



**basketball**

Page 14

# ARAB TIMES

THE FIRST ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY IN FREE KUWAIT  
Established in 1977 / www.arabtimesonline.com



**soccer**

Pages 14-16

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 / RABEE' A AWWAL 25, 1445 AH

emergency number 112

NO. 18414

16 PAGES

150 FILS

## Kuwait embraces sustainable energy transition

'Green future'

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA): Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Oil, Minister of State for Economic Affairs and Investment, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation Dr. Saad Al-Barrak stressed on Monday on the importance of developing the oil industry, despite the existential challenges posed by climate change.

Speaking at the Strategic Directions 2040, and Energy Transition 2050 Conference titled (Sustainable Energy for a Promising Future) Al-Barrak said that Kuwait faces challenges diversifying its sources of income and ensuring the sustainability of the national economy through the growth and development of the oil industry.

"Our sector is the backbone of the national economy since the discovery and production of oil shipment was exported in 1946, the oil sector has contributed to the building of the modern state" he added.

The minister stressed that Kuwait Petroleum Corporation remains committed to investing in the Kuwaiti oil sector to support its growth and ensure Kuwait's continued global role towards its customers around the world.

"Our world is witnessing a significant shift to the use of renewable and clean energy sources. This shift requires a long-term strategic vision, as we recognize the importance of oil as a strategic fuel source, but also work actively towards the energy transition and investments in our national workforce and new technologies," he added.

The minister noted that "in line with the government's work program for 2023-2027 and the National Development Plan of Kuwait, today we launch the strategic directions of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation 2040 and we also unveil the roadmap to achieve net zero by 2050."

The conference will highlight the most important projects that aim to increase the production capacity of crude oil, increase the production of natural gas, and enhance refining capabilities.

The minister stressed that the conference will also focus on the integrated infrastructure development of the Al-Durra field, which is a crucial economic pillar in the seventeenth Government Work Program.

"It is evident that we live in an era filled with challenges and opportunities. KPC and its subsidiaries are aware of this and tackle these factors with agility, professionalism, and planning to achieve sustainable growth and economic diversification for the State of Kuwait," he added.

### NewsWatch

**BRUSSELS:** The European Union, Monday, extended the sanctions regime against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons for three years until October 16, 2026 and prolonged existing sanction against persons and entities for another year, until October 16, 2024.

According to an EU statement, currently, sanctions in place apply to 25 persons and 3 entities. Those targeted are subject to an asset freeze and EU persons and entities are forbidden from making funds, financial assets or economic resources available to them.

Additionally, individuals are subject to a travel ban, which prevents them from entering or transiting through EU territories. (KUNA)

**ISLAMABAD:** A senior Taliban delegation visited western Afghanistan's Herat province on Monday in the aftermath of the powerful earthquake that killed at least 2,000 people over the weekend and flattened entire villages, a statement said.

Saturday's magnitude 6.3 quake hit a densely populated area in Herat and was followed by strong aftershocks in what was one of the deadliest tremors to strike the country in two decades. (AP)

**LONDON:** An independent inquiry opened Monday to examine claims that British special forces murdered dozens of Afghan men during counterinsurgency operations in Afghanistan a decade ago, as well as allegations that authorities subsequently covered up the alleged illegal activity or failed to investigate it properly.

The inquiry, which opened at the Royal Courts of Justice in London, focuses on alleged unlawful killings that took place during night raids carried out by Britain's elite military units in the war-torn nation between 2010 and 2013. (AP)

## U.S. CARRIER TO REGION ■ KUWAIT RAISES CONCERN

# Israel vows complete Gaza siege



The USS Gerald R. Ford, one of the world's largest aircraft carriers, arrives in Halifax on Oct. 28, 2022. The Pentagon has ordered the Ford carrier strike group to sail to the Eastern Mediterranean to be ready to assist Israel, two U.S. officials said Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023. (AP)

'Aid Palestine'

**JERUSALEM, Oct 9, (Agencies):** Israel's military ordered a complete siege on the Gaza Strip on Monday, halting entry of food, fuel and supplies to its 2.3 million people as it pounded the Hamas-ruled territory with waves of airstrikes in retaliation for the militants' bloody weekend incursion.

More than two days after Hamas launched its surprise attack from Gaza, the Israeli military said it had largely gained control in its southern towns where it had been battling Hamas gunmen. Israel's vaunted military and intelligence apparatus was caught completely off guard by Hamas, resulting in heavy battles in its streets for the first time in decades.

Tanks and drones were deployed to guard breaches in the border fence to prevent new incursions. Thousands of Israelis were evacuated from more than a dozen towns near Gaza, and the military summoned 300,000 reservists - a massive mobilization in a short time.

The moves, along with Israel's formal declaration of war on Sunday, pointed to Israel increasingly shifting to the offensive against Hamas, threatening greater destruction in the densely populated, impoverished Gaza Strip.

In Kuwait, the Cabinet reviewed a foreign ministry statement that expressed "concern" over the escalating violence in the Middle East, urging the international community to ensure the adequate protection of the Palestinians in the face of continued Israeli aggression.

The Cabinet went on to underline Kuwait's solidarity with the Palestinian people and the country's unwavering support for their aspirations of statehood based on 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as the capital of an independent Palestinian state.

### Relief

Meanwhile, Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) launched Monday a donations campaign, "Aid Palestine" aimed at supporting Palestinian people, and providing them with the necessary relief and medical provisions.

Society Chief of Board of Directors, Dr. Hilal Al-Sayer, stated to KUNA that the campaign, setting out to provide hospitals with the necessities to treat the wounded, is driven by KRCS's national and humanitarian sense of duty to the Palestinian cause.

The Society, indicated Al-Sayer, is working urgently and in coordination with its Palestinian counterpart to deliver the necessary aid as soon as possible, as it will also be undertaking many initiatives in cooperation with national societies and humanitarian organizations.

Moreover, Dr. Al-Sayer called on citizens and residents to donate through the Society's website, saying that the people of Kuwait are no strangers to humanitarian work.

Al-Sayer stated that international community and humanitarian organizations alike are responsible for supporting Palestinian people, especially considering the current tragic conditions caused by Israeli occupation's aggression.

On Sunday, strikes leveled much of the Gaza town of Beit Hanoun, which Israel said Hamas was using as a staging ground. On Monday, the Israeli military blared messages to residents to evacuate Rimal, a residential and commercial district of central Gaza City where offices of The Associated Press and other international media are located, a signal that heavy strikes were to come.

A major question remains whether it will launch a ground assault into the tiny Mediterranean coastal territory, a move that in the past has brought intensified casualties. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to destroy "the military and governing capabilities" of the militant group.

As Israel hit more than 1,000 targets in Gaza, Palestinian militants continued firing barrages of rockets, setting off air raid sirens in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Video posted online appeared to show a plume of smoke near a terminal at Ben Gurion International Airport. There was no immediate word on casualties or damage from the latest bombardment.

Continued on Page 4

### Race against time

## Kuwait, Saudi speed toward train launch

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: In less than 5 months, the governments of the State of Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have come a long way towards launching the "bullet train," which indicates the depth of the relationship, agreement, and smooth dealing between the two brotherly countries, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The daily has learned that the Kuwaiti executive and supervisory authorities are racing against time to complete technical and legal approvals regarding paving the way for the implementation of the consultative agreement regarding the completion of a high-speed railway line that will connect Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Informed sources expected that all approvals related to the Kuwaiti side would be completed during the current month or next at the latest, in order to begin studying the financial, economic and technical feasibility of the project, followed by the remaining steps to launch the subsequent stages, leading to the implementation process.

In June 2023, an Amiri decree was issued approving the agreement with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia regarding the railway link project between the two countries. On September 26, the Saudi Council of Ministers also approved the railway link project agreement between Kuwait and the Kingdom, according to what was reported by the Saudi Press Agency.

Al-Qabas learned that Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, represented by the Ministry of Public Works and the Saudi Railway Company (SAR), agreed to appoint the French company SYSTRA -- one of the world's leading engineering and consulting groups specialised in public transport and mobility solutions. For more than 65 years, the Group has worked alongside cities and regions to contribute to their development by creating, improving and modernising their transport infrastructures -- to implement the feasibility study.

Informed sources revealed that, according to this agreement to appoint one consulting company, the Ministry of Public Works completed the contracting documents, and addressed the Audit Bureau therein, in order to obtain its approval to approve the consulting company SYSTRA, and the amount contracted with it, so that the Ministry can sign consulting contracts for the financial and economic feasibility study.

The sources said that the cost of the feasibility study for the link project rose to \$10.57 million, equivalent to approximately 3,270 million dinars, to be paid equally between the two parties, with 1,635 million dinars for each party. It is expected that SYSTRA will complete the feasibility study for the railway link project between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in Within a period not exceeding 6 months.

The sources explained that according to the agreement concluded between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the project of the two brotherly countries is a separate project and different from the railway project of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

Regarding the "Gulf Train", the Public Authority for Roads and Land Transport about two months ago launched a special exercise to complete the feasibility study related to the project through the Central Agency for Public Tenders, and the offers of 9 local and international consulting companies competing to win the contract were accepted.

The sources indicated that the Roads Authority is now in the stage of sorting contracts to choose a company entrusted with conducting the feasibility study for the Gulf train project, expecting that the name of the winning consulting company will be announced before the end of this year.

The Kuwaiti-Saudi agreement stipulates that the railway line between the two countries will extend from the train station point located in the State of Kuwait -- which

Continued on Page 4

### 9 Americans killed; flights suspended

**WASHINGTON, Oct 9, (AP):** Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Sunday he has ordered the Ford carrier strike group to sail to the Eastern Mediterranean to be ready to assist Israel after the attack by Hamas that has left more than 1,000 dead on both sides. Americans were reported to be among those killed and missing.

The USS Gerald R. Ford, the Navy's newest and most advanced aircraft carrier, and its approximately 5,000 sailors and deck of warplanes will be accompanied by cruisers and destroyers in a show of force that is meant to be ready to respond to anything, from possibly interdicting additional weapons from reaching Hamas and conducting surveillance.

The large deployment reflects a U.S. desire to deter any regional expansion of the conflict. But the Israeli government formally declared war Sunday and gave the green light for "significant military steps" to retaliate against Hamas.

Along with the Ford the U.S. is sending the cruiser USS Normandy and destroyers USS Thomas Hudner, USS Ramage, USS Carney, and USS Roosevelt, and the U.S. is augmenting Air Force F-35, F-15, F-16, and A-10 fighter aircraft squadrons in the region.

"The U.S. maintains ready forces globally to further reinforce this deterrence posture if required," Austin said in a statement.

In addition, the Biden administration "will be rapidly providing the Israel Defense Forces with additional equipment and resources, including munitions. The first security assistance will begin moving today and arriving in the coming days," Austin said.

The Norfolk, Virginia-based carrier strike group already was in the Mediterranean. Last week it was conducting naval exercises with Italy in the Ionian Sea. The carrier is in its first full deployment.

Senior officials from the Pentagon and State Department briefed senators Sunday night, and Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said they were assured that the United States was giving Israel "everything they need."

"I asked the representatives of our Defense Department if they are giving Israel everything they need, and I was heartened that they said yes and that they are surging support," the New York Democrat said in a statement after the unclassified

briefing. "I asked them if they have denied any requests that Israel has made, and they said no. I urged them to ensure Israel has everything it needs to protect itself, and reiterated that the Senate stands ready to deliver on additional needs," he said.

The State Department said Monday that at least nine American citizens have been killed in the weekend Hamas attacks on Israel, raising the toll from four.

It says an undetermined number of American citizens remain missing and unaccounted for. On Sunday, an official said that number was fluid and had ranged from between six to 12. It is not clear whether the missing had been taken hostage, were killed or are in hiding.

The State Department is in touch with families "and providing all appropriate consular assistance," said spokesman Matthew Miller.

The attack by Hamas has left more than 1,000 dead on both sides.

In related news, major airlines have suspended flights in and out of Israel after the nation declared war following a massive attack by Hamas.

Israel hit more than 1,000 targets in Gaza and Palestinian militants continued firing barrages of rockets, setting off air raid sirens in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Video posted online appeared to show a plume of smoke near a terminal at Ben Gurion International Airport.

Scores of arriving and departing flights at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport were canceled or delayed, according to the airport's online flight board.

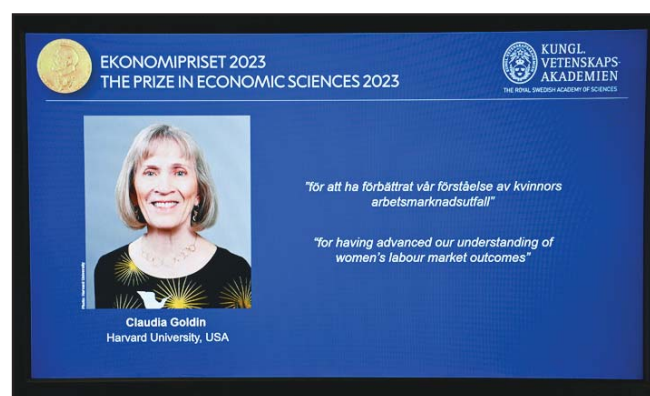
American Airlines, United Airlines and Delta Air Lines suspended service as the U.S. State Department issued travel advisories for the region citing potential for terrorism and civil unrest.

American suspended service to Tel Aviv through Friday. The airline said that it has issued a travel alert providing additional flexibility for customers whose travel plans are impacted.

"We continue to monitor the situation with safety and security top of mind and will adjust our operation as needed," American said.

United said it allowed two scheduled flights out of Tel Aviv late Saturday and early Sunday and accommodated its customers, crews and employee travelers who were at the airport. The airline said that its Tel Aviv flights will remain suspended until conditions improve.

Delta said its Tel Aviv flights have been canceled into this week. The airline said it's monitoring the situation and making schedule adjustments accordingly. The company said customers with canceled flights or who want to change their Tel Aviv ticket should check the Delta app, website or call Delta reservations to make adjustments.



A view of the screen with a photo of the winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics, in Stockholm, Monday, Oct. 9, 2023. The Nobel economics prize has been awarded to Claudia Goldin, a professor at Harvard University, for advancing understanding of women's labor market outcomes. (AP) — See Page 9

### Move to impact multinational taxation

## Kuwait pursues OECD entry for tax pact

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: The government of Kuwait has submitted an official request to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) about its desire to join the framework of the draft tax law agreement prepared by the organization regarding the minimum tax that is supposed to be applied to multinational companies, reports Al-Rai daily.

The sources indicated that Kuwait is not a member of the comprehensive framework of the organization or the draft "economic cooperation" law in which 140 countries partici-

pate, but major Kuwaiti companies with multi-market activities, specifically those whose annual revenues from more than one market reach 750 million Euros, will be affected by the outcomes of the tax law.

The sources pointed out that in order to achieve the best gains for Kuwait from this agreement, it requested joining the framework of understandings taking place between the members of the organization from the participating countries regarding the draft law, which will include its

Continued on Page 4

## Prayer Timings

Fajr ..... 04:26 Asr ..... 14:55  
 Sunrise .. 05:45 Maghrib .. 17:25  
 Zohr ..... 11:35 Isha ..... 18:42

# Local

## Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

**By Day:** Hot with light variable wind to light to moderate north-westerly wind with speeds of 06-30 km/h.  
**By Night:** Rather hot to mild

## Weather

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	40	29
Kuwait Airport	42	28
Abdaly	43	22
Jahra	43	28
Salmiyah	37	29
Ahmadi	37	30
Nuwaisib	40	26
Wafra	42	27

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

## Clear hurdles in maintaining 'unsafe' roads: MP

Cabinet congratulates China on Asian Games success



Foreign Minister Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with the European Union representative for the Gulf region.



Foreign Minister Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah with EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell.

### Kuwait FM meets EU Special Rep., counterparts in Oman

Kuwait Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah met on Monday with EU Special Representative (EUSR) for the Gulf Luigi Di Maio in Oman.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the joint ministerial meeting of the GCC countries Foreign Ministers with the European Union at its 27th session, which is held Monday in the Omani Capital, Muscat.

Kuwait Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the meeting tackled the historic bilateral relations between Kuwait and the EU and the strategic partnership on all levels.

It added that the meeting also discussed latest regional and international developments.

Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah also met Monday with Lithuanian counterpart Gabrielius Landsbergis on the sidelines of the 27th ministerial meeting of the GCC Foreign Ministers with the European Union, which will be held in the Omani capital, Muscat.

In a statement, the Kuwaiti foreign minister said that the two sides touched on bilateral ties between the two friendly countries and boosting economic cooperation.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs earlier met with the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell, on the sidelines of the 27th session of the Joint Ministerial Council between the Gulf Cooperation Council

(GCC) and the EU.

The GCC-EU meeting, scheduled to take place today and tomorrow in the Omani capital of Muscat.

During Sheikh Salem meeting with Borrell, the two sides conversed about the close historical ties between Kuwait and the EU and the frameworks for strengthening the strategic partnership in various vital fields, foremost of which is support for the steps taken in the file of complete exemption for Kuwaiti citizens from the Schengen visa, and increase trade exchange between them, Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a press statement.

The meeting also delved into current developments in the region, especially the repercussions of Iraqi Federal Supreme Court which ruled that the law ratifying the agreement regulating navigation in the Khor Abdullah waterway was unconstitutional, and Iraq's cancellation of the security swap protocol in Khor Abdullah with Kuwait, signed in 2008.

The two sides also discussed recent events taking place in the occupied Palestinian territories and the Gaza Strip along with ways to enhance joint cooperation and coordination in this context were discussed, as well as international efforts aimed at stopping the ongoing escalation and intensifying political efforts to maintain security and stability in the region. (KUNA)

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff and Agencies

### KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Parliament's Committee for Public Facilities held a meeting on Monday in the presence of the Minister of Public Works Dr. Amani Buqammaz and senior officials at the ministry.

According to the Chairman of the committee MP Ahmad Lari, the committee was given a presentation about the road maintenance processes completed in the last ten years as well as a presentation on the ongoing procedures to settle the tenders and sign the contracts to start road maintenance operations.

The committee was informed about the correspondence exchanged between the Ministry of Public Works and the State Audit Bureau to approve part of contracts and check the other parts as prelude to settling them.

Lari affirmed that the parliamentary efforts will continue for monitoring the maintenance processes.

He called upon the relevant institutions including the State Audit Bureau to expedite the completion of their tasks in order to ensure the maintenance of the roads are carried out as quickly as possible, as some of the roads are not safe at present.

In the same context, MP Khalid

Al-Tamar affirmed his support for the grilling motion filed by his colleague MP Mubarak Al-Tasha against the Minister of Public Works Dr. Amani Buqammaz.

Al-Tamar said the items included in the grilling motion are enough to fail a full government, adding that Dr. Buqammaz was granted one year to maintain the roads but she did nothing other than give empty promises.

Meanwhile, MP Hamad Al-Medlej submitted parliamentary questions to both the Minister of Health Ahmad Al-Awadhi and the Minister of Commerce and Industry and State Minister of Youth Affairs Mohammad Al-Aiban to ask for information about the incident concerning the transformation of a flat into a restaurant that serves pork and liquor.



Dr. Buqammaz

### Investigation

He asked Minister Al-Awadhi if the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN) conducted an investigation into this matter, and if any approvals were obtained by the accused to import the prohibited items including pork and liquor.

Al-Medlej asked Minister Al-Aiban if the General Administration for Customs conducted an investigation on the issue to figure out how the banned items entered Kuwait.

He also asked if the importer of the pork and liquor had been arrested.

In another development, MP Bader Al-Mulla asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Oil Saad Al-Barak about the procedures taken by the ministry regarding the suspicions about sand theft from the sites belonging to the Ministry of Oil.

He asked if the ministry formed a fact finding committee to investigate the issue and protect public funds. If so, he wanted to know the conclusion of the committee's findings.

Furthermore, MP Saad Al-Asfour asked the Minister of Justice and the State Minister for Housing Affairs Faleh Al-Raqabah to provide him with details about the tender floated by Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT) for the supply of medium pressure aluminium cables to the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy as well as copies of all the bids and offers submitted by all the applicants.

Al-Asfour said he also wanted to know the procedures taken by the State Audit Bureau regarding the suspicions about the illegal agreement by the applicants to provide offers to settle the tender for a specific applicant.

He wanted to know if the issue has been verified and if yes, what penalties were imposed on the applicant companies.

In addition, MP Osama Al-Zaid called upon the parliament's Committee for Legal and Legislation Affairs to hasten the approval of the proposal he submitted in August 2023, which aimed at referring to the Public Prosecution whoever deals with, supports, or shows sympathy towards Israel, based on law No. 21/1964 related to boycotting Israel.

### KUNA adds:

Meanwhile, Kuwait's cabinet on Monday congratulated China on the success of the recently-concluded 19th Asian Games, praising the meticulous preparations that helped make the event an exceptional sporting gathering.

Amid its customary weekly session, presided over Acting Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, the cabinet congratulated Chinese President Xi Jinping after his country had played host to the Asian Games, praising the seamless and smooth manner in which the event panned out.

Heaping praise on their compatriot athletes for the impressive performances at the event, which brought home a number of gold medals across numerous sports, the ministers said their accomplishments are a testament to the "capabilities" of Kuwaiti athletes.

A day after the third anniversary of when His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah assumed his post, the Cabinet congratulated him on the occasion, wishing him perpetual health and prosperity under the collective leaderships of Their Highnesses the Amir and Crown Prince.

On the parliamentary front, the Cabinet looked into a grilling motion lodged by lawmaker Dr. Mubarak Al-Tasha against Public Works Minister Amani Bugamaz, as submitted by National Assembly Speaker Ahmad Al-Sa'adoun.

Moving on to regional and global happenings, the Cabinet reviewed a foreign ministry statement that expressed "concern" over the escalating violence in the Middle East, urging the international community to ensure the adequate protection of the Palestinians in the face of continued Israeli aggression.

The cabinet went on to underline Kuwait's solidarity with the Palestinian people and the country's unwavering support for their aspirations of statehood based on 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as the capital of an independent Palestinian state.

### Other Voices

## When will this madness end?

By Ahmad alsarraf

What happened in the past two days on the Palestinian-Israeli front is something that calls for astonishment, fear, pride, horror, and many other mixed feelings, but there is no doubt that the Palestinian Hamas strike demonstrated the failure of Israel and its terrifying intelligence apparatus (!)

In anticipating the fatal strike, despite all its complications, the massive preparations it required, the planning and recruitment of guerrillas, and the resulting surprise that caught the entire Israeli regime off guard, with its momentum and the resulting deaths and prisoners on the Israeli side in particular, despite all the previous claims of the Mossad as compared to knowledge, control, power, and infiltration among the ranks of the Palestinians!

In the late 1960s, Shabtai Shavit was an undercover spy working for the Mossad in Iran. In the 1990s, he became head of the Israeli intelligence service, and played a major role in achieving the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan in 1994, and King Hussein personally thanked him for his role!

Serving under three prime ministers, Shavit led the Mossad and Israel through the end of the Cold War, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the First Gulf War, the rise of global terrorism and nuclear proliferation, and a period of intermittent rapprochement with the Palestinians.

He also had a hand in many assassinations that targeted Palestinian political and guerrilla figures. Shabtai Shavit was born in 1939. He was the son of a school principal. He learned Arabic as a child from Palestinian olive pickers. He received his education in Haifa and served in the Navy. He subsequently obtained a bachelor's degree in Middle Eastern studies from the Hebrew University and a Master's degree from Harvard.



alsarraf

He was recruited by the Mossad in 1964, and remained there for 32 years. After Arab forces surprised Israel at the start of the Yom Kippur War in 1973, he helped organize Mossad's defense in the Knesset against accusations that the intelligence services had failed.

"The Mossad was the only entity in the intelligence community that did what was required of it and beyond that," he told Haaretz in 2013.

Shavit retired in 1996, headed an anti-terrorism institute, and provided advice to several parties, as a former head of the Mossad. He was known for his caution, and he once said: "I have never regretted the things I did not say." In subsequent years (and this is what concerns us) he became more frank when he expressed his support for the two-state solution to end the Israeli conflict with the Palestinians, asking: "Why do we live here? Why do our grandchildren continue to fight wars?"

"What is this madness in which the land is more important than human life?" Shavit strongly opposed the efforts of Benjamin Netanyahu, the current Israeli Prime Minister, calling him "my so-called leader" and a prime minister who does not make decisions like a statesman.

Shabtai Shavit died a short time ago at the age of 84. We wonder with Shavit, as awareness returns to him before his death, despite all his crimes: When will Israel's leaders rationalize and realize that it is impossible to eliminate, or even silence, an entire people who want to regain their freedom, dignity, and homeland?

In a comment by well-known journalist Thomas Friedman, which he wrote yesterday: "When I usually need accurate news about Israel, I turn to my friend Nahum Barua, a veteran writer for the Israeli newspaper Yedioth."

"His answer astonished me. He said: 'This is the worst day I can remember from a military point of view in the history of Israel, including the blunder on Yom Kippur, which was terrible!'"

There are those among us who say that the entire process was agreed upon between Israel and Hamas!!

□ □ □  
 e-mail: a.alsarraf@alqabas.com.kw



File photo: The moon is pictured moments after a total lunar eclipse.

Second and last this year: official

## Partial lunar eclipse on Oct 28

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA): The Space Museum at the Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Cultural Center announced that the Kuwaiti sky will witness a partial eclipse with the full moon on Saturday, October 28.

General Supervisor of Museums and the Space Museum at the Center, Khaled Al-Jamaan, told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) today, Monday, that the Earth's shadow obscures 6 percent of the moon's disk at its peak, and this eclipse can be seen in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Western Australia, indicating that the eclipse takes an hour and 17 minutes. He added that this eclipse is the second and last for this year, noting that the next lunar eclipse will be on September 18, 2024.

He explained that the eclipse will begin with the penumbra phase and then become an eclipse, indicating that the penumbra phase is the decline in the moon's illumination without the moon being eclipsed. This

phase begins at 9.01 p.m., then the partial eclipse phase begins at 10.35 pm and its peak is at 11.14 p.m. and ends at 11.52 pm.

Al-Jamaan reported that there are three types of eclipse. The first is total, when the entire moon enters the Earth's shadow area and the moon's disk is eclipsed, leading to a complete loss of its visibility in the middle of the night, especially in desert areas. He explained that the second type is a partial eclipse, which occurs when part of the moon enters the Earth's shadow area, causing part of the moon's disk to be eclipsed. The third type is a penumbra eclipse, which occurs when the moon enters only the semi-shadow area, and the moonlight becomes dim without being eclipsed.

He stated that the Space Museum will document the phenomenon as part of its plan to create an astronomical scientific archive of all phenomena in the skies of Kuwait.

### Charges against Kuwaiti hacker dismissed

## MP in forgery blame trial Nov 12

By Jaber Al-Hamoud

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: The Criminal Court yesterday adjourned to November 12 the trial of an MP who is accused of forging residency permits for expatriates. The trial was adjourned in order to address the National Assembly to lift the parliamentary immunity of the accused.

The Kuwaiti citizen, who lodged a complaint with the Public Prosecution against the MP, accused the latter of being responsible for the transfer of the residency permits of his workers to another company without his knowledge.

The citizen, in his complaint, demanded that the MP be jailed for seven years in accordance with the law.

The Public Prosecution accused the MP, in his capacity as a public employee, of changing the truth in the official documents on the transaction papers contrary to the truth, and using his authority as an officer while he was at the helm of his work in the Ministry of Interior.

□ □ □  
**'Hacker' charges dismissed:** The Criminal Court ruled to dismiss the criminal charges leveled against a Kuwaiti hacker who infiltrated 200 American websites and seized money. This ruling is based on the fact that the accused could not be tried for charges, which were leveled more than ten years ago.

According to the case file, the Public Prosecution stated that the accused, during the period from December 2010 to June 2012, carried out a hostile act against a foreign country, namely the United States of America, without permission from the government of the State of Kuwait, by hacking protected government websites and databases belonging to the US Defense and the South Carolina National Guard. The United States of America expressed its protest in secret by taking legal measures, which included issuing an arrest warrant and an international red notice against the accused. This led to the arrest and detention of the accused.

□ □ □  
**Vote-buying case adjourned:** The Criminal Court adjourned to next Monday the case filed against an Asian expatriate who sold votes in favor of candidates in the fifth constituency for KD 30,000.

According to the case file, security authorities uncovered a network of intermediaries and middlemen for vote-buying operations on behalf of two candidates of the 2023 National Assembly elections.

The accused, who works for one of the candidates, was found in possession of high sums of cash and lists of names and data of voters who wish to sell their votes.

The security authorities seized high amounts of cash and lists of names and voter data from the accused and others working for another candidate.

## Over 9K register for power meters

By Mohammad Ghanem

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: According to informed sources in the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy, 9,247 new subscribers were registered on the electricity network for installing meters during the period from December 31, 2021 to December 30, 2022.

They said the total number of subscribers of the Ministry of Electricity and Water nationwide is about 584,961, which is an increase by about 1.6 percent compared to the 575,714 customers last year.

The sources explained that the total increase in the number of clients included all housing sectors (private, investment, industrial, governmental, commercial, agricultural and others). Investment housing ranked first in terms of the number of clients with

a total of 311,245. Private housing came in second place with a total of 181,179 clients, followed by the commercial sector with 69,235 customers.

The ministry provided 742,035 million kilowatts to cover the consumption needs of new customers during the same period. From this, the private residential sector accounted for the largest share with 58 percent, then the government sector with 14 percent, followed by the investment sector with 8.15 percent.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Dr. Jassim Al-Ostad canceled the ministerial resolution No. 87/2017 regarding amending the provisions of article 13 of the executive regulations of law No. 48/2005 issued by the ministerial resolution No. 334/2005 on chairing the committee to follow up the procedures for implementing the aforementioned law.

# diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

## 'Are we going back to the harem era ... in view of separation of students?'

"THE Kuwait University began its new academic year 2023/2024 by implementing a law prohibiting mixing within academic classes at the university, amid great controversy, as some student unions at Kuwait University called for a sit-in because they did not accept this law," columnist **Dr Bahiya Behbehani** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"The enforcement of gender segregation in higher education institutions was established by Law No. 26 of 1996. This legislation, ratified by the National Assembly through a voting process, specifically delimited the application of the prohibition to gender mixing. Government schools are obligated to adhere to this regulation across all educational levels. In contrast, foreign schools implement co-educational systems at every tier, where female students typically don shirts and shorts above the knee.



Dr Behbehani

"The rationale behind this divergence is clear: the government lacks the authority to intervene in the management and regulations of foreign private schools. These establishments were primarily established to educate the children of foreign diplomats representing their respective nations in Kuwait. Certain Kuwaiti families chose to enroll their children in these schools seeking a higher quality of education compared to what government schools provided.

"On the contrary, the Kuwaiti government is dedicated to furnishing an education that prepares its youth for responsibilities, encourages interaction with diverse global cultures, and facilitates the utilization of modern technologies for promising careers and futures. Students attending private foreign schools in Kuwait typically hail from affluent backgrounds, given the substantial cost of education in these institutions. Additional expenditures include books, clothes, and related items.

"Parents of these students also contribute significant amounts towards celebrations, activities, and graduation ceremonies. Graduates from private schools often enjoy a competitive edge, excelling in the English language and international tests, enabling easy admission to international universities, where they continue to experience co-educational environments.

"This leads to a fundamental question: Can the minister and the representative enforce regulations against gender mixing on these students? Are Kuwaiti students attending private foreign schools considered part of the foreign school system, thereby exempt from the non-mixing law? Or should they be mandated to transfer to public schools, aligning with Kuwaiti educational policies?"

"It's essential to acknowledge that in numerous countries today, various aspects of life involve gender mixing, including education, work, and healthcare. This prompts contemplation on whether reverting to a period of strict gender separation, akin to the historical concept of the harem, is a viable or desirable option in the contemporary age."

### Also:

"In its size, degree of escalation, and strategic and military depth, Operation Al-Aqsa Flood may not resemble any other military operation, as it was initiated by Palestinian resistance factions of all orientations by firing thousands of rocket salvos towards Tel Aviv and the settlements surrounding the Gaza Strip, with a massive storming of the settlements, the detention of a number of settlers, and the capture of many Israelis. The Israeli occupation army reported a high initial toll of deaths, prisoners and wounded in this largest missile strike in decades against the Zionist entity," columnist **Suad Fahd Al-Mojil** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"What draws attention about the Al-Aqsa Flood operation is that it coincides with the normalization projects that are expanding within the Arab map, which raises more than one question about the timing of the flood and its political repercussions later.

"Normalization efforts and peace treaties began since the 1970s, and in all cases there were attempts to find conditions on the basis of which peace could be agreed upon in the Arab-Israeli conflict, starting with the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in 1979, the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty in 1994, and the Abraham Accords, which normalize relations between Israel, the Emirates, and Bahrain in 2020, the normalization agreement between Israel and Sudan in 2020, and Morocco in 2020 as well, in addition to many members of the Arab League establishing semi-official relations with Israel.

"Despite all these agreements to settle the conflict and curb wars, normalization according to the Israeli vision remained absent from all of the aforementioned attempts. The normalization that Israel wants is definitely not at the level of official systems and channels. It wants to open Arab and Islamic popular fronts that will make it part of the Middle East system in practice and not in form, which has not happened since the first normalization in 1979 until now.

"The deal of the century came at the initiative of Trump, who moved his embassy to Jerusalem, and here is Biden brandishing his project for a new Middle East, in which Israel will be dominant economically, militarily, security-wise, and culturally. This will not happen at the popular level, as evidenced by the position of the peoples of the normalized countries that still see the Zionist entity as an enemy and usurper of Arab lands.

"The Zionist entity, then, is the one that does not want peace or stability, which will inevitably threaten its security and strip it of its 'right' to strike pockets of resistance and suppress the Palestinians politically, militarily, intellectually, and religiously.

"The Al-Aqsa Flood Operation comes today to raise

more than one question about its political consequences, and whether it will put direct pressure on upcoming and previous normalization projects, or whether it will contribute to consolidating the "right" of the Zionist entity to defend its security, and thus redrawing its image internationally as a peaceful, democratic and surrounded state.

"It has enemies and deserves military, financial and moral support from the whole world, especially in light of the ugly image of the entity, which has become popular in the world with the increasing severity of its violations of peaceful civilians in Gaza and elsewhere.

"The political repercussions are usually greater in their impact than military wars. The Geneva Conventions and their protocols after World War II are what shaped the political map of the world later, and the Yalta Agreement is what determined how to divide Germany and prosecute members of the Nazi Party and declared the liberation of Europe and allowing its residents to establish democratic institutions in accordance with their choice.

"The Al-Aqsa Flood operation is profound in its size, and will inevitably carry with it political repercussions. We hope that the Arab parties will not emerge from it with normalization losses that will cost them what remains of their dignity, and will achieve for Israel its distant dream."

□ □ □

"There is a phenomenon that is no longer hidden from anyone. It is the major shortage of medicines in Kuwait that the public and private medical centers are suffering from", columnist **Sami Al-Nisreen** wrote for **Al-Nahar** daily.

"In the past, it was said that, if the disease was known and diagnosed correctly, it would be easy to find the medicine and treat it.

"The reason for the disappearance of some medicines in Kuwait, according to what I heard from many specialists, is the existence of a global shortage of medicines. What made matters worse is the fact that the concerned ministry has been accumulating bills to suppliers worth tens of millions for years. How can they then continue with the supply if their dues are not paid?!"

"The concerned authorities also deliberately set the prices of medicines without considering the high prices from the source, and then the factories refrain from exporting to Kuwait, as they prefer other markets, leaving Kuwait only with what increases the needs of other markets, which have flexibility in pricing and the feature of quick payment.

"In addition, populist decisions were issued to reduce medicine prices by certain percentages, which forces factories to either stop or resort to new packaging that is less in quantity than before. Millions of dollars in fines are also imposed on suppliers.

"In all the countries of the world, medicine is imported, and a small profit margin is placed on it, as opening pharmacies to sell medicines does not cost more than the value of the store's decor.

"In Kuwait, the markets in all residential areas are monopolized by cooperative societies, some of which demand hundreds of thousands of dinars for a "man-free" shop, in addition to expensive rents due to monopoly. So how can medicines be imported when the prices are fixed without taking into account the increased costs from the factory, payments are delayed, and heavy fines are imposed?!"

"There is a Gulf agreement signed among the Gulf countries about 20 years ago. Its duration was five years, and it has expired but it has not been renewed yet. It tried to stabilize the prices of medicines in the Gulf, but no one adhered to it except for one country whose name you can guess!"

□ □ □

"The Civil Service Commission (CSC) has approved flexible working hours for all employees in various government agencies to facilitate their access to their workplaces and also organize the school start times for school students", columnist **Khalid Al-Arfa** wrote for **Al-Anba** daily.

"In parallel, the Ministry of Interior prepared appropriate plans, and the traffic sector mobilized its efforts for organizing operations. Although there are some congestion, the matter also requires intensifying the security presence and imposing the authority of the law in the face of violators who deliberately create traffic chaos.

"There are those who do not adhere to traffic rules. For example, we find priority for bikers who have previously been in clear violation of the regulations. The same is true for highways. We find that there are some single-lane exits that end up being three lanes because of these violators, which has contributed to obstructing traffic, and causing congestion, in addition to the condition of some roads that create traffic chaos and accidents.

"The Ministry of Interior's General Traffic Department also allocated specific time periods for entry of trucks, but we unfortunately find that most of them do not adhere to this. During the times of the ban, we find them on the roads racing against employees at tremendous speed without any respect for the law that regulates their passage on those roads.

"We therefore call on the traffic department to intensify patrols in the mornings on highways to monitor and hold these violators accountable.

"Finally, the penalties and fines for traffic violations must be reconsidered. Their value must be increased and even doubled due to the increase in the number of accidents taking place on the streets due to the recklessness of some who do not respect the law.

"Increasing the penalties will force these people to respect the law. It has hence become necessary to expedite the amendment of the traffic law in order to preserve people's lives."

— Compiled by **Mai Elsoukary**



Al-Rai photo

One of the vehicles being lifted on a trailer truck.

## Municipality removes 16 abandoned cars, boats

The Public Relations Department of the Kuwait Municipality said the Public Cleanliness and Road Works Department of the Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governorate Municipality branch carried out field trips to raise the level of cleanliness, which resulted in the removal of 16 abandoned cars and boats, groceries, motorcycles, and scrap containers, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

The daily added, during the campaign the inspectors also placed stickers 191 abandoned cars, boats, mobile groceries, and commercial containers in preparation for their removal after the lapse of the specified time frame, in addition to the replacement of 17 old containers.

In this context, the Director of the Public Cleanliness and Road Works Department in the gover-

norate's municipality branch, Fahd Al-Qarifa, explained that the goal of the intensive field tours is to monitor violators and take all legal measures against them.

He pointed out the team pays great attention to raising the level of cleanliness in the areas that fall under its responsibility, as well as removing everything that distorts the aesthetic view of the governorate.

## Police nab 15 bootleggers; 36 residency, labor law violators

Over 26K traffic citations issued; Asian held for drugs

**KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Personnel from the General Administration of Residency Affairs Investigations in the Farwaniya Governorate have arrested 36 violators of the Residency and Labor Laws and 15 bootleggers, reports Al-Rai daily.**

A majority of those arrested are Asians and they have been handed over to the concerned authority to take the necessary legal measures against them.

□ □ □

**Traffic citations issued:** Personnel from the General Traffic Department and the Rescue Police Department have recorded 26,430 traffic violations, arrested 46 violators, and referred 10 people to the Directorate-General for Drugs Control, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

The GTD stated in statistics that over four days from September 30, 2023 to October 3 of this year, during the traffic campaigns, 49 vehicles and 11 motorbikes were impounded by the traffic police, and 11 wanted persons were arrested in connection with several cases.

The sources also added, that 9 violators whose residency had expired were arrested, two people were in an abnormal condition, five people without any proof were detained, and an accused was referred to the General Administration for Drug Control and referred a juvenile to the Juvenile Prosecution.

□ □ □

**Smuggling bid foiled:** The Criminal Security Sector, in cooperation with the General Administration of Customs, was able to thwart an attempt to smuggle 2 kilograms of a drug via air freight, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

The Public Relations and Security Media Department of the Interior Ministry said, "Through intensifying search and investigation operations by the Directorate-General for Drugs Control the drugs were found neatly concealed in a postal parcel of lamp shades.

The suspect was arrested when he came up to collect the parcel. The suspect and the contraband have been handed over to the concerned authority to take the necessary legal measures."



Al-Rai photo

Those arrested for bootlegging.



Al-Rai photo

Thev cars destroyed by fire.

## Three cars go up in flames, 4 people injured in collision on 6th Ring Road

**KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9:** Four people were injured in a collision between 6 cars on the Sixth Ring Road, Sunday, resulting in 3 cars going up in flames, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

The General Traffic Department said the accident, the cause of which is not known, happened opposite the Al-Shaddadiya University. The ac-

cident resulted in 4 people being injured, who were taken to Farwaniya Hospital to receive treatment.

The Public Relations and Security Media Department of the Ministry of Interior said traffic was diverted until the fire was brought under control and the vehicles cleared from the road.

## '1.2 mln passengers used Kuwait airport last Sept'

**KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9:** The Directorate-General of Civil Aviation said today the total passenger movement to and from the Kuwait International Airport last September was 1,250,456 passengers.

Acting Director General of the Department, **Imad Al-Jalawi**, told **KUNA** that last September, the Kuwait International Airport witnessed an increase in passenger traffic by 11 percent and an increase in aircraft traffic by 19 percent, while air cargo

traffic increased by 8 percent, compared to the same month last year.

He explained the movement of arriving passengers reached 675,768 passengers last September, while the number of outgoing passengers was 574,688, while the total number of transit passengers reached 142,628, an increase of 44 percent over September of 2022.

He added that the total aircraft movement that was operated to and from the Airport during September

was 11,814 flights, compared to 9,933 flights in the same month of last year, pointing out that the most popular destinations last September were Dubai, Cairo, Istanbul, Sabiha, Jeddah, and Doha.

Regarding air freight movement, **Al-Jalawi** reported that freight movement last September was about 18.9 million kilograms, with about 14.8 million kilograms of incoming freight and about 4.1 million kilograms of outgoing freight.

**Celebrate with Style**  
A place to make unforgettable memories

**MUGHAL MAHAL FAHAHEEL**  
AL-RAYAN FAMILY LOUNGE & FUNCTION HALL

Weddings | Seminars | Conferences | Celebrations

Sea view | Ample car parking

For more enquires Call: 23911174 / 23911175 / 97644421

Email: fahaheel@mughalmahal.com  
info@mughalmahal.com

# PAM receives 107 labor subsidy requests on day 1 of registration

Applicant must meet the conditions: Al-Otaibi

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

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: The Acting Director of the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) Marzouq Al-Otaibi announced the receipt of 107 requests to dis-

burse labor support for owners of nano-enterprises and for those practicing activities of a special nature who are licensed, on the first day of the launch of opening files and receiving applications, which was yesterday.



FM Sheikh Salem Abdullah with his Cypriot counterpart.

## Two sides discuss current regional developments

### Kuwait FM meets Cypriot counterpart on sidelines of GCC-EU ministerial meeting

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah met Monday with his Cypriot counterpart Constantinos Kombos on the sidelines of the 27th ministerial meeting of the GCC Foreign Ministers with the European Union, being held today and tomorrow in the Omani capital, Muscat.

The foreign ministry said in a statement that during the meeting, the two sides discussed current developments in the region, namely the latest developments related to the Iraqi Federal Supreme Court ruling declaring the law ratifying the agreement regulating maritime navigation in Khor Abdullah waterway between the two countries unconstitutional, in addition to international and political efforts to

preserve security and stability in the region. Further, the two sides shed light on the recent developments in the occupied Palestinian territories and Gaza strip. The meeting also discussed the close ties between the two countries and means to further boost cooperation in the economic, investment and tourism fields.

Al-Otaibi said, "This step comes in implementation of Cabinet's Resolution No. 1037/2023, adding a new clause to Article 1 of Cabinet's Resolution No. 391/2001 for granting social allowance and children's allowance to owners of professions and crafts and workers in non-governmental agencies.

In a statement issued following an inspection tour yesterday morning at the Farwaniya Labor Department in Andalous on the occasion of the launch of opening files and receiving requests for the disbursement of labor support, Al-Otaibi indicated that the department that specializes in the administration of the disbursement of benefits received 80 inquiries.

He stressed that the applicant must meet the conditions, first of which is obtaining a license for micro-activities or activities of a special nature from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and registration with the Public Institution for Social Security as an employer.

The Director General of PAM thanked the workers of the relevant sectors for the speedy achievement and wished the business owners good luck and success, stressing that PAM is making all efforts to remove the obstacles facing employers.

## National Day greetings

### HH Amir congratulates Uganda

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent, Monday, a cable of congratulations to President Yoweri Museveni on occasion of the country's National Day.

Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to President Yoweri Museveni on occasion of the country's National Day, and wished the president good health. Also, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to President Museveni on his country's National Day.



KUNA photo  
Kuwaiti Minister of Information Al-Mutairi with Saudi Information Minister Salman Al-Dosari.

## Move to expand media cooperation

Kuwaiti Minister of Information and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi discussed recently with Saudi Information Minister Salman Al-Dosari efforts to broaden bilateral media cooperation.

In a meeting held at the Saudi Press Agency headquarters in Riyadh upon an invitation from the Saudi Minister Al-Dosari, the ministers mulled means to increase bilateral media cooperation in

light of the global media transformations and explored opportunities for honing skills of media cadres and exchanging expertise.

They also touched upon several issues of common interest.

Earlier, Minister Al-Mutairi toured the Riyadh International Book Fair accompanied by Saudi counterpart Al-Dosari. (KUNA)



KUNA photo  
Charitable reading marathon aiming at helping needy students.

## 'Takween' organizes reading marathon for needy students

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA): Kuwait's Takween Bookstore on Friday organized a charitable reading marathon aiming at teaching needy students with an innovative idea based on converting every 10 pages read out of any book into a sum of one Kuwaiti dinars to be used in

paying their school fees.

Held for the 11th year, the two-day marathon, dubbed: "You Read...A Child Learns", is mainly meant to reduce the gap between cultural and societal work and to develop the concepts of charitable action.

## Municipal Council committee holds its 'first workshop' to name places

By Inass Awadh  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: The Legal and Financial Committee of the Municipal Council yesterday organized its first workshop to discuss the naming of cities, suburbs, areas, streets and squares, as part of the committee's efforts to activate its previous approval of the draft controls and rules for naming.

In a press statement issued after the meeting, the Committee Chairman Fahad Al-Abduljader said the names of these places initially existed and are known, but the committee decided to review them for further study and verification by opening the plans for each area separately.

He explained that the workshop participants agreed to set several criteria for

choosing the names of the places, the most important of which is the historical name of the place, the historical events, and the geographical phenomena associated with it, in addition to environmental criteria related to the place.

The participants will undertake the formulation of criteria for choosing the names of the places, based on the Dixon maps and others. They will also hold technical discussions on the subject.

Al-Abduljader revealed that the committee, during its meeting next week, will discuss the draft nomenclature.

It is worth highlighting that the workshop was attended by several parties, including representatives of Kuwait University, the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, and other parties concerned with nomenclature.

## Kuwait pursues

Continued from Page 1

companies and foreign companies that may operate in the local market, and according to the agreement, they may pay higher taxes to Kuwait than currently estimated; indicating that the tax rate on multinational companies may reach 15 percent.

The sources revealed that the tax base that the OECD aims to create will not be limited to multinational companies within the private sector, as it is likely to also include government entities whose investment activity is distributed across several markets, and which benefit from the support of their home country in terms of not paying any taxes.

ernment of the State of Kuwait regarding the railway connection project between the two countries.

■ June 4, 2023, the agreement was signed in the cities of Riyadh and Kuwait through diplomatic channels.

■ June 12, 2023, an Amiri decree was issued approving the agreement.

■ September 26, 2023, the Saudi Council of Ministers approved the railway connection project agreement.

■ It is expected that within less than two months, Kuwait will sign a consulting contract to launch the project study process.

## Israel vows

Continued from Page 1

## Kuwait, Saudi

Continued from Page 1

will most likely be located in the south of the country -- to the train station point which will be located in the city of Riyadh in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

**Project highlights**  
■ 23, 2023, the Saudi Council of Ministers authorized the Saudi Minister of Transport and Logistics Services, or his representative, to discuss with the Kuwaiti side regarding a draft agreement between the government of the Kingdom and the gov-

Civilians have already paid a high price. Around 700 people, including 73 soldiers, have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli media outlets, citing rescue service - a staggering toll by the scale of its recent conflicts. The Gaza Health Ministry said 493 people, including 78 children and 41 women, were killed in the territory. Thousands have been wounded on both sides.

Palestinian militant groups claimed to be holding over 130 people abducted in Israel and dragged into Gaza. The armed wing of Hamas claimed on its Telegram channel that four of them were killed in Israeli airstrikes. That could not be independently confirmed.



# October

## Room Promotion







Weekdays (Saturday - Wednesday)	
Queen Cabana (2 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.	2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.
<b>NOW</b>	<b>NOW</b>
<b>BHD 57.173/-net</b>	<b>BHD 128.000/-net</b>
Weekends (Thursday & Friday)	
Queen Cabana (2 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.	2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night.
<b>NOW</b>	<b>NOW</b>
<b>BHD 65.000/-net</b>	<b>BHD 145.000/-net</b>

Promo period from 1<sup>st</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

Terms & conditions apply\*

# Private housing sector deals decline by 21.8%

22.1% decrease in value recorded in Q3 2023

**KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9:** A recent real estate study revealed that the private housing sector witnessed a decline in the number of deals by about 21.8% in the third quarter of 2023, with 483 deals, compared to 618 deals in the same period in 2022, while its value reached 251.45 million dinars in the third quarter of 2023, compared to 322.98 million in the third quarter of 2022, i.e. a decline of 22.1% on an annual basis with (Sabah Al-Ahmad Marine City and the coastal strip excluded), reports Al-Qabas daily.

According to Al-Hesbah Real Estate Company's study, which was specially conducted by Al-Qabas, investment housing transactions (buildings and lands) declined significantly by about 44%, as only 61 deals were recorded in the third quarter of 2023, compared to 109 deals in the same period of 2022.

#### Value

Their value reached 131.58 million dinars in the third quarter of 2023 compared to 212.5 million in the third quarter of 2022, a decrease of 38% (units, apartments sold, and shops within the investment property were excluded).

With regard to commercial

real estate, which also includes "craftsmen - recreational activities - stores - car showrooms", it recorded a slight decline in the number of transactions by about 0.4%, as it recorded 24 transactions in the third quarter of 2023 compared to 25 transactions in the same period in 2022, and amounted to 24 transactions in the third quarter of 2023.

Its value was 78.7 million dinars in the third quarter of 2023, compared to about 89 million in the third quarter of 2022, a decrease of 11.5%.

It is noteworthy that all the real estate deals mentioned were 100% sold, and the source of the data and numbers is the Ministry of Justice.

## Experts call for awareness and support

# World Mental Health Day celebrates psychological well-being & self-care

**KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA):** Much like visiting the doctor to treat physical ailments, psychotherapy provides individuals with ways to preserve their mental health and handle the pressures of life, making them more productive and functional in society.

As the globe celebrates the World Mental Health Day on October 10th, it is very important to spread awareness and highlight mental care for the betterment of people.

Speaking on the issue to KUNA, a number of medical expert highlighted the importance of seeking help for psychological ailments.

Having stable upbringings and inner peace are keys to become vital members of society, said Dr. Khlood Al-Ali -- head of Kuwait's Center for Mental Health.

This year's celebration of the World Mental Health Day is held under the theme "mental health is a universal human right", revealed the medical expert, adding that mental disorders must be addressed to find the rootcauses of various problems facing the individuals, which is a right for every human being.

#### Solutions

Whether the psychological alignments were caused by social, economic, political, or environmental reasons, people need to be able to find solutions for their traumas, she added.

Dr. Al-Ali said that treatment was essential, but there should be more programs provided to an individual or groups to enhance mental health in Kuwait and bolster psychological defensive walls.

She stressed that it was important to establish solid psychological foundations for families, saying that it was the first step to raise well-balanced children and individuals.

Here at the Kuwait Center for Mental Health, experts provide diagnosis and various treatment protocols to help people overcome their hardships, Dr. Al-Ali affirmed, pointing out that the center also worked with other entities to provide social services and lei-



Dr. Khlood Al-Ali, Head of Kuwait's Center for Mental Health



Dr. Abdullah Guloom, Psychological consultant

were caused by emotional and behavioral traumas during individuals' daily, professional, and social interactions.

Some disorders might include genetic causes, he revealed; however, the main culprits were daily life pressures and shocks that drive people towards mental instability.

People must pursue all venues to reach a balance psyche and this could be achieved via a system that starts with a person waking up for his or her day until it was time to rest and sleep, Dr. Guloom affirmed.

The most common disorder is depression, said the expert, noting that various and numerous studies showed that only around 40 percent sought treatment for this particular ailment.

He noted that depression could happen to anyone regardless of status or circumstances, stressing that it was important to seek help once being hit by this crippling feeling that might lead to disaster or in some cases suicide.

Dr. Guloom also mentioned that anxiety also was a troubling mental disorder that drives individuals to obsessively think of matters that were trivial and did not deserve all the worry and depletion of physical and psychological health.

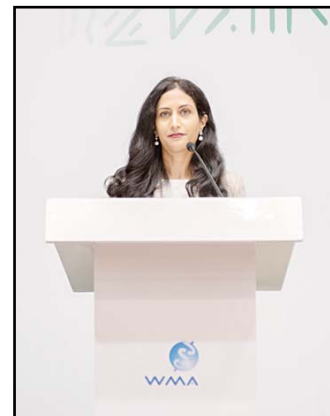
In contrast, panic attack is a serious case of physical and psychological symptoms that could occur without notice, causing severe fear, the pulsating of the heart, heavy breathing, and other alarming behavior.

Post-panic attacks, those who suffer from this particular disorder would tend to feel that their life was in danger and this goes especially for those who witnessed fantastical circumstances caused by war and natural disaster, said Dr. Guloom who called for improving health services in Kuwait to better address mental disorder and ways of treatment.

He also called on all sectors of society to support mental health services and cadres to build a society of functioning and highly productive individuals.



Some of the participants in the 74th annual meeting of the World Medical Association.



Dr. Lujain Al-Qadmani, Representative of the Medical Association and President of the current session of the World Medical Association.



Dr. Abdullah Al-Banna, Chief Financial Officer of the Kuwait Medical Association.

'Global recognition elevates medical standing'

## Kuwait Medical Association assumes World Medical Association presidency

**KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9, (KUNA):** The Kuwait Medical Association has officially assumed the role of President within the World Medical Association (WMA) during the 74th annual meeting held in Kigali, Rwanda. This prestigious appointment follows their successful election during the previous annual meeting held in Berlin.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Banna, the association's Chief Financial Officer, expressed in a conversation with Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on Sunday that this presidency signifies global recognition of Kuwait's elevated medical standing. It also serves as an acknowledgment of the remarkable achievements in the country's healthcare sector.

Al-Banna went on to dedicate this remarkable achievement to His Highness the Emir and the trusted Crown Prince, emphasizing their vital role and unwav-

ering support in elevating Kuwait's reputation on the international stage.

Furthermore, he extended heartfelt gratitude to the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences for their consistent support, enabling the Medical Association to advance in various scientific domains both domestically and internationally.

Dr. Lujain Al-Qadmani, the representative of the Medical Association and current President of the World Medical Association, shared similar sentiments during a conversation with KUNA. She highlighted the priorities of this session, which include addressing critical issues such as climate change, sustainable food systems, comprehensive health coverage, the leadership contributions of women in the healthcare sector, and the role of artificial intelligence in healthcare.

ARAB TIMES

Subscribe to our service "Arabtimes WhatsApp" to stay updated on the latest local and international news and events



To activate this Free Service:

- 1- Save our number on your contacts **92220947**
- 2- Send "Start" WhatsApp message to the number you saved.



Honored students during the ceremony.



Egypt's Minister of Higher Education honors Kuwaiti students, hosted by Egypt and Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO).



Kuwaiti students honored by Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO).

## Egypt's higher education minister honors Kuwaiti students

Egypt's Higher Education and Scientific Research Minister Ayman Ashour honored Sunday a number of Kuwaiti students studying in Egypt for their outstanding academic performance, in a ceremony co-organized by Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) and Egypt.

The Kuwaiti students honored are Abdullah Al-Safar, Faculty of Dentistry - Alexandria University, Talah Humoud, Faculty of Dentistry - Ain Shams University, and Multaq Al-Sharika, Faculty of Dar Al-Olum - Cairo University, Kuwait's Embassy in

Cairo said in a statement.

Honoring Kuwaiti students affirms Kuwait's cultural office's interest in following up male and female Kuwaitis studying in Egypt and remove obstacles facing them, it noted.

The ceremony was attended by cultural attaché at Kuwait Embassy Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Rajan, acting charge d'affaires at the embassy Minister Plenipotentiary Mishari Al-Nibari and some ministers, ambassadors and diplomats from Muslim countries. (KUNA)

## World News Roundup

## Europe

## Sway voters

## Polish candidates debate on state TV

WARSAW, Poland, Oct 9, (AP): Leading Polish candidates were gearing up for a debate Monday where they hope to sway undecided voters, six days before a national election that many Poles believe is the most important one since communism was toppled.

Debates in Poland's post-1989 democratic era have in some cases sealed the destiny of candidates, creating a sense of anticipation surrounding the debate.

The ruling conservative Law and Justice party is leading in the polls with around 35% support, yet it is at risk of losing its majority in parliament. Its nearest rival, the Civic Coalition led by Donald Tusk, is just a few points behind but has gained momentum lately.



Kaczynski

The Civic Coalition and two other opposition groups together have greater support than the ruling party, but they are weakened by not running together. Small swings in the performance of the smaller parties could shift the final result.

The debate will be broadcast starting at 6:30 pm (1630 GMT) by public broadcaster TVP, which is obligated by law to conduct such debates.

Since the Law and Justice party won power in 2015, it has used TVP as a mouthpiece to praise its own policies and people and vilify the opposition, most notably Tusk.

The debate gives Tusk a rare chance to address undecided voters and Law and Justice supporters on state media airwaves.

Notably absent from the debate lineup is ruling party leader **Jarosław Kaczyński**, the country's de-facto leader. He left Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki to represent their party.

Tusk and his allies accuse Kaczyński of eroding the democratic foundations of the country by taking control of the judiciary branch and public media, and putting the country on a path that could lead out of the European Union. Law and Justice insists it has no intention of leaving the EU. It is running on promises to safeguard the country's security after having built a high wall on the border with Belarus to keep out migrants.

## Handle

Political commentators say Tusk stands to gain just by showing up in a forum hostile to him and friendly to Kaczyński. Tusk seized the opportunity last week to accuse Kaczyński of "hiding."

A Tusk-Kaczyński debate in 2007 strongly impacted that year's parliamentary race. Kaczyński, the incumbent then too, and his party lost after Tusk came across as more in touch with the problems of regular people, knowing the prices of basic items when Kaczyński did not. Tusk also appeared more down-to-earth, inviting Kaczyński to "call me Donek," the diminutive of Donald. His Civic Platform party won that election and governed Poland for the following eight years.

Others taking part include Szymon Holownia, the head of a centrist-agrarian coalition; Joanna Scheuring-Wielgus, a left-wing lawmaker representing her Left party; and far-right Confederation party co-leader Krzysztof Bosak.

TVP is imposing the conditions of the debate in a way that would help Law and Justice.

It was originally scheduled for the prime-time hour of 9 p.m. but was moved up to 6:30 p.m. when it became clear that Tusk would participate and Kaczyński wouldn't. It is being held in a rented studio on the far edge of Warsaw rather than in TVP's studio closer to the center, where Tusk supporters were expected to rally to greet him.

It will last only one hour, with no audience, and will be followed by TVP's evening news program, giving the ruling party's mouthpiece the last word.

## Also:

**LUXEMBOURG:** Luxembourg's three-party coalition led by liberal Prime Minister **Xavier Bettel** lost its decade-long hold on power in tight parliamentary elections, mostly because of a poor showing by the Green party, according to election results early Monday.

Bettel's DP liberal party surged from 12 to 14 seats in the 60-seat house in Sunday's elections and the socialist LSAP also added a seat to reach 11. But the fall of the Greens from nine to four seats meant that the coalition falls just short of the numbers needed for a continued five-year stint in government.

The Christian Democrat CSV remains the biggest single party in parliament with 21 seats and will be the power broker to form the next government.

Ten years ago, Bettel succeeded **Jean-Claude Juncker**, the Christian Democrat who had been Europe's longest serving democratically elected leader at the time. The CSV Christian Democrats have been left uncharacteristically on the sidelines for the past 10 years, despite being the single biggest party.

In the last elections, Bettel's coalition controlled 31 of the 60 seats in the Luxembourg parliament.

Coalition talks might take anywhere from a few days to several weeks. Luxembourg is the European Union's second-smallest country, with a population of 650,000 people, and is its richest per capita.

**LONDON:** Britain's main opposition Labour Party says that if it wins power, it will appoint a "COVID corruption commissioner" to try and recoup some of the billions lost to fraud and waste during the pandemic.

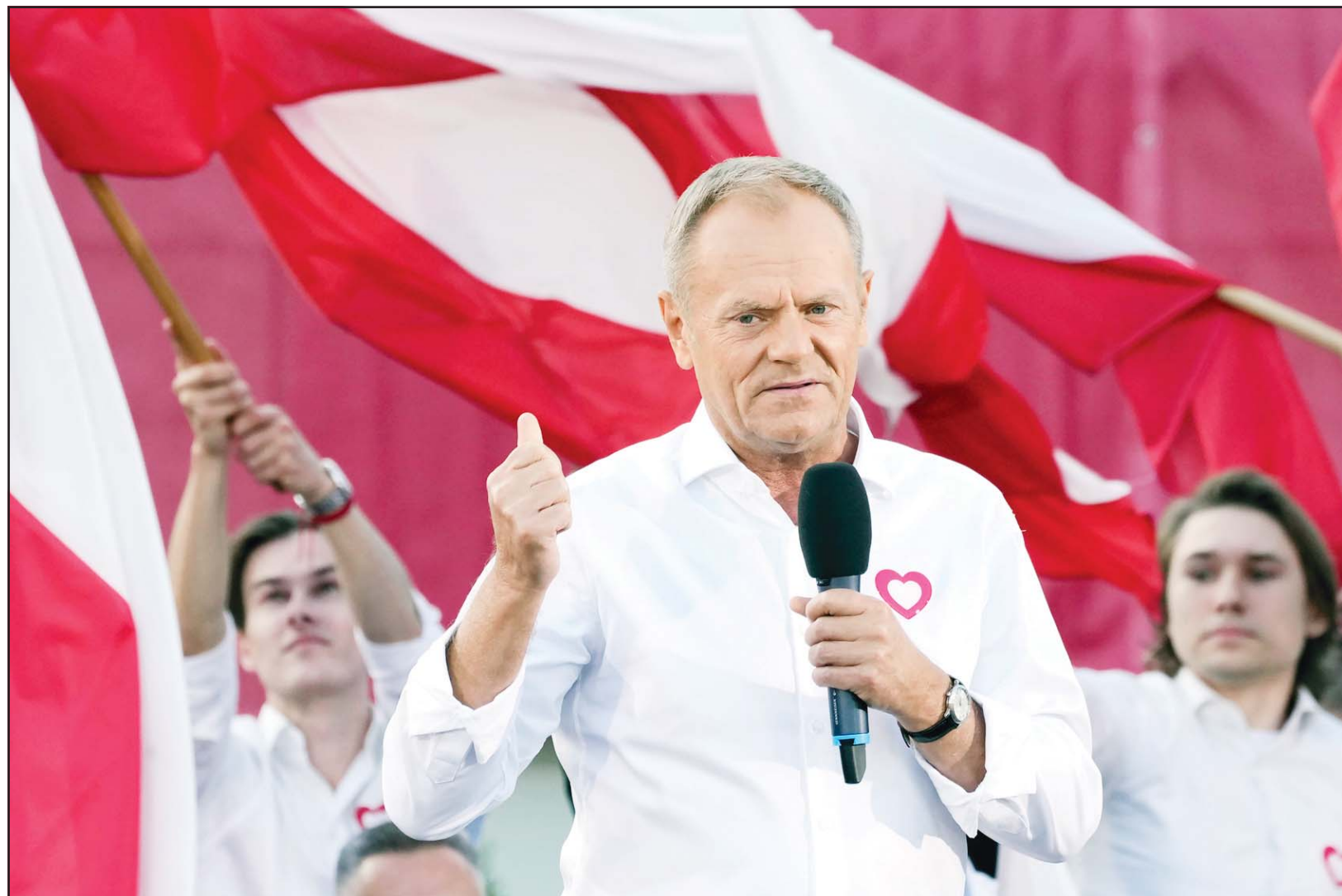
Labour economy spokeswoman **Rachel Reeves** is due to outline the plan in a speech Monday at the party's annual conference. She says the commissioner will bring together tax officials, fraud investigators and law enforcement officers will track down an estimated 7.2 billion pounds (\$8.8 billion) in lost public money spent on grants and contracts related to COVID-19.

Like many countries, the U.K. was forced to side-step usual rules as it rushed to procure essential supplies and prop up people's livelihoods during the coronavirus pandemic.

Reeves told the BBC the Conservative government was "embarrassed" by the scale of the losses and "doing nothing to get that money back."

A multi-year public inquiry is examining Britain's handling of the pandemic, which left more than 200,000 people in the country dead.

Reeves' announcement comes during a four-day conference in Liverpool, where Labour is trying to cement its front-runner status in opinion polls before an election due in 2024.



Poland's opposition leader and former prime minister, Donald Tusk, addresses an election campaign rally in Otwock, Poland, on Sept 25. (AP)

## Politics

## No Labels intensifies candidate recruitment efforts

## 3rd party candidates threat to Dems, GOP

NEW YORK, Oct 9 (AP): Robert F. Kennedy Jr., an anti-vaccine conspiracy theorist and scion of the storied Democratic dynasty, was expected to launch an independent or third-party presidential bid on Monday. Cornel West, a philosopher and Black social leader, made the same choice last week. And No Labels, a new political party, is intensifying candidate recruitment efforts.

While the politics are murky, the fresh frenzy of outsider candidates threatens to weaken both major parties as Democratic President Joe Biden and Republican former President Donald Trump tighten their grip on their parties' presidential nominations.

There's little concern that the independent or third-party candidates would actually win the presidency, but they could siphon support from the ultimate Democratic and Republican nominees. A heightened sense of concern is spreading especially among Democratic officials, who see the outsiders as a dangerous wildcard that harkens back to 2016, when Green Party nominee Jill Stein may have enabled Trump's razor-thin victory by winning a small portion of the vote.

## Efforts

Those associated with the third-party efforts make no apologies for their work.

"The American people have been hungry for options. So, get ready," Stein said in an interview. "What we're seeing is a voter rebellion. It's been a long time coming."

The rise of outsider candidates is an acute reminder of the intense volatility - and uncertainty - that hangs over the 2024 presidential election. Both of the major parties' most likely nominees - Biden and Trump - are extraordinarily unpopular. They're running as the nation grapples with dangerous political divisions, economic anxiety and a deep desire for a new generation of leadership in Washington.

Much more activity is expected soon.

Kennedy will outline his plans in Philadelphia on Monday. Stein said the Green Party will likely make an announcement about its presidential aspirations later this month. No Labels, meanwhile, plans to make a formal

## Impeachments from office emerge as 'partisan weapon' in the states

WASHINGTON, Oct 9, (AP): Republicans in Wisconsin are threatening to impeach a recently elected state Supreme Court justice and raised the possibility of doing the same to the state's election director.

A Georgia Republican called for impeaching the Fulton County prosecutor who brought racketeering charges against former President Donald Trump. Republicans in the Pennsylvania House have already impeached the top prosecutor in Philadelphia.

None of the targets met the bar traditionally set for impeachment - credible allegations of committing a crime while in office. Their offense: staking out positions legislative Republicans didn't like.

As Republicans in Congress begin their impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden, the process is calling attention to the increasing use of impeachment in the states as a partisan political weapon rather than as a step of

last resort for officeholders believed to have committed a serious offense.

It's not just impeachment. Over the past two years, Republicans also have sought to pry Democrats and nonpartisan executives from office through recalls, legislative maneuvers and forced removals, even when no allegations of wrongdoing have surfaced.

To some, the moves appear anti-democratic - actions that could have major implications if they become routine and supplant the ballot box as the final arbiter of an election.

"If voters cannot go to the voting booth and cast their ballot without the fear of an election being vacated and their vote being rendered null and void, what's the point of having elections in the first place?" said Melissa Agard, a Democrat who is the Senate minority leader in Wisconsin. "This is the fundamental promise of our nation."

decision about its presidential nominee in the spring.

The efforts face steep hurdles beyond winning more than a small fraction of voters. Simply qualifying for the ballot in every state will be a gargantuan task for outsider candidates without the benefit of existing political networks.

Jim Messina, who managed President Barack Obama's 2012 reelection campaign and is now a prominent Biden ally, didn't downplay the possibility that the new candidates could weaken Biden's coalition.

"I am a campaign manager so I am wired to plan for everything and panic about nothing, and the threat of a third party needs to be planned for seriously," Messina said.

## Also:

**MIAMI:** Ron DeSantis wants suspected drug smugglers at the US-Mexico border to be shot dead. **Nikki Haley**

promises to send American special forces into Mexico. **Vivek Ramaswamy** has accused Mexico's leader of treating drug cartels as his "sugar daddy" and says that if he is elected president, "there will be a new daddy in town."

**Donald Trump**, the Republican front-runner for the 2024 nomination and long the person who has shaped his party's rhetoric on the border, has often blamed Mexico for problems in the United States and promises new uses of military force and covert action if he returns to the White House.

Many of the GOP presidential candidates say they would carry out potential acts of war against Mexico in response to the trafficking of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids. More than 75,000 people in the U.S. died last year from overdoses of synthetic opioids, an annual figure more than 20 times higher than a decade ago.

clement weather.

Coast Guard officials said they rerouted an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter that was already in the air for routine training. (AP)

**Man tried to run over deputy:** Officials say a north Georgia man loaded stolen goods onto a rented truck Saturday, torched a pickup and led officers on a chase with furniture spilling out of the truck before officers shot him in the arm and ran him off the road.

Alan Paul Heinze, a 53-year-old Cleveland man, was arrested and charged with aggravated assault against a police officer, fleeing a police officer, reckless driving and possessing a weapon while committing a felony.

Heinze was taken to a Gainesville hospital for treatment of his gunshot wound. Online jail records don't list a lawyer for Heinze and no one responded Sunday to emails, phone calls and electronic messages to Heinze and a relative.

No bail has yet been set for Heinze. Habersham County sheriff's deputies tell local news outlets that Heinze broke into an outbuilding at a house near Demorest, loaded up a rented truck, and then used some sort of incendiary device to set a Chevrolet Silverado pickup on fire, destroying it. Habersham County Sheriff's Investigator **George Cason** said the state fire marshal is investigating. (AP)



German federal police officers check cars at the Austrian-German border crossing point in Kiefersfelden, Germany on Oct 9. Germany has increased police patrols along "smuggling routes," especially at borders with Poland and the Czech Republic, to prevent more migrants from entering the country. (AP)



Bivens



Cason

## America

**'Pilot errors cause of crash':** A pilot's error during landing caused a 2021 plane crash that killed four people on a Michigan island, federal investigators concluded.

The National Transportation Safety Board, which investigated the Nov. 13, 2021 crash on Beaver Island, said in a report released that the pilot lost control during landing and crashed 300 feet (91 meters) from the airport's runway.

While approaching the airport, the plane was observed flying slowly and "wallowing" as if nobody was flying," the report said. The pilot exceeded the "airplane's critical angle of attack during final approach, which resulted in an aerodynamic stall and loss of control at an altitude too low to recover," according to the NTSB report. (AP)

**1 killed, 8 hurt in shooting:** One person was killed and eight were wounded in a shooting during a private party at a Pennsylvania community center early Sunday, authorities said.

State police in Indiana County said troopers, local officers and emergency services responded at 12:35 am Sunday to the shooting at the Chevy Chase Community Center in White Township, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) northeast of Pittsburgh.

Nine people between the ages of 18 and 23 were shot, including a 22-year-old Pittsburgh man who died at the scene, police said. Lt Col **George Bivens** said investigators believe more than one shooter was involved but declined to say how many there were.

"Dozens of gunshots were fired within the confines of the building," said Bivens, acknowledging later that "It may well be that we had a gunfight inside this building." (AP)

**3 rescued from capsized vessel:** The Coast Guard says it has rescued three people without injury who were found clinging to the hull of a capsized vessel off the New Jersey coast.

Officials said the operator of the 18-foot (5.5 meter) disabled vessel used a VHF-FM radio to contact the Coast Guard's Delaware Bay sector for help Saturday afternoon, saying the vessel was

disabled and needed help getting to shore.

The operator said three people were aboard and that his vessel was anchored in Great Bay in Little Egg Harbor

Township less than a mile (kilometer) from the Great Bay Marina. Shortly after the initial call, the operator said his boat was going down because of in-



Former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley, left, argues a point with businessman Vivek Ramaswamy, right, between Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, center, during a Republican presidential primary debate hosted by FOX Business Network and Univision on Sept 27 at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Calif. (AP)

## Asia

## Surge in rail traffic

## Cut Ukraine aid and 'boost' Taiwan: GOP

WASHINGTON, Oct 9, (AP): To Rep Mike Collins, China is a bigger threat to the United States than Russia. So the Georgia Republican has voted against providing military aid to Ukraine as he advocates for doing more to arm Taiwan, the self-governed island that's at risk of military aggression from Beijing.

For Collins and other Republican lawmakers, Taiwan and Ukraine are effectively rivals for a limited pool of US military assistance. But that's not necessarily how Taiwan and many of its supporters see it. They view Taiwan's fate as closely linked to that of Ukraine as it struggles to push back a Russian invasion.

They say China is watching closely to see if the United States has the political stamina to support an ally in a prolonged, costly war. The US aid to Ukraine also has led to weapons manufacturers stepping up production - something that could benefit Taiwan in a clash with China.

"Ukraine's survival is Taiwan's survival. Ukraine's success is Taiwan's success," Taiwan's diplomat in the U.S., Hsiao Bi-Khim, said in May at the Sedona Forum hosted by the McCain Institute.

Still, Taiwan has been careful not to weigh in on the US debate about continued funding for Ukraine, which has become a divisive political issue after initially having strong bipartisan support.

Asked about Congress removing Ukraine funding from a temporary spending measure that prevented a U.S. government shutdown on Oct. 1, Taiwan's diplomatic office responded with discretion.

"Taiwan is grateful to have strong bipartisan support from the US We will continue to work with the U.S. to maintain the peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait," the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press.

## Argued

But Congress' refusal to include the aid raises "alarm bells" in Taiwan, said Bonnie Glaser, managing director of the Indo-Pacific program at the German Marshall Fund. She noted that the Taiwanese government "has argued that Ukraine's victory is existential for Taiwan."

"These worries exist even though most Republicans who seek to end US support for Ukraine are still very pro-Taiwan and willing to do more to help defend Taiwan," she said.

Taiwan is the thorniest issue in the frayed US-China relationship. Beijing claims sovereignty over the island, which lies roughly 100 miles (160 kilometers) off the mainland's southeastern coast, and vows to seize it, by force if necessary, to achieve national reunification. The United States wants a peaceful resolution and has a security pact with the island, supplying it with military hardware and technologies to prevent any forced takeover by Beijing.

China's military actions near the island have fueled concerns over armed attacks. President Joe Biden has said he would send troops to defend Taiwan in case of war, while Chinese President Xi Jinping has demanded the US respect his country's "sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Collins traveled to Taiwan on his first overseas trip as a congressman. When he returned, he called for timely weapon deliveries to the island, especially since as much as \$19 billion worth of weapons sold to Taiwan have been delayed.

"These delays are primarily a result of a US manufacturing backlog and a distracted Biden administration with weapons deliveries to Ukraine taking preference over Taiwan," Collins said. "We must get serious about offering support to our ally Taiwan because ultimately when it comes to countering China, our interests align."

Bradley Bowman, senior director of the Center of Military and Political Power at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, disagrees with that logic.

## Also:

**SEOUL, South Korea:** Recent satellite photos show a sharp increase in rail traffic along the North Korea-Russia border, indicating the North is supplying munitions to Russia, according to a U.S. think tank.

Speculation about a possible North Korean plan to refill Russia's munition stores drained in its protracted war with Ukraine flared last month, when North Korean leader Kim Jong Un traveled to Russia to meet President Vladimir Putin and visit key military sites. Foreign officials suspect Kim is seeking sophisticated Russian weapons technologies in return for the munitions to boost his nuclear program.

"Given that Kim and Putin discussed some military exchanges and cooperation at their recent summit, the dramatic increase in rail traffic likely indicates North Korea's supply of arms and munitions to Russia," Beyond Parallel, a website run by the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank, said in a report Friday.

"However, the extensive use of tarps to cover the shipping crates/containers and equipment makes it impossible to conclusively identify what is seen at the Tumangang Rail Facility" on the border, it said.

**CANBERRA, Australia:** Australians appear likely to reject the creation of an advocate for the Indigenous population in a referendum outcome that some see as a victory for racism.

Two opinion polls published in newspapers on Monday are the latest to show a majority of respondents oppose enshrining in Australia's constitution an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. Creating the Voice would aim to give Australia's most disadvantaged ethnic minority more say on government policies that affect their lives.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Monday would not concede defeat before voting on the referendum ends Saturday.

"We'll wait and see when they cast their vote. I'm not getting ahead of the Australian people," Albanese told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

"I know there's some arrogance has crept into the no-side campaign, but it's a campaign based upon fear," Albanese added.

Albanese has said the world will judge Australians on how they vote at their first referendum since 1999.

Indigenous Australians account for 3.8% of Australia's population.



Vehicles that got washed away in floods lie on the sand as machinery is used to clean mud and sand near the buildings along the Teesta river in Rongpo, east Sikkim, India on Oct 8. (AP)

## Weather

## Evacuations ordered as remnants of Koinu hit China

## Myanmar flooding displaces more than 10K

BANGKOK, Oct 9, (AP): Flooding triggered by heavy monsoon rains in Myanmar's southern areas has displaced more than 10,000 people and disrupted traffic on the rail lines that connect the country's biggest cities, officials and state-run media said Monday.

A senior official at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Lay Shwe Zin Oo, said constant rainfall in the Bago region that began last week caused flooding in the low-lying areas of its capital, Bago township. She said there were no casualties reported so far, but that more than 10,000 people had to abandon their homes.

## Recorded

Bago township recorded 7.87 inches (200 millimeters) of rainfall, its highest level in 59 years, Myanmar's Meteorological Department said Sunday. Rain or thundershowers were forecast for across the country until Monday evening.

One of the leaders of an emergency rescue team in Bago told The Associated Press that the flooding was at least 7-8 feet (2.44 meters) deep in low-lying areas and 3-4 feet downtown.

"Almost the whole area of the town was flooded," That Zin Maung, chairman of the Mizzima Thukha Charity Foundation said by phone on Monday. "It is the third flood in the town this year and the worst in many years. All the monasteries in the town have opened relief camps. Charity organizations are evacuating people from low-lying areas as much as they can."

A 55-year-old resident of Bago's Pan Hlaing ward interviewed by phone said the flood waters were about 5-6 feet deep in her neighborhood, and her family members were living on the second and third floors of their house.

The woman, who spoke on condition of anonymity because Myanmar's military government prefers to tightly control the release of information, said the water was still rising steadily in her neighborhood, which had never flooded badly before.

Social Welfare Ministry official Lay Shwe Zin Oo said people were sheltering in 32 relief camps, schools and Buddhist monasteries in Bago, while the authorities were providing food, drinking water and other essential assistance.

Reports in the state-run Myanmar

Alinn newspaper on Monday said trains that departed from Mandalay, the country's second-largest city in central Myanmar, and from southern Mawlamyine township were halted en route. Scheduled departures from Yangon, the biggest city in the country, were canceled after rail lines were flooded by the rapid flow of water from mountain torrents and the spillage from dams in the Bago region.

Myanmar Alinn also said some neighborhoods in Kyaikto township in southern Mon state were flooded by water from mountain torrents, and 555 people there were taking shelters in three relief camps on Sunday.

Myanmar experiences extreme weather virtually every year during the monsoon season. In 2008, Cyclone Nargis killed more than 138,000 people. In July and August this year, floods in Mon, Kayin and Rakhine states and the regions of Bago and Magway killed five people and displaced about 60,000.

## Also:

**TAIPEI, Taiwan:** People have been moved to shelters and nearly 2,000 boats recalled to port as the remnants of Typhoon Koinu slammed into southern China on Monday after leaving one dead and over 300 injured in Taiwan.

The storm bore down on the southern Chinese island province of Hainan on Monday, just south of the financial center of Hong Kong and the key manufacturing regions in the surrounding area on mainland China.

The Hong Kong Observatory said on its website that Koinu was weakening from a typhoon into a tropical depression as it moved southwest along the coast of China's Guangdong province.

Air and rail services have been suspended as Koinu, meaning puppy in Japanese, rolled into the region.

Koinu arrived a month after southern China and Hong Kong were lashed by Typhoon Saola, which triggered Hong Kong's highest storm signal on a scale of 11. A week later, Guangdong province and Hong Kong were hit with the heaviest rains in almost 140 years. The storm also broke a windspeed record off Taiwan's east coast, which faces the Pacific Ocean.

Ferry services connecting Hainan with mainland China were also suspended as Koinu moved across the island. The province is struggling to

recover after its tourism industry was battered by China's draconian travel restrictions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.



**GANGTOK, India:** Air force helicopters were able to land Monday to rescue people in India's Himalayan northeast after a 6-year-old hydroelectric dam cracked open last week in intense rain, flooding a valley with glacial lake water and washing away bridges and homes as thousands fled.

Police said rescuers have found 52 bodies so far, and the search was continuing while around a 100 people are still missing. As weather conditions improved in Sikkim state, helicopters arrived in the worst-hit Mangan district to help some 3,000 stranded tourists.

The design and placement of the Teesta 3 dam, the biggest hydroelectric dam in Sikkim state, were controversial from the time it was built. A 2019 report identified Lhonak Lake as "highly vulnerable" to flooding that could breach dams and cause extensive damage.

It wasn't clear what triggered the deadly flood that began early Wednesday, the latest to hit northeast India in a year of unusually heavy monsoon rains. Experts say possible contributors were the intense rain and a 6.2-magnitude earthquake that struck neighboring Nepal on Tuesday afternoon.

The flood began when the glacial lake overflowed, cracking open the Teesta 3 dam. The icy waters then cascaded through towns in the valley below, carrying some bodies kilometers (miles) downstream, where they were found in the neighboring state of West Bengal and in Bangladesh.

On Sunday evening, as the skies cleared and rains subsided, 89 tourists stranded by washed-out roads were airlifted out of northern Sikkim. Some 10 tourists, including five Thai nationals, were able to trek to safety with assistance from rescuers. Police said Monday they would continue to fly the helicopters if the weather permits.

The flood destroyed multiple bridges, hit pipelines and damaged hundreds of houses in northern Sikkim. Of 23 Indian soldiers reported missing earlier, officials say one was rescued and nine were confirmed to have died, while the search for the others continued.

**Military, rebels clash:** New fighting erupted between the Malian military and armed rebel groups in an area south of Kidal late Friday, with both sides claiming to control the town of Anefis as night fell.

The armed movements, who have long been fighting for an independent state called Azawad, said in a statement that they had shot down an unspecified aircraft along with six other drones it said belonged to the Russian private military contractor Wagner.

The Malian military, however, said that it had broken through the rebels' defenses and had carried out "a very high death toll on the terrorist side" near Anefis, about 100 kilometers (62 miles) south of the town of Kidal.

The violence is the latest in a string of increasing attacks by the rebels, known as the Permanent Strategic Framework for Peace, Security and Development (CSP-PSD).

Analysts say it signals a breakdown of a 2015 peace agreement signed between the government and ethnic Tuareg rebels who once drove security forces out of northern Mali as they sought to create the state of Azawad there.

The 2015 peace deal called for the ex-rebels to be integrated into the national military among other things. But there are now concerns that ex-rebels who had joined the army under the 2015 deal "have joined the ranks of the terrorists," according to a letter signed by Malian Chief of Staff Gal Oumar Diarra that was leaked on social media networks. (AP)



A woman holds a hand-made 'Yes' sign as supporters gather at the Redfern Community Centre in Sydney Oct 9. Australians appear likely to reject the creation of an advocate for the Indigenous population in a referendum outcome that some see as a victory for racism.



Biya



Diarra

## Africa

**15 dead in Cameroon floods:** At least 15 people were killed and more than 50 were injured in floods set off by heavy rains in Cameroon's capital, authorities said Monday as rescuers searched for those missing following the deluge the previous day.

The rains unleashed floodwaters in the district of Yaounde 2 of the country's capital on Sunday, sweeping away buildings and reducing many to rubble.

Rescue workers are still digging through the mud and rubble "with the hope of saving lives," Daouda Ousmanou, the top government official in the district, said Monday. Cameroon's president is Paul Biya.

Floodings have been frequent in Cameroon in recent years, with experts often blaming climate change, and their impact has been exacerbated by shoddy construction that often circumvents regulations.

In the city's Mbankolo neighborhood, at least 30 houses were swept away while several collapsed on residents inside, Ousmanou said. Others drowned as they were swept away by floodwaters.

Ernest Zebaze, a 24-year-old university student said he identified the bodies of his mother and two siblings. "I am still looking for my father who was in the house during the downpour," Zebaze said.

Bodies of the victims have been laid out at a morgue while the injured were rushed to hospitals. (AP)

**'Govt analyzes risks':** A lawyer sought to assure the UK Supreme Court on Monday that the British government had adequately analyzed the risks of sending asylum-seekers to Rwanda and would have people "on the ground" to make sure it's safe and that deportees' rights are protected.

Attorney James Eadie said that the controversial policy was in the public interest of deterring immigrants from risking their lives crossing the English Channel in small boats and to stop smugglers from exploiting them. He said the British government would make sure Rwanda adheres to agreements to comply with the United Nations Refugee Convention and the European Convention on Human Rights.

"The appeal is, at its heart, about the judgments made by government about the future conduct of a friendly foreign state," Eadie said. "Both the Government and the Rwandan government were fully aware of the likely controversy of the arrangements that were made when the deal was signed."

The Conservative government is chal-

lenging a Court of Appeal ruling in June that said the policy is unlawful because the East African country is not a safe place to send asylum-seekers. Advocates

for migrants from Vietnam, Syria, Iraq, Iran and Sudan contend the policy is unlawful and inhumane. (AP)



Richard Day, 97, (right), a British army veteran who survived the Burma Campaign, one of the hardest battles in the World War II, shakes hands with Yukihiko Torikai, (left), a Tokai University humanities professor whose late grandfather also fought in the campaign, during a memorial at the Chidorigafuchi National Cemetery in Tokyo, Oct 9. The memorial was attended by military officials from the embassies of several former allied nations, including Australia, Britain, New Zealand and the US at the cemetery for the unknown Japanese who died overseas during the war. (AP)

# What's On



A group photo from the KTMCC Annual Convention 2023.

## KTMCC holds Annual Convention 2023

The Kuwait Town Malayalee Christian Congregation successfully held its Annual Convention for the year 2023 from October 5th to 7th, spanning Wednesday through Friday, with sessions taking place from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. This event was hosted at the National Evangelical Church in Kuwait. Evg. Biju Chuvannaman, a distinguished biblical scholar, served as the guest speaker throughout the three-day Convention. Accompanying

him was the renowned music artist, Br. Stanly Abraham from Ranni, who, along with the KTMCC Choir, led the congregation in the singing sessions. The Convention was broadcasted live on all three days by the Christian Media Channel, Harvest TV.

Notably, the Convention attracted hundreds of participants, including believers and spiritual leaders from various congregations, such as Mar

Thoma, CSI, Evangelical, Brethren, and Pentecostal churches.

The KTMCC Executive Committee, under the capable leadership of Roy K. Yohannan (NECK Secretary), Saju V. Thomas (KTMCC President), Reju Daniel John (KTMCC Secretary), Vinod Kurien (KTMCC Treasurer), and Ajosh Mathew, diligently coordinated and organized all the necessary arrangements for the successful execution of the Convention.



AACSOD Tunisia



AACSOD Egypt

Arab Alliance launches second cycle in Morocco, Iraq, and Kuwait

## AACSOD strengthens civil society across Arab world

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: The Arab Alliance for CSO Development (AACSOD), a flagship program of the Non-Governmental Organizations Initiative (NGOI) at the American University of Beirut (AUB), announced the launch of its second cycle in Morocco, Iraq, and Kuwait. Following a successful inaugural cycle in Egypt, Tunisia, and Jordan in 2022, AACSOD continues its commitment to strengthening civil society organizations (CSOs) across the Arab World.

Small to medium-sized CSOs based and operating in the three selected countries, are encouraged to apply to enroll in the program. AACSOD's second cycle is set to commence its activities in January 2024, with a selection of 15 CSOs from Morocco, Iraq, and Kuwait. These CSOs will benefit from fully funded NGOI service packages over a period of 12-18 months. All fees associated with the program's services will be waived for the selected CSOs.

### Mission

AACSOD's service portfolio is tailored to meet the unique needs of CSOs operating in the region. This includes institutional strengthening and organizational development, capacity building, contextualization and Arabization, knowledge sharing, and organizational certification. These comprehensive services aim to empower CSOs to better serve their communities.

Supported by both the Ford Foundation and the Asfari Foundation, the Arab Alliance for CSO Development (AACSOD) was founded with the mission to serve as a pivotal force in enhancing the institutional capacities of CSOs throughout the Arab World. Through its extensive network of more than 100 partners and



AACSOD Jordan

stakeholders, AACSOD has quickly established itself as a regional hub for the NGO sector development, capacity building, and institutional strengthening.

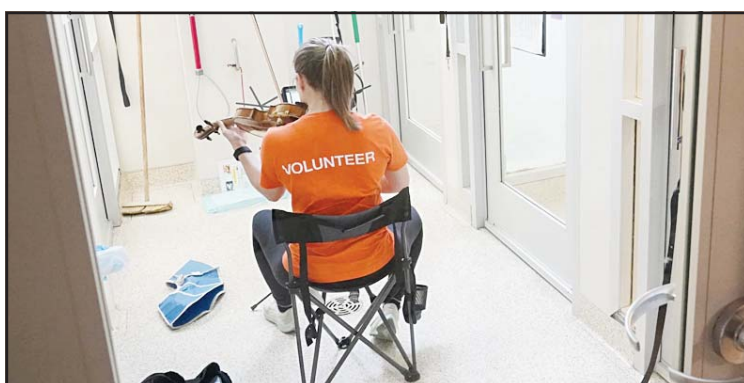
AACSOD's primary objectives encompass expanding NGOI's reach into 12 new countries within the MENA region over a period of 5 years, creating a versatile multi-sectoral partnership model that engages over 100 funders, experts, and implementing partners, offering substantial support to at least 60 NGOs/CSOs in the designated coun-

tries, and developing a suite of 24 online asynchronous courses in English, Arabic, and French, designed to empower CSOs with essential knowledge and resources for effective NGO management.

AACSOD's commitment to the development and strengthening of CSOs in the Arab World stands as a testament to the importance of civil society in driving positive change. As the program embarks on its second cycle, it aspires to make an even greater impact, fostering resilient, impactful,

and sustainable CSOs that can effectively address the region's evolving challenges.

For more information about AACSOD and its second cycle expansion, please visit this website or contact send an email to [toacsod-ngo@aub.edu.lb](mailto:toacsod-ngo@aub.edu.lb); or call +961-1-350 000 ext. 4952. The Non-Governmental Organizations Initiative (NGOI) is an initiative of the American University of Beirut that provides different services to the NGO sector in Lebanon and the MENA region.



Volunteer Nicole Eagan plays the violin for dogs being cared for at the ASPCA animal recovery center, Friday, April 21, 2023, in New York. Many nonprofits use images of suffering and need to motivate people to give, but a recent study from economists found there may be other effective strategies for prompting acts of generosity. (AP)

## Experts say 'giving' helps

### Does being in a good mood make you more generous?

NEW YORK, Oct 9, (AP): Those ads showing caged dogs and desperate looking cats while Canadian singer Sarah McLachlan's "Angel" played in the background have not just been effective at making viewers sad, but also remarkably successful at raising money for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals since 2007.

However, a new study shows other strategies may also be effective at motivating people to give, apart from all that "sadvertising." Maybe try "Hakuna Matata."

The study from Nathan Chan, assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Casey Wichman, assistant professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology, found that people in good moods are more likely to donate to a charitable cause.

### Donation

The study gathered posts made to Twitter, the social media platform now called X, from people who gave to Wikipedia and posted a hashtag acknowledging the donation. The researchers analyzed the posts from before and after the users made a donation and found that it improved shortly before they gave.

"It suggests that rather than this conventional notion that people give because it makes them feel good about themselves for doing the right thing, we found that people were in a good mood prior to donating, and that's potentially the causal factor for why they decided to give," Wichman said.

The findings indicate charities may want to improve a potential donor's mood before making the ask, Wichman said.

Their study isn't the first to find a connection between well-being and generosity, said Lara Aknin, professor of social psychology at Simon Fraser University, but it does provide a valuable look at a person's specific feeling at a specific moment in a real world example. One takeaway could be that it would be beneficial to reach people at times when they are already feeling good, like on holidays or a loved one's birthday, she said.

But people give for many reasons and many levers motivate that generosity, Aknin said, including showing how a potential donor can make a meaningful impact on other people, animals or causes they care about. She also warned that people are very attuned to ulterior motives attached to requests for help.

"If people feel that they're insincerely being fattened up before the request, then that could that could really spoil giving," she said, "which I think for many people is truly a pretty wonderful experience when they get to give in ways that they care about and feel like they've chosen to do so."

The researchers used natural language processing tools to analyze the sentiments of a person's tweets and identify their mood based on their posts.

They also designed a second experiment to test their findings where they asked online volunteers to decide how to split \$50 between themselves and a charity. They showed some a clip of "Hakuna Matata" from "The Lion King," while others watched a science video about microbes. Those who watched the dancing warthog gave a little more to charity and were more likely to give the whole amount, though the results are less conclusive because of a small sample size.



American University of Kuwait's campus.

## A testament of academic excellence

### AUK promotes 11 faculty members across colleges

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: The American University of Kuwait (AUK) promoted 11 exceptional faculty members across the institution's three colleges — a clear testament to the institution's ongoing commitment to recognizing and fostering academic excellence within its ranks.

Showcasing distinction in teaching, groundbreaking research, and exemplary service, a total of seven faculty members have been promoted to the rank of associate professor; three faculty members were promoted to the prestigious rank of professor; and

a faculty member was promoted to the position of senior instructor.

Faculty from the University's College of Arts & Sciences, College of Business and Economics, and College of Engineering & Applied Sciences consistently showcase exceptional contributions to both teaching and research, demonstrating their unwavering dedication to advancing the frontiers of knowledge while providing students with a rich and impactful educational experience.

These promotions underscore the core values upheld by AUK, reaffirm-

ing its dedication to creating an environment that champions academic excellence and inspires innovation.

The American University of Kuwait (AUK) is an independent, private, equal opportunity, and coeducational liberal arts institution of higher education. The educational, cultural and administrative structure, methods and standards of AUK are based on the American model of higher learning. The language of instruction is English. More information on the American University of Kuwait can be found at [www.auk.edu.kw](http://www.auk.edu.kw)



## Walmart GoLocal announces Rina Hurst at Shipt, as Vice President

Walmart today announced Rina Hurst as vice president of Walmart GoLocal, Walmart's delivery service platform. Hurst joins Walmart from Shipt, where she served as chief business officer. Hurst will be responsible for the strategic direction, operations and general management of Walmart GoLocal as it continues to scale in bringing retailers of all sizes reliable, same-day delivery.

"Rina brings extensive last-mile and delivery expertise and a track record of building strategic partnerships and ac-

celerating growth. I'm thrilled to welcome Rina to the Walmart team and see the impact she will have on Walmart GoLocal as we grow and optimize our capabilities for our clients," said Jennifer McKeenan, senior vice president, end-to-end delivery, Walmart U.S. "Rina's expertise in retail delivery will be a strong complement to the team as we continue to innovate and expand how we serve leading retailers with delivery."

In two years, Walmart GoLocal has grown to serve third-party retailers across

more than a dozen industries, enabling millions of deliveries for retailers and delivering across more than 18,000 U.S. zip codes. Hurst will focus on further scaling the business and expanding Walmart GoLocal's capabilities to meet the evolving fulfillment needs of retailers.

"Walmart's size and scale are unmatched, and I'm excited by the opportunity to further leverage that scale to make an impact for Walmart GoLocal clients. The delivery space is constantly evolving, and I'm looking forward to working with the team to

expand Walmart GoLocal's capabilities and build new relationships with retailers looking for reliable and customizable local delivery solutions," said Rina Hurst, vice president, Walmart GoLocal. "I cannot wait to begin meeting with the team and leading the next chapter for Walmart GoLocal - one filled with growth, success and excitement for us and our clients."

During her time at Shipt, Hurst was responsible for strategic retail, brand and innovation partnerships and played an instrumental role in optimizing order vol-

ume, expanding the company's delivery footprint, and bringing on hundreds of retailers to the company's marketplace and last-mile services. Before Shipt, Hurst spent ten years at Target in a variety of roles across merchandising and business partnerships and began her career in management consulting. She is a graduate of Virginia Tech and holds an MBA from Georgetown University.

For more information on Walmart GoLocal, visit [www.walmartgocal.com](http://www.walmartgocal.com). (Business Wire)

## Market Movements

09-10-2023

	Change	Closing pts		Change	Closing pts
JAPAN - Nikkei	+1.80	31,075.36	UAE - DFM	-1.18	4,142.92
PAKISTAN - KSE 100	+0.80	47,484.56	PHILIPPINES - PSEi	-1.90	6,178.60
			SAUDI - Tadawul	-0.730	10,764.85

# Business

## Assets show decrease on monthly basis

# Kuwaiti banks' managed assets show resilience with slight growth



From left Jakob Svensson, chairman of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Hans Ellegren, permanent secretary Royal Academy of Sciences and Randi Hjalmarsson, member of the committee for the prize in economic science in memory of Alfred Nobel announce the Nobel Prize in Economics, in Stockholm, Monday, Oct 9, 2023. The Nobel economics prize has been awarded to Claudia Goldin, a professor at Harvard University, for advancing understanding of women's labor market outcomes. Hans Ellegren, secretary-general of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, announced the award Monday in Stockholm. (AP)

# Nobel economics prize goes to prof for research on the workplace gender gap

3rd woman to win prize out of 93 economics laureates

**STOCKHOLM, Oct 9, (AP):** The Nobel economics prize was awarded Monday to Harvard University professor Claudia Goldin for research that has advanced the understanding of the gender gap in the labor market.

The announcement went a tiny step to closing the Nobel committee's own gender gap: Goldin is just the third woman to win the prize out of 93 economics laureates.

She has studied 200 years of women's participation in the workplace, showing that despite continued economic growth, women's pay did not continuously catch up to men's and a divide still exists despite women gaining higher levels of education than men.

"I've always been an optimist. But when I look at the numbers, I think something has happened in America, that we, in the 1990s, our labor force participation rate for women was the highest in the world, and now it isn't the highest in the world," Goldin told The Associated Press.

"We have to step back and ask questions about piecing together the family, the home, together with the marketplace and employment," she said.

Goldin's research does not offer solutions, but it allows policymakers to tackle the entrenched problem, said economist Randi Hjalmarsson, a member of the Nobel committee.

"She explains the source of the gap, and how it's changed over time and how it varies with the stage of development. And therefore, there is no single policy," Hjalmarsson said. "So it's a complicated policy question because if you don't know the underlying reason, a certain policy won't work."

However, "by finally understanding the problem and calling it by the right name, we will be able to pave a better route forward," Hjalmarsson said.

Goldin, 77, told AP that what happens in people's homes reflects what happens in the workplace, with women often taking jobs that allow them to be on call at home - work that often pays less.

"Ways in which we can even things out or to create more couple equity also leads to more gender equality," she said.

## Morocco welcomes the annual meeting of the IMF & World Bank, a month after its deadly earthquake

MARRAKECH, Morocco, Oct 9, (AP): Less than a two-hour drive from where families sleep in tents and earthquake rubble remain in piles, the world's most powerful financial institutions are gathering for a week of discussions on economic challenges during times of war, inequality and climate change.

The International Monetary Fund and World Bank decided in 2018 to host their annual meeting in Marrakech, Morocco, bringing the affair to the African continent for the first time in 50 years.

Their original timeline was delayed by the pandemic, but the meeting beginning Monday arrives at an apropos time. After a devastating earthquake last month killed nearly 3,000 and wreaked \$11.7 billion in damages, both officials and civil society groups are eagerly anticipating discussions about how to promote economic resiliency in light of natural disaster.

"In no other area is the need for international cooperation as evident as in addressing the existential threat of climate change. The world has a responsibility to stand with vulnerable countries as they deal with shocks they have not caused," Kristalina Georgieva, the IMF's managing director said in a speech on Thursday.

Often lenders of last resort, the

Goldin had to become a data sleuth as she sought to fill in missing data for her research, Hjalmarsson said. For parts of history, systematic labor market records did not exist, and, if they did, information about women was missing.

"So how did Claudia Goldin overcome this missing data challenge? She had to be a detective to dig through the archives to find novel data sources and creative ways to use them to measure these unknowns," Hjalmarsson said.

In Goldin's analysis, a woman's role in the job market and the pay she receives aren't influenced just by broad social and economic changes. They also are determined partly by her individual decisions about, for example, how much education to get.

Often young girls make decisions about future work by looking at their own mother's participation, each

IMF and the World Bank use billions in loans and assistance to buoy struggling economies and encourage countries operating in deficit to implement reforms they say promote stability and growth.

Still, they've been criticized for excluding the neediest nations from their governance and decision-making process, demanding painful spending cuts.

"It's a time of multiple crises, particularly for Arab and African countries who've been hit by various exogenous shocks not of their making," said Iskander Erzini Veranoit, the director of the Morocco-based Imal Initiative for Climate & Development. "There's this massive financing gap on the order of trillions for developing countries and also the key question of how affordable the financing can be."

Those shocks include the pandemic and rising energy and food costs spurred by the war in Ukraine. Those challenges are particularly pronounced in Africa, where many countries spend more on debt than health care and education combined. Critics say the terms of many loans offered force governments from Egypt to Zambia to choose between paying debt or implementing unpopular spending cuts.

In the aftermath of the earthquake,

generation "learning from the successes and failures of the preceding generation," Hjalmarsson said.

The process of evaluating prospects as times change "helps explain why change in labor market gender gaps has been so slow," she said.

Of receiving the Nobel, Goldin "was surprised and very, very glad," Ellegren said.

Her award follows the awards in medicine, physics, chemistry, literature and peace that were announced last week.

The economics award was created in 1968 by Sweden's central bank and is formally known as the Bank of Sweden Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

Last year's winners were former Federal Reserve Chair Ben Bernanke, Douglas W. Diamond and Philip Dybvig for their research into bank failures that helped shape America's aggressive response to the 2007-

the IMF approved a \$1.3 billion loan to "help strengthen its preparedness and resilience against natural disasters" in Morocco - a longtime borrower who has used loans and credit to weather economic downturns, including most recently when the pandemic hit tourism and exports particularly hard. The institution has pushed Morocco to balance its budget and continue raising interest rates.

In mountain villages far from the city's swanky hotels, midrise apartments and billboards advertising new construction, roads remain unpaved, water can be scarce and jobs hard to come by. The earthquake, residents say, exacerbated disparities plaguing rural areas and compounded struggles facing already-impooverished communities.

Signs of the country's rapid economic development will be on display in Marrakech, where streets have been swept and damaged landmarks.

But laid-off miner Brahim Ait Brahim - who lives in Anerni, a mountain village near the quake's epicenter - said he's still waiting for emergency financial and housing assistance one month after his house was destroyed in the earthquake.

"That's Marrakech. It's the capital for tourism," Ait Brahim said, describing it as the face of Morocco. "Here's it's hidden behind."

2008 financial crisis.

Only two of the 92 economics laureates honored have been women.

A week ago, Hungarian-American Katalin Karikó and American Drew Weissman won the Nobel Prize in medicine. The physics prize went Tuesday to French-Swedish physicist Anne L'Huillier, French scientist Pierre Agostini and Hungarian-born Ferenc Krausz.

U.S. scientists Moungi Bawendi, Louis Brus and Alexei Ekimov won the chemistry prize on Wednesday. They were followed by Norwegian writer Jon Fosse, who was awarded the prize for literature. And on Friday, jailed Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi won the peace prize.

The prizes are handed out at awards ceremonies in December in Oslo and Stockholm. They carry a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (about \$1 million). Winners also receive an 18-carat gold medal and diploma.

By Ahmad Fathi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Local banks' managed assets, which include funds managed for third parties, exhibited annual growth, increasing by 0.6 percent to reach a value of 179.8m dinars by the end of August. This was a slight uptick from the 31.21 billion dinars recorded in August 2022, bringing the total to 31.39 billion dinars. However, on a monthly basis, these assets decreased by 1.9 percent or 600.8 million dinars, down from 31.99 billion dinars in July.

According to data from the Central Bank of Kuwait for August, assets managed by banks during the first eight months of 2023 experienced a significant decline of 11.3 percent, totaling approximately 4.014 billion dinars. This marked a considerable decrease from the 35.404 billion dinars reported at the end of December 2022.

Throughout 2023, bank-managed assets witnessed a continuous decline, starting at 35.404 billion dinars in December, then rising slightly to 32.3 billion in February, before falling again to 31.1 billion in May. They subsequently increased in June to 31.3 billion dinars and further rose in July to 31.99 billion dinars.

Asset Distribution:

Among the 12 items comprising bank-managed assets, the managed portfolios item decreased by 2 percent on a monthly basis, amounting to 1.299 billion dinars in August, compared to 1.326 billion dinars in July. Nevertheless, it increased by 9.8 percent from the beginning of 2023, reaching a value of 116 million dinars, in contrast to 1.183 billion dinars in December 2022.

The locally managed investment funds item saw a substantial 84 percent decrease, amounting to 16.8 million dinars in August, down from 105.4 million dinars in December. This item remained relatively unchanged on both a monthly and annual basis.

## Persado gets leader ranking in CB Insights analysis of 'generative' AI text content generation market

NEW YORK, Oct 9, (Business Wire): Persado, the Motivation Artificial Intelligence (AI) company, is the top Leader in CB Insights' new landscape report assessing companies providing generative AI text content generation. CB Insights awarded Persado with a 9.8/10 score-nearly a point higher than the closest industry peer-from among the 32 private technology vendors included in the landscape and the 15 vendors featured in the Execution, Strength, and Positioning (ESP) Ranking Leaders are the most established service providers in the market and possess the breadth to address various customer needs. The full analysis is available for download here.

Motivation AI company Persado was named a top Leader in the CB Insights Generative AI Text Content Generation landscape, outperforming 14 vendors profiled in the report's Execution, Strength, and Positioning Ranking matrix. (Graphic: Business Wire)

According to CB Insights, "By adopting generative AI for text content generation, businesses can streamline and scale their content creation processes, save time and resources, and ensure consistent and high-quality output. It [the technology] enables scalability for producing large volumes of content and can be particularly beneficial for content marketing, copywriting, e-commerce content and other text-heavy industries."

Setting Persado apart in the space is the company's ability to deliver not only efficient, scalable solutions, but also drive measurable sales increases. Persado Motivation AI solutions are proven to help brands achieve both efficiencies effectiveness. In the last four years, Persado's top 30 customers collectively achieved \$1.5B+ in incremental revenue growth using Motivation AI technology.

CB Insights research helps businesses understand tech markets faster and discover the companies they need to know. Solutions in the recently published Generative AI Text Content Generation Market report leverage natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning (ML) algorithms to understand context, generate coherent and engaging text, and mimic the writing style of human authors. The firm's ESP Matrices and Scorecards leverage data and analyst insight to identify and rank leading companies in a given technology landscape.

Reasons cited by CB Insights for Persado's leading position include:

Persado Motivation AI is a specialized class of enterprise generative AI

Assets managed as trusts decreased by 4.9 percent, totaling 4.63 billion dinars in August, down from 4.868 billion dinars in July. On an annual basis, these assets decreased by 9.7 percent to 497.2 million dinars, compared to 5.127 billion dinars in August 2022.

Total contingent liabilities stemming from indirect financing operations declined by 2 percent to 14.52 billion dinars in August, compared to 14.65 billion dinars in July. These obligations encompassed documentary letters of credit, letters of guarantee, bank acceptances, irrevocable obligations, and restricted investment deposit placements.

Documentary Credits:

Documentary credits decreased by 7.3 percent, amounting to 1.099 billion dinars in August, down from 1.18 billion dinars in July. In contrast, the letters of guarantee item experienced a slight increase of 0.01 percent, reaching 11.276 billion dinars in August, compared to 11.275 billion dinars in July. Over eight months, this item saw a 4.1 percent rise, totaling 452.1 million dinars, compared to 10.824 billion dinars in December.

Bank acceptances increased by 10.5 percent, reaching 858.8 million dinars in August, up from 777.1 million dinars in July. Irrevocable obligations, on the other hand, decreased by 9.2 percent, amounting to 1.285 billion dinars in August, down from 1.417 billion dinars, but they increased by 160 percent from the beginning of the year, reaching about 792.8 million dinars. Investments and restricted investment deposits remained stable, while other assets increased by 1.2 percent, totaling 829.9 million dinars in August, up from 819.4 million dinars.

Local banks' investments in financial derivatives declined by 2 percent in August, reaching a value of 10 billion dinars, down from 10.3 billion dinars in March.

technology that is proven to help brands drive engagement and increased conversion. The company's solutions use advanced machine learning, natural language processing (NLP), and deep learning transformer models to understand copy intent and create emotion-informed messages that are quantifiably proven to motivate individuals to take action. Unlike other large language models, which pull and learn from the wide internet, Persado Motivation AI is trained on a specialized dataset of real interaction and transaction data from 1.2 billion active consumers that measure and refine language, emotional response, and engagement.

"As one of the industry's earliest generative AI companies, Persado has not only strengthened our specialized and proven knowledge base to generate millions in revenue for our customers, but pioneered applications where the technology is most impactful-including the online cart," explained Persado CEO and Co-founder Alex Vratskides. "Our Dynamic Motivation solution personalizes the CX with emotion-aware language, driving 3-5% lift in conversions within weeks. The brands that look beyond GenAI's productivity perks to also seize its performance potential are seeing huge business impact."

The CB Insights report, including the methodology used, can be downloaded here.

CB Insights builds software that enables the world's best companies to discover, understand, and make technology decisions with confidence. By marrying data, expert insights, and work management tools, clients can manage their end-to-end technology decision-making process. In addition, CB Insights ESPs help map key companies in a given market, so decision makers can easily identify the leaders they should be tracking. To learn more, visit [www.cbinsights.com](http://www.cbinsights.com).

Persado provides the only Motivation AI platform that generates personalized communications at scale, inspiring each individual to engage and act. Many of the world's largest brands, including Ally Bank, Coach, Dropbox, Kate Spade, JP Morgan Chase, Marks & Spencer, and Verizon, rely on Persado to engage customers across their journey, from acquisition communications to online cart conversion. Persado's Generative AI for the enterprise is trained on more than 100 billion digital business language impressions across industries, enabling marketers to motivate customers and drive significant business value.

## BUSINESS

## Air India suspends flights to Israel till Oct 14

India on Sunday asked its citizens in Israel to take utmost care and contact embassy in case of emergency as Air India suspended flights from and to Tel Aviv till October 14.

Union Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan said the Indians stranded in Israel have to stay safe and to contact the Indian embassy there if they need any assistance, according to the Press Trust of India.

The Indian minister also said that the embassy has already issued an advisory to Indians in Israel to stay safe.

"Indians in Israel can approach the Indian Embassy anytime. The embassy will extend all sorts of assistance to Indians stranded there," he was quoted as saying.

He also expressed solidarity with the people of Israel and

stated in response to a question about India's stand on the conflict between Israel and the Hamas that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had expressed shock over the attack on Israel.

The Indian mission in Tel Aviv and the Representative Office of India in Palestine asked Indian nationals in Israel to remain vigilant and directly contact the embassy in case of emergency. (KUNA)

Azentio Software ("Azentio"), a Singapore-headquartered technology firm owned by funds advised by Apex Partners, today announced it has won awards in three categories at the recent Global BankTech Awards 2023. The awards recognize Azentio ONECapitalMarkets - Private Banking & Wealth Management suite, Azentio Financial Crime Management solution and Azentio

## Azentio Software wins three awards

iMAL Trade Finance application emphasizing the company's diverse capabilities in banking and financial services technology solutions.

Hosted by The Digital Banker, a globally trusted business intelligence and research partner in financial services, the Global BankTech Awards 2023 is the world's premier assessment program dedicated to recognizing companies that

have introduced out-of-the-box solutions for financial institutions to address key business challenges by deploying best-in-class software systems across the financial services landscape.

The Digital Banker Awards programme is co-judged by subject matter experts from KPMG, EY, PwC, Deloitte, Forrester and others. (PR Newswire)

## Gulf Bank begins the capital increase subscription to its issued and paid-up capital on Sunday, October 29

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Following all regulatory approvals, Gulf Bank announced that the subscription period for the capital increase will start from Sunday 29 October, 2023 until Sunday 12 November, 2023.

Gulf Bank has obtained the approval of the Central Bank of Kuwait and the Capital Market Authority to increase its issued and paid-up capital by KD 26.1 million through a public offering, with rights issue of 260,869,565 new ordinary shares at a nominal value of 100 fils, in addition to a share premium of 130 fils per share, for a total offering price of 230 fils per share.

The total proceeds will result in an increase in the Bank's capital base by KD 60 million.

It is noteworthy that Gulf Bank

has appointed Kamco Invest as the Joint Lead Issuance Manager and Subscription Agent and Gulf Bank itself is also acting as the Joint Lead Issuance Manager and Subscription Agent.

On this occasion, Gulf Bank's Chairman, Mr. Jassim Mustafa Boodai, said: "With this additional capital, we are well-equipped to strengthen our regulatory capital, invest in our future strategic growth and continue providing exceptional products and service to our customers"

Boodai further pointed that as of 30 June 2023, Gulf Bank Capital Adequacy Ratio was 16.1% and the Tier 1 Ratio was 13.9%, both above their regulatory requirement.

Thus, total proceeds from the Capital Increase will further

enhance the Bank's regulatory capital ratios. Boodai also highlighted that Gulf Bank remains an 'A' rated bank from three major credit rating agencies.

Concluding his statement, Mr. Jassim Mustafa Boodai expressed his appreciation to all the regulatory authorities for their cooperation in completing the necessary approvals, namely:

The Central Bank of Kuwait, the Capital Markets Authority, Boursa Kuwait, as well as the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

All information related to the subscription process and the prospectus will become available on Gulf Bank and the subscription agents' websites, e-gulfbank.com and www.kamcoinvest.com,



Gulf Bank chairman

and subscription applications will be received through the Ku-



Gulf Bank headquarters

wait Clearing Company's (KCC)

subscription platform at www.ipo.com.kw, during the subscription period.

## CPChem, QatarEnergy 'finalize' financing on the Ras Laffan Petrochemicals project

'Finalizing the financing a key milestone'

DOHA, Qatar, Oct 9, (Business Wire): Ras Laffan Petrochemicals, a joint venture company owned 30% by Chevron Phillips Chemical and 70% by QatarEnergy, announced that it has secured \$4.4 billion to finance an integrated polymers facility to be located in Ras Laffan Industrial City, Qatar.

The project financing comprises commercial and Islamic lenders and a group of export credit agencies.

## Support

"CPChem very much appreciates the support of the export credit agencies and financial institutions that are participating in the financing of this project," said Darren Ercolani, CPChem Senior Vice President, Finance, and Chief Financial Officer. "This financing helps support CPChem's growth strategy and our productive collaboration with QatarEnergy."

Finalizing the financing is a key milestone in the development of the 435-acre petrochemical project, which will include the largest ethane cracker in the Middle East and one of the largest in the world.

The facility will have a capacity of 2.1 million metric tons per year of ethylene and will also include two high-density polyethylene derivative units with a total annual capacity of 1.7 million metric tons.

## EU adopts new rules for renewable energy

BRUSSELS, Oct 9, (KUNA): European Union's Council of Ministers adopted on Monday the new Renewables Energy Regulations to raise the share of renewable energy in the EU's overall energy consumption to 42.5% by 2030.

The Council said in a statement that EU Member states would choose between a binding target of 14.5% reduction of greenhouse gas intensity in transport from the use of renewables by 2030, or a binding share of at least 29% of renewables within the final consumption of energy in the transport sector by 2030.

Spanish acting Minister for the Ecological Transition Teresa Ribera, said that "this is a great achievement in the frame-

The polyethylene units will use CPChem's MarTech™ loop slurry process to produce high-density polyethylene for durable goods like pipe for natural gas and water delivery and packaging applications to protect and preserve food and keep medical supplies sterile.

## Decision

CPChem and QatarEnergy reached positive final investment decision for the Ras Laffan Petrochemicals project in January 2023, and startup of the facility is expected in late 2026.

The two companies also are constructing a joint venture integrated polymers facility on the Texas Gulf Coast, which is

work of the 'Fit for 55' package, which will help reaching the EU's climate goal of reducing EU emissions by at least 55% by 2030."

She also added that "It is a step forward which will contribute to reach the EU's climate targets in a fair, cost-effective and competitive way" said

## Adopted

The Council said in a separate statement that they also adopted on Monday the 'Renewable EU aviation' initiative to reduce the carbon footprint of the aviation sector.

Spanish Acting Minister for transport Raquel Jimenez, said that The new law will provide legal certainty to aircraft opera-

expected to be operational in 2026.

"Chevron Phillips Chemical" includes Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LLC and its wholly owned subsidiaries. Chevron Phillips Chemical is one of the world's top producers of olefins and polyolefins and a leading supplier of aromatics, alpha olefins, styrenics, specialty chemicals, polyethylene piping and polymer resins.

With approximately 5,000 employees, Chevron Phillips Chemical and its affiliates own nearly \$19 billion in assets, including 31 manufacturing and research facilities in six countries.

Chevron Phillips Chemical

tors and fuel suppliers in Europe.

She added, "By kick-starting the large-scale production of sustainable aviation fuels, it will soon make the EU's aviation sector much greener, noting that this is a key step in our broader effort to reach our climate targets at European and global level"

The new regulation obliges aviation fuel suppliers to ensure that all fuel made available to aircraft operators at EU airports contains a minimum share of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) from 2025 and, from 2030, a minimum share of synthetic fuels, with both shares increasing progressively until 2050.

is owned equally by Chevron U.S.A., Inc. and Phillips 66 Company, and is headquartered in The Woodlands, Texas.

For more information about Chevron Phillips Chemical, visit www.cpchem.com and follow us on social media: @chevronphillips.

"Chevron Phillips Chemical" or "CPChem" may refer to one or more Chevron Phillips Chemical's subsidiaries or affiliates or to all of them taken as a whole.

All of these terms are used for convenience only and are not intended as a precise description of any of the separate companies, each of which manages its own affairs.

## Convict in 1MDB fund case is back in Malaysia to help recover assets

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Oct 9, (AP): A former Goldman Sachs executive convicted in the United States in the multibillion-dollar ransacking of a Malaysian sovereign wealth fund has been brought back to the country to assist in asset recovery efforts, an official said Monday.

Roger Ng Chong Hwa is under police custody after arriving in Kuala Lumpur over the weekend, according to Home Minister Saifuddin Nasution.

Ng, a Malaysian, was convicted by a U.S. District Court jury in Brooklyn last year and sentenced in March to 10 years in prison.

Prosecutors said Ng and his co-conspirators helped the Malaysian fund, known as 1MDB, to raise \$6.5 billion through bond sales - only to participate in a scheme that siphoned off more than two-thirds of the money, some of which went to pay bribes and kickbacks.

Ng has denied charges that he conspired to launder money and violated two anti-bribery laws.

"We still have unfinished business," Saifuddin told reporters. "The main objective of bringing him back is to see how he can assist in our efforts to recover assets owned by the people."

Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim's government, which came into power last November, has sought to review a settlement package with Goldman Sachs made by the previous administration in 2020 that it said was too light.

Under the deal, Goldman is to pay \$2.5 billion while guaranteeing the return of \$1.4 billion of 1MDB assets that have been seized in exchange of Malaysia dropping charges

against the bank.

Saifuddin said police will continue their probe on Ng, who also faces graft charges in Malaysia. There is no deadline, he said, to return Ng to the United States, where his prison term has been put on hold to accommodate Malaysia.

Police have declined to say where Ng was being held, citing security reasons.

The 1MDB theft and cover-up attempts upended the country's government at the time. Former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak suffered a stunning defeat in 2018 general elections and began a 12-year jail term last year after losing his final appeal in the first of several trials linked to the 1MDB saga.

The scandal also sent ripples through Hollywood, where some of the stolen money had gone to finance lavish parties, a superyacht, premium real estate and even the 2013 film "The Wolf of Wall Street." Malaysian financier Low Taek Jho, accused of being the architect of the plot, remains an international fugitive.

Ng's lawyers said he was the fall guy for Low and a fellow Goldman Sachs banker also charged in the scheme. Tim Leissner, Ng's former boss at Goldman Sachs, pleaded guilty in 2018 to bribing government officials in Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates. He was ordered to pay \$43.7 million and became a key government witness during Ng's two-month trial.

Ng, who oversaw investment banking in Malaysia for his firm, said Leissner implicated him to gain leniency during his own sentencing. Leissner has not yet been sentenced.

## Hanshow's Sustainability Report maps a greener future with EPIC framework

BEIJING, Oct 9, (Business Wire): Hanshow, one of the world's leading digital retail solution providers, is thrilled to unveil the company's Sustainability Report for 2022 as part of its unwavering commitment to advance sustainable business and management practices through technology and innovation.

This latest Sustainability Report outlines the progress Hanshow made in fiscal year 2022 to advance Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) goals, reduce emissions and waste, and improve company management as part of its push to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035.

Hanshow's CEO, Hou Shiguo, is quoted in the report saying, "At Hanshow, sustainable development is always at the core of our work. Our commitment to sustainable development is reflected in our Environmentally Beneficial, Promoting Prosperity, Innovation & Digitalization, Integrity & Governance, and Climate Neutrality, or 'EPIC' framework. Through it, Hanshow will refine its sustainable development management system to improve implementation and ensure operations are mutually supportive of social and environmental benefits, promoting harmonious development."

In 2022, Hanshow's Electronic Shelf Label (ESL) solutions redefined retail management by allowing stores to sync price changes and product information with greater efficiency and sustainability. Hanshow recycled more than one million ESLs in 2022, and Hanshow's AI solutions empower more stores to monitor shelf display, inventory, and real-time insights to further enhance sustainable store management. This is possible because Hanshow's SaaS services expanded with the deployment of hundreds of servers spanning the global landscape.

The Sustainability Report introduces Hanshow's EPIC framework, encompassing five key themes: Environmentally Beneficial, Promoting Prosperity, Innovation & Digitalization, Integrity & Governance, and Climate Neutrality. Hanshow integrates these principles across its operations, supporting industry digitalization through innovation, collaborating with partners for environmentally friendly production, and contributing to social prosperity.

To put the EPIC framework into action, Hanshow created an internal ESG governance structure. This structure's role includes defining the board's supervisory responsibilities and establishing committees and groups responsible for overseeing ESG management and its execution.

Hanshow is undertaking a multifaceted approach to embrace sustainability throughout its entire company management system and supply chain. This encompasses inclusivity, sustainable procurement practices, emphasizing responsible sourcing, and minimizing product and shipping packaging.

In 2022, Hanshow secured a range of certifications, including ISO 27001, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and ISO 45001, underscoring adherence to robust management systems.

Hanshow's steadfast dedication to gender inclusivity is evident in the representation of women, comprising 33.82% of key managerial positions and 36% of the overall workforce.

Hanshow not only offers cutting-edge digital technologies and innovative solutions, but also prioritizes reducing the carbon emissions impact of its operations and supply chain. Through technology, Hanshow will grow and collaborate with a wider range of customers and partners to promote multifaceted sustainability well into the future.

## SFD signs new \$20m devt loan deal with Tajikistan

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan, Oct 9, (Business Wire): The Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) Chief Executive Officer, H.E. Sultan Al-Marshad, signed today a new development loan agreement with the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Kahorzoda Fayziddin Sattor, through which SFD is contributing \$20 million USD to fund the fifth phase of the "Constructing and Equipping of Secondary Schools" project in Tajikistan. Attending the signing ceremony was the Deputy Minister of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan, Majidi Yusuf Khayrullo, and the Saudi Ambassador to Tajikistan, H.E. Waleed Al-Reshidan, alongside other officials

from both sides.

The signing of today's loan agreement will construct and equip 19 schools across different regions of Tajikistan, to cater for the rising demand for education. Once completed, it will enhance the country's educational landscape, benefitting approximately 30,000 students.

This marks a continuation of SFD's contributions towards developing and improving public education in Tajikistan, and aligns with its efforts to promote sustainable development in developing countries around the world. The signing brings the total contribution of the Fund towards the education sector in Tajikistan to \$95 million USD, through which it

will establish 76 public schools in total.

Additionally, it will benefit Tajikistan's economy by creating direct and indirect jobs, both during the construction phase, and by employing teachers in the different regions where the schools will be based.

The project aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 4, Quality Education, and SDG 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth. Moreover, and aims to ensure that more children across the nation have access to quality education. It represents yet another key milestone in the longstanding relationship between SFD and Tajikistan, which extends for

over 20 years.

The signing ceremony followed the previous day's participation of SFD's CEO in the inauguration of Shahrinav School. Built during the fourth phase of the same project, for which SFD had contributed \$35 million USD, Shahrinav School will host 36 classrooms and 620 students.

The SFD has decades of expertise since its establishment in 1974, and has implemented more than 700 development projects worth \$18.7 billion USD in over 90 countries worldwide. In Tajikistan, SFD has financed 12 development projects worth over \$190 million USD to support developmental projects in key sectors.

# On 'Carolyn's Boy,' Rucker pays loving tribute to his mom

LOS ANGELES, Oct 9, (AP): In 1992, country star Darius Rucker's mom died of a heart attack. That was two years before his band, Hootie and the Blowfish, would release their debut record "Cracked Rear View." It went No. 1 and eventually became diamond certified, twice.

Carolyn Rucker didn't get to experience her son's incredible success - either in the rock band, or in the 2000s, as a Grammy award winning country music superstar. It's been 10 years since he released his cover of "Wagon Wheel," one of the most popular country songs of all time.

But Darius Rucker never stopped thinking about her. On Friday, he released "Carolyn's Boy," his eighth solo full-length album in tribute to his mom.

"I was writing the record, I was having a bad day, you know, bad mental day. And I just remember I sat there, and I said to myself, 'At the end of the day, I'm just still my mama's boy.' And that was really the moment for me, you know, that's what the record is," he told The Associated Press. "It's me just being who she raised me to be."

And though it has been over three decades since her death, Rucker says he finally got to a point where he knew it was time to thank

her in this way - through a collection of 14 cheery country music tracks. "Now that I'm a dad, three times over with grown kids, I just wanted to pay tribute to my mom who never got to see any of this stuff, any of this success."

Songs that might sound like they're about a romantic relationship or a carefree afternoon - such as "Never Been Over," with its folksy acoustic riff, or the laidback radio hit "Beers and Sunshine" - recall Carolyn. Especially the latter. "She worked hard. She was a nurse," he says. "When she came home, she wanted a Budweiser and to sit on the back porch."

## Resonance

But, he adds, the listener could find resonance in these songs with any kind of relationship. "Love is love, even though there's different kinds of love," he adds, so to others, these songs could be about "your cousin or your uncle or your brother or your mom or your dad."

Still, "You never stop missing your mom," he says. She was his first fan - and as he describes her, a "much better singer." Rucker's mom inspired him to become a performer, because she was his first audience, watching a young Darius sing Al Green songs into the salt and pepper shaker.

There's nothing somber about this tribute album - "Carolyn's Boy" is about the good times. "Joyful is the word," Rucker says. "She was a happy person."

Optimism is found all over "Carolyn's Boy." Like in the only collaboration on the album, "O! Church Hymn," featuring the trio Chapel Hart, made up of sisters Danica Hart and Devynn Hart and their cousin Trea Swindle. Rucker saw a video of the group covering Dolly Parton's "Jolene" on Twitter, fell in love with their choir-like voices, and slid into their DMs to ask if they'd want to cut a record. "Those family harmonies, you can't match that," he says.

Then there's the nostalgic, romantic ballad "Sara," a song Rucker went to London to write with Ed Sheeran. He's known Sheeran since the English singer opened for Taylor Swift in the US early on, and they became friends.

"We just kept talking about writing together some day. And so, I said, 'All right.' And I actually go on a plane; I was there less than 24 hours," he says. "We sat around and wrote all day and then we got really drunk and I came home," he laughs.

If anything, that is the spirit Rucker carries hopes throughout "Carolyn's Boy": it should sound like a celebration.

Music

## Variety



This image released by Neon shows Jessica Henwick, (left), and Julia Garner in a scene from 'The Royal Hotel.' (AP)

## Film

A captivating tale of 2 young female backpackers

# 'The Royal Hotel' is a subtle horror flick

LOS ANGELES, Oct 9, (AP): "The Royal Hotel" is a horror movie but don't expect any jump-cuts, scary masks or serial killers. It's more like the horror that dawns on a frog when it realizes it is being boiled alive.

Filmmaker Kitty Green tells a captivating tale of two young American female backpackers who find themselves tending bar for a few weeks in a very remote part of Australia.

The bar is a dump ironically called "The Royal Hotel" and the clientele are rough, hard-drinking miners unfamiliar with the etiquette of Miss Manners or even just respectful interaction.

Our two heroines - Julia Garner from "Ozark" and Jessica Henwick from "Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery" - really should not be in this situation. They are the recipients of dirty jokes, drunken behavior, offensive nicknames and constant propositions. One client pays for his beer by passive-aggressively tossing coins at them.

"Wouldn't hurt you to smile a bit?" they are asked.

Green, who directs with a screenplay she wrote with Oscar Redding, explores how women respond to a male-centered environment and how it can test their own friendship. The constant threat of violence hangs over this tale very uncomfortably, its wingman always being alcohol. Would-be heroes come and then show their true nature, slinking off.

It is a subtle movie, with the growing accretion of indignities building slowly until one of the women blurts out: "I'm scared. I'm scared of this place. I'm scared of everyone and everything in this place."

And yet, they stay. The remoteness of the bar - a bus is always several days away - helps explain some of the stasis, but the two women have the very human tendency to settle: They make excuses, they blame themselves, they point to cultural misunderstandings and another day begins.

Hugo Weaving plays the bar owner, the arbiter of

what is correct (mis)behavior. But the moral center is played by Ursula Yovich, who speaks truth to power and when she leaves, allows chaos to fully enter.

"The Royal Hotel" has a pessimistic - OK, accurate - view of gender relations. The two sides simply don't understand each other - "I can't hear you," says one of the women early on to a would-be suitor - and attempts at conversation are so often drowned out by noise. It asks how you can rationalize ending up mopping up puke in a dive bar in rural Down Under.

The movie perfectly starts with a dark remix of Men at Work's "Down Under." Remember the lyrics: "Buying bread from a man in Brussels/He was 6-foot-4 and full of muscle/I said, 'Do you speak my language?' He just smiled and gave me a Vegemite sandwich."

"The Royal Hotel" shares a vibe with Alex Garland's sophisticated horror film "Men" - an arty indictment of toxic masculinity that often felt like a lecture. But Green's film doesn't feel like that. The final scene will make you cheer, even if the ultimate message is murky.

"The Royal Hotel," a Neon release, is rated R for "language throughout, sexual content and nudity." Running time: 91 minutes. Three stars out of four.

## Also:

LOS ANGELES: Prasanna Vithanage's film 'Paradise' is a groundbreaking venture, marking the very first collaboration between Mani Ratnam's Madras Talkies and the Malayalam film industry.

'Paradise' portrays the scenario of 2022 Sri Lanka during its financial crisis, where surging inflation leads to food, medication, and fuel shortages, resulting in blackouts and public unrest. This narrative takes viewers on a gripping rollercoaster of love, deceit, and crime. Against this backdrop, Paradise tells the story of a TV producer and his wife, a vlogger, who arrive in the hill country of Sri Lanka to

celebrate their 5th wedding anniversary. However, when things take an unexpected turn, conflicts deepen, revealing cracks in their relationship.

Director Vithanage comments, "In the face of crisis, an individual's true nature emerges. I aim to explore life's realities, their effects on relationships, and highlight disparities in race, status, justice, and gender. Through the characters' struggles with societal and personal conflicts, a deeper truth about human nature is revealed."

"Paradise" is a fast-paced and thrilling cinematic experience that will entertain and astonish," enthused Anto Chittilappilly, Newton Cinema Producer and CEO.

Madras Talkies, Producer Siva Ananth comments, "'Paradise' is full of nuanced insights and subtle cinematic flourishes from a master filmmaker. It is studded with remarkable performances from a top notch cast and crew. We are delighted to present this film under our banner."

The film stars Roshan Mathew, Darshana Rajendran, Shyam Fernando, and Mahendra Perera, with Rajeev Ravi as the cinematographer, Sreekar Prasad as the editor, Tapas Nayak as the sound designer, and "K" as the music director.

Roshan Mathew shared, "Director Vithanage proposed, 'Let's delve into the human psyche together.' This exploration is what he fostered throughout the shoot. I believe my character, Kesav, embodies elements of human nature that resides in everyone."

Darshana Rajendran, who portrayed Amritha, said, "I recognized my character as captivatingly complex. Her strong convictions often remain unspoken, revealing themselves more in solitary moments than in her verbal communication. I embraced this as a unique opportunity to lead the audience through Amritha's profound transformation."

The world premiere of 'Paradise' was held on Oct 7, 2023, at Busan International Film Festival in South Korea.

LOS ANGELES: "The Exorcist: Believer" spun heads and drove off all foes at the box office.

Facing competition from no major new releases, the latest resurrection of the demonic franchise brought in \$27.2 million in North America in its opening weekend for Universal Pictures and Blumhouse Productions, according to studio estimates Sunday.

That was more than the weekend take of the next three films combined. But while it nearly earned back its reported budget of \$30 million in just a few days, the take for "The Exorcist: Believer" was underwhelming after the two companies paid \$400 million in 2021 for the rights to a new trilogy.

Last week's top film, "Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie," was a distant second, with \$11.8 million, and has earned \$38.9 million after two weekends for Paramount Pictures. Another horror sequel, "Saw X," was third for Lionsgate Films, with \$8.2 million, and has brought in \$32.6 million after two weekends.

The new "Exorcist" was released just shy of the 50th anniversary of the original horror classic, and comes just two months after the death of the original film's director, William Friedkin.

Directed by David Gordon Green, who has become a legacy sequel specialist after helming a trilogy of "Halloween" films, "The Exorcist: Believer" stars "Hamilton" actor Leslie Odom Jr., with Lidya Jewett as his 13-year-old daughter. (AP)

LONDON: British filmmaker Terence Davies, best known for a pair of powerful, lyrical movies inspired by his childhood in postwar Liverpool, has died at the age of 77.

Davies' manager John Taylor said the director died "peacefully at home in his sleep" on Saturday after a short illness.

Raised in a large working-class Roman Catholic family in the English port city, Davies worked as a clerk in a shipping office and a bookkeeper in an accountancy firm before enrolling at a drama school in the city of Coventry and later the National Film School.

After making several short films, Davies made his feature debut as writer-director in 1988 with "Distant Voices, Still Lives," a dreamlike - sometimes nightmarish - collage of

a film that evoked a childhood of poverty and violence leavened by music and movie magic. The film won the Cannes International Critics Prize in 1988, and in 2002 was voted the ninth-best film of the past 25 years by British film critics.

Davies followed it in 1992 with another autobiographical film, "The Long Day Closes," and later



Davies



Odom Jr

returned to Liverpool for a 2008 documentary, "Of Time and the City."

Michael Koresky, author of a book on Davies; said the director's two autobiographical features "are melancholy, occasionally harrowing, and are also indescribably beautiful, two of the greatest works in all of cinema."

"Arguably, he doesn't even have imitators; no one would dare," Koresky wrote on the British Film Institute website.

The autobiographical films opened the door to bigger budgets and more mainstream films, still showcasing Davies' distinctive lyricism and often set in the 19th or early 20th centuries.

His 1995 film "The Neon Bible" was based on a John Kennedy Toole novel and set in the U.S. Deep South. "The House of Mirth," released in 2000, starred Gillian Anderson in an adaptation of Edith Wharton's classic, and won the prize for best British Film at the 2001 British Academy Film Awards. (AP)

## People &amp; Places

## Media

## Endless coverage

## Trump's legal drama a blessing to MSNBC

NEW YORK, Oct. 9, (AP): During a recent "Morning Joe" discussion of another development in the four indictments of former president Donald Trump, NBC News reporter Ken Dilanian predicted, "we are in for a real show next year."

MSNBC is not just counting on that to be true. The network is built around it.

The news outlet is hyper-focused on Trump's legal jeopardy, with a team of experts ready to dissect every ruling, every filing, every comment. The approach has seen success - even with some Republicans - with potential for more and the obvious questions of what happens when the bubble bursts.

"MSNBC has pretty well-established themselves as the leading anti-Trump network, certainly of late," said Jon Klein, a former CNN president and news analyst. "Once you've chosen your lane, you may as well go for it."



Trump

Certainly, the recipient of its attention has noticed. In a late September post on Truth Social, Trump complained about "one-sided and vicious coverage" on NBC News and, particularly, MSNBC. He said they should be investigated for "country-threatening treason" and said MSNBC's endless coverage of Russia and "other things" amounted to a campaign contribution to Democrats.

The network would not make anyone available to talk about its strategy. MSNBC's prime-time viewership was up slightly over last year in the third quarter, while CNN and Fox News Channel saw double-digit declines, according to the Nielsen company. So far this year, Fox has averaged 2.18 million viewers, MSNBC 1.51 million and CNN 639,000.

Without making clear how many of its viewers are Republicans, MSNBC said its GOP audience increased 24% this spring, compared to 2022, and 37% in a middle America region that includes Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Iowa.

The rapid advancement of cord cutting has shrunk the number of available viewers for cable networks, and it's still uncertain where news streaming will settle. That makes it more important than ever for a network to identify a specific audience it wants to serve. Fox News has made billions of dollars through that strategy.

## Attention

Emphasizing one story to the near-exclusion of others has happened in spurts before, such as CNN's all-consuming attention to the missing Malaysia Airlines flight in 2014 and MSNBC during Trump's impeachments.

This story is unlikely to fade from the headlines anytime soon.

During the first day of Trump's civil trial in New York on fraud charges Monday, it was the lead story on each one of MSNBC's shows from 3 p.m. to midnight. Nicolle Wallace discussed it for a half hour in the afternoon, capped off with some caustic commentary from a regular analyst, former Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill.

Joy Reid predicted the trial would "completely shatter whatever remains of the myth of Trump as an extremely wealthy and successful businessman - you know, the original big lie."

Half of Jen Psaki's prime-time show was devoted to the topic, with former Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. and former New York US Attorney Preet Bharara as guests. Rachel Maddow, as is her wont, took a circuitous route to the story, comparing former President Jimmy Carter's effort to eliminate the guinea worm with Trump's ex-president.

"Donald Trump went to court today, and once again New York did not care," said Lawrence O'Donnell, who nonetheless made the story his chief topic.

It was par for the course on a day Trump's legal issues made headlines. While not all topics of cable news fascination merit the attention, that's not the case given the unprecedented nature of what a former president who is seeking that office again is facing, Klein said.

There's a need to explain complex legal maneuvers, and "the better job you do of it, you're going to engender loyalty from your viewers," he said.

To that end, Ari Melber's 6 p.m. Eastern show, "The Beat," is often the most-watched on MSNBC. The Emmy-winning NBC News legal analyst with a penchant for rap lyrics is a lawyer who specialized in First Amendment cases and brings a methodical, "follow the facts" style to the issues he addresses.

Like other MSNBC opinion hosts, he's hard on Trump. Yet Melber is respected enough as a lawyer that some figures in Trump world, like Peter Navarro and lawyer Joe Tacopina, have appeared on "The Beat" to tell their stories.

MSNBC has assembled a team of legal experts that has appeared throughout its lineup and gained trust through familiarity.

They include law professors Andrew Weissmann, former lead prosecutor in special counsel Robert Mueller's office, and Mary McCord, who worked at the Department of Justice and was an attorney for the District of Columbia for two decades. Together, they host the podcast, "Prosecuting Donald Trump."

## Appearance

Chuck Rosenberg, who worked at the FBI and was acting administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration at the end of the Obama administration, also hosts a podcast called "The Oath."

Other regulars are Neal Katyal, a former acting solicitor general who frequently argued before the US Supreme Court and co-authored the book, "Impeach: The Case Against Donald Trump"; Barbara McQuade, a former US attorney in Michigan; and Joyce Vance, a former US attorney in Alabama.

During a recent appearance, Weissmann worried that he was getting lost in the weeds discussing a judge's options to sanction Trump for speaking out on one of the cases against him.

"You're in a safe space, Andrew," host Psaki said. "This is a safe space for nerds."

It's all very reminiscent to Ariana Pekary, a former MSNBC producer. During the Trump impeachments, the network would leap on any morsel of news, sometimes blowing it out of proportion. Occasionally producers would leave the first segment of a show's rundown open until the last possible moment, recognizing something about Trump will probably come up, she said.

Ratings, available in 15-minute increments, proved it's what the audience wanted to see, she said.

She worried that it was becoming an obsession, and corrosive to the democracy, and said so publicly when she resigned in 2020.



Omar Apollo performs at the Coachella Music & Arts Festival at the Empire Polo Club on Friday, April 22, 2022, in Indio, Calif. On his latest EP, 'Live For Me,' Omar Apollo processes death, grief, acceptance and the lack of it - big, traumatic emotions - through intimate, lush sounds. (AP)

## Music

## 'Evergreen' singer defies genre boundaries

## Apollo opens his heart in 'Live For Me'

NEW YORK, Oct. 9, (AP): In just four songs on his latest EP, "Live For Me," Omar Apollo processes death, grief, acceptance and the lack of it - big, traumatic emotions - through intimate, lush sounds.

The EP, out Friday, follows Apollo's 2022 debut album "Ivory" and a 2023 Grammy nomination for best new artist. It's also his first project since touring with SZA, and since his song "Evergreen (You Didn't Deserve Me At All)" went viral on social media, bringing swaths of new listeners to his music.

The singer-songwriter recently debuted the EP's lead single at a show in London and went underground to preview the title track with TikTok's latest sensation, "Tube Girl" Sabrina Bahsoon. Later this month, he'll share New York's Madison Square Garden stage with Daniel Caesar and Montell Fish at Caesar's "Superpowers World Tour."

So, things are busy. But Apollo, 26, says all of it has felt productive, and inspiring.

"I just feel like I'm doing and living. I feel alive now and ... I think that's important," he said.

Apollo spoke with The Associated Press via Zoom about the release, not conforming to any one genre and his favorite song as of late. One thing he didn't want to talk about just yet: The portrait by artist Doron Langberg on the EP's front cover (and the NSFW extension of that painting on the back). More on that later, he said.

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

AP: You said in a statement that 'Ice Slippin,' the first song released from the EP, is about the feelings you had after coming out to your family. Why did you feel like the right time for you to put out this song?

Apollo: A lot of the songs I write are emotions that I dealt with or am

dealing with at that time. I think it was something that I wanted to go back to, travel back in time to. A lot has changed since then. ... That song was about me being in a car, driving during the winter and getting off the highway ... and I was just sliding. It was such an emotional part of my life, and it also surfaced physically. So it was strange to see what I was dealing with and I feel how it was manifesting in my life physically. Everything kind of felt like this crash, you know?

AP: It feels like that song establishes the emotional landscape of 'Live For Me.' Of the four songs, why did you want "Ice Slippin" to be released first?

Apollo: It was really important for this song to come out first, actually. A lot of people that I work with were like, 'Why this one first?' ... But for me it was more about, this was a transition I wanted to make as an artist, to not feel bound by structure or other people's ideas of me - more just like my decisions that I would make if I was still in Indiana living in the attic. I would upload that song first.

AP: And why these songs together on an EP, and not a longer project?

Apollo: A longer project would definitely need more time. I've been on the road - I was on tour with SZA, I did two, three headline tours, so I haven't really had time. These songs were made in between these things. Now I have time, so I'm working. But these songs have been done for a while and ... I wanted to do something this year. I wanted to do something that wasn't passive, that had intention. ... It's short, but it has a lot of my introspective world.

AP: The sound of these tracks feels a bit different than some of what you've done recently - do you think it is? Or does it feel like a natural evolution?

Apollo: I think it's better. I think

it's an evolution. I think everything is intentional on this. And yeah, like I've been big on types of music since the beginning, you know. I've been rapping since I did the first EP. I know on 'Evergreen' I was singing and singing, so people might just know me as a singer. But I like to do all genres. I love music, I got into music because I love all parts of it - so no, it doesn't feel like I'm like, 'Oh, I'm going to go try this.' I just feel like I'm doing and living. I feel alive now and ... I think that's important.

AP: What is your process when approaching a new song idea?

Apollo: One song at a time. Always. I can come up with an intentional example, or an idea. But it's usually just one song at a time. Like, I have this idea stimulating my brain, and I'm going to sit here for 16 hours and figure it out because it's fun.

AP: Is there any music that you've been listening to a lot recently?

Apollo: I've had "Tesla" by Lil Yachty on for the past four days. It's the only song I listen to. It's so strange, it's just the only song I want to listen to right now. I think because my music can be really heavy sometimes, I don't want to think too much. Sometimes I just want, you know, some hard sh... And I like the feeling of that song, like - that's fantastic. I love this.

AP: How do you hope this project is received?

Apollo: The only thing I can hope for is for (fans) to be inspired in whatever way they choose. I know these songs can be interpreted in all different ways. ... When I go to the shows and I see their faces and they're crying, singing every word, that gives me energy. I'm up there trying my hardest, sweating, you know, out of breath, just trying to put on a good show. So that's everything to me. I would just hope for people listening to learn something about themselves or be inspired.



Actors Julianne Nicholson, (left), and Zoe Lister-Jones attend the premiere for 'Janet Planet,' at Alice Tully Hall during the 61st New York Film Festival, Sunday, Oct. 8, in New York. (AP)



Rosenbaum



Shakur

## Variety

**LAS VEGAS:** The man charged with murder in the 1996 killing of **Tupac Shakur** had little to say when he was arrested outside Las Vegas. But **Duane "Keffe D" Davis** knew the gravity of it, according to police body camera footage released Friday.

"So what they got you for, man?" an officer out of the frame later asks Davis, 60, who is sitting handcuffed in a police car parked outside the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's headquarters.

"Biggest case in Las Vegas history," Davis replied, recounting the date, "September 7th, 1996."

Shakur was fatally shot that night. "I ain't worried about ... I ain't did (expletive)," Davis told the officer as his voice trails off.

Police and prosecutors allege Davis was the mastermind behind the drive-by shooting off the Las Vegas Strip. The four videos released Friday, totaling about an hour, show Davis arrested on Sept. 29 while walking near his home in an otherwise quiet neighborhood. In mid-July, police raided Davis' home, renewing interest in hip-hop's most enduring mystery.

Davis had been a long-known suspect in the case, and publicly admitted his role in the killing in interviews ahead of his 2019 tell-all memoir, "Compton Street Legend."

The self-described gangster hasn't yet entered a plea in the case, and he denied a request from The Associated Press for an interview from the jail where he's being held without bond. His longtime lawyer in Los Angeles, **Edi Faal**, said he had no comment on Davis' behalf. The body camera videos show officers approaching Davis and calling out to him from across the street.

"Hey, Keffe, Metro Police. Come over here," an officer said. (AP)

**NEW YORK:** A media entrepreneur is trying to connect young people disturbed by the impact of social media on mental health with older power players to fight for change in how tech companies do business.

The newly-formed Sustainable Media Center is intent on stopping companies from using algorithms to push damaging information to vulnerable youths, dark things like suicide methods. Venture capitalist and trustee **Bradley Tusk** has seen it personally; he believes his daughter's eating disorder was made worse by what she saw online.

It's a long way from initial hopes that

the internet would connect the world for more positive uses, said founder **Steven Rosenbaum**, former producer of "MTV News: Unfiltered," several documentaries and ex-leader of the NYC Media Lab.

"When you find that what you helped build is causing more harm than good, there's no way you can get up in the morning and not do anything about it,"

Rosenbaum said.

US Surgeon General **Vivek Murthy** in May called for immediate action to protect young people, noting that social media use is near universal but its impact on mental health is not fully understood.

The Sustainable Media Center is not alone in this effort. The organization Fairplay lobbies to stop tactics that manipu-



Winner of the 18th International Chopin Piano Competition, Canada's Bruce Liu, performs the music of Ludwig van Beethoven during a gala concert opening the 2nd Chopin Competition on Period Instruments at the National Philharmonic in Warsaw, Poland, on Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023. Thirty-five pianists from across the world, including the US, Japan, China, South Korea, Poland, Russia and others will compete. The winner is to be announced Oct. 14. (AP)

late children into spending too much time online. Waituntil8th.org urges parents to not give children smartphones until they reach the eighth grade, and to keep them off social media until they're at least 16.

**Josh Golin**, executive director of Fairplay, said there's room for Sustainable Media Center's approach, particularly in empowering more young people to share their own experiences.

"From my perspective, the more the merrier," Golin said. "We are going up against one of the most powerful and well-resourced industries in the world."

Besides Tusk, prominent Sustainable Media Center backers include veteran media executive and YES network founder **Leo Hindery Jr.**; **Roger McNamee**, investor and author of "Zucked: Waking Up to the Facebook Catastrophe"; **Eric Gertler**, executive chairman of US News and World Report; and **David Hornik**, a Silicon Valley-based venture capitalist.

Rosenbaum has also gotten young people with large online followings involved, such as **Emma Lembke**, founder of Log Off, an organization founded by teenagers to address social media use; **Zamaan Qureshi**, co-chairman of Design it For Us, another activist group in social media; and **Aidan Kohn-Murphy**, founder of the progressive activists Gen-Z For Change.

In the past month, US Sen. **Cory Booker**, a New Jersey Democrat, held a Zoom roundtable for young activists and expressed support for their goals.

"If had a child and they were 14, 15, I would do everything I could to keep them off of these platforms," Booker said at the session. "We would all probably say that's worse than cigarette smoking." (AP)



Photos from the Dasman Diabetes Institute's 'Kuwait and Texas Collaboration: Ground-Breaking Diabetes Update' seminar.



## Speakers highlight burden of prediabetes, fatty liver in Kuwaiti population

# DDI holds seminar on Kuwait-Texas collaboration for diabetes research

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Dasman Diabetes Institute (DDI), founded by Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences, recently held a scientific seminar titled "Kuwait and Texas Collaboration: Ground-Breaking Diabetes Update". During this seminar, many distinguished speakers including Prof. Ralph DeFronzo, a renowned Professor of Medicine from the Texas Diabetes Institute, Professor Fahd Al Mulla, Chief Scientific Officer at DDI, as well as other prominent speakers from Texas and DDI presented lectures.

Dr. Qais Saleh Alduwairi, the Director General of Dasman Dia-

betes Institute, stated, "As the leading institute in Kuwait for diabetes research, treatment, and community awareness, Dasman Diabetes Institute remains committed to its mission of collaborating with esteemed international diabetes institutions. Prof. DeFronzo is one of the pioneers in the field of diabetes treatment, contributing to the clinical understanding of diabetes pathophysiology as well as diabetes drug development. He has received numerous international awards, including awards from the American Diabetes Association (ADA) and the European Association for the Study of

Diabetes (EASD). Prof. DeFronzo is acting as an advisor and a collaborator with Dasman Diabetes Institute to deliver a comprehensive plan of action for people with diabetes in Kuwait, providing the latest advancements in the medical management of diabetes mellitus and its complications. This plan is mainly focused on the prevention of diabetes in people with prediabetes, early intervention in people with a recent diagnosis of diabetes, as well as improved diabetes management in people with established diabetes.

The seminar presented cutting-edge updates in diabetes treatment



A photo from the DDI seminar.

and management, shedding light on the role of genetics and lipid metabolism in the development of diabetes. The speakers also shared data generated from DDI's "KA-DEM" study, highlighting the burden of prediabetes and fatty liver in the Kuwaiti population and possible ways to mitigate its impact.

The seminar was accredited with Continuing Medical Education (CME) points and was well-attended by many doctors, scientists, researchers, and specialists from the Institute, the Ministry of Health, and other institutions in Kuwait.



## Biggest cybersecurity competition

# Zain joins 'Kuwait Hackathon' in partnership with CODÉD, NCSC

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: In continuation of the company's efforts to raise cybersecurity awareness in the community and encourage aspiring Kuwaiti coders, Zain today announces its partnership with the Kuwait Hackathon, the nation's biggest cybersecurity competition. The company supports this nationwide initiative in collaboration with its strategic partners at CODÉD Academy and the National Cybersecurity Center (NCSC). The contest comes under the patronage of H.E. First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Talal Al Khalid Al Sabah.

CODÉD launched this competition in response to the parliamentary initiative proposed by several members of the National Assembly, which was adopted by Sheikh Talal Al Khalid. The competition is the biggest of its kind in Kuwait and aims to increase awareness of cybersecurity and the protection of data, test the efficiency of sensitive government systems, and upskill national talents in cybersecurity. The competition offers large cash rewards for the winners to encourage aspiring Kuwaiti coders and programs to participate.

Zain is proud to be one of the top strategic partners of CODÉD Academy throughout the years, a partnership that has contributed to empowering thousands of aspiring programmers and developers into the local market. The company partnered with CODÉD yet

again for this initiative to solidify the cybersecurity ecosystem of government systems and offer world-class training for national talents.

Many of Zain's corporate sustainability initiatives center around youth and education development, and as digital skills are gaining accelerating importance in the future of education and the economy, the company has put the development of programming and digital competencies of the youth at the forefront of its priorities. Zain is keen on contributing to preparing the next generation of local talents with the skills required by modern markets, most important of which are cybersecurity skills.

The Kuwait Hackathon competition aims at increasing awareness of protecting data and digital systems, as well as encouraging local programmers to develop their skills in order to competently face the highly increasing cybersecurity threats. The competition offers optional workshops for those who wish to refine their skills before entering and competing.

The competition offers large cash prizes for winners to encourage every Kuwaiti programmer and coder to participate in defending the nation's cybersecurity ecosystem. The first-place winner will receive KD 20,000, while the second-place winner will receive KD 10,000, and the third-place winner will receive KD 5,000.

## Telecom Co partners with Alia Int'l Hospital for CSR program

# stc launches its 'Early Detection, makes the difference' breast cancer awareness drive

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Kuwait Telecommunications Company - stc, a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, announced the launch of its breast cancer awareness campaign 'Early Detection, makes the difference' under the "we care" umbrella and in line with the internationally recognized awareness month. The campaign, comprising of different internal and external awareness activities, will be organized by stc in collaboration with several entities in an aim to promote early detection methods and ways to possibly prevent breast cancer.

stc annually participates in the global initiative of spreading awareness on breast cancer, its causes, and ways to prevent or detect the disease at an early stage. As part of its activities under the campaign this year, stc will be collaborating with Alia International Hospital and REBEL Gym, while organizing engaging and informative sessions for its employees. stc aims to instill a lasting positive impact by educating its female employees on early detection methods orchestrated by the medical team at Alia International Hospital, while organizing fitness activities led by professional trainers from Rebel Gym. stc's annual participation in the global breast cancer awareness initiative seamlessly aligns with its robust Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) framework. With health considered as a key pillar within this framework, the Company underscores its ongoing commitment to elevating health standards and fostering a culture of wellness and preventive care both internally and across the wider community.

Through its collaboration with Alia International Hospital, stc will be posting content related to breast cancer awareness across its social media platforms. Additionally, Dr. Mohammad Hassan, Head of General Surgery



and the Endoscopy Department at Alia International Hospital, will be providing valuable information and insights covering the disease in the form of video segments posted on stc's social media platforms. A special event will also be held at

stc's headquarters for female employees to learn more about self-examination techniques to detect breast cancer.

Other than the self-exams and check-ups, female stc employees will receive free vouchers on early detection tests and free giveaways.

### Lifestyle

In terms of maintaining personal health, the Company will organize an event for female employees in coordination with Rebel Gym, the first smart kickboxing gym, with the aim of shedding light on the importance of practicing regular fitness activities to reduce the risk of health problems. This initiative mirrors the values upheld by stc, emphasizing a commitment to maintaining a healthy lifestyle, which

is pivotal in preventing the onset of diseases.

Danah AlJasem, General Manager of Corporate Communications at stc, said, "We are proud to launch our breast cancer awareness campaign once again in an effort to collectively curb the concerns associated with the disease. We believe that it is essential for corporates to play a constructive role in educating the public regarding matters such as health awareness, in order to empower society and leave a lasting impact. In this regard, we look forward to witnessing the exciting events organized in collaboration with our partners for this initiative, Alia International Hospital and REBEL Gym."

She added, "Considering its role as a digital pioneer and telecom leader, stc is keen to continuously support the communities it serves, as well as its employees. Through our robust CSR framework, we have launched numerous initiatives that focus on educating the community regarding health-related topics, while collaborating with health institutions and other related entities. Additionally, we have sponsored, organized, and participated in a number of events that promote an active lifestyle, a concept that stc highly prides within its work environment. Having said that, we are excited to witness the reception for our upcoming activities and we will continue to introduce community-focused initiatives that diversely contribute towards various causes, including the key areas of health, education, entrepreneurship, youth empowerment, and the environment."

To find out more about stc's events, promotions, and sponsorships, follow stc's official social media platforms, visit one of stc's branches, download mystic mobile application, visit [www.stc.com.kw](http://www.stc.com.kw) or contact the customer service center by dialing 102 for around the clock assistance.

## MEDICAL CLASSIFIEDS

Take care of your health



To advertise in this page please call: (+965) 24813566 Ext.: 513 or E-mail: [advt@arabtimesonline.com](mailto:advt@arabtimesonline.com)

**For your ads on this page**

Call: **24813805** E-mail: [advt@arabtimesonline.com](mailto:advt@arabtimesonline.com)

[www.arabtimesonline.com](http://www.arabtimesonline.com)

**مركز شفاء الجزيرة الطبي**  
**SHIFA AL JAZEERA MEDICAL CENTRE**  
 الفرانوية FARWANIYA

**Obstetrics & Gynecology**

**Our gynecology department, the most dependable one in Kuwait, offers below services:**

- Special Care and treatment during prenatal and postnatal periods.
- Treatment of other gynecological problems such as disturbances of menstruation recurrent miscarriages etc.,
- Diagnosis and treatment of infertility cases.
- Treatment of patients with high-risk pregnancies; managing complex problems related to reproductive endocrinology and infertility
- Screening programmes for early detection of tumours, breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer etc.

**Dr. Rehab Mohamed**  
 MBBS, MS  
 (Mansoura University, Egypt)  
 17 years' experience

Behind Maghateer Commercial Complex & Opp. Police station - Farwaniya

**24 734 000** **60 749 749**  
[www.shifaaljazeera.com.kw](http://www.shifaaljazeera.com.kw)

## Double podium finish for McLaren

## Verstappen follows up F1 title with victory at Qatar GP

LOSAIL, Qatar, Oct. 9, (AP) — Max Verstappen followed up his third Formula One title with yet another race win Sunday as he eased to victory in the Qatar Grand Prix.

The Red Bull driver, who clinched the title in Saturday's sprint race, started on pole and was comfortably ahead of the rest of the field on his way to his 14th Grand Prix win in 2023.

Oscar Piastri and Lando Norris fin-

ished second and third in a double podium finish for McLaren.

"I think what made the race was my first stint, and after that I could just manage my pace, making sure that the tires were in a good window," Verstappen said. "But the McLarens were quick again today. I had to push for it. It's definitely a tough race out there."

The two Mercedes of George Russell and Lewis Hamilton started behind

Verstappen on the grid but collided at the first corner, ending seven-time champion Hamilton's race. Piastri charged through for second place as

## MOTOR RACING

Fernando Alonso and Charles Leclerc ahead of him slowed to avoid the crash. Second place continues an impres-

sive streak for Australian rookie Piastri, who achieved his first career podium finish at the Japanese Grand Prix two weeks ago and won the Qatar sprint race Saturday.

Piastri told his team it was "probably the hardest race I've ever had in my life," adding his thanks for "whoever bowled everyone over at turn one," in a reference to the Mercedes crash.

Norris has been on the podium for

four races in a row including the sprint - though a first career win still eludes the British driver because of Verstappen's domination.

Hamilton told his team on the formation lap that he was concerned about being "a sitting duck" at the start with faster cars behind. His race was over at the first corner.

With Hamilton to his left and Verstappen to his right, Russell had no-

where to go when Hamilton turned in on him and both Mercedes span into the gravel. Russell was able to continue but had to pit for damage and dropped to the back. He fought his way back through the field to finish fourth ahead of Ferrari driver Leclerc and Aston Martin's Alonso.

Hamilton initially blamed Russell for the crash over the radio but accepted responsibility in later comments.



Red Bull driver Max Verstappen of the Netherlands celebrates on the podium after winning the Qatar Formula One Grand Prix auto race at the Losail International Circuit, in Losail, Qatar. (AP)

## Young and Plum each score 26 points

## Aces dominate Liberty in WNBA Finals opener

LAS VEGAS, Oct. 9, (AP) — Whether it was Chelsea Gray on her 31st birthday orchestrating the offense, Jackie Young knocking down 3-pointers or Kelsey Plum driving to the basket, Las Vegas' guards helped deliver an emphatic Game 1 victory Sunday in the WNBA Finals.

They combined to score 72 points to hand the New York Liberty a 99-82 defeat before a boisterous sellout crowd.

Young - who made five 3-pointers - and Plum each scored 26 points, and Gray had 20 points and nine assists.

## BASKETBALL

"It's kind of like Jackie and (Plum) are doing this really hard work, and then the ball goes into Chelsea and it's just dicing everything," Aces coach Becky Hammon said. "It was a really nice combination. Our trio of guards were pretty ridiculous."

Add in A'ja Wilson 19 points, and the Aces got all but eight points from four players, but the Liberty were always going to have the superior depth over a Las Vegas team that is using a six-player rotation.

Five New York players scored in double figures. This season's league MVP, Breanna Stewart, led the Liberty with 21 points, Jonquel Jones totaled 16 points and 10 rebounds and Marine Johannes came off the bench to score 14.

Johannes, however, was shut out in the second half when



Las Vegas Aces guard Kelsey Plum (10) drives around New York Liberty guard Marine Johannes (23) during the second half in Game 1 of a WNBA basketball final playoff series in Las Vegas. (AP)

the Aces began sending double teams her way. Las Vegas also held Sabrina Ionescu, who entered averaging 16.3 points in the playoffs, to seven points for the game.

"Their defense was as good as I've ever seen it," New York coach Sandy Brondello said. "We've got to play with better poise and we can exploit it the next time."

Game 2 of the best-of-five series is Wednesday in Las Vegas, and the Liberty were in a similar situation after losing Game 1 of their semifinal series to the Connecticut Sun by 15 points. New York then won the next three games to advance to the championship round.

"We can obviously learn a lot from this and we can play better," Brondello said. "That's what we have to remember. We haven't lost two in a row all season long, and we're going

to know that we responded the right way. I trust these players."

In one of the most anticipated Finals in recent memory with three WNBA MVPs, this game instead played out like the regular-season meetings between the teams in which the closest outcome was nine points.

The Aces made sure of that by turning into another one-sided game going on an 11-2 run that turned a 67-63 advantage late in the third quarter into a 78-65 lead early in the fourth. Las Vegas led by as much as 94-72 with 3:32 remaining.

Those three guards were a major reason, getting it done on both ends of the floor. They combined to score 38 points and make four steals in the second half.

"I'm just grateful to be in this opportunity to play back in the Finals," Plum said. "You think

you're going to get here every year as a player, and that's not the case, so I understand the gravity of this moment and I understand it takes a full team effort for 40 minutes."

No team this postseason has solved the Aces, who are 6-0. The Liberty proved they could beat Las Vegas in the regular season, but for a franchise still chasing its first championship, New York will have to come back with a considerably different response.

"I think in the second half, the ball stopped and got stuck a little bit," Stewart said. "That made it easier for them to clog the paint on (Jones) and myself. We need to continue to keep moving and trust what got us here."

Seven-time Super Bowl champion quarterback and newly approved Aces minority owner Tom Brady sat courtside next to Las Vegas majority owner Mark Davis.

"I looked at (Brady) and said, 'It's about effing time you showed up,'" Plum said, jokingly. "Just super excited for his investment in our franchise and understanding what that means in the growth of not just us but the league and putting eyeballs on it. I joke around, but it's been awesome to have him and I know he cares."

Brady was part of a celebrity turnout that also included Los Angeles Lakers star LeBron James, actor and Las Vegas resident Mark Wahlberg and Hall of Famer Sheryl Swoopes.

Recording artist Ashanti performed at halftime.

## Portugal pull off stunner at WCup

## Fiji advance to last 8 despite loss

## PARIS, Oct. 9, (AP) — Portugal will be by far the happiest of the teams going home early from the Rugby World Cup.

The Portuguese pulled off a stunner of an upset with a late try followed by a conversion in the dying seconds to beat Fiji 24-23 for their first ever World Cup win and a storming end to their campaign and the tournament's pool stage on Sunday.

Fiji squeaked through with a losing bonus point to be the last team to make it to the quarterfinals, but the manner of progression was nowhere near what the Flying Fijians, or the rest of the rugby world, were expecting.

## RUGBY

Having twice led, Os Lobos - the Wolves - of Portugal were 23-17 down with two minutes to go and facing another near-miss. Right wing Raffaele Storti picked up from the back of a ruck, went belting down the short side and flicked inside to fellow wing Rodrigo Marta to score and set up a conversion for history.

Two weeks ago at the same stadium in Toulouse, Portugal missed a last-second kick and the chance of a breakthrough win in an 18-18 draw with Georgia.

This time, scrumhalf Samuel Marques stroked it sweetly home.

Marques' clutch kick and the result turned the Rugby World Cup on its head just for a moment, even if it ultimately had no bearing on the final eight teams in the competition.

But tell the Portuguese that it didn't mean anything. After flyhalf Jeronimo Portela hoofed the ball out to confirm the victory, Portugal's players leaped into each other's arms to celebrate their biggest result ever. Players streamed off the bench to join in.

It was 34-year-old Portugal hooker Mike Tadjer's last game for his country before retirement.

Fiji will head to a quarterfinal against England and likely be the Rugby World Cup's favorites underdogs from here on, but Fiji coach Simon Raiwalui came onto the field afterwards and graciously handed out hugs and congratulations to the Portuguese players to recognize their moment.

Portugal will celebrate all the way home, as will the fans, who roared out "Por-Tu-Gal! Por-Tu-Gal!" for most of the game.

"Congratulations to Portugal, they played really well," Raiwalui said. "Stuck in there once we took the lead. Thought we had it but they scored the try. Fully deserved victory to them."

Portugal threatened the upset all game, which was helter-skelter from the outset and surprisingly only 3-3 at halftime. Storti missed probably the best chance of the first 40 when he hacked a kick ahead and tried to scoop up the ball while diving but fumbled it on the Fijian

tryline.

He made up for that as Portugal twice went ahead early in the second half. Storti roared over in the right corner in the 45th after a scorching attack for 10-3, and 38-year-old prop Francisco Fernandes ground over from close range to make it 17-10.

Both times Fiji hit back to level, though flanker Levani Botia to make it 10-10 and then replacement prop Mesake Doge to tie it up again at 17-17.

Doge drove over following a period of play where Fiji's forwards started to gain dominance and it appeared the Portugal challenge had been subdued.

With Fiji rampaging forward in the last 10 minutes, scrumhalf Frank Lomani kicked penalties in the 74th and 76th minutes to push the Fijians to 23-17 and ahead for the first time since the first half. That appeared to be the end of it.

Portugal weren't done, and Storti set up Portuguese rugby history with his run down the right wing to catch out the Fijian defense. Two defenders finally closed him down, but Marta was on his shoulder to score and Marques was nerveless to make sure this opportunity didn't slip a

Tonga leave the Rugby World Cup with a win after overpowering Romania in their pool finale.

Both teams were drowned by Ireland, South Africa and Scotland in the deepest pool of the tournament, but against each other the 'Ikale Tahi and Oaks found a contest in which they could express more of themselves and triggered an entertaining 10-try farewell.

Tonga blasted to 21-3 and Romania came back to close within four points twice. Tonga pulled away in the last quarter when its zipper backs added three more tries for seven in total.

The Tongans' highest score and biggest margin in Rugby World Cup history ensured a win at a fifth consecutive tournament.



Portugal's Manuel Cardoso Pinto jumps to catch the ball during the Rugby World Cup Pool C match between Fiji and Portugal, at the Stadium de Toulouse in Toulouse, France. (AP)

## Leverkusen return to top of the Bundesliga

## Bayern extend Freiburg's miserable run in Munich

BERLIN, Oct. 9, (AP) — Kingsley Coman scored twice as Bayern Munich eased to a 3-0 win over Freiburg but it was Bayer Leverkusen which returned to the top of the Bundesliga. Goals from Coman and Leroy Sané gave the 11-time defending champions their fifth win from seven league games and extended Freiburg's miserable run in Munich. Freiburg have never beaten Bayern in Mu-

nich in 24 attempts in the Bundesliga. Coman opened the scoring in the 12th minute when what looked like an intended cross flew over the Freiburg goalkeeper, Noah Atubolu, and in off the far post.

## SOCCER

Sané made it 2-0 in the 25th when he played a one-two with Harry Kane through a host of players before finishing for his sixth goal of the season.

Sané scored again before the break, with a brilliant finish inside the far post after he played the ball through a defender's legs, but the goal was ruled out through VAR for an apparent offside.

Freiburg failed to put any notable pressure on Bayern, which was content to maintain possession without taking too many risks. Coman provided a rare



Bayern's Kim Min-jae (background), and Freiburg's Lucas Hoeler challenge for the ball during the German Bundesliga soccer match between FC Bayern Munich and SC Freiburg at the Allianz Arena stadium in Munich, Germany. (AP)

moment of excitement in the second half when his shot landed on the roof of the net.

Leon Goretzka struck the crossbar before Coman finally grabbed his second in the 85th.

"A deserved win for Bayern," Freiburg's Vincenzo Grifo said.

While Bayern just did what it needed to do, Leverkusen produced another spectacle of attacking soccer in a 3-0 win over local rivals Cologne that kept Xabi Alonso's team top after this round, a point ahead of Stuttgart and two ahead of Bayern.

Victor Boniface scored again. The Nigeria forward completed the scoring in the 68th minute against Cologne, which had won on their previous two visits to Leverkusen but remains bottom with just one point from their opening seven games.

Jonas Hofmann opened the scoring in the 22nd when he swept the ball inside the right post after Florian Wirtz set him up with his heel.

Leverkusen was dominating play and Alex Grimaldo whipped the ball across the face of goal for Jeremie Frimpong to score the second 10 minutes later.

## Kiptum sets world marathon record in Chicago

CHICAGO, Oct. 9, (AP) — Kelvin Kiptum set a world record in the Chicago Marathon on Sunday, finishing in 2 hours, 35 seconds to shatter fellow Kenyan Eliud Kipchoge's old mark by 34 seconds.

Sifan Hassan of the Netherlands also took advantage of cool and cloudy weather that's considered ideal for a marathon to win the women's race in 2:13:44 - the second-fastest ever for a woman at the 26.2-mile distance.

## MARATHON

Kiptum won the London Marathon in the spring in 2:01:25 and shaved almost a minute off the world record set last year in Berlin by Kipchoge, a two-time Olympic champion and the most successful marathoner ever. Kipchoge also broke the 2 hour mark in a specially designed Vienna exhibition that does not qualify for the world record.

Hassan's time is second behind the women's world record of 2:11:53 set last month in Berlin by Tigist Assefa of Ethiopia. As-

sefa shattered the women's world record by more than two minutes.

More than 47,000 runners took part in Sunday's event.



Kelvin Kiptum of Kenya celebrates his Chicago Marathon world record victory in Chicago's Grant Park. (AP)

**Change Name**  
I, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SAJERA BANO WASIM AHMED KHAN TO SAJERA BANO WASEEM AHMED KHAN AS PER DOCUMENTS

## SPORTS



A file photo of Kuwaiti players celebrating at the end of a match.

## Kuwait continue training camp in Dubai

Hassan Musa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

ABU DHABI, Oct 9: The Kuwaiti national team continued their training regimen in the vibrant Emirati city of Dubai, which they have chosen as their training base, with the camp extending until October

18th of this month.

Al-Azraq are gearing up for two friendly matches in Dubai, set to take on the UAE and Syria on the 12th and 17th of the same month. These matches are crucial in their preparation for the Asian qualifiers for the 2026 World Cup and the

2027 Asian Cup.

Al-Azraq will kick off their qualifying campaign by hosting the Indian national team on November 16th, in a group that also features Qatar and the winners of the matches between Mongolia and Afghanistan.

## SOCCER

Meanwhile, the UAE national team began their training at Al Wasl Stadium in anticipation of their friendly match against Al-Azraq, scheduled for the day after tomorrow.

The UAE national team will also face the Lebanese national team in a second friendly match on October 17th.

Paulo Bento, the Portuguese coach of the UAE national team, has selected a squad of 29 players for the training camp ahead of these two encounters.

Bento took the reins as coach of the UAE national team in early July, succeeding the Argentine Rodolfo Arruparena.



Kuwait's training session in Dubai.

## Kuwait set to depart for Qatar on Thursday

Khaled El Anzi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Kuwait national handball team are gearing up for their journey to the Qatar capital, Doha, scheduled for next Thursday. They are heading there to participate in the Asian qualifiers for the 2024 Paris Olympics, hosted by Qatar from October 18th to the 28th.

In the tournament's draw, Kuwait are placed in the second group alongside Bahrain, Iran, Japan, and Kazakhstan. Meanwhile, the first group includes Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, the Emirates, India, and China.

The preliminary round matches for the Kuwait are as follows: they will face Iran on the 19th of this month, followed by Japan on the 21st, Bahrain the next day, and Kazakhstan on the 24th of the same month. The tournament's champion secures a spot in Paris, while the second and third-place teams will advance to the global playoff.

It has been reported that Saeed Hegazy, the coach of the Algerian national team, has included four players on the team for the Paris 2024 qualifiers: Ibrahim Al-Amir, Hussein Al-Kandari, Mahdi Al-Haddad, and Muhammad Al-Erian. These players will serve as replacements for the injured Fawaz Al-Mishari, Saif Al-Adwani, Muhammad Amer, and Fawaz Al-Shammari.

## HANDBALL

Recently, our national handball team participated in the Asian Games, which concluded just two days ago in China. Kuwait secured a third-place finish and a bronze medal, showcasing their exceptional skills with victories over Iran, Korea, and Japan, despite losses to Bahrain and Qatar.

The players will commence their training today and tomorrow at the Martyr Fahd Al-Ahmad Center in Daiya and will set off on their journey Thursday morning.

'Bowling has experienced remarkable growth in recent years'

## Doubles competitions commence at Bowling World Cup

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: The World Bowling Championships, hosted by Kuwait from October 4 to 15, are in full swing, featuring the participation of 24 men's teams and 12 women's teams. Today marks the initiation of the doubles competitions, commencing at nine in the morning. Numerous teams are eager to make up for any setbacks faced in the singles competition and deliver exceptional performances to ascend the podium or secure top positions.



A players watches after bowling.

## BOWLING

The tournament is witnessing fierce competition, with the world's best bowling stars in attendance.

Martin Faba, the First Vice President of the Costa Rican International Bowling Federation, expressed his admiration for the

significant role played by Sheikh Talal Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, President of the International and Asian Bowling Federations, in advancing and popularizing the sport worldwide. Faba stated,

"Bowling has experienced remarkable growth in recent years, thanks to the outstanding efforts of the Federation's leadership. Many countries have hosted regional, continental, and international bowling championships, drawing significant male and female player participation. Additionally, more than 10 countries have joined the International Bowling Federation."

Faba further lauded the impressive launch of the Bowling World Cup hosted by Kuwait, noting the splendid opening ceremony that celebrated the diverse cultures of the world through captivating artistic performances. He expressed optimism about the World Championship's future, anticipating high levels of artistry with the participation of the world's finest bowlers. Predicting the first-place winners remains a challenging task, given the formidable competition.

## 'Defending champs' PSG get back to winning ways with victory at Rennes

Marseille win

PARIS, Oct 9, (AP): Defending champions Paris Saint-Germain got back to winning ways with a 3-1 victory at Rennes to move up to third place in the French league.

Midfielder Vitinha, right back Achraf Hakimi and forward Randal Kolo Muani scored to hand Rennes their first defeat of the season. The victory moved PSG level on points with Brest and into third on goal difference, two points behind leaders Monaco after eight rounds of games. Rennes dropped to eighth.

Coach Luis Enrique's PSG was routed 4-1 by Newcastle in the Champions League in midweek and drew its previous game 0-0 against lowly Clermont.

PSG's nerves were apparent as Rennes started brightly, and forward Arnaud Kalimuendo's powerful shot was well saved by Gianluigi Donnarumma in the sixth minute.

Vitinha curled PSG ahead from the left of the penalty area in the 32nd minute and Hakimi made it 2-0 four minutes later to settle PSG down for a while.

## SOCCER

But PSG's weakness at the back was exploited by Rennes in the 56th when forward Amine Gouiri got ahead of central defender Milan Skriniar too easily and beat Donnarumma. Kolo Muani came straight off the bench and turned in Hakimi's pass to restore PSG's two-goal lead in the 58th.

PSG star Kylian Mbappé, the league's top scorer with seven goals, blazed his shot over with the goal at his mercy late on.

Earlier, Gennaro Gattuso secured his first win as Marseille coach and striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang got his first league goal for the club in a 3-0 home win against 10-man Le Havre to move up to sixth place.

Gattuso, the former Italy and AC Milan midfielder, took charge after Marcelino stood down amid tensions between fans and club management.

After midfielder Iliman Ndiaye's cross led to an own-goal from central defender Arouna Sangante in the 18th minute, the former Borussia Dortmund and Arsenal striker Aubameyang scored three minutes later with a clip over the goalkeeper after being set up by Moroccan midfielder Amine Harit.

Le Havre midfielder Rassoul Ndiaye was sent off in the 40th minute for a second yellow card, and Aubameyang broke down the right before setting up Ismaila Sarr in the 84th.

Elsewhere, forward Martin Satriano scored in the third minute of injury time as Brest salvaged a 1-1 draw at



Rennes' Lorenz Assignon (right), challenges for the ball with PSG's Kylian Mbappe during the French League One soccer match between Rennes and Paris Saint Germain, at the Roazhon Park Stadium, in Rennes, France. (AP)

## France defense hit by injuries ahead of European qualifier

PARIS, Oct 9, (AP): Malo Gusto and Axel Disasi have been called up as injury replacements ahead of France's match against the Netherlands in qualifying for the European Championship.

The two players replace defenders Jules Koukonde and Dayot Upamecano, the French soccer federation said on

Monday as the French squad gathered at the team's training camp outside Paris.

France takes on the Netherlands in Amsterdam on Friday. Les Bleus will then host Scotland in a friendly game in the northern city of Lille on Oct. 17.

□ □ □

**Bukayo Saka** will miss England's two games in the upcoming international break because of a hamstring injury, Arsenal manager **Mikel Arteta** said.

Saka missed Arsenal's 1-0 win over Manchester City in the Premier League after limping off during a Champions League loss to Lens in midweek. It ended Saka's run of 87 consecutive Premier League appearances and Arteta said after the game he will miss England's friendly against Australia on Friday and the European Championship qualifier against Italy four days later.

"No, he will not make it," Arteta said. "He has not trained for a single session. He is not available to play football at the moment."



Napoli's Victor Osimhen (top), is challenged by Fiorentina's Pietro Terracciano during the Serie A soccer match between Napoli and Fiorentina, at the Diego Armando Maradona stadium, in Naples, Italy. (AP)

Lukaku scores 2

## Roma rout Cagliari, Napoli lose at home to Fiorentina

ROME, Oct 9, (AP): Romelu Lukaku is making an immediate impact at Roma. Paulo Dybala, meanwhile, remains injury prone.

Lukaku scored twice in Roma's 4-1 win at last-place Cagliari in Serie A on Sunday to raise his tally to seven goals in eight matches across all competitions with the Giallorossi.

"A lot of things were said about me but I worked hard over the summer," Lukaku said. "I'm a professional."

Dybala exited the match in the first half with a left knee issue - having missed long stretches of last season due to injuries.

Lukaku used his chest to redirect in a cross from Rick Karsdorp following a set up from Leonardo Spinazzola early on. Then he took a pass from Leandro Paredes to score again with a precise shot from inside the area in the 87th.

Houssein Aouar had put Roma ahead a minute before Lukaku's first goal and Andrea Belotti also scored for the Giallorossi after replacing Dybala.

Nahitan Nandez converted a late penalty for Cagliari.

Lukaku, who joined Roma on loan in August, has also been key in the Europa League. He scored the winner in Roma's opening 2-1 victory over Sheriff and had the first goal in a 4-0 win over Servette on Thursday.

Lukaku said Roma coach Jose Mourinho was fundamental in his decision to move to the capital.

"I have a special relationship with (Mourinho). He knows my family. He knows my kids," Lukaku said. "I really have confidence in him and he really has confidence in me."

Roma moved up to 10th while Cagliari remained winless - leaving coach Claudio Ranieri at risk.

## SOCCER

Defending champions Napoli were beaten at home for the second time in the league this season, falling 3-1 to Fiorentina - last season's Europa Conference League finalists.

Giacomo Bonaventura scored the second goal for the Viola midway through the second half, shooting in from 12 yards after an accidental assist from Alfred Duncan.

The 34-year-old Bonaventura has been involved in the most goals among Serie A midfielders this season with four scores and two assists and on Friday was named to Italy's squad for the first time in three years.

Josip Brekalo had put Fiorentina ahead early on by shooting through the legs of Napoli goalkeeper Alex Meret from a tight angle. Then Victor Osimhen equalized with a penalty in first-half stoppage time.

Substitute Nico Gonzalez sealed it for Fiorentina by finishing off a counterattack in second-half stoppage time.

Napoli was also beaten by Lazio at the Stadio Diego Armando Maradona in early September.

Fiorentina moved up to fourth, three points ahead of fifth-place Napoli.

It was the second home loss in six days for Napoli after also getting beaten by Real Madrid, 3-2, in the Champions League on Tuesday.

Lazio gave up a two-goal advantage but still managed to beat visiting Atalanta 3-2 at the Stadio Olimpico.



New Zealand's Matt Henry plays a shot during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup match between New Zealand and Netherlands in Hyderabad, India. (AP)

# Sports

Latest sports scores at — <http://sports.arabtimesonline.com>

Favorite to win

## Saudi Arabia formally informs FIFA of its wish to host 2034 World Cup

GENEVA, Oct 9, (AP): Saudi Arabia formally informed FIFA of its wish to host the men's World Cup in 2034 on Monday in a bidding contest that increasingly looks designed for the kingdom to win.

The Saudi Arabian soccer federation said it "submitted a letter of intent and signed declaration to FIFA to bid" in a vote that is open only to members of the Asian and Oceania soccer governing bodies.

FIFA fast-tracked starting the 2034 contest last week after its ruling body also agreed to accept only one candidate for the 2030 World Cup - now an unprecedented six-nation, three-continent co-hosting plan in Europe, Africa and South America that removed those continents from bidding to get back-to-back tournaments.

The Spain-Portugal-Morocco-Argentina-Paraguay-Uruguay project in 2030 will follow the inaugural 48-team, 104-game tournament in 2026 in the United States, Mexico and Canada. That allows the 2034 edition to return to Asia 12 years after Qatar hosted the 2022 World Cup.

Last week, FIFA set tight dead-

lines of Oct. 31 to formally express interest in hosting and Nov. 30 to return a signed bidding agreement that requires the support of national governments.

Australian soccer officials have shown interest in the 2034 tournament after successfully co-hosting the 32-team women's edition with New Zealand two months ago, but they now have only eight weeks to produce a bidding agreement.

### SOCCER

Australia also may be short of the FIFA-demanded seven existing stadiums on a minimum slate of 14 soccer-suitable venues of at least 40,000-seating capacity.

Saudi Arabia, which is preparing to host the 2027 Asian Cup, meets that FIFA criteria.

The Saudi Arabian soccer federation also cited public pledges of support from "over 70" of FIFA's 211 member federations.

The aim is "unlocking new football opportunities at all levels and commitment to support the growth of the game across all corners of the globe,"



Saudis display the 2034 bid at the back of their jerseys.

said the Saudi federation, which has been signing working agreements with national and continental soccer bodies around the world over the past

two years.

FIFA members will have the final rubber-stamping decision on picking the 2030 and 2034 World Cup hosts

late next year, though the 37-member FIFA Council chaired by president Gianni Infantino has already shaped the process.

Infantino has built close ties to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on frequent visits to the oil-rich kingdom since before the 2018 World Cup.

The Saudi soccer project has seen the sovereign wealth Public Investment Fund buy English club Newcastle in 2021. PIF also took majority control this year of four leading Saudi clubs which have spent massively this season on bringing players from European clubs, including Neymar and Karim Benzema.

A Saudi-hosted World Cup, as in Qatar last year, likely would be played in November-December during the heart of the European season, and that will require dealing with influential European clubs and domestic leagues.

The FIFA Council which agreed to the 2034 World Cup bidding process included nine delegates from European soccer body UEFA, which now has the 2030 tournament.

The council was scheduled in June to approve bidding rules for 2030 but delayed that decision days after the Greek government said a speculated Saudi-led co-hosting plan that also included Egypt had been dropped.

## Barca teen Yamal becomes youngest scorer in La Liga in draw at Granada



Barcelona's Lamine Yamal fights for the ball with Granada's Gerard Gumbau during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Granada and Barcelona at Los Carmanes Stadium in Granada, Spain. (AP)

### Atletico keep winning

MADRID, Oct 9, (AP): Barcelona teenager Lamine Yamal added his name to the record books again on Sunday, becoming the youngest scorer in the Spanish league in Barcelona's 2-2 draw at Granada.

At the age of 16 years, 87 days, Yamal surpassed Malaga player Fabrice Olinga, who was 16 years, 98 days old when he scored against Celta Vigo in 2012.

Yamal scored his milestone goal by pushing a loose ball into the open net in first-half stoppage time.

### SOCCER

He was already the youngest player to debut in the league, and the youngest to start in the Champions League. Yamal also has the record for youngest to play for Barcelona from last season. He became the youngest scorer in a European Championship qualifier after coming on last month as the youngest player to appear for Spain.

"When we see that a player can help the team, we give him the opportunity," Barcelona coach Xavi said. "Lamine is helping us a lot and making a difference. He scored an important goal."

Yamal's goal helped Barcelona pull

closer after Bryan Zaragoza put the hosts 2-0 ahead with a couple of goals in the first half-hour, including one less than 20 seconds into the match at Los Carmanes Stadium. His second came in the 29th minute after a couple of nifty moves to clear a defender inside the area.

Sergi Roberto equalized in the 85th for Barcelona, which almost left with the victory when João Félix scored in stoppage time but saw the goal called back because of an offside by Ferran Torres.

The result left defending cham-

pions Barcelona in third place, one point behind fellow Catalan club Girona and two behind rivals Real Madrid. Both Girona and Madrid won Saturday.

Barcelona were without striker Robert Lewandowski because of an injury. Midfielder Fermín López made his debut at 20 as a starter with the Catalan club.

Barcelona lost defender Jules Koundé with an injury just before halftime.

It was the third straight draw for Granada, which stayed in second-to-last place.



Barcelona's Ilkay Gundogan fights for the ball with Granada's Lucas Boye during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Granada and Barcelona at Los Carmanes Stadium in Granada, Spain. (AP)

Antoine Griezmann scored with a late penalty kick as Atletico Madrid beat Real Sociedad 2-1 for their fifth straight win in all competitions.

Griezmann converted from the spot in the 89th minute following a hand ball to move the team to fourth place. Sociedad stayed sixth with their first setback after four consecutive wins.

Atletico had won three consecutive league games and beat Feyenoord 3-2 in the group stage of the Champions League on Wednesday. Diego Simeone's team are unbeaten at home since January, with 15 wins and one draw in all competitions.

Atletico's home winning streak in the league reached 13 matches, one short of their best-ever run from 2012-13.

Samuel Lino put the hosts ahead by scoring his first goal with Atletico in the 22nd before Mikel Oyarzabal equalized in a breakaway in the 73rd. Griezmann, a former Sociedad player, calmly rolled his penalty into the corner to secure Atletico the victory. The France forward has scored four goals in his last five matches with Atletico.

The result kept Atletico unbeaten in their last eight league matches against Sociedad, with five wins and three draws since 2019.

Sociedad had won four in a row and hadn't conceded in its last three games in all competitions, including a 2-0 win at Salzburg in the group stage of the Champions League, a competition it hadn't played in nearly a decade.

## New Zealand claim another emphatic Cricket WC victory

HYDERABAD, India, Oct 9, (AP): Mitchell Santner became the first New Zealand spinner to grab a five-wicket haul at a Cricket World Cup as the Black Caps thumped the Netherlands by 99 runs on Monday to claim their second successive victory in the tournament.

New Zealand didn't feel the absence of captain Kane Williamson for the second game in a row as it powered to 322-7 on a slow, dry wicket, with top-order batters Will Young (70), stand-in skipper Tom Latham (53) and Rachin Ravindra (51) all shining.

### CRICKET

Santner, who also made a quick-fire unbeaten 36 off 17 balls, then took 5-59 with his left-arm spin as the Netherlands was bowled out for 223 in 46.3 overs.

It was the Netherlands' second consecutive defeat after losing its opening game against Pakistan by 81 runs.

New Zealand had already avenged

their narrow defeat in the 2019 World Cup final after beating England by nine wickets in Ahmedabad last week.

One of the heroes of that win, Devon Conway, and opening partner Young provided a solid stand of 67, but not before the Netherlands had bowled three successive maidens up front.

Conway, who struck an unbeaten 152 against England, holed out at long-on after scoring 32 but Ravindra carried on where he left off in his magnificent unbeaten century against the defending champions.

Ravindra and Young compiled a 77-run stand before New Zealand tried to switch gears in the latter half of the innings. Young was caught at mid-on after hitting seven fours and two sixes in his 80-ball knock and Ravindra edged left-arm spinner Roelof van der Merwe down the leg side soon after completing his half century.

Daryl Mitchell, who was dropped on 22, and Latham then put on 53 before the Netherlands hit back in the last powerplay with three quick wickets for 16 runs.

## KSF president commends the accomplishments of Kuwaitis

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 9: Duaij Al-Otaibi, the President of the Kuwaiti Shooting Federation, commended the remarkable accomplishments of the archers at the 19th Asian Games, which recently concluded in Hangzhou, China. Out of the 11 medals secured by the Kuwaiti delegation, the shooting champions contributed four, underscoring the exceptional prowess of Kuwaiti marksmen in major international competitions.

Speaking at the awards ceremony held at the Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Olympic Complex, Al-Otaibi expressed the Federation's commitment to nurturing and preparing a substantial number of shooters for the upcoming Paris 2024 Olympic Games. This determination follows the successful qualification of shooter Khaled Al-Mudhaf approximately two months ago. He voiced his unwavering belief in the potential of Kuwaiti shooting champions to secure even more triumphs in forthcoming tournaments.

Al-Otaibi lauded the outstanding achievements of Kuwaiti champions in the competition. Particularly, he highlighted the accomplishments of seasoned champion Abdullah Al-Taraq, who clinched a gold medal in skeet (individual) and a silver medal in skeet (mixed doubles) alongside champion Iman Al-Shamaa. Additionally, shooter Talal Al-Taraq secured a silver medal in trap (individual) and another silver medal in trap (teams) with his colleagues Abdul Rahman Al-Faihan and Khaled Al-Mudhaf.

He extended his gratitude towards the generous support provided by the nation's political leadership to Kuwaiti athletes, which paved the way for their remarkable success in this continental competition. He acknowledged the pivotal roles played by the Minister of Youth, the Public Authority for Sports, and the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee in bolstering Kuwaiti athletes participating in various disciplines during the tournament.



Silver medalist Kuwait's Talal Alfrashidi poses for photos with Duaij Al-Otaibi on the podium during the awards ceremony for the Shooting Trap Men's Final for the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou. (AP)