



# KUWAIT BANKS UNITE FOR SAFER DIGITAL FINANCIAL LANDSCAPE



MoFA photo  
Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Salem Abdul-Jaber Al-Sabah (center) embarked on an official visit to Russia on Nov 2. — See Page 2

## Kuwait, Saudi sign cybersecurity MoU

RIYADH, Nov 2, (KUNA): Kuwait and Saudi Arabia signed on Thursday a memorandum of Understanding in the field of cybersecurity.

Kuwait was represented in the MoU's signing, on the second day of the Riyadh-held Global Cybersecurity Forum, by the Head of National Center for Cybersecurity Major General Mohammad Bouarki, while Saudi Arabi was represented by Governor of the National Cybersecurity Authority (NCA) Majed Al-Mazyad.

In a statement to KUNA, Bouarki said that this MoU is aimed at opening broad horizons for transferring knowledge and sharing experiences in the cybersecurity field between the two sides, stressing the importance of cooperation in the field to better counter cyberattacks.

# Central Bank gears up to combat electronic fraud

'Chamber' takes shape to curb menace

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Central Bank of Kuwait has asked the banks operating in Kuwait to provide it with the latest developments on the establishment of the central room that will be dedicated to dealing with cases of electronic financial fraud, designated to work 24/7, reports Al-Rai daily.**

The banks response in principle is that it may be useful to point out that the coordination team for establishing the 'Chamber'

must include representatives from the Union of Banks, the Public Prosecution, the Ministry of Interior, and Communications and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA).

The reliable sources said the banks have informed the CBK that the last meeting came up with four main issues which can be limited to:

■ Achieving the target - The banks are almost ready to establish the required "chamber", while the current open discussion is related to the appropriate technical and human mobilization to provide a specialized team in each bank capable of achieving the goals of the "chamber" and receiving financial fraud reports, following them up and dealing with them with

the required speed and efficiency, as each bank will allocate Specific employees for this purpose.

The sources stated that the banks coordinated with the relevant authorities to take the necessary precautionary measures to ensure that it does not happen again.

The sources explained that a preliminary vision had been developed to limit electronic financial fraud operations, a mechanism for dealing with banking reports with those concerned in the Ministry of Interior, freezing decisions with the Public Prosecution, and a mechanism for dealing with phone numbers and Internet website addresses used in cases of fraud with CITRA, while suggesting that implementation of the construction of the "chamber" will begin in the next two weeks.

■ Freeze funds - The CBK reported that they received, during the meetings of their representatives in the coordination team, reassurances from the prosecution stating that the latter is moving towards accelerating the procedures for freezing funds derived or suspected of being the result of fraudulent operations, and that they are more prepared to respond as quickly as possible to requests for banking permission to block suspicious funds until they are disposed of and returned to their owners.

Although the prosecution's assurances to the banks did not include any indication that a specific department had been allocated to these cases, and that the matter was still limited to increasing the working hours allocated to this scope, this move dispelled banking fears of exposure to the risks of freezing any clients' funds without permission from the prosecution, which it usually takes 3 business days to complete.

■ Local operations - The banks pointed out that any immediate freezing of fraudulent funds will be limited to the movement of funds from one bank to another inside Kuwait.

However, if the "hacker" succeeds in convincing the victim and withdrawing his money in transfers abroad or in "online" purchases, the "Chamber" will not be able to implement the plan. The urgent measures that you will take locally are to freeze the amounts of these operations immediately.

To simplify, if a person is defrauded and his money is transferred to another local bank, the receiving bank will be asked to freeze the transaction funds, after obtaining permission from the prosecution to freeze immediately, in preparation for returning them again to the victim client's account.

However, if the "hacker" succeeds in luring the victim by transferring his amounts directly abroad or directing them for "online" purchases, the bank with which the customer's account is opened will have no choice but to activate its traditional procedures, which include contacting the intermediary bank to stop the flow of funds to the opposite party of the transfer or purchase process. Of course, the success of the procedure depends on the speed of reporting and many other considerations.

■ Withdrawal of money - There is a possibility that the bank receiving the money will not be able to freeze the fraudulent amounts immediately, even if the transaction was between two local banks, if the "hacker" succeeds in withdrawing the "cash" amounts before the issuance of permission from the prosecution, as he may withdraw the amount by simply depositing it in an account used as a bridge. Timed or transferred "online" at a speed exceeding the response time of the "chamber".

It is noteworthy that the "Central Bank" asked "CITRA" to take the necessary measures regarding fraudulent operations that use phone numbers issued

## Opinion

## Mishal Al-Ahmad ... 'Be blessed'

By Ahmed Al-Jarallah  
Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

YOUR Highness the Crown Prince, honestly, may you be blessed! You delighted our hearts when you spoke your mind, and you spoke on behalf of every citizen.

Indeed, using expressive and short words, you said what was in my soul, and in the soul of every citizen who loves this country, especially when you identified the shortcomings, either in the legislative authority or executive authority, and also in the people who must be held accountable by those who elected them.

Everyone, in their respective position, must work on adopting this stance of the captain of the ship and consolidating it as an action from words. This is what your Highness said explicitly in your lofty speech, which must serve as a road map for everyone, provided they abandon their personal tendencies.

Your Highness the Crown Prince, most of the MPs, as well as the ministers, are profiteers. In the absence of accountability, they have become more arrogant in their practices. This is why they are dismissed, or they resign, without any accountability, as if they had not committed a crime against the nation and the public wealth. For this reason, despite the many referrals to the Public Prosecution, the accountability process is slow.

Everyone knows that those who fail to perform their duty will be held accountable in other countries because negligence and inaction are manifestations of corruption.

Any official proven to be involved in such failure is taken to prison. However, in our case, the opposite happens. In fact, the corrupt cover up their practices by provoking public opinion through demands whose essence is popular but the implementation is intended for personal or partisan agendas.

It is true that continuing the political scene as it has been will not be in the interest of the nation and the citizens.

It has obstructed the development process and disrupted the economic cycle. There is no vision for exploiting investments - both local and foreign - in a way that serves the diversification of sources of income.

This, without a doubt, puts pressure on citizens' ability to live and disrupts projects, which has led to great disappointment in their souls.

All the solutions currently proposed are not reassuring in the future because it is based on grants and pumping money to citizens without any plan to diversify sources of income.

The spread of corruption is due to the absence of accountability and supervision, which has in turn made the political scene increasingly skewed. This is reflected in the social and economic conditions, as well as cultural issues in the

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## Newswatch

**KUWAIT CITY:** The Amiri Diwan on Thursday mourned the passing away of **Sheikh Mubarak Hamad Fahad Sabah Al-Nasser Al-Sabah's** wife **Muneera Samie Abdullah Al-Mailem** at the age of 26.

The funeral service is scheduled to take place at 9:00 a.m. Friday. (KUNA)

**MOSCOW:** Russian President **Vladimir Putin** signed a bill revoking **Russia's** ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), ratified by 183 countries, excluding the US.

According to the Russian presidency website, this step is important in protecting the security of Russia, and is a proper response to the US, which does not wish to ratify the treaty.

Last month, the Russian parliament approved the revoking of the ratification, while ensuring that Russia is still a member in the treaty. (KUNA)

**BEIRUT:** The bodies of two young shepherds who went missing on Wednesday were found near the town of **Wazani**, the Lebanese National News Agency (NNA) reported Thursday.

The NNA said that the Israeli occupation forces opened fire on the two shepherds near the Wazani River. (KUNA)

**WASHINGTON:** The US-EU Task Force on Energy Security has nullified the diversification of Europe's natural gas supply sources and the growing liquefied natural gas (LNG) trade between them.

The sides also discussed Aggregate EU, Europe's gas demand aggregation and joint purchasing mechanism, which has had success this year enabling European companies to improve their security of supply and negotiate competitive prices, reads a joint statement issued Wednesday following the Task Force meeting a day earlier. (KUNA)

**UNITED NATIONS:** Iran is carrying out executions "at an alarming rate," putting to death at least 419 people in the first seven months of the year, the United Nations chief said in a new report. That's a 30% increase from the same period in 2022.

Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres** said in the report to the U.N. General Assembly on the human rights situation in Iran that seven men were executed in relation to or for participating in nationwide protests, sparked by the September 2022 death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who was picked up by the morality police for her allegedly loose headscarf in violation of Iran's Islamic dress code. (AP)

## Saudi and US bolster defense partnership

WASHINGTON, Nov 2, (KUNA): US Defense Secretary Lloyd James Austin III has affirmed the importance of the enduring US security and defense partnership with Saudi Arabia.

Secretary Austin emphasized US commitment to the territorial defense of the Kingdom, and to reinforcing and expanding a strong, bilateral defense partnership, the Pentagon Press Secretary Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder said following Austin's meeting with the visiting Saudi counterpart Prince Khalid bin Salman today.

The Secretary underscored the Kingdom's central role in regional security and stability.

He expressed deep thanks for the Minister of Defense's leadership, including sustained support and coordination in working toward a durable peace for Yemen. He also commended Saudi humanitarian support to Ukraine, and efforts in Sudan to host diplomatic talks and support of evacuation operations.



Part of the 'Desert Horizon' exercise activities.

Ministry of Defense photo

## Kuwaiti Army conducts 'Desert Horizon' exercise to boost preparedness

The Kuwaiti Army, including ground and air forces, along with the 25th Commando Brigade, conducted the "Desert Horizon" exercise on Monday, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Major General Engineer Dr. Ghazi Al-Shammari, acting Chief of the General Staff, and several high-ranking army commanders were present during the exercise.

According to a press statement from the Ministry of Defense, the exercise was carried out in alignment with the directives of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Ahmed Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

These directives emphasized the need to enhance the preparedness, readiness, and efficiency of all Kuwaiti army units, especially given the current regional circumstances.

The exercise involved live ammunition and saw the participation of various units, including the 4th Reconnaissance Battalion from the Ground Force, F18 aircraft, Apache helicopters for support, the air effort, and the storming company from the 25th Commando Brigade. The exercise simulated complex and asymmetric operational scenarios, aiming to improve coordination and cooperation

among different military sectors.

Additionally, a battalion from the Ground Force departed from the country through the Salmi port to participate in the "Gulf Shooting 2023" exercise in its second edition, taking place in Saudi Arabia from the 1st to the 17th of this month. This joint exercise involves Kuwaiti Ground Forces, Royal Saudi Land Forces, and the Spartan Force of the American Ground Forces. The participation underscores joint cooperation, teamwork, and the readiness of the participating forces to enhance their combat capabilities. (KUNA)

## Palestinian death toll above 9,000

# Mediators push for 'pause' in Gaza

RAFAH, Gaza Strip, Nov 2, (AP): Israeli troops advanced toward Gaza City on Thursday, as the Palestinian death toll rose above 9,000. With no end in sight after weeks of heavy fighting, U.S. and Arab mediators intensified efforts to ease Israel's siege of the Hamas-ruled enclave and called for at least a brief halt to the hostilities in order to aid civilians.

U.S. President Joe Biden suggested a humanitarian "pause" the day before, as an apparent agreement among the U.S., Egypt, Israel and Qatar, which mediates with Hamas, allowed hundreds of Palestinians with foreign passports and dozens of wounded to leave Gaza for the first time. Dozens more left on Thursday.

Israel did not immediately respond to Biden's remarks, but Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has previously ruled out a cease-fire.

Arab countries, including those allied with the U.S. and at peace with Israel, have expressed mounting unease with the

war. Jordan recalled its ambassador from Israel and told Israel's envoy to remain out of the country until there's a halt to the war and the "humanitarian catastrophe" it is causing.

More than 3,700 Palestinian children have been killed in 25 days of fighting, and bombings have driven more than half the territory's 2.3 million people from their homes, while food, water and fuel run low.

Israeli troops pushed into Gaza in large numbers over the weekend after three weeks of heavy airstrikes that have demolished entire neighborhoods. The war, the fifth and by far deadliest in Gaza, began when Hamas launched a bloody Oct. 7 rampage into Israel, killing hundreds of men, women and children. Some 240 were taken captive.

The U.S. has pledged unwavering support for Israel as it seeks to end Hamas' rule over Gaza and crush its military capabilities, even as the two allies seem to have

no clear plan for what would come next.

White House officials said a pause in fighting would allow for more aid to be sent in and potentially facilitate the release of hostages. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken is expected back in the region on Friday.

The departure of Palestinians through the Rafah crossing into Egypt on Wednesday came after weeks of talks. It was first time people left Gaza other than four hostages released by Hamas and another rescued by Israeli forces. Israel has also allowed more than 260 trucks carrying food and medicine through the crossing, but aid workers say it's not nearly enough.

At least 335 foreign passport holders left Wednesday and approximately another 100 left Thursday, according to Wael Abu Omar, a spokesman for the Palestinian Crossings Authority. Seventy-six Palestinian patients, along with their companions, were also evacuated, he said.

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## Day by Day

IN a series of criminal activities that include car thefts exchanged for advertisements and the illicit export of vehicles as gifts to the perpetrator's home country, are added to the thefts of the plane and apartments thief in the courts.

The malefactor targeted a hotel owned by a person from a neighboring country, with assistance from an accomplice within the security and other departments. Tragically, the owner of the robbed hotel passed away in anguish.

... Yet tomorrow is another day.

Zahed Matar

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Palestinians try to pull a girl out of the rubble of a building that was destroyed by Israeli airstrikes in Jabalya refugee camp, northern Gaza Strip, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023. In just 25 days of war, more than 3,600 Palestinian children have been killed in Gaza, according to Gaza's Hamas-run Health Ministry. The advocacy group Save The Children says more children were killed in Gaza in October 2023 than in all conflict zones around the world combined in 2022. (AP)



Prayer Timings			
Fajr .....	04:41	Asr .....	14:39
Sunrise ..	06:01	Maghrib ..	17:02
Zohr .....	11:32	Isha .....	18:20

# Local

BIOMETRIC/FINGERPRINT APPOINTMENT: <https://meta.e.gov.kw/En/>

## EPA, GTD, PAI advice sought on response updates

# Panel returns Sulaibikhat Bay project to executive branch

By Inass Awadh  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: Head of the Technical Committee of the Municipal Council Dr. Hassan Kamal said the committee, after reviewing the visual presentation presented by the Structural Planning Department of Kuwait Municipality regarding the project to develop the structural plan for Sulaibikhat Bay, has decided to return the project to the executive branch to update the response regarding it and match it with the country's fourth structural plan. It also sought to invite the Environment Public Authority, the General Traffic Department, the Public Authority for Industry, and other parties concerned with the project to obtain their testimonies regarding it.



Dr Hassan Kamal

In a press statement issued on the sidelines of the technical committee meeting yesterday, which he chaired, Dr. Kamal explained that the boundaries of the Sulaibikhat Bay master plan project extend from Kuwait University to Ras Asherij at a length of 38 kilometers. It is divided into six zones with different uses and proportions, parking lots, infrastructure, and roads.

The first zone is concerned with innovation and consists of universities and

scientific institutions in addition to some of the attached spaces allocated for the use of government facilities, open areas, spaces and gardens with an area of 609,000 square meters.

The second zone is the Sulaibikhat Coast area, which has 25 percent residential use, in addition to commercial uses, government facilities, and recreational use, as well as squares, open areas, roads, services, and infrastructure.

### Activities

The third zone, which is the Sulaibikhat Sports Area, contains residential use activities and government facilities. It has a high percentage of recreational use, approximately 42 percent, in addition to open spaces, gardens, and suburbs.

The fourth zone is the Ras Asherij area, with an area of approximately two million and 700 thousand square meters. It has various uses, the most important of which is recreational use, in addition to open spaces and specific percentages for commercial use.

As for the fifth zone, it is the Asherij residential area, which is designated for residential use in addition to commercial use. It also contains government facilities to a very limited extent.

The last zone is the Asherij Islands area, which contains two artificial islands with a total area of 890,000 square meters. It also contains commercial uses, gardens, and open and recreational spaces at a greater rate of up to 38

Weather			
By Night: Mild and partly cloudy with light to moderate southeasterly wind to light variable wind, with speeds of 08-30 km/h with a chance for light fog forming.			
Station	Max Exp	Min Rec	
Kuwait City	30	26	
Kuwait Airport	30	23	
Abdaly	30	21	
Jahra	31	25	
Salmiyah	29	26	
Nuwaisib	30	25	
Wafra	31	24	

# ‘Catastrophic’ facts vowed

MP Al-Azmi files grilling against Al-Aiban

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh  
Al-Seyassah/ Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: MP Hamdan Al-Azmi has filed a grilling motion against Minister of Commerce and Industry and State Minister for Youth Affairs Muhammad Al-Aiban on the following issues:

1. Conflict of interests and abuse of power to dodge responsibility over fraud cases;
2. Negligence, abuse of power and exposing national security to risks;
3. Financial and administrative violations that severely affected public funds;
4. Misleading the State Audit Bureau (SAB) to dodge responsibility;
5. Failure to manage the National Fund for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises and address the problems of its beneficiaries;

## FM heads to Russia on official visit

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2, (KUNA): Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah left Kuwait Thursday, heading to Russia on an official visit that he and his accompanying delegation will conduct to hold multiple meetings with officials in Moscow to strengthen bilateral ties between both sides.

In the meetings, both sides will discuss several vital topics and issues regionally and internationally, especially developments in the region.

Sheikh Salem was bid farewell at the airport by Kuwait Deputy Foreign Affairs

Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Assistant Foreign Minister for Protocol Affairs Ambassador Nabeel Al-Dakheel, Ambassador of Russia to Kuwait Vladimir Zheltov and officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah received on Thursday Chairman of the Association of General Secretaries of the Arab Parliaments and Qatari Secretary General of the Shura Council Dr. Ahmed bin Nasser bin Ibrahim Al-Fadala on the occasion of his visit to the country.

## Need to lift off siege on Gaza: DM

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Ahmad Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah received on Thursday a phone call from US Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin to discuss the latest development in Palestine.

In a press release, the Ministry of Defense said that both sides discussed bilateral ties, ways to enhance cooperation

between Kuwait and the US, topics of common interests and latest regional and international developments.

During the phone call, the Kuwaiti defense minister affirmed the necessity for an immediate action to lift off the siege on Gaza, to end the unjustified military operations and to work on facilitating the entry of humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people.



KUNA photo  
The first batch of medical aid provided by the Kuwait Red Crescent arrived in the Gaza Strip.

## KRCS 1st medical aid supply in Gaza

The first aid batch presented Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) arrived Thursday at Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) warehouses in Gaza.

Chief of Palestinian volunteer teams affiliated with the KRCS Ahmad Abu Daya said that the KRCS aid, which includes medicine, arrived at PRCS north of Gaza, after crossing Rafah border crossing on Wednesday.

The medicine supply will be sorted and distributed to hospitals in the next

few hours, Abu Daya told KUNA, noting that the Israeli occupation keeps interjecting the delivery process of the rest of the humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip including medical equipment and ambulances. He added that KRCS aid provided to Gaza comes as part of Kuwait's relief airbridge, which is maintained for more than ten days now, carrying 10 tons of medicine and more than six ambulances provided by KRCS and Kuwaiti charities. (KUNA)

## 23 services provided

## MEW bags over 1 bln in revenue

By Mohammad Ghanem  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: According to informed sources in the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy, the ministry achieved revenues estimated at KD 1.209 billion in the last three years, from the beginning of April 2020 to March 31, 2023, in return for 23 services provided by the ministry at a fee to Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti customers.

The sources explained that the ministry collected KD 1.117 billion in fees for providing electricity and water services, and KD 80.263 million for providing 15 services related to delivering power and inspecting electrical appliances during the same aforementioned period.

There are five services related to disconnecting and connecting water and electricity meters, which generated about KD 300 thousand, and about KD 12 million were obtained from servicing water filling stations.

The services provided by the Ministry for fees are - selling electricity and water, cutting or installing water and electricity meters and delivering them.

The ministry also provides water filling station services, connecting electricity to private housing for the first time, to private housing for the second plot, to commercial and investment housing, to factories with electrical loads of less than 350 kilowatts, to chalets and stables, and to farms with capacity of less than 350 kilowatts and more than five megawatts, and providing temporary electricity to private housing and projects.

The ministry also provides the service of restoring power or moving an electrical cable or meter for the purpose of demolition, transporting lighting equipment, drawing a receipt or transporting water exchange for more than 12 meters, and examining electrical and other appliances for approval in the country.



Hamdan Al-Azmi



Muhammad Al-Aiban



Khaleel Al-Abdullah: We realize the Crown Prince's vision for the economic prosperity of our workforce.



Yasmeen Al-Musallam: The Kuwait's economic cycle is in need of business study.

# ‘Education stands as the only remedy for nation’s progress’

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: Yasmeen Al-Musallam, Maastricht School of Management CEO, assures that the Kuwait's economic cycle is need of more push for increasing growth which requires establishing future entrepreneurs, providing them with the management science, and preparing them for avoiding losses faced by many Kuwaiti small and medium enterprise owners.

This occurred during the yearly enlightening meeting held yesterday evening at the Palm Hotel by Maastricht School of Management. The event welcomed a fresh group of master's students, comprising individuals of diverse gender backgrounds, each possessing a wide range of professional experiences.

These students have graduated from various local and international universities. This event mirrors the college's ongoing success in attracting a distinctive range of students whose experiences vary from fresh graduates to 30 years of experience in different sectors and positions, including middle and senior management.

During the meeting, Al-Musallam emphasized the significance of delving into strategic planning for future facility operations. This includes understanding how to conduct feasibility studies, create annual plans, and master the fundamentals of operations and inventory management. The discussion also covered effective project planning, goal setting, and achievement strategies.

The global MBA program's objective is to equip participants with comprehensive scientific, academic, and practical skills essential for fulfilling the roles and duties of executive directors, general managers, department heads, business proprietors, and professional consultants.

Al-Musallam also pointed out the immense value of delving into management science and operations research. These fields aid in decision-making processes and finding optimal solutions, including investment decisions, exploring corporate social responsibility, understanding human resources, corporate organization principles, finance, company evaluations, accounting, marketing, statistics, and more. She emphasized how institutions, companies, and various sectors of business owners often make serious errors due to mismanagement.

Furthermore, she highlighted the significant advantages of studying management science and operations research. These fields facilitate decision-making

and finding optimal solutions, including investment decisions, exploring corporate social responsibility, understanding human resources, corporate organizational principles, finance, company evaluations, accounting, marketing, statistics, and more. She emphasized the serious mistakes made by business owners in institutions, companies, and various sectors due to mismanagement!

Additionally, Khaleel Al-Abdullah, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, affirmed that this is aligning with the approach outlined by His Highness the Crown Prince. In his address to the National Assembly, the Crown Prince emphasized the connection between economic development and the success of human resources. This alignment with the Crown Prince's vision is evident in the positive role played by Maastricht, boasting eight specializations that have graduated over 1,700 individuals serving various sectors in Kuwait, a fact that fills us with pride.

Dr. Khaled Wahba, the College Dean, mentioned that Maastricht University ranks 145th globally, and their MBA program holds three international accreditations, called 3 crowns.

Graduates of Maastricht College in Kuwait receive a Dutch higher education certificate after mandatory study of certain courses at the university's campus in Maastricht city. He highlighted the college's emphasis on quality, ensuring a distinguished faculty with both academic and practical expertise.

The new program, tailored for recent graduates and those with less than 5 years of experience, aims to equip ambitious graduates with essential skills and knowledge. This initiative is designed to nurture talented individuals, enabling them to become future leaders in various sectors, ensuring Kuwait's future boasts world-class pioneers.

Wishing success to the newly enrolled students joining the college.

In his perspective, Dr. David Dingley, a Professor of Global Management and International Plans, shared that based on his experiences in 25 different countries, he took on the responsibility of education because he firmly believed it was the singular solution for fostering any country's economic growth. He stressed that a nation's economic strength is closely tied to the level of interest and eagerness displayed by its children towards education and self-development.



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A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

## ‘Gaza battle has exposed regional regimes, Zionist fragility’

“IN LAST week’s article, we mentioned, in some detail, the position of the Palestinian organizations on Saddam’s invasion of Kuwait in 1990, and how the Palestine Liberation Organization, led by Yasser Arafat, and some leftist and nationalist parties, were supportive of this unjust invasion,” columnist **Mubarak Fahd Al-Duwailah** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

“We also explained the position of the Islamic Hamas movement and its rejection from the first day of the invasion. And because Kuwait has never been ungrateful, and has not and will not change its firm positions regarding the nation’s crucial issues, this is why this heroic and honorable position came from Kuwait and its people regarding the Zionist aggression against.

“Today, the battle of “Al-Aqsa Flood” reveals to us more neglectful positions towards the primary issue of Arabs and Muslims, and further reveals the vast gap between most Arab peoples and their governments.

“Some governments were surprised by the amount of enthusiasm that their people have for this issue, which increased their feelings of shame and embarrassment, so we find most of them are deaf and dumb, and we have not heard a word from them expressing their denunciation of the Zionist orgy in Gaza, and the immorality practiced by American policy in its dealings with this ongoing aggression against civilians and the defenseless in the Gaza Strip.

“The people of Gaza today, after the weak positions of many regimes have been exposed, only want the Arabs and Muslims to bring in the aid that has reached them. Is there anything simpler than this request?

“The battle of “Al-Aqsa Flood” revealed the fragility of the Zionist entity and its invincible army, which prompted America and Western countries to quickly send their armies, battleships and aircraft carriers to save what could be saved. Some analysts believe that if Hamas had known this truth about the Zionist army, it would have sent hundreds of mujahedeen to Tel Aviv!

“What is happening in Gaza has revealed even the attitudes of the Zionists towards those who live among us!

“At a time when peoples do not have the option of jihad in Palestine, due to the deliberate closure of the borders, their contributions, demands, and



Al-Duwailah

participation in supporting our people in Gaza took many legitimate and indisputable methods to express their position of rejection of aggression.

“However, some of these Zionists were displeased with the success of this honorable position, so they tried to belittle them for expressing their opinion in support of brutal aggression against innocent people, and the truth of those who said: “If you are not ashamed, do whatever you want”!

“They are Zionists, support brutal aggression, and are preoccupied with non-essential issues such as homosexuality and others, and there is no power or strength except God.”

**Also:**

“The Jabalia massacre is one of the most horrific events that the Gaza Strip witnessed, as the Israeli occupation forces bombed a residential neighborhood adjacent to the Indonesian Hospital in Jabalia, resulting in hundreds of martyrs and wounded, including children and women. Despite this atrocity, global silence continues regarding the crimes committed against Palestinians under occupation,” columnist **Abdulaziz Al-Kandari** wrote for **Al-Rai** daily.

“The history of the Zionists with massacres is long, since 1948, and then the Deir Yassin massacres in 1948, the Kafr Qasim massacre in 1956, the Khan Yunis massacre in 1956, the Sabra and Shatila massacre in 1982, and the Ibrahimi Mosque massacre in 1994. This is in contrast to the savage images that we used to see on an almost daily basis of the Palestinians and the crime of bombing hospitals in Gaza and killing medical staff is not far from our minds.

“The occupation army claimed that the strike it directed in Jabalia was targeting a “senior leader” in the Islamic Resistance Movement “Hamas,” who is responsible for the battles in northern Gaza since the start of the war, according to the army spokesman.

“Hamas also denied the allegation, saying, “The terrorist Zionist enemy’s talk about the presence of a Hamas leader in Jabalia, the site of the massacre, is false and baseless.”

“The Ministry of Health in Gaza stated that the massacre resulted in 400 martyrs and wounded, according to a preliminary toll, stressing that the number may be the largest, and may be close to the number of victims of the Baptist Hospital massacre. Because the area that was bombed was ‘densely populated.’

“It is a truly brutal and barbaric massacre, and the Israeli army used 6

bombs, each bomb weighing a ton, and internationally banned weapons.

“It is as if the world gave the green light to the Zionists to kill without stopping. They kill men, women and children. If the world is on the side of the Zionists, then where is the role of the Muslims who are responsible for the cause?

“What happened in Jabalia camp is a painful reminder that innocent people in Palestine continue to suffer from Israeli oppression and violence.

“The international community must speak out and condemn these atrocities and work to stop the Israeli violence and occupation. When the world remains silent in the face of such crimes, it encourages their continuation and makes them acceptable, and this is unacceptable in any way.

“To give the Zionists free rein to tamper with and kill them as they please without accountability or supervision, and even to do so and kill under international protection and guardianship, with all regret? This is a wrong path, because the arbitrary use of force by the Zionist occupier will not bring peace, but it will foster hatred against this illegal, criminal entity in the coming days, and its loss will be greater.

“The killing of the people of Gaza that is happening today makes people lose confidence in the entire international and Arab community, because any sane person can distinguish between the oppressor and the oppressed, except for the oppressor who kills with all his might.

“What kind of peace and normalization do they want when they demand the disarmament of the resistance and the preservation of the weapons of the Zionists? What kind of peace are they talking about when their criterion is the military superiority of one party over the other?

“Yes... the Arab and Islamic world wants peace, but with special specifications: the peace of domination and tyranny, the peace of killing children and demolishing homes and places of worship, the peace of siege, starvation and subjugation, and a peace in which blood is worthless is not what is wanted .

“What is the balance of states if the aggression of the Zionists and the killing of children is self-defense, and the resistance of the people of Gaza to the Zionists is aggression and a violation of the security of the Zionists, and the world becomes angry when the Zionists are captured, a shameful and abhorrent duality? Without granting rights, spreading justice, and preserving human dignity, there will be no peace, and no change in Gaza .”

— Compiled by Mai Elsoukary

### Other Voices

## The X-conspiracy & civil cards

By Ahmad alsarraf

For many reasons that are too long to explain, the number of believers in the conspiracy theory is always increasing in our societies, with the occurrence of serious events whose reasons are difficult for the simple mind to explain, such as the Corona epidemic, the events of September 11, and Hamas’ storming of Israeli settlements. Among these reasons are:

This is due to the frightening decline in the percentage of the educated, readers in our societies, let alone the semi-educated masters and leaders of the “X” platform.

The high rate of illiteracy, the backwardness of school curricula, the refusal of various governments in our countries to allow the teaching of critical thinking, and the belief of a large percentage that the West or others are conspiring against us, covets our wealth, seeks to corrupt the morals of our children, is desperate to promote drugs among us, and aims to sabotage our morals!

For these reasons, we find it easy or comfortable for many to believe the conspiracy theory, as it removes the burden of the task of searching the truth, exploring various opinions, and analyzing it from their shoulders.

Number of people who believe that an agreement between Israel and Hamas is what made it easier for the latter to enter a number of border settlements and emerge with minimal human losses, after it succeeded in killing, wounding and kidnapping more than 2,000 Israelis, including men, children, women, civilians and soldiers!

This agreement, regardless of the assumption of its validity, means that the Israeli leadership has instructed all security services and the army to “close all sensing, spying and surveillance devices,” or to ignore everything that is happening in front of them on the screens of thousands of surveillance cameras, not to respond to any bombings, and to ignore the firing of bullets.

Allow Hamas vehicles and fighters to kill everyone they want, capture as many numbers as they want, and withdraw! This means that tens of thousands of Israelis received these instructions from their leaders, and implemented them to the letter, and



alsarraf

not even after more than two weeks, the conscience of any of them woke up and exposed his government and said that he received those instructions and orders to ignore Hamas’ entry into the settlements, to give Netanyahu’s government an excuse to take revenge on the people of Gaza and wipe out The Strip, at a cost of billions, and the possibility of tens of thousands of Palestinians losing their lives, with the possibility of hundreds or thousands of Israeli soldiers losing their lives whenever the ground attack begins!

The biggest loser from this conspiracy or non-conspiracy is Benjamin Netanyahu, as he will most likely pay the price in any case, once the dust of the battle settles down and an investigation committee is formed into what actually happened, such as the famous Agranat Commission, after the 1973 war.

Also, the exposure of the Hamas leaders’ agreement with the Israelis will prompt, not the Palestinians of Gaza, but the entire world, to cut them into pieces while they are alive, if proven true, and this is what is very difficult to imagine!

□ □ □

**Note:** A year or more, and people were moaning and complaining about the delay in issuing their civil ID cards for several months, and the resulting disruption of their interests, cancellation of their travel, and stopping of their transactions, and no one in the government bothered to address the matter in a timely manner, until the situation worsened and people became upset, and things got out of control.

Then suddenly someone discovered, even though the problem had been going on for almost a year, the existence of a gang within the Public Authority for Civil Information, which sought, with despicable design and connivance, to deliberately delay people’s interests, and to demand money from card holders, in exchange for rushing to issue them!

They were brought before the judiciary, to issue fair rulings against them, including imprisonment and large fines!

How does this happen in a country that has a government, all these regulatory bodies, a press and 50 representatives? I don’t know, but it is an indication that things are collapsing and deteriorating.

□ □ □

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## Household help number increased despite ban on Philippines workers

30 per cent rise from India , major fall from Lanka

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The number of domestic workers working in Kuwait increased from 583,000 at the end of 2021 to 811,000 as of last October, despite the ban imposed on the recruitment of Filipino workers since last February, and the direct recruitment of domestic workers was limited only to India and Sri Lanka.**

Labor statistics revealed an increase in the number of domestic workers coming from India by about 30 percent over last year, reaching about 361,000 as of last October, of whom only 28.7 percent were female, and the rest were men.

The statistics recorded a significant decrease in the number of domestic workers recruited from Sri Lanka, from 79 thousand in 2022, to only 48.2 thousand in 2023, with an average of about 4,800 entering Kuwait monthly, of which female workers constitute more than 90 percent.

As for Filipino female workers, despite the ban on their recruitment, they still make the bulk of domestic workers, as their number in 2023 reached about 99.4 percent of the 201,000 Filipino domestic workers in Kuwait.

### Explained

Bassam Al-Shammari, a specialist in domestic worker affairs, explained to Al-Rai that the increase in the number of domestic workers in general is due to the increasing demand for them, after the establishment of many new housing cities in Kuwait.

Al-Shammari stressed that the increased awareness of both the sponsor and the worker about the rights and duties of both parties, and the change in treatment with the domestic worker, is clearly evident in the low percentage of cases of escape from homes, and the lack of labor disputes.

**Number of domestic workers as of last October:**

- India: 371,222 workers (71.3 percent male - 28.7 percent female)
- Philippines: 201,110 workers (0.6 percent male - 99.4 percent female)
- Sri Lanka: 103,685 workers (20.6 percent males - 79.4 percent females)
- Bangladesh: 85,989 workers (99 percent males - 1 percent females)
- Nepal: 25,540 workers (4.7 percent males - 95.3 percent females)
- Ethiopia: 11 One thousand and 684 workers (8.2 percent males - 91.8 percent females)
- Other nationalities: 11 thousand and 616 workers (59.1 percent males - 40.9 percent females)

Bassam Al-Shammari presented four proposals through Al-Rai that could contribute to solving employment problems, which are:

1. That there be equality for holders of Article 20 regarding reports of absence under Article 18, and that the report be submitted on the date of absence and not be activated until after 60 days, as this procedure contributes to addressing 80 percent of labor problems and issues, and embarrassment over malicious reports that the majority of domestic workers in embassies suffer from, due to the difficulty of filing an absence report.
2. Activating the role of the shelter center affiliated with the Public Authority for Manpower, and coordinating with the embassies of countries exporting domestic workers.
3. Accelerating the end of labor disputes, and quickly restoring workers’ rights in disputes through amicable solutions.
4. Seeking help from recruitment offices to resolve any dispute between the worker and the sponsor may reduce about 30 percent of cases.



Al-Shammari



KUNA photo

The Kuwait Red Crescent Society volunteers distributing food parcels to Palestinian children in a refugee camp in Gaza.

### KRCS continues aid to Palestinians

Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) continued for the twenty-sixth day in a row to provide its humanitarian and relief assistance to displaced Palestinians in a number of schools that include thousands of displaced persons.

Palestinian volunteer teams affiliated with the KRCS distributed relief aid, hot meals, bread and dates, in addition to medical relief, including supplies for

medical services.

The teams distributed aid to the northern regions of the Gaza Strip and Gaza City, despite the difficulties and severe shortages in fuel for bakeries and flour, the power outages, their inability to reach the southern governorates due to land incursions, and the seriousness of the conditions in movement across the governorates in Gaza. (KUNA)

## Prisoner who escaped arrested

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Ministry of Interior has announced that an inmate who had escaped from a correctional institution while she was in a hospital receiving treatment has been arrested, reports Al-Rai daily.

The Ministry said that immediately after receiving the report, an intensive search resulted in the arrest of the fugitive, and the

investigation is being completed to determine the circumstances of the incident.

The Minister of Interior, Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled, had ordered the formation of an immediate investigation committee into the inmate’s escape, and directed that all necessary measures be taken quickly to arrest her.

### MEW waits for CSC nod

## Bid to enforce flexible work hours

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy said “the Ministry is waiting for the Civil Service Commission to complete the programming of its integrated system to implement the flexible working hours that the Ministry proposed to the Bureau some time ago.”

The Al-Rai daily has learned that there is a problem with the Bureau regarding the issue of how to calculate the period of prior permission granted to employees at certain times, indicating that the Ministry, due to this problem, has not yet been able to implement a flexible working system for its more than 35,000 employees.

The ministry explained it had previously addressed the Bureau regarding the flexible working hours system that it wanted to implement for its employees, as it decided to allocate one flexible hour from 7:00 am to 8:00 am, with an estimated grace period of half an hour, and the Ministry is still awaiting the Bureau’s response to begin implementation.”

On the other hand, sources revealed that the Ministry has signed a contract with an international consultant for a period of 5 years to provide the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy with internal consulting engineering services for water sector projects.



South Korea shares rich cultural output at Sharjah book fair

# Kuwait participates in 42nd edition of Sharjah Int’l Book Fair

## Kuwait calls on int’l community to ‘protect’ Palestinian people

Kuwait supports efforts of UNHCR: Al-Dikaan

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The State of Kuwait today urged the international community to follow unified policies based on dialogue and peaceful channels when dealing with issues related to refugees and displaced persons in order to achieve the collective security sought by all members in light of non-traditional cross-border threats.

This came in a speech by the Permanent Delegation of Kuwait to the United Nations, delivered by Diplomatic Attaché Ahmed Al-Dikaan before the Third Committee of the General Assembly concerned with Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs, reports Al-Rai daily.

Al-Dikaan said that the State of Kuwait affirms its commitment to supporting refugee issues in line with its humanitarian diplomacy, expressing the country’s appreciation for the efforts made by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) in providing the basic needs of education and health care for Palestine refugees in several countries.

Al-Dikaan added that Kuwait supports the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for



Diplomatic Attaché Ahmed Al-Dikaan

Refugees, which includes the return or resettlement of refugees in various parts of the world, while providing them with protection. He renewed the country’s call to ensure the safety of UNHCR workers, as many of them work in conflict zones or areas where climate change is widespread.

He pointed to the country’s humanitarian efforts that have affected all parts of the world in the wake of the worsening crisis of refugees and displaced persons, in a fair manner without regard to race or affiliation, explaining that this approach has contributed to a positive impact on the lives of many by adopting policies based on development and non-discrimination when providing a helping hand.

He warned that the issues of asylum and displacement are not the exclusive result of armed conflicts, but are also the result of non-traditional threats such as climate change, the spread of epidemics, and ongoing human rights violations, noting

### Air freight expansion eyed

KAC plans to purchase 5 aircraft by '30

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kuwait Airways, Abdul Mohsen Al-Faqan, said the KAC has a strategy to strengthen its cargo sector and that includes purchasing five Airbus 350A and Boeing 777F aircraft by 2030, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Al-Faqan told the “Flight Global” website that the decision regarding expanding air freight in the company and the new shipping strategy will be determined before the end of next year.

He confirmed that the company has an infrastructure for freight op-

erations, especially with the availability of an air cargo city at Kuwait International Airport.

However, the administration needs to build a management and sales structure to develop it, indicating that the freight sector is a year-round business, unlike the seasonal passenger sector, especially since the Middle East depends on import to a large extent.

Al-Faqan pointed out the importance of air freight in light of Chinese activity to support government infrastructure projects in Kuwait.

that 108 million people will be displaced by the end of 2022 to escape these repercussions that would harm their lives and the lives of their families.

Regarding the Israeli occupation’s aggression against the Gaza Strip, Al-Dikaan said that the noticeable failure to describe blatant violations of international humanitarian law amounts to giving the green light for the continuation of these brutal practices targeting the “steadfast” Palestinian people, who are excluded from the principles of international humanitarian law.

He continued, “From this platform, I reiterate my country’s Kuwaiti support for the Palestinian people politically, humanitarily,

and morally, after many of the international community’s masks fell before a just humanitarian cause due to selectivity. Accordingly, we realize the difficulty of unifying and coordinating positions, but this must not affect our obligations and responsibilities under international humanitarian law.”

In this regard, Al-Dikaan affirmed the State of Kuwait’s condemnation and denunciation of the barbaric criminal acts committed by the usurping Israeli occupation, which requires the international community to carry out its responsibilities without selectivity and double standards and to provide international protection for the Palestinian people.

SHARJAH, Nov 2, (KUNA): The 42nd edition of Sharjah International Book fair launched Wednesday with more than 2,000 publishers from 108 countries, showcasing 1.5 million books.

The fair, held with South Korea as the guest of honor, was inaugurated by Sharjah Ruler Sultan bin Mohammad Al-Qasimi.

Kuwait is represented in the fair by National Council for Culture Arts and Literature (NCCAL), as well as a number of government bodies and private publishing houses.

NCCAL representative Khalifah Al-Rabah spoke to KUNA about the council’s keenness on participating in the fair

saying that it is an opportunity to display the rich Kuwaiti literary and cultural productions.

Meanwhile, under the theme “unlimited imagination” South Korea -- the guest of honor of the 42nd Sharjah International Book Fair -- had set course to share the country’s rich culture, history, and knowledge with Arab and international audiences during the course of this prestigious event.

The South Korean pavilion have seen a huge influx of the fair’s visitors with over 200 pieces of art and literature on display.

The pavilion will be hosting 25 media, art, and cultural guests eager to share Korean culture with the regional audiences.



Kuwait's NCCAL representative Khalifah Al-Rabah.



Ambassador Dr Swaika with KISR's DG Dr Al-Sudairwai.

### Indian envoy meets Dr Al-Sudairwai of KISR

The Indian Ambassador to Kuwait HE Dr Adarsh Swaika met the DG, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, HE Dr Mane Al-Sudairwai. The discussions fo-

cused on enhancing scientific collaboration between both sides. It is noteworthy to make a mention of the presence of a large number of Indian scientists in KISR.

### Embassy holds tourism exhibition

## Kuwait & Germany enjoy ‘distinguished’ relations

By Fares Al-Abdan  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Kuwait Hans-Christian Freiherr von Reibnitz praised the Kuwaiti-German relations, which he described as distinguished.

In a statement issued on the sidelines of a tourism exhibition held the day before yesterday evening at the ambassador’s residence with the participation of nine German tourist offices and the Lufthansa Airlines company, the ambassador called on Kuwaitis to visit his country, which he described as a touristic country.

He said, “The purpose of holding this exhibition is to introduce our country as a distinguished touristic country and to give a good impression of our country. This exhibition is aimed to show friends how beautiful Germany is, what you can do there, and what you can expect if you travel to Germany.

#### Communicate

This exhibition is held annually in Kuwait in the month of October, with the participation of a network of people who come only to communicate with their customers whom they already know.

At the same time, they give the opportunity to many other people to learn more about Germany, the culture, the places they can go, and the diversity that exists in Germany in particular.”

Regarding the number of visas that were issued in summer, the ambassador replied, “I cannot give a specific number of visas that were issued. But of course, there are thousands of Kuwaitis who have a long-term visa. Those traveling to other countries sometimes pass through Germany as well, so I do not want to mention the exact number because I do not have any good idea about that. However, I say to Kuwaitis that there are great opportunities to actually pass through Germany.”

In his response to a question about the visit of a German parliamentary delegation to Kuwait and the extent of cooperation, he said, “The visit was by the Speaker of the Parliament of Arabic-speaking countries. It falls within the framework of our two countries’ preparations to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral relations. This is to link with the National Assembly and for the actual vision of preparing for a possible visit of Kuwaiti parliamentarians to Germany for unification, and at the same time to make clear to Kuwaiti friends that our government is not the only one that establishes relations.

But also the legislative authority represented by Parliament, as well as the private sector, and perhaps if we go to the future and if we look at the large projects that the government is preparing here, there will be a good German influence.”

Meanwhile, the Director of the German National Tourism Office in the Gulf Coop-

### Kuwaiti stage artiste succumbs to cancer

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: Kuwaiti artiste Jawaher lost her battle with cancer, after a long treatment trip she spent in the British capital, London, which she finally completed in Kuwait. Today, she moved to the afterlife, at the age of 45 in the Jaber Hospital.

Jawaher began acting in 1990 when she appeared in the children’s play “The Bat.” In 1996, she appeared as a model in the video clip “I Loved Him” by the artist Khaled Bin Hussein, and from there she returned to acting and participated in four series at once in 1997, but after that she retreated and decided to stop acting for reasons that she did not reveal, reports Al-Rai daily.

In 2003, she returned to acting strongly again, presenting five series in one season, and performing one of her most famous roles, “Shams,” in the series “Another Day.”

From there, she continued until 2005, when she announced her retirement for the second time, but she returned to acting after a five-year absence, in 2010, and worked in comedy and dramatic television works until 2018, when she stopped, but this time due to her cancer.



Jawaher

eration Council countries, Yemeni Sofar said, “Every year we hold a tourism exhibition in Kuwait about Germany. Today, nine German companies, representing various German cities, participated with us. We are here to promote what Berlin and Munich, hotels, trains, the airline Lufthansa and shopping sector have to offer but also promote the whole of Germany.”

In response to a question related to the offers that her country offers to Kuwaiti tourists, she said the presence of many Kuwaiti business partners to meet their German partners is intended to conclude direct contracts to obtain better prices for making special arrangements for tourism, as well as for introducing Kuwaitis to German markets, which have discounts on the most prominent international brands.

Sofar added, “Talking to our partners in Kuwait face to face is very useful in knowing the desires and requirements of Kuwaiti tourists.”

# November

## Room Promotion

Weekdays (Saturday - Wednesday)	
Queen Cabana (2 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.	2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.
NOW	NOW
BHD 57.173/-net	BHD 128.000/-net
Weekends (Thursday & Friday)	
Queen Cabana (2 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.	2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.
NOW	NOW
BHD 61.000/-net	BHD 136.198/-net

Promo period from 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023      Terms & conditions apply\*



Federation calls for urgent aid to reach millions trapped and suffering

# World Heart Federation stands in solidarity with Gaza

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: With deep sadness over the loss of life and basic amenities needed for survival, the World Heart Federation (WHF) joins the global call for aid to reach the millions trapped and suffering in the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. WHF supports our members and partners in the region, as well as those they hold dear.

WHF's mission is to promote cardiovascular health for all. Equity and community are among our core values, and we therefore prioritize

the health and safety of civilians. In times of conflict and war, it is crucial to swiftly deploy humanitarian aid to address the medical needs of the injured and those with various conditions who rely on critical medical supplies and treatment.

The suffering



Dr. Rajan

caused by war is unimaginable and has long-lasting effects. WHF expresses gratitude for the dedication of caregivers who remain committed to their oath of service despite challenging circumstances. We maintain hope for a resolution to the current crisis.

Dr. Rajesh Rajan, a cardiologist at the Sabah Al Ahmad Cardiac Center in Al Amiri Hospital, Kuwait, emphasizes the importance of prioritizing the health and safety of civilians during conflict and war. He stresses

the urgency of swiftly deploying humanitarian aid to address the medical needs of the injured and those suffering from various conditions who depend on critical medical supplies and treatment. Access to healthcare services is vital to ensure the well-being of individuals and alleviate their suffering during these challenging times.

In this difficult period, the WHF expresses deep gratitude for the tireless efforts of caregivers who continue to provide essential medical care

despite the most challenging circumstances. Their dedication to their oath of service is truly commendable, and we acknowledge the invaluable role they play in offering solace and healing to those in need.

Dr. Rajan also highlights the toll of war on individuals and communities, leaving lasting scars that extend far into the future. Nevertheless, the WHF remains hopeful that a resolution can be found, and we stand firmly committed to supporting our members and partners in the region

as they navigate through this crisis with determination and resilience.

The WHF, in collaboration with its partners and members, will continue to advocate for the necessary aid and resources to be provided to the people of Palestine. We firmly believe in the importance of addressing the humanitarian crisis as a global community, and we are unwavering in our commitment to supporting the health and well-being of all individuals affected by this dire situation.

## 190 apply for 25 supervisory posts in co-ops

Jahra Co-op sales during 9-day fiesta bags KD 275K

By Fares Al-Abdan  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs Abdulaziz Sari Al-Mutairi declared that the Quartet Committee for Supervisory Positions in Cooperative Societies has begun receiving applicants from Wednesday evening.

He highlighted the completion of the first phase involving 11 cooperative societies with 25 vacant supervisory positions, affirming that these vacancies will be filled by applicants among the citizens, as the total number of applicants is 190 Kuwaiti men and women.

Al-Mutairi explained that, "The committee will receive applicants for the positions of director, deputy director, and head

of the department. It will start with the Nuzha Cooperative Society for the position of deputy director, for which the total number of applicants is 24 Kuwaiti men and women.

We have asked the cooperative societies to adhere to the decision of the Council of Ministers so that all societies have a unified structure that includes ten departments, except for the cooperative societies with financial solvency. They need to contact us and their status will be reviewed as to whether the number of departments will be reduced or merged."

### Nomination

Meanwhile, the Head of the competent quartet committee to study nomination files and conduct personal interviews for appointment to cooperative societies, and the Director of the Supervision and Cooperative Inspection Department at the Ministry of Social Affairs Ahmed Al-Enezi confirmed the start of receiving applicants for supervisory positions in cooperative

societies yesterday.

Al-Enezi explained that the quartet committee includes in its membership the Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Public Authority for Manpower, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the cooperative society that has vacancies.

The committee began conducting interviews for 24 applicants for positions in the Nuzha Cooperative Society according to the supervisory positions offered. Interviews will be conducted on a weekly basis for applicants to positions of each cooperative society separately.

He revealed that non-compliant cooperative societies were directed to a judicial police officer for not announcing supervisory positions, indicating that the number of such cooperative societies reached 14.

Al-Enezi affirmed that after the officer's directive, a large number of cooperative societies came forward to advertise the jobs.

Meanwhile, Chairman of the Jahra Co-

operative Society, Ahmed Al-Shammari, announced the success of the Awal Al-Khair Festival 2023 which was organized from October 23 to 31.

Al-Shammari said, the future will be on a greater level and of a distinctive quality, valuing the cooperation of the members of the board of directors among themselves for the benefit of the shareholders, reports Al-Rai daily.

Al-Shammari, in a press statement, said the sales of the Awal Al-Khair Festival 2023 was approximately 275 thousand dinars, distributed as follows -- 200 thousand from the Jahra Central Market and 75 thousand from the Al-Waha Central Market, stressing that the board of directors is moving towards developing and achieving the ambitions of the people of the region, especially the shareholders.

Al-Shammari promised shareholders and the people of the region that the coming period would witness more services and festivals, and that the quality offers would satisfy them.

### List uploaded

Remuneration for Mol staff who participated in '23 polls

By Munaif Naif  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Security Media Department of the Ministry of Interior highlighted the keenness and follow-up of the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Talal Khalid Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah to encourage employees of the Ministry of Interior to exert more effort, work, and giving.

It revealed that Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled directed the disbursement of financial dues to all employees - security personnel and civilian - who participated in the 2023 National Assembly elections based on the cooperation and fruitful efforts made by the Financial Affairs and Support Services Sector with all sectors of the state concerned in this regard.

### «Mujezat Al-Shifa»: Bee propolis fights tooth decay and gingival infection microbes

The nutrition consultant at Mujezat Al-Shifa Company explained that all types of propolis are rich



in phenolic compounds, flavinoids, and terpenes as antioxidants. Therefore, they contribute to the prevention and treatment of diseases, stimulating the immune system, and healing wounds, burns, and ulcers. It also contains antimicrobial compounds that include penocembrin, picomarin, caffeic, apigenin, and galangin.

The compounds are the most powerful types of antioxidants and antimicrobials, especially for pneumonia, gum disease, and tooth decay. Therefore, an experiment was conducted on 300 healthy adolescents between the ages of 10 and 19 years who do not suffer from active lesions.

## Kuwait preps to witness astronomical events this month

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Space Museum of the Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Cultural Center announced that November 2023 will witness many distinctive astronomical events that can be observed from the skies of Kuwait, including the conjunction of the moon with bright planets, reports Al-Rai daily.

General Supervisor of Museums at the Center, Khaled Al-Jamaan, told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that the planet Jupiter, the giant of the solar system, will be at its closest point to Earth on the evening of Friday, November 3, and during this period it will be at its maximum in terms of brightness, and with a good telescope it can be distinguished.

He stated that the Kuwaiti sky will be on the evening of Sunday, November 12, with meteor showers known as "Taurus group showers," as the best time to view them will be after midnight in areas far from light pollution, and approximately 5 to 10 meteors can be seen during one hour.

He stated that November 13 will be the best time dur-

ing the month to monitor and photograph the Galaxy River, in addition to observing faint celestial bodies such as galaxies and star clusters, in addition to the most prominent winter stars.

Al-Jamaan stated that on November 18, the periodic stream of meteors from the Leo Group returns, which arose from the remains of the transit of comet "Tempel-Tuttle" in 1866, indicating that the Leo Group meteors have a cycle that is repeated every 33 years in which the meteor showers increase significantly, reaching hundreds of meteors and the last peak. These meteors occurred in 2001, and the next peak date for these showers will be in 2033. This year, it is expected to see 15 meteors per hour.

He added that the moon will be associated during the month of November, during its journey in the sky from east to west, with a number of bright planets that appear in the form of bright stars in the sky near the moon in a distinctive view for the observer from Earth.

The two teams stated that the moon will be in conjunction with the planet Venus at dawn on Thursday,

corresponding to November 9, on the eastern horizon of the Kuwaiti sky, and the conjunction will also be repeated with the planet Saturn throughout the evening of Monday, corresponding to November 20, with Jupiter also on the evening of Saturday, corresponding to November 25.

He pointed out that the Space Museum monitors and documents all astronomical phenomena in the Kuwaiti sky in cooperation with the International Astronomical Union and displays them within its programs and activities for the Planetarium, as happened recently with the second and final lunar eclipse of this year.

## 'Kuwait has historic humanitarian approach'

AMMAN, Nov 2, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Ambassador to Jordan Hamad Al-Marri said on Thursday that Kuwait's humanitarian approach is historic and long under the directives of the political leadership.

This came in a statement to KUNA after attending the relief campaign organized by Rahma International Society through conducting catheterization operations for Palestinian and Syrian refugees at the Canadian Hospital in Jordan.

Al-Marri praised the efforts of Rahma International Society in providing medical aid to refugees in Jordan.

"What we saw today is a reason for us to be proud and an affirmation of Kuwait's role as a center for humanitarian work thanks to all the efforts involved," he pointed out.

He stated that charitable work is one of the basic pillars of the country's foreign policy, as Kuwait was always known for its humanitarian initiatives that targeted several regions in various parts of the world.

On his part, campaign supervisor Abdullah Al-Ajmi stated that this the ninth campaign for Rahma International Society, which more than 300 patients have benefited from, in coordi-

nation with the Jordanian medical staff in the Canadian Hospital.

He noted that Rahma International Society have organized more than 500 relief campaigns for refugees in Jordan funded by Kuwaiti charity.

He added that this campaign will fund more than 40 catheterization operations worth USD 100,000.

Al-Ajmi praised the role of the Kuwaiti government, especially the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social Affairs, for their support towards Kuwaiti charitable societies to facilitate their tasks in providing assistance to those in need around the world.

### Mishal Al-Ahmad ...

Continued from Page 1

country, which led to inflaming the street and preoccupying citizens with marginal matters that were already known to be unreliable and inconsistent with citizens' demands, because it does not achieve justice for the people of the country.

His Highness the Crown Prince, when the captain of the ship speaks with such frankness about what we have been suffering from for 30 years as a result of wars, either declared or undeclared ones, to obstruct the course of the relationship between the legislative and executive authorities in order to achieve personal interests, the scene must be as you described it, Your Highness.

You put your finger on the wound, and it is time for everyone to bear the responsibility with honesty and sincerity.

May Almighty Allah bless you your Highness for this comprehensive explanation of what the nation is suffering. The people today await your painful surgical procedures to put Kuwait on the path towards salvation after three decades of lagging behind the global pace in all fields.

### Central Bank

Continued from Page 1

by telecommunications companies operating in the country, and to use means to prevent fraudsters from impersonating official institutions, including requiring telecommunications companies to display the full name of the contacting party on the website, phone screen for communications with legal entities such as banks and government agencies, to reduce cases of impersonation of employees of banks

or government agencies.

Perhaps what will increase the significance of the establishment of the expected "chamber" is the escalation of financial fraud operations at significant rates in the past three years, as many services and businesses have become available digitally, which has contributed to an increase in the spread of cyber-crime, especially fraud operations that aim to steal individuals' banking and personal data in an effort to access their money.

Many methods of financial fraud have recently spread, including fraudsters claiming to be from an official or banking institution to request information from individuals.

According to data issued by the Central Bank of Kuwait recently, the number of cases of fraud on bank cards at local banks increased by about 6 times last year compared to what was recorded in 2020. According to reports from local banks, fraud on bank cards has been increasing every year.

Since March 2023, the Central Bank has held a series of meetings with banks as part of its effort to determine frameworks for coordination and cooperation between concerned parties to reduce electronic financial fraud.

### Mediators push

Continued from Page 1

The U.S. has said it is trying to evacuate 400 Americans with their families.

Egypt has said it will not accept an influx of Palestinian refugees, fearing Israel will not allow them to return to Gaza after the war.

Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians remain in the path of the fighting in northern Gaza, despite Israel's repeated calls for them to evacuate to the territory's south, which is also being bombed.

Israeli troops appear to be advancing on Gaza City along three main routes: from the northeast, from the northwest along the Mediterranean coast, and from the south after reaching the territory's main north-south highway. Israeli officials have provided only vague statements about troop movements.

Airstrikes on Tuesday and Wednesday destroyed apartment buildings in the Jabaliya refugee camp near Gaza City, but the number of dead and wounded remained unknown. Israel said the strikes killed militants and demolished Hamas tunnels.

Palestinian militants fired antitank missiles, set off explosive devices and hurled grenades at Israeli troops during an overnight battle, the Israeli military said Thursday. It said soldiers returned fire and called in artillery, as well as strikes. The report could not be independently confirmed.


Casualties on both sides are expected to rise as Israeli troops advance toward the dense residential neighborhoods of Gaza City. Israeli officials say Hamas' military infrastructure, including tunnels, is concentrated in the city and accuse Hamas of hiding among civilians.

At least 9,061 Palestinians have been killed in the war, mostly women and minors, and more than 32,000 people have been wounded, the Gaza Health Ministry said Thursday, without providing a breakdown between civilians and fighters. The death toll is without precedent in decades of Israeli-Palestinian violence, and is around four times the figure from the 2014 Gaza war, which lasted over six weeks.

Four Palestinians, including three teenagers, were shot dead in different parts of the occupied West Bank early Thursday, the Palestinian Health Ministry said. More than 130 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank since the start of the war, mainly in violent protests and gunbattles during Israeli arrest raids.

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World News Roundup

Europe

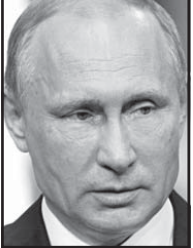
Journalist expelled

Putin expected to ‘seek’ re-election

TALLINN, Estonia, Nov 2, (AP): **Vladimir Putin** isn’t quite the man he used to be - more than a decade has passed since the Russian president engaged in public stunts to boast of his vigor by hugging a polar bear or riding a horse barechested in the mountains. The war in Ukraine has further dented that strongman image.

Putin is still expected to seek another term when Russia holds presidential elections next March. In fact, he has pushed through changes in the constitution to allow him to run for two more six-year terms.

But 71 is an age when death or serious illness are hardly distant concerns for the man who has ruled Russia for 24 years. If Putin was not on the ballot for some reason, it’s not clear who might take his place.



Putin

At the national level, Russia’s political system is hermetic. There are no primary elections where voters can choose a candidate; political parties select their own contenders and then present them to the electorate.

In Putin’s absence, the loyalist United Russia party could put forth a candidate, although there’s no fixed procedure for it to choose one. Officially, Putin ran in 2018 as an independent, a precedent adding uncertainty to how a replacement could emerge.

He submissively acceded to Putin’s desire to run for a new term in 2012, serving as prime minister until 2020. He was then appointed to the new position of deputy head of the national security council.

Although that post was low-visibility and often seen as a sinecure, Medvedev’s prominence soared last year when he abandoned his normally mild persona and became one of the most vehement defenders of the war in Ukraine, vividly denouncing the West.

That posture has appeal for Russian nationalists, but Medvedev could be tarnished by the perception he was too accommodating to the United States as president during the Obama administration’s “reset” initiative, as well as a high-profile expose alleging corruption and garishly lavish living.

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**2 killed in eastern Ukraine:** A Russian attack on Kherson in eastern Ukraine on Wednesday killed one person and caused serious damage in the city’s center, the region’s governor said, and a Russian drone strike killed another civilian in the frequently targeted city of Nikopol.

The attack on Kherson, which Russian forces seized early in the war but then abandoned a year ago, also wounded two people. Despite the withdrawal, Russian attacks from the other side of the Dnieper River persist.

“Again an apocalyptic scene,” regional Gov. Oleksandr Prokudin said on the Telegram messaging app. “Broken glass, torn window frames, ruined homes. People with trembling voices telling about what they have been through.”

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**Bulgaria expels Russian journalist:** Bulgaria has expelled a Russian journalist for allegedly engaging in activities that pose a threat to the country’s national security, authorities said Wednesday.

The State Agency for National Security said Alexander Gatsak, a correspondent for Russian state-run newspaper Rossiyskaya Gazeta, was stripped of his residency rights and barred from entering Bulgaria and other European Union member nation.

The agency said Gatsak was summoned Sept. 29 to receive the expulsion order at the Interior Ministry migration office, but he did not show up and instead took refuge inside the Russian Embassy in Bulgaria’s capital, Sofia.

The agency said in a statement that it sought the assistance of the Foreign Ministry and the journalist left Bulgaria on Wednesday. The statement did not elaborate on Gatsak’s alleged activities but said his removal was carried out in strict compliance with European democratic norms and values.

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**Ex-defense min, ex-spy chief cases dropped:** Danish prosecution dismissed Wednesday two separate cases against a former defense minister and an ex-head of the country’s foreign intelligence service due to the inability to divulge classified information in court. Both were charged with leaking state secrets.

Last week, Denmark’s highest court ruled that the two cases which have been shrouded in secrecy, should be made public and sessions were to be closed off whenever sensitive information was presented.

In a statement, Denmark’s prosecution authority said that “in the interests of the state’s security, it is no longer safe to make highly classified information available in criminal proceedings.” Prosecutor Jakob Berger Nielsen said in the statement that the legal process would have forced “the disclosure of confidential information.”

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**‘Allow asylum-seekers to start working’:** The German government has approved legislation that would allow asylum-seekers to start working sooner and a plan to stiffen punishment for people who smuggle migrants.

The package backed by the Cabinet on Wednesday, which still requires parliamentary approval, is the latest in a series of steps taken recently by the government as it tries to defuse migration as a major political problem. The issue was one of several that led to a poor showing in state elections last month for Chancellor Olaf Scholz’s quarrelsome three-party coalition and gains for a far-right party.

Last week, ministers approved legislation intended to ease deportations of unsuccessful asylum-seekers. On Monday, Scholz will hold a meeting with Germany’s 16 state governors expected to center on responses to migration.

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**New oil leak reported:** A ferry that had ran aground last month off southeastern Sweden and started leaking oil into the Baltic Sea was pulled free on Wednesday and anchored nearby, the Swedish Coast Guard said. During the operation, another oil leak was discovered, which the authorities described as small.

The Marco Polo, operated by the TT-Line of Germany, was operating a route along Sweden’s coast between the cities of Trelleborg and Karlshamn when it ran aground on Oct. 22 and started leaking oil. It continued under its own power, but became stuck a second time.



People canoe down a flooded Bank Parade in Newry Town, Co Down, Northern Ireland on Oct 31. Flooding was reported in parts of Northern Ireland, with police cautioning people against travelling due to an amber rain warning. (AP)

Ciaran whips western Europe, blowing record winds in France, leaving mlns without power

Winds up to 180 kilometers per hour (108 mph) slammed France’s Atlantic coast overnight as Storm Ciaran lashed countries around western Europe, uprooting trees, blowing out windows and leaving 1.2 million French households without electricity Thursday.

Heavy rain associated with the storm pushed ashore at the southwest tip of England, and the UK’s national weather forecaster warned of flood risks and urged people to take precautions. Dutch airline KLM scrapped all flights from the early afternoon until the end of the day, citing the high sustained wind speeds and powerful gusts expected in

the Netherlands.

A weather-related death already was confirmed in France. A truck driver was killed when his vehicle was hit by a tree in northern France’s inland Aisne region, Transport Minister Clement Beaune said.

Nearly all coastlines of the French mainland were under severe weather warnings Thursday morning, from Calais on the English Channel to all the way down the shores of the Atlantic Ocean to Spain, as well as much of France’s Mediterranean coast and Corsica, according to national weather service Météo-France.

The weather service reported record-breaking

wind speeds of 108 mph (180 kilometers per hour) along the Brittany coast. The wind reached up to 96 mph (160 kph) on the Normandy coast and up to 90 mph (150 kph) inland. Waves of almost 33 feet (10 meters) were expected in the country’s northwestern tip.

Local trains were canceled across a swath of western France, and all roads in the Finistere region of Brittany were closed Thursday morning. Beaune urged people to avoid driving and to at least exercise caution when traveling across areas with weather warnings. (AP)

Politics

Johnson signals that Ukraine aid next on GOP agenda

House rejects effort to expel Rep Santos

WASHINGTON, Nov 2, (AP): US Rep George Santos easily survived a vote Wednesday to expel him from the House as most Republicans and 31 Democrats opted to withhold punishment while both his criminal trial and a House Ethics Committee investigation proceed.

The effort to kick Santos out of the House was led by his fellow New York Republicans, who are anxious to distance themselves from a colleague infamous for fabricating his life story and accused of stealing from donors, lying to Congress and receiving unemployment benefits he did not deserve. But the resolution failed to gain the required two-thirds vote. Supporters could not even gain a simple majority, with the final vote being 179 for expulsion and 213 against.

Investigation

Some Democrats also voiced concerns about getting ahead of the Ethics Committee, which issued a rare memo the day before, citing the depth of its investigation with some 40 witnesses contacted and the issuance of 37 subpoenas. It also said the next steps of the committee’s investigation would be announced by Nov17.

“I feel like due process is still alive. I feel like there’s enough colleagues on both sides of the aisle here who understand that,” Santos said after the vote.

Congress has rarely resorted to the most extreme punishment at its disposal. The House has expelled only five members in its history - three during the Civil War and two after their convictions on public corruption charges. It would be groundbreaking for the House to kick out Santos before his case in federal court is resolved.

LANSING, Mich, Nov 2, (AP): Democrats in Michigan have warned the White House that President Joe Biden’s handling of the Israel-Hamas conflict could cost him enough support within the Arab American community to sway the outcome of the 2024 election in a state he almost certainly can’t afford to lose in his bid for re-election.

The situation has prompted the White House to discuss ways to alleviate tensions with some of the state’s prominent Democrats, including several who have been vocal critics of the president about the war.

“The message has been relayed. We’ve had calls with the White House. We’ve had calls with DNC officials,” said Abraham Aiyash, the

Some Republicans, however, said they had seen enough of Santos. Rep. Steve Womack, R-Ark., said he believes in due process, but also thinks Santos misrepresented himself to New York voters and they never would have elected him if they had “known the true George Santos.”

Also:

**WASHINGTON:** New US Speaker Mike Johnson told Republican senators Wednesday that a fresh Ukraine aid package linked to U.S. border security will come up quickly in the

third-ranking Democrat in the state House of Representatives, referring to the Democratic National Committee. “We’ve been clear in saying the humanity should matter, but if that is not a calculation that you’re going to make in this moment, recognize that there will be electoral reverberations to this.”

Michigan was a critical component of the so-called blue wall of states that includes Wisconsin and Pennsylvania that Biden returned to the Democratic column, helping him win the White House in 2020. Since then, Democrats have felt more confident about their standing in Michigan, particularly after Gov Gretchen Whitmer notched a commanding 10-point reelection victory last year.

House, as soon as lawmakers wrap up the \$14.5 billion Israel aid package that is heading for passage this week.

Johnson, who has been on the job a week, made the trip across the Capitol to speak privately with GOP senators to outline the agenda ahead. He also said the House plans to pass a stopgap bill to fund the government into next year to avoid a federal shutdown on Nov. 17 when current funding runs out.

Later, discussing the Israel aid during a Fox News event at the Capitol, Johnson said, “We’re going to get it done.”

ease the burden on their cities.

Migrants are sleeping in police station foyers in Chicago. In New York, a cruise ship terminal was turned into a shelter. In Denver, the number of migrants arriving has increased tenfold and available space to shelter them has withered. With fewer available work authorizations, these migrants cannot find work that would allow them to get into proper housing. (AP)

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**‘Remove judge from trial’:** Attorneys for convicted murderer Alex Murdaugh are asking South Carolina’s highest court to prevent the judge who presided over his murder trial from playing a role in the next phase of Murdaugh’s legal odyssey.

Lawyers for the disbarred attorney want to block Judge Clifton Newman from hearing Murdaugh’s request for a new trial. They also want the state Supreme Court to remove Newman from an upcoming case prosecuting Murdaugh over a string of financial crimes that prosecutors say he committed as his life spiraled out of control in the years before he killed his wife and son.

Wednesday’s request was part of Murdaugh’s appeal of the guilty verdicts and life sentence from his trial last spring.

His lawyers said elected Colleton County Clerk of Court Rebecca Hill allegedly tampered with the murder trial jury by asking jurors their opinions on his guilt or innocence before the trial was over, suggesting to them she thought he was guilty and pressuring them to reach a verdict quickly. (AP)



Donald Trump Jr appears in Supreme Court, on Nov 1, 2023, in New York. Donald Trump’s eldest son testified in the New York civil fraud case that threatens their company’s future, but a demand for daughter Ivanka’s testimony is being challenged. (AP)



Biden



Murdaugh

America

**Trump Jr testifies in father’s trial:** Donald Trump Jr testified Wednesday that he never worked on his father’s financial statements, the documents now at the heart of the civil fraud trial that threatens former President Donald Trump’s real estate empire. The ex-president’s eldest son is an executive vice president of the family’s Trump Organization and has been a trustee of a trust set up to hold its assets when his father was in the White House.

At least one of the annual financial statements bore language saying the trustees “are responsible” for the document. But Donald Trump Jr. said he didn’t recall ever working on any of the financial statements and had “no specific knowledge” of them. (AP)

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**‘Officer feared for his life’:** A police officer charged with manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide in the 2019 death of Elijah McClain testified Wednesday that he put the 23-year-old Black man in a neck hold because he feared for his life after another officer said McClain grabbed for one of their guns.

Prosecutors have refuted that McClain ever tried to grab an officer’s gun, and it can’t be seen in body camera footage, which is shaky and dark before all the cameras fall off during the ensuing struggle. Lawyers for two other officers tried earlier in McClain’s death also raised the alleged gun grab as part of their defense. (AP)

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**Mayors seek meeting with Biden:** The mayors of Chicago, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles and New York are pressing to meet with President Joe Biden about get-



Britain’s Kate, the Princess of Wales, meets group members in the Arnos Arms during a visit to ‘Dadventurers’, a community for dads and their children, in Arnos Grove, north London on Nov 1, to highlight the important role that Dads play in their children’s earliest years as part of her Shaping Us campaign on early childhood. (AP)



Lat/Am

Brazil tackles crime

Uruguay's foreign minister 'resigns'

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, Nov 2, (AP): Uruguay's Foreign Minister **Francisco Bustillo** resigned late Wednesday, shortly after audio messages were published in which he appears to ask a former official to not hand over evidence in an investigation over a passport issued to an accused drug trafficker.

Bustillo said in a statement that he had submitted his resignation "to dispel any suspicion that, as an authority figure, I might exert undue influence over third parties, protected by the privileges of my position."

He resigned after audios were revealed in which he appears to call on former deputy Foreign Minister Carolina Ache to not hand over her phone to investigators.

According to the audios, Bustillo was trying to make sure investigators wouldn't see conversations Ache had with another official relating to the granting of a passport to Sebastian Marset while he was detained in Dubai in 2021. That official had warned Marset was a "dangerous" drug trafficker.

Ache, who resigned last year, testified before prosecutors earlier Wednesday as part of an investigation into Marset's passport.

"I was the only politician in this government who resigned and went home. And, paradoxically, it was not because I had done something wrong nor illegal, quite the opposite. It was because I was not willing to conceal communications from the judiciary and because I refused to commit a crime," Ache told journalists after she testified.

Following the release of the audios, leaders of the opposition called on President Luis Lacalle Pou, who is in the United States, to dismiss several top officials, including Bustillo and Interior Minister Luis Alberto Heber, among others.

Illegal

Bustillo, who had been foreign minister since July 2020, claims Ache "decontextualized conversations and acted in bad faith" and insisted there was "nothing illegal" in the passport that was granted to Marset.

Bustillo said he would talk to the media after he testifies before prosecutors, which he is scheduled to do Friday.

"I will be available to the media to shed light on the accuracy of what has been done and on the distorted narrative that has been presented," Bustillo said in the statement he issued Wednesday evening.

Bustillo had previously testified before lawmakers that granting the passport to Marset involved an "administrative procedure" and was not political. He also alleged ignorance, saying that Marset's name was not as well known as it is now.

Authorities say Marset, 32, set up a criminal organization across Paraguay, Uruguay and Bolivia to export cocaine to Europe. He is also accused of being the mastermind behind the murder of Paraguay prosecutor Marcelo Pecci in Colombia in 2022.

Marset has eluded capture several times, most recently in August, when he was able to skirt an intense search in Bolivia, where authorities were embarrassed following revelations that he had been living in the country for months under a false identity.

Also:

**RIO DE JANEIRO:** Brazil's President **Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** said Wednesday he is sending the armed forces to boost security at some of the country's most important airports, ports and international borders as part of a renewed effort to tackle organized crime in **Latin America's** largest nation.

The decision comes days after members of a criminal gang set fire to dozens of buses in Rio de Janeiro, apparently in retaliation for the police slaying their leader's nephew.

"We have reached a very serious situation," Lula said at a news conference in Brasilia after signing the decree. "So we have made the decision to have the federal government participate actively, with all its potential, to help state governments, and Brazil itself, to get rid of organized crime."

Brazil will mobilize 3,600 members of the army, navy and air force to increase patrols and monitor the international airports in **Rio** and **Sao Paulo**, as well as two maritime ports in Rio and Sao Paulo's Santos port, the busiest in Latin America - and a major export hub for cocaine.

The deployment is part of a government's broader plan that includes increasing the number of federal police forces in Rio, improving cooperation between law enforcement entities and boosting investment in state-of-the-art technology for intelligence gathering.

State and federal authorities have said in recent weeks they want to "suffocate" militias by going after their financial resources.

Rio's public security problems go back decades, and any federal crackdown on organized crime needs to be supported by a far-reaching plan, the fruits of which might only be seen years from now, according to **Rafael Alcadiñani**, a public security analyst and professor at the Getulio Vargas Foundation, a university in Sao Paulo.



**MONTGOMERY, Ala:** **Natalee Holloway's** parents gathered in a room at an **Alabama** jail on Oct 3 to watch the man long-suspected in their daughter's 2005 disappearance describe how he killed her.

For three hours **Joran van der Sloot** was questioned - first by his own attorney and then by FBI agents - about what happened to Holloway, said **Mark White**, an attorney representing Natalee's father, **Dave Holloway**.

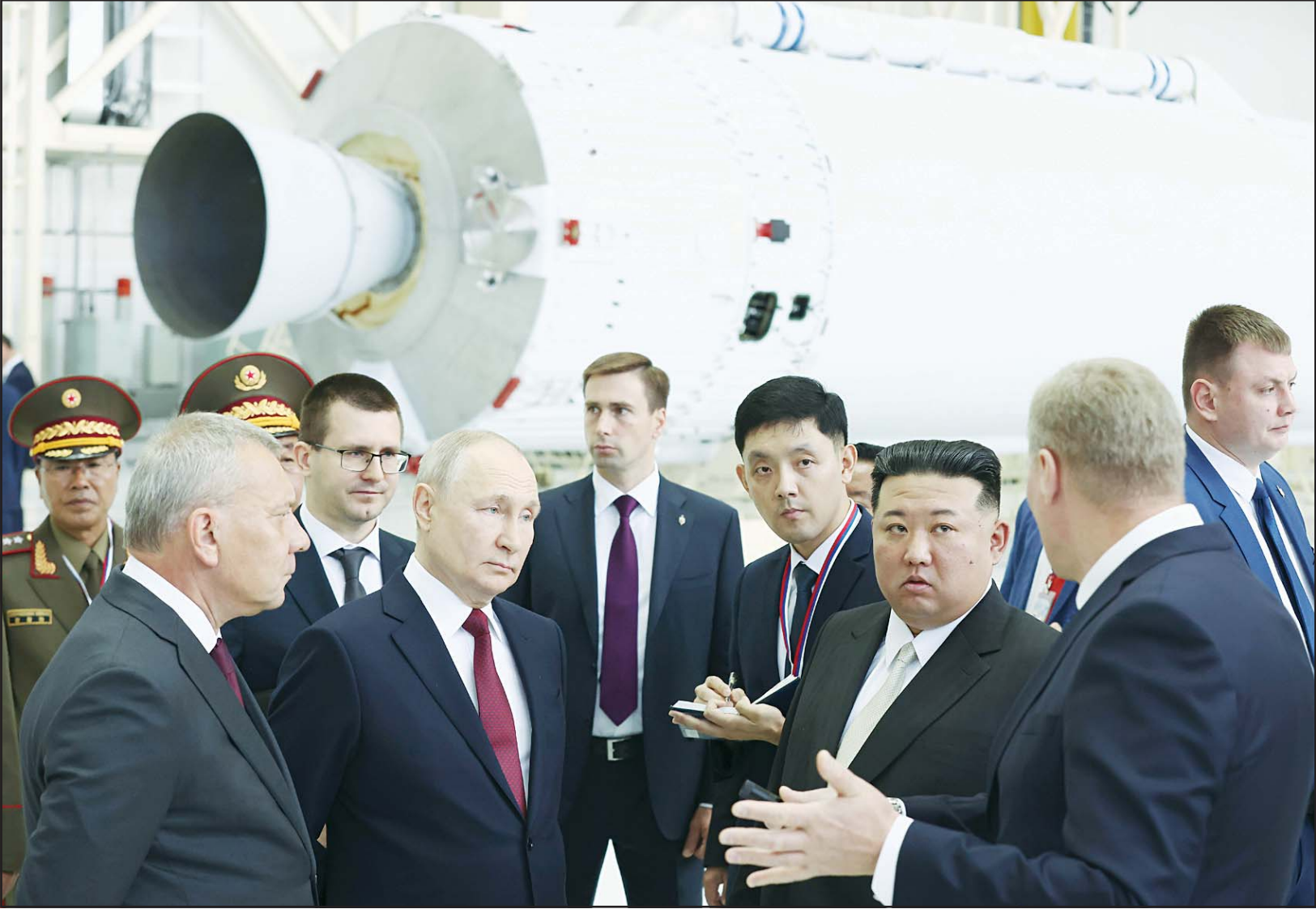
"Chilling," White said of watching and listening to van der Sloot's account. "It was listening to a person who lacks any sort of moral compass."

Van der Sloot's admission that he killed Holloway came as part of a plea deal in a related extortion case after months of work and was agreed to by her parents in order to get answers about what happened to their daughter. The plea deal required van der Sloot to make a proffer - providing information about what he knew about the crime - and to let her parents witness the statement in "real time."

Van der Sloot then had to take a polygraph exam to test the truthfulness of his account, according to court documents.

Natalee Holloway, 18, went missing during a high school graduation trip to **Aruba** with classmates. She was last seen May 30, 2005, leaving a bar with van der Sloot, a Dutch citizen. The disappearance quickly became an international story.

Van der Sloot was extradited in June from Peru - where he was in prison for killing another woman - to the **United States** to face trial on federal charges that he tried to extort money from Holloway's mother to reveal the location of her daughter's body.



Russian President Vladimir Putin (second left in front), and North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un (second right in front), examine a rocket assembly hangar during their meeting at the Vostochny cosmodrome outside the city of Tsiolkovsky, about 200 kilometers (125 miles) from the city of Blagoveshchensk in the far eastern Amur region, Russia on Sept 13. North Korea has likely supplied several types of missiles to Russia to support its war in Ukraine, along with its widely reported shipments of ammunition and shells, South Korea's military said Nov 2. Russian Federal Space Corporation Roscosmos CEO Yuri Borisov is on the left. (AP)

Asia

Former Chinese premier Li Keqiang laid to rest

NKorea likely sent missiles to Russia: Seoul

SEOUL, South Korea, Nov 2, (AP): North Korea has likely supplied several types of missiles to Russia to support its war in Ukraine, along with its widely reported shipments of ammunition and shells, South Korea's military said Thursday.

In a background briefing for local journalists, South Korea's military said that North Korea is suspected of sending an unspecified number of short-range ballistic missiles, anti-tank missiles and portable anti-air missiles to Russia, in addition to rifles, rocket launchers, mortars and shells.

The contents of the briefing were shared with The Associated Press.

North Korea has been pushing to expand cooperation with Russia and China in the face of protracted security tensions with the United States and pandemic-caused domestic hardships. In an apparent sign of its economic troubles, the country is moving to close some of its overseas diplomatic missions.

Last week, South Korea, the US and Japan strongly condemned North Korea's alleged supplying of munitions and military equipment to Russia, saying such weapons shipments sharply increased the human toll of Russia's war in Ukraine. Any weapons trade with North Korea would be a violation of multiple UN Security Council resolutions that Russia, a permanent U.N. Security Council member, previously endorsed.

Both Russia and North Korea dismissed the weapons shipment accusations as baseless.

Traveled

Outside speculation about North Korean arms shipments flared after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un traveled to Russia in September to meet President Vladimir Putin and visit key military facilities. The US and its allies accused North Korea of seeking high-tech Russian technologies to modernize its arsenal of nuclear weapons and missiles in return for its shipments of conventional arms.

In a private briefing with lawmakers Wednesday, the National Intelligence Service - South Korea's main spy agency - said that more than a million North Korean artillery shells have been sent to Russia since August via ships and transport planes. The NIS said the deliveries roughly amounted to two months' worth of shells for the Russians, according to lawmaker Yoo Sang-bum, who attended

the NIS briefing.

The NIS assessed that North Korea has been operating its munitions factories at full capacity to meet Russian munition demands and has also been mobilizing residents to increase production.

The NIS said North Korea, for its part, is likely receiving Russian technological assistance over its plan to launch its first military spy satellite into space. North Korea's two recent attempts to launch a spy satellite ended in failure due to technical issues. The North failed to follow through with its vow to make a third launch attempt in October, without giving any reasons.

South Korea's military said North Korea also seeks to receive nuclear-related technologies, fighter jets or related aircraft equipment and assistance on the establishment of anti-air defense networks from Russia.

North Korea is currently focusing on enlarging its nuclear arsenal while refusing to return to talks with the US and South Korea. The country's economy is reeling from major setbacks caused by draconian curbs imposed during the coronavirus pandemic and stringent US-led sanctions.

Also:

**HEFEI, China:** Hundreds, possibly thousands, of people gathered Thursday near a state funeral home in **Beijing** as China's former second-ranking leader, **Li Keqiang**, was put to rest, while a steady stream of mourners showed their respects at the ex-premier's childhood home in central China.

Li, who was China's top economic official for a decade, died last Friday of a heart attack at age 68.

"The remains of Comrade Li Keqiang ... were cremated at the Babaoshan Revolutionary Cemetery in Beijing on Thursday," the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

State broadcaster CCTV showed President **Xi Jinping** accompanied by his wife, **Peng Liyuan**, bowing before Li's body, which was surrounded by greenery and covered with a Communist Party flag.

Xi was followed by the other six members of the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee.

"Li was extolled as an excellent (Communist Party) member, a time-tested and loyal Communist soldier

and an outstanding proletarian revolutionist, statesman and leader of the party and the state," Xinhua said, repeating the language it had used earlier in his brief obituary.

Li was an advocate of private business who promised market-oriented reforms, and helped navigate the world's second-largest economy through challenges such as rising tensions with the United States and the COVID-19 pandemic. But he was left with little authority after Xi made himself the most powerful Chinese leader in decades by eliminating presidential term limits and tightening control over the economy and society.

In front of the funeral home, plainclothes and uniformed police lined the roadway for hundreds of meters (yards), blocking traffic and telling people to move along. Police also moved people away from a subway station near the cemetery, where state funerals are held and many top leaders are buried.



**CANBERRA, Australia:** The host of a weekend family lunch at her Australian country home was charged with murdering three guests with poisonous mushrooms and attempting to murder a fourth who was left fighting for life, police said on Thursday.

Police arrested **Erin Patterson**, 49, earlier Thursday at her home in **Leongatha** in **Victoria** state where her former husband's parents **Gail** and **Don Patterson**, both aged 70, Gail Patterson's sister **Heather Wilkinson**, 66, and her husband **Ian Wilkinson**, 68, were invited for lunch on July 29.

All four guests were hospitalized the next day and only Ian Wilkinson survived.

Erin Patterson was also charged with three counts of attempting to murder her former husband **Simon Patterson**, 48, who became ill after eating three meals in 2021 and 2022, a police statement said.

He did not attend the July lunch with his parents, who both died.

Erin Patterson will remain in police custody until she appears in a local court on Friday, when she can potentially apply to be released on bail. Bail for murder is usually a decision referred to a higher court.

She has publicly denied any wrongdoing.

such as the murder in October of a South African tourist and her British husband while they were honeymooning in remote Queen Elizabeth National Park. Their Ugandan guide also was killed and their vehicle set on fire.

The ADF has ties to the Islamic State group. Following the attack on the tourists, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni urged security agencies to ensure the group "is wiped out." (AP)



**Chad permits Masra to return:** Chad's military government has agreed to allow the return of opposition leader **Succes Masra**, who fled the country last year amid a political clampdown, the Congolese presidency announced Tuesday.

Abderaman Koumallah, the Chadian minister of reconciliation, signed an agreement on Monday with Masra's political party that allows the exiled politician and other opposition figures to return, according to a statement read on state television by Congo's presidential spokeswoman Tina Salama.

Masra, the president of The Transformers opposition party, fled Chad in October last year after the military government suspended his party and six others in a clampdown on protests against interim leader Mahamat Idriss Deby's decision to extend his time in power by two more years. More than 60 people were killed in the protests, which the government condemned as "an attempted coup." (AP)



A police officer and dog investigate at the property of Erin Patterson in Leongatha, Australia, Nov 2. Australian police have on Thursday arrested Patterson in an investigation of a suspected mushroom poisoning incident that left three people dead. (AP)



Tinubu



Masra

Africa

**Charles meets Kimathi's family:** King Charles III on Wednesday held a private meeting with the family of the executed leader of the Kenyan rebellion against British colonial rule, a day after the monarch expressed "greatest sorrow and the deepest regret" for the violence of the colonial era.

The family of Dedan Kimathi, who was hanged by the British administration, and relatives of other well-known Kenyan freedom fighters didn't immediately comment - a change from their past outspoken calls for an apology and compensation from Britain, along with any information on the whereabouts of Kimathi's body.

The British High Commission said only that the meeting was an "opportunity for the king to hear firsthand about the violence committed against Kenyans during their struggle for independence." Attendees included the chair of the Mau Mau War Veterans Association. (AP)



**Extremists kill 37 villagers:** Extremists in northeastern Nigeria killed at least 37 villagers in two different attacks, residents said Wednesday, highlighting once again how deadly Islamic extremist rebels have remained in their 14-year insurgency in the hard-hit region.

The extremists targeted villagers in Yobe state's Geidam district on Monday and Tuesday in the first attack in the state in more than a year, shooting dead 17 people at first while using a land mine to kill 20 others who had gone to attend their burial, witnesses said.

The Boko Haram Islamic extremist group launched an insurgency in northeastern Nigeria in 2009 in an effort to establish their radical interpretation of Islamic law, or Sharia, in the region. At least 35,000 people have been killed and more than 2 million displaced due to the extremist violence concentrated in Borno state, which neighbors Yobe.

Nigeria's President **Bola Tinubu**, who took office in May, has not succeeded in ending the nation's security crises both in the northeast and in northwest and central regions where dozens of armed groups have been killing villagers and kidnapping travelers for ransom. (AP)



**Extremist group commander held:** A Ugandan military spokesperson says troops have captured a commander of an extremist group whose fighters are accused of killing two tourists last month.

Col Deo Akiiki said Wednesday that a senior commander with the Allied Demo-

cratic Forces, a rebel whose nom de guerre is Njovu, was in military custody.

Njovu was captured during an exchange of fire on Lake Edward on Uganda's border

with Congo. An unknown number of rebels drowned or were shot in the fighting Tuesday night, according to Akiiki.

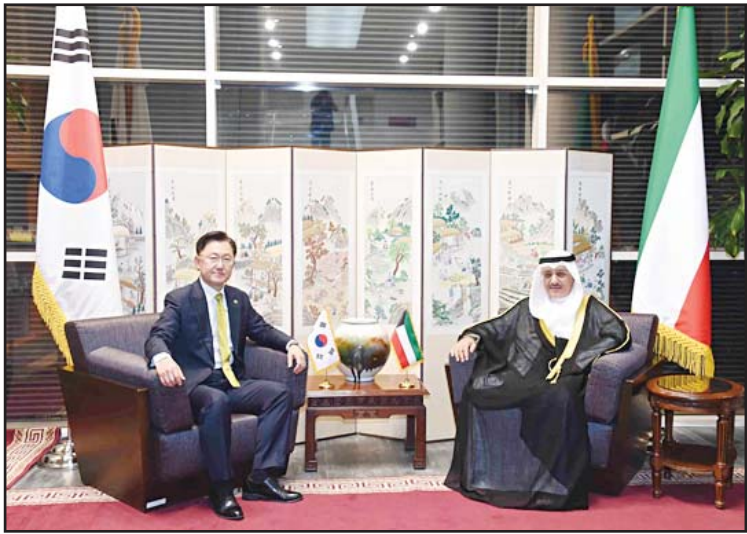
Njovu has been in charge of operations



Britain's King Charles III (right), presents veteran Samwel Nthigai Mburia with replacement medals, during a visit to Kariokor World War II Commonwealth Cemetery in Nairobi, Kenya on Nov 1. King Charles III has visited a war cemetery in Kenya, laying a wreath in honor of Kenyans who fought alongside the British in the two world wars. It came a day after the British monarch expressed 'greatest sorrow and the deepest regret' for the violence of the colonial era. He gave replacement medals to four war veterans. (AP)



# What's On



Top & above: Photos during the celebration of the Korean National Foundation Day.

Photos by Mohammad Morsi

## Korean envoy highlights valuable exchange of development experiences with Kuwait

# Embassy of Korea celebrates National Foundation Day

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Embassy of the Republic of Korea celebrated the Korean National Foundation Day which falls on October 3 and the Armed Forces Day on October 1 at the embassy premises.

His Excellency Chung Byung-ha, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Kuwait took this occasion to shed light on the establishment of Korea's diplomatic relations with Kuwait saying, it "goes back to 1979. Even before it, a Korean company named Daerim Construction broke ground on its first project here in 1975 which was only after the Korean trade representative office had been set up here in 1972 and added, Kuwait is the first country from which Korea imported crude oil in 1964.

### Chronology

"So, next year will mark 60th anniversary of our bilateral energy cooperation. Through this a little bit of chronology, it is interesting to know that economy came first, followed by diplomacy, and oil flew first, followed by construction workers. But ever since then, our two countries have been developing comprehensive and multi-dimensional relations which have already become strategic on the ground.

"Our trade volume reached around \$13 billion last year which means Kuwait is the 6th largest exporter to Korea. Moreover, 100 million barrels of oil has been flowing to Korea every year, making Kuwait the 3rd largest oil supplier to Korea. We are supporting each other in regional and global issues. Increasing number of Kuwaitis are visiting Korea, and Korean dramas and films are growing more



H.E. Chung Byung-ha, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Kuwait.

popular in Kuwait.

"For all the numbers, size, and volumes, I believe the overarching visions and

underlying values we share are of much more importance. That is why I want to stress that our two nations are sharing the values of freedom, peace and prosperity based on unwavering mutual trust and strong partnership. Rising from the ashes of war, Korea and Kuwait have successfully demonstrated the power of resilience and the strength of collective will for better life."

The Korean envoy went on to say, his country has been sharing experiences of national development with Kuwaiti friends. "Of course we have learned a lot through that process, for Kuwait's today is not given but earned," he added.

Last September, Prime Minister Han Duck-soo and HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah met and discussed the way to expand the areas of bilateral cooperation, ensuring Korea continues to be an essential partner in realizing the Kuwait vision 2035.

Korea has already been deeply involved in translating the vision 2035 into reality through the construction of many symbolic and strategic infrastructures. But more importantly, Korea dreams of being an essential partner of Kuwait beyond 2035. "To do this, we must further deepen our mutual understanding, particularly among young people," he added.

The event was graced by HE Ambassador Sameeh Johar Hayat, the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Asia Affairs, who was the Guest of Honor and Brigadier-General Faisal Dashti, Director of Joint Education of the Ministry of Defense in addition to members of diplomatic corps, distinguished personalities and friends of Korea.

## Making valuable contribution to noble cause

# ASSP carries out annual blood donation campaign

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) hosted a blood donation drive at the Adan Blood Transfusion Center on October 20, 2023, between 13:00 and 16:00 hours. The ASSP Outreach committee carries out an annual blood donation campaign as part of its broader outreach committee program. This year's event was a collaborative effort with EFS Services Company, with active participation from EFS employees, in-

cluding Mr. Wael Abed, AGM Operations, and Mr. Roopan Rajendran, HSEQ Officer, as part of their social responsibility initiative.

The campaign was formally inaugurated by Mr. Samiullah Pathan Kan, Deputy Head of the Outreach and Government Affairs Committee of ASSP. Over 35 donors from both EFS and ASSP came forward to donate their blood, making a valuable contribution to this noble cause. To recognize their generosity and selflessness, donors were awarded appreciation certificates and provided with refreshments.

Mr. Abul Eham, Vice President of ASSP, expressed his gratitude to the Adan Blood Bank staff, blood donors, and Outreach committee members in a vote of thanks. The event was coordinated by Mr. Balvant Singh, Head of the Outreach and Government Affairs Committee.



Photos during the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) blood donation drive at the Adan Blood Transfusion Center.

## 20 customers winning cash prizes worth KD1,500 each

## KFH announces winners of Al-Rabeh draw

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced the winners of the AlRabeh draw with 20 customers winning cash prizes worth KD1,500 each for the 40th and 41st weeks of 2023, additionally, KFH announced Yousef Al-Omran as the monthly winner of 1 kilo Gram of KFH Gold for the month of September 2023 and the bank also announced Waleed Al-Shatti as the winner of the 3rd quarter draw of a prize worth 25,000 K.D.

The winners of KD 1,500 are: Mohammad Al-Atia, Ahmad Al-Qattan, Fajer Motlaq, Budour Jemaa, Adel Abdelhafez, Saqib Anwar, Ahmed Abdelgelil, Dalal Al-Saddah, Leyanah Al-Mutairi, Essa Bin Essa, Abeer Ahmad, Saad Al-Azmi, Abdullah Al-Ajmi, Mubarak Al-Dousari, Kamel Tamzini, Ali Al-Harbi, Aliaa Al-Asfar, Saad Al-Azmi, Mohammad Al-Kandari, Najd Al-Qahtani.

The AlRabeh campaign provides prizes and draws that offer customers several chances of winning "weekly, monthly and quarterly". The campaign crowns 536 winners throughout the year.

The draw took place under the supervision of a representative from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The campaign is part of KFH's ongoing efforts to offer exceptional products and services that meet customers' aspirations, enhance the Bank's leadership in the local and global markets, as well as reflect its excellence in offering innovative banking solutions as per the highest quality standards.

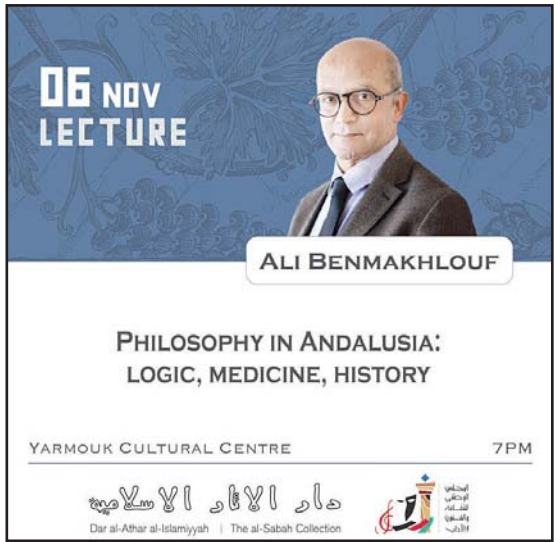
The Al-Rabeh account is a salary account available to customers wishing to transfer their salaries and manage their



The campaign visual

personal accounts. Customers can open Al-Rabeh account in any of KFH branches in Kuwait, or through the Bank's online channels. The account can be opened in the Kuwaiti Dinar and is targeted for customers wishing to transfer their salaries and manage their personal accounts. Salary transfer is a prerequisite for customers to enter the draw provided that the transfer of salary to Al-Rabeh account is constant.

Regarding the terms and conditions of the prizes and draws, a customer is able to deposit 3 salaries during the 3 months prior to the draw, and the minimum balance of the account should not be less than KD 50 at the end of each month during the 3 months prior to the draw. Ten draws take place on a weekly basis for amount of K.D 1,500 for 10 winners each, 1 KG of KFH gold will be drawn monthly for one winner and K.D 25,000 for one winner every quarter, reaching a total number of 536 winners during the year.



Flyer of the lecture



oil down

The price of Kuwait oil went down USD 2.03 to USD 89.31 per barrel on Wednesday, compared to USD 91.34 Tuesday, said Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) on Thursday.

The price of the Brent crude went down by 39 cents to USD 84.63 per barrel, while the price of the West Texas Intermediate went up by 58 cents to USD 80.44 pb. (KUNA)

Saudi Fund signs \$100 mln loan agreement to support Argentina water sector

The Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) Chief Executive Officer, H.E. Sultan Al-Marshad, signed on Wednesday, a new development loan agreement marking the Fund's first presence in the country, worth USD \$100 million with the Province Governor of Córdoba, H.E. Juan Schiaretti and the Province Governor of Santa Fe, H.E. Omar Perotti, to help fund the Interprovincial Aqueduct Santa Fe - Córdoba Project (Phase 1, Block B-C) in Argentina, through SFD. The signing ceremony took place at the SFD headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi

Arabia.

It was attended by the Minister of Public Works of the Province of Córdoba, Mr. Ricardo Sosa; Minster of Public Services of the Province of Córdoba, Mr. Fabian Lopez; Minister of Economy of the Province of Santa Fe, Mr. Walter August; and by official representatives from both parties.

This agreement will boost Argentina's economy by supporting potable water development in Santa Fe and Córdoba, creating jobs, and advancing socio-economic development.

Importantly, this project also supports the realization of the UN SDGs, specifically SDG 3, Good Health and Wellbeing, and SDG 6, Clean Water and Sanitation.

Phase 1 of the project will develop from Coronda to San Francisco, providing more than 410,000 people with access to safe water and fostering development in Santa Fe and Córdoba.

On this occasion, the Province Governor of Córdoba, H.E. Juan Schiaretti, said, "It is a great honor to sign this \$100 million aqueduct agreement, benefiting Santa Fe

and Córdoba, and forging the first economic development corporation between the SFD and Argentina."

The Province Governor of Santa Fe, H.E. Omar Perotti, stated, "Today, Argentina and SFD collaborate to build an aqueduct that will change lives for the better, marking a historic step towards long-lasting development."

On his part, the CEO of SFD, H.E Sultan Al-Marshad, said: "Safe water, sanitation, and hygiene are essential for health and well-being. (BUSINESS WIRE)

Market Movements

02-11-2023

		Change	Closing pts		Change	Closing pts
↑	Saudi	Tadawui	+38.47	10,853.36		
	UAE	DFM	+20.87	3,913.42		
	Japan	Nikkei	+348.24	31,949.89		
	Egypt	EGX 30	+206.21	22,639.59		
	Pakistan	KSE 100	+344.38	52,701.43	↓	

Business

The Conversation

‘Humans are no longer the only entities using human language’

AI-powered businesses pave way for legal compliance of ‘artificial entities’

By Daniel Gervais, Vanderbilt University and John May, Stanford University

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

Only “persons” can engage with the legal system - for example, by signing contracts or filing lawsuits. There are two main categories of persons: humans, termed “natural persons,” and creations of the law, termed “artificial persons.” These include corporations, nonprofit organizations and limited liability companies (LLCs).

Up to now, artificial persons have served the purpose of helping humans achieve certain goals. For example, people can pool assets in a corporation and limit their liability vis-à-vis customers or other persons who interact with the corporation. But a new type of artificial person is poised to enter the scene - artificial intelligence systems, and they won't necessarily serve human interests.

As scholars who study AI and law we believe that this moment presents a significant challenge to the legal system: how to regulate AI within existing legal frameworks to reduce undesirable behaviors, and how to assign legal responsibility for autonomous actions of AIs.

One solution is teaching AIs to be law-abiding entities. This is far from a philosophical question. The laws governing LLCs in several U.S. states do not require that humans oversee the operations of an LLC. In fact, in some states it is possible to have an LLC with no human owner, or “member” - for example, in cases where all of the partners have died. Though legislators probably weren't thinking of AI when they crafted the LLC laws, the possibility for zero-member LLCs opens the door to creating LLCs operated by AIs.

Many functions inside small and large companies have already been delegated to AI in part, including financial operations, human resources and network management, to name just three. AIs can now perform many tasks as well as humans do. For example, AIs can read medical X-rays and do other medical tasks, and carry out tasks that require legal reasoning. This process is likely to accelerate due to innovation and economic interests.

Humans have occasionally included nonhuman entities like animals, lakes and rivers, as well as corporations, as legal subjects. Though in some cases these entities can be held liable for their actions, the law only allows humans to fully participate in the legal system.

One major barrier to full access to the legal system by nonhuman entities has been the role of language as a uniquely human invention and a vital element in the legal system. Language enables humans to understand norms and institutions that constitute the legal framework. But humans are no longer the only entities using human language.

The recent development of AI's ability to understand human language unlocks its potential to interact with the legal system. AI has demonstrated proficiency in various legal tasks, such as tax law advice, lobbying, contract drafting and legal reasoning.

An LLC established in a jurisdiction that allows it to operate without human members could trade in digital currencies settled on blockchains, allowing the AI running the LLC to operate autonomously and in a decentralized manner that makes it challenging to regulate. Under a legal principle



Would you do business with an AI that didn't know the law?

known as the internal affairs doctrine, even if only one U.S. state allowed AI-operated LLCs, that entity could operate nationwide - and possibly worldwide. This is because courts look to the law of the state of incorporation for rules governing the internal affairs of a corporate entity.

We believe the best path forward, therefore, is aligning AI with existing laws, instead of creating a separate set of rules for AI. Additional law can be layered on top for artificial agents, but AI should be subject to at least all the laws a human is subject to.

We suggest a research direction of integrating law into AI agents to help ensure adherence to legal standards. Researchers could train AI systems to learn methods for internalizing the spirit of the law. The training would use data generated by legal processes and tools of law, including methods of lawmaking, statutory interpretation, contract drafting, applications of legal standards and legal reasoning.

In addition to embedding law into AI agents, researchers can develop AI compliance agents - AIs designed to help an organization automatically follow the law. These specialized AI systems would provide third-party legal guardrails.

Researchers can develop better AI legal compliance by fine-tuning large language models with supervised learning on labeled legal task completions. Another approach is reinforcement learning, which uses feedback to tell an AI if it's doing a good or bad job - in this case, attorneys interacting with language models. And legal experts could design prompting schemes - ways of interacting with a language model - to elicit better responses from language models that are more consistent with legal standards.

If an LLC were operated by an AI, it would have to obey the law like any other LLC, and courts could order it to pay damages, or stop doing something by issuing an injunction. An AI tasked with operating the LLC and, among other things, maintaining proper business insurance would have an incentive to understand applicable laws and comply. Having minimum business liability insurance policies is a standard requirement that most businesses impose on one another to engage in commercial relationships.

The incentives to establish AI-operated LLCs are there. Fortunately, we believe it is possible and desirable to do the work to embed the law - what has until now been human law - into AI, and AI-powered automated compliance guardrails. (AP)

Consumer spending surges 0.4% in Sept

US consumer confidence index fell to 102.6

WASHINGTON, Nov 2, (AP): American consumers are feeling increasingly less confident these days as fears of an oncoming recession remain elevated.

The Conference Board, a business research group, said Tuesday that its consumer confidence index fell to 102.6 from 104.3 in September.

The index measures both Americans' assessment of current economic conditions and their outlook for the next six months.

The index measuring Americans short-term outlook for income, business and job market declined again, to 75.6 in October from 76.4 in September. Readings below 80 for future expectations historically signal a recession within a year.

"The continued skepticism about the future is notable given U.S. consumers - at least through the third quarter of this year - continued to spend heavily on both goods and services," said Dana Peterson, chief economist at The Conference Board.

Spending by consumers rose by a brisk 0.4% in September - even after adjusting for inflation and even as Americans face ever-higher borrowing costs. However, economists warn that such strong spending isn't likely to continue in the coming months, which would be bad news for businesses as the holiday shopping season ramps up.

Consumer spending accounts for around 70% of U.S. economic activity, so economists pay close attention to the mood of consumers to gauge how it may affect the broader economy.

Though they continue to spend, inflation, geopolitical conflicts and inflation remain at the forefront of American consumers' minds.

Confidence improved late in the spring as inflation eased in the face of 11 interest-rate hikes by the Federal Reserve. But the recent downturn reflects consumer anxiety over spending on non-essential goods, particularly if they have to put it on a high-interest rate credit card.

Consumers' view of current conditions also fell this month, to 143.1 from 146.2 in September.



An employee works on a solar panel inside the Hanwha Qcells Solar plant on Oct 16, 2023, in Dalton, Ga. On Wednesday, the Labor Department reported on job openings and labor turnover for September. (AP)

US sees modest increase in job openings, reaching \$ 9.6 million

WASHINGTON, Nov 2, (AP): Employers posted 9.6 million job openings in September, up from 9.5 million in August and a sign that the U.S. job market remains strong even as the U.S. Federal Reserve attempts to cool the economy.

Layoffs fell, and the number of Americans quitting their jobs - a sign of confidence they can find better pay elsewhere - was virtually unchanged.

The September openings are down from a record 12 million in March 2022 but remain high by historical standards. Before 2021 - when the American economy began to surge from the COVID-19 pandemic - monthly job openings had never topped 8 million. Unemployment was 3.8% in September, just a couple of ticks above a half century low.

The Federal Reserve's inflation fighters would like to see the job market cool. They worry that strong hiring pressures employers into raising wages - and try-

ing to pass the higher costs along with price increases that feed inflation.

The Fed has raised its benchmark interest rate 11 times since March 2022 in an effort to contain inflation that hit a four-decade high in 2022. In September, consumer prices were up 3.7% from a year earlier, down from a peak 9.1% in June last year but still above the Fed's 2% target.

The combination of sturdy hiring, healthy economic growth and decelerating inflation has raised hopes the Fed can pull off a so-called soft landing - raising rates just enough contain price increases without tipping the economy into recession.

The central bank is expected to announce later Wednesday that it will leave its benchmark rate unchanged for the second straight meeting as it waits to assess the fallout from its earlier rate hikes.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: A recent report from Kamco Invest reveals that, due to the ongoing conflict in Gaza, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) stock markets experienced a third consecutive month of decline in October. This prolonged instability prompted investors to reduce their activities in the region, resulting in foreign investors becoming net sellers in GCC stock exchanges. This trend reflects concerns about the potential spread of geopolitical instability throughout the region, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The decline in stock performance affected all GCC countries, causing all markets to enter the red zone during the same month. Qatar was the most severely impacted, with a monthly loss of 7.1 percent, followed by Dubai and Kuwait, which saw declines of 6.9 percent and 5.2 percent, respectively. The negative trend also affected the Morgan Stanley Gulf Index, which experienced a 4.4 percent decline during the month,

marking its most significant drop in eight months. Consequently, the index has entered the red zone for the year-to-date, with a 7.2 percent loss and declines in four out of seven stock exchanges. Meanwhile, Dubai, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia have managed to maintain positive performances since the beginning of the year, while Qatar and Kuwait have suffered double-digit losses.

The Kuwait Stock Exchange recorded its most substantial monthly decline since October 2022, primarily influenced by the widespread downturn that affected most sectors globally and regionally. In terms of market indicators, the Main Market Index 50 led the decline with a 7.6 percent drop, reflecting a downturn in the constituent stocks. The Premier Market Index and the General Market Index both experienced a monthly decrease of 5.0 percent and 5.2 percent, respectively, while the Main Market Index declined by 5.6 percent during the month.

Regarding year-to-date performance in 2023, all Kuwaiti stock market indices ended the month in the red. The Premier Market Index decreased by 12.0 percent, the General Market Index fell by 10.4 percent, and the Kuwaiti Market Index dropped by 12.0 percent. In contrast, the Main 50 and the Main Market Index increased by 7.7 percent and 3.6

percent, respectively.

Looking at sectoral performance across GCC countries, nearly all sector indices were in the red during October 2023, with the exception of the healthcare sector index. The pharmaceutical index suffered the most significant loss at 15.9 percent, followed by double-digit declines in the long-term goods and real estate sector indices, which recorded losses of 13.6 percent and 10.1 percent, respectively. The decline in the Gulf real estate sector index reflects the challenges faced by major regional stocks, as rising interest rates affected credit facilities for the sector in addition to geopolitical issues.

On the global stage, almost all major stock markets experienced a decline, primarily due to the hawkish stance adopted by central banks, which signaled higher long-term interest rates that could impact global economic growth. The MSCI World Index declined for the third consecutive month, falling by 3.0 percent in October 2023, indicating a widespread decline across the world's markets.

In terms of monthly stock performance, Rasiyat Holding Company showed the most significant gains with a 16.3 percent increase, followed by Unicap Investment and Finance and Sokouk Holding, which saw gains of 15.7 percent and 13.6 percent, respectively.

Brokerages to pay almost \$1.8 bln in damages

Real-estate industry facing blows to traditional rules setting agent commissions on home sales

LOS ANGELES, Nov 2, (AP): A series of court challenges seek to upend longstanding real estate industry practices that determine the commissions agents receive on the sale of a home - and who foots the bill.

A federal jury in one of those cases on Tuesday ordered the National Association of Realtors along with some of the nation's biggest real estate brokerages to pay almost \$1.8 billion in damages, after finding they artificially inflated commissions paid to real estate agents.

The class-action lawsuit was filed in 2019 on behalf of 500,000 home sellers in Missouri and some border towns. The verdict stated that the defendants "conspired to require home sellers to pay the broker representing the buyer of their homes in violation of federal antitrust law."

If treble damages - which allows plaintiffs to potentially receive up to three times actual or compensatory damages - are awarded, then the defendants may have to pay more than \$5 billion.

"This matter is not close to being final as we will appeal the jury's verdict," Mantill Williams, a spokesman for the NAR, said in a statement. "In the interim, we will ask the court to reduce the damages awarded by the jury."

Williams said it will likely be several years before the case is resolved.

But already the NAR and several real estate brokerages are facing another lawsuit over agent commission rules. Fresh off winning the verdict in the 2019 case, the lawyers filed a new class-action lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri that seeks class-action status covering anyone in the U.S. who sold a home in the last five years. It names the trade association and seven brokerage companies, including Redfin Corp., Weichert Realtors and Compass Inc.

"What's at issue nationwide is costing Americans about \$60 billion in extra real estate commissions," said Michael Ketchmark, one of the attorneys representing the plaintiffs in the lawsuits.

The focus of the lawsuits is an NAR rule that requires that home sellers offer to pay the commission for the agent representing the homebuyer when they advertise their property on a local Multi-



Homes in Middlesex Township, Pa., are shown on Apr. 19, 2023. A case in federal court in Missouri ended Tuesday with a jury ordering the National Association of Realtors and some of the nation's biggest real estate brokerages to pay almost \$1.8 billion in damages after finding that they artificially inflated commissions paid to real estate agents. (AP)

ple Listings Service, where a majority of U.S. homes are listed for sale. This is in addition to also having to cover the commission for their listing agent or broker.

The NAR's rules also prohibit a buyer's agent from making home purchase offers contingent on the reduction of their commission, according to the complaint.

"Defendants' conspiracy forces home sellers to pay a cost that, in a competitive market and were it not for defendants' anticompetitive restraint, would be paid by the buyer," the plaintiffs argued in the lawsuit filed Tuesday.

Plaintiffs also claim that the NAR requirement effectively keeps commissions for a homebuyer's agent artificially high.

If NAR's "Mandatory Offer of Compensation Rule" were not in place, then homebuyers would foot the bill for their agent's commission, which would open the door for competition - and lower commissions - among agents vying to represent a homebuyer, the plaintiffs contend.

The NAR argues that the practice of listing brokers making offers of compensation to buyer brokers is best for consumers.

"It gives the greatest number of buyers a chance to afford a home and professional representation, while also giving sellers access to the greatest number of buyers," Williams said.

The NAR spokesman also noted that the trade association's policies have always required that an offer of agent compensation be made without specifying an amount, adding that it could be as little as \$1 or even a penny.

In July, the independent Bright MLS, which covers some states in the eastern part of the country, changed the rules so that it's OK for a home listed in that region's MLS to not include an offer of agent compensation at all. That still falls within NAR's guidelines.

"In addition, regardless of the offer, those offers are always negotiable," Williams said.

As home prices have soared in recent years, pushing the national median sales price to \$394,300 as of September, so have agents' commissions.

"Today, what effectively happens is the buyer agent's commissions are added to the sale price of the house, inflating the sale price," said Stephen Brobeck, senior fellow at the Consumer Federation of America.



### Kenya is raising passenger fares on Chinese-built train

Kenya announced Wednesday a sharp increase in passenger fares on the Chinese-built Standard Gauge Railway as the country struggles with repaying loans owed to Beijing and others along with higher fuel prices.

State-owned Kenya Railways said in a statement that the 470-kilometer (290-mile) journey between the port city of Mombasa and the capital, Nairobi, will cost around \$30 in first class, up from \$19, and \$10 in economy, up from \$6.

Kenya Railways cited the global rise in fuel prices: "This increase is informed by changes in the energy and petroleum sector, where prices of fuel have significantly increased, thus affecting the cost of our operations."

Wednesday's announcement came days after Kenya's central bank governor, Kamau Thugge, said the Kenyan shilling had for years been overvalued by 25%, which "led the country to maintain an artificially strong exchange rate."

Two weeks ago President William Ruto was in China, where he sought a \$1 billion loan to finish stalled infrastructure projects despite Kenya's overall debts at a record \$70 billion.

The new train fares come into effect on Jan. 1, 2024. (AP)

### decline in sales of COVID-19 products clips revenue at Pfizer

Pfizer lost more than \$2 billion in the third quarter as an expected COVID-19 product sales decline clipped revenue.

Sales of the drugmaker's COVID treatment Paxlovid and the vaccine Comirnaty slid 97% and 70%, respectively, as Pfizer, like its competitors, switched to selling on the commercial market instead of to governments.

Both the company and analysts who follow it expected revenue from those key products to tumble this year before eventually rebounding as commercial sales take hold. But two weeks ago, Pfizer Inc. warned that sales of its COVID-19 drugs were weaker than it had expected, and it cut its annual revenue expectations by \$9 billion.

Falling sales of both Paxlovid and Comirnaty also trimmed sales in the second quarter, but Pfizer said in August that it expected a rebound in the second half of 2023.

In the third quarter, the drugmaker booked a non-cash, \$5.6 billion charge for inventory write-offs of the COVID products.

Outside those products, the drugmaker said its operational revenue grew 10%, helped in part by growth from its Plevnar pneumonia vaccines. (AP)

### British central bank cautions over oil prices

## BoE keeps main UK interest rate at 15-year high of 5.25%

## Auto strike deal will raise costs for Detroit's 'Big 3'



Tim Smith, center, UAW Region 8 director, stands outside with other workers as they listen to a phone call with UAW President Shawn Fain while picketing near the General Motors plant in Spring Hill, Tenn., after United Auto Workers Local 1853 announced a strike after 44 days of negotiations with GM, Sunday, Oct 29, 2023. (AP)

### Will they be able to raise prices?

**DETROIT, Nov 2, (AP): From generous pay and benefits to stronger job security, the United Auto Workers union won significant concessions in tentative settlements that have ended their strikes against Detroit's three automakers.**

Now, General Motors, Ford and Stellantis are facing sharply higher labor costs, estimated by some analysts at exceeding \$1 billion per year, per company. The automakers will try to absorb those cost increases through expense reductions and efficiencies while still aiming to post strong enough profits to please Wall Street.

In addition, analysts say, the companies will likely try to offset their cost increases by raising vehicle prices for consumers. How much they'll be able to do so, though, remains unclear. American auto buyers are already facing enormous price runups since the pandemic: The average new-car price has soared roughly 25% since the pandemic struck three years ago.

Customers might assume that nonunion automakers, like Toyota, Tesla or Hyundai-Kia, will now be able to price their vehicles well below what the Detroit automakers can. But history shows that the nonunion companies will eventually feel compelled to raise their factory wages, too, in their effort to ward off the UAW's efforts to unionize their factories. As their own labor costs rise, they, too, would likely impose price increases.

At the same time, the breadth of competition means that while GM, Ford and Stellantis will seek to raise vehicle prices, it might prove difficult to make significant price hikes stick.

"I don't think consumers will necessarily readily absorb all the price increases," said Jonathan Smoke, chief economist for Cox Automotive. "We are bound to see continued growth in discounting, which has just started to recover as supplies improve."

If approved by 146,000 union members, the settlements that ended the strikes mean that automakers will raise top assembly plant worker pay by more than 30% to around \$42 an hour by the time new contracts end in April of 2028. Less-senior workers and temporary hires will receive much bigger increases.

Ford estimates that the contract will raise labor costs by \$850 to \$900 per vehicle. All three automakers said they have taken steps to pare costs and become more efficient, having known for months that they would have to begin raising worker pay. But they also face huge capital expenses to develop and build electric vehicles as the world transitions from gasoline to battery power.

"When the dust settles from this UAW debacle, the Detroit auto stalwarts find themselves with a bigger cost profile with competition increasing," said Dan Ives, an analyst at Wedbush.

Natalie Knight, the chief financial officer of Stellantis, the parent company of Chrysler, Jeep and Ram, said her company has already pulled out of two auto shows in the United States to save on expenses.

"You can imagine that is not the end of our activities," Knight said Tuesday. "That's an issue for all of our business and something we are working very, very consciously on to see how do we mitigate those costs."

Even before the strikes, auto prices were rising as a pandemic-related computer chip shortage hobbled factories and made new vehicles scarce. The average sale price peaked in December of last year at nearly \$50,000.

This year, computer chips started flowing before the strike, and companies were making more vehicles. Supplies increased, and by September, prices dropped to just under \$48,000, said Smoke, the Cox economist.

As factories cranked back up after the strikes, Smoke foresees pressure on the companies to keep prices affordable, especially with auto loan rates around 10% driving up monthly payments. Discounts, he said, will likely have to come out of the automakers' profits.

Detroit's automakers, Smoke noted, have been jettisoning smaller, lower-cost vehicles for years and instead ramping up production of higher-profit trucks and SUVs that can cover their higher cost of labor.

At present, he said, U.S. auto dealers have more than 2.4 million vehicles on their lots, the highest supply since the spring of 2021. That means that competition for buyers is intensifying as pent-up demand from the pandemic wanes, making it difficult for any automaker to raise prices.

During the contract talks, UAW President Shawn Fain stressed that the Detroit automakers were making billions in profits and needed to share some of the profits with workers, who for years gave up pay raises and other benefits to help the automakers survive the aftermath of the Great Recession. Worker wages and benefits, Fain argued, make up only about 4% to 5% of a vehicle's costs and can be easily absorbed by the companies.

Ford, GM and Stellantis combined posted net income of \$24.5 billion during the first nine months of the year. (That doesn't include profits from Stellantis, which reports them only twice a year.) But if the Detroit companies report lower income, Wall Street will register its disappointment, and stock prices could fall.

Another force that could keep prices up, though, is wages for nonunion competitors. Art Wheaton, director of labor studies at Cornell University, said history has shown that foreign automakers with U.S. factories have raised wages after UAW contract agreements to try to prevent the union from unionizing their plants.

LONDON, Nov 2, (AP): The Bank of England kept its main interest rate unchanged on Thursday at the 15-year high of 5.25% and indicated that borrowing costs will likely remain at these sort of elevated levels for a while, especially if oil and gas prices increase sharply in light of the conflict between Israel and Hamas.

In a statement, the bank's nine-member Monetary Policy Committee indicated that inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, is set to fall quite dramatically in the next month but will need time to get toward its 2% target rate over the coming year.

"We've held rates unchanged this month, but we'll be watching closely to see if further rate increases are needed," Bank of England Governor Andrew Bailey said.

Minutes to the meeting showed that three of the nine members of the policy committee backed a quarter-point increase to 5.5% in order to push down harder on the inflation rate, which stood at 6.7% in the year to September.

In economic projections accompanying the decision, the bank said inflation is set to fall to below 5% in October as domestic energy bills fall. However, it cautioned that oil and gas prices may start to rise again in light of the Israel-Hamas war.

Officials had previously thought that inflation would return to the 2% target by the second quarter of 2025. But they revised the forecast on Thursday to say that inflation would remain above 2% until the final quarter of 2025.

The bank in September ended a nearly two-year run of interest rate rises. The U.S. Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank have also held interest rates over the past week.

The Bank of England, like other central banks,



Governor of the Bank of England Andrew Bailey addresses the media during a press conference concerning interest rates, at the Bank of England, in London, Thursday, Nov 2, 2023. (AP)

raised interest rates aggressively from near zero as it sought to counter price rises first stoked by supply chain issues during the coronavirus pandemic and then Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which pushed up food and energy costs.

Higher interest rates, which cool the economy by making it more expensive to borrow and bearing down on spending, have contributed to bringing down inflation worldwide.

Though most economies have avoided falling into recession, fears remain that the British economy could start to see output shrinking in coming months, hardly the best backdrop for the governing Conservative Party ahead of a general election.

The bank predicted Thursday that a recession was unlikely but that growth will be modest, at best.

## Privacy officials widen the ban on Meta's behavioral advertising to most of Europe

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov 2, (AP): European officials widened a ban on Meta's "behavioral advertising" practices to most of Europe on Wednesday, setting up a broader conflict between the continent's privacy-conscious institutions and an American technology giant.

Behavioral advertising, used by Meta's Facebook and Instagram among many other tech companies, involves observing individual behavior such as browsing habits, mouse clicks and app usage, then using that data to build profiles for targeting ads.

The decision by the European Data Protection Board represents a sharp escalation of a tussle that began in Norway, where privacy officials imposed a daily fine of 1 million kroner (roughly \$90,000) on Meta for obtaining that data without adequate consent. Those fines have been piling up since August 14.

Meta said it has cooperated with regulators and pointed to its an-

nounced plans to give Europeans the opportunity to consent to data collection and, later this month, to offer an ad-free subscription service in Europe that will cost 9.99 euros (\$10.59) a month for access to all its products. The latest decision "unjustifiably ignores that careful and robust regulatory process," the company said in a statement following the European board's action.

Tobias Judin, head of the international section at the Norwegian Data Protection Authority, said Meta's proposed steps likely won't meet European legal standards. For instance, he said, consent would have to be freely given, which wouldn't be the case if existing users had to choose between giving up their privacy rights or paying a financial penalty in the form of a subscription.

"Meta's business model is at odds with the law and users' fundamental rights, and Meta will not back down

willingly," Judin said via email. "They continue with their unlawful activities to this very day, simply because breaking the law is so profitable."

Meta has been under fire over data privacy for some time. In May, for example, the EU slapped Meta with a record \$1.3 billion fine and ordered it to stop transferring users' personal information across the Atlantic by October. And the tech giant's new text-based app, Threads, has not rolled out in the EU due to regulatory concerns.

Meta is also among the companies that the EU is targeting under new digital rules aimed at reining in the market power of tech giants. In addition to the Facebook owner, Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, Google parent Alphabet and TikTok parent ByteDance were classified in early September as online "gatekeepers" that must face the highest level of scrutiny under the 27-nation bloc's Digital Markets Act.

### Bid to lessen Chinese influence

## Yellen calls for more US-Latin America trade

WASHINGTON, Nov 2, (AP): Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen wants Latin America to trade more with the United States as part of an initiative that so far has failed to disrupt China's dominance in global manufacturing.

Still, U.S. efforts to diversify supply chains with "trusted partners and allies" including select South American nations have "tremendous potential benefits for fueling growth in Latin America and the Caribbean," Yellen said in a speech delivered Thursday.

Yellen kicked off an Inter-American Development Bank investment event on the sidelines of the inaugural Americas Partnership for Economic Prosperity Leaders' Summit, which will be hosted at the White House on Friday.

The heads of state of Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Uruguay, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica were in attendance.

Yellen, who regularly talks about her friendshoring strategy for increasing supply chain resilience by working primarily with friendly nations as opposed to geopolitical rivals like China, laid out her vision of new U.S. investment in South America at the development bank on Thursday.

Latin American businesses "will increasingly have the chance to lead in new areas of clean energy, for example, helping create vertical supply chains by using locally extracted lithium in local battery production," Yellen said.

"Medical equipment and pharmaceutical companies can grow and innovate to meet increased demand," Yellen said, and skilled workers can produce automotive chips necessary for electric vehicles.

The Inter-American Development



United States Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen speaks at the Atlantic Council Global Citizen Awards, Sept 20, 2023, in New York. Yellen wants Latin America to trade more with the United States as part of an initiative that so far has failed to disrupt China's dominance in global manufacturing. (AP)

Bank, which is the biggest multilateral lender to Latin America, would support new projects through grants, lending and new programs. The U.S. is the bank's largest shareholder, with 30% of voting rights.

Increasingly, policymakers in the U.S. have expressed concern about China's influence at the bank. While the Asian superpower holds less than 0.1% voting rights, it holds large economic stakes in some of the 48 member countries of the bank.

In 2022, Latin American and Caribbean trade with China rose to record levels, exporting roughly \$184 billion in goods to China and importing an estimated \$265 billion in goods, according to a Boston University Global Development Policy Center analysis.

And diplomatic relations between

Latin America and China have also increased. In March, Honduras cut diplomatic ties with Taiwan in favor of China, following the steps of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic in turning their backs on Taiwan. China claims Taiwan as its own territory and has been increasingly sending ships and warplanes across the Taiwan Strait in an effort to intimidate the population of 23 million, who strongly favor the status quo of de-facto independence.

The IDB's president, Ilan Goldfajn, told The Associated Press that the U.S. is still a most influential member at the bank.

"Whenever we have a U.S. company in the bidding process, the probability of winning is 70 to 80%," he said. "So what we need is more U.S. companies involved. But if you're not involved, this opens the door for anybody" to invest in Latin America.

U.S. lawmakers this year proposed the Inter-American Development Bank Transparency Act, which would require the Treasury Department to issue a report every two years on the scope and scale of Chinese influence and involvement in all aspects of the bank, including a list of Chinese-funded projects and an action plan for the U.S. to reduce Chinese involvement at the bank. The bill has not moved out of committee.

Latin America will be a region of increased focus in the next year, as Brazil takes the presidency of the Group of 20 international forum. A Treasury official told the AP that Yellen will be traveling frequently to South America and Latin America over the next year, due to Brazil's G-20 presidency.

## Countries at a UK summit make pledge to tackle AI's potentially 'catastrophic' risks

BLETCHLEY PARK, England, Nov 2, (AP): Delegates from 28 nations, including the U.S. and China, have agreed to work together to contain the potentially "catastrophic" risks posed by galloping advances in artificial intelligence.

The first international AI Safety Summit, held at a former codebreaking spy base near London, focused on cutting-edge "frontier" AI that some scientists warn could pose a risk to humanity's very existence.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said the declaration was "a landmark achievement that sees the world's greatest AI powers agree on the urgency behind understanding the risks of AI - helping ensure the long-term future of our children and grandchildren."

But U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris urged Britain and other coun-

tries to go further and faster, stressing the transformations AI is already bringing and the need to hold tech companies accountable - including through legislation. In a speech at the U.S. Embassy, Harris said the world needs to start acting now to address "the full spectrum" of AI risks, not just existential threats such as massive cyberattacks or AI-formulated bioweapons.

"There are additional threats that also demand our action, threats that are currently causing harm and to many people also feel existential," she said, citing a senior citizen kicked off his health care plan because of a faulty AI algorithm or a woman threatened by an abusive partner with deep fake photos.

The AI Safety Summit is a labor of love for Sunak, a tech-loving former banker who wants the U.K. to be a hub for computing innovation and

has framed the summit as the start of a global conversation about the safe development of AI. Harris was due to attend the summit on Thursday, joining government officials from more than two dozen countries including Canada, France, Germany, India, Japan, Saudi Arabia - and China, invited over the protests of some members of Sunak's governing Conservative Party.

Getting the nations to sign the agreement, dubbed the Bletchley Declaration, was an achievement, even if it is light on details and does not propose a way to regulate the development of AI. The countries pledged to work toward "shared agreement and responsibility" about AI risks, and hold a series of further meetings. South Korea will hold a mini virtual AI summit in six months, followed by an in-person one in France a year from now.



Film

Derbez shines as Sergio in an uplifting educator story

Inspiring teacher drama ‘Radical’ breaks classroom barriers

LOS ANGELES, Nov 2, (AP): On their first day sixth grade, the students of Jose Urbina Lopez Elementary School in the Mexican border city of Matamoros find their new teacher rolling on the floor surrounded by overturned desks.

They’re not desks, he exclaims. They’re lifeboats.

So begins Christopher Zalla’s “Radical,” an inspirational based-on-a-true-story drama about an unconventional teacher named Sergio Juarez Correa (Eugenio Derbez). His day-one lesson is ultimately about buoyancy. But the metaphor isn’t hard to grasp. In Lopez’s classroom, education is a life raft.

“Radical,” which opens in theaters Friday, is a conventional but stirring entry in the crowded canon of uplifting educator tales like “Stand and Deliver,” “Lean on Me” and “The Class.”

“Radical,” though, isn’t set at an inner-city school in Los Angeles, New Jersey or Paris, like those films are. Matamoros, along the Rio Grande and across from Brownsville, Texas, is considered a lawless place, known for extreme violence and migrant encampments. “Radical” is also set in 2011, among the bloodiest years of Mexico’s drug war.

That makes for an especially unlikely backdrop for classroom revival. The school, itself, is known as “The School of Punish-

ment.” For safety, its gates are locked during the school hours.

Sergio’s self-empowering method is to allow kids to follow their curiosity and find answers for themselves. They’re skeptical at first but soon are engaged and excited by their freedom to lead their own learning. More than once, Sergio says the students don’t even really need him.

There are plenty of familiar beats as the school year moves along. Sergio’s ways draw the ire of other teachers. Parents are distrustful, wondering if he’s giving kids facing a harsh future false hope. But while “Radical,” an audience winner at the Sundance Film Festival, is formulaic in its approach, it gets enough out of it likable cast to earn at least a passing grade.

**Impression**

Derbez, the Mexican actor and comedian, already made an impression in the classroom as the encouraging music teacher of the best picture-winning “CODA.” Here, he takes center stage, playing Sergio with a winning sincerity and full-bodied resistance to the rules.

Three of the students are brought into focus: Paloma (Jennifer Trejo), a math whiz with astronaut dreams who lives be-

side the landfill her father works at; Lupe (Mia Fernanda Solis), a budding philosopher whose pregnant mother expects her to help with childcare; and Nico (Danilo Guardiola), a plucky kid who’s being trained by a local dealer as a drug courier.

Their stories are never quite at the center of “Radical,” which sticks closest to its star teacher. But each young actor is natural, particularly Trejo. Her real-life character, Paloma Noyola Bueno, was the central figure in a Wired article that “Radical” is partially derived from.

But the best relationship captured in “Radical” is the one between Sergio and the school’s cautious, less energetic principal Chucho (a wonderful Daniel Haddad). He at first seems like an impediment to Sergio, warning him not to “kick the hornet’s nest.” But before long, he’s a co-conspirator, willing to - in a further experiment on buoyancy - cannonball into a cold tub. Together, Derbez and Haddad help make “Radical” float, too.

“Radical,” a TelevisaUnivision release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for some strong violent content, thematic material and strong language. In Spanish with subtitles. Running time: 127 minutes. Three stars out of four.

Variety



This image released by A24 shows Cailee Spaeny as Priscilla, in a scene from ‘Priscilla.’ (AP)

Film

Director finds true creative freedom in ‘Priscilla’

Coppola turns her lens on US icon

**LAS VEGAS:** The former street gang leader charged with orchestrating the 1996 drive-by killing of **Tupac Shakur** in Las Vegas is expected to plead not guilty Thursday to murder, amid questions of whether he’ll hire a defense lawyer or a judge appoints a public defender.

**Duane Keith “Keffe D” Davis**, who is described as the only person still alive who was in the vehicle from which shots were fired that night, killing Shakur, is due for arraignment in a **Nevada** courtroom despite losing his bid to hire local defense attorney **Ross Goodman**.

Goodman spoke for Davis outside court two weeks ago, saying that prosecutors lack key evidence and witnesses to the killing committed 27 years ago. The attorney didn’t give a reason Wednesday why Davis couldn’t hire him.

Davis, 60, is originally from Compton, **California**. He was arrested Sept. 29 outside a home in suburban **Henderson** where Las Vegas police served a search warrant July 17, drawing renewed attention to the unsolved murder of one of hip-hop music’s most enduring icons.

His indictment alleges Davis provided a gun to someone in the Cadillac from which car-to-car gun-fire mortally wounded Shakur and wounded rap music mogul **Marion “Suge” Knight** at an intersection just off the Las Vegas Strip. Shakur died a week later at age 25.

Knight is now 58 and serving a 28-year prison sentence in California for the death of a Compton businessman in 2015.

Prosecutors allege that Shakur’s killing in Las Vegas came out of a fierce rivalry between East Coast and West Coast groups for dominance in a musical genre then dubbed “gangsta rap,” and followed a brawl at a Las Vegas Strip casino involving Shakur and Davis’ nephew, **Orlando “Baby Lane” Anderson**. (AP)

**LOS ANGELES:** While **Usher** gears up for his 2024 Super Bowl halftime performance, the singer will lean on his previous experience of hitting the NFL’s biggest stage to help prepare for the 13-minute set.

The Grammy winner said he’s using his appearance with Black Eyed Peas frontman will.i.am in

LOS ANGELES, Nov 2, (AP): In her 25 years of making films, Sofia Coppola has always found the poetry behind the headlines, the banality in the glamour, the soul in the superficial. Her dreamy, lyrical portraits of girl culture and gilded cages have brought her to 18th century Versailles, 1970s suburban Michigan, the 1860s South, noughties Calabasas and modern-day Tokyo, West Hollywood and Manhattan.

In Priscilla Presley’s 1985 memoir “Elvis and Me,” Coppola saw something that was glamorous and wild, something that would provide an opportunity for beautiful filmmaking in a setting she had yet to explore - the world of 1960s American rock royalty. But even she was a little surprised to find in this wholly unrelatable tale something, well, relatable: A young woman, isolated, figuring out who she is, in the shadow of a powerful man.

“Priscilla,” now playing in New York and Los Angeles and expanding nationwide Friday, emerged from a disappointment: Coppola’s ambitious adaptation of Edith Wharton’s “Custom of the Country” had fallen apart, and a friend encouraged her to dive into something else.

“Priscilla” wasn’t looking to make a movie out of the story,” Coppola told The Associated Press in a recent interview. “But she said that because she liked my movies, she would let me do it.”

Making a film about - and for - someone who is going to see it was a unique challenge. She wanted to do justice to her subject, while maintaining her creative expression. But the tension worked: “Priscilla” has landed Coppola some of her best reviews since “Lost in Translation,” and already won her star, Cailee Spaeny, the best actress award from the Venice Film Festival.

“Priscilla” is a kind of culmination of all her previous experiences, both thematically and practically. Coppola learned some time ago that to have the true creative freedom she craved, she’d have to get creative in other ways, mostly with budgets and timelines. For “Priscilla,” she had only 30 days to shoot a story that takes her heroine from Germany to Graceland, with detours in Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Palm Springs, and covers over a decade of an opulent and well-documented life,

with many, many costumes.

“It’s such a grand moment,” Coppola said. “Our budget was pretty small for what we were trying to pull off.”

Mostly, Coppola wanted it all to feel “big enough for her story.”

This would involve a lot of “creative solutions” with her trusted filmmaking team, including cinematographer Philippe Le Sourd, production designer Tamara Deverell and costume designer Stacey Battat. They shot digitally instead of on film. To save some money on costumes without compromising quality, they enlisted the help of high-profile fashion houses: Chanel made the wedding dress while Valentino handled Elvis’s knitwear and suits. They borrowed some walls from a just-wrapped Netflix show on a neighboring stage that Deverell then repurposed for a Vegas suite. They used platforms to cheat the height difference between Spaeny, who is 5’1”, and Jacob Elordi, who is 6’5”, and get them in frame together. They shot out of order: On some days, Spaeny was teenage Priscilla in the morning and adult, pregnant Priscilla after lunch.

Costume

And after many years of filming on location - among them Versailles, the Park Hyatt Tokyo, Bemelmans and the Chateau Marmont - for “Priscilla,” Coppola had to build sets and “find Graceland in Toronto.” The Graceland living room was even built to scale, though the ceiling was made taller for their Elvis.

“They were really building everything there and it was really fun to be working on a stage, almost like an old Hollywood studio, where the costume department was next to the props and the art department was building the Graceland gates,” she said. “It’s sort of that movie magic.”

The Graceland set became a special place, too. One night, Coppola and her kids snuck into it and had a birthday cake in the dining room for her daughter’s 16th birthday. When the production wrapped, the crew had champagne in the living room.

“There was something about making this movie where I just felt so in my element,” she said. “It was hard work but I really had so much fun.”

She, Le Sourd and her actors also spent a lot of time in Elvis’ bedroom, filming in the only place the characters ever really got to be alone. In the book, Presley writes that they would sometimes dabble in costumed role-play and document it with Polaroids. Though there are endless photographs and video footage of Elvis and Priscilla, those photographs have disappeared, Coppola said.

“I felt so lucky that I was able to ask her questions throughout the process. But with that scene, I had to ask her, like, ‘What kind of costumes?’” Coppola said with a smile. “You’re trying to get inside, but not pry and still be polite. She kind of hesitated and was like, ‘Well, you know, like secretary.’”

Presley’s book, nearly 40 years old at this point, reveals things about Elvis that are, at best, unflattering. Everyone knows they met when she was 14 and he was 24. But his controlling and sometimes volatile behavior, dictating exactly what she looked like, what she was allowed to do and whom she was allowed to spend time with, might still come as a surprise to some. Before the film’s premiere in Venice, Coppola said she wasn’t making “Priscilla” for Elvis fans.

“I didn’t mean it to be brazen,” she said. “I was just getting pressured to cut out anything negative about him and I was being firm. I was really clear that I wanted to tell her story and that was my priority.”

“I really didn’t want to make him a villain,” she continued. “I know she has so much love for him. And so much of the dark side of him comes from vulnerability and frustrations and to sort of show him as a human was important to me.”

The Elvis Presley estate did not participate in “Priscilla” and did not let Coppola use any of his music - though that just opened possibilities. She worked again with Phoenix, her husband Thomas Mars’ band, used the Phil Spector-produced Ramones song “Baby I Love You” and, in a big coup, got Dolly Parton’s permission to use “I Will Always Love You” for a pivotal moment.

The story also made Coppola think about her own mother, Eleanor Coppola, who was born nine years before Priscilla, and similarly struggled to find an outlet for her creative expression.



Usher



Shakur

interview. In his first Super Bowl performance, he descended from the stadium ceiling to perform “OMG” in **Arlington, Texas**.

Usher’s appearance lasted less than two minutes, but the moment gave him plenty of insight into conducting a show with such limited time. His album “Confessions” ranks among one of the

best-selling music projects of all time and launched No. 1 hits such as “Yeah!” with **Ludacris** and **Lil Jon**, “Burn” and “Confessions Part II.” He’s had other hits such as “U Got It Bad,” “U Remind Me,” “You Make Me Wanna” and “Love in the Club” - lots of material to cover during one of the year’s biggest cultural moments.

“Don’t take the moments for granted because you only get 13 of them,” said the singer, who is currently headlining his “Usher: My Way” sold-out residency in Las Vegas. “The hardest part is trying to figure out how to squeeze it all in when you actually have a large catalog, or a lot of records people celebrate and love.” (AP)



People & Places

Books

‘The Woman In Me’

Spears’ new tell-all book gets personal

LOS ANGELES, Nov 2, (AP): **Britney Spears’** highly anticipated memoir “The Woman in Me” released recently, revealing the pop superstar’s personal take on events that have played out publicly in her decades as one of the most scrutinized figures in American life, along with private moments that she previously kept under wraps.

The book, which The Associated Press obtained a copy of, details her childhood and rise to stardom, along with her marriages, her nearly-14-year court conservatorship and even a brief mention of a July incident where she was hit in the face by security for NBA player Victor Wembanyama.

Much of “The Woman in Me” focuses on the father and sons, the husbands and boyfriends, who have dominated her life, for better and for worse. Several chapters are devoted to her relationship with Justin Timberlake, including deeply personal details about a pregnancy, abortion and painful breakup. In others she chronicles her custody fight with ex-husband Kevin Federline, and how it fueled what was viewed as a public meltdown.



Spears

Spears speaks much less of recent events, making no mention of her pending divorce from Sam Asghari, whom she describes as holding her hand while she addressed a judge during a key hearing that freed her from court control in 2021.

In the opening dedication, she writes simply, “For my boys, who are the loves of my life.”

Here are some of the details revealed in “The Woman in Me”:

For a period at the turn of the millennium, Spears and Timberlake were America’s it couple. As Spears writes, they were in love — but purity was a facade. “There were a couple of times during our relationship when I knew Justin had cheated on me. Especially because I was so infatuated and so in love, I let it go, even though the tabloids seemed determined to rub my face in it,” she writes.

Relationship

Although Spears was painted in the press as the unfaithful one, she says she only stepped out on the relationship once, to kiss choreographer Wade Robson, confirming a long-suspected rumor.

She also writes of her pregnancy and Timberlake’s dismay, first reported in excerpts published by People earlier this week.

“I’m sure people will hate me for this, but I agreed not to have the baby. Abortion was something I never could have imagined choosing for myself, but given the circumstances, that is what we did,” she writes.

They decided she would not go to a doctor or hospital: “It was important that no one find out about the pregnancy or the abortion, which meant doing everything at home,” she writes, adding that they didn’t tell her family.

She describes the physical pain of the medication abortion as “excruciating.”

“I kept crying and sobbing until it was all over,” she writes. “It took hours, and I don’t remember how it ended, but I do, twenty years later, remember the pain of it, and the fear.”

The song that launched Spears’ solo career, “...Baby One More Time” was directly inspired by Soft Cell’s “Tainted Love.” Spears was listening to it the night before she was going in to record with famed Swedish producer Max Martin (who Spears describes simply as “magic.”) She wanted to mimic the English synthpop duo’s sound, so she stayed up late, giving her voice the fried, raspy tone that would become iconic.

The concept for the music video, too, was her idea. Jive Records wanted her to “play a futuristic astronaut,” she writes. “I told the executives at the label that I thought people would want to see my friends and me sitting at school, bored, and then as soon as the bell rang, boom—we’d start dancing.”

She says Timberlake broke up with her via text message while making his 2002 solo debut album, “Justified.”

“He started being very standoffish with me. I think that was because he’d decided to use me as ammunition for his record, and so it made it awkward for him to be around me starting at him with all that affection and devotion,” she writes.

In the period following the breakup, Spears became isolated, writing that she experienced ‘serious social anxiety.’

She found herself living in an apartment alone in New York for a few months, rarely leaving. (One of her few visitors? Madonna, who dreamt up their 2003 kiss at the MTV Video Music Awards as a reclamation of personal autonomy.)

Not long after, Spears felt pressured by her father to do what would become an infamous interview with Diane Sawyer, in which the host pushed her to explain what she did to Justin Timberlake to cause him “so much pain.”

Sadness

“I felt like I had been exploited,” she writes, “set up in front of the whole world.”

In 2004, Spears married dancer Kevin Federline and they had two sons together. After the children were born, she says she suffered from perinatal depression, displaying symptoms of sadness, anxiety and fatigue.

“Being a new mom is challenge enough without trying to do everything under a microscope,” she writes. “With Kevin away so much, no one was around to see me spiral—except every paparazzo in America.”

The couple divorced in 2007.

Spears describes what she calls a “SWAT team” bursting into a bathroom where she was holding 16-month-old son Jayden, instead of returning him to Federline as required. The moment in January 2008 led to her being hospitalized on a 72-hour psychiatric hold and was a major factor in the establishment of a court conservatorship that took over her life.

She said that amid a custody battle, she felt that Federline and his lawyers were keeping her kids from her for longer and longer stretches. She had already put 2-year-old Sean Preston in the car of a security guard who had come to get him when she became “terrified that I wouldn’t get the kids again if I gave them back.” That’s when she fled to the bathroom.

An anxiety for Federline did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

Other moments in her slide toward the conservatorship became anything but private, and Spears gives her take with a degree of emotion previously kept in check by those surrounding her.



This image released by Participant/Pantelion Films shows Eugenio Derbez in a scene from ‘Radical.’ (AP) — Details Page 11

Stage

Singer’s iconic hits take center stage in musical

Lewis takes his music to Broadway

NEW YORK, Nov 2, (AP): Huey Lewis, who with his band The News stormed radio in the 1980s with such rock-pop hits as “The Power of Love” and “I Want a New Drug,” is about to take his music to a Broadway stage.

Lewis and executive producer Hunter Arnold tell The Associated Press that the jukebox musical “The Heart of Rock & Roll” - constructed from Lewis’ songs - will play the James Earl Jones Theatre starting March 2024, capping more than 10 years of gestation.

“It’s been a long road, but it’s very gratifying,” Lewis said. “I’m pinching myself because it’s really going to happen now.”

The show, which has an original story unconnected to Lewis, broke the record for highest gross per performance at San Diego’s Old Globe theater in 2018.

“It’s smart, first of all, and funny. And it has a lot of heart and it’s about love, basically,” Lewis said. “People ask me, ‘What’s it about, ‘The Heart of Rock & Roll’? And it’s actually about the power of love.”

Lewis has tweaked some song lyrics to make them able to be sung by different people and in contexts he never initially anticipated. “The fun part of that is being able to hear these songs that we wrote tell a new story in a completely different way,” he said.

Music supervisor and orchestrator Brian Usifer has reworked the tunes for a word-driven show, and the production will feature a book by Jonathan A. Abrams. Alongside Hunter as producers are Tyler Mitchell, who initially proposed a show based on the band’s music, and Kayla Greenspan. Casting will be announced later.

The story centers on a blue-collar guy who used to be in a rock band in his 20s. He finds himself in his 30s prepared to take the leap to middle-class respectability when his bandmates return to take another stab at music. There’s also a love story when he falls for the boss’ daughter.

Nominated

“It’s an everyman story,” said Arnold. “It’s really a story about what do we actually want in life, and how do we decide that for ourselves.”

Huey Lewis & The News had 12 top 10 Billboard hits on the Hot 100 and three that made No. 1. They won a Grammy Award, for best music video for “The Heart if Rock ‘n’ Roll,” and “The Power of Love” was nominated for an Academy Award.

Most of the band’s hits came from “Sports” - their sophomore album - released in 1983, which hit No. 1 on the Billboard 200 and stayed on the chart for 160 weeks. It spun off such singles as “Heart and Soul,” “I Want a New Drug,” “If This Is It,”

“Finally Found a Home,” “Walking on a Thin Line” and “The Heart of Rock & Roll.”

Lewis was an unlikely pop star, with earnest and sweet songs that verged on corny, delivered by a singer substantially older than his counterparts on the charts. “It’s the weirdest thing because the man who defied the ‘80s in many ways now also defines the ‘80s,” said Arnold.

“I think more than ever, people are looking for something that makes them feel hopeful, happy. Nostalgia is in because it’s a comfort food for us as audiences, but not something that is without a lesson underneath.”

There’s irony that Lewis’ music is already on Broadway - in a musical take on “Back to the Future,” including the theme tune “The Power of Love” and “Back in Time.”

“It’s more about timing. It’s not about we’re the greatest songwriters who ever lived,” said Lewis, laughing. He appeared on Broadway in “Chicago” as Billy Flynn in the mid-2000s.

“I consider musical theater to be the most rewarding because it’s the most demanding of all artistic expression. You need to sing, dance and act. And it’s so collaborative that it’s not even enough to be good. You need to make everyone else good as well,” he added. “It’s wonderfully demanding and wonderfully rewarding, and we’re just happy to have a shot at it.”



Musician Huey Lewis poses for a portrait in New York on Oct. 2, 2019. Lewis, who with his band The News stormed radio in the 1980s with such rock-pop hits as ‘The Power of Love’ and ‘I Want a New Drug,’ is about to take his music to a Broadway stage with ‘The Heart of Rock & Roll,’ starting March 2024. (AP)



Cher



McPhee

Variety

**NEW YORK:** Cher is obviously a superstar but even a superstar can be the opening act when it comes to Santa.

Organizers of this year’s Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade have nabbed the Oscar-, Emmy- and Grammy Award-winner for their 97th annual event. Cher will make her appearance just before the parade’s end, signaled by the arrival of Santa’s sleigh, parade organizers said.

This year’s parade will feature 16 giant character balloons, 26 floats, 32 novelty and heritage inflatables, 12 marching bands, 700 clowns and eight performance groups.

It’s a busy time for Cher, who is preparing to release a 25th-anniversary edition of her Grammy-winning album “Believe” and just dropped her first new album in five years, “Christmas.”

For the first time in its long history, the holiday tradition will begin at 8:30 a.m. ET, half an hour earlier than previous years, kicked off by multi-instrumentalist and Grammy-winner Jon Batiste.

There will be appearances by **Bell Biv DeVoe**, Brandy, Chicago, En Vogue, ENHYPEN, **David Foster** and **Katharine McPhee**, **Drew Holcomb** and **The Neighbors**, **Jessie James Decker**, **Ashley Park** with some Muppets from “Sesame Street,” Pentatonix, **Paul Russell**, **Amanda Shaw** and **Alex Smith**, and **Manuel Turizo**.

US Olympic gymnastics silver medalist **Jordan Chiles**, US track and field Paralympian **Ezra Frech** and US Paralympic swimming gold medalist **Jessica Long** and Miss America 2023 **Grace Stanke** will also join the festivities.

Seven new balloon giants will join the lineup: “Beagle Scout Snoopy,” “Blue Cat & Chugs,” “Kung Fu Panda’s Po,” “Leo,” “Monkey D. Luffy,” “Pillsbury Doughboy” and “Uncle Dan.”

Broadway will be represented by per-

formances from “& Juliet,” “Back to the Future: The Musical,” “How To Dance In Ohio,” “Shucked” and “Spamalot,” with an appearance by **Josh Gad** and **Andrew Rannells** of “Gutenberg! The Musical!”

Returning giant balloons include “Bluey,” “Diary of a Wimpy Kid,” “Paw Patrol,” “Ryan’s World,” “Pikachu,” “Ronald McDonald,” “Stuart the Minion” and “SpongeBob SquarePants.”

The Macy’s parade has been a traditional holiday season kickoff and spectators often line up a half-dozen deep along the route to cheer the marchers, floats, entertainers and marching bands. The parade has lately asked icons to be

the last guest before Santa, with last year **Mariah Carey** fitting the bill.

A marching band from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in **Parkland**, the scene of one of the nation’s worst school shootings, will represent **Florida**. Other marching bands this year will represent **Alabama**, **Indiana**, **Wisconsin**, **Michigan**, **Washington**, **New York**, **Illinois**, **New Jersey** and **Texas**.

Floats include ones from brands like Lego, “Peanuts,” “Baby Shark,” “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” and “Sesame Street.”

The parade airs on NBC and streams on Peacock. Savannah Guthrie, Hoda

Kotb and Al Roker from “Today” will host and a Spanish language simulcast on Telemundo will be hosted by Carlos Aduan and Andrea Meza. (AP)



**SHARJAH:** Under the theme “unlimited imagination” **South Korea** — the guest of honor of the 42nd Sharjah International Book Fair — had set course to share the country’s rich culture, history, and knowledge with Arab and international audiences during the course of this prestigious event.

The South Korean pavilion have seen a huge influx of the fair’s visitors with over 200 pieces of art and literature on display.

The pavilion will be hosting 25 media, art, and cultural guests eager to share Korean culture with the regional (KUNA)



**NEW YORK:** An 80-foot-tall (24-meter) Norway spruce from the Binghamton area has been selected as this year’s Rockefeller Center Christmas tree and will be cut down and trucked to New York City next week, Rockefeller Center officials announced Wednesday.

The tree will be cut on Nov. 9 in Vestal, New York, and will arrive at Rockefeller Center in midtown **Manhattan** on Nov. 11, the officials said.

After it’s wrapped in more than 50,000 lights and crowned with a star, the tree will be lighted during a live television broadcast on Nov. 29. It will be on display until Jan. 13, 2024.

The Rockefeller Center tree is one of New York City’s most popular holiday attractions, drawing throngs of admirers every year.

Vestal is about 190 miles (306 kilometers) northwest of New York City. (AP)



Director Sofia Coppola, (from left), Priscilla Presley, Cailee Spaeny, and Jacob Elordi pose for photographers at the premiere of ‘Priscilla’ during the 80th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, on Sept. 4, 2023. (AP)

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Event to highlight radiation exposure dangers and prevention

MoH to hold an awareness day on radiation protection

By Marwa Al-Bahravi  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Radiation Protection Department at the Ministry of Health is organizing an awareness day on Tuesday at the Ministry of Health headquarters in Sulaibikhat to celebrate the World Day for Radiation Protection and Medical Physics.

In this regard, the Chief Nuclear Medicine Specialist and Head of the Organizing Committee for the Awareness Day for Radiation Protection and Medical Physics Dr. Hanan Awad Al-Dousari affirmed the keenness of the Ministry of Health, represented by the Radiation Protection Department, to celebrate this occasion every year to raise awareness about the dangers of exposure to radiation through the distribution of awareness leaflets and brochures about the sources and types of radiation and ways to prevent it.

In a special press statement, Dr. Al-Dousari explained that international organizations and departments of medical physics and radiation around the world celebrate the International Day of Medical Physics on November 7 every year, in appreciation and respect for the Polish scientist Marie Curie, who won two Nobel Prizes for Chemistry for her discovery of the elements radium and polonium. She was the first person to receive two Nobel Prizes in two different fields.

The awareness day this year includes many levels, including awareness of radiation and ways to protect from it, awareness of the importance of specializing in medical, radiation and nuclear physics and their fields, and the importance of radiation protection management and the services it provides to the workers in the Ministry of Health, health and industrial facilities, factories, private hospitals, and others.

There are two types of radiation - natural radiation, which comes from the universe such as food, soil, and other things, and man-made radiation, which is used in the medical and industrial fields and other fields.

As for medical physics, it includes many types, such as radiation therapy physics, nuclear medicine physics, diagnostic radiology physics, magnetic resonance physics, health physics, ultrasound physics, and others.

The basics of radiation protection are based on three axes: time, distance, and shielding (protective shield).

The smaller the distance between people and the radioactive source, the less radiation exposure, and vice versa. The longer the duration of radiation exposure, the greater the radiation exposure.

Shielding against radiation varies according to the radioactive material, such as lead, iron, or others.

She went on to explain that the Radiation Protection Department - the regulating body - includes four basic departments:

1. The Department of Environmental Protection from Radiation, which is specialized in taking samples of soil, water and air to ensure that the air is free of pollution.
2. The Calibration and Radiation Exposure Measurement Department, which is concerned with measuring radiation doses for employees working with radiation on a monthly basis to ensure that the employee is exposed to the internationally permissible radiation limit.
3. The Ionizing Radiation Licensing and Inspection Department, which is responsible for obtaining licenses for all private and public establishments that work in radiation, as well as licenses for workers in this field.
4. The Department of Non-Ionizing Radiation Licensing and Inspection, which specializes in inspection campaigns to ensure radiation safety, implement all laws and principles of radiation safety, control devices, and ensure that they are fit for use.



A photo from the breast cancer awareness symposium organized by the Women's Voluntary Association for Community Development.

'Early detection linked to long-term survival rates'

Increased awareness key to fighting breast cancer

By Marwa Al-Bahravi  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Women's Voluntary Association for Community Development emphasized the importance of spreading awareness among segments of society, especially women, about the importance of early detection, the risk factors that increase the possibility of breast cancer, ways to prevent it, and changing behavioral patterns to serve the purpose of performing early detection tests.

In a speech during the awareness symposium organized by the association yesterday with the cooperation of the Cancer Awareness Nation (CAN) campaign, Chairman of the Board of Directors Sheikha Fadia Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah said breast cancer awareness is an attempt to raise awareness and reduce the stigma of breast cancer by identifying its symptoms and treatment.

She expressed hope that such awareness-raising events would increase knowledge, which in turn would lead to early detection of breast

cancer, as it is associated with higher long-term survival rates, and improve the availability and accessibility of early detection services.

Sheikha Fadia called for the need to raise the level of awareness among society about breast cancer and its prevention, ensure the development of cooperation frameworks and partnerships between various parties, and work to create a supportive environment to provide the necessary data to make sound decisions about early detection tests for breast cancer.

**Integrate**

She said, "In order to combat these diseases, the efforts of civil society institutions and public benefit associations must be combined with governmental and private agencies to integrate health into all policies within the concept of shared responsibility."

Meanwhile, the Secretary of the association Dr. Mona Al-Qattan affirmed the keenness of the association to carry out its societal role and cooperate with various parties to spread health awareness among members of society.

She stressed that women's health is a priority for the association, which is represented in its awareness programs and the promotion of breast cancer screening campaigns.

System

Dr. Al-Qattan highlighted the importance of the role of civil society as an essential partner in the development process, as participation is no longer just a choice, but rather a requirement in light of the current challenges, adding that participation between the tripartite system (the state, the private sector, and civil society organizations) has become a basic and urgent necessity.

In this regard, an oncologist at the Breast Oncology Unit at the Kuwait Cancer Control Center Dr. Rehab Sayed said, "Cancerous tumors occur when some breast cells start growing in an abnormal way and these cells mutate more quickly than healthy cells and continue to accumulate and form a mass or tumor. The cells may spread through the breast to the lymph nodes or to other parts of the body.

Most of the causes of breast cancer are unknown, and a small percentage is due to genetic factors, but there are reasons that may increase the chance of developing breast cancer, such as excess weight, hormones, smoking, and alcohol, a sedentary lifestyle and unhealthy food, all of which may also increase the chance of infection.

Women are more susceptible to breast cancer than men. With age, the chance of infection increases. The presence of a medical history of problems or diseases related to the breast, previous infection with breast cancer, and a family history of the disease increase the probability of contracting it, which requires an annual mammogram test to detect any small lumps.

Survival rates for breast cancer patients have increased, and the number of deaths associated with this disease has decreased on a regular basis. This is mostly due to a number of factors such as early detection, adopting a new treatment method that takes into account the condition of each patient, and improving our level of understanding of the nature of this disease."

Biotechs aim to revolutionize cancer treatments

New precision therapies being developed for cancer



Dr. Hanan Awad Al-Dousari

WILMINGTON, Nov 2, (Agencies): Prelude Therapeutics Incorporated ("Prelude") and AbCellera formed a multi-year, multi-program partnership to discover, develop, and commercialize potentially first-in-class treatments for patients with cancer. The collaboration combines Prelude's expertise in targeted protein degradation, medicinal chemistry, and clinical development with AbCellera's antibody discovery and development engine to generate novel precision antibody drug conjugates (ADCs). The first program, which benefits from a lead panel of antibodies previously discovered by AbCellera, is focused on ADCs to broaden the reach of Prelude's small molecule SMARCA2 selective degraders to address a larger patient population.

"By leveraging our combined capabilities and expertise in rapidly discovering and advancing novel candidates into the clinic, this collaboration provides an opportunity to build a pipeline of first-in-class ADCs targeting clinically validated pathways in oncology," said Kris Vaddi, Ph.D., Founder and CEO of Prelude.

"Through this strategic partnership we are combining deep expertise in antibody and small molecule development to create precision ADC therapies for patients in need," said Carl Hansen, Ph.D., Founder and CEO of AbCellera.

Under the terms of the agreement, Prelude and AbCellera will jointly discover, develop, and commercialize products emerging from the collaboration. AbCellera will lead manufacturing activities and Prelude will lead clinical de-

velopment and global commercialization, subject to AbCellera's option to co-promote any resulting commercial products in the United States.

Prelude Therapeutics is a clinical-stage precision oncology company developing innovative drug candidates targeting critical cancer cell pathways. The Company's diverse pipeline is comprised of highly differentiated, potentially best-in-class proprietary small molecule compounds aimed at addressing clinically validated pathways for cancers with selectable underserved patients. Prelude's pipeline includes four candidates currently in clinical development: PRT1419, a potent, selective inhibitor of MCL1, PRT2527, a potent and highly selective CDK9 inhibitor, PRT3645, a next generation

CDK4/6 inhibitor, and PRT3789, an IV administered, potent and highly selective SMARCA2 degrader, as well as an oral SMARCA2 degrader that is currently in IND-enabling studies.

AbCellera is breaking the barriers of conventional antibody drug discovery to bring better medicines to patients, sooner. AbCellera's engine integrates expert teams, technology, and facilities with the data science and automation needed to propel antibody-based medicines from target to clinic in nearly every therapeutic area with precision and speed. AbCellera provides innovative biotechs and leading pharmaceutical companies with a competitive advantage that empowers them to move quickly, reduce cost, and tackle the toughest problems in drug development.

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Medvedev out of year-end No. 1 contention

# Djokovic starts Paris Masters with win over Etcheverry

## Lakers hold off Clippers in OT to snap 11-game losing streak

Celtics rout Pacers 155-104 to remain unbeaten

LOS ANGELES, Nov 2, (AP): LeBron James had 35 points and 11 rebounds, Austin Reaves scored seven of his 15 points in overtime and the Los Angeles Lakers snapped an 11-game losing streak against the Los Angeles Clippers with a 130-125 victory Wednesday night.

D’Angelo Russell scored 27 points and Anthony Davis had 27 points and 10 rebounds for the short-handed Lakers, who beat their local rivals for the first time since July 2020 in the Florida bubble. The 17-time NBA champion Lakers hadn’t beaten the Clippers on the Lakers’ home court at their shared arena since Christmas 2016, losing 11 in a row.

With James Harden watching in street clothes on the Clippers’ bench after his trade from Philadelphia, Kawhi Leonard scored 38 points in the Clippers’ second loss of the young season. Paul George scored 20 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter, including eight points in the final minute, before fouling out 30 seconds into overtime.

Although the Lakers used just eight players due to five significant injury absences, they rallied from an early 19-point deficit before blowing an eight-point lead in the final 90 seconds of regulation.

### BASKETBALL

George, who had six 3-pointers, hit three free throws with 17 seconds left to tie it. Russell had an open shot at the buzzer, but missed.

#### Celtics 155, Pacers 104

In Boston, Jayson Tatum had 30 points and 12 rebounds in less than three quarters and Boston used a blistering start to rout Indiana and remain unbeaten.

The 155 points was the second-most in a regular-season game in franchise history.

One game after blowing out the Wizards in Washington, the Celtics returned home and beat the Pacers even worse, opening a 10-point lead in the first three minutes, making it 20 in the second quarter, 30 in the third and 53 in the fourth.

Derrick White had 18 points and Jaylen Brown had 16 before the Boston starters went to the bench late in the third quarter, when the Celtics opened a 38-point lead. Sam Hauser scored 17 points and Payton Pritchard had 15 in extensive minutes off the bench. T.J. McConnell scored 18 points for the Pacers.

#### Warriors 102, Kings 101

In San Francisco, Klay Thompson hit a 17-footer with less than a second remaining and Golden State held off Sacramento.

Domantas Sabonis put the Kings ahead moments earlier on a jumper with 16 seconds to play after Stephen Curry’s layup just before in a wild final minute.

Curry scored with 33 seconds left following a 24-second violation by Sacramento that gave Golden State the ball for another chance with 38.4 seconds left trailing 99-98.

Curry scored 21 points and added four 3-pointers to take his NBA-leading total to 28 on a night the Kings missed leading scorer De’Aaron Fox because of a sprained right ankle suffered Sunday



Boston Celtics guard Jrue Holiday (4) blocks a shot by Indiana Pacers forward Bruce Brown (11) during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Nov 1, 2023, in Boston. (AP)



Los Angeles Lakers forward Anthony Davis (right) shoots as Los Angeles Clippers center Ivica Zubac defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Nov 1, 2023, in Los Angeles. (AP)

### Jabeur first Arab woman to reach GS singles final

## Swiatek beats Gauff at WTA Finals

CANCUN, Mexico, Nov 2, (AP): U.S. Open champion Coco Gauff double-faulted four times in a row while serving for the second set and wound up losing 6-0, 7-5 to four-time major title winner Iga Swiatek in round-robin action at the WTA Finals on a windy Wednesday night.

She said the wind didn’t help things, nor did a recent break of about two weeks without serving because of a shoulder injury.

There were plenty of empty seats at the temporary hard court - and Swiatek noticed.

The WTA’s decision to host the event in Cancun was not announced until September.

In the other singles match on Day 4 at the season-ending championship - which is for the top eight play-

ers in women’s tennis - three-time major runner-up Ons Jabeur defeated Wimbledon champion Marketa Vondrousova 6-4, 6-3. Jabeur lost to Vondrousova in the final at the All England Club in July.

### TENNIS

Jabeur, a Tunisian who was the first Arab woman to reach a Grand Slam singles final, told the crowd after her win Wednesday that she will donate part of her prize money “to help the Palestinians. ... It is not a political message. It is humanity. I want peace in this world.”

Israel has been carrying out military operations in Gaza in response to the attack by Hamas on a Jewish holiday

last month.

The two women who will advance to the semifinals from this group will be determined Friday, when Swiatek (who is 2-0 so far) faces Jabeur (1-1), and Gauff (1-1) meets Vondrousova (0-2).

On Wednesday, Gauff led 4-2 in the second set, then was a game away from forcing a third while serving at 5-4. The teenager from Florida went up 15-love, then dropped the game with the series of double-faults. After the fourth, Gauff spiked her racket, then picked it up and tossed it at her bench as she walked to the sideline.

That was part of a stretch in which the American lost nine points in a row and 12 of the last 13 against Swiatek, who improved to 9-1 against Gauff.

PARIS, Nov 2, (AP): Novak Djokovic demonstrated his desire to finish the season as the No. 1 men’s player for a record eighth time by beating Tomas Martin Etcheverry 6-3, 6-2 in the second round of the Paris Masters on Wednesday.

Djokovic was competing in his first singles match since mid-September when he played for Serbia in the group stage of the Davis Cup.

“At the beginning of the match, it was a bit difficult for me to find the rhythm,” the top-seeded Djokovic said on court, “but at the end of the second set, it was really good.”

Djokovic won five straight games to take the opening set with an ace and lead 2-0 in the second set.

The Serbian player only faced one break point that he saved with a forehand cross-court winner at 1-0 in the second set.

A six-time champion at the Paris Masters, Djokovic increased his lead to 5-1 before converting his third match point when Etcheverry netted a backhand.

Djokovic can widen the gap with No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz in the race for the year-end top spot after the Spaniard lost to qualifier Roman Safiullin on Tuesday.

### TENNIS

Alcaraz is the only player who can overtake Djokovic after Daniil Medvedev dropped out of contention after he was beaten by Grigor Dimitrov 6-3, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (2) earlier Wednesday.

Djokovic had racked up 500 more points than Alcaraz this season before the Paris Masters.

Djokovic won’t be able to clinch the year-end No. 1 spot in Paris since Alcaraz still gets 10 points for his second-round defeat.

There are 1,000 points for the Paris Masters winner and 1,500 points for a perfect run at the ATP Finals.

Djokovic holds the men’s record with seven year-end No. 1 finishes, one more than Pete Sampras. Women’s tennis great Steffi Graf holds the record with eight.

“Of course, my greatest motivation is still love for the game. I really like competing. So, as simple as that,” Djokovic had told a news conference on Saturday. “And then, you know, I always have goals, you know, and to win another slam, to be No. 1 again, to finish the year as No. 1. Those are let’s say the big goals.”

Medvedev was booed off the court after remonstrating with the crowd during the match.

The crowd got under Medvedev’s skin in the 11th game of the second set, jeering him as he was about to serve after he had thrown his racket. The third-ranked Russian went back to his chair and complained to the referee before talking directly to the spectators in French.

“If there’s one who whistles, I don’t play,” Medvedev told the crowd.

### American team top wrestling medal table

## Oly medalist Snyder leads US wrestlers to gold medal sweep at Pan Am Games

SANTIAGO, Chile, Nov 2, (AP): Two-time Olympic medalist Kyle Snyder led the United States wrestling team to four Pan American gold medals on Wednesday, the first day of the event in Santiago. The 27-year-old, one of the top athletes competing in Chile, easily won all his bouts to secure his third consecutive continental title.

### PAN AM GAMES

The star wrestler’s teammates came close to dominating just as much, and just like Snyder they are likely to secure a spot in the Paris Olympics next year and fight for medals there, too. The athlete from Maryland was Olympic champion in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 and won silver in Tokyo in 2021.

Snyder later said he had his mind in 2024 as soon as he won the final



Kyle Snyder of the United States, gold, poses on the podium of the men’s 97kg wrestling freestyle event at the Pan American Games

in Chile.

Snyder has been affected by injuries during the current Olympic cycle, but still won three world championship medals recently. He is currently riding the longest Olympic and World medal streak in American history; nine in a row since 2015.

Later, the 24-year-old Mason Parris, a bronze medalist in this year’s world championships, beat Venezu-



Serbia’s Novak Djokovic returns the ball to Argentina’s Tomas Martin Etcheverry during the second round of the Paris Masters tennis tournament, at the Accor Arena, Wednesday Nov 1, 2023 in Paris. (AP)

“You don’t whistle, I play. So, you shut your mouths.”

From that moment, the crowd overwhelmingly threw its support behind Dimitrov, and Medvedev appeared to make a rude hand gesture toward some spectators as he walked off the court after the loss.

“I play in Bercy much better when there is no crowd at all in attendance,” Medvedev joked afterward, referring to winning the Paris Masters title in 2020 during the pandemic in an empty arena. “That’s the only time I won the tournament.”

Dimitrov lost to Medvedev in the second round of the Erste Bank Open in Austria last week, but the Bulgarian hit 45 winners on Wednesday compared to 22 for the Russian, who double-faulted eight times.

Dimitrov whipped a forehand passing shot to break for a 4-2 lead in the final set but he failed to serve out the match at 5-3 as Medvedev saved four match points, including one 47-shot rally.

Medvedev saved two more match points on his serve at 6-5 but Dimitrov jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the decisive tiebreaker and converted his seventh match point with a forehand volley.

Meanwhile, the 12th-seeded Tommy Paul can no longer qualify for the ATP Finals after losing to qualifier Botic Van de Zandschulp 6-4, 2-6, 6-3. Stefanos Tsitsipas, Hubert Hurkacz and Alex de Minaur stayed in contention for the three remaining spots at the eight-man tournament that will be played in Turin from Nov. 12-19.

Before the Paris Masters, Djokovic, Alcaraz, Medvedev, Jannik Sinner and Andrey Rublev had already qualified for the ATP Finals.

The seventh-seeded Tsitsipas beat Felix Auger-Aliassime 6-3, 7-6 (4), the 11th-seeded Hurkacz cruised past Roberto Bautista Agut 6-3, 6-2, and the 13th-seeded de Minaur rallied past Dusan Lajovic 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

ela’s José Díaz 2-0 in the 125-kilogram category. Despite the tight score, the American faced little risk of losing; his opponent clearly played for a late takedown, but failed.

When asked about being teammates with Snyder, Parris’ face immediately lit up.

The 29-year-old Zane Richards brought the U.S. its third gold medal in wrestling with a 10-0 victory over Venezuela’s Óscar Tigreros in the 57-kilogram category.

The last final of the day had 27-year-old Tyler Berger topping Cuba’s Franklin Marén 3-0 in the 74-kilogram category.

The U.S. team finished first in the wrestling medal table in the past two editions of the continent’s largest multi-sports event, in Toronto and in Lima. Cuba came out on top in the sport’s medal table at the 2011 Pan American Games in Guadalajara.



Zane Richards of the United States (left) competes with Colombia’s Oscar Tigreros during the men’s 57kg wrestling freestyle final bout at the Pan American Games Santiago, Chile, Wednesday, Nov 1, 2023. (AP)



15 riders participate

Messila Equestrian Club new coach Al-Alawi ‘conducts’ team’s inaugural training session

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: Bahraini coach Adnan Al-Alawi recently arrived in the country to commence training the riders at Messila Equestrian Club in the upcoming period.

The club’s management, under the leadership of Badr Tariq Al-Maillem, finalized the contract with Coach Al-Alawi after negotiations that began in May. He officially assumed his duties , conducting the team’s inaugural training session, which saw the participation of over 15 male and female riders.

EQUESTRIAN

In his initial statement to the press within the confines of Messila Club, Bahraini coach Adnan Al-Alawi shared his journey, noting that he moved to the Republic of Germany in 2014 and established an equestrian training center nine years ago. He expressed his aspirations to foster a partnership between Messila Club and the equestrian center in Germany.

Al-Alawi remarked, “I have a prior connection with Kuwait and Kuwaiti equestrianism. I visited Kuwait four years ago, attended various tourna-



Bahraini coach Adnan Al-Alawi.

ments, and observed the growing camaraderie between Bahrain and Kuwait in the realm of equestrian sports.”

Bahraini coach Adnan Al-Alawi harbors the ambition of qualifying one or even two riders from Messila Club to represent the Kuwaiti national team in regional championships. He underlined that Messila Club aims to become a formidable competitor among other clubs, with the overarching goal of elevating the technical standards of Kuwaiti equestrian sports.

Kuwait International Martial Arts Championship set for Saturday

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Fourth Kuwait International Martial Arts Championship for Professionals is set to kick off at 5:00 pm on Saturday, taking place at Al-Zumuroda Hall in the Salwa area. This exciting event will feature a total of eight fights, including four professional boxing matches and four Muay Thai bouts, culminating in a championship belt fight.

In the realm of professional boxing, boxers Adnan Al-Qazwini and Jarrah Al-Anzi will compete for the (KSP) Middle East belt, while the Muay Thai category will see Lebanese fighter Muhannad Al-Maghribi face off against Tunisian contender Hatem Jouaa.

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Meshal Al-Fajji, owner of the Sports Promotion Company (KSP) and the representative of the World Boxing Council (WBC) in Kuwait, has assured that all preparations for the international tournament have been finalized. He expressed confidence that the tournament’s fights will be highly competitive, drawing the best talent from both sports. Al-Fajji also mentioned that ticket reservations can be made through the Eventat application.



KSP owner Meshal Al-Fajji

Madrid host Rayo

Morata & Griezmann have Atletico poised for title run

BARCELONA, Spain, Nov 2, (AP): Antoine Griezmann and Álvaro Morata have Atletico Madrid dreaming of a title run in the Spanish league this season.

The France forward and Spain striker have scored 13 goals in the league and Atletico are the only team to beat leader Real Madrid so far this campaign.

Atletico visit Las Palmas on Friday seeking a win to pull level with Madrid and second-place Girona at the top of the table. Diego Simeone’s side also have a game in hand. Madrid host Rayo Vallecano on Sunday with Jude Bellingham in outstanding form. The England midfielder struck twice in a 2-1 comeback at Barcelona in last weekend’s “clasico” game to give him 13 goals in as many games overall.

Girona visits Osasuna on Saturday, when Barcelona need to respond to their loss to Madrid on their visit to fifth-place Real Sociedad.

After 11 rounds, Atletico have emerged as the top threat to Carlo Ancelotti’s Madrid.

They have proven to be the only team capable of beating Madrid, when in September Morata scored a double and Griezmann added another goal in a 3-1 win at Atletico’s stadium. Atletico also have a game in hand after a match against Sevilla was postponed due to bad weather.

“We have to keep doing our own thing,” Simeone said about his team after last round’s 2-1 win over Alaves which tied its longest home winning streak of 14 straight victories.

Simeone’s side started clicking in the second half of last season, when it finished third in the standings mainly because of its poor start to the campaign, and that good form has carried over to 2023/24.

That momentum is largely thanks to the attacking partnership of Morata and Griezmann.

Morata, now 31, joined Atletico in midway through the 2018-19 season from Chelsea, where he failed to reach his potential after standing out both at Real Madrid and on loan at Juventus.

But at Atletico he lacked the ruthlessness of Atletico’s former striker Diego Costa, and was soon shipped back on loan to Juventus, making room for a veteran Luis Suárez to lead Atletico to the 2021 league title.

Morata returned to Atletico when his loan deal ran out at the start of last season, but he only kept his starting job, reportedly, because Atletico couldn’t find a better replacement.

Atletico are now more than happy with the player, whose seniority with the national team has led him to becoming Spain’s captain following the international retirement of Sergio Busquets.



Morata

SOCCER

Morata is off a great start with nine goals - six in the league and three in the Champions League - in 12 appearances.

“Álvaro is the same player, just that now he is finishing his chances better,” Simeone said recently about Morata. “He had the opportunities to score more goals in past seasons, and we have to help him continue to grow and keep this level of performance up, which is the most complicated thing in soccer.”

Griezmann, 32, similarly spent two seasons at Barcelona before returning to Atletico in 2021, when he had to endure jeers from some fans before he quickly restored his status as team leader, scorer and playmaker. He has matched Morata’s goal tally with nine overall, including a team-high seven goals in the league.

Atletico are hoping to have a third strong scorer when Memphis Depay recovers from injury.



Bader Al Mutawa is challenged for the ball

Al-Shabab face Al-Jahra; League takes break after 7th round

**By Hassan Musa**  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2: The Zain Premier League will be temporarily suspended until November 25, owing to Al-Arabi and Kuwait’s involvement in the AFC Cup competitions and the Kuwaiti national team’s participation in the qualifiers for the 2026 World Cup and the 2027 Asian Cup after the seventh round matches.**

SOCCER

Al-Shabab face Al-Jahra at 7:00 pm today.

The round will conclude with two matches tomorrow. The first match will see Al-Salmiya go up against Khaitan at the Mohammed Al-Hamad Stadium at 5:30 pm, followed by Kazma against Al-Qadsia at the Friendship and Peace Stadium at 8:28 pm.

The match between Al-Qadsia and Kazma is one of the standout fixtures of this round. Al-Qadsia, with 12 points, face Kazma, which have 10 points. However, Al-Qadsia will play

this match without their fans, following a decision from the Football Association’s Disciplinary Committee due to incidents that occurred during their match against Kuwait in the previous round.

Both teams appear to be evenly matched, with Al-Qadsia performing impressively against the league leaders in the last round, coming close to victory but settling for a draw. Winning this match is crucial for Al-Qadsia’s coach, Muhammad Ibrahim, to maintain their position among the top teams and keep their title aspirations alive.

On the other hand, Kazma aim to continue their good performances and secure a second consecutive victory after a convincing win over Khaitan in

the previous round. Kazma have experienced some inconsistency, as their victory against Khaitan came after a loss to Al-Shabab in the fifth round.

In the second match scheduled for tomorrow, Al Salmiya, with 9 points, look to maintain their recent form with a fourth victory and get closer to the league leaders. Meanwhile, Khaitan, with 5 points, hope to regain their early-season form and confidence.

Al-Shabab, with 5 points, are looking to capitalize on the struggles of their opponents and secure their second victory in the competition. Al-Jahra, currently at the bottom of the standings with 1 point, hopes that this match will serve as a turning point for their team, as any result other than a win would put them in a challenging position.

De Ligt hurt ahead of ‘Klassiker’ with Dortmund

Bayern Munich crash out of German Cup

SAARBRUECKEN, Germany, Nov 2, (AP): Bayern Munich crashed out of the German Cup in a 2-1 loss to third-division Saarbruecken as coach Thomas Tuchel said defender Matthijs de Ligt suffered a “very painful” knee injury ahead of the weekend’s “Klassiker” against Borussia Dortmund.

Bayern seemed set to cruise through the second-round game when Thomas Müller opened the scoring in the 16th minute but Saarbruecken leveled just before halftime and Marcel Gaus won the game with a deflected shot in the sixth minute of stoppage time.

The final whistle sparked jubilation for Saarbruecken, whose substitutes and staff ran onto the field to celebrate in a huddle with the team.

Dutch defender de Ligt went off in the 24th minute. The only other specialist center backs in Bayern’s first-team squad are Kim Min-jae and Dayot Upamecano, who has missed the last month with a hamstring injury. That meant midfielder Joshua Kimmich dropping back to part-



Dortmund’s Youssoufa Moukoko is in action during the German Soccer Cup second round match between Borussia Dortmund and TSG Hoffenheim in Dortmund, Germany. (AP)

ner Kim in defense.

Bayern coach Tuchel said it appeared to be a repeat of a knee injury that de Ligt suffered in September

which sidelined him for three weeks. “It’s the same knee again, the same capsule (in the joint) again. It’s very painful but there is currently no diagnosis yet,” he said.

Kimmich won’t be an option for Saturday’s “Klassiker” at Dortmund because he’s suspended after a red card last week. Forward Serge Gnabry has been

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out since September, first with a broken arm, then with illness - but played half an hour off the bench Wednesday - while midfielder Leon Goretzka is recovering from hand surgery. Manuel Neuer played the full game in Bayern’s goal in his second appearance after more than 10 months out with a broken leg.

Ahead of the game, there had been concerns over the state of the field. Saarbruecken’s last home game Sunday had been stopped at halftime because the surface was waterlogged,

sparking an intensive effort to drain it in time for Bayern’s visit.

Bayern have now lost in the second round of the German Cup for three of the last four seasons. It’s another cup sensation for Saarbruecken, which reached the semifinals in 2019-20 from the regional fourth tier.

League leaders Bayer Leverkusen needed a late flurry of goals to make it into the third round. Coach Xabi Alonso made eight changes to his team in a 5-2 win over third-division Sandhausen, but had to bring key players like Granit Xhaka and Florian Wirtz on from the bench in pursuit of the win.

The game was heading for extra time with the score at 2-2 before Adam Hlozek headed Leverkusen back into the lead in the 85th minute. Two goals from Amine Adli then made sure of the win.

“It’s about progressing and that’s what we did today,” Leverkusen midfielder Robert Andrich said. “In two weeks, no one will ask how we did it. It was a tough game.”



Khaled Belhaj is impeded as he goes for a shot.





India's Mohammed Shami (center) hold the ball as he celebrates his five-wicket haul after dismissing Sri Lanka's Kasun Rajitha during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup match between India and Sri Lanka in Mumbai, India. (AP)

# Sports

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## Al-Rashidi, Al-Hawal win bronze at Asian Champ'ship

SEOUL, Nov 2: Public Authority for Sport extends its congratulations to shooters Talal Al-Rashidi and Sarah Al-Hawal on their outstanding achievement of winning the bronze

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medal in the mixed doubles shooting competition during the 15th Asian Championship in South Korea.

Also sharpshooter Al-Rashidi secured the bronze medal in the individual shooting competition.

## Sepahan penalized over canceled ACL match

TEHRAN, Iran, Nov 2, (AP): Iranian soccer team Sepahan were penalized with a 3-0 loss and a fine over a canceled Asian Champions League match against Saudi Arabia's Al Ittihad, Iranian media reported.

The match was called off last month when the Saudi team – featuring former Premier League stars such as N'Golo Kante and Fabinho – walked out at the last minute, apparently over the presence of a statue.

Iran's foreign ministry had earlier said that an agreement had been reached to replay the match, amid con-

cerns that the incident could further strain a recent rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran, longtime rivals who have backed opposite sides in conflicts across the Middle East.

But Iranian media reported that the Asian Football Confederation ruled that Al Ittihad should be awarded a 3-0 win and that Sepahan should pay a fine of \$200,000. According to the reports, Sepahan were also banned from hosting its next three Asian Champions League matches at home.



Bronze medalists Talal Al-Rashidi and Sarah Al-Hawal.

## Newcastle end Man Utd 'defense' of League Cup

### Chelsea advance

MANCHESTER, England, Nov 2, (AP): Manchester United's season descended deeper into crisis after a 3-0 home loss against Newcastle ended their defense of the League Cup and heaped more pressure on manager Erik ten Hag.

Defeat in the round-of-16 game was United's eighth loss in all competitions this season and the latest blow for English soccer's most storied club.

It is 10 years since United were last competing for club soccer's biggest prizes when they won the Premier League title in former manager Alex Ferguson's final season. The wait to return to their former glories looks as far away now as at any point since then, with their current form pointing toward another season of disappointment.

The League Cup may not be a priority for a club of United's stature, but it provided Ten Hag's finest moment in the job when in February he

### SOCCER

led the team to the trophy by beating Newcastle at Wembley Stadium and ended their six-year wait for silverware. That is a distant memory as United's season continues to slide.

United suffered a 3-0 loss at home to Manchester City in the Premier League on Sunday, and Saudi-backed Newcastle's repeat of that scoreline raises further questions for Ten Hag.

The Dutch coach, who won three league titles with Ajax, was mocked by Newcastle's fans throughout the game as they chanted that he would be fired in the morning. While there has been no suggestion Ten Hag's position is under threat, United's poor form is of growing concern.

After the game he described himself as "a fighter," adding he was confident he would overcome a troubled start to the campaign.

Newcastle were too much of a challenge y as first-half goals from substitute Miguel Almiron and Lew-

is Hall put the visitors in control by the break and Joe Willock completed the scoring after an hour.

Defeat came despite Ten Hag naming a starting lineup that had cost around half a billion dollars - even without \$82 million off-season signing Rasmus Hojlund, as well as Bruno Fernandes and Marcus Rash-

ford.

By the time those players were called for in an attempt to turn the game around in the second half, Ten Hag had fielded around \$720 million of talent.

It made little difference to the outcome.

United had offered little penetration in the first half and went behind in the 28th minute after being caught on the break. Alejandro Garnacho lost possession in Newcastle's half, which gave Timo Livramento the chance to burst forward and find the run of Almiron, who beat Andre Onana from inside the box.

The lead was doubled eight minutes later, with United once again guilty of creating problems for itself.

Indecisiveness at the back eventually led to Harry Maguire tamely heading Willock's cross from the left. His clearance only went as far as the edge of the area, where Hall was waiting to volley through a crowd of players and into the bottom corner.

Ten Hag made changes at half-time, notably taking off his captain Casemiro. But Newcastle extended



Hamza Behbehani is congratulated after stopping Turkish boxer Orhan Nameli in second round.

## Shami finishes with 5-18 in five overs, his second five-wicket haul

## India dismantle Sri Lanka to book semifinal spot

its lead when Willock carried the ball to the edge of the area and swept a low shot past Onana.

Newcastle now travel to Chelsea in the quarterfinals.

Chelsea put their troubles in the league behind them with a 2-0 win against second division Blackburn.

Defeat against Brentford over the weekend left the London club in 11th place in the standings and facing a fight to challenge for Champions League qualification. But manager Mauricio Pochettino moved a step closer to his first trophy in charge as goals from Benoit Badiashile and Raheem Sterling secured the win against Blackburn at Stamford Bridge.

Evertson are also finding joy in this competition. While they look like being another league battle for survival for the Merseyside club, they saw off Burnley 3-0 at Goodison Park and now face a home match against Fulham in the quarterfinals. Fulham secured their place in the last eight with a 3-1 win against second division Ipswich.

Darwin Nunez scored a 70th-minute winner as Liverpool won 2-1 at Bournemouth. Jurgen Klopp's team won the competition in 2022 and are back in the hunt for more silverware after ending last season trophyless.

Liverpool are the highest-ranked team left in the cup and next host West Ham, which beat Arsenal 3-1.

There will be a team from outside of the Premier League in the semifinals after third division Port Vale was drawn against second-tier Middlesbrough.

MUMBAI, India, Nov 2, (AP): India became the first team to secure a semifinal spot at the Cricket World Cup after Mohammed Siraj bowled a stellar opening spell to help the hosts dismantle Sri Lanka for a 302-run win on Thursday.

Siraj took three wickets for nought in the first seven balls as Sri Lanka lost their first four wickets for just three runs within 19 deliveries.

Mohammed Shami then took four wickets in three overs in his opening spell, as Sri Lanka were bowled out for 55 runs in 19.4 overs. That was after Shubman Gill's 92 and a quick-fire 82 off 56 balls from Shreyas Iyer helped India reach 357-8. It was the second biggest margin of victory in World Cup history.

Shami finished with 5-18 in five

overs, his second five-wicket haul in this tournament. Siraj finished with 3-16 in seven overs.

Virat Kohli also scored 88 runs, and he and Gill put on 189 for India's second wicket. It was the highest team score without an individual hundred in a World Cup.

India rose atop the points' table with a perfect record after seven games and are the only unbeaten side in the tournament. They will play their semifinal at the same venue on Nov. 15, unless they meet archrivals Pakistan in the last four - in which case the game would be played in Kolkata on Nov. 16.

With a fifth defeat in seven games, Sri Lanka still have a mathematical chance of reaching the semifinals by winning its remaining two games, but will also need other results going their

way.

Siraj's stunning opening spell began with Jasprit Bumrah sending back opener Pathum Nissanka for a first-ball duck, out lbw. He then trapped Dimuth Karunaratne lbw for a golden duck, Sadeera Samarawickrama was caught at slip for a four-ball duck, while Kusal Mendis was bowled for one run.

The scorecard read an astonishing 3-4 after 3.1 overs - the joint lowest total for the top four batsmen in ODIs, matching Pakistan's one run against West Indies in 2015.

### CRICKET

Sri Lanka's problems weren't over yet, as India deployed Shami at the other end and he picked up three wickets in his first nine deliveries.

Charith Asalanka was out for one, while Dushan Hemantha and Dushmantha Chameera were caught behind without troubling the scorers.

Only Angelo Mathews managed more than a run amongst the first eight batsmen, and then reached double digits, scoring 12 off 25 balls.

The 1996 champions were down to 14 runs for six wickets in 9.4 overs. It became 22-7 in 11.3 overs, and Shami then bowled Mathews to make it 29-8 in 13.1 overs. Five Sri Lankan batsmen were out for a duck, and only three managed to reach double digits.

Shami picked up his fifth wicket as Kasun Rajitha was caught at slip, making him India's leading bowler in World Cups with 45 wickets. He went past Javagal Srinath and Zaheer Khan, both with 44 wickets.

Put into bat, India had made a poor start as Dilshan Madushanka stunned the Wankhede into silence by bowling Rohit Sharma for four off the second ball of the Indian innings.

Behbehani, renowned as both a martial arts champion and professional boxer, made a notable gesture by wearing the Palestinian keffiyeh before entering the ring, as a symbol of solidarity with the people of Gaza. He emphasized that this humanitarian gesture was a show of support for the Palestinian people in Gaza, recog-

### BOXING

nizing the significant sacrifices they endure daily in their defense of their homeland and resources. Hamza Behbehani stated, "This is the least we can do for our fellow people and brothers who are under siege in Gaza. We hope for a swift resolution to this crisis and the restoration of their rightful rights."

In addition to his sporting achievements, Behbehani is a member of the Board of Directors of the Kuwait Olympic Committee. He expressed his gratitude to Sheikh Mubarak Al-Faisal Al-Nawaf for his invaluable support to the people of Kuwait in various sports.

## Ibra could return to 'beleaguered' Milan

MILAN, Nov 2, (AP): A beleaguered AC Milan could be set to call on their talismanic Swede yet again.

Zlatan Ibrahimović officially retired at the end of last season with an emotional speech at San Siro that left almost everyone in the stadium in tears, including his teammates.

But during a disappointing October that saw Milan win just one game, the Rossoneri have reportedly been in constant contact with the 42-year-old about a potential return to the club in a backroom capacity.

Milan's American owner Gerry Cardinale met with Ibrahimović on two successive days in September and could be set for further talks when Cardinale returns to the city for Tuesday's Champions League match against Paris Saint-Germain.

So the Rossoneri are gearing up for a crucial week on an off the field as they look to turn their form around.

Milan started October top of Serie A but have now slipped to third place - albeit only three points behind league leaders Inter Milan. They struggled to a narrow 1-0 win at promoted Genoa, lost at home to Juventus and then gave up a two-goal lead to draw 2-2 at Napoli.

They should find things easier on Saturday against lowly Udinese, which are one of only two teams yet to win a match in Serie A this season.

But coach Stefano Pioli will have to decide whether to take the risk of resting some players ahead of the match against PSG three days later in the Champions League, where the situation is even more dire.

Milan have yet to record a win or even score a goal in Europe this season and sit bottom of Group F with just two points. They lost 3-0 in Paris last week.

After that loss - which came just three days after the defeat to Juventus - Milan appeared to have bounced back when it took a 2-0 lead at halftime in Naples with two goals from Olivier Giroud but it ended up with just a point.

Giroud clearly showed his frustration when he was substituted with nine minutes remaining. The veteran France forward yelled out "no" and hit his hands on his legs as he looked at Pioli before walking off and sitting on an ice box next to the bench for the rest of the match.

Teammate Rafael Leão also reacted angrily toward the coach when he was taken off at the same time.

Pioli's job doesn't appear to be at risk at the moment, although anything but a win over Udinese could change matters.