic term for hook-and-loop fasteners, although the company continues to protect its trademark through humorous public awareness campaigns.
12. Photoshop: The name is sometimes used as a verb - "to Photoshop a picture" - meaning to digitally edit an image.
13. Styrofoam: The name is often mistakenly used as a generic term for any expanded polystyrene foam, even though Styrofoam is a trademark owned by Dow Chemical for a specific type of material.
14. ChapStick: The name has become a near-generic term for lip balm in America.
15. Zipper: Originally a trademark of B.F. Goodrich, "Zipper" has become the generic term for the fastening mechanism used in clothing, bags, and other items.
16. Dumpster: Originally a trademark of Dempster Brothers, "Dumpster" has become a generic term for large waste containers in America.
17. Jet Ski: "Jet Ski" is a trademark of Kawasaki, but the name is sometimes used as a generic term for any personal watercraft of this type.

People also sometimes use the words "Pepsi" or "Cola" to refer broadly to dark-colored carbonated beverages.

This phenomenon usually occurs when a company is the first to introduce a completely new product to the market. The public then begins to associate the brand name with the product itself rather than with the general category, especially when there is no common, simple, and easy-to-pronounce generic name available when the product is launched.

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Why US, Iran in dialogue, while Gulf pays the price?

“THE Strait of Hormuz crisis presents a strategic paradox. While the Gulf states are the most directly involved in the security of the strait and the stability of navigation within it, the main communications and negotiations regarding its future are conducted only by the United States and Iran,” political and military expert Dr. **Mohammad Hijab** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“This question becomes even more important given the continued disruption to maritime traffic and the fact that the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz is contingent upon the course of negotiations between Washington and Tehran. It is true that the United States is an international power concerned with energy security and freedom of navigation, and it is true that Tehran’s calculations are tied to its confrontation with Washington. However, the Gulf states are not merely passive recipients of the results of these negotiations.



Mohammad Hijab

“The Gulf states have a direct interest in the security of the Gulf and are the most vulnerable to the economic and security repercussions of any closure of, or threat to, the Strait of Hormuz. The crisis has already affected Gulf economies, energy exports, and supply chains. So why shouldn’t Gulf security itself be part of the direct negotiation process with Iran? The intention is not for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states to replace the United States or abandon existing security partnerships, but rather to move from being affected by international arrangements to participating in shaping them.

“The Strait of Hormuz could serve as the starting point for building more sustainable regional security arrangements based on clear principles, including freedom of navigation, non-targeting of vital infrastructure, non-use of Gulf states’ territories for hostile acts against Iran, the establishment of direct military communication channels, and the creation of a regional mechanism to prevent escalation and miscalculation. There are already indications that a new security architecture for the Strait of Hormuz could be considered, one that includes the GCC states and Iran rather than leaving crisis management hostage to understandings between major powers.

“The real challenge for the Gulf states is not only how to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, but also who has the right to formulate the security rules governing it once the crisis ends. If Iran believes that Gulf security should not be solely American, and the Gulf states do not want it to be solely Iranian, then the most realistic option is for Gulf security to become regional, with the littoral states participating directly in its formulation while maintaining international guarantees of freedom of navigation.

“In this context, the Strait of Hormuz crisis could transform from a mere maritime crisis into a historic opportunity to rebuild the Gulf security system on the principle that there can be no security for the Gulf without its states, and no stability in the Gulf without viable regional security arrangements.”

Also:

“Despite more than half a century having passed since the death of Egyptian President Jamal Abdel Nasser, there remains a group of journalists, fame-seekers, and people lacking even the most basic sense of logic who continue to compete in distorting facts and casting doubt on the achievements of this legendary leader,” Kuwaiti writer **Abdulrahman Khaled Al-Hamoud** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“They attempt to rewrite history and distort its events, despite the fact that Nasser’s achievements have been documented and affirmed by experts and relevant authorities, leaving little room for doubt or manipulation to serve their own agendas. Even Nasser’s most ardent enemies acknowledge his integrity, yet some still attempt to equate him with dictators such as Hitler and Mussolini, who were responsible for the deaths of millions of their own people and the people of neighboring countries. Those who recognize Nasser’s legacy know that he led a bloodless revolution, without shedding a single drop of blood, through which he transformed the map of the Middle East and, indeed, the course of liberation movements around the world.

“Jamal Abdel Nasser became the first Egyptian citizen to rule Egypt. During his rule, hundreds of factories and dams were built, while Egypt gained ownership of facilities that had previously been controlled by foreigners, most notably the Suez Canal. Education became free, and workers and farmers were liberated from the conditions that had long oppressed them. They gained a sense of dignity, a dignity that seems to mean nothing to Nasser’s opponents. I wonder what these newcomers would write about this late leader if his revolution had been as bloody as the one Iraq witnessed in 1958, led by Abdul Karim Qasim.

“The Iraqi people would forever bear the consequences of that revolution because of the horrific events at Al-Rahab Palace, despite the royal family raising white flags at the very first shot. What followed were unprecedented acts of revenge, as assassins dragged the bodies of the king and his aides through the streets and main squares. In his later years, Venezuelan leader Hugo Chávez declared himself a Nasserist, emphasizing that Nasserism would endure forever.”

“My summer tour of Europe this year, accompanied by family and friends, included a visit to Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. I had read extensively about its history and cultural landmarks, from castles, palaces, bridges, and churches to its historic quarters, especially the Jewish Quarter,” former Bahraini Minister of Labour and Social Development **Abdunnabi Al-Shu’ala** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“The Jewish Quarter bears witness to the painful chapters of persecution suffered by Jews in Europe. The tragic irony is that Palestinians today are suffering persecution as though they are paying the price for crimes they did not commit. I devoted an entire week to exploring Prague, but the place that captivated me most was the historic Café Slavia, overlooking the Vltava River and facing the National Theatre. The café opened in 1884 and soon became a meeting place for writers, artists, and intellectuals. Later, it also became a gathering place for opponents of the communist regime.

“The reason I became attached to Café Slavia even before seeing it was that the great Iraqi poet Muhammad Mahdi Al-Jawahiri was a regular there during his seven-year stay in Prague, which began in 1961. During his exile in Prague, Al-Jawahiri wrote some of his most beautiful and poignant poems, many of them expressing his deep longing for Iraq. When I finally sat in the café, I was overwhelmed by a mixture of emotions. It is wonderful to find a place where one can live in safety and dignity when those things cannot be found in one’s homeland.

“Yet it is painful to be forced to leave one’s land, roots, and memories behind. It was in Prague that Al-Jawahiri wrote some of his most magnificent poems, expressing the profound pain of loss and exile. Al-Jawahiri was not a poet who stood apart from history. He briefly worked at the royal court during the reign of King Faisal I before turning to journalism and publishing several newspapers. He was elected to parliament but later resigned. Throughout his life, Al-Jawahiri was involved in political and intellectual struggles and was arrested on several occasions. During the January Uprising of 1948, he lost his brother Jaafar, whom he mourned in one of his most famous poems.

“Prague is not only a city of literature and beauty; it also endured Nazi occupation, came under Soviet influence, and witnessed the suppression of the Prague Spring in 1968. This



Al-Shu’ala

was followed by the Velvet Revolution in 1989, which brought an end to communist rule with minimal violence. Among Prague’s most prominent figures was the playwright and dissident Václav Havel, a regular at Café Slavia. Havel went from being persecuted and imprisoned to becoming president of the country.

“In the same café where Al-Jawahiri once sat as an exiled poet, Havel sat as a dissident writer. I do not know whether I was sitting in the same chair Al-Jawahiri once occupied, but I felt his presence as I gazed across the Vltava River, imagining his soul traversing the distance to the Tigris. Prague offered Al-Jawahiri safety and recognition, but it could never replace his homeland. Standing beside the river, the beauty of the city could not distract me from the dangers facing my country and the Gulf region amid missiles and drones, threats and blackmail, and struggles for power.

“Military strength, alliances, and credible deterrence capabilities are indispensable. But true security is not achieved by protecting borders alone. It requires a homeland that remains a safe haven for all its citizens, a state founded on the rule of law and strong institutions, and a society in which culture and freedom of expression are integral to national resilience.

“A nation’s security is not measured solely by its ability to intercept missiles, but also by its capacity to protect its people from fear and displacement and to safeguard their identity and dignity. The strongest nations are not merely those whose borders are difficult to breach, but those whose citizens never have to stand in exile, mourning their lost homeland through nostalgic poems.”

— Compiled by Simi K. Kutty



KUNA photo
Kuwaiti Defense Minister Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah meets Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defense Staff of the friendly Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir.

Defense tops Kuwait, Pakistan discussions

ISLAMABAD, Aug 29, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Defense Minister Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah met with Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defense Staff of the friendly Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir.

In a statement, the Ministry of Defense said the meeting addressed existing coordination between the armed forces of the two countries, opportunities to develop cooperation, and an

exchange of views on several topics related to bilateral relations, all aimed at supporting and developing defense cooperation between the two friendly nations.

The statement added that the meeting, which took place within the framework of the official visit to Pakistan, was also attended by the Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Lieu. Gen. Khaled Al-Shuraiaan, and the Ambassador of the State of Kuwait in Islamabad, Nassar Al-

Mutairi.

It further explained that the Minister of Defense returned to the country and was received, along with his accompanying delegation, by the Chairman of the Public Authority of Civil Aviation, Sheikh Engineer Humoud Mubarak Al-Humoud Al-Sabah, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Maj. Gen. Pilot Sabah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, and members of the Military Defense Council.

Woman doctor caught providing illegal injection services at home

Phone theft will breach privacy, owner worried

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) announced the arrest of a female physician working as a general practitioner after she was found advertising on social media that she provided injection services using substances not licensed by the Ministry of Health at her home in Al-Masayel, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

PAM explained in a statement on its X account that the Labor Inspection Department detected the activity, and coordinated with

the Ministry of Interior’s Criminal Security Sector, and the Ministry of Health’s Medical Licensing Department and Drug Inspection Department.

After obtaining the necessary approvals from the relevant authorities, the physician was arrested, and the applicable legal and administrative procedures were taken. She was then referred to the competent authorities.

iPhone 14 stolen in hospital: A Kuwaiti citizen accused a man, believed to be a fellow citizen, of stealing his iPhone 14 while he was at Al-Sabah Hospital, reports Al-Anba daily.

The complainant expressed concern that the

phone could be taken out of Kuwait and reactivated later, potentially allowing the thief to access his photos, data, and personal information.

He said he discovered that his phone was missing while he was in the observation room at Al-Sabah Hospital and accused another person who was with him in the room of stealing it.

A theft case was registered and referred to the Criminal Investigation Department for further investigation and legal procedures, in preparation for summoning the accused.

A security source noted that modern technology has made it easier to track and locate stolen phones and identify their users, helping police quickly apprehend suspects.

Where did you get them? Cops to search home

\$7,000 fake bills found with Syrian expatriate

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: Security personnel from Salmiya Police Station in Hawally Governorate referred a Syrian expatriate to the Counterfeiting and Forgery Crimes Department after he was found in possession of \$7,000 in expertly forged counterfeit bills, reports Al-Anba daily.

Detectives are currently questioning the suspect to determine the source of the counterfeit money, while procedures are underway to search his residence.

dence.

According to security sources, a patrol from Salmiya Police Station stopped the suspect’s vehicle at a traffic light after officers noticed that he was acting nervously.

When asked to stop, the suspect became more nervous when officers requested his identification. He was identified as a Syrian expatriate in his twenties. A search of the vehicle revealed an

envelope under the seat containing US dollar bills.

Upon closer examination, the money was found to be counterfeit. When questioned, the suspect admitted that the money belonged to him, but further examination confirmed that the bills were forged.

The suspect was referred to the appropriate authorities with the seized counterfeit money for further legal action.



Map points to road closure.

2 lanes shut for traffic from Aug 29 to Sept 13

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The General Traffic Department announced the closure of the slow and middle lanes on King Fahad Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud Road, opposite Jabriya, in the direction of Kuwait City, along with the closure of the side exit leading to the Fourth Ring Road in the same direction, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The closure began on Saturday, August 29, and will remain in effect until Sunday, September 13.

Also, the Ministry of Public Works, in cooperation with the General Traffic Department, announced the closure of the Al-Siddiq exit on Ibrahim Al-Muzain Street (Route 404) toward Khaitan to carry out maintenance work on the frontage road, reports Al-Seyassah daily. The ministry said the closure began at 12:00 midnight on Friday, August 28, and will continue until 12:00 midnight on Sunday, August 30.

One dead in prefab room fire in ‘Salmi labor camp’

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The Kuwait Fire Force (KFF) announced that firefighters extinguished a fire that broke out Thursday evening in a prefabricated room inside a camp on Salmi Road, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The KFF stated that the incident resulted in one fatality. The site was handed over to the relevant authorities.

Nose broken in fight: The Correctional Institutions Department submitted a report to Sulaiybiya Police Station regarding a fight that broke out between two inmates, one a Bedoun resident and the other a Bangladeshi national, inside one of the cells, reports Al-Anba daily.

The report stated that officers on duty intervened to stop the fight.

The Asian inmate was transferred to Farwaniya Hospital, where he was diagnosed with a broken nose. The injured inmate expressed his intention to file a complaint.



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‘Heritage buildings, public sites to enhance tourism’

Stamps, postcards preserve history: society member

By Fares Ghaleb
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: Sheikha Hala Bader Al-Mohammad, an honorary member of Kuwait Philatelic and Numismatic Society, said stamps and postcards are important documents that preserve the history of Kuwait, including the documentation of buildings, places and events, which are part of the collective memory of the nation.

Sheikha Hala Bader Al-Mohammad made the statement at the opening of the Urban Renaissance of Kuwait in Stamps and Postcards Exhibition, which was organized by the Society.

The exhibition features the personal collection of Vice Chairman of the Society Hisham

Qassem Al-Balam, documenting more than 130 Kuwaiti buildings and streets, while reflecting aspects of the national architectural and heritage memory.

Sheikha Hala Bader Al-Mohammad stressed the need to preserve heritage buildings, restore those that can be restored, and convert some into museums and public sites that attract visitors to Kuwait.

She stated that the exhibition reveals the contribution of postage stamps to documenting a significant part of the history of the country by recording old buildings and events that the nation witnessed. She indicated that postage stamps preserved images and scenes of different sites, some of which no longer exist. She added the postage stamps proved the existence of these buildings. She called

on the concerned officials to search for these buildings, because they are part of the history of the country.

She affirmed the importance of reviving heritage buildings and converting some of them into museums and historical sites in order to familiarize the new generations with the history of the country and improve its status as a tourist and cultural destination.

She disclosed that the exhibition brought back memories of buildings she knew in her childhood but no longer exist.

On the other hand, Al-Balam stated that postage stamps depict the identity and symbol of each country and are considered a historical document, showing the stages of urban, cultural and tourism developments.

He pointed out that through the stamps and postcards, the exhibition highlights the urban development that Kuwait witnessed from the late 1950s to early 1960s, as well as the development of buildings, streets and landmarks.



Sheikha Hala



Sheikh Jarrah Jaber



Dr. Badr Abdelatty

Kuwait, Oman, Egypt, Qatar hold talks on regional scene

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah spoke by phone with his Omani counterpart Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi on Friday.

The conversation dealt with the latest developments of the situation in the Gulf region, and the efforts to strengthen security and stability, according to a statement from the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

They also discussed the efforts aiming to ensure free navigation through the Straits of Hormuz.

Egypt

Kuwaiti Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah on Saturday received a phone call from his Egyptian counterpart Dr. Badr Abdelatty.

During the phone conversation,

both sides reviewed the ongoing regional developments and diplomatic efforts aimed at enhancing regional security and stability, said the Foreign Ministry in a statement.

Qatar

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah spoke by phone with Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani on Friday.

The conversation dealt with the latest developments of the situation in the Gulf region, and the efforts to strengthen security and stability, according to a statement from the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

They also discussed the efforts aiming to ensure free navigation through the Straits of Hormuz.

338 teachers coach 6,554 students in vacation

MoE ends educational, cultural courses for '26/'27 AY

By Inaas Awadh
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The Ministry of Education concluded its educational and cultural club courses for 6,554 students in Grades One to Nine in 12 centers, as part of its preparations for the 2026/2027 academic year.

In a press statement, the ministry disclosed that 338 members of the teaching and administrative staff participated in implementing and organizing the programs during the summer vacation.

The centers offered free programs in Arabic, English and Mathematics, according to the plans that were prepared under the supervision of the technical guidance departments in order to develop the basic skills of the students and

address their academic problems.

The programs adopted interactive methods that included active learning and learning through fun. They were implemented in conjunction with the school summer clubs, allowing students to combine educational programs with various activities and hobbies.

Earlier, Minister of Education Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabaie issued a directive to extend the operations of the clubs for another week, until Aug 27, for the students to continue benefiting from the programs.

The registration for the students and staff was online to ease the enrollment procedures and streamline operations at the centers.

The ministry confirmed that the parents

praised the experiment for its role in utilizing the summer vacation for worthwhile purposes and reviewing the academic skills of the students.

□ □ □

Beware fake messages: The Ministry of Interior warned citizens and residents against fraudulent text messages concerning traffic fine payments, urging everyone to remain vigilant and avoid interacting with fake messages or websites from unknown sources, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The ministry said these messages and websites attempt to mislead people into believing they must pay traffic violations to avoid additional fines.



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KUNA photo
Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Hamad Al-Mashaan meets the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Gambian Affairs Abroad Serigne Modou Njie.

Palestinian situation discussed

Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Hamad Al-Mashaan met Thursday with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, and Gambian Affairs Abroad Serigne Modou Njie.

This came on the sidelines of the 23rd Extraordinary Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Organization

of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), held headquarters in Jeddah.

The meeting, according to a ministry statement, addressed developments in the occupied Palestinian territories, and reviewed bilateral relations between the two friendly countries, as well as ways to strengthen and develop them in various fields. (KUNA)



KUNA photo
The 23rd Extraordinary Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) meeting in progress.

Kuwait calls to implement Gaza Strip peace decision

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29, (KUNA): Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister, Ambassador Hamad Al-Mashaan, participated in the 23rd Extraordinary Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on the developments in the occupied Palestinian territories, held at headquarters in Jeddah.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs quoted Ambassador Al-Mashaan as reaffirming Kuwait's historical, principled, and unwavering stance on the Palestinian cause, and its support for the right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent state within the June 4, 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its

capital.

He also stressed the importance of the full implementation of the comprehensive peace plan for the Gaza Strip, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2803 (2025).

The session addressed the developments in the occupied Palestinian territories, as Kuwait reiterated its condemnation of settlement activities and attacks by extremist settlers, and its rejection of all measures aimed at altering the historical and legal status quo in Jerusalem.

It also called for unifying Islamic efforts and positions in defense of the Palestinian cause and the Holy City of Jerusalem.

Kuwait Ambassador hosts Namaa Charity, Sahabat Amal delegation

Al-Shammari affirmed that Namma Charity will continue implementing its humanitarian and development projects in cooperation with its partners, expressing his gratitude to the philanthropists and donors who contribute to the continuation of these projects and their realization.

ra Al-Mashaan to expedite the implementation of maintenance projects and increase completion rates, while adhering to technical specifications and applying the highest standards of quality and efficiency.

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Norway's King Harald arrives at a central London hotel for a pre-royal wedding dinner hosted by Lady Elizabeth Anson and attended by members of the British royal family and foreign royal families, in London, on April, 28, 2011. (AP)



From left: Norwegian prime minister Jonas Gahr Støre, Norway's new king Haakon VIII, and Crown Princess Ingrid Alexandra, pose after an extraordinary cabinet meeting at the Palace, following the death of King Harald V, in Oslo on Aug 28, 2026. (AP)

Tens of thousands mourn monarch as country enters new royal era

Norway's King Harald V dies, son becomes King Haakon VIII

OSLO, Norway, Aug 29, (AP): Tens of thousands of mourners paid their respects to Norway's King Harald V on Saturday, placing flowers and condolence cards outside the royal palace in Oslo a day after the monarch died at 89.

A sea of colorful flowers covered Slottsplassen, the square in front of the palace, as a steady stream of Norwegians filed past. A palace gardener removed some bouquets on the south side of the palace to keep pathways clear, Norwegian broadcaster NRK reported. Palace workers also collected cards soaked after a nightly downpour and dried them to preserve the mourners' messages for posterity, NRK reported.

Across the country, churches and city halls opened specially on Saturday so people could light candles, write down their thoughts about the deceased king in thoughts books. The coffin arrived at the royal palace Friday evening from the National Hospital in Oslo where Harald died.

"It's special, intimate, and lovely. I'm placing my right hand on my chest in gratitude to him and the royal family," Roni Ervik, 46, told NRK as he paid his respects. He said he was also paying tribute to the late king on behalf of his family, who are from western Norway.

Harald V died Friday morning and his 53-year-old son, Crown Prince Haakon, became King Haakon VIII. Haakon adopted the motto "All for Norway," which dates back to his great-grandfather. His wife became Queen Mette-Marit, while his oldest child, Ingrid Alexandra, became crown princess and heir to the throne.

Haakon is well acquainted with his royal obligations. As his father aged and his health declined in recent years, he stepped in as the country's regent on several occasions.

Later Saturday, a choir was expected to sing in the Royal Palace Square. The new king was also scheduled to hold audiences with the speaker of Norway's parliament, the chief justice of the Supreme Court and the presiding bishop of the Lutheran Church of Norway,



Mourners gather in the pouring rain to watch as King Harald V's remains arrive to the Royal Palace in Oslo, Norway on Aug 28, 2026. (AP)

with Crown Princess Ingrid Alexandra also expected to attend, NRK reported.

Haakon is expected to address the people of Norway in his first speech as king either later Saturday or in the coming days.

His tasks in the near future will include shoring up support for the monarchy following controversies over his wife's past contacts with deceased sex offender Jeffrey Epstein and his stepson's rape conviction.

A date for the funeral has not been set, but the country is officially in a state of mourning and some people decided to postpone celebrations such as weddings and baptisms until after the mourning period has passed, NRK reported.

Norway's monarchy has old roots, tracing its origins to King Harald Fairhair in the ninth century. When Norway regained its independence from Sweden in 1905, three-quarters of voters in a national plebiscite

approved restoring the monarchy. Today, the role is largely symbolic as power lies with an elected parliament, but the country's royal family retains celebrity and a role in promoting the wealthy nation around the world.

Haakon is the younger child of Harald, born two years after his sister, Princess Märtha Louise. As the oldest male, however, he became heir to the throne when his grandfather, King Olav, died in 1991. The Norwegian Constitution was altered in 1990 to allow future firstborns - regardless of gender - to take precedence in the line of succession. However, it was not applied retroactively.

Haakon said in a 1998 book that as a child he dreamed of owning a toy shop, but he soon realized that his path was already paved and one day he would become king.

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University

of California at Berkeley and a master's degree in development studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science, with a specialization in international trade and Africa. In 1995, he graduated from the Royal Norwegian Naval Academy, and he also completed the Foreign Ministry's trainee program for diplomats.

An avid surfer, skier and sportsman, he told Norwegian broadcaster NRK that if he hadn't been a royal, he would have been a surfer. A music lover - he likes rock and rap - he attended festivals across Europe as a youth.

Haakon knew his relationship would face an uphill battle for acceptance when he met Mette-Marit Tjessem Høiby at a popular music festival in Norway in 1999. She was a single mother whose son's father had been sentenced to prison for cocaine possession, and she had been seen at parties where illegal drugs were used.

'President Trump is fixing what Biden broke'

Dems, GOP draw battle lines for Nov's general election with primaries ending

NEW YORK, Aug 29, (AP): In a Michigan swing district just north of Detroit, Democratic congressional candidate Christina Hines said voters are far more worried about affording fuel, groceries and health-care than about left-wing extremists gaining ground in her party.

"It costs me \$73 to fill up our minivan right now," she said. "This is just not acceptable for working families."

Some 600 miles away, political extremism is exactly what Republican Rep. Mike Lawler wants to talk about in his New York battleground district. He said the Democratic Socialists of America "is going to be a big issue, in part because that's the platform that Democrats are running on."

A transition is underway over these final days of summer as Democrats and Republicans push past internal fights over the direction of their parties and begin a two-month sprint to the general election. As they turn to the fall, a rigid split screen has emerged featuring fundamentally different campaign messages to win over voters. Which version they

choose will decide whether Republican President Donald Trump and his party maintain full control of Washington for the next two years.

Specifically, Democrats are working to refocus on the economy, which voters say is their top concern as the cost of everyday goods remains high, even though inflation has fallen from the peak of Democratic President Joe Biden's term. Republicans, unwilling or unable to challenge Trump's policies, are fighting to keep the focus on Democrats' lurch to the left, warning nonstop about socialism or even communism.

Republican strategist David Urban, a Trump ally, acknowledged that the message "has limits."

"That's not going to work everywhere," he said. Meanwhile, he described the war in Iran and the related economic fallout as "a mess."

"Right now I think people see the war as a drag on the economy and therefore they don't like it," Urban said, warning that the road ahead for the Republican Party may be painful. "Do I have a rosy scenario where I think Republicans roll strong and keep the House and everything? I'm



People vote at a polling place in a primary election on Aug 6, 2026, in Memphis, Tenn. (AP)

not naive enough to think that's a likely scenario."

The Republican Party is struggling to settle on a message to address voters' economic concerns.

The word "gasoline" is mentioned only one time across more than a

dozen separate talking points released by the Republican National Committee this month, according to documents reviewed by The Associated Press. That is as the average price of gasoline was \$4.18 last week - the fifth consecutive week

that national gas prices exceeded \$4.

While largely ignoring the issue, the talking points encourage Republicans to blame high costs generally on Biden.

"President Trump is fixing what Biden broke," they say.

Meanwhile, the word "Democrat" is cited 73 times in this month's RNC talking points.

Vice President JD Vance did not address gas prices when he visited Ohio last week, touching on affordability in general only briefly.

"We got a lot of work to do, but we're finally seeing that American dream of homeownership become accessible again to our young people," he said.

Vance also ignored the Trump administration's war in Iran, which has now been going on for six months and has a direct impact on the rising cost of gas. He was eager to attack the rise of Democratic socialists, however.

"If these radicals take control of Congress, they're going to pass the craziest agenda America has ever seen," the vice president said.

Some Democratic officials worry

that the rise of democratic socialists within the party presents a political problem for candidates in swing districts.

At least eight DSA members or DSA-backed candidates secured Democratic nominations for Congress this primary season. That includes seven for the House, in addition to Democratic Senate nominee Angie Nixon in Florida. There are no DSA-affiliated nominees for governor after Wisconsin's Francesca Hong lost her primary bid this month.

While such candidates represent only a fraction of the 257 seats Democrats currently hold in Washington, Democrats know they cannot ignore the issue altogether.

In an interview, Michigan Democrat Hines refused to endorse two DSA-affiliated House candidates in her state or Michigan's Democratic Senate nominee, Abdul El-Sayed. El-Sayed is not affiliated with the Democratic Socialists of America, although he is a vocal ally of Sen. Bernie Sanders, a Vermont independent who is a progressive champion.

President Trump signs order renaming Lake Ontario as 'Lake America' in US

WASHINGTON, Aug 29, (AP): US President Donald Trump said he is renaming Lake Ontario to be known as "Lake America" in the United States as he escalates his trade war with Canada.

The Republican president signed an executive order directing the Interior Department to update the lake's name in the U.S. geographic naming service. Trump cannot force Canada to follow along, however.

Trump has been floating the idea of the name change in recent days as the U.S. announced it was imposing 50% tariffs on \$20 billion worth of Canadian goods over the weekend after talks between the countries broke down. Trump has been needling America's northern neighbor since he returned to the White House last year, suggesting the ally with whom the U.S. once had warm relations should instead be absorbed as the 51st state.

Canada responded to Trump's import taxes this week by imposing retaliatory tariffs on \$20 billion worth of American goods, including steel, dairy products, appliances and farm equipment.

Trump, who signed the order as he was sitting at the Resolute Desk in the Oval Office, had a large sign behind him propped on a stand with a map of the Great Lakes. Over Lake Ontario, in big red letters, the map read "Lake America."

On the other side of the president was another map with the words, "MAKING THE GREAT LAKES



US President Donald Trump signs an executive order in the Oval Office of the White House on Aug 27, 2026, in Washington. (AP)

EVEN GREATER."

Trump said as he was signing the order that he'd "notified all of the various people that we have to notify. So, we've done everything that you have to do."

"And this is official, effective immediately," he added.

But the executive order Trump signed shows that the changes are supposed to be made within 30 days.

Canadian officials dismissed Trump's move.

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney rejected the move, invoking

the lake's Indigenous roots and noting that the name predates both Canadian Confederation and the U.S. Declaration of Independence.

"Canadians also know that naming reality means calling it Lake Ontario - then, now and always," he wrote.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford, who has traded insults with Trump, said on X: "It's Lake Ontario to Canadians and the rest of the world. Now and forever."

Nova Scotia Premier Tim Houston said, "We're into some real foolishness now. It's Lake Ontario, buddy."

Russian attack hits Ukraine's Kyiv region, killing at least 37: officials

KYIV, Ukraine, Aug 29, (AP): At least 37 people have been killed following a Russian attack on the Bucha district, close to the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv, officials said Saturday.

Tymur Tkachenko, head of the local regional military administration, said that at least 50 residential buildings had been damaged in the attack, which also sparked a large-scale fire that spread to homes and a restaurant.

In a statement, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that a warehouse had been struck in the village of Myla "followed by a detonation."

He did not give details on the site, but wrote in the same message that criminal proceedings had been opened on charges of official negligence.

"There are regulations in place - ammunition cannot be stored near homes or other residential areas," Zelenskyy said.

The Ukrainian leader wrote that a care home for elderly people and people with disabilities and residential buildings were damaged.

"More than 370 people have already been evacuated, and the evacuation is ongoing," he said.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Serhii Koryntskyi also didn't offer information on the warehouse targeted, but referenced an attack on the Kyiv suburb of Vyshneve earlier in the month, which hit an ammunition



In this photo provided by the Ukrainian Emergency Service, firefighters put out a fire in a warehouse following a Russian drone attack near Kyiv, Ukraine on Aug. 29. (AP)

depot, killing 22 and triggering large detonations and fires that tore through nearby homes.

"Unfortunately, we can already see that the terrible tragedy in Vyshneve did not become a lesson," Koryntskyi said. "In the fifth year of a full-scale invasion, making the same mistakes is criminal negligence. And all those guilty, without exception, must be severely punished so that such situations do not happen again."

In a statement, Russia's Ministry of Defense said that it had hit a

warehouse in Myla storing components and launch boosters for long-range drones. It also said that it had attacked the ports of Mykolaiv and Izmail, as well as a logistics center and warehouse facilities storing parts for Ukraine's Flamingo cruise missiles in the Kyiv region.

Almost constant air raids in Kyiv have now reached their third day, choking the economy in the Ukrainian capital and severely disrupting civilian life more than 4½ years after Russia's full-scale invasion of its neighbor.

Families await news of nearly 3,000 missing

Nepal-China flood survivors reach safe areas

NUWAKOT, Nepal, Aug 29, (AP): Most arrive with nothing except the clothes they are wearing.

As rescue efforts in communities buried by catastrophic flash floods along the border between Nepal and China entered their fourth day Saturday, authorities continued finding survivors and transporting them to safety. At relief centers, as some arrive, families wait anxiously for news of their loved ones as the death toll and the number of people unaccounted for continued to rise.

After Nepali authorities updated their figures Saturday, the combined toll in Nepal and Tibet rose to 633 dead and nearly 3,000 people missing. Chinese authorities have reported seven deaths and more than 550 missing.

In Nuwakot, one of the Nepali districts devastated by the floods, helicopters resumed operations before noon Saturday after poor weather temporarily hampered aerial rescue activities.

Some helicopters were loaded with boxes and bags of aid, including clothes, instant noodles, crackers and rice. Others returned from the flood-hit areas carrying survivors.

An older man was carefully helped off one helicopter, while a soldier



Residents carry their belongings salvaged from their damaged homes filled with mud and debris in Devighat, in Nepal's Nuwakot district on Aug 29, following Aug 26 flash floods. (AP)

carried an older woman on his back to a medical tent. There, medics checked her blood pressure, breathing and heartbeat, as well as her teeth and gums.

About a dozen people emerged from another helicopter. Soldiers carried several babies who had been evacuated.

The evacuees had been brought from the nearby community of Trishuli.

As people were still leaving Trishuli, some village residents were returning to see what could be salvaged from their decimated homes.

One boy walked out of the village carrying muddy sandals from his house. Another woman, Shoba Shretha, returned to find her dog, Sweetie, who she was forced to leave behind when the floods came. Shretha sat on the ground petting her and feeding her water from a bottle.

Asia

1 dead after boat capsizes in Vietnam: One person died and another remained missing after a boat carrying a group of people capsized on the Dong Nai River in Vietnam's central province of Lam Dong, Vietnam News Agency reported Friday.

The accident occurred at around 8 pm Thursday in Bao Thuan commune, when a group of about eight people were traveling by boat to the riverbank after dining by the river.

Six people managed to swim to shore, while two men were swept away.

Rescue forces recovered one body after several hours of searching and continued efforts to locate the missing man, said the report. (Xinhua)

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Saudel makes landfall along China's e.coast: Typhoon Saudel, the 18th typhoon of this year, made landfall along the coast of east China's Zhejiang Province twice on Friday, bringing rainstorms and prompting evacuations of residents.

Saudel made its first landfall along the coast of Yuhuan, a city under the jurisdiction of Taizhou City, Zhejiang, at around 8:05 a.m. Friday, packing maximum sustained winds of 35 meters per second (Force 12) near its center, according to the provincial meteorological observatory.

Shortly afterwards, at around 9:10 a.m., the typhoon made its second landfall along the coast of Wenzhou City in Zhejiang with a maximum sustained wind speed of 33 meters per second.

Zhejiang raised its typhoon emergency response to Level I, the highest level, at 8 pm Thursday. Measures have been taken to ensure that no people, vessels or activities remain at sea. (Xinhua)

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Thai woman gets 1-year prison term: A Thai woman accused of killing her ex-husband, a US diplomat,



A vehicle is left in a street flooded due to a heavy rain in Himi, Toyama prefecture, Japan on Aug 27. (AP)

has been sentenced to one year in prison for violating Myanmar's immigration laws, but she still might go to trial for murder, a lawyer familiar with her case said.

The court in Yangon's Kamayut township on Tuesday found Pavinee Supasirivisan guilty under a provision applying to any foreign national who commits a crime in the country, according to the lawyer.

The charge carries a sentence ranging from six months to five years, the lawyer said on condition of anonymity to avoid possible repercussions from Myanmar's military-backed government, which exercises tight control over information. Pavinee is being held at Insein Prison.

Neither US nor Myanmar officials have publicly named the dead man, but the New York Post and other Western media have identified him as 43-year-old Daniel Paul Riva, who served as a U.S. State Department assistant regional security officer. An online obituary for someone of that name has details including the same day of death as the victim and recollections of him having worked in several U.S. diplomatic missions.(AP)

North Korea ramps up pressure on US

US, South Korea and Japan to hold trilateral military drill next month: officials

SEOUL, South Korea, Aug 29, (AP): South Korea, the US and Japan will go ahead with a trilateral military drill next month in response to North Korean nuclear threats, officials in Seoul said Friday, a day after North Korea vowed to retaliate against what it called US hostilities.

The development further dims prospects for an early resumption of diplomacy between North Korea and the U.S., despite President Donald Trump's recent decision to scale back a major bilateral military drill with South Korea in an apparent goodwill gesture toward the North.

South Korea's military said in a statement the Freedom Edge exercise will start on Sept. 7 for a five-day run in the waters off South Korea's southern Jeju Island.

It said the exercise is defensive in nature and meant to respond to North Korean nuclear and missile threats as well as promote regional peace and stability.

North Korea has previously

slammed the trilateral drill as a "reckless show of strength" that showed its adversaries' confrontational stance against it. Pyongyang has also said the drill contained a U.S. intention to lay siege to China and exert pressure on Russia.

Launched in 2024, the Freedom Edge drill is designed to increase the sophistication of previous exercises with simultaneous air and naval drills geared toward improving joint ballistic missile defense, anti-submarine warfare, surveillance and other capabilities.

Last week, the US and South Korean militaries ended their annual Ulchi Freedom Shield exercise six days earlier than originally planned, after Trump said he had ordered the Pentagon to "substantially reduce" the drill. Trump cited what he described as a good relationship with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, who views the drill as an invasion rehearsal.

But North Korea rebuffed Trump's



In this photo provided by South Korea Defense Ministry, warships of South Korea, the United States and Japan including the USS George Washington aircraft carrier, bottom center, take part in the trilateral Freedom Edge exercise in international waters off South Korea's southern island of Jeju, on Nov 13, 2024. (AP)

overture, saying just shortening the drill won't change its "provocative,

aggressive nature." North Korea launched about 10 short-range ballis-

tic missiles toward the sea, apparently delivering on its previous threat to respond to the U.S.-South Korean drill.

Pyongyang has previously said it won't resume diplomacy with the U.S. unless it drops its demand for a North Korean denuclearization as a precondition for talks.

Since his earlier diplomacy with Trump collapsed in 2019, Kim has boosted his military and diplomatic credentials by enlarging his nuclear arsenal and aligning with Russia over its war against Ukraine. With greater leverage now, experts say Kim would likely aim to win major U.S. concessions like an international recognition of North Korea as a nuclear state and sweeping sanctions relief in return for a partial surrender of his nuclear arsenal.

On Thursday, North Korea's Foreign Ministry accused the U.S. of engaging in "a series of hostile moves" targeting the North, including a possible sale of air-to-air missiles to South Korea. It said North Korea

"will make a serious, immediate and powerful response."

The scaling back of the Ulchi Freedom Shield exercise caused worries about a joint South Korean-U.S. defense readiness.

Earlier this week, South Korea's Marine Corps said that a biennial joint amphibious landing drill with the U.S. will likely not take place in September as previously scheduled. It said the U.S. Marine Corps in June informed it of a constraint in the operational capability of its forces during the drill's planned period due to the situation in the Middle East, an apparent reference to the Iran war.

In response to questions by The Associated Press, the U.S. Marine Corps said Thursday that its "participation level" in the Ssangyong drill was determined in coordination with South Korea and was unrelated to decisions regarding other exercises. It said it "remains firmly committed to its longstanding partnership" with South Korea.



Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who is running for reelection, speaks during a campaign rally in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on Aug 22. (AP)

Brazil's television and radio campaign blitz begins with Lula and Flávio Bolsonaro set for nasty fight

RIO DE JANEIRO, Aug 29, (AP): Brazil's top presidential candidates, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and Flávio Bolsonaro, beginning Friday will seek to draw votes through free advertisements on television and radio stations, which continue to play a fundamental role in the campaign despite the rise of social media, experts say.

Even in a heavily online country such as Brazil, ads on the TV and radio continue to set the talk of the town and sway voters, reaching remote corners of the continental-sized country.

With the incumbent Lula - who is seeking a fourth, nonconsecutive term - currently polling neck and neck with Sen. Flávio Bolsonaro, his main rival and the eldest son of ex-President Jair Bolsonaro, independent political consultant and former Brazilian minister Thomas Traumann expects the ads to be extremely belligerent.

"I think the campaign will be dirtier than 2022, and 2022 was already one of the dirtiest in Brazilian history," Traumann said, referencing the last presidential election when Lula defeated former President Jair Bolsonaro, who is currently serving a 27-year sentence for attempting a coup, by the thinnest margin since Brazil's return to democracy in 1985.

Much like ubiquitous Brazil flags and elabo-

rate street paintings signal World Cup season, campaign ads on the television and radio indicate upcoming elections and put the contest at the forefront of Brazilians' minds.

Maria Izabel Pecanha, an 84-year-old retired history teacher from Rio de Janeiro, says many voters like her will not pay attention to ads on social media and will instead watch those on the radio and TV as she has done since the 1950s.

"I like to watch them to feel excited, to feel angry, to think of how Brazil's political actors show themselves. It is always very instructive," Pecanha said by phone. "I have watched today's and I will keep doing that until the end of the campaign, it is like watching a bit of history unfold."

Unlike in the U.S., Brazilian campaign ads are free of cost to parties, and airtime is distributed according to the size of the coalition and representation in the lower house.

The gratuity of ads "defends the democratic principle of equal treatment and means the amount of time each party gets is not going to be determined by the economic power of each party," said Bruno Pompeu, a communications and advertising professor at the University of Sao Paulo.

Over the years, the tone, style and nature of these spots have evolved. The rise of social media

and its more casual language will likely influence campaign ads on the more traditional platforms, said João Ricardo Matta, a business professor at the Getulio Vargas Foundation, a think-tank and university.

"They will be less artificial, more natural, with the appearance of something homemade," said Matta, who also expects funds that were traditionally allocated to the production of TV and radio ads to shift to campaign material on social media.

Ahead of the first round of voting on Oct. 4, broadcasters must reserve 14 minutes a day for nearly 1,000 30-second ads, in addition to blocks lasting 12 minutes and 30 seconds exclusively for presidential candidates.

Of those blocks, Lula and allied parties will get 5 minutes and 31 seconds, while Sen. Flávio Bolsonaro's party will get 4 minutes and 20 seconds. The remaining time will be divided between two other parties.

That Flávio Bolsonaro will get less time than Lula illustrates that he has struggled to unite major parties behind his candidacy, said Traumann, unlike his father who won in 2018.

In the case of a run-off vote, slated for Oct. 25, the two remaining candidates will get an equal amount of time.

Subcontinent

Modi to visit Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a four-day visit to Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan starting Saturday.

A statement from the Indian Ministry of External Affairs said that Modi will visit Uzbekistan from August 29-30 at the invitation of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

During the visit, Modi will hold delegation-level talks with Mirziyoyev to further strengthen the strategic partnership between the two countries. The two leaders would review cooperation in trade and investment, defence, digital connectivity, energy, education and people-to-people domains and set the agenda for the road ahead.

The Indian Premier will travel from Tashkent to Bishkek to participate in the 26th SCO Summit at the invitation of President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Zhaparov.

The Summit marks the 25th anniversary of the SCO, of which India has been a full member since 2017. Modi will address the Summit, highlighting India's priorities of security, connectivity and opportunity. (KUNA)



Modi

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Lawmakers elect Gillani as PM: Lawmakers in Pakistan-administered Kashmir on Friday elected Syed Iftikhar Ali Gillani as prime minister after he secured 30

of 44 votes cast in the legislative assembly, the election commission and regional officials said.

Gillani is a member of Pakistan's ruling Pakistan Muslim League-N party.

His election marked the party's return to power in the region after a decade. His rival, Mukhtar Ahmed Abbasi of the former ruling Pakistan People's Party, received 14 votes.

It comes after candidates backed by the party of former Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif won a commanding lead in legislative elections held in phases because of security concerns. The elections followed a boycott call by the outlawed Joint Awami Action Committee, or JAAC, which urged residents not to participate and is still holding rallies. (AP)

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4 militants killed in Pakistan: Four militants were killed in an intelligence-based operation by the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of the police in Pakistan's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, officials said Thursday.

The operation was conducted by a CTD team in the Mirak Chori area of the Peshawar region following intelligence about militants allegedly planning attacks on security forces and government property, the CTD said in a statement.

The militants opened fire on security personnel, triggering an exchange of fire that lasted around 20 to 25 minutes, according to the statement.

Three assault rifles, a pistol, a hand grenade and ammunition were recovered from the slain militants, it added.

Authorities said investigations and a search operation for the fleeing suspects were underway. (Xinhua)

Niger's defense minister says group of soldiers attempted predawn mutiny

NIAMEY, Niger, Aug 29, (AP): A group of soldiers in Niger rebelled against officers at a key military base and fired at sensitive locations in the capital, Niamey, in an apparent mutiny marked by gunfire and explosions, authorities said Saturday.

Sustained gunfire and explosions were heard overnight into Saturday in the city, including at the main airport that houses the military air base, known as Base 101, and in the Plateau administrative district, where the presidential palace and key institutions are located.

It is the latest threat to Niger's military junta, which seized power in a coup in 2023. Under the junta leader, Abdourahamane Tchiani, the West African country has severed ties with longtime Western security partners and turned to Russia. It has continued, however, to face attacks from jihadi rebels and worsening economic hardship after aid cuts.

Niger's Defense Minister Gen. Salifou Mody said some soldiers took some officers hostage at the base and shot at "sensitive sites" in a "break with the discipline and mili-



Motorcyclists ride by the entrance of the airport in Niamey, Niger on Aug 8, 2023. (AP)

tary regulations" before authorities regained control of the situation.

It is the third time this year that the base at the Diori Hamani International Airport has been attacked, after two earlier assaults by jihadi rebels. Security forces were deployed

around the airport and in the Plateau district while a major road leading to Niamey was closed.

State broadcaster RTN stopped its live transmission for a few hours on Saturday morning, but later resumed its broadcast.

Kuwait oil price up \$2.88 to \$87.44 pb

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29, (KUNA): The price of Kuwaiti oil rose by USD 2.88 to reach USD 87.44 per barrel (pb) during Friday’s trading, compared to USD 84.56 pb the previous day, said Kuwait Petroleum

Corporation (KPC) on Saturday.

Globally, Brent crude fell by 39 cents to reach USD 89.31 pb, while US West Texas Intermediate went down by 13 cents to reach USD 83.40 pb.

Business

As part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen its digital infrastructure & enrich its customers’ banking experience

KIB announces Retail Banking Department’s key digital achievements during H1 2026

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) announced a series of key achievements by its Retail Banking Department during the first half of 2026, reflecting the Bank’s continued investment in strengthening its digital infrastructure and customer-focused banking capabilities. Adopting the latest global approaches to product and service development and guided by market developments and emerging technologies, the Department introduced new services and enhanced digital channels to provide customers with faster, more accessible, and convenient ways to manage their finances. These accomplishments further reinforce KIB’s position among Kuwait’s leading banking institutions and reflect its continued commitment to delivering innovative banking products and services that enhance the customer experience.

Commenting on the results, Nawaf Al-Khrayef, Deputy General Manager of Retail Banking at KIB, said: “At KIB, we are committed to continuing to advance our services and digital capabilities and to further integrating technological solutions into our operational infrastructure, in step with the rapid developments shaping the banking sector. As customers’ lifestyles and expectations continue to evolve, our responsibility is to translate those changes into practical solutions that offer greater ease, choice, and control over their financial needs.”

Al-Khrayef added: “Customer insights, together with the periodic market studies conducted by the Retail Banking Department, play an important role in shaping our products and services. By monitoring the latest industry trends and understanding the needs

of different customer segments, we continue to introduce innovative solutions that deliver greater value and enrich the overall banking experience.”

Enhanced KIB Mobile capabilities and growing customer adoption

During the first six months of 2026, the number of bank accounts opened through the KIB Mobile application doubled compared with the corresponding period in 2025. Investment deposit openings completed through the app also increased twofold, reflecting the growing adoption of the Bank’s digital services and the success of the newly introduced app features.

The Retail Banking Department expanded the application’s capabilities with instant credit card issuance against cash collateral, an enhanced user interface, a more streamlined and simplified onboarding journey, and upgraded features on the WAGE app for workers. The Bank also expanded its local and international transfer services, making it easier and more convenient for customers to complete digital transfers, while also launching an enhanced version of its Rewards Program that combines cashback and rewards under a unified digital platform.

The Bank’s transfer services also recorded notable activity during the period. WAMD processed 660,000 transactions, while Western Union and Fast Transfer activity reached KD 107,000 and KD 789,000, respectively.

Al-Khrayef highlighted that, by simplifying key processes and making a wider range of services available through customers’ smartphones, these additions have reduced the need for branch visits and enabled more banking requirements to be completed se-



KIB’s Nawaf Al-Khrayef

curely at any time.

Broader reach across Kuwait

As part of its efforts to make banking services available to more customers across all segments, KIB expanded its nationwide ATM network, reaching 141 machines during H1 2026, compared with 125 in the same period of 2025.

During the first half of 2026, KIB’s ATM network recorded an all-time high in transaction value, facilitating cash withdrawals worth KD 65 million and deposits totaling KD 23 million. This record performance highlights the growing importance of the Bank’s self-service infrastructure in providing customers with convenient access to essential banking transactions throughout Kuwait.

Al-Khrayef noted that expanding the Bank’s physical and electronic touchpoints forms part of an integrated approach to serving customers wherever they are, allowing them to select the channel that best suits their circumstances and preferences.

Round-the-clock customer support and meaningful social media engagement

KIB maintained its focus on providing responsive assistance across a diverse range of communication platforms. The Bank’s Contact Center received 152,000 calls during the first half of the year, representing an average of approximately 25,000 calls per month.

Dedicated voice-service interactions totaled 15,000, while ITM video calls reached 13,500, reflecting the efficiency and speed of these services.

Customers can also communicate with the Bank through the Live Chat feature available on KIB Mobile and KIB Online through the official website, www.KIB.com.kw, in addition to the app’s video chat function and KIB’s WhatsApp service. Together, these platforms provide reliable access to information and support around the clock.

Meanwhile, KIB’s social media platforms generated approximately 15,000 engagements during H1 2026. This performance was supported by informative and value-driven content designed to explain the Bank’s products and services, promote financial knowledge, and share relevant insights concerning the banking industry.

The achievements recorded during the first half of 2026 reflect KIB’s continued commitment to strengthening its digital infrastructure, expanding customer access to innovative banking services, and deliver-

ing solutions shaped by evolving customer needs. Through the ongoing development of its digital channels and banking capabilities, KIB remains dedicated to providing a seamless banking experience while strengthening its role as a trusted financial partner, in line with its main slogan, “Bank for Life.”

About KIB

Kuwait International Bank (KIB) is a bank that operates according to the Islamic Shari’ah, based in the State of Kuwait. Incorporated in 1973, and originally known as Kuwait Real Estate Bank, KIB made the transition to its current Islamic operating model in 2007. In 2018, KIB embarked on a new phase of its journey full of innovation and development. As part of its new strategic direction, the Bank focuses on offering a next-level customer experience under the slogan: “Bank for Life”.

Through a network of branches spread across the State of Kuwait, KIB offers a broad range of banking products and services, as well as innovative digital banking solutions in line with international best standards. As part of its duty towards the community, the Bank also encompasses a leading social responsibility program that aims at positively impacting all members of the community through a wide range of impactful initiatives and activities.

Today, KIB has taken concrete steps in implementing its new strategic objectives. The Bank has cemented its role as a key player in the local banking industry and has continued to maintain its strong financial performance; enabling it to be globally recognized for its strong credit rating and financial position.

Specialized courts could boost foreign investment

Kuwait targets faster economic litigation

By Najeh Bilal

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The country is rapidly modernizing its economic and legislative infrastructure in line with its development vision to diversify national income sources and attract global capital.

Economic expert and lawyer Athbi Al-Tahnoon revealed that the government’s move to establish specialized economic courts aims to resolve the backlog of commercial cases that have been unsettled for several years, such as disputes between competing companies or between individuals and companies.

Al-Tahnoon explained that the long litigation process, which could extend from two to four years, is due to the shortage of experts and the complexities of financial matters. “This leaves some companies lacking the means to defend themselves and present evidence, forcing them into bankruptcy, complete closure or the freezing of their capital and disruption of their operations,” he added.

He said the economic courts will expedite the conclusion of disputes, thus, preventing the affected companies from incurring more losses.

Attorney Salem Al-Kandari stressed that this government initiative is imperative for protecting local and foreign investors. He explained that this regulatory step will have a direct and profound impact on the volume of investment flows into the coun-

try, leading to unprecedented economic growth and strengthening the position of Kuwait as a regional financial center.

He pointed out that the traditional judiciary faces challenges related to lengthy litigation due to the accumulation of diverse cases. “This underscores the importance of economic courts in providing judges and financial experts with the required qualifications and capability to understand the market dynamics and trade patterns, thereby, ensuring swift and accurate judicial rulings.

He believes the specialized courts will send a clear message of reassurance to the global investment community that rights are protected under an efficient and transparent judicial system based on international standards.

He added that legislative stability remarkably reduces the sovereign and regulatory risks that investors fear.

He stated that this step will raise the ranking of Kuwait in the World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business and Global Competitiveness indices.

Lawyer and legal consultant on economic disputes Hamad Al-Mutairi confirmed that the country has transformed into an attractive investment environment and garnered international admiration, thanks to its diligent work and excellent planning.

He emphasized that establishing specialized economic courts, alongside commercial courts, is an ur-

gent necessity to keep pace with developments and clearly define judicial jurisdiction.

He explained that foreign capital is characterized by its cautious nature and will not enter local markets to inject investments without a thorough study of the expected impact on the national economy. He stressed the importance of simplifying and expediting litigation procedures in economic cases to raise the efficiency of the entire economic cycle.

He affirmed that allocating courts to handle economic cases will contribute to the rapid reinvestment of funds that were frozen due to legal disputes into the national economy, hence, increasing liquidity and supporting comprehensive and sustainable development.

He said the establishment of specialized economic courts is a turning point for improving the business environment and financial performance, especially since traditional litigation takes a long time, ranging from 500 to 650 days, to resolve commercial disputes.

He pointed out that specialized courts, supported by digital platforms, could reduce litigation period by up to 60 percent and resolve complex cases in just 90 to 120 days.

He added that judicial security is directly proportional to the flow of capital, indicating that the specialized judiciary will help increase foreign direct investment by about 15 percent to 25 percent in the first three years.

Al-Bsais highlights Kuwait’s giving culture

Kuwait showcases philanthropic model in São Paulo

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: United Nations (UN) Ambassador for Community Partnership and Founder and Chairman of Al-Awazem Charitable Foundation Hamad Zaid Saud Al-Bsais represented Kuwait at the 2026 Brazil-Arab States Economic Forum in São Paulo, Brazil, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Al-Bsais is part of the delegation of the Regional Network for Social Responsibility.

On the sidelines of the forum, Al-Bsais presented several publications from the foundation to the Arab-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce officials. These publications include “The Idea and Foundation” and “Sustainability and Philanthropic Impact Report 2025,” which is a review of the programs of the foundation and impact indicators over the past year. He presented “The Idea and Foundation” to William Adib Deeb Jr., President of the Arab-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce and organizer of the forum, while the “Sustainability and Philanthropic Impact Report 2025” was presented to Mohammad Arra Murad, Secretary General and Vice President of the Chamber for International Relations, in the presence of Dr. Hamed Al-Balushi, Ambassador of the Regional Network for Social Responsibility from the Sultanate of Oman.

This participation reflects an aspect of Kuwait’s long-standing experience in charitable and humanitarian work, which has evolved over decades from traditional philanthropic initiatives to institutional models based on planning, governance, transparency, documentation and impact measurement.

Al-Bsais emphasized that showcasing the Kuwaiti experience at international forums is based on the importance of highlighting the humanitarian action of Kuwait and the contributions of its people and institutions. He pointed out that documenting successful experiences and sharing them abroad are considered a responsibility toward the humanitarian



Hamad Zaid Saud Al-Bsais, United Nations Ambassador for Community Partnership and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Al-Awazem Charitable Foundation.

legacy of Kuwait, and allows future generations and institutions to benefit from accumulated expertise.

He explained that the publications of the foundation are manifestations of its journey and institutional development, while the sustainability and impact

report provides an overview of its programs, practices and results, affirming the importance of documenting charitable work and showing its impact professionally. He said this is within the context of the prominent position that Kuwait has established throughout its history in charitable and humanitarian work, where giving is deeply ingrained in Kuwaiti culture.

The participation of a delegation from the Regional Network for Social Responsibility aimed to facilitate the exchange of expertise and experience in the fields of social responsibility and sustainability, while showcasing the Arab experience in institutional work. This underscores the fact that Kuwait’s presence at international forums extends to civil society and charitable organizations, which bring with them national experiences that showcase the legacy of Kuwait in serving humanity and promoting the culture of giving.

The experiences of the foundation are regarded as a model for transitioning from individual giving to documented and institutionalized charitable work, focusing on governance, sustainability and impact measurement.

The Brazil-Arab States Economic Forum is a gathering of Arab and Brazilian institutions and figures.

The delegation’s participation provided an opportunity for networking, knowledge exchange, and sharing Arab experience in social responsibility and sustainable development.

The participation of Kuwait in São Paulo conveyed a message that transcended the boundaries of the forum, affirming that its experience in charitable work is not a recent phenomenon, but rather a deeply rooted legacy within society, evolving over time into more organized and sustainable institutional work.

Other Voices

Oil on the right track – hinging on US demand

By Kamel Al-Harami
Independent Oil Analyst

It is difficult to forecast and predict where oil prices are heading, as the market does not appear to have a clear direction. Prices are currently hovering around the \$90-per-barrel range, with the exception of Russian oil, which is trading above \$100 and has reached levels exceeding \$104 per barrel.



Russian crude appears to be the only major oil supply source that has not been significantly affected by disruptions or fluctuations, maintaining relatively steady supplies. This contrasts with the ongoing events in the Arabian Gulf, which remain surrounded by uncertainty and are influenced almost daily by the developments of the day.

U.S. crude oil supplies have not been significantly affected, and the impact on the rest of the world remains limited. The United States can now also rely on Venezuelan oil, making full use of its supply while exerting significant control over Venezuela’s oil exports. At the same time, efforts are underway to increase Venezuelan oil production from its current low level of around 1.2 million barrels per day. This is well below the approximately 2.2 million barrels per day that Venezuela averaged in the early 1970s, before production began its long-term decline.

Now that the United States is almost in control, its oil companies will likely push for higher production rates. Venezuela has the world’s largest proven oil reserves, but it faces a major challenge in bringing its heavy crude oil to the surface. Producing and processing this heavy oil is a difficult and expensive task. However, that may not

matter to the United States, given its continued dependence on imported oil for years to come. Logistically, it has little choice but to secure access to Venezuelan oil, as this is a matter of long-term energy security. In addition, the United States will continue to depend on imported oil from the Arabian Gulf for many years to come.

With U.S. demand for oil increasing on a daily basis, the country consumes about 21 million barrels per day while producing around 14 million barrels per day. Its dependence on imports is therefore likely to continue and may be difficult to reverse. Its main suppliers include Canada, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, and Brazil. Some of these crude oil imports also appear to be part of an exchange in which the United States exports its lighter, sweeter crude while importing heavier, sour crude from different parts of the world.

The overall supply picture is expected to remain unchanged, with the Arab Gulf continuing to be the main supplier of oil globally. The Asian region, without a doubt, is the future, and Arab Gulf producers should invest there to secure long-term outlets for their oil.

This is similar to what Kuwait Petroleum Corporation has done through its investments in Europe and, more recently, its focus on the Arab Gulf and Asian regions, including investments in Oman Refinery and Vietnam. KPC should continue securing opportunities in other potential markets to establish long-term outlets for Kuwaiti hydrocarbons.

This should be our objective if KPC is on track to achieve crude oil production of 3, 3.5, and eventually 4 million barrels per day by 2030-2035. Securing long-term outlets for our future crude oil volumes should go hand in hand with finding new, secure markets for our crude oil.

We certainly have the experience and know-how!

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US warns Iran ‘enablers’ as it moves against Egyptian bank

WASHINGTON, Aug 29, (AP): The Trump administration is taking steps to limit an Egyptian bank’s operations in the United Arab Emirates, accusing the financial institution of serving as an economic lifeline to Tehran’s leadership as the U.S. war against Iran reaches the six-month mark.

Under a new rule proposed Friday by the Treasury Department, the Emirati branches of Banque Misr, Egypt’s second-largest bank, would be severed from access to the U.S. financial system.

It follows Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent’s announcement this week of a new campaign to push countries that still do business with the already heavily sanctioned Islamic Republic to sever their financial ties or face retaliation from the United States.

In stopping short of imposing sanctions on the Egyptian bank, the move signals the Republican administration’s reluctance to penalize major trading partners that do business with Iran, including China and India. Bessent

told reporters on Monday that he wanted countries to have an opportunity to shift away from Iran before it was too late in a bid to avoid upending the global financial system.

The rule will be subject to a 30-day public comment period before it takes effect, the Treasury Department said.

The Trump administration “warned that Iran’s enablers cannot continue to enjoy access to the U.S. dollar and the global financial system,” Bessent said in a statement Friday. “Banque Misr UAE decided to find out the hard way, and today, we are taking the first step in holding it accountable for its continued, egregious support of the Iranian regime.”

Egypt’s foreign ministry and central bank confirmed knowledge of the new rulemaking and are communicating with U.S. officials, according to a statement issued by the Central Bank of Egypt on Friday.

“The CBE affirms that this measure is limited to the bank’s branches in

the UAE and only to its dollar transfers,” the statement said.

It added that the measure does not affect any other Egyptian bank and does not extend to the Banque Misr’s operations inside Egypt or to any of its overseas branches.

“The Central Bank of Egypt affirms the strength and resilience of all banks operating in Egypt,” the statement said.

Also Friday, the U.S. Treasury Department posted on its Office of Foreign Assets Control website new sanctions on the bank manager of the Dubai branch of Iran’s Bank Melli and a Hong Kong-based firm that the U.S. accuses of helping launder funds for Iran.

Bessent is set to represent the U.S. next week at Group of 20 finance ministers meetings, where he will meet individually with his counterparts from the world’s major and developing economies to encourage participation in the economic isolation of Iran.

POS financing turns sales into growth opportunities

NBK advances SME growth through integrated banking & financing solutions

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) continues to reinforce its leadership in business banking by delivering an integrated suite of banking and financing solutions specifically designed to empower small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to achieve sustainable growth. This reflects NBK’s belief that business success is measured not only by sales volumes, but also by the ability to translate those sales into new opportunities for expansion, development and enhanced competitiveness.

Recognizing the vital role SMEs play in supporting economic activity and driving development, NBK continues to enhance its services and innovative solutions to keep pace with the evolving needs of this dynamic sector. The Bank provides business owners with the tools they need to manage their operations more efficiently, strengthen operational resilience and capitalize on opportunities for growth and expansion.

NBK’s Business Banking services embody this approach through an integrated offering that brings together payment solutions, financing, day-to-day banking services and dedicated support under one roof, enabling business owners to focus on growing their enterprises and pursuing their future ambitions with confidence.

POS Financing

Driven by its commitment to providing financing solutions that reflect businesses’ actual performance, NBK offers its POS Financing service, enabling eligible customers to obtain financing ranging from KD 10,000 to KD 30,000, based on the value of sales processed through NBK point-of-sale terminals over the preceding 12 months.

The solution reflects a more progressive approach to financing, where daily sales serve as an indicator of business strength and future potential. This enables business owners to leverage their operating performance to access the funding required to execute expansion plans, without the need for complex procedures or conventional financing solutions that may not fully suit the nature of SMEs.

To qualify for the service, customers must have an active NBK point-of-sale terminal and must have generated at least KD 50,000 in POS sales over the previous 12 months. Financing applications are processed within a maximum of five business days, subject to the complete and accurate submission of all required documentation.

The financing can be used to address a broad range of operating and investment needs, including business expansion and the opening of new branches, the purchase of equipment and fixtures, inventory buildup, improved cash flow management and the coverage of day-to-day operating expenses. This provides businesses with greater flexibility and a stronger ability to capitalize on growth opportunities and respond to evolving market requirements.

Recognizing that business needs vary according to size and stage of growth, NBK Business Banking offers four flexible subscription pack-



- Solutions tailored to meet businesses’ diverse banking needs through four packages: Basic, Bronze, Silver and Gold
- Dedicated support for SMEs through a team of relationship managers with strong sector expertise

ages: Basic, Bronze, Silver and Gold. These packages enable business owners to select the option that best matches the scale of their operations, level of activity and banking requirements.

Federal appeals court panel gives Nevada a win in its fight to regulate prediction market ‘Kalshi’

WASHINGTON, Aug 29, (AP): A federal appeals court panel on Friday refused to let prediction market operator Kalshi restart trading on sports and elections events in Nevada while it fights the state’s effort to shut it down until it gets a license from state gambling regulators.

A panel of judges from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled that Kalshi didn’t make a persuasive argument that federal commodities trading law preempts Nevada’s state gambling law in determining who should regulate its sporting events business. Instead, the panel said that federal law likely does not preempt Nevada - home to the nation’s biggest commercial casino market - from applying its gambling regulations to Kalshi’s sports event contracts.

Nevada’s attorney general’s office called the ruling a “major victory for Nevada and our longstanding authority to regulate gaming in our state.” Kalshi “sought to sidestep” Nevada’s

laws, but the 9th Circuit “made clear what we have maintained from the beginning: sports betting does not become something else simply because a company calls it an ‘event contract,’ ” the office said in a statement.

The 9th Circuit panel sent the question of Kalshi’s trading on election contracts back to a lower court to consider Nevada’s challenges.

Roughly 20 states are involved in litigation over prediction markets like those run by Kalshi, Polymarket and Robin Hood. Friday’s decision raises the likelihood that the U.S. Supreme Court will eventually settle the question as to whether states can regulate them under their gambling laws after the Philadelphia-based 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled earlier this year that New Jersey couldn’t regulate Kalshi.

In a statement, Kalshi said it will seek further review of the decision. In the meantime, trading on sports, entertainment and elections contracts are blocked in Nevada, Kalshi has

said.

Kalshi had sought to resume operating in Nevada while the court case goes on, and argued that it is not a betting platform, but rather a “designated contract market” subject to regulation by the federal Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and not the Nevada Gaming Control Board.

As the regulator of commodities, futures and derivatives, the CFTC has historically overseen markets like oil futures, agricultural products, gold, and other financial products.

Nevada’s gaming board last year sent a cease-and-desist letter to Kalshi, telling it that trading on sporting events and election outcomes is “unlawful in Nevada” and ordering it to shut down.

Kalshi sued in federal court, and a judge initially granted a preliminary injunction preventing Nevada from taking action against it. But the judge later dissolved the injunction, prompting an appeal by Kalshi.

Two-year yield jumps to 4.35%

The bond market prepares for a hike to interest rates, while US stocks drift lower

NEW YORK, Aug 29, (AP): The bond market swung Friday as investors built bets that the Federal Reserve may hike interest rates soon to get the nation’s high inflation under control. U.S. stocks, meanwhile, dipped but not by much after economists said a speech by Chairman Kevin Warsh helped strengthen faith that the Fed will do what’s needed to bring inflation down, even if it causes pain for the economy in the short term.

The S&P 500 fell 0.2% after flipping between modest gains and losses through the morning. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dipped 9 points, or less than 0.1%, and the Nasdaq composite slipped 0.5%.

The reaction was stronger in the bond market following Warsh’s first speech as chairman of the Fed at an annual economic symposium held in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The mountain setting has been the backdrop for major Fed policy announcements in the past, and the pressure was on Warsh.

Worries had grown that his tough talk about getting inflation down to the Fed’s 2% target may be just that, unless the Fed backs it up with action. The Fed could hike short-term interest rates to get inflation under control, but it could also feel deterred from doing so because that would slow the economy and hurt prices for investments. And President Donald Trump, who appointed Warsh, has been vocal about wanting interest rates to be lower rather than higher.

Warsh was adamant again on Friday that he wants to give financial markets fewer clues about what the Fed plans to do with rates for its two jobs of keeping inflation low and the job market strong. He has said he wants markets to react to

what incoming data says about the economy and inflation rather than what the Fed says.

But Warsh also said Friday that “short-term interest rates are the predominant tool” for the Fed to do its job. And he said, “I would be hard pressed to describe broad financial conditions as restrictive,” an implication that short-term interest rates may not be high enough to tamp down the economy and inflation.

The yield on the two-year Treasury, which closely tracks expectations for what the Fed will do with its federal funds rate, jumped to 4.35% from 4.22% just before the speech.

That’s a big move for the bond market, and it was because traders upped their forecasts that the Fed will hike its federal funds rate as soon as next month. They’re now betting on a nearly 58% probability of that, up from the 35% seen a day earlier, according to data from CME Group.

Longer-term yields also rose following some initial zigzags, but not by as much as shorter-term yields. The 10-year Treasury yield climbed to 4.72% from 4.67% late Thursday, and the 30-year Treasury yield got to 5.21% from 5.19%.

All the moves, including the modest ones for stocks even though higher interest rates tend to hurt them, indicate investors “pricing a more credible Fed,” according to economists at Bank of America led by Aditya Bhawe.

“The positive market reaction highlights that investors place a premium on policy clarity, even when that clarity carries” a message implying higher interest rates, according to Seema Shah, chief global strategist at Principal Asset Management.

Yields had gotten so high for longer-term bonds this summer, in part because of worries about inflation staying high in the future, that the U.S. Treasury Department made an unusual move last week and said it would buy back more bonds, though analysts said it will likely have only a limited effect.

On Wall Street, Gap jumped 12.9% after the retailer reported stronger profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected. It also said Michael Francis, an industry veteran who began his career on the retail sales floor, will take over as head of its Old Navy stores.

Marvell Technology fell 10.3% even though the chip company reported profit and revenue for the latest quarter that edged past analysts’ expectations. CEO Matt Murphy said its business related to artificial-intelligence technology is strong, and it raised its forecasts for upcoming revenue growth.

But analysts said much of that optimism may have already been baked into Marvell’s stock price, which came into the day with a surge of 184% for the year so far.

After rocketing higher for years because of the frenzy around AI, stocks across the industry are confronting skepticism that they shot too high and that booming demand for AI chips may fade if the AI revolution does not produce as much profit as promised.

All told, the S&P 500 fell 19.23 points to 7,711.76. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dipped 9.45 to 53,559.99, and the Nasdaq composite sank 138.93 to 26,402.42.

In stock markets abroad, indexes rose across much of Europe following a mixed finish in Asia. South Korea’s Kospi fell 1.8%, and France’s CAC 40 rose 1% for two of the world’s bigger moves.

Fed Chair: Inflation still too high, rates may need to rise

Investors see near 50/50 odds of Sept rate hike

JACKSON HOLE, Aug 29, (AP): Federal Reserve Chair Kevin Warsh said Friday that inflation is still too high and suggested the central bank may have to raise interest rates in the coming months to bring it down, a clearer signal than he has previously sent about his economic outlook.

In his first high-profile speech at the Fed’s annual conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Warsh acknowledged that recent U.S. reports show that inflation has cooled a bit, but “they do not tell me that underlying trends have meaningfully improved.”

“We must be confident that underlying inflation is moving to our objective, clearly and at sufficient speed,” Warsh said. “Otherwise, we have work to do.”

The comments from the new Fed chair appeared to reassure Wall Street that fighting inflation remains the priority for the central bank. Warsh did not imply that a rate hike is imminent, but he appeared to dismiss perceptions that inflation is no longer a threat.

He pointed to data showing that inflation remains stubbornly above the central bank’s 2% target. Warsh replaced Jerome Powell in late May after his predecessor’s term ended.

The U.S. stock market held steady after the speech, but expectations are building in the bond market for the Fed to hike interest rates. The yield on the two-year Treasury, which closely tracks expectations for what the Fed will do with its federal funds rate, moved from 4.22% to 4.30%, a sign that investors expect short-term yields to move higher.

Longer-term yields on 10-year and 30-year Treasuries were mostly flat, suggesting investors aren’t worried that higher rates will be needed for a long stretch of time to fight inflation.

Jon Faust, an economist at Johns Hopkins and a former adviser to Powell, said Warsh succeeded in conveying a tougher approach on inflation while avoiding the kind of detailed guidance from the Fed that he has disapproved.

“He found a way to convey that if necessary he would support raising rates, which is one thing people were concerned about,” Faust said.

Yet Michael Strain, director of economic policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute, said the Fed chair has talked tough on inflation before without hiking the Fed’s key rate. His Friday remarks don’t provide any clearer guidance on the timing of any Fed moves, he added.

The Fed chair faced high stakes with his speech as questions swirled around Wall Street about whether he was sufficiently focused on fighting inflation. At a press conference July 29 he sowed confusion about whether he would back up his previous tough talk on rising prices with any action, such as lifting the Fed’s

The packages are designed to simplify day-to-day banking and enhance operational efficiency, offering a range of services and benefits that evolve alongside the growth and expansion of each business, ensuring access to solutions tailored to its actual needs.

Moreover, the packages include a broad range of business banking services, including point-of-sale terminals, payroll solutions, local transfers, corporate credit cards and prepaid cards, in addition to further benefits that vary depending on the selected package. This gives customers the flexibility to access the services that best meet their operational and financial needs at every stage of business growth.

Designed to evolve alongside each business, these packages provide access to scalable, advanced banking solutions that deliver a simpler and more efficient banking experience, from startups to companies experiencing rapid growth in their operations and activities.

Dedicated Support

NBK’s Business Banking offering extends beyond financing and banking solutions to provide dedicated support through a team of experienced relationship officers and managers with deep expertise in the SME sector and a strong understanding of its evolving needs and challenges.

These specialists work closely with customers to identify the solutions and services best suited to their business requirements and future ambitions, helping provide a more effective banking experience that evolves as their operations grow and expand.

This approach reflects NBK’s commitment to delivering value beyond traditional banking by building long-term customer relationships based on a deep understanding of business needs and providing solutions that support continued success and sustainable growth.

NBK’s Business Banking strategy is centered on supporting SMEs throughout every stage of their growth journey through integrated solutions spanning payments, financing, day-to-day banking and specialized advisory support. This enables businesses to enhance operational efficiency, navigate evolving challenges and capitalize on promising opportunities with greater confidence and flexibility.

Every sale represents more than revenue; it is a tangible indicator of business performance and future potential, as well as an opportunity that can be leveraged to drive further growth and expansion. Building on this principle, NBK enables business owners to capitalize on their commercial performance and translate day-to-day success into financing solutions that support expansion plans and future ambitions. Through NBK’s POS Financing service, sales generated can help unlock the funding required for the next stage of growth, strengthening businesses’ ability to expand and invest in new opportunities.

Through this integrated approach, NBK continues to reinforce its role as a trusted financial partner to SMEs, providing them with the tools and solutions needed to achieve sustainable growth and pursue their business objectives with confidence.



Fed Chair Kevin Warsh, left, Bank of England Governor Andrew Bailey, middle, and Bank of Canada Governor Tiff Macklem arrive at the annual Jackson Hole Economic Policy Symposium on Friday, Aug. 28, 2026, in Moran, Wyo. (AP Photo/Amber Baesler)

short-term rate, which is currently about 3.6%.

Those concerns may have contributed to rising bond yields, which can increase the cost of borrowing for the government and everyone else. Yet Warsh has said he doesn’t want to provide what analysts call “forward guidance” about whether the Fed will hike or cut rates or stay on hold at upcoming meetings. He argues that it limits the Fed’s flexibility by committing it to a specific policy.

Yet some economists have argued that he could say more about his views on Fed policy without tipping his hand about future actions.

Warsh on Friday reiterated his skepticism about providing such guidance or even outlining his broad approach to interest-rate policy.

But he did suggest that interest rates currently aren’t restricting economic activity, pointing to robust business investment in AI equipment and infrastructure and strong consumer spending. As a rule of thumb, interest rates often need to be high enough to limit borrowing and spending to cool inflation.

The Fed next meets Sept. 15-16, and Warsh’s remarks don’t necessarily signal that the central bank will raise rates then. Wall Street investors now see the chances of a rate hike at the Fed’s Sept. 15-16 meeting as basically a coin flip, according to futures pricing tracked by CME FedWatch, up from about one-third before Warsh spoke.

Warsh said inflation data “are more concerning” than trends in the job market, where the unemployment rate is low. He also argued that inflation is unlikely to move back to the target on its own.

Warsh noted that in the past year, more than half of goods and services tracked by the government have seen price increases of 3% or higher. While that is down from the pandemic peak, it is “well above” the roughly one-third that saw such increases in the two decades before the pandemic.

Inflation cooled in June and July after spiking in May from soaring gas prices, yet it remains above the central bank’s target. According to

the Fed’s preferred measure, it was 3.7% in July.

Warsh also sought to clear up some areas of confusion that arose after his remarks at the July 29 news conference, when he made vague remarks about what metric the Fed would use to track inflation and whether short-term interest rates were the Fed’s main tool to combat higher prices.

On Friday, he specified that short-term interest rates are the Fed’s “predominant tool,” and added that the central bank is using the same gauge it has long followed to measure inflation.

Previous Fed chairs have often used speeches at Jackson Hole to address broad questions about interest-rate policy and the economy, or to signal upcoming changes in their approach. In 2022, with pandemic-era inflation having soared to 9.1%, Powell signaled the Fed would continue to sharply raise interest rates in a fight against runaway prices, and he acknowledged that such maneuvers would bring “pain” to consumers and businesses.

Questions about Warsh’s approach have intensified amid President Donald Trump’s continued calls for lower interest rates. While Trump has continued to defend Warsh, whom he appointed, the president has criticized other Fed officials for supporting higher rates.

Trump has also renewed his efforts to remove Fed Governor Lisa Cook, who was appointed by former President Joe Biden. Replacing Cook would enable Trump to appoint a majority of the seven-member board. Trump tried to fire her last year but was temporarily blocked by the Supreme Court.

Longer-term rates have steadily risen in recent weeks because of a range of factors, including burgeoning U.S. government deficits and outside borrowing by tech firms building AI infrastructure.

The rate on the 30-year Treasury bond reached the highest level in 19 years last week, prompting an unusual effort by Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent to buy back bonds and push yields lower.

US takes 55% Venezuela oil stake

Trump announces ‘biggest oil deal in history’ with Venezuela

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29, (AP): President Donald Trump said Friday that his administration has entered a sweeping agreement with Venezuela that, if realized, could give the U.S. access to vast amounts of the South American country's untapped oil reserves, at cost.

Trump in a social media post announcing the agreement said it was negotiated by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Venezuela's acting President Delcy Rodríguez.

"The United States of America has just entered into an Agreement with the Country of Venezuela on, THE BIGGEST OIL DEAL IN WORLD HISTORY!" Trump wrote.

Rodríguez's government in a statement said the deal involves the development of 17 fields with a proven potential of 65 billion barrels. It said the agreement could draw \$100 billion in investment into Venezuela's oil industry and yield over \$209 billion in taxes for Caracas.

Rodríguez in a posting on Telegram predicted the deal "will have a significant impact on our nation's revival."

The agreement allows for the United States to partner with an unnamed private operator in Venezuela to create a new private company to take hold of the reserves, according to a U.S. official familiar with the contours of the deal.

The official, who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity, added that Rodríguez granted the company 100-year rights to develop the oil fields.

The deal gives the United States 55% effective output of the new private company -- including an ownership stake and rights to buy oil at cost. The company would be the second largest corporate holder of proven reserves after Saudi Aramco, according to the official.

The announcement comes nearly nine months after the U.S. military at Trump's direction carried out an operation to capture Venezuela's then-President Nicolás Maduro and spirit him to the United States to face federal narcoterrorism and drug trafficking charges.

Trump faces mounting pressure to address high gas prices as war in Iran on Friday reached a six-month milestone with no conclusion in sight. The U.S. has tapped its strategic petroleum reserves, which in early August fell below 300 million barrels, down by more than 100 million barrels since the start of 2026.

The U.S.-Israel war against Iran has led to a dramatic slowdown of Gulf oil moving through the Strait of Hormuz, which about 20% of the world petroleum passed through prior to the conflict.

The average price of gas in the

U.S. stood at about \$4.09 a gallon on Friday, according to AAA. The average price was \$3.21 at the same time last year.

A significant drop in U.S. gas prices tied to the agreement should not be expected immediately. Experts have repeatedly warned that a substantial boost in Venezuelan oil production will not happen quickly as repairing and expanding infrastructure takes years and requires billions of dollars.

Persuading big American oil companies to return the region could face headwinds given the political uncertainty and decades of badly damaged infrastructure.

Days after the ouster of Maduro, Trump gathered oil executives at the White House and called on them to rush back into Venezuela. Executives expressed interest in the opportunity but there was also a measure of caution given their past experience in the country.

Darren Woods, CEO of Exxon-Mobil, the largest U.S. oil company, said at that moment he saw the country as "un-investable."

But Trump has insisted that his administration has brought a measure of stability to Venezuela.

He has argued that Venezuela stole U.S. oil when former Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez moved decades ago to nationalize hundreds of foreign-owned assets, including those owned by American oil companies.

Rodríguez, in one of her early moves after taking power, signed a law that opens the nation's oil sector to privatization and reversed a bedrock tenet of the self-proclaimed socialist movement that has ruled the country for more than two decades.

Rubio said on X that the agreement would usher in billions in private investment into Venezuela and lead to lower gas prices in the United States.

"This deal is a huge win for both the American and Venezuelan people," Rubio posted.

The oil bought from the new company would go toward filling the U.S. strategic petroleum reserve and toward military use, according to the U.S. official.

Venezuela has one of the largest oil reserves in the world, with an estimated 303 billion barrels of crude oil in the ground. That's about 17% of the world's supply, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Unlike other parts of the world, where geologists have to search for untapped oil, the reserves under Venezuela's soil are largely mapped and known, experts say. But because of dilapidated infrastructure, the country only produces about 1% of the world's oil.

Maduro remains jailed in the U.S. He has pleaded not guilty.

Trump’s new Canada tariffs face legal test under rarely used law

Tariffs target hockey sticks, cement, dairy in escalation

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29, (AP): In firing up a trade war with Canada, President Donald Trump turned to a 96-year-old statute so obscure that many trade lawyers didn't even know it was still on the books.

A week ago, Trump invoked Section 338 of the Tariff Act of 1930 to slap a 50% tax on \$20 billion worth of Canadian imports. The move prompted dollar-for-dollar retaliation from Ottawa and strained already-tense relations between the neighbors and longtime allies.

The president's Section 338 tariff authority has never been used, let alone tested in court. "This law is literally a blank canvas because it's never been litigated," said Ryan Majerus, a partner at King & Spalding and a former U.S. trade official.

So it's unclear whether Trump's latest Canada tariffs could survive a legal challenge, and some lawyers argue that the Depression-era law has been rendered obsolete by more recent trade laws.

To sanction Canada for allegedly discriminating against U.S. dairy, auto and alcoholic beverage exports this summer, the Trump administration reached back to the Great Depression.

The 1930 tariff legislation is known as the Smoot-Hawley Act after its congressional sponsors. With the U.S. and world economies in collapse, Congress raised tariffs on hundreds of imports in an attempt to protect American farmers and manufacturers.

The tariffs are notorious among economists and historians for shutting down world commerce and making the Great Depression worse. (Trump, who proudly calls himself "Tariff Man," has a different view, arguing that the Smoot-Hawley levies simply came too late to rescue the American economy.)

In addition to raising tariffs themselves, lawmakers in 1930 gave the president new power to impose them himself: Section 338 authorizes presidential tariffs of up to 50% on imports from countries that have discriminated against U.S. businesses.

Before Trump, no president had actually used the statute.

"Until Trump's second term, few trade lawyers were aware that Section 338 remained on the books or understood what it did," legal scholars Peter Harrell and Jennifer Hillman of Georgetown University wrote earlier this month in the libertarian magazine Reason. They cite State Department records to show that the U.S. considered using Section 338 in trade disputes - against Spain in 1932 and against newly Communist China in 1949 - but never did. After the Depression, U.S. policy focused more on using negotia-



Unifor National President Lana Payne speaks during Unifor's Rally to Protect Canadian Jobs, on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, on Friday, Aug. 28, 2026. (Justin Tang /The Canadian Press via AP)

tions - rather than sanctions - to open foreign markets.

So Section 338 sat moldering in the law books.

As the years went by, the United States passed new trade laws. Some of them ceded to the president tariff power, which the U.S. Constitution originally granted to Congress. But the new laws also limited the president's authority to certain circumstances - including dealing with national security threats and foreign currency crises - and required the government to carry out investigations and meet other procedural requirements beforehand.

"There is a very strong argument that (Section 338) was superseded," said Sara Albrecht, CEO of the Liberty Justice Center, a libertarian advocacy group that represented businesses that successfully challenged the earlier Trump tariffs with the Supreme Court.

If Congress wanted the president to retain Section 338 power, Albrecht asks, why did lawmakers pass the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, which allowed for national security tariffs? And the Trade Act of 1974, which gives the president power to go after other countries' unfair trade practices?

Legal experts see other weaknesses in the Section 338 tariffs.

Harrell and Hillman, for instance, write in Reason that Section 338 only authorizes tariffs that "offset" the harm that a foreign country's trade practices do to American companies. But in targeting Canada, they note, the Trump administration made no attempt to calculate the dollar amount of damage arising from discrimination against U.S. farmers, automakers and marketers of alcoholic beverages. And the U.S. went after Canadian imports unconnected to those trouble spots, including hockey sticks and cement.

Harrell and Hillman also say that Canada's protection of its dairy market does not single out U.S. farmers for discrimination; the rules apply to many other Canadian trading partners as well.

Moreover, the United States agreed to the Canadian system - in which Canada imposes stiff tariffs on dairy imports that exceed a quota - in a North America trade pact Trump himself negotiated with Canada and Mexico in his first term. Harrell and Hillman write that it is "incongruous, to say the least, for the United States to denounce as discriminatory the very terms it agreed to."

But John Veroneau, former general counsel for the U.S. Trade Representative, said the Section 338 tariffs are straightforward: They are justified when another country discriminates against U.S. imports by taxing them more than it taxes imports from other countries.

And in a "perverse irony," Veroneau said, Canada did just that when it responded to tariffs Trump imposed on Canadian products last year with its own retaliatory tariffs on U.S. imports. "Courts will rightly feel obliged in the face of any challenge (to decide): Are the statutory requirements met or are they not met, however ludicrous the broader context might be," said Veroneau, adjunct professor at the University of Maine Law School.

Trump's other tools to impose his protectionist agenda have already floundered in court. The Supreme Court in February threw out his boldest gambit: invoking a 1977 national security law to hit almost every country on Earth last year with double-digit tariffs.

When Trump tried to replace the revenue lost to the Supreme Court defeat with a new set of tariffs, a specialized trade court in New York rejected those, too - though the government was allowed to continue collecting the import taxes while the case works its way through the court system.

No one has filed a lawsuit challenging the Section 338 tariffs. The Liberty Justice Center has been looking for businesses willing to sue the government over the levies.

"I haven't had a lot of response from plaintiffs," Albrecht said. "Anytime you want to sue the government, it's a hard proposition."

The Section 338 tariffs on Canada are also far smaller - just 5% of Canadian imports -- than Trump's 2025 worldwide tariffs, meaning that fewer companies have to pay them and can claim to have been injured by them.

There's also a chance, Albrecht said, that the two countries will resume the talks they broke off Aug. 21 and reach a compromise to end a standoff neither country wants. "I'm hopeful that somebody blinks, that they come to some agreement and it all goes away," she said.

US-Canada trade war deepens as Trump revives Depression-era trade tool – what’s at stake for consumers and midterms

The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.

By Kent Jones
Babson College

The United States and Canada, historically close allies, are moving further into a full-blown trade war with no end in sight.

On Aug. 25, 2026, Canada imposed tariffs of up to 50% on hundreds of U.S. goods after the U.S. placed similar, long-threatened levies on Canadian products. It followed the collapse of trade talks that had been inching towards a deal.

The next day, U.S. President Donald Trump called Canada "one of the worst countries in the world to deal with." Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney claimed Trump was trying to "destroy" his country's auto industry. Only a few days earlier a deal was reportedly very close.

One of the most notable aspects of the collapse in trade negotiations lies in Trump's unprecedented use of an untested tool in the Tariff Act of 1930, otherwise known as the Smoot-Hawley tariffs. Economists generally agree that the act's escalating retaliatory tariffs extended the Great Depression by sparking a global trade war. Amplified by foreign retaliation and falling global gross domestic product, U.S. trade fell by two-thirds from 1929-1932.

Smoot-Hawley contains a provision known as Section 338, which provides an additional feature: The president may, on his own authority, impose unilateral tariffs of 50% if a foreign country's policies "discriminated" against the United States.

But the section was never invoked, as the damage from the other Smoot-Hawley tariffs was already done. That is, until July 2026, when Trump first threatened the 50% tariffs on Canada for its "discriminatory treatment" of U.S. products.

As an economist who has studied trade policy for 49 years, I can explain how the two countries got embroiled in a trade war and what it means for U.S. consumers, companies and the midterms.

Both sides are finger-pointing at the other over what caused the proposed deal to fall apart during the final days of the trade negotiations.

The Canadians were interested primarily in reducing high U.S. tariffs on steel, aluminum and autos. They claimed they had a preliminary deal to lower steel and aluminum tariffs from 50% to 25%.

In the late stages of the negotiations, however,



U.S. and Canadian flags wave in the wind next to Blue Water Bridge, which connects Port Huron, Mich., and Point Edward, Ontario. (AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick was apparently lobbied heavily by U.S. steel and aluminum producers to hold the line on these tariffs. Lutnick was also against reductions in the U.S. auto and truck tariffs and allegedly withdrew whatever reductions were on the table.

As a result, other parts of the deal started to unwind as well.

The Canadians had offered to reopen the Keystone oil pipeline deal that had been canceled by President Joe Biden in 2021. But once the deal on lower steel, aluminum and auto tariffs was nixed, Canada pulled the Keystone deal off the table as well.

The U.S. had also demanded that Canada reverse the Canadian provinces' removal of U.S. liquor off their store shelves. Sales of U.S. booze in Canada have plunged as a result.

But the lack of progress on the major metal and auto tariffs, combined with a backlash from the Canadian provinces themselves, forced that concession off the table as well.

Canada is a major supplier of goods to the U.S., exporting about US\$451 billion in 2025 - ranking second after Mexico.

As soon as talks broke off, the Trump administration followed through on earlier threats to impose a 50% tariff on \$20 billion worth of Canadian exports, including auto parts, forestry products, furniture, textiles, whiskey and hockey equipment, under Section 338 of Smoot-Hawley.

That's about 4% of Canada's exports to the United States.

Canada's Carney responded with his own already prepared list of \$20 billion in U.S. imports to face tariffs of up to 50%, targeting products that he surely bets will anger voters in swing states heading into the midterm elections.

Examples include Wisconsin cheese, Maine seafood and Kentucky washers and dryers - GE Appliances is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky.

Tensions between Canada and the U.S. have been high ever since Trump returned to office.

He has continually complained about Canada "ripping us off" and being "among the worst countries" in the world to deal with.

And he has repeatedly threatened to make Canada the 51st state, an issue that has particularly angered Canadians and served to unite public opinion across the political spectrum against Trump.

For Carney, a critical sticking point was the late addition by U.S. negotiators requiring Canadian trade policy to align permanently with U.S. interests. Carney viewed this demand as a transfer of Canadian sovereignty to the U.S., a step toward making Canada "the 51st state."

So all in all, perhaps it's not so surprising that a near deal would collapse into a trade war.

In addition, Canada has been unusual in standing up to Trump in this way. The only other country to do that is China, and it's risky for a smaller country like Canada to retaliate in this way. But Canadians are pretty united in their unfavorable views of Trump, so Carney has a strong domestic position to

stand up to him.

The 50% tariffs Trump unilaterally imposed on Canada apply to goods that had previously been exempt from most other tariffs due to the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, which replaced NAFTA in 2020.

Since tariffs are a tax on the purchaser, U.S. consumers and companies will have to pay 50% more to buy the products subject to the tariffs. Many of the Canadian imports are concentrated in U.S. border states such as Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Wisconsin. Another border state, Michigan, is closely tied to automobile production with the Canadian province of Ontario.

In many cases, Canada's retaliatory tariffs will be felt most strongly in states where Trump's Republican Party stands to be affected by reductions in U.S. exports that will result from the levies.

The political backlash against Trump's tariffs in the U.S. doesn't appear to be deterring him from imposing more of them, even as the impact of midterm elections hinges on results in several swing states along the Canadian border.

While the total impact on overall U.S. prices may not be large, the combination of U.S. and Canadian tariffs together could be significant for products that are heavily traded between the two countries, such as Michigan auto parts and New England seafood, as well as in U.S. regions where Canadian market shares are large. U.S. farmers and manufacturers may also lose sales to Canada.

If Trump's tariffs remain in place and U.S. importers can no longer absorb the tariff costs and remain profitable, U.S. prices are likely to continue to rise as importers require consumers to pay a larger share of the tariffs. It's probably unwise to predict what Trump will do with tariffs between now and the midterms or now and the end of his term in 2028. A victorious Democratic Party in charge of the House and Senate could change the political landscape considerably.

It's worth noting that the global trading system that emerged in 1947, from the ashes of war, depression and tit-for-tat trade battles, was purposely designed to eliminate trade wars, since they typically make us all worse off. And the trade liberalization that followed worked, delivering enormous wealth to the U.S. and the world economy in the years since.

I believe it would be a shame if we returned to those days, and the unfortunate economic consequences that came with them. (AP)

Author traces ancient poetics in modern songs

Same epic, new voice: Wilson's 'Odyssey' gets a full reset

NEW YORK, Aug 29, (AP): If you're among the many readers who learned to love "The Odyssey" through Emily Wilson's 2017 translation, you might be surprised that she's going to translate it again.

"It's a complete retranslation. It's not a revision of the old version," Wilson told The Associated Press during a recent Zoom interview from her home in Philadelphia, where she is a professor of classical studies at the University of Pennsylvania. "I'm about halfway through."

Regarded as the first major English-language translation of Homer's epic by a woman, her book was already a bestseller and a culture-wars flashpoint before the release of Christopher Nolan's blockbuster adaptation. But she says her translation methods have become more sophisticated and that enough time has passed for her to see some flaws in her work - as an example, she overused the word "slave" when ancient Greek had different terms for different categories of enslaved people. The new edition will be longer, she says, and will better reflect the differing social worlds of Homer's poem.

Fiction writers and poets, from Henry James to Walt Whitman, have revised and reissued early works. But translators rarely start over on a full-length text - especially not within a decade of the original work's completion, and not when the translation has had the success of Wilson's "Odyssey."

"I can't really come up with a previous example of this situation," says Kate Deimling, who oversees the literary division of the American Translators Association. "It's not unheard of for translators to go back and make some corrections or edits in subsequent editions, but that's not the same as a retranslation."

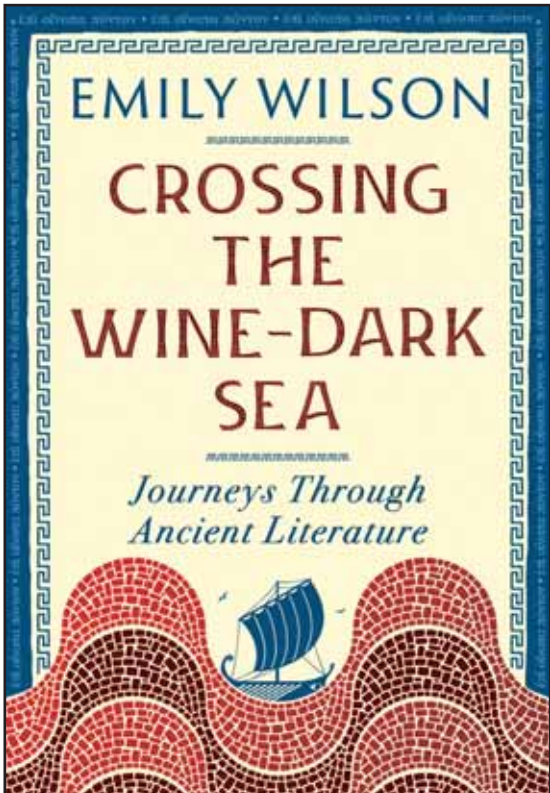
Asked how her publisher responded, Wilson says her decision was "very controversial." She says she's "very much aware" that having two recent editions by the same translator would be a challenge for teachers, and hopes they won't "curse" her name. Her editor at Liveright Publishing, Peter Simon, said in a statement that since she "has poured so much of her life and scholarship into 'The Odyssey' ... her new approach is bound to be thrilling."

Fame was of prime importance to the ancient Greeks, and Wilson is the rare classical scholar who has firsthand knowledge of a public life. Wilson's 2017 translation was praised by many critics for making "The Odyssey" feel more modern and accessible, but also faced criticism online for making the story "woke." Her "Odyssey" has now sold more than a million copies, and Wilson has again become a reason to argue.

Nolan had cited her translation and its opening sentence, "Tell me about a complicated man," as inspiration for his epic film. Wilson, who says she will "probably" leave the line unchanged in the next edition, did not return his admiration. In interviews with the AP and other media outlets, and in an assessment for the London Review of Books, she called the movie grandiose and superficial, and at times incoherent.

Her reaction to the film has been extensively - even obsessively - defended and denounced, including by Joyce Carol Oates, who faulted her "haughty superiority." Nolan has yet to respond directly, although, while being interviewed by podcaster Zhong Shu, he did speak out against "amateur criticism" for lacking the cinematic background essential for understanding the language of movies.

Wilson's current prominence aligns with the release of her new collection of essays, conceived well before No-



This cover image released by Liveright shows "Crossing the Wine-Dark Sea: Journeys Through Ancient Literature" by Emily Wilson. (AP)

lan's movie came out: "Crossing the Wine-Dark Sea," a book that arrives Tuesday with blurbs from Salman Rushdie and "Song of Achilles" novelist Madeline Miller. It features a long section on translating "The Odyssey," with tough assessments of modern editions by Daniel Mendelsohn and the late Robert Fagles. Other chapters take on the "slut-shaming" of Helen of Troy, offer tribute to the Roman poet Catullus and point to how some of the most famous words ever spoken by Robert F. Kennedy - his quoting Aeschylus in the aftermath of the Rev. Martin Luther King's assassination - echoed author Edith Hamilton's mistranslation.

During her interview, Wilson also discussed her feelings about celebrity, her disdain for Rick Riordan's "Percy Jackson" books (Riordan, through a spokesperson at Penguin Random House, declined to comment) and her renewed appreciation for Stoic philosophy.

This conversation has been edited for brevity and clarity.

AP: In your essay on translating "The Odyssey" you write that Robert Fagles' translation is "very loud, lively and chatty, so it's not surprising that it has remained a bestseller in the U.S." As you are also a bestseller, what qualities do you think you were able to bring to your book?

WILSON: I was going for the ancient idea of "enargeia," vividness, that sort of emotional impact, emotional directness, the narrative pacing, the sense you can fully understand how does this character feel every time she or he is speaking.

AP: One theme of your essays is how wrong we can be



Emily Wilson, professor of classical studies at the University of Pennsylvania, poses for a photo in Philadelphia on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2026. (AP)

about the Greeks, like Robert Kennedy misquoting Aeschylus because he had been reading Edith Hamilton's popular writings, which themselves have many inaccuracies.

WILSON: Part of the theme of the book is not just that we make mistakes - maybe we can fix them - but that the particular kinds of mistakes those scholars and translators and popularizers or teachers like Hamilton make are very much determined by their own time. Obviously, I make mistakes, too. I'm obviously going to come to Homer and to the whole of antiquity with particular preoccupations which are going to be different from the preoccupations of a Homerist or a translator some 50 or 100 years ago.

AP: In a lot of these essays, you're very conscious of bringing the ancient world into the present. In your essay on Stoicism ("Chill Out with the Stoics"), you start out by writing, "Stoicism is having a moment." Are you more of a Stoic now than you were a month ago?

WILSON: I'm quite suspicious that through philosophy you can have security. The last few weeks have been a clear illustration of how I'm not in control of the reception of my work. I can write an essay; people will do whatever they want. They will have their own opinions of me. I have zero control. I actually think in some ways there's a useful reminder about the powerlessness that comes with the awareness that "I'm going to be misunderstood. I'm going to be misread. People are going to hate me." I've got to accept that.

AP: What is it about ancient Greece that made you study it, as opposed to Elizabethan England or 18th century France?

WILSON: I see it as a kind of intellectual greed.

Through studying ancient Greece and Rome, I'm also interested in studying how did these cultures get reinvented, reimagined in each of these later periods.

AP: In your book, you criticize Rick Riordan's "Percy Jackson" books. You find an ideology that puts you off.

WILSON: Many of my students love them so much. I think if I had read them as a child, I might have been a fan. They're not designed for an adult literary reader. I think especially in the first Percy Jackson book, "The Lightning Thief," there's very much an ideology of: "Here's this white boy in America who's going to gather the whole of Western civilization, and there'll be a hero's journey, which will really be the heroism of American exceptionalism." And I just think that is ideologically and historically quite questionable.

AP: In your chapter on comedy in ancient Greece, you begin with a reference to Cardi B's (and Megan Thee Stallion's) "WAP." Does this happen to you a lot, where things pop up in the culture and it just resonates and you're thinking, "Oh, that reminds me of something from classical times"?

WILSON: It happens to me all the time. Yes. This is not necessarily an explicit trope in the book, but I very much want to be constantly doing that, suggesting that we can find echoes of antiquity in places we might not expect. I use the discussion of "WAP" and of hip-hop as a way of talking about ancient comic poetry. My main point is not just that there's lots of obscenity in both, but also lots of poetics in both. And if we somehow turn around our expectations about antiquity, we can turn around our expectations about modernity.

Film

Voice behind Optimus Prime, Cullen dies at 85

NEW YORK, Aug 29, (AP): Peter Cullen, a prolific voice actor who enlivened scores of TV series, specials and movies, including Optimus Prime in the syndicated 1984 series "Transformers" and Eeyore in the Winnie the Pooh cartoon franchise, has died. He was 85.

His agent, Kevin Motley, said Cullen died Wednesday at his home in Los Angeles. "His family asks that you honor his remarkable legacy by serving your communities and leading others with compassion, integrity, and loyalty and always remember 'be strong enough to be gentle,'" said a family statement.

Cullen's career spanned from being an announcer at the groundbreaking late-1960s comedy and variety series "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour" and joining comedy sketches for Sonny & Cher to voice acting in "The Smurfs" and multiple G.I. Joe iterations. But he struck a nerve as Optimus Prime.

While the original cartoon ran just a few years, it left an indelible mark on pop culture, with a toy line, spinoff cartoon series and comics produced over the next two decades. That culminated in the launch of a multibillion-dollar, live-action film franchise in 2007 by Michael Bay.

Before his audition, Cullen only knew that he would be reading for the part of a truck, though giving voice to a vehicle didn't seem that crazy. "You're always auditioning for something in animation that's a little off of the norm," Cullen told the AP in 2019.

When Cullen read about the heroic Autobot leader that turned into a red cabover semitrailer, he thought about his older brother, who had served as a U.S. Marine in the Vietnam War.

"He was my hero, and he certainly was the mainstay behind the character," Cullen said. "I just did an impression of Larry, and he's still alive in my mind today because every time I do Prime, there's my brother Larry."



Peter Cullen appears at the Comic-Con Fan Expo in Rosemont, Ill., on Aug. 18, 2024. (AP)



This image released by Focus Features shows Spike Fearn, left, and Angourie Rice in a scene from "Finding Emily." (AP)

'Finding Emily' delivers smart, sweet British rom-com

Late August can be a depressing time at the movie theater, but there's a gem to be found in the British romantic comedy "Finding Emily," which opens in theaters Friday. Here, finally, is a smart, funny and sweet story about young love that moviegoing audiences deserve. Yes, the setup is contrived - it even fits almost entirely into a movie trailer - but it's in a way that's familiar and grounded enough, and unlike the insanely dystopian "One Night Only." There are no ridiculous laws against premarital sex on this university campus in Manchester; Just regular young people getting in their own way.

The movie begins with one of those too-good-to-be-true meet cutes, where Owen (Spike Fearn) finds his dream girl (Sadie Soverall) who is dressed in a fairy costume and seems to be into him. Brit pop plays in the background and the world seems to fade away. The night takes her elsewhere with her friends, but not before she gives her number to Owen. He leaves on cloud nine, wondering how much time to let pass before he

texts. But there's a problem: The number is one digit short. Was it intentional? Was it a mistake? He chooses to believe the latter and sets off to find her, knowing only her first name, Emily.

No one is especially charmed by Owen's desperate quest to find Emily on campus. Rachel Hiron's script understands a fundamental truth about romantic comedies and the grand gesture - they only work if the other party is into it. If they're not into it, at best, it's creepy. At worst, it's the beginning of a horror movie. But then another Emily (Angourie Rice) emerges and, after giving Owen a hard time and name checking the manic pixie dream girl trope, decides to help. What the audience knows, however, and he doesn't, is that this Emily, an American, has an ulterior motive. She's trying to prove, for a thesis that will get her a job and allow her to stay in the country, that love drives people mad. "He's my very own Stanford Prison Experiment," she excitedly tells a friend.

You can see where this is going, right? Even if it's predict-

able, it's also really quite sharp and charming under Alicia MacDonald's direction, both nodding to the grand tradition of 90s Brit rom-coms ("Finding Emily" shares producers with "Bridget Jones's Diary") while also adding a grain of Gen Z salt to the proceedings. You can bet that there are some Serious Concerns raised by women's groups on campus when Owen, who is not a student but an employee on probationary hire, emails all the Emilys.

Fearn, as Owen, manages to never cross the line into creepy. With his very Noel Gallagher haircut and skinny, twitchy innocence, he's flustered by the attention and accusations of incel-dom thrown his way. Rice, meanwhile, has a more challenging hurdle to win over the audience, but we've forgiven worse rom-com offenses, right? And, unlike the alien beauty of the stars of "One Night Only," her costumes and manner seem at least a little more relatable (while also knowing that she too is a beautiful movie star). (AP)

‘We’re so happy to see you’

Celine Dion makes long-awaited concert comeback

PARIS, Aug 29, (AP): Celine Dion blew kisses and made a love-heart shape with her hands as she swept into Paris on Friday for her first series of concerts since revealing her diagnosis with stiff-person syndrome.

Fans yelling “We’re so happy to see you” and “We love you” crowded with journalists outside a Paris hotel as the Grammy-winning star settled in to prepare her residency of 16 shows in September and October at the Plénitude Arena in the French capital’s western suburbs. The first show opens on Sept. 12.

“I am ready and I’m a bit uptight of course because it’s been a long time,” she told French broadcaster BFMTV, wearing a beige trench coat,

high heels and dark shades.

“I have always felt supported from the first day and because it’s a story that continues. It’s true that this is my second home,” the Quebec-born singer said.

Asked which song she’d sing first, Dion replied: “I can’t say, it’s a big secret!”

The Paris concerts, to be followed by 10 more next May, mark a major milestone for 58-year-old Dion after years away from touring due to the rare neurological disorder she disclosed in 2022.

With nearly 260 million albums sold worldwide, Dion remains one of the bestselling and most decorated artists in pop music history, known for hits

including “My Heart Will Go On” and “Because You Loved Me.”

The concert series, titled “Celine Dion Paris 2026-2027,” will feature her catalog of hits in English and French.

Dion has largely stepped back from performing since canceling her Courage World Tour as her condition progressed. She wowed with a brief but widely watched return at the opening ceremony of the Paris Olympics in 2024, singing “Hymne à l’amour” (Hymn to love) atop the Eiffel Tower in the rain.

The Plénitude Arena has a capacity of 40,000 spectators and was one of the venues used for the Paris Games.



Singer Celine Dion performs during her first World Tour show called Courage at the Videotron Centre on Sept. 18, 2019, in Quebec City. (AP)

Bollywood draws new visitors

Spain’s La Tomatina turns small town into sea of red

BUNOL, Spain, Aug 29, (AP): Thousands of revelers - including many lured by a Bollywood film - descended on a small Spanish town on Wednesday for the annual La Tomatina food fight, where they painted Buñol red with tons of overripe tomatoes.

Loaded trucks plodded through the crowd with people in their cargo beds throwing tomatoes at the revelers - who, in turn, hurled them at one another. Their white shirts soon turned pink and red while pop songs blasted from speakers. At one point, police appeared to use pepper spray to disperse an area of the crowd, but a festive vibe quickly resumed.

The messy melee took place for over an hour in the town, where buildings were covered with tarps ahead of the festivities. Held on the last Wednesday of August, the festival traces its origins to a food fight in 1945.

La Tomatina became an annual tradition before Spanish dictator Gen. Francisco Franco banned it in the 1950s. Televised media attention in the 1980s helped turn the festival into a national event, and eventually, an international attraction.

More than 20,000 people had been expected to take part this year, with the Spanish news agency EFE reporting this week that roughly 40% of participants over the past three years have been tourists from outside Spain.

There has been a notable jump in visitors from India in recent years, following the 2011 Bollywood movie “Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara” (“You Only Live Once”), in which three friends take a road-trip through Spain during an extended bachelor party. The film recreated La Tomatina, introducing the festival to many Indians.

The movie is what first drew Romail Khokhar, a 27-year-old from Mumbai, to Buñol. He was there on Wednesday morning, eager to participate in the food fight for his third time.

Mazhar and Sanya Khan, both 40, were likewise inspired by the film.

“It was fantastic, absolutely well-managed,” said Mazhar Khan. “We are from India, and this is our first time being in La Tomatina. It has been a dream for over a decade.”

The movie’s appeal isn’t limited to Indians. It also drew Joanna Wyrzyszczevska from Poland.

“Way more crazy than we expected,” said Wyrzyszczevska, 32. “We came because we were inspired by a movie. It was better than the movie.”



Revelers throw tomatoes at each other during the annual “Tomatina” tomato fight fiesta, in the village of Bunol near Valencia, Spain, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2026. (AP)

Food

International markets offer home cooks affordable new flavors & fresh dinner ideas

New ingredients, new ideas: how to break free from dinner burnout

BOISE, Idaho, Aug 29, (AP): When kitchen burnout hits, figuring out what to make for dinner every day can feel like an impossible task.

Eating out or relying on convenience foods are increasingly difficult solutions for many American families, who are facing the biggest jump in grocery prices in a half century. It can also be healthier to cook at home, where it is easier to control things like how much salt or sugar is added to a meal.

But in many cities, there’s another way to break the “what’s for dinner” rut without breaking the bank: shopping at international food markets.

It can be surprisingly simple to incorporate new flavors into home meals by pairing unfamiliar ingredients with pantry staples, says Palina Louangketh, a self-described foodie and the director of the Idaho Museum of International Diaspora. She also teaches cooking classes, partnering with Boise-area refugees who demonstrate dishes and techniques from their home countries.

“Coming here to an international market, you get both a dose of cultural experience but also healthy, fresh exotic ingredients,” Louangketh said on a recent trip to the Idaho Capital Asian Market in Boise, pointing to products from China, Japan, Vietnam, Thailand, South Korea and elsewhere.

“It doesn’t have to be so scary or unique. If you pair your protein with vegetables and with a starch and add savoriness to it - soy sauce, fish sauce, oyster sauce, hoisin sauce - you’re covered,” she said.

Yes, navigating a grocery store full of new-to-you products with foreign-language labels might feel daunting at first, said Beryl Shereshevsky, a New York video producer whose YouTube channel is dedicated to exploring dishes and cultural connections from around the world.

But there are ways to incorporate international supermarkets into your home cooking routine, she said.

Here are some tips:

“I think you would be surprised by how many international markets exist even in small towns and cities,” said Shereshevsky. “Everywhere you go in America, you’re going to find immigrants, and those immigrants are still cooking their foods from their countries and cultures.”

Sales at international supermarkets and small grocery stores across the U.S. have been growing steadily for years, according to market research firm IBISWorld.

There are more than 20 international markets in Boise, which has just over 235,000 residents. Several more are located in nearby Meridian, Nampa and Caldwell.

People tend to shop near home, Shereshevsky said, but exploring new territory can reveal hidden gems.

“It allows you to interact with your city or town in a different way,” she said.

Store workers are often happy to assist.

“It’s exciting,” said Bailey Hughes, a cashier at Idaho Capital Asian Market who enjoys following food trends. “People will come



Palina Louangketh shops at Idaho Capital Asian Market in Boise, Idaho, on June 13, 2026. (AP)

in because they saw something viral on the internet, like Chinese Baddie Tea.”

The viral beverage is based on a traditional Chinese tea recipe made with jujube dates and ginger.

And doing a little advance research goes a long way.

Many food bloggers focus on one cuisine, like vegetarian chef Manjula Jain who writes about Indian cuisine, Lola Osinkolu who specializes in Nigerian and indigenous African cooking, and Maangchi, a go-to resource for Korean cooking.

“There are a lot of people out there who are recipe developers who have spent a lot of time perfecting dishes and making them acceptable,” Shereshevsky said. She goes into markets “with a very specific

list and recommendations of what I need to buy because going in there with no plan can be like, a little bit too much.”

You can find inspiration in the familiar if you’re not ready to fully venture into the unknown.

“Look at something you really like and see the iterations of it around the world. That way you add a couple of new ingredients and you’re trying something new from something that’s familiar,” said Shereshevsky. “Even though we speak different languages or wear different clothing, or we live in different places, suddenly we’re all connected through a tomato.”

Breakfast lovers might try swapping scrambled eggs and toast for a Ugandan rolex, a thin vegetable ome-

lion Tuesday to 2.1 million Wednesday.

6. Then there was “Coat of Many Colors,” with 28.9K streams Monday to 1.3 million Tuesday and 1.9 million Wednesday.

7. “Why’d You Come In Here Lookin’ Like That?” climbed from 22.1K Monday to 827K Tuesday and 1.3 million Wednesday.

8. “There Was Jesus,” her 2019 duet with Christian singer Zach Williams, rose from 85.2K streams Monday to 635.1K Tuesday and 682.0K Wednesday.

9. “My Tennessee Mountain Home” increased from 5.8K Monday to 562.3K Tuesday and 1.1 million Wednesday.

10. “Tyrant,” Parton’s collaboration with Beyoncé won 2024

album “Cowboy Carter,” jumped from 47.8K Tuesday to 559.2K Tuesday and 755.5K Wednesday.

Sales for such Parton-related books as the memoir “Dolly Parton, Songteller” My Life

Curious to hear more Parton? Check out The Associated Press’ official playlist - from her country songs that challenge traditional gender dynamics to the greatest ballad ever committed to record - and read the stories behind them, here.

Meanwhile, a push by fans to rename Nashville’s airport for Dolly Parton appears to be taking flight just days after the country music icon’s death.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee and the CEO of the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority both came out in favor of the name change Friday. It’s expected to come up at the authority’s meeting next month.

Long before 80-year-old Parton died Tuesday, fans in January 2025 started an online petition calling for officials to

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People

Fans push to rename Nashville airport after Dolly

Parton’s songs soar to global streaming top

NEW YORK, Aug 29, (AP): Dolly Parton was many things: A country star, actor, philanthropist, entrepreneur, theme park enthusiast, Christian who centered acceptance in her personal theology and so much more. But for many, her death Tuesday has served as a reminder that at the heart of her legacy is her role as a songwriter. And around the world, people are streaming her songs en masse.

According to evolving data released early Friday afternoon by the industry data and analytics company Luminate, audio and video streams of Parton’s discography skyrocketed 2,458% on the day of her death, compared to Monday - climbing from 1.2 million to 30.5 million in the U.S. And by Wednesday, that number rose to 46.3 million.

Worldwide, her audio and video streams jumped 1,549%, from 2.5 million on Monday to 41.8 million Tuesday.

And on Wednesday, her on-demand audio streams jumped to 79.7 million, making her the most streamed artist, globally, on that date.

In the U.S., 10 songs led the charge:

1. “Jolene” grew from over 196.2K streams on Monday to 3.3 million Tuesday and 4 million Wednesday.

2. “9 to 5” jumped from 208.6K on Monday to 3.0 million on Tuesday and 3.6 million on Wednesday.

3. “Islands in the Stream,” her duet with the late Kenny Rogers, climbed from 165.9K on Monday to 2.1 million Tuesday and 2.9 million Wednesday.

4. “I Will Always Love You,” Parton’s performance of her own classic, a song that was later made famous by Whitney Houston’s rendition, rose from 64.9K streams on Monday to 2.0 million Tuesday and 2.8 million Wednesday.

5. “Here You Come Again” followed, moving from 48.7K streams Monday to 1.5 mil-



A portrait of the late Dolly Parton surrounded by flowers and cards in a memorial sits outside her home Thursday, Aug. 27, 2026, in Brentwood, Tenn. (AP)

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Sales for such Parton-related books as the memoir “Dolly Parton, Songteller” My Life



Dolly Parton performs on NBC’s “Today” show in New York on May 13, 2014. (AP)

in Lyrics” and a picture story based on her classic song “Coat of Many Colors” were also soaring. As of early Friday afternoon, three Parton books were in the top 5 on Amazon.com’s bestseller list.

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Long before 80-year-old Parton died Tuesday, fans in January 2025 started an online petition calling for officials to

rename Nashville International Airport in her honor. It got renewed attention following Parton’s death, jumping to more than 155,000 signatures Friday.

The change would make Parton the first woman whose name adorns one of America’s 50 busiest airports.

The governor said he’s already discussed the idea with representatives for Parton.

“At a place where Tennessee welcomes the world, it is fitting that Nashville International Airport would bear the name of our state’s favorite daughter and greet travelers with the enduring legacy of Dolly’s music, generosity, faith, and kindness,” Lee said in a statement.

Born in poverty in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, Parton became an icon whose popularity crossed generational, geographic and political boundaries. In addition to writing and recording hit songs such as “Jolene” and “I Will Always Love You,” she starred in Hollywood films including “9 to 5” and “Steel Magnolias.”

A number of American airports bear the names of beloved celebrities, from Muhammad Ali International Airport in Louisville, Kentucky, to John Wayne Airport in Orange County, California. New Orleans’ airport was renamed for jazz icon Louis Armstrong in 2001.

The vast majority of U.S. airports named for a person honor men. Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock, Arkansas, is one exception. Another is Amelia Earhart Memorial Airport in Atchison, Kansas.

Putting Parton’s name on the Nashville airport could require its governing authority to revisit its policy for such honors, which states that airport properties should only be named for people who have been dead for at least two years.

The governor’s office said his proposal and the naming policy will be discussed by the airport authority at its meeting Sept. 17.

of her regular cooking rotation, in part because they are simple to prepare and often allow for ingredient substitutions that don’t change the overall flavor or integrity of the dish, she said.

“For example, they have calamansi juice, which is a type of citrus, but you can use lemon, no problem,” she said.

Other favorite ingredients for Shereshevsky include pork floss - a Chinese finely shredded dried pork with a texture similar to savory cotton candy - and aji panca, a mild Peruvian chile with a sweet and smoky flavor. Banana sauce, a sweet and tangy cousin to tomato ketchup, is another pantry staple, she said.

It can be fun to dabble in different cuisines, but real satisfaction comes from appreciating the cultures and people behind the food, says Louangketh.

“Food is about building community,” she said, and creating opportunities “to connect through something that is healthy.”

Consider attending cultural festivals or events or taking classes, like the free online “Kitchen of Exotic Eats” cooking classes offered by the Idaho Museum of International Diaspora.

Viral food trends may offer an easy entry point to exploring a new cuisine, said Shereshevsky, but don’t let that overshadow the history of a dish. “If you take the time to understand where that food is from, you can get a lot out of it and learn a lot from the people who have grown up with these dishes,” she said.



US President Donald Trump holds up a flight jacket presented to him by Artemis II crew members Christina Koch, from left, Victor Glover, Reid Wiseman and Jeremy Hansen, after the crew accepted the Congressional Space Medal of Honor on Aug 28 at Johnson Space Center in Houston. (AP)

Artemis II astronauts get nation’s highest space honor for successful moonshot

WASHINGTON, Aug 29, (AP): The Artemis II astronauts who flew around the moon earlier this year received the nation’s highest space honor on Friday.

President Donald Trump presented the Congressional Space Medal of Honor to the three Americans and one Canadian whose April lunar flyby set a new distance record for humanity.

NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman and other dignitaries took part in the packed ceremony at Houston’s Johnson Space Center, home to Mission Control. Trump used the occasion to announce the creation of a US Space Academy for the Space Force as well as NASA and the commercial space community.

“Space is the hot thing,” the president told the crowd, adding that the academy’s location has yet to be determined.

Commander Reid Wiseman, pilot Victor Glover, Christina Koch and Canada’s Jeremy Hansen became the first astronauts to travel to the moon in more than half a century, coming within 4,067 miles (6,545 kilometers) while test-driving NASA’s new Orion capsule. They were the first to launch aboard NASA’s new moon rocket, a 30-story behemoth that had soared only once before from Florida’s Kennedy Space Center.

While they didn’t stop at the moon, the four set the stage for next year’s Artemis III docking rehearsal in orbit around Earth. Artemis IV’s moon landing by two astronauts, near the lunar south pole, could follow as soon as 2028.

Trump said Americans will land back on the moon before his term ends. Mars is next - “very shortly,” he said.

The president called the newest recipients “four intrepid space heroes.” He pointed out that they did not do it alone, thanking all who contributed to the Artemis II mission.

“There are no finer humans we could have sent as our ambassadors to the stars,” Isaacman added.

Wiseman and his crew are in good company, with only 30 astronauts receiving the prestigious honor before them. Many of the recipients were honored posthumously following their tragic spaceflight-related deaths.

Apollo 11 commander Neil Armstrong - whose phrase “That’s one step for man, one giant leap for mankind” gripped the world on July 20, 1969 - was the first to receive the Congressional Space Medal of Honor.

President Jimmy Carter awarded six of these medals in 1978, which also went to Alan Shepard, the first American in space; John Glenn, the first American in orbit; and Apollo 8 commander Frank Borman, whose 1968 mission marked humanity’s first lunar voyage.

The most recent recipients were Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken, the first astronauts to launch aboard a SpaceX rocket. Coming nine years after the space shuttle program’s close, their 2020 test flight to the International Space Station restored America’s ability to launch crews from home soil. President Joe Biden awarded them the medals in 2023.

Climate impacts worsen

United Nations talks in Mongolia expose growing drought crisis

BENGALURU, India, Aug 29, (AP): Representatives from nearly 200 countries wrapped up United Nations desertification talks in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on Friday, seeking ways to keep land productive as climate change heats the planet and degraded soils and landscapes lose their ability to hold water, produce food and support livelihoods.

Up to 40% of the world’s land is degraded, according to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, which organizes the biennial talks. Droughts are also emerging in areas that were not considered highly vulnerable a decade ago, said Yasmine Fouad, the convention’s executive secretary.

“Drought is coming coupled with the impact of climate change,” Fouad said in an interview with the Associated Press. “It’s becoming more frequent, more intense and more prolonged.”

Countries left Ulaanbaatar without resolving one of the talks’ key issues - whether to create a legally binding global drought agreement - postponing a decision until the next round of talks in Egypt in two years. The issue had already been deferred at the previous meeting two years ago.

Drought is often described as a

shortage of rain. But specialists at the conference said its severity is increasingly determined by what happens to land before the rain stops.

Healthy soils absorb and store water, helping crops, grasslands and natural ecosystems survive dry periods. Degraded soils shed water more quickly and lose productivity, making communities more vulnerable when temperatures climb or rainfall becomes erratic, according to land experts.

“You cannot maintain healthy soil without managing your water,” Fouad said. “And you cannot say we have sustainable water management without ensuring that your soil and your land is OK.”

The connection between land and water is especially important for agriculture. Joao Campari, global leader for food and agriculture at WWF International, said treating land and water as separate systems overlooks the basic conditions needed for food security.

“If you don’t have water, you don’t have agriculture. If you don’t have land, you don’t have agriculture,” he said.

The pressure on land is expected to grow as demand for food increases. According to UN reports,



The historic packhorse bridge at Baittings Reservoir near Sowerby Bridge is exposed as water levels drop amid a drought in Sowerby Bridge, England on Aug 13. (AP)

with the world’s population growing, the world will need to produce 50% more food than it did in 2012 by 2050. But expanding production by clearing grasslands, savannas or other natural areas can worsen land degradation, releasing carbon from soils and reducing the ability of landscapes to store water.

Land degradation can also worsen sand and dust storms. Fouad said

that while the storms are carried through the air, their roots are often on the ground, where unsustainable land use leaves soil exposed. Restoring vegetation and improving land management can help keep soil in place and reduce the amount swept up by strong winds.

The 12-day conference launched a rangelands initiative bringing together \$1.2 billion across 45 projects.

Fouad said the Asian Development Bank also announced \$2 billion for efforts to combat land degradation in the Asia Pacific region.

Rangelands - including grasslands, savannas and other areas used by grazing animals and pastoral communities - cover 54% of the Earth’s land surface and support around 2 billion people, according to the UNCCD.

Campari said grasslands, savannas and rangelands are being converted to other uses at roughly four times the rate of forests. Because they hold large amounts of carbon in their soils, their destruction can release greenhouse gases to the atmosphere even when few trees are being cut down.

“They contain twice the carbon that is in the atmosphere,” Campari said. “So when you clear these spaces to produce food, it means that all this carbon leaves the soil and enters the atmosphere.”

An estimated \$355 billion a year is needed through 2030 to meet global land restoration commitments, but current investment is about \$77 billion, leaving a gap of \$278 billion annually. Private finance accounts for only about 6% of global investment in land restoration, according to U.N. reports.

The challenge is not only raising money but making it available before drought becomes a disaster. More than 70 countries now have national drought plans, up from three in 2013, but climate experts say plans often lack the funding needed to turn early warnings, water management, restoration and agricultural adaptation into action.

Fouad said governments need to move from drought plans to investment plans, bringing private companies, local communities, women and young people into national platforms that can develop projects and attract financing.

A new Drought Resilience Investment Facility, announced earlier this week in Ulaanbaatar, aims to mobilize up to \$400 million in public and private capital for projects involving water security, sustainable agriculture, nature-based solutions and land restoration.

For Esther Penunia, secretary general of the Asian Farmers Association, the inability to settle the legal question around drought should not become an excuse for delay.

“We cannot wait for COP18 for solutions,” she said. “We know we have solutions and we can do them as long as we have the necessary resources.”

Extreme heat taking a toll on firefighters as wildfires stretch crews to the limit

The Conversation is an independent and non-profit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.



By Julian L. Gallegos
Purdue University

When a wildfire threatens a community, most people don’t think to ask whether the firefighters coming to help slept enough the night before, recovered from the previous day’s shift or have enough energy left for another day on the fire line. They simply expect firefighters to show up.

But that workforce is increasingly being stretched to its limits.

The U.S. national fire preparedness level has been at 5 for weeks in summer 2026, its highest level, suggesting firefighting resources are fully committed and some regions may need emergency staffing measures to meet the demand. Crews were battling more than 90 large fires in late August, and firefighters in the Southwest and Texas faced daytime temperatures over 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) at times.

In conditions like this, the unrelenting heat, stress and smoke take a toll on firefighters’ bodies.

Training, fitness and protective equipment allow firefighters to work in these extraordinary environments. But as a nurse practitioner, firefighter and founder of Purdue University’s FIRE Lab, I know too well that none of that makes the human body’s capabilities limitless.

Wildland firefighters face heat from the environment, the fire and their own bodies.

Hiking steep terrain with heavy equipment, clearing brush and cutting fire line to stop fires from spreading creates internal metabolic heat. Sun and high air temperatures add environmental heat, while flames and smoldering fuels contribute radiant heat.

The body responds by sending more blood toward the skin to release that heat while continuing to supply oxygen to working muscles. The heart works harder to support both jobs.

As fluid losses increase, the volume of blood circulating through the body can fall, the heart rate rises, and the work of fighting fires feels harder.

Field studies show how this strain can become severe. In one study of 221 wildland firefighters on the job, 61% reached a core temperature of at least 100 F (38 C). About 50% reached a physiological strain index of 6 or greater on a 0-to-10 scale that combines heart rate and core temperature to measure how hard the body is working to cope with heat. Among those whose body temperatures crossed 100 F, the majority remained above that temperature for more than 30 minutes.

A core temperature of 100 F does not by itself mean heat stroke, but it signals substantial physiological strain. Staying hydrated helps the body sweat and keep blood circulating, but even a fully hydrated firefighter can overheat when the body gains and produces heat faster than it can release it.

Heat strain may begin with fatigue, headache, dizziness, weakness or nausea and progress to heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Severe hyperthermia can affect the brain, heart, kidneys and liver.

Wildland firefighters can also face rhabdomyolysis, a breakdown of skeletal muscle that can contribute to kidney injury. The National Institute for Occupational Safety

and Health reported 62 severe cases among wildland firefighters from 2010 to 2020 and cautioned that the true number was probably higher.

Heat adds to fatigue when firefighters must anticipate fire behavior and make rapid decisions.

A 2025 field study found that wildland firefighters averaged 13.8-hour shifts on days when they were fighting fires and got around 6.7 hours of sleep. Poorer sleep and longer shifts were associated with reduced cognitive function, which can affect a firefighter’s ability to make split-second calls, such as when to retreat from an escalating fire.

The effects of heat and exhaustion can also add up. A firefighter can finish a shift hot, smoke-exposed and physically depleted, sleep in a warm camp and return to the line before fully recovering. Repeating that pattern across days and fire seasons may place ongoing strain on the heart, lungs and kidneys.

Smoke adds another health risk. Wildland firefighters commonly work in smoke without the kind of protection that firefighters use when fighting blazes inside buildings.

A 2019 exposure-modeling study estimated that, depending on the number of fire days worked over a career, cumulative smoke exposure could increase a wildland firefighter’s risk of dying from lung cancer by 8% to 43% and dying from cardiovascular disease by 16% to 30%. These are estimates, but they show why career-long exposure deserves attention.

Kidney health is another emerging concern. A 2025 study of 39 wildland firefighters found temporary decreases in kidney function and changes in kidney-injury biomarkers during one midseason fire incident. More research is needed to determine whether firefighting over seasons and years can lead to persistent kidney damage.

These findings raise an important occupational health question: What happens when heat, dehydration, smoke, sleep disruption and extreme physical exertion accumulate not only across one incident but across an entire career?

The heat isn’t going away, but there are ways wildfire management agencies can reduce the risk to firefighters.

First, firefighter health should be an important part of national wildfire readiness policies. Having adequate staffing so firefighters aren’t overworked and have meaningful enough recovery time to rehydrate, cool down and sleep between shifts are important. So are conditions that allow real sleep between shifts.

Monitoring firefighters’ health can also help catch early warning signs, such as kidney stress or burnout.

The public can also help by reducing the likelihood of high-stress fire situations.

The National Interagency Fire Center estimates that about 85% of U.S. wildfires are caused by human activities. Some of those can be avoided by fully extinguishing campfires, checking local fire restrictions, avoiding spark-producing activities on dry, windy days when fire risk is high, and maintaining vehicles and trailers so metal does not drag and ignite vegetation.

If you live in wildfire-prone country, creating defensible space and reducing combustible material around your home can reduce the fuel for fires. Evacuating promptly in an emergency also reduces the likelihood firefighters will have to put themselves in high-stress situations to rescue you.

We all expect firefighters to be there when the worst happens. Making sure they can do their jobs and stay healthy will allow them to continue to show up. (AP)

Donor fatigue guts demining in Asia, as active conflicts draw away funding

SIEM REAP, Cambodia, Aug 29, (AP): En Poy was minding cattle in a former Khmer Rouge stronghold in Cambodia when he set off his first land mine.

The blast from the rusty relic he picked up cost him an arm and an eye. It also inspired his career with the nonprofit Cambodian Self Help Demining, which clears land mines and unexploded ordnance across the country, deadly remnants of wars from the last century.

Groups like Poy’s that rely on foreign aid are struggling as donors shift funding for humanitarian demining toward active conflicts in Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan, and to more recent wars, like in Syria and Afghanistan. Today’s conflicts are also driving higher defense spending, leaving less money for aid.

President Donald Trump’s dismantling of the US Agency for International Development and a 90-day freeze on foreign aid last year worsened the problems, though American demining support to Cambodia has restarted.



Deminers prepare to enter a landmine field in Siem Reap, Cambodia on July 2. (AP)

Cambodia’s predicament shows that dangers remain even when fighting ends. Demining groups say that without international support, Southeast Asia’s unfinished work clearing land mines and unexploded bombs will continue to endanger communities, maiming and killing people and slowing development for years to come.

Poy was wounded in a second land mine explosion that pierced his face and body with shrapnel and killed three of his colleagues. He now educates fellow Cambodians in high-risk areas on how to avoid such dangers. But he’s not sure how long that will last.

“If one day donors stop funding my organization, I would definitely be sad because we haven’t finished our job,” he said. “There are still a lot of landmines left over.”

The Vietnam War bled into neighboring Cambodia and Laos, triggering strife that lasted long after the Americans fled the fall of Saigon, including the Khmer Rouge’s reign of terror, which killed about 1.7 million Cambodians.

Cambodia is one of the world’s most land-mined countries. Laos is the most heavily bombed country per capita in history and Vietnam still battles the fallout of chemical weapons.

Since the wars ended, land mines and unexploded ordnance have

killed approximately 90,000 people and wounded almost twice as many across the three countries.

Leftover weapons lie beneath fields and forests, blocking construction of roads and schools. They are deadly discoveries, mistaken for toys by children who account for more than 40% of the civilian casualties recorded globally since 1999 by the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor, formed by nonprofit groups to track such issues. Demining is slow and painstaking work.

Teams first survey and map contaminated areas. Then step-by-step they clear vegetation, using metal detectors and specialized equipment to locate explosives and destroy them. Progress is measured in meters (feet) a day and work often stops in wet weather.

“These things don’t really become less dangerous with time. They become more dangerous as they deteriorate,” said Charles Ray, a Vietnam War veteran who became the first post-war U.S. consul general in Ho Chi Minh City and later ambassador to Cambodia.

By funding demining, the US proved it cared, Ray said. “We’re not just this behemoth that comes in with our military machine and breaks things, we can also help nations rebuild,” he said.

Funding for humanitarian demining amounted to \$4.3 billion from

2020 to 2024, according to the land mine monitor.

National contributions from affected countries made up about a fifth and foreign aid provided the rest, with most of the funds from the US, Germany, the European Union, Norway, and Switzerland, the land mine monitor says.

Recent conflicts are creating unprecedented demand for demining as contaminated areas expand, said Maria Vardis of the UN Mine Action Service.

Ukraine received a third of all humanitarian demining funding in 2024, more than any other country, the land mine monitor found. Other active conflict zones, like Yemen and Gaza, received increased funding, while demining efforts in Syria, Sudan and Afghanistan have also ramped up, while some Asian nations are getting less funding.

Germany is considering reducing foreign aid in favor of defense spending and military support to Ukraine.

At the same time, more land mines are being planted and bombs dropped in other conflicts such as the civil war in Myanmar and border conflicts between Cambodia and Thailand.

“Funding does fluctuate year to year, but in the big picture, even in the face of cuts by many governments, the big crises continue to be funded, but smaller and older mine action projects are struggling,” Vardis said.

Extension keeps defending champion with team into next decade

Norris signs long-term McLaren contract through 2030

LONDON, Aug 29, (AP): Defending world champion Lando Norris has extended his contract with McLaren until at least the end of 2030, the F1 team said Saturday.

McLaren said the new deal features “a multi-year option to commit beyond that date.”

Financial terms were not announced. The Press Association news agency said the British driver’s new contract could be worth up to \$35 million a year.

The 26-year-old Norris secured McLaren’s first drivers’ title last year since Lewis Hamilton won his first championship in 2008.

“McLaren is my home, and I’m very pleased to be signing a new contract to keep me with the team until at least 2030,” Norris said.

“When I started this journey nine years ago, I was clear about the goals I wanted to achieve: to get McLaren back to the front and to win championships. We’ve achieved that goal, but we want more; we want to keep on winning, and we know as a team that we’re capable of achieving it.”

The announcement came just over a week after his rival for the last two titles, Max Verstappen, similarly committed to 2030 with Red Bull.

These are very long contracts by F1 standards. Racing with McLaren into 2030 would mark 12 seasons for Norris with the team since his debut in 2019. That



McLaren driver Lando Norris of Britain in action during the Formula One Dutch Grand Prix in Zandvoort, Netherlands. (AP)

would match the current F1 record of Lewis Hamilton’s 12 seasons with Mercedes for the most by a driver with the same team, though Verstappen’s contract puts him on course to break that.

Norris won the Dutch Grand Prix on Aug. 23 after his victory in Hungary before the midseason break. He is currently fourth in the standings, trailing leader Kimi Antonelli of Mercedes by 83 points. Ahead of next weekend’s Italian Grand Prix, the back-to-back wins reignited talk of a successful title defense but Norris said he doesn’t yet have a car capable of vying for the championship.

“I know I’ve just won two races in a row and had two poles in a row, but at the minute I don’t have the car I need to fight for a championship,” Norris said. He added that the right changes to target McLaren’s troubles in slow-speed corners could set him up to chase down Antonelli.

Norris has raced in 163 Grands Prix for McLaren, more than any other driver in the team’s history, securing 18 pole positions, 48 podiums, and 13 wins.

“He is an exceptional driver, someone who combines outstanding natural speed with maturity, consistency and a strong commitment to McLaren, but above all, he is a special human being who is valued by everyone in the team,” said Andrea Stella, the McLaren team principal.

Crowd is going to be wild

Eala returns to US Open with a roaring fan base

NEW YORK, Aug 29, (AP): More than 8,000 fans packed the Grandstand at the U.S. Open last year to witness Alexandra Eala rally from down 5-1 in the third set to upset 14th-ranked Clara Tauson. The crowd went crazy, waving Filipino flags to celebrate the comeback.

Eala is now up to a career-best 18th in the world, and at just 21 appears to be on a trajectory to stardom that has outgrown all but the biggest venues at Flushing Meadows.

“The crowd is going to be wild for her,” ESPN’s Patrick McEnroe said. “Better make sure they don’t put her on one of those side courts early in the tournament.”

Eala is back in New York for the latest stop on the whirlwind tour that has her on a path to being one of the future faces of tennis. She is less than a month removed from winning in Washington for her first WTA title, and her popularity is exploding in the process.

Back at a Grand Slam after reaching the round of 16 at Wimbledon, she called herself “a drop in the ocean” while downplaying her impact on the sport.

“At the forefront of everything is gratitude: I’m very grateful for the support that my fans give me and that my supporters give me,” Eala said Friday. “Every single WTA player and every single ATP player has contributed to the world of tennis and its history just by being here and by putting in the work every single day.”

Part of what grounded Eala, she believes, is partnering with Venus Williams in doubles a couple of times this summer. She has also studied tennis history along the way and realized how much work it takes to get to the top.

“That really keeps me humble,” Eala said. “It keeps me motivated to work harder and stay among these incredible people.”

One of those incredible people is third-ranked Jessica Pegula, who was up a set in the final in Washington. Eala came back to become the first player from the Philippines to win a singles title on the tour.



Alexandra Eala, of the Philippines enter the court ahead of a mixed doubles match at the U.S. Open tennis championships in New York. (AP)

“I’ve gotten to compete against the best of the best a lot more frequently,” Eala said. “I have experienced so much growth in the past year, and so many milestones in my career.”

Mary Joe Fernandez, who once was ranked as high as fourth, called Eala “a big star to highlight” at the U.S. Open.

“Her game’s really good,” Fernandez said. “She backs it up. She’s improved tremendously, I think, in the last 12 months when we saw her break through. She’s getting better and better.”

Fernandez, now an ESPN analyst, marvels at Eala’s “off the charts” fan following that she saw firsthand last year in Miami.

“It’s just gotten bigger and bigger everywhere she goes,” Fernandez said. “Every point is loud. Every point she wins, it feels like she’s won more than a point. It’s remarkable.”

Eala is scheduled to play her first-round match against American qualifier Mary Stoiana. She would need to win three in a row to potentially set up a showdown with fourth-seeded Coco Gauff, which would almost certainly put Eala on center stage at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Pogacar’s Vuelta dream ends

XERACO, Spain, Aug 29, (AP): Five-time Tour de France champion Tadej Pogacar has pulled out of the Spanish Vuelta after crashing during the eighth stage of the race.

The Slovenian held a big lead in the race but got caught in a crash near the finish. He tried to get back on his bike but could not carry on and walked to an ambulance. Race organizers confirmed he pulled out of the race.

The UAE Team Emirates leader was trying to become the ninth male rider to win all three Grand Tour races. Pogacar won the Tour de France for a third straight time and a record-

tying fifth overall in July, and he claimed the Giro d’Italia win in 2024. He had not raced in the Vuelta since making his Grand Tour debut at the event in 2019.

TV footage showed Pogacar appeared to have hurt his left arm and shoulder.

Pogacar had a lead of 3 minutes, 50 minutes over Enric Mas of Movistar before Saturday’s stage, which did not feature any major difficulty and offered sprinters a chance to shine along a flat 171-kilometer (106-mile) route from Puçol to Xeraco.

The three-week race concludes in Granada on Sept. 13.

Joint statement by OCA & AINAGOC

NAGOY, Japan, Aug 29: Statement on the Athlete Accommodation for Aichi/Nagoya 20th Asian Games 2026.

Further to incorrect media reports regarding issues in securing accommodation for official Asian Games Participants, the Olympic Council of Asia and the Aichi Nagoya Asian Games Organizing Committee (AINAGOC) can confirm the following:

All the 17,000+ athletes and officials that are registered for the Asian Games before the closing of

Entry by Name in July have been provided with Games-appropriate accommodation.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, no further registrations have been or will be permitted.

The final preparations are all on track and progressing smoothly ahead of what promises to be the most spectacular Asian Games held for generations.

Olympic council of asia, Aichi nagoya asian games organizing committee

Clark, Mitchell combine for 68 as Fever cruises past Sun

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug 29, (AP): Caitlin Clark and Kelsey Mitchell each scored 34 points as the Indiana Fever got past the Connecticut Sun 111-91.

The pair scored 30 or more for the fourth game this season, extending their WNBA single-season record for a duo.

Clark added 12 assists, marking the fifth time this year she’s had a double-double with at least 30 and 10.

Mitchell notched her 24th straight 20-point game in the Fever’s final game before a three-week break for the FIBA Women’s World Cup. Indiana has won seven of nine as Clark, Aliyah Boston, and coach Stephanie White head to Berlin for the tournament. Boston scored 14 points.

Diamond Miller finished with 19 points and Nell Angloma had 17 to lead Connecticut, who have lost six of their last eight games.

Indiana went on a 10-0 run to end the first quarter and start the second, nearly erasing all of a 28-14 deficit. Clark and Mitchell then combined for the first 12 points in an 18-2 run to close the first half, giving the Fever 58-43 lead.

After Connecticut cut the deficit to 62-52 midway through the third quarter, Indiana answered with a 14-5 run that extended the margin to 76-57. The Sun never recovered.

During the third quarter, Mitchell dished her 911th assist, moving past current Fever assistant coach Briann January her into second on Indiana’s all-time leaders.

The Fever paid tribute to the late Dolly Parton with a dance routine to the song “9 to 5” between the third and fourth quarters.

Fire 101, Dream 83

In Atlanta, Carla Leite scored 26 points, Emily Engstler added a career-high 25 and the Portland Fire beat playoff-bound Atlanta, ending the Dream’s four-game winning streak.

Leite shot 9 of 13 and Engstler was 11 of 14 as Portland finished at 58% (38 of 65) from the field.

Fire ends Dream's four-game win streak



Las Vegas Aces guard Jackie Young (0) drives against Toronto Tempo guard Kiki Rice (1) during the second half of a WNBA basketball game in Las Vegas. (AP)

Angel Reese had 16 points and 16 rebounds for the Dream (25-14), who fell into fifth place in the standings, one-half game behind Indiana. Reese, who has already set the league record for rebounds in a season, matched a WNBA record with her 28th double-double of the year.

Rhyne Howard scored 26 points for the Dream in their return home after an unbeaten, four-game West Coast trip. Atlanta has one more game before the FIBA Women’s World Cup break, on Sunday against visiting Minnesota.

DeWanna Bonner, signed to give the Dream some veteran help in the playoffs, did not play Friday. A two-time NBA champion with Phoenix, the Mercury bought out Bonner’s contract so she could sign with a contender.

Sparks 88, Mystics 82

In Los Angeles, Nneka Ogwumike had 24 points, Rae Burrell scored 12 of her 15 points in the fourth quarter, and the Los Angeles Sparks beat the Washington Mystics.

Los Angeles went on a 13-2 run late in the fourth quarter to pull away. Burrell made a 3-pointer with 2:54 left and added a transition layup on Los Angeles’ next possession - following a block by Cameron Brink - to cap the run and go ahead 85-78.

Brink finished with 13 points and two blocks off the bench for Los Angeles (14-25). Monique Akoka Makani had 10 points.

Washington (24-16) was playing on consecutive nights for the first time this season after beating Phoenix 80-73 on Thursday. The Mystics turned the ball over 17 times, leading to 31 points for Los Angeles.

Sonia Citron made four 3-pointers and scored 22 points for Washington, which had won three straight on the road. Shakira Austin had 19 points and 10 rebounds, and Kiki Iriafen added 12 points and 10 rebounds for her 20th double-double this season.

Aces 93, Tempo 73

In Las Vegas, A’ja Wilson had 27 points and eight rebounds, Jackie Young scored 23 points, and the Las Vegas Aces beat the Toronto Tempo .

Young also had eight assists with no turnovers. Chelsea Gray added 11 points. It was the Aces’ first game without NaLyssa Smith, who was lost for the remainder of the season after suffering a left leg injury in Sunday’s 88-78 win over Toronto.

Isabelle Harrison scored 15 points for Toronto (11-28), Laura Juskaite 14, Kia Nurse 12 and Kiki Rice and reserve Kiana Williams 10 apiece.

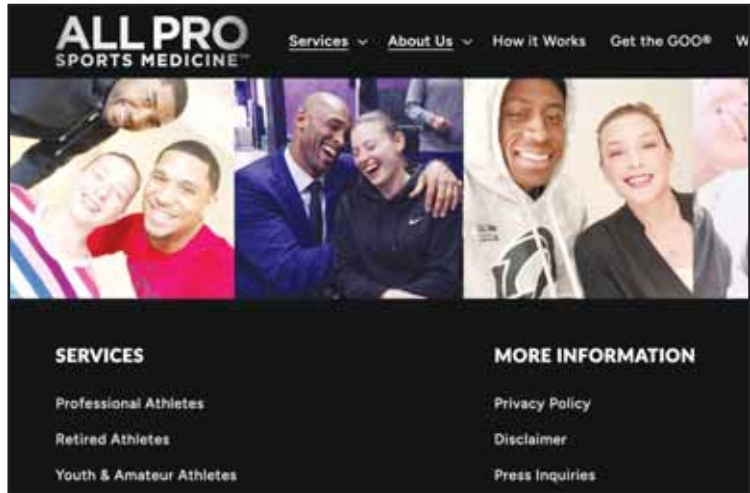
Rubinger agreed to pay \$1.4M and stop prescribing

DEA revokes pain specialist’s opioid authority

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Aug 29, (AP): Joan Rubinger overcame a catastrophic biking accident that left her paralyzed to become an influential pain-relief specialist helping top-tier athletes get back on the field after acute and chronic injuries.

Her website touts a client list that includes 169 NFL Pro Bowl selections, 29 NBA and WNBA champions and 15 Olympic medalists. Among some of her most notable patients: NBA All Stars Kobe Bryant and Dwyane Wade, as well as MLB All Star Fernando Tatis Jr.

But behind the scenes, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration alleged in court filings, Rubinger doled out thousands of illegal prescriptions for highly addictive painkillers, a “covert and slinking” scheme the nurse practitioner likened to selling hamburgers at a fast-food restaurant. Over a four-year period, federal authorities said, the nurse practitioner prescribed 260,000 pills



This image shows part of Joan Rubinger’s All Pro Sports Medicine website in August 2026, displaying social media photos of her with several celebrity athletes. (AP)

containing controlled substances to patients in more than 20 states.

Citing what an administrative law

judge called egregious conduct, the DEA last month revoked Rubinger’s ability to prescribe opioids. That ac-

tion followed Rubinger’s agreement in March to pay \$1.4 million to settle a parallel Justice Department civil complaint that accused her of dispensing controlled substances like oxycodone, Percocet, and Xanax on hundreds of occasions without any legitimate medical purpose. Rubinger did not admit any wrongdoing as part of that settlement and agreed to never again prescribe controlled substances.

While authorities announced the settlement earlier this year, federal court papers unsealed at the request of The Associated Press provide new details of a medical provider who the DEA says was furiously enriching herself even as she put the health of her patients at risk.

The scheme, the DEA alleged in a seizure warrant, expanded over the years “from professional athletes” to a wide-range of other clients, including members of an Ohio-based street gang, a confessed New Jersey drug trafficker and a New York City model.

Change Name

I, KHALID SAJJAD SAIYAD holder of Indian Passport No. R8274682 having permanent address: House No. 15B, Near Jama Masjid, Pachad Mohalla, Raigarh, Pin: 402305, Maharashtra, India residing in Kuwait at present, hereby declare that henceforth my name will be read as under: Given name: KHALID SAJJAD and Surname: SAIYAD.

Japan’s Sakamoto beats idol Nishikori to qualify for US Open main draw

NEW YORK, Aug 29, (AP): Rei Sakamoto played his way into the U.S. Open - but only by taking the spot that Kei Nishikori, Japan’s greatest men’s tennis star, hoped to earn for one last Grand Slam appearance.

In a changing of the guard match, Sakamoto beat Nishikori 6-4, 7-6 (3) on Friday in the final round of qualifying to earn a place in the main draw.

“Not happy to lose today, but I’m happy for Rei,” Nishikori said. “He’s the next Japanese top player.”

The 20-year-old Sakamoto, like many other players from Japan, considers Nishikori his hero. He was 8 years old and remembers

when Nishikori reached the 2014 U.S. Open final, becoming the first Asian man to get that far in a Grand Slam tournament.

“I honestly grew up watching him play and he was my idol for my whole life,” Sakamoto said, “and it’s also a pity to see his last season.”

Sakamoto is typical of many tennis players and doesn’t like to look at his draw ahead of time to see who he might play. This time, though, he couldn’t help but find out.

“Like, after the second that draw came out, my mom texted me, ‘Hey, I hope you can make it to the final and play Kei,’” Sakamoto said. “So this time I got spoiled by my mom.”

Nishikori, 36, has battled injuries in recent years and has said this will be his final season. No longer ranked high enough for a guaranteed spot in the main draw, he was given a wild card by the U.S. Tennis Association into the qualifying tournament.

He won two matches, but needed one more to lock up his spot. With fans chanting his name late in the second set, Nishikori was outplayed by Sakamoto, who pounded 19 aces, the last to end it after Nishikori had saved two match points.

Afterward, Nishikori was presented with a framed portrait of himself in action by U.S. Open officials. Sakamoto helped hold it up for a picture together.

Man City welcomes PSG on Oct. 14

Real Madrid hosts Inter to open Champions League main phase

NYON, Switzerland, Aug 29, (AP): Record 15-time European champion Real Madrid will start the league phase of the Champions League on Sept. 8 when it hosts Inter Milan.

Match dates for each of the 36 teams' eight-game schedules were published Saturday by UEFA, two days after the draw in Monaco.

In two early starts on the opening day, Club Brugge will host Aston Villa and AEK Athens will welcome LASK, the newcomer from Austria. Both games will kick off at 6:45 p.m. (1645 GMT).

One day later, defending champion Paris Saint-Germain will host Slovan Bratislava - coached by Yaya Touré, the first African leading a team at the league phase - and Liverpool will host Atletico Madrid, a repeat of their opening game last season. That was a 3-2 win for Liverpool at Anfield.

Debut-making Sabah of Azerbaijan will start at Manchester United on Sept. 10, the same day Como hosts Leipzig and Bayern Munich welcomes Bodø/Glimt.

Manchester City hosting PSG on Oct. 14 is a highlight of the second round of games played more than one month later, after the new and



extended four-game slate for national teams.

PSG will then face Barcelona at Parc des Princes on Oct. 20, one day before Bayern Munich hosts Arsenal.

Barcelona's next trip will then be a long way east to play Sabah in Baku on Nov. 25, before the Spanish champion hosts Man City on Dec. 8.

Arsenal will host Real Madrid on Dec. 9 for the first of coach Jose Mourinho's scheduled

two visits to London.

Madrid will return on the final match day, Jan. 27, to face Shakhtar Donetsk at Chelsea, where Mourinho won three Premier League titles for the club's Russian then-owner Roman Abramovich. Stamford Bridge is the Ukrainian champion's choice of neutral venue for its four home games.

The two Norwegian teams each must have a home game in January, during their domestic offseason when the weather should be most severe, and both will be in the seventh round.

Bodø/Glimt will welcome host Atletico Madrid to the Arctic Circle at its tiny stadium on Jan. 19 and Viking will welcome PSV Eindhoven to Stavanger one day later.

The final round on Jan. 27 sees all 18 games start at the same time, when it's 9 p.m. in central Europe, and Barcelona will host newcomer Como coached by its former star Cesc Fabregas.

Como gets the toughest January run-in after hosting PSG one week earlier.

PSG will finish by hosting Galatasaray, Arsenal will host Sabah and Bayern will host Real Betis.

Al-Hilal routs Al-Khaleej

Veteran Ronaldo fires Al-Nassr to comeback victory over Al-Taawoun



Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates with his teammate.

RIYADH, Aug 29: Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice as Al-Nassr came from behind to beat Al-Taawoun and take sole possession of the top spot in the Roshn Saudi Professional League.

Al-Taawoun struck first in the 12th minute when Bassam Al-Hurajji reacted quickest after a shot came back off the crossbar, finishing past Al-Nassr goalkeeper Nawaf Al-Aqidi.

Ronaldo restored parity deep into first-half stoppage time with a powerful finish, before completing the comeback five minutes after the restart. The Portuguese star turned Mohamed Simakan's effort into the net to give Al-Nassr a 2-1 lead and secure all three points.

The brace also took Ronaldo's tally to 104 league goals for Al-Nassr, making him the club's all-time leading scorer in the competition.

Al-Nassr now has 12 points from four matches and sit top of the standings with a

perfect record. Al-Taawoun remains 15th with two draws and two defeats.

Al-Hilal produced a stunning first-half performance to beat Al-Khaleej 5-1 and move into second place.

Mohamed Kader Meite opened the scoring in the 15th minute, while Sergej Milinkovic-Savic doubled the advantage in the 29th.

Al-Khaleej pulled one back through Saleh Al-Amri in the 38th minute, but Al-Hilal responded immediately as Theo Hernandez restored their two-goal lead two minutes later.

Crysencio Summerville added a fourth in the 43rd minute before Sultan Mandash completed the scoring in stoppage time.

Al-Hilal moved to nine points, three behind leaders Al-Nassr, and will face Al-Ahli next week in a postponed match from the previous round. Al-Khaleej remains 13th on three points.

Bayern hits Stuttgart for five to open Bundesliga campaign



Stuttgart's goalkeeper Fabian Bredlow, fourth from right, makes a save during the Bundesliga soccer match between Bayern Munich and VfB Stuttgart in Munich, Germany. (AP)

PSG scores two goals in stoppage time to draw at Lille

MUNICH, Aug 29, (Agencies): Bayern Munich made a powerful start to its Bundesliga title defence, cruising to a 5-1 victory over Stuttgart at the Allianz Arena in the opening round.

Dayot Upamecano broke the deadlock in the 21st minute, rising to meet Joshua Kimmich's cross with a precise header and ending Stuttgart's early resistance.

Bayern dominated the opening half but had only a one-goal lead to show for its superiority at the interval.

Stuttgart leveled seven minutes into the second half when Joshua Vagnoman pounced on a rebound from the Bayern defence and fired into the net.

The visitors' joy was short-lived, however. Michael Olise restored Bayern's advantage in the 55th minute after breaking through the Stuttgart defence and finishing from Kimmich's pass.

Bayern extended its lead two minutes later when Vagnoman inadvertently turned the ball into his own net while attempting to clear.

With Stuttgart forced to push forward, Bayern found increasing space on the counter. Aleksandar Pavlovic made it 4-1 in the 82nd minute after a quick break led by Moroccan Is-

mael Saibari.

Luis Diaz completed the scoring in the second minute of stoppage time, converting another assist from Saibari to seal a five-goal victory.

Despite Harry Kane failing to get on the scoresheet, Bayern's attacking depth ensured a comfortable opening win and handed coach Vincent Kompany an ideal start to the new campaign.

Bayern travels to newly promoted Schalke in the second round on September 5, while Stuttgart hosts Cologne a day earlier.

Paris Saint-Germain scored two goals in stoppage time to draw at Lille 2-2 and record its second consecutive Ligue 1 draw.

The French and European champion came from behind to draw 2-2 at Rennes last week but looked certain to leave Lille empty-handed. A spectacular first half strike from Hakon Arnar Haraldsson and an 84th-minute goal from Dilane Bakwa put the home side in command.

However, Vitorinha after 91 minutes and Marquinhos four minutes later guaranteed a remarkable recovery for Luis Henrique's side.

Haaland opened the scoring with a header in the 17th minute and rounded it off with a left-foot strike six minutes from time.

Cherki scored in the 54th and 59th minutes, achieving his first Premier League brace in his 181st appearance.

Palace's goal came in between the two Cher-

ki strikes; Jeremy Pino's fantastic free kick rebounded off the bar and into the net of goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma.

Serie A leader AC Milan snapped a four-game losing run at home by beating newly promoted Venezia 2-0 at the San Siro.

Goncalo Ramos after 69 minutes and then an own goal from Redouane Halhal a minute before time gave the home side a comfortable win.

The result means Ruben Amorim's side are two for two so far as it seeks to halt the dominance of champion and city rival Inter Milan.

It was a welcome win for a side that lost its last three home games last season and another early warning for Venezia, which lost its league opener away at Lecce 2-0.

Alaves went to the top of La Liga when it beat Villarreal 1-0 to maintain its unbeaten start.

Argentine Lucas Boye got the only goal after 31 minutes. Alaves has seven points from its first three games.

Earlier, Yassir Zabiri scored a first half hat trick to put Racing Santander on the road to a 3-2 victory against Elche.

Elche hit back with late goals from Buba Sangare and Fer Nino but the home side held on to take all three points and leave Elche looking for its first win.

Elche has one point from nine, while Racing has four.

Al-Shami cites financial struggles after leaving Egypt wrestling camp

CAIRO, Aug 29: Egyptian wrestler Mohamed Al-Shami has spoken about his decision to leave the national team's camp while competing at an international tournament, citing financial difficulties and concerns about his future.

The Egyptian Ministry of Youth and Sports discovered that Al-Shami had left the camp hours after young wrestler Ziad Haggag also disappeared during the national team's participation in a tournament in Slovakia.

The ministry referred both incidents to the Public Prosecution for legal action and an investigation into the administrative circumstances surrounding the two cases.

In a statement posted on Facebook, Al-Shami said the financial support he

received was not enough to provide a decent standard of living or help him secure his future.

The wrestler said he was also unable to continue placing additional financial pressure on his father, noting that he is the eldest of his siblings.

Al-Shami said he had become increasingly concerned about what would happen if an injury ended his career or if he eventually retired without having any financial security, despite the achievements he had made in wrestling.

He illustrated his concerns by saying that even if he remained in the same position for another 15 years, he would still be unable to afford an apartment in which to start a married life.



Egyptian wrestler Mohamed Al-Shami.

Leão heads to Turkey ahead of expected transfer from Milan to Galatasaray

Liverpool lands Barcola in blockbuster \$166M PSG deal

PARIS, Aug 29, (AP): Paris Saint-Germain forward Bradley Barcola is heading to Liverpool in one of the big-money signings of the summer transfer window.

The clubs have agreed to a deal worth 123 million pounds (\$166 million) for Barcola, a person with knowledge of the transaction confirmed to The Associated Press on Saturday.

The person confirmed the deal on the condition of anonymity because the details have not been made public.

Neither Liverpool nor PSG have made any official comment about the transfer.

The deal will see Liverpool paying 106 million pounds (\$143 million) for the France international and up to an additional 17 million

pounds (\$23 million) in potential add-ons.

The 23-year-old Barcola, who



Paris Saint-Germain and French forward Bradley Barcola

has won back-to-back Champions League titles with PSG, is expected to undergo a medical examination. The transfer window closes Tuesday.

It will be another expensive attacking signing by Liverpool, which spent 125 million pounds (\$170 million) on striker Alexander Isak and 116 million pounds (\$156 million) on attacking midfielder Florian Wirtz last summer.

If Barcola signs, he'll look to inspire Liverpool to a first win this season, with the team having drawn its first two Premier League games 2-2 - against Newcastle last weekend and Nottingham Forest on Saturday.

Barcola has played for PSG since joining from Lyon in 2023. He plays as a left winger and has mostly been used as an impact substitute by PSG,

with Désiré Doué typically starting ahead of him.

Portugal winger Rafael Leão is on his way to Turkey where he is expected to join Galatasaray.

On Saturday, the Turkish club posted a short video on X of the 27-year-old player sitting on a plane and sending a message to the club's fans.

Galatasaray said it's started discussions for his transfer from AC Milan.

Leão, who played at the World Cup this year, was also reportedly courted by Aston Villa. He is set to sign a four-year contract with Galatasaray, according to media reports.

Milan signed Leão from French club Lille in 2019.

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NEWS



Crystal Palace goalkeeper Dean Henderson is unable to stop a goal by Manchester City's Erling Haaland during the Premier League soccer match between Crystal Palace and Manchester City in London. (AP)

Sports

Kuwaiti strikes gold at Asian Youth Bowling Championship

Iskandar leads the charge

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Aug 29: Kuwait enjoyed a successful campaign at the Asian Youth Bowling Championship in Jakarta, Indonesia, collecting gold, silver and bronze medals.

Sharifa Iskandar led Kuwait's medal haul by winning gold in the Masters event. She also claimed silver in the singles competition after finishing runner-up.

Kuwait secured a bronze medal in the youth doubles event, with Hussein Qasim and Fahad Al-Saqabi finishing third.

Kuwait and International Bowling Federation President Sheikh Talal Mohammed Al-Sabah praised the team's achievements, describing them as the result of extensive efforts and sustained work to develop the sport and nurture young talent.

Sheikh Talal Mohammed said the results reflected the progress made through greater attention to youth development and a clear strategy aimed at strengthening Kuwait's presence at Asian and international competitions.

He praised the players for their determination and commitment, while also congratulating the technical and administrative staff and the athletes' families for their support throughout the tournament.

Sheikh Talal Mohammed said the championship featured strong competition and expressed appreciation to everyone who contributed to the team's success, particularly the Public Authority for Sports for its continued support and efforts to facilitate the development of bowling.

He expressed hope that Kuwait's young bowlers would continue to deliver more achievements and raise the country's flag at major sporting events.



The Kuwaiti bowling delegation celebrates successful campaign at the Asian Youth Bowling Championship in Jakarta.

Al-Qadsia strengthens roster

Kuwait stays on course for Asia Cup

By Khaled Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

DUBAI, Aug 29: Kuwait cruised to a convincing 88-65 victory over Nepal in the third round of the first window of the Asian qualifiers for the FIBA Asia Cup in Dubai.

The Blues control proceedings from start to finish, with Kuwait producing a strong all-round performance to secure a comfortable win.

The victory took Kuwait's tally to five points from three wins, leaving them level with the UAE at the top of the standings. Bahrain has four points from two victories, while Oman and Nepal has two points apiece.

Kuwait, the UAE and Bahrain have all secured their places in the second qualifying window, which will be played in November.

Kuwait coach Vassilios Bratsiakos praised his players for their display against Nepal, but admitted that injuries continue to affect the team's preparations and player fitness.

"We now have two days to rest and recover before facing a strong Bahrain side in the final match of the qualifiers tomorrow," Bratsiakos said.

Meanwhile, Al-Qadsia has strengthened its roster by signing Senegalese player Pape Boubacar Sarr and American Alfonso Wells



A Kuwaiti player goes for a basket as rivals defend.

ahead of next season and for the remainder of the current campaign.

The pair will join American Wesley Alsegaier, who signed with the "Yellow" earlier.

Al-Qadsia has also appointed Turkish coach Murat Dökme as head coach for next season, replacing compatriot Ender Paşayer, who guided the team for the previous two seasons before his contract expired at the end of last season.

The team began its training programme earlier this month as they prepare for the new campaign.

Kuwait eyes fifth place at Asian Junior Handball Championship



Kuwait awarded a 7-metre throw against Jordan.

By Khaled Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

AMMAN, Aug 29: Kuwait moved into the fifth-place playoff after defeating host Jordan 25-23 in the placement round of the 11th Asian Junior Handball Championship in Jordan.

Kuwait star Abdulhadi Barak was named Player of the Match for his outstanding performance. He received the award from Asian Handball Federation Technical Director Jassem Al-Dhayab.

The victory booked the team a place in the fifth-sixth place playoff against the winner of the Saudi Arabia or Uzbekistan. The match is scheduled for tomorrow, the final day of the championship, when Kuwait will look to finish the tournament in

fifth place.

Kuwait's hopes of reaching the semi-finals and challenging for the title ended in the quarter-finals after it suffered a 36-28 defeat to South Korea. The loss also ended its hopes of securing qualification for the 2027 World Youth Handball Championship.

Bahrain, Qatar, Iran and South Korea advanced to the semi-finals. Bahrain edged Saudi Arabia 30-28, Qatar cruised past Jordan 33-13, while Iran defeated Uzbekistan 36-24.

The four quarter-final winners secured qualification for the 2027 World Championship. The defeated teams, together with Kuwait, will compete in placement matches for fifth through eighth places as the Asian championship concludes.

LIVERPOOL, Aug 29, (AP): The Andoni Iraola era is yet to catch fire at Liverpool.

For the second straight weekend, Liverpool needed a late equalizer to rescue a point in the Premier League as summer signing Víctor Muñoz 's 82nd-minute strike earned a 2-2 draw against Nottingham Forest at Anfield.

The Reds also drew 2-2 last week in Iraola's first league match in charge - and on that occasion a stoppage-time penalty by Dominik Szoboszlai denied Newcastle.

There might be teething problems early in Iraola's tenure - notably in defense, where Liverpool continue to look shaky - but at least there has been some fighting spirit.

Liverpool twice came from behind against Forest, with Alexander Isak scoring Liverpool's first equalizer in the 60th to cancel out Dan Ndoye's first-half goal.

Then, after Morgan Gibbs-White converted a penalty to regain the lead for the visitors, Muñoz smashed in a shot off the crossbar after running onto a through-ball from Florian Wirtz.

In other matches, Hull beat fellow promoted team Coventry 1-0 away to make it two wins from two on its return to the top flight and Everton defender James Tarkowski scored in stoppage time to salvage a 1-1 draw at Bournemouth.

Liverpool's match was attended by Amit Bhatia, the leader of an investor group - also containing Amazon founder Jeff Bezos and Facebook co-founder Eduardo Saverin - that has reached an agreement to buy a minority stake in the club for a reported estimated figure of \$2.2 billion.

Bhatia posed for photos with Liverpool owner John Henry on the field ahead of the game against

Promoted Hull grabs second victory

Liverpool rallies to draw with Forest, City stays perfect



Liverpool's Jeremy Jacquet, centre, challenges for the ball with Nottingham Forest's Dan Ndoye during the English Premier League soccer match between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest in Liverpool, England. (AP)

Forest, which was also preceded by news that the Reds have agreed to a \$166 million deal to buy Bradley Barcola from Paris Saint-Germain.

With Barcola playing primarily as a left winger, that is likely to mean reduced minutes for Muñoz but the Spaniard made his case for inclusion with a brilliant strike for his first goal since joining from Osasuna for 40 million euros (\$46 million).

Liverpool is being undermined by some poor defending, though, with Jeremy Jacquet - another summer signing - caught out by a quick throw-in by Forest in the buildup to goalkeeper Alisson Becker fouling Neco Williams to concede the 70th-minute penalty converted by Gibbs-White.

The CBS Arena became the Premier League's latest new stadium as Coventry hosted a top-flight game for the first time since 2001 - when the club was playing at Highfield Road.

A big occasion for Frank Lam-

pard's team was spoiled by Liam Miller's winner in the 82nd minute for Hull, which stunned Manchester United last weekend with a 2-0 home win.

Hull started the season as the big favorite for relegation but already has six points.

Another weekend, another painful stoppage-time concession by Bournemouth.

Tarkowski's goal in the first minute of added-on time came a week after Bournemouth lost 2-1 at Manchester City thanks to Josko Gvardiol's goal in the same minute.

Everton, which is unbeaten after opening with a 2-0 win over Crystal Palace, started Iliman Ndiaye - a winger who is reportedly of interest to Man City.

Rayan Cherki scored two goals in five minutes and Erling Haaland also got a brace as Manchester City won at Crystal Palace 4-1 to maintain its perfect start.

Haaland, the league top goal-scor-

er last season, opened his account after 17 minutes with a neat header.

Cherki doubled the visitor's lead early in the second half when he danced through a nest of players and poked the ball home from close range.

However, Palace reduced the deficit almost immediately when Yerey Pino's superb free kick hit the bar and then rebounded into the net off the despairing back of goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma.

Cherki, though, was in fine form and restored City's two-goal advantage two minutes later when his deflected shot from just outside the box wrong-footed keeper Dean Henderson.

It was the first brace of his Premier League career but he was not happy and called his performance "so-so."

The French midfielder said he thought he was about to be subbed so turned on the style to ensure his permanence.

"When I see Enzo Maresca wanted to change me I didn't like that, so I had to show him I wanted to play and wanted to score," Cherki said of the recently appointed coach.

"With Pep Guardiola we had a big history," he added. "Now we have started another story. We have to prove that every week, and we are here for that."

Haaland rounded off the scoring with a left-footed strike six minutes from time and City was on top of the league with six points from its first two games. Palace is pointless after two games and midfielder Adam Wharton suggested the team needed more time to adapt to new coach Pierre Sage, who took over in June.

"I thought we had good moments but we didn't test their keeper enough, like we should have," Wharton said. "It is a disappointing result."

Al-Fahaheel faces tough Al-Nasr test

Al-Arabi seeks first Zain Premier League win

By Hassan Mosa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 29: The second round of the Zain Premier League gets underway today with two matches, as Al-Fahaheel faces a difficult away test against Al-Nasr at Ali Sabah Al-Salem Stadium at 6:40pm, followed by Al-Arabi's clash with Al-Jahra at Thamer Stadium at 8:55pm.

The round continues tomorrow with an early heavyweight encounter between Al-Qadsia and Kuwait SC, while Al-Sulaibikhat takes on Al-Shabab. The round will conclude the following day with Kazma meeting Al-Sahel and Al-Tadamon facing Al-Salmiya.

Al-Arabi will be determined to claim its first victory of the campaign after opening the season with an entertaining 3-3 draw against Kuwait Club.

The "Green" twice took the lead and looked on course for victory, but Kuwait Club struck a third goal deep into stoppage time to snatch a point.

Coach Goran Sablic will be demanding another strong performance, but this time with all three points. Al-Arabi showed plenty of promise in its



A file photo of Al Arabi and Jahra players fighting for the ball.

opening game and will be confident of beating an Al-Jahra side that recorded only three victories throughout last season.

Al-Arabi has officially parted ways with Brazilian forward Lucas Shallon, while retaining its other five foreign players — Senegalese Joher

Rasoul, Brazilians Leonardo Sheldon and Anayo Iwuala, Palestinian Zaid Qanbar and Ethiopian Kenan Malenko.

Al-Jahra, meanwhile, is looking to recover from its 3-2 defeat to Al-Shabab in the opening round.

Coach Ahmed Abdulkarim faces the added challenge of an incomplete foreign-player roster, with all five foreign players missing from the team's opening match.

Despite the difference in quality and last season's standings, Al-Jahra has already shown it can trouble Al-Arabi. The "Red Palace" side, which finished bottom of the table last season, held Al-Arabi to a 1-1 draw in May.

Al-Nasr will be aiming to maintain its winning start after defeating Al-Salmiya 2-1 in the opening round.

Coach Dhafer Al-Adwani will be hoping his players can reproduce the same performance and collect another three points to strengthen its position early in the campaign.

Al-Fahaheel, however, arrive with a point to prove after suffering a narrow 2-1 defeat to Al-Qadsia in its opening match. They will be eager to bounce back and return to winning ways.