



Kuwait Crown Prince heads to Saudi on official visit

'4-decade regional legacy'

KUWAIT CITY, June 10, (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah will head to Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, June 11, embarking on an official visit to the Kingdom.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah's achievement extends through four decades during which he managed to strengthen Kuwait's regional position.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah honored his achievements by signing an order on June 1st nominating His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah as Crown Prince.

His Highness the Amir delivered a speech during the occasion in which he congratulated Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled on becoming the Crown Prince, wishing him success in serving Kuwait and its people and pushing development and progress forward.

His Highness the Crown Prince's live witnessed political and diplomatic achievements in Kuwait.

Born in 1953, His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled got a bachelor degree in Political Science from Kuwait University in 1977. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1978 as a diplomatic attaché, serving in the Arab Affairs Department (1978-1983).

Continued on Page 5

Kuwait sets KD2 service, KD5 medicine for expats

Health fee changes include exemptions

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Ministry of Health has amended the healthcare fees for foreigners, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The amendment exempts illegal residents (Bedouins) holding valid security cards, children of Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaitis, non-Kuwaiti men married to Kuwaiti women, citizens of other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member-states provided they hold valid civil identification cards or passports, scholarship students, wards of social care centers, youths below 18 years old who are suffering from cancer, non-Kuwaiti children below 12 years old who have severe disabilities, prisoners, domestic workers staying in domestic labor

shelters, and members of official envoys and transit passengers. The illegal residents (Bedouins) with expired security cards and registered in the health insurance system will pay KD10. Expatriates and diplomats registered in the health insurance system will pay KD2 as service fee in addition to KD5 for medicines. Visitors who are not registered in the health insurance system will pay KD10. Domestic workers will pay KD1 for services and medicines. Non-Kuwaiti employees in ministries and their family members will pay KD2 for services in addition to KD5 for medicines. They are exempted from the X-Ray and nuclear medicine fees.

Opinion

Your Highness the Prime Minister, why are people fleeing from Kuwait?

By Ahmed Al-Jarallah

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

YOUR Highness the Prime Minister, with each holiday, the airport gets crowded with passengers exiting the country, as if like a great migration. With the advent of Eid Al-Adha, we beg to ask: "What is the reason behind this exodus abroad?"

This question is based on the fact that during the last Eid Al-Fitr holiday, about 350,000 citizens and expatriates traveled for tourism. It is expected that this coming Eid Al-Adha, the number will be much bigger.

Based on reports issued by official bodies, Kuwaitis and those residing abroad spend billions every year on vacations simply because they fall under baseless restrictions.

The previously approved laws were intended to close the country because the same sources -- whether parliamentarians or influential people -- made the country a repellent to everything.

This happened through the so-called negative phenomena committee, coeducation ban or the prohibition of concerts and festivals, and even cafés whose operating hours are restricted, in addition to other ministerial and legislative decisions that killed the spirit of Kuwait which, decades ago, was called 'Paris of the Gulf' and 'Pearl of Creativity and the Arts.'

People flee from the country during holidays due to the lack of any outlet that can compensate them for traveling in order to entertain themselves. Even the gardens have become like old groves, dominated by desolation and neglect, beaches are closed either by chalets or fenced off for influential people. Also, they do not have services that could entice people to go to them as their only outlet and could generate money for the State; that is, if there is a realistic vision to invest in all of this in order to develop domestic tourism on one hand, and on the other hand, bring more visitors from abroad through entertainment projects.

Indeed, the country is closed as a result of all of the aforementioned scenarios, and even the partial opening was under difficult conditions which, not all people could bear. Meanwhile, in other Gulf countries, the visitor obtains the visa within 10 minutes electronically and does not even need a sponsor, but for us, that seems impossible.

Even our islands are forbidden from being accessed. Since 2018, Kuwaitis have been waiting for the start of the Failaka development project, which has been dormant for a long time. They were optimistic about the recent demolition of some buildings there; but as typical of the Kuwaiti bureaucracy, implementation will not be quick.

Your Highness the Prime Minister, last year, Kuwaitis spent \$14.3 billion on tourism abroad. Most of the neighboring Gulf countries that paid a lot of attention to the tourism sector benefited from a large portion of such expenditure. Some of them even made it a source of diversifying sources of income and enhancing the national product.

It is true that the First Deputy

Continued on Page 5

Email: ahmed@aljarallah.com

Follow me on:



ahmedaljarallah@gmail.com



Pilgrims greeted with warmth and festivity upon arrival.

KUNA photo

Saudi Arabia welcomes pilgrims with festive hospitality

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia received pilgrims with great hospitality and a festive atmosphere presenting them bouquets of flowers.

More than 25 government agencies and 20,000 employees have been working with dedication to accommodate the peak influx of pilgrims and provide them with easy travel.

The committees made sure to complete all the pilgrims' procedures before arriving at the relevant airports, especially King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah. (KUNA)

Ministerial meeting congratulates Kuwait's Crown Prince

GCC affirms Saudi-Kuwait joint ownership of Durra field

Newswatch

Seven lose citizenship

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: On Monday, a document was published in the official gazette Al-Kuwait Al-Youm, containing two decisions from the Supreme Committee for Nationality Investigation regarding the revocation of Kuwaiti citizenship for seven individuals, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to the decisions, citizenship has been revoked in accordance with Articles 9 and 11 of the Amiri Decree No. 15 of 1959 concerning the Kuwaiti Nationality Law.

VIENNA: Kuwaiti permanent representative to the United Nations (UN) in Geneva, Ambassador Nasser Al-Hain called on the international community to take responsibility and stop the Israeli occupation aggression on Gaza and grant Palestinians their legitimate rights.

This came in a speech by Ambassador Al-Hain at the opening of an event organized by Kuwait along with Belgium and the International Labour Organization (ILO), attended by several donor countries to support the occupied Palestinian territories.

Ambassador Al-Hain pointed out that everyone agrees that the situation in Gaza was critical, given the current terrorist acts committed against the Palestinians in Gaza, the latest being the crime against the Palestinians in the Nuseirat camp. (KUNA)

DOHA, June 10, (KUNA): The 160th GCC ministerial council meeting expressed congratulations, Sunday, to His Highness the Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, after an Amiri decree appointing him by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

In a statement, the ministerial council expressed best wishes for Kuwait and a continued progress and prosperity.

On another front, the statement, which was issued by the Ministerial Council at its 160th session in Doha confirmed that the entire Durra field, located in the marine areas of the State of Kuwait and that

Continued on Page 5

Yemen launches community college named after late Amir Sheikh Sabah

ADEN, June 10, (KUNA): Governor of Yemen's Socotra Island Raafat Al-Thuqli and Deputy Minister of Technical Education Abd Rabbu Al-Mahwali on Sunday laid the foundation stone for community college project named after the late Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The college project is being launched under the support, supervision and implementation of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED).

Yemeni News Agency (SABA) reported that the project includes a building for classrooms with a conference hall that can accommodate about 700 individuals, administrative and residential buildings, housing for faculty

Study reveals alarming data as 85.9% face abuse
Expatriate healthcare staff endure violence

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

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: A recent study has confirmed that healthcare workers, particularly those in primary health care centers, experience significantly higher rates of violence compared to workers in other fields.

The findings reveal alarming statistics about the prevalence of verbal and physical abuse faced by dispensary staff, including doctors and nurses.

The following are the key findings: Overall Exposure to Violence -- 85.9% of dispensary staff, totaling 383 individuals, have experienced some form of violence; 77.3% have been subjected to physical violence; 48.8% have faced psychological violence; 20.3% have encountered verbal assault; 15% have been bullied; 1.9% have experienced sexual harassment and 6.4% have been targets of racism. Expatriate Workers -- 76.7% of expatriate doctors and nurses, totaling

294 individuals, have reported experiencing violence. Gender and Occupational Differences -- Women are more frequently subjected to all types of violence than men in primary health care centers; Nurses face higher rates of violent practices compared to doctors and this trend is consistent in countries such as Kuwait, Serbia, Greece, and Saudi Arabia. Dr. Hoda Al-Ghareeb, a contributor to the study, emphasized the severe

Continued on Page 5



Governor of Yemen's Socotra Island Raafat Al-Thuqli and Deputy Minister of Technical Education Abd Rabbu Al-Mahwali lay the foundation stone for community college project named after the late Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

KUNA photo

Prayer Timings

Fajr 03:13 Asr 15:21
 Sunrise.. 04:48 Maghrib .. 18:47
 Zohr 11:47 Isha 20:19

Local

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

Expected weather for next 24 hrs:
By Day: Very hot and humid especially over coastal areas with light to moderate southeasterly wind changing to northwesterly wind, with speeds of 08-32 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear.

Weather

By Night: Hot to rather hot and relatively humid over coastal areas with light to moderate northwesterly wind to light variable wind, with speeds of 08-32 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear.

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	47	34
Kuwait Airport	48	30
Abdaly	49	27
Jahra	48	31
Salmiyah	42	31
Nuwaib	47	27
Wafra	46	27

HH Crown Prince, PM send greetings

HH the Amir congratulates Portugal on 'National Day'

KUWAIT CITY, June 10, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent Monday a congratulatory cable to President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa on the occasion of his country's National Day.

His Highness the Amir wished the Portuguese president good health and the people of Portugal all progress and prosperity.

Meanwhile, His Highness the

Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah sent a congratulatory cable to President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa on the occasion of his country's National Day, and wished him lasting health.

Also, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah sent a congratulatory cable to President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa on his country's National Day.



KUNA photo Kuwaiti Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya meeting Qatari Premier, FM.

Al-Yahya meets Qatari Premier, FM

FM underlines importance of GCC 160th meeting in Qatar

DOHA, June 10, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya stressed Sunday on the importance of the 160th Ministerial Council meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries in the Qatari capital, Doha.

In a statement to KUNA, Minister Al-Yahya added that the ministerial meeting included two meetings on its sidelines, the first a joint ministerial meeting between the GCC countries and the Republic of Yemen, and the other between the GCC countries and the Republic of Türkiye.

Minister Al-Yahya stressed on the keenness of the State of Kuwait to enhance cooperation and coordination with the GCC countries in various fields to confront the current global challenges, especially the situation in the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories.

Al-Yahya expressed deep concern about the humanitarian catastrophe in the Gaza Strip and the brutal war carried out by the Israeli occupation, which has claimed the lives of thousands of defenseless Palestinian civilians, including children, women and the elderly, stressing on the need to stop the war in the Gaza Strip.

He also underlined the keenness to support the Republic of Yemen in various po-

litical, economic and humanitarian fields to achieve comprehensive peace and stability for the Yemeni people in accordance with the Gulf Initiative, the outcomes of the Comprehensive National Dialogue Conference and UN Resolution 2216.

Al-Yahya added that the State of Kuwait is keen to strengthen bilateral relations with Türkiye, especially in the economic and investment fields, for further economic and developmental growth, which reflects positively on both sides, indicating that the Gulf countries and Türkiye have distinguished relations in various sectors.

Lastly, the minister expressed his thanks and appreciation to Qatar for the good reception and organization of these ministerial meetings that would enhance cooperation and integration among GCC members.

Meanwhile, FM Al-Yahya met on Sunday with Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Abdulrahman Al-Thani, on the sideline of the 160th meeting of GCC and Yemeni foreign ministers, and the 6th GCC joint ministerial meeting on Strategic Dialogue with the Republic of Türkiye, held in Doha.

A statement by the Foreign Ministry said the two sides tackled various issues and the latest developments on the war in Gaza.

ENT department head holds awareness event at Kuwait Down Syndrome Society

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Dr. Ahmed Al-Rashidi, head of the Ear, Nose, and Throat Department at Farwaniya Hospital, hosted an awareness and entertainment event, Sunday, at the Kuwait Down Syndrome Society from 5 pm to 8 pm, reports Al-Jarida daily.

The event aims to raise awareness and promote societal understanding of the prominent nasal, aural, and throat issues associated with Down Syndrome.

Dr. Al-Rashidi highlighted common problems such as narrow auditory canals, middle ear fluid, chronic ear infections, vocal cord issues, delayed speech, and upper respiratory tract obstruction leading to sleep apnea.

He emphasized that children with Down Syndrome are particularly susceptible to upper respiratory tract infections, leading to chronic ear problems. Structural facial characteristics in those with Down Syndrome also contribute to chronic ear diseases.

Additionally, Dr. Al-Rashidi discussed the causes of respiratory obstruction and sleep apnea in individuals with the syndrome, including muscle weakness, enlarged tonsils, and increased nasal secretions. He stressed the role of ENT specialists in determining the need for treatment, including sleep studies or surgical interventions.

In another development, the "Advanced Support for Stroke Cases" rehabilitation program, accredited by the American Heart Association, was launched at the Al-Adan Training Center affiliated with Al-Adan Hospital.

Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutairi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, received Dr. Niran Al-Naqeeb and representatives of the American Heart Association to review the training program.

Approximately 35 specialists from governmental and private sectors participated, enabling them to identify, evaluate, and manage stroke cases effectively. The program aims to bridge skills gaps and imple-

6 months jail for sports club chief

By Jaber Al-Hamoud
 Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Criminal Court recently sentenced the president of a sports club to six months in prison with hard labor for insulting a Supreme Court judge.

The accused was referred to trial on charges of insulting the judge and challenging the latter's integrity on social media.

The plaintiff's lawyer, Attorney Mohammad Al-Dagher, confirmed during his plea before the court that it has been proven that the defendant insulted and challenged his client.

The Public Prosecution previously charged the defendant and others of insulting the judge by posting on Instagram the video clip of an interview with the accused, in which he uttered words and phrases which undermined the judge's integrity and his commitment to the provisions of the law, as indicated in the investigations.

The prosecution pointed out that the accused deliberately misused telephone communications by using his phone to commit crimes and defamed the victim in a public place -- in full view of other people. It affirmed that such acts are punishable by law as they harm the reputation of other people; that is, through the video clip mentioned above.

ment international certification programs to enhance patient care and service quality in healthcare facilities.

The Ministry of Health affirmed that the program covers various aspects of stroke management, from early diagnosis to therapeutic intervention and critical case management.

Kuwaiti envoy pledges to consolidate historical ties with India

HH Crown Prince congratulates Indian PM on swearing-in

KUWAIT CITY, June 10, (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah Sunday sent a cable to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, expressing his sincere congratulations on his Bharatiya Janata Party's win of legislative elections and on taking the oath as Prime Minister for a new term.

His Highness the Crown Prince wished the Indian Prime Minister good health, wellness and success.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah sent a cable

to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, expressing his sincere congratulations on his Bharatiya Janata Party's win of legislative elections and on taking the oath as Prime Minister for a new term.

In the meantime, Kuwait's Ambassador in New Delhi Mustafa Al-Shemali Sunday expressed his strong desire to cement the Kuwait-India relationship as he attended the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Cabinet.

In a statement to KUNA after attending the constitutional oath-taking ceremony of Modi and his Cabinet ministers, Ambassador Al-Shemali said that he is hoping to cement the India-Kuwait relationship in all areas of mutual interest during the third term of Modi government.

Al-Shemali, who took charge recently, pledged to do everything in his power to consolidate the long-standing political, social and economic relations that exist between the two friendly countries.

He also stressed the importance of joint work for the well-being of the two peoples in India and Kuwait.

Earlier in the day, Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister for a third term after the National Democratic Alliance under his leadership won the general elections.

Modi and other members of the Cabinet took the constitutional oath before President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi in celebrations attended by more than 8,000 leaders including heads of state and governments from neighboring countries.



Al-Shemali

Security personnel nab 4 over alleged exam paper leak case

Ministry of Education thanks Mol for swift action

By Munif Naif
 Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff and Agencies

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Officers from the Criminal Security General Department in the Ministry of Interior have arrested four individuals for allegedly leaking exam questions.

Sources disclosed that those arrested include a female Kuwaiti teacher, two Kuwaiti officials one of whom is a degree holder and an expatriate employee. All of them are working at the Ministry of Education, sources added.

Sources confirmed the results of investigations showed that the teacher leaked the Grade 12 Physics exam paper to the expatriate employee who sold it to a private educational institute. They said the two Kuwaiti officials are accountable for leaking the Islamic Education exams for Grade 12 students. They affirmed that investigations are still ongoing; hence, they expect more arrests later. They added the key to the discovery of the suspects was the telephone call of a student who informed security authorities that he purchased a copy of the exam paper from a private educational institute where he used to take private tutorials.

Meanwhile, the official spokesperson of the Ministry of Education, Ahmed Al-Wahida, has expressed gratitude for the productive collaboration with the Ministry of Interior and commended their swift action in apprehending those involved in the "exam leak" incident, reports Al-Jarida daily.

Al-Wahida emphasized the ministry's commitment to taking all necessary legal measures against anyone implicated in the disruption of the educational process.

The official affirmed that the Ministry, under the direct guidance of Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Professor Dr. Adel Al-Adwani, is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of integrity in examination procedures and combatting any negative practices.

Al-Wahida reiterated the ministry's determination to prevent such violations that undermine the educational system's integrity and negatively impact students and underscored the Ministry's ongoing reform efforts, led by Al-Adwani, and pledged to continue the fight against corruption to foster a generation capable of driving the country's developmental progress.

242 cameras fixed

By Munif Naif
 Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: A total of 242 cameras installed in various areas and intersections throughout the country, which are connected to the Central Control Unit in the General Traffic Department (GTD) at the Interior Ministry, monitor traffic violations like using a mobile phone by hand while driving, not wearing a seat belt, skipping the turn of vehicles at traffic intersections and turning from right to left.

According to a reliable source, these cameras also contribute to efforts to monitor traffic movement and eliminate congestion on roads. He added GTD issued 370,000 violation citations for not wearing a seat belt last year (directly and indirectly); as well as 185,000 direct and indirect reports for the same violation.

He disclosed that 161 cameras monitor beating the red light violations and 255 for speeding violations.



KUNA photo Kuwaiti Army Chief of Staff Lieut-Gen Bandar Al-Muzain received Japan's Ambassador Yasunari.

Army Chief of Staff receives Japanese envoy, IISS chief

Kuwaiti Army Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Bandar Al-Muzain received on Monday Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Kuwait Morino Yasunari.

Japanese Defense Attaché to Kuwait accompanied the ambassador, where topics of common interest were discussed.

Lieutenant General Al-Muzain later received the Executive Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in the Middle East, Lieutenant-General Martin Sampson, the army said in a press statement.

During the two meetings, friendly conversations were exchanged, and important topics of common interests were discussed, especially in the military

aspect, it said.

Lieutenant General Al-Muzain toured on Sunday the country's Air Defense base, and praised the level of readiness by its members.

A statement by the Ministry of Defense said that Al-Muzain attended a detailed briefing during the visit. The briefing included a thorough explanation of the procedures followed, along with a comprehensive assessment of the degree of readiness and preparedness enjoyed by Kuwait Air Defense.

The statement added that Al-Muzain stressed on the importance of working tirelessly to protect the country. (KUNA)

Sheikh Sabah Khaled as Crown Prince: A new dawn for Indo-Kuwait diplomatic engagement

By Dr. Mohd Abul Mufazzal
 Jawaharlal Nehru University
 New Delhi

The appointment of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Sabah as the Crown Prince of Kuwait marks a pivotal moment in the nation's political landscape. With a distinguished career in public service, including his roles as Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, His Highness Sheikh Sabah brings substantial experience and expertise to his new position.

Sheikh Sabah has played a critical role in advancing digital transformation within Kuwait's ministries and state institutions, leading to significant improvements in public service delivery. His leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic, which focused on ensuring the health and safety of both citizens and residents, has garnered widespread acclaim from political leaders and international organizations alike.

Amidst these developments in Kuwait, the Indo-Kuwait relationship finds itself at a pivotal juncture. The recent general election in India has resulted in a fragmented political landscape, with no single party securing a clear majority, necessitating the formation of a coalition government. This political scenario introduces both challenges and opportunities for Indo-Kuwait relations.

Indian Ambassador Dr. Adarsh Swaika's congratulatory message to His Highness Sheikh Sabah high-



Dr. Mohd Abul Mufazzal

lights the anticipation of deepening the longstanding and multifaceted relationship between India and Kuwait.

The diverse interests represented by India's coalition government may pave the way for a more comprehensive and nuanced engagement with Kuwait, covering a wide array of sectors. The coalition government in India will need to adeptly navigate this complex political environment. Building consensus among the varied political entities within the coalition will be crucial to maintaining a coherent and consistent foreign policy approach towards Kuwait. This strategic maneuvering will be essential to leveraging the full potential of the Indo-Kuwait relationship.

Under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Sabah, the Indo-Kuwait relationship is poised to enter a new phase of engagement. Despite the inherent challenges posed by India's coalition government, this situation presents an opportunity to expand

and deepen the partnership between the two nations. A concerted effort to foster mutual understanding and collaboration can lead to a more meaningful and robust bilateral relationship.

In conclusion, the evolving political landscapes in both Kuwait and India offer a unique opportunity to enhance Indo-Kuwait relations. With the combined experience and vision of His Highness Sheikh Sabah and the strategic engagement of India's coalition government, there is a promising path forward for a strengthened and dynamic partnership.

Brief profile:

Dr Mohd Abul Mufazzal is a multilingual writer and researcher, holding a PhD from India's esteemed Jawaharlal Nehru University. His diverse background in academia, media, and social and cultural activities has led to significant contributions in various fields. Dr Mufazzal has authored numerous research papers and articles in national and international journals and newspapers, covering topics such as culture, politics, and social issues. He has also spoken on national and international stages, including at the United Nations General Assembly in New York and has been awarded numerous fellowships recognizing his contributions to academia and research.

Email: khammufazzal@gmail.com

Ministry of Health launches ASLS rehab program

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

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Ministry of Health recently launched the "Advanced Stroke Support" (ASLS) rehabilitation program, accredited by the American Heart Association, at the Adan Training Center at Adan Hospital.

Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutairi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of

Health, announced that approximately 35 specialists from various fields -- primary health care, secondary care, and specialized care -- in both the government and private sectors are participating in the program. He emphasized that stroke remains one of the leading causes of death and disability worldwide.

Dr. Al-Mutairi highlighted the significance of the ASLS program

in equipping specialists with the necessary skills to identify, evaluate, and manage stroke cases effectively.

The program aims to address skill gaps and leverage the International Stroke Center's certification programs, aligning with the latest therapeutic protocols to enhance patient outcomes and improve the quality of health services provided in treatment facilities.

KFEOCH organizes ENCON4 in cooperation with SCPD and KDIPA

Forum of major state development projects kicks off

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: ENCON4 kicks off this evening at 6:30 pm at Al Hashemi Conference Center at Radisson Blu Hotel, Kuwait, under the patronage and presence of Her Excellency Dr. Noura Mohammed Al-Mashaan, Minister of Public Works and Minister of Municipal Affairs. "Transparency, Achievement, and Sustainability: Principles of the New Era" represents the ENCON4 motto.

This came in a press statement issued by the Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consultant Houses this morning. ENCON4 will continue on Wednesday and Thursday. KFEOCH organizes ENCON4 in cooperation with SCPD and KDIPA from 11 to 13 June at the Al Hashemi Conference Center - Radisson Blu Hotel, Kuwait.

Welcome and Thanks to the Sponsoring Private Sector Organizations

The concerned government agencies and private sector companies that aspire to play an important role in implementing the country's major development projects welcomed ENCON4. This was reflected in the extensive par-

ticipation of the sponsoring companies.

The Platinum sponsors topped the list of institutions that the organizers thanked and appreciated: Kuwait Finance House, National Bank of Kuwait, Gulf Bank, Ahmadiya Contracting and Trading Co., PACE, KEO, Mabane, and SSH. The organizers also appraised the silver sponsors: Soor Engineering Bureau and Gulf Consult.

Thanks also go to the Participating Government Agencies

The Kuwaiti Federation of Engineering Offices and Consultant Houses also thanked the supporting government sector institutions. Her Excellency Dr. Noura Mohammad Al-Mashaan, Minister of Public Works and Minister of Municipality Affairs, topped the list for sponsoring ENCON4. Big thanks went to SCPD and KDIPA for working hard to make the event a success.

Many government agencies will present their development projects during ENCON4. These also received the gratitude of the organizers. Praise and appreciation went to the Ministry of Public Works, the Ministry of Elec-



Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan



Sheikh Mishal Al-Jaber



Dr. Khaled Mahdi



Engineer Badr Al-Salman

tricity, Water and Renewable Energy, Kuwait Municipality, the Public Au-

thority for Housing Welfare, the Public Authority for Roads & Transportation,

Civil Aviation, the Public Authority for Sports, the Touristic Enterprises Company, and the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature (NCCAL), Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects, Kuwait Fire Force, and Central Statistical Bureau.

And to the Oil Sector Companies

As for the oil sector companies, organizers thanked and appreciated the participation of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC), and Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPIC).

Eng. Bader Al-Salman: A New Start for the Implementation of Development Projects

Eng. Bader Al-Salman, Chairman of the Kuwaiti Federation of Engineering Offices and Consulting Houses, remarked that ENCON4 arrives at an opportune moment to align with the new era's directives under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait, may God

protect him, along with His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister, may God protect them. This new era is marked by a commitment to seriousness, transparency, effectiveness, and productivity while actively combating corruption, tampering, and negligence. The presence and patronage of Her Excellency Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan reinforce our determination to succeed, which is a collective effort we must all strive towards.

Razen Events: ENCON4 is a Unique Gathering of Public and Private Sector Institutions

Razen Events welcomed the remarkable participation of the sponsoring companies from the private sector and the participating government institutions, thanking everyone for their support and involvement. Razen Events also expressed hope that the forum will achieve its objectives and reach conclusions and recommendations that help realize the events' motto of transparency, achievement, and sustainability in implementing Kuwait's major development projects.



Dr Swaika with Dr Al-Awadi

Indian envoy calls on Health Minister

The Indian Ambassador to Kuwait HE Dr Adarsh Swaika called on HE Dr. Ahmad Abdul Wahab Al-Awadi, Minister of Health of Kuwait. Discussions

pertained to further collaborations in a broad-spectrum of healthcare sector, including pharmaceuticals, medical devices and human resources.

Ministry of Justice approved forced execution operations revoked over brokerage violations

Sale auction suspended

Senior Sudan official touts Kuwait's humanitarian aid

KHARTOUM, June 10, (KUNA): Secretary-General of Sudan's Sovereign Council Mohammad Al-Ghali Sunday commended the State of Kuwait as having been in the forefront of those countries that had launched a humanitarian and relief aid airlift to war-torn Sudan.

The senior Sudanese official made the remark following his meeting with Kuwaiti Ambassador in Sudan Fahad Al-Thafeeri.

He added that the State of Kuwait had recently sent a one-million-US-dollar medical aid ship to Sudan, affirming that the Sudanese people appreciate this Kuwaiti support.

For his part, the Kuwaiti ambassador said his country would spare no effort to provide varied humanitarian aid of food and medical supplies to the Sudanese people, in addition to major charitable projects carried out by Kuwaiti charities in Sudan.

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Sources have revealed that Ministry of Justice-approved forced execution operations, benefiting a listed investment company, were revoked due to some brokerage firms offering unlisted securities through an electronic auction market without entering the base price, reports Al-Jarida daily.

These violations of Stock Exchange Rules Book Articles (12-7-19), (12-7-2), and (12-7-6) were reported to the Markets Authority, leading to the suspension of the sale auction and the referral of the case to the Markets Authority.

In compliance with Law No. 7 of 2010, the Kuwait Stock Exchange Company canceled the sale auction and referred the violators to the Stock Ex-

change Violations Committee, cautioning against future violations.

The amendments to the stock exchange's rules book, including Chapter Twelve on Forced Execution of Securities, were made to streamline procedures.

The Securities listed for sale are executed through the stock exchange's trading system, while unlisted or suspended securities may be sold through the electronic auction market or regular bidding.

The enforcement judge and the Authority have the authority to halt sale procedures if necessary, with the stock exchange notifying the seller accordingly. In case of technical defects in trading systems or brokerages, completed sales operations may be canceled and repeated without involving the stock exchange or the seller.

Electronic systems for execution files and correspondence among execution stakeholders are under development to enhance efficiency and transparency.

Land reclamation, biodiversity in focus

Kuwait's Scientific Center launches Environment Month 2024 activities

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Scientific Center, affiliated with the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences, launched the Environment Month activities for 2024 under the slogan "Together We Reclaim Our Planet: Focus on Land Reclamation, Desertification, and Drought Resistance," reports Al-Jarida daily.

The aim is to enhance environmental awareness and highlight the impact of desertification on biodiversity.

The center's director general, Musaed Al-Yassin, said in a statement that this year's activities focus specifically on land restoration, drought resistance, and biodiversity restoration, which are vital topics for the future of our environment.

Al-Yassin added that the events come within the framework of our commitment to spreading environmental awareness and highlighting the importance of preserving the environment in light of the current environmental challenges, expressing his hope that they will contribute to inspiring individuals and institutions to work together to protect our environment for future generations.

He explained that the Environment Month this year includes a group of diverse activities and programs, including the "Environment Talk" event, which will be held on June 29, and includes a series of scientific lectures presented by experts in the field of the environment.

He stated that Environment Month also includes workshops and interactive activities for children and families and the distribution of seeds during the weekends to promote home farming and encourage the community to grow plants, noting that it also includes a digital environmental photo competition on the Instagram platform to invite the public to share their photos of nature and biodiversity.

Al-Yassin stated that these events come in a strategic partnership with Kuwait University, the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, the Environment Public Authority, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and a number of private entities such as Kuwait Finance House and Wafra Real Estate Company.



The Scientific Center. (Inset): Musaed Al-Yassin, center's director general.

Food security a top priority

CGTCC secures deal for Sabhan Industrial Zone

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The project tender for establishing, completing, operating, and maintaining infrastructure in part of Plot 4 within the Sabhan Industrial Zone has been awarded to Contractor General Trading and Contracting Company, reports Al-Jarida daily.

This development marks a crucial step in fortifying food security, a top priority for the Public Authority for Industry.

The Block 4 project, previously delayed for years, is deemed vital for enhancing food security and supporting the expansion of food production companies. With a bid totaling 2.04 million dinars, Contractor General Trading and Contracting Company (CGTCC) secured the project by offering the lowest prices that met technical specifications.

The Board of Directors of the Central Agency for Public Tenders approved the award, underscoring adherence to legal requirements. The allocated area, comprising approximately 60 plots, will cater to projects aiming to bolster productive food industries.

These plots, varying in size, will accommodate factories seeking to enhance production lines and capacity.

The Public Authority for Industry has been actively accepting applications from food manufacturers, ensuring compliance with conditions before presenting them to the Board of Directors for approval.

This initiative aligns with the authority's plan to prepare infrastructure and meet requirements for industrial projects.

The daily added, the recently issued tender which focuses on Plot 4, will accommodate various food and pharmaceutical activities, including water bottling, juice production, potato and chip manufacturing, vegetable drying and freezing, meat packaging, and pharmaceutical operations.

albander
hotel & resort

EID AL ADHA

Special Promotion

Room Promotion

From June 12th - 22nd of June 2024

Book for One-night (Inclusive of breakfast)	Queen Cabana (2 persons) 2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons)	BHD 76.230 BHD 170.247
Book for Two nights and get 10% discount (Inclusive of breakfast) (Non-refundable/Non-Cancellable)	Queen Cabana (2 persons) per night. 2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons) per night	BHD 69.000 net BHD 153.222
Book for Three nights and get 20% discount (Inclusive of breakfast) (Non-refundable/Non-Cancellable)	Queen Cabana (2 persons) per night. 2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons) per night	BHD 61.000 net BHD 136.198

Food & Beverage Promotion

- First three days of Eid, at the **Fish Market Restaurant** warmly welcomes everyone to enjoy a **15% discount**.
- 15% discount on Room Service
- First three days of Eid, lunch Buffet will be served at **Café Marisol Restaurant** with price of **BD6.500 per person**. Starts from 12:30 PM to 16:00 PM.

Terms and conditions apply

Tel: +973 17701201 - Ext. 351 | Email: reservation@albander.com | www.albander.com | @albanderhotelandresort

Kuwaiti scholarships surge by 58% in 2022/23

12,300 more recipients sent abroad

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The number of Kuwaiti students sent on scholarship for higher studies abroad increased by 58 percent or 12,300 in academic year 2022/2023 – a total of 32,802 students to 22 countries, compared to 20,765 in academic year 2021/2022, reports Al-Rai daily.

According to the latest education statistics issued by the Central Statistics Bureau, 85.7 percent of Kuwaiti students on scholarship were sent to four countries or a total of 28,100 students. Most of whom were sent to the United Kingdom at 30.5 percent or 10,000 students; followed by Egypt at 27.7 percent or 9,000 students; then America at 17.1 percent or 5,600 students and Jordan at 10.3 percent or 3,390 students.

The number of Kuwaiti graduates who were sent on scholarship to 30 coun-

tries and whose certificates were accredited reached 4,873 -- 87.4 percent or 4,260 of whom were sent to four countries. America ranked first with 42.8 percent or 2,080 students; followed by the United Kingdom with 36.9 percent or 1,800 students, Jordan with 4.5 percent or 220 students, and Egypt with 3.1 percent or 154 students.

The adult literacy rate for Kuwaitis and expatriates (above 15 years old) reached 97.4 percent in 2023, compared to 97.08 percent in the previous year; while the rate for Kuwaitis reached 98.3 percent and 97.8 percent for expatriates.

The number of schools in Kuwait reached 673 -- 330 for males and 343 for females. The number of classes reached 14,287 -- 6,964 for males and 7,323 for females. The number of Kuwaiti students in local schools reached 356,816 -- 170,440 males and 186,300 females; while the number of international students reached 66,435 -- 32,974 males and 33,461 females.

The number of Kuwaiti teachers reached 65,540 -- 12,060 males and 53,481 females; while the number of expatriate teachers reached 23,443 -- 9,847 males and 13,596 females.

Schedule of aptitude tests, interviews set

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Office of the Dean of Admissions and Registration at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) has announced that the aptitude tests and personal interviews for internal transfer applicants and changing majors for all students, except those majoring in Physical Education, are scheduled for June 23-27, reports Al-Rai daily.

PAAET revealed that the aptitude tests and interviews for Physical Education students will be on July 14-18, clarifying that the specializations which require passing the aptitude test and personal interview will be announced later.

The authority stressed: "There are no other dates for the test and interview; so failure to take the test and appear for interview as scheduled could lead to cancellation of the admission application."

Oil sector to lead efficient disposal

Gov't to dispose of 50,000 barrels of unused ethanol over safety concerns

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The recent high-level government discussions have convened multiple stakeholders to devise practical solutions aimed at safely disposing of approximately 50,000 barrels of ethanol or ethyl alcohol currently stored in the Shuiba area, reports Al-Rai daily quoting informed sources.

This governmental initiative is prompted by a strategic effort to mitigate any potential risks associated with the prolonged storage of this chemical compound.

Sources revealed that around 60,000 barrels of ethanol were imported in 2020 as part of the government's response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, over the past four years, only a fraction of this stock, approximately 500 barrels, has been utilized, with an additional 10,000 barrels distributed to various government entities requiring this substance for their opera-

tions. Consequently, the remaining inventory has stabilized at approximately 50,000 barrels.

The extended presence of this substantial quantity underscores the urgency for its safe and efficient disposal in collaboration with relevant authorities, spearheaded by the oil sector.

While selling these barrels to private companies presents challenges, primarily to avoid potential accounting losses, an agreement has been reached to task pertinent authorities, including the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Public Authority for Industry, the Kuwait Supply Company, the oil sector, the Kuwait Ports Authority, and the Directorate-General of Fire Department (DGF), with reallocating this stock to government agencies in need. The paramount focus remains on ensuring the secure unloading and utilization of these resources.

Study shows sharp rise in teens

Vaping a concerning trend as e-cigarettes popularity surges

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The prevalence of electronic cigarette use among children aged 11 to 17 is expected to double in 2023. This revelation comes amid harrowing accounts of health complications linked to vaping, exemplified by the case of a British teenager whose lung reportedly exploded due to excessive electronic cigarette use, reports Al-Rai daily.

According to reports from the British newspaper Metro, a teenager's father was shocked when his 17-year-old daughter experienced an epileptic seizure, only to learn in the hospital that her lung had ruptured as a result of vaping. Doctors performed a grueling 5-and-a-half-hour operation to remove part of her lung, which had been punctured due to intense electronic cigarette use.

Medical professionals attributed the catastrophic incident to the bursting of a small air blister, known as a

pulmonary bleb, a consequence of the teenager's heavy vaping habit. Doctors estimated that she consumed the equivalent of 400 cigarettes per week through electronic cigarettes.

Expressing his anguish, the father recounted the emotional turmoil of witnessing his daughter's suffering and undergoing surgery, including a seizure during the procedure. He passionately urged others to refrain from smoking, emphasizing the profound toll it took on his family.

The alarming rise in electronic cigarette use underscores broader concerns about public health. Data from Action on Smoking and Health indicates that the popularity of e-cigarettes has surged, with approximately 20% of the population reporting they have tried them. Furthermore, a study by a public health charity predicts a doubling in the number of children aged 11 to 17 using e-cigarettes in 2023.

The Ministerial Council called on Iraq to work hard to complete the demarcation of the maritime borders between the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Iraq beyond the maritime 162 mark.

The Ministerial Council also called on the government of Iraq to adhere to the "Agreement on the Regulation of Maritime Navigation in Khor Abdullah" which was signed between Kuwait and Iraq on April 29, 2012.

Which entered into force since December 5, 2013 and jointly put forward to the United Nations on December 18, 2013.

The Ministerial Council expressed its complete rejection of what was contained in the merits of the ruling of the Federal Supreme Court in Iraq in this regard, and its rejection of the historical fallacies contained in the merits of the ruling, and considered any decisions, practices or unilateral actions undertaken by the Republic of Iraq related to the Khor Abdullah Agreement as null and void, in addition to its rejection of the unilateral Iraqi action.

The council also noted that it has annulled the security exchange protocol signed in 2008 and its approved map in the joint plan to ensure the safety of navigation in Khor Abdullah, signed

'To Whom It May Concern' certificate

CSC launches new electronic service via Sahel application

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Civil Service Commission (CSC) has launched a new electronic service through 'Sahel' application -- the issuance of 'To Whom It May Concern' certificate that shows the status of registration in the central

employment system and status of appointment in the agencies implementing the integrated systems, reports Al-Rai daily.

The CSC affirmed this new service is part of its commitment to better serve the public.

Safety urged

MEW reveals spike in emergency calls

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Head of the Emergency Call Center (152) in the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Eng. Muhammad Al-Azmi disclosed that the center operates 24/7; revealing that the center has received 11,704 calls since the beginning of June when temperatures soared, reports Al-Anba daily.

He said 10,339 of these calls are regarding electricity and 1,365 are about water. He revealed majority of electricity related calls were from Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh and the animal pens in Kabad and Wafra farms; while majority of water-related calls were from Omariya, Sabah Al-Salem and Mahboula.

He called on citizens and expatriates to adhere to safety regulations to prevent accidents, especially in houses where there are children. He stressed the need to keep electric devices away from water and avoid connecting more electrical appliances or devices to the same power source.

He also affirmed the importance of regular maintenance of electrical appliances, and rationalizing the consumption of water and electricity.

He advised the citizens and expatriates to call emergency number 152 or use the MEW152 mobile application in case of emergency.

Transactions halted

PAM joins trafficking awareness campaign

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) participated in the campaign aimed at raising public awareness about human trafficking; organized recently by the Permanent National Committee tasked to implement strategies for preventing human trafficking and illegal migration to Kuwait, reports Al-Anba daily.

Acting Deputy Director General for Manpower Protection Dr Fahd Al-Murad, who represented PAM in the campaign, praised the efforts exerted by the committee; particularly its commitment to provide legal advice and its concern for expatriate labor rights.

He shed light on the role of PAM in addressing labor issues and providing labor shelters, as well as the relevant laws in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, PAM announced that online transactions will be suspended from June 13-22 due to regular maintenance. It advised employers to complete their urgent transactions before the aforementioned dates.

Your Highness

Continued from Page 1

Prime Minister, Minister of Defense and Minister of Interior took some measures to open the country; but they are not sufficient because they do not meet the aspirations, as they contain conditions and legislation enacted by backward people in previous parliaments, and now need immediate amendment.

People do not want to incur losses in order to entertain themselves and their families. Therefore, the obstacle to development has been removed due to the measures taken by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Today, it is the mission of the Council of Ministers, which has legislative capacity as well, to amend the 'lock-down' laws, work rapidly to regulate domestic tourism, and open the country to be on par with the rest of the Gulf countries and the world.

If you compare the contribution of tourism in Kuwait to its gross domestic product -- which is 1.5 percent, to the tourism in other Gulf countries, you will realize how much we have lost in the past years as a result of the country's closure and how much more we will lose if the situation continues.

Kuwait Crown

Continued from Page 1

and joined Kuwait Permanent Mission at the UN (1982-1989).

His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled served as State of Kuwait's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Permanent



Group photo during the World Ocean Day celebration.

'Catalyzing Action for the Ocean and Climate'

Spanish Embassy celebrates 'World Ocean Day'

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Spanish Embassy in Kuwait celebrated the World Ocean Day which was held under the theme 'Catalyzing Action for the Ocean and Climate'. The World Ocean Day serves as a rallying cry, mobilizing individuals and organizations worldwide to safeguard oceans. Yet, efforts must transcend this singular day, aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals on climate action and ocean conservation.

In his address to the dignitaries on this special occasion, the Spanish Ambassador to Kuwait HE Miguel Moro Aguilar said, "On a day marked by significance and celebration, I am privileged to address you all as we gather to mark a momentous occasion. With heartfelt appreciation, I extend my thanks to Kuwait University, particularly the Faculty of Science, and to the esteemed Dr. Mohammed Al-Mukaimi and Dr. Fahad Al-Sanafi from the Marine Science Department, whose unwavering support has been instrumental in bringing this exhibition to fruition."

This initiative, he said, stands as a testament to the power of collaboration, uniting the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), the Spanish Institute of Oceanography, and Kuwait's Ministry of Science and Innovation. "Together, we embark on a journey to shine a spotlight on the remarkable contributions of female scientists in the field of oceanography, igniting inspiration and paving the way for future generations of scientific trailblazers," he said.

Moreover, this exhibition serves as a cornerstone in a broader strategy of scientific diplomacy championed by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Spanish embassy here in Kuwait. From the "Age of Glass" exhibition to symposiums on agro-technology, "our collective efforts underscore a commitment to fostering scientific cooperation on a global scale."

"Today, as we commemorate World Ocean Day, initiated by the United

Nations over two decades ago, we are called to confront the multifaceted challenges confronting our oceans. This year's theme emphasizes a holistic approach to ocean conservation and climate action, highlighting the imperative for environmental sustainability and social equity," he said.

Among the most recent examples, he said, "allow me to refer to the Age of Glass exhibition, that I had the honor to inaugurate last week, or the presence of two scientist from the Spanish Institute of Oceanography in a symposium held here in Kuwait last year, or the seminars we organized with KFAS and KISR, on agro-technology in arid lands, with the institute Tecnova from Almeria, south of Spain."

Through the "Oceanicas: Pioneers of Oceanography" exhibition, tribute is paid to the indelible mark left by women in advancing oceanographic research. From historical figures to contemporary scholars, their contributions serve as a beacon of inspiration for future generations, particularly aspiring women scientists.

It is paramount to recognize that women, the Spanish envoy said, have long been at the forefront of oceanographic exploration and innovation,

challenging societal norms and propelling scientific progress forward. Among them stands Kuwaiti oceanographer Maryam Al Joaan, alongside numerous others who have left an indelible mark on the field.

Today, we are honored by the presence of Dr. Faiza Al-Yamani, whose dedication to oceanography in Kuwait is unparalleled. As we embark on this exhibition, our commitment to ocean conservation extends beyond these walls, as we strive to protect marine ecosystems and combat pollution through ongoing initiatives.

The World Ocean Day serves as a rallying cry, mobilizing individuals and organizations worldwide to safeguard our oceans. Yet, our efforts must transcend this singular day, aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals on climate action and ocean conservation.

The Spanish envoy extended his deepest gratitude to KFAS, KISR, and Kuwait University for their steadfast collaboration, laying the foundation for promising partnerships. May this collaboration serve as a beacon of hope, guiding us toward a sustainable future for our oceans and our planet, he added.



Part of the Kuwait University's Faculty of Science exhibit.

Khaled to form the country's 39th government and his fourth.

Saudi Arabia's late King Fahad awarded His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled with King Abdulaziz Order of the first class in 1998.

Former Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir awarded Sheikh His Highness Sabah Khaled with the Two Niles order in 2012.

Senegalese President Macky Sall awarded His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled the National Order of the Lion in 2015.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas awarded His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled with Al-Quds Star Order in 2018.

Expat healthcare

Continued from Page 1

impact of such violence on health care personnel. The study warns of the critical need to address and mitigate the high rates of violence against healthcare workers, stressing that those in primary health care settings are at a substantially greater risk of verbal and physical abuse than professionals in other fields.

The findings underscore the urgent need for policies and measures to protect healthcare workers from violence and ensure a safer working environment. The study highlights the importance of addressing this issue to safeguard the well-being of those dedicated to providing essential health services.

A study conducted by Dr. Hoda Al-Gharib, a family medicine consultant at the Ministry of Health, highlights the prevalence of violence in primary health care environments and its det-

erimental effects on work efficiency, employee health, societal behaviors, health care costs, and job satisfaction.

This study underscores the critical need to address and mitigate violence in healthcare settings, particularly in primary health care centers, to ensure a safe and healthy environment for both healthcare providers and patients.

GCC affirms

Continued from Page 1

ownership of the natural resources in the divided submerged area adjacent to the Saudi-Kuwaiti divided zone, including the entire Durra field, which is a joint ownership between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Kuwait.

The statement added that the State of Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia alone have full rights to exploit the natural resources in that region in accordance with the provisions of international law and based on the agreements concluded and in force between them, stressing its categorical rejection of any allegations of the existence of rights for any other party in this field or the submerged area adjacent to the area divided by its specific borders between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Kuwait.

The Ministerial Council also asserted on importance of the Republic of Iraq to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the State of Kuwait and adhere to bilateral and international pledges and agreements and all relevant United Nations resolutions, especially the Security Council Resolution No. 833 of 1993, regarding the demarcation of the Kuwaiti-Iraqi land and sea borders.

World News Roundup

Europe

Macron calls for poll

90 nations to attend Kyiv 'peace summit'

BERN, Switzerland, June 10, (AP): Nearly 90 countries and organizations, half from Europe, have confirmed attending the Swiss-hosted Ukraine peace summit over the weekend despite Russia's refusal to participate, Switzerland's president said Monday.

Viola Amherd told reporters in the Swiss capital that the summit, on Saturday and Sunday, will aim to chart a path toward possible peace nearly 28 months after Russian forces invaded Ukraine and the war grinding on.

"This is not about propaganda," said Amherd. "This is about the basis of humanitarian aid provided by Switzerland, based on fostering peace (and) to provide a platform to initiate a dialogue."

The Swiss president added that most participants – about half of which will be represented at the level of head of state or government – are country leaders, but "a handful" are from organizations like the United Nations.

Some heads of state or government, including French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, are expected to attend the summit at the Buergenstock resort overlooking Lake Lucerne.

US Vice President Kamala Harris will take part on behalf of the United States. US President Joe Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, will join Harris as part of the US delegation.

About 160 invitations have been sent out and Amherd said it was not a "disappointment" for the Swiss government that fewer than 100 have so far announced participation in the first phase of the peace process.



Zelenskyy

Developing

Swiss authorities said the final list of participants was expected by Friday, but key developing countries like Turkey, South Africa and Brazil haven't indicated whether they would attend. India they said, will take part but it isn't clear at which level.

Brazil and China said they wouldn't take part unless both sides – including Russia – were at the table, according to Swiss officials. Beijing has been one of the top supporters of Russian President Vladimir Putin since the war started, and has said the criteria for its participation will be "hard to meet."

Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis also addressed reporters, saying Switzerland has repeatedly acknowledged that there cannot be a peace process without Russia. "The question is not whether Russia will be on board, the question is when."

He also said Switzerland is in frequent contact with authorities in Moscow about the conference.

Ukraine has helped coordinate the summit, and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is expected to attend. Cassis said Swiss officials had to balance considerations that Ukraine might not have attended if Russia was represented.

Swiss officials say the conference aims to set a course toward "lasting peace" in Ukraine, to reach a "common understanding" toward getting there, and draw up the "roadmap" on how to get both sides involved in talks. Nuclear security, humanitarian aid and food security are also on the summit's agenda.

Also:

KYIV, Ukraine: Ukraine may keep some of the F-16 fighter jets it's set to receive from its Western allies at foreign bases to protect them from Russian strikes, a senior Ukrainian military officer said Monday.

Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway have committed to providing Ukraine with over 60 U.S.-made F-16 fighter jets to help it fend off Russian attacks. Ukrainian pilots are currently undergoing training to fly the warplanes ahead of the deliveries expected to start later this year.

Serhi Holubtsov, head of aviation within Ukraine's air force, said that "a certain number of aircraft will be stored at secure air bases outside of Ukraine so that they are not targeted here."

Holubtsov told the US government-funded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty that those F-16s could be used to replace damaged aircraft as they undergo repairs as well as for training Ukrainian pilots abroad.

"This way, we can always have a certain number of aircraft in the operational fleet that corresponds to the number of pilots we have," he said. "If there are more pilots, there will be more aircraft in Ukraine."

Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned that Moscow could consider launching strikes at facilities in NATO countries if they host the warplanes used in Ukraine.

"If they are stationed at air bases outside the Ukrainian borders and used in combat, we will have to see how and where to strike the assets used in combat against us," Putin said last year. "It poses a serious danger of NATO being further drawn into the conflict."

In March, the Russian leader again warned Ukraine's Western allies against providing air bases from where the F-16s could launch sorties against the Kremlin's forces. Those bases would become a "legitimate target," he said.

The F-16s require a high standard of runways and reinforced hangars to protect them from attacks on the ground.

PARIS: France's President Emmanuel Macron dissolved the lower house of France's parliament in a surprise announcement sending voters back to the polls in the coming weeks to choose lawmakers, after his party was handed a humiliating defeat by the far-right in the European elections Sunday.

The legislative elections will take place in two rounds on June 30 and July 7.

The announcement came after the first projected results from France put the far-right National Rally party well ahead in the European Union's parliamentary elections, handing a chastening loss to Macron's pro-European centrists, according to French opinion poll institutes.

Marine Le Pen's anti-immigration, nationalist party was estimated to get around 31%-32% of the votes, a historic result more than double the share of Macron's Renaissance party, which was projected to reach around 15%.

Macron himself wasn't a candidate in the EU elections and his term as president still runs for three more years.

He said the decision was "serious" but showed his "confidence in our democracy, in letting the sovereign people have their say."

"In the next few days, I'll be saying what I think is the right direction for the nation. I've heard your message, your concerns, and I won't leave them unanswered," he said.



US Republican presidential candidate, former president Donald Trump speaks at a campaign rally on June 9, in Las Vegas. (AP)

Politics

Ex-prez backs Brown in Senate race

Trump holds Vegas rally in scorching heat

LAS VEGAS, June 10, (AP): Former US president Donald Trump rallied voters in the scorching heat of Las Vegas, at points telling his supporters to ask for help if needed and appearing irritable with the teleprompters that he said were not working.

The presumptive GOP nominee's campaign hired extra medics, loading up on fans and water bottles and allowed supporters to carry umbrellas to an outdoor rally Sunday in Las Vegas, where temperatures exceeded 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37.8 degrees Celsius). The Clark County Fire Department said most of the medical calls were related to the heat, and six people were sent to a hospital and 24 others were treated on site.

"I don't want anybody going on me. We need every voter. I don't care about you. I just want your vote," he said, adding that he was joking.

Earlier in his speech, he said the campaign would offer help to people who were feeling tired and joked that "everybody," including the US Secret Service, was worried about the safety of the crowds and not about him.

"They never mentioned me. I'm up here sweating like a dog," he said. "This is hard work."

Returned

Trump returned to Nevada, one of the top battleground states in the November election, for his second rally since he was found guilty in a hush-money scandal.

The unprecedented conviction of a former president has juiced Trump's fundraising and galvanized his supporters, but it remains to be seen whether it will sway swing voters.

Temperatures in the Southwest have cooled since reaching historic highs late last week but remain above normal for this time of year and topped 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) at the rally, which took place at a park with little shade next to the airport.

Well into his speech, Trump said it was "not as bad" as he thought it would be, and said he was angrier with the teleprompters not working well, even when he used to mock President Barack Obama for relying on that device.

"I pay all this money to teleprompter people, and I'd say 20% of the time, they don't work," he said, adding he would not pay the vendor who provided the prompters. "It's a mess."

Campaign organizers handed out water bottles as supporters waited in line to be screened by security officers. Inside the venue, large misting fans, pallets of water and cooling tents were placed around the perimeter.

Symbolizes

"This is a dry heat. This ain't nothing for Las Vegas people," Nevada GOP Chair Michael McDonald said. "But what it symbolizes for the rest of the United States - we will walk through hell" to elect Donald Trump.

McDonald and five other Republicans have been accused of submitting certificates to Congress falsely declaring Trump the winner of Nevada's 2020 presidential election and their trial has been pushed to next year.

Trump said the rioters who stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021 to contest the election were "victims" of a "set up."

"They were really, more than anything else, they are victims of what happened. All they were doing is protesting a rigged election. That's what they were doing. And then the police say, go in, go in, go in, go in," he said. "What a set up that was. A horrible, horrible thing."

The conspiracy theory that the Jan. 6 rioters were encouraged by law enforcement is widespread on the right but has no basis in fact. Many of those who were at the Capitol on Jan. 6 have said - proudly, publicly, repeatedly - that they did so to help the then-president.

Federal and state election officials and Trump's own attorney general have said there is no credible evidence the 2020 election was tainted. The former president's allegations of fraud were also roundly rejected by courts, including by judges Trump appointed.

The campaign paid for additional EMS services to be on site in the case of emergency. The Secret Service made an exception to allow people to bring in personal water bottles and umbrellas.

Also:

RENO, Nevada: Former president Donald Trump endorsed Retired Army Capt. Sam Brown in the Nevada US Senate race on Sunday, choosing a candidate widely seen as the front-runner over a crowded primary field of candidates who have angled to align themselves with the former president.

Trump's endorsement came on Truth Social after he spent the day in Las Vegas holding a rally, where several of the GOP Senate candidates were in attendance. He said Brown was a "Fearless American patriot" and noted his Purple Heart status. He also said Brown will "fight tirelessly" for several of his priorities including border security and growing the economy.

The winner of Tuesday's Republican primary will face off with Nevada Democratic US Sen Jacky Rosen, a first-term moderate who has become one of Republicans' top targets in 2024.

Republicans view the Nevada race as a pivotal pickup opportunity that could determine which party controls the U.S. Senate. Democrats hold a 51-49 majority but are facing a challenging 2024 Senate map. They must defend incumbents not only in red states - Montana, Ohio and West Virginia - but also in multiple swing states including Nevada.

Trump chose Brown over several other candidates with close ties to the former president. One rival, Jeff Gunter, Trump's former ambassador to Iceland, has campaigned with the slogan that he is "110% pro-Trump" and has described Brown as the establishment pick for being endorsed by US Sen Mitch McConnell.

Jim Marchant, another candidate, ran as a Republican candidate for Nevada Secretary of State in 2022 on a platform of election denialism spurred by Trump's false claims of widespread election fraud. In 2022 he introduced Trump on stage when the former president visited Nevada to rally supporters for tight midterm elections.

The endorsement further lifts Brown above his opponents in terms of national backing. His opponents had long criticized Brown for skipping primary debates, a move that Trump also did when he polled well ahead of his opponents in the presidential primary.



Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni speaks about the results of the European Parliamentary elections at a press conference at the Fratelli d'Italia party electoral committee in Rome on June 10. (AP)



Barnes



Hobbs

America

10 hurt in Wis. shooting: An early morning shooting at a rooftop party in Wisconsin left at least 10 people injured, including teenagers, police said Sunday.

Nine people were injured by gunfire and another was injured by broken glass at the party at a high-rise apartment in downtown Madison.

All of the injured were taken to local hospitals. None had injuries considered to be life-threatening, according to authorities. Madison police said in a Sunday afternoon update that at least one of the injured remained in a hospital.

The victims ranged in age from 14 to 23. "It is truly a miracle that no one is dead," Madison Police Chief Shon Barnes said at a news conference. "As a community, our hearts are hurting."

Police were called to the apartment complex around 12:45 am.

"These students should have been celebrating summer vacation and not receiving medical treatment," Barnes said. (AP)

'More sweltering heat': More sweltering heat appears to be headed to parts of Arizona and Nevada this week.

The National Weather Service said Sunday that an excessive heat watch is in effect Tuesday through Thursday for the Phoenix metro area plus other portions of south-central and northwest Arizona.

Temperatures could reach 111 F (43.8 C) or higher during that span. Governor of Arizona is Katie Hobbs.

"As we get to these first couple weeks of June, a lot of places are really starting to see those temperatures escalate," said Todd Shoemaker of the National Weather Service in Albuquerque. "Southern California, southern Nevada, southwestern Arizona, they're starting to see lots of triple digits."

Last Thursday, Phoenix hit 110 F (43.3 C) for the first time this year with a record-setting high of 113 F (45 C).

Meanwhile, dangerously hot conditions are being forecast for central Las Vegas with highs ranging from 108 F (47.7 C) on Tuesday and 111 F (43.8 C) on Wednesday. (AP)

Thursday and 110 F (43.3 C) last Friday, both records for the dates by one degree Fahrenheit. (AP)

Arizona closes park: Picacho Peak State Park in southern Arizona is closed until further notice after a small plane crashed near the summit, killing the pilot.

Pinal County Sheriff's officials said 68-year-old James Galvin of Oro Valley was the only person aboard the single-engine

plane when it crashed around 7:30 am Saturday. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

A hiker called 911 after seeing the plane go down, according to authorities.

The cause of the crash will be investigated by the National Transportation Safety Board and Federal Aviation Administration.



Queen Camilla, (left), speaks with Miriam Margolyes during a reception with authors, actors and lovers of literature attending the Queen's Reading Room Literary Festival at Hampton Court Palace, in London on June 8. (AP)

Rodeo bull injures 3: A rodeo bull hopped a fence surrounding an Oregon arena and ran through a concession area into a parking lot, injuring at least three people before wranglers caught up with it, officials said.

The crowd at the 84th Sisters Rodeo in the city of Sisters was singing on Saturday night, most with their cellphone flashlights on, as the bull ran around the arena before what was to be the final bull ride of the night, when the bull hopped the fence, according to a video shot by a fan.

Other videos posted online showed the bull running through a concession area, knocking over a garbage can and sending people scrambling. The bull lifted one person off the ground, spun them end over end, and bounced them off its horns before the person hit the ground. (AP)

The Sisters Rodeo Association issued a statement Sunday saying three people were injured "as a direct result of the bull, two of whom were transported to a local hospital." KTVZ-TV reported. Rodeo livestock professionals secured the bull next to livestock holding pens and placed it in a pen, the association said. (AP)

Lat/Am

Haiti PM discharged

PSUV 'tests' its voter organizing campaign

CARACAS, Venezuela, June 10, (AP): With its decades-long grip on power under threat, Venezuela's ruling party on Sunday tested a voter organizing campaign aimed at shoring up President Nicolás Maduro's bid for a third term.

The assessment followed weeks of efforts by local organizers of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela (PSUV) to increase support for Maduro. Each was tasked with adding into a database 10 voters who have promised to vote for Maduro in the highly anticipated July 28 presidential election.

Local organizers as well as voters who pledged their support were expected to receive verification phone calls Sunday. Organizers who had not yet entered voter information into the database due to lack of internet access or experience with databases received help at party meetings across the country.

On election day, local party leaders must ensure the voters they registered make it to the polls no matter what.

The effort to measure support comes as Chavistas - devotees of the late fiery leader Hugo Chávez - are no longer the reliable force that easily claimed electoral victories while the often divided opposition continues to work in unison.

The changes within each bloc have been driven primarily by the complex economic and political crisis that undid the country. As a result, the election is the biggest challenge faced by the ruling party since Chávez, Maduro's mentor and predecessor, became president more than two decades ago and began what he described as Venezuela's socialist revolution.

"We are already approaching record numbers," Maduro said Sunday evening without offering figures. "The level of organization that you have reached at this point is impressive."

Maduro added that starting Monday, he wants "to see a quantitative and qualitative growth of demonstrations in each neighborhood, in each parish, in each community, in each municipality."

People loyal to the ruling party control all branches of Venezuela's government, and public employees are constantly pressured to participate in demonstrations. Each public employee is also being urged to register 10 pro-Maduro voters.

The local leaders who have been gathering names of expected Maduro voters coordinate various government programs, including the delivery of subsidized food. Some of those leaders in Caracas used the logs of the food program to identify people in their community they could add to the database of voters.

Venezuela's electoral body earlier this year set the presidential election for July 28, fulfilling one of the provisions of an agreement signed last year between Maduro's government and the U.S.-backed Unitary Platform opposition coalition.

Under the agreement, both sides vowed to work toward improving conditions for a free and fair election. But Maduro and his allies have continuously tested the limits of the accord, including by blocking the candidacy of the president's chief opponent, María Corina Machado, as well as of her chosen substitute.

Machado and the coalition are now backing former diplomat Edmundo González Urrutia.

Ahead of Sunday's verification work, party members signaled that the information gathered through the organizing campaign would be carefully scrutinized.

Also:

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti: Haiti's newly selected Prime Minister Garry Conille was discharged from a hospital Sunday after spending a night in treatment for an undisclosed condition.

In a video published on YouTube, Conille said he felt well and was "ready" to continue to help steer the country out of its current security crisis by forming a government that will also prioritize issues like health care.

In his video, Conille said: "The whole time I was at the hospital, I was thinking of something: People that need to go to the general hospital can't get there (due to widespread violence). People who need health care can't afford it."

Gang violence remains relentless in the Caribbean country, with three police officers killed Sunday and a fourth one missing, according to Synapoha, a police union. The officers were part of a new anti-gang unit, it said.

The violence has forced roughly 60% of hospitals in the capital city's metropolitan area to close, while gangs also loot and burn pharmacies and doctors are forced to stay at home on some days to avoid dangerous clashes between gangs.

Conille arrived in Haiti on June 1 after a transitional council selected him as the nation's new prime minister. He had been working outside the country as UNICEF's regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean.

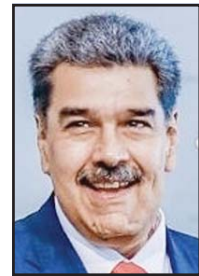
The new prime minister has an arduous task ahead of him, having to quell rampant gang violence while helping lift Haiti out of deep poverty, with inflation reaching a record 29%, according to the latest data available.

BOGOTÁ, Colombia: Colombia marked the first anniversary Sunday of the rescue of four Indigenous children who survived a small plane crash in the Amazon rainforest in an operation that gripped the world's attention. A small ceremony was held in a Bogota military base that included an emotional reunion between soldiers and Indigenous volunteers.

But the four children, who were found in a remote patch of rainforest a year ago after fending for themselves for 40 days, still face an uncertain future as authorities wait for a case worker to decide who should be awarded custody.

The siblings from Colombia's Huitoto tribe were aged 13, 9, 4 and 11 months old when the single-engine plane they were traveling in nosedived into the rainforest's canopy, killing their mother, Magdalena Mucutuy, and the other two adults on board. The group was travelling from the small village of Aracuara, deep in the Colombian Amazon to the town of San Jose del Guaviare.

On Sunday, Colombia's Institute for Family Welfare posted a photo of the four children with their faces blurred on its X account, formerly Twitter, and published a statement saying they were healthy and were growing up successfully under state care.



Maduro



Vipin Narang, (left), principal US deputy assistant secretary of defense for space policy and Cho Chang-rae, South Korea's deputy defense minister for policy, attend a press conference after the third meeting of the Nuclear Consultative Group (NCG) at ministry of national defense in Seoul, June 10. (AP)

Asia

'Oppn will renege on emissions target if elected'

NKorea installs own loudspeakers: Seoul

SEOUL, South Korea, June 10, (AP): South Korea's military on Monday said it's detecting signs that North Korea is installing its own loudspeakers along their heavily armed border, a day after the South blared anti-Pyongyang propaganda broadcasts over its speakers for the first time in years as the rivals engage in a Cold War-style psychological warfare.

The South's resumption of its loud-speaker broadcasts on Sunday was in retaliation for the North sending over 1,000 balloons filled with trash and manure over the last couple of weeks. North Korea has described its balloon campaign as a response to South Korean civilian groups using balloons to fly anti-North Korean propaganda leaflets across the border. Pyongyang has long condemned such activities as it's extremely sensitive to any outside criticism of leader Kim Jong Un's authoritarian rule.

Tensions

The tit-for-tat over speakers and balloons has deepened tensions between the Koreans as talks over the North's nuclear ambitions remain stalled.

In their latest nuclear planning talks in Seoul, US and South Korean officials reviewed an undisclosed guideline mapping out their nuclear deterrence strategies to counter growing North Korean threats. They also discussed strengthening the allies' combined military training involving strategic US assets, the participants said in a news conference.

Cho Chang-rae, South Korea's deputy defense minister for policy, and Vipin Narang, acting US assistant secretary of defense for space policy, refused specific comment when asked to assess the threat posed by North Korea's balloon activities.

Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff didn't immediately comment on the number of suspected North Korean speakers or where along the border they were spotted being installed. It said the speakers were still silent as of Monday afternoon.

South Korea on Sunday activated its loudspeakers for an initial broadcast into North Korea, which reportedly included news, criticism about North Korea's government and South Korean pop music.

Hours later on Sunday, Kim's powerful sister warned that the South created a "prelude to a very dangerous situation." She said South Korea would witness an unspecified "new response" from the North if it continues with the broadcasts and fails to stop civilian activists from flying anti-North Korean

propaganda leaflets across the border. "I sternly warn Seoul to immediately cease its dangerous activities that would further provoke a crisis of confrontation," Kim Yo Jong said through state media.

Lee Sung Joon, spokesperson of South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Kim's comments represented a heightened verbal threat from North Korea but he did not provide a specific assessment on the actions the North might take. Lee said the South was conducting broadcasts in sites where soldiers have sufficient protection and are equipped to swiftly hit back if attacked. "(We) don't think that they could provoke us that easily," Lee said during a briefing Monday.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff didn't specify the border area where Sunday's broadcast took place or what was played over the speakers. It said that any additional broadcasts are "entirely dependent on North Korea's behavior."

The South withdrew loudspeakers from border areas in 2018, during a brief period of engagement with the North under Seoul's previous liberal government.

Also:

MELBOURNE, Australia: Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Monday said the opposition Liberal Party would renege on the nation's ambitious target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 if it wins elections due within a year.

Albanese made Australian action on climate change an issue in elections due by next May in response to comments that Peter Dutton, leader of the conservative opposition party, made to The Weekend Australian newspaper.

Dutton said in an interview with the newspaper that he opposed the center-left Labor Party government's plan to reduce emissions by 43% below 2005 levels by the end of the decade, saying there was "no sense in signing up to targets you don't have any prospects of achieving."

Albanese said Australia would achieve the target despite a forecast by the Climate Change Authority, a government agency, last November of a reduction of between 37% and 42%.

"Peter Dutton is walking away from climate action. His decision to abandon the 2030 target means him walking away from the Paris Accord," Albanese told reporters, referring to the agreement struck by governments at a United Nations climate conference in Paris in 2015.

"If you walk away from the Paris

Accord, you'll be standing with Libya, Yemen, and Iran, and against all of our major trading partners and all of our important allies," Albanese said.

Opposition climate and energy spokesperson Ted O'Brien said Dutton was acknowledging that Australia would not meet the 43% target that Parliament enshrined into law in September 2022. Parliament made the target a law to increase the degree of difficulty for any future government that wanted a less ambitious target.

The Liberal Party will reveal its reduction target for 2030 closer to the next election, which Albanese could call from late 2024, O'Brien said.

"We are absolutely committed to the Paris Agreement. We are absolutely committed to achieving net zero by 2050, and we will have a plan to do so," O'Brien told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

TAIPEI, Taiwan: Across the Chinese diaspora, racing in dragon boats has been a tradition reaching back thousands of years.

But change is afoot, most recently in central Taiwan where the races were switched to the evening to take advantage of cooler temperatures, a refreshing breeze and the sight of the boats lit up with LED lights running the length of the low-lying watercraft.

A drummer pounds out a rhythm behind the elaborately carved dragon head in the bow, while a navigator sits in the stern, where a tail rises to complete the look of the mythical animal, a traditional Chinese harbinger of prosperity and good luck.

It is mainly an amateur sport and crews are formed among groups of neighbors and co-workers. Emily Lin, 31, who works as a sales executive in Changhua county, said training sessions at a local junior high school were an excellent way to strengthen friendships outside of work.

"This dragon boat race allows us to meet, exchange and take part in something," Lin said Monday following qualifiers the previous night.

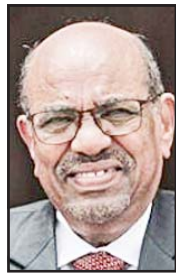
Daytime racing means dealing with the intense central Taiwan sun reflecting off the river, leaving you feeling unwell, said Chen Ta-tzung, a 28-year-old machinery maintenance specialist.

"But in the evening, you don't have the sun," Chen said.

"When we focus on rowing during the race, we cannot enjoy the beautiful scene. But when we row back, we can really enjoy the beautiful sights," he added.



Security men inspect a bus that fell into a deep gorge on Sunday after it was fired at by suspected militants in Reasi district, Jammu and Kashmir on June 10. India is investigating an attack in which suspected militants fired at a bus carrying Hindu pilgrims in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing nine and injuring 33, officials said on Monday. (AP)



Bashir



Lacharite

Africa

RSF loots Darfur hospital: The notorious Rapid Support Forces paramilitary group, fighting Sudan's military for over a year, fired shots and looted a health facility in the western region of Darfur, forcing its closure, an international aid group said.

The RSF, attacked the South Hospital in al-Fasher, the capital city of North Darfur province on Sunday, opening fire on medical staff and patients, Doctors Without Borders said in a statement.

Images published by local media showed abandoned wards and corridors at the hospital, with patient beds and other medical equipment damaged and blood stains on the floor. Local news outlets also reported that the military managed to kick RSF fighters out of the hospital.

"It is outrageous that the RSF opened fire inside the hospital. This is not an isolated incident, as staff and patients have endured attacks on the facility for weeks from all sides, but opening fire inside a hospital crosses a line," said Michel Lacharite, head of emergency operations at Doctors Without Borders.

At the time of the attack, there were 10 patients and a reduced medical crew as the aid group and the Sudanese health ministry had begun evacuating patients and transferring medical services last week to other facilities, the aid group said.

Most patients and the medical team, including Doctors Without Borders staff, managed to flee the shooting. It was not immediately clear whether there were casualties from the attack, according to the aid group.

However, Lacharite told The Associated Press the group's staff found two bodies inside the facility and they identified them as an RSF fighter and a military soldier. The circumstances of their deaths were not immediately clear.

The attack came as the RSF intensified its offensive to try and wrest control of the city, the military's last stronghold in the sprawling Darfur region. Two weeks of fighting last month in and around al-Fasher has killed more than 120 people.

Two decades ago, the RSF was born out of Arab militias, commonly known as Janjaweed, mobilized by former Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir against populations that identify as Central or East African in Darfur. (AP)

Somalia forms committee: After tribal clashes restarted Saturday in areas of Galgadud, central of Somalia leaving dozens dead and wounded, Somalia announced Sunday that they were forming a committee to find an immediate solution.

The Somali National News Agency (SONNA) said that the purpose of the committee -- which consisted of five ministers appointed

by president of Galmudug State, Ahmad Abdi -- was to go to conflict areas in the cities of (Abu Dawaq and Harali) in the north of the state to end the bloody fighting there.

The Ministries of Interior and Internal

Security issued an urgent statement regarding the renewed tribal fighting, calling on all parties to immediately stop the bloody fighting.

The numbers of dead and wounded were

inconclusive, with Somali media reporting that at least eight people were killed and ten others injured, while foreign media reported that about 45 people were killed and 60 others were injured. (KUNA)

Over 1m refugees repatriated: Around 1.1 million Burundian refugees sheltered in camps in western Tanzania have been voluntarily repatriated to their country since 2017, a Burundian official said Saturday.

Theophile Ndarufatiye, permanent executive secretary at Burundi's Ministry of the Interior, Community Development, and Public Security, said about 100,000 Burundian refugees were still sheltered in Nduta and Nyarugusu refugee camps in Kigoma region, western Tanzania.

Ndarufatiye made the remarks in a meeting with Tanzania's Minister for Home Affairs Hamad Masauni, which was also attended by officials from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The two officials agreed that the remaining Burundian refugees should be repatriated voluntarily by Dec 31, 2024.

Ndarufatiye thanked the government of Tanzania for accommodating Burundian refugees since time immemorial.

The voluntary repatriation exercise of Burundian refugees started in September 2017 after leaders from Tanzania and Burundi expressed satisfaction over peace restoration in Burundi. (Xinhua)



Teams of dragon boat racers paddle their boats as they compete in the Dragon Boat festival at a canal in Tongzhou, on the outskirts of Beijing on June 10. The Duanwu festival, also known as the Dragon Boat festival, falls on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese lunar calendar and is marked by celebrations like eating rice dumplings and racing dragon boats. (AP)



Ms Fareah Al-Saqqaf and Ms Eman Al-Awadhi

KIPCO renews its partnership with LOYAC

KIPCO – Kuwait Projects Company (Holding) – announced the renewal of its partnership with LOYAC, a local non-profit organization that aims to empower youth to become impactful leaders in society. Throughout the coming year, KIPCO will continue to sponsor the '7 Habits for Highly Effective Teens' program sessions offered to young people between the ages of 12 and 18.

The '7 Habits' is a Franklin Covey Education program. The goals of this life empowerment program include increasing

self-confidence and self-esteem, being responsible, defining one's values, recognizing and prioritizing goals and resisting peer pressure.

As part of the partnership, KIPCO will also be sponsoring a 'Summer Leadership Retreat' for teenage girls to the UK from June 30 to July 6. The retreat will incorporate the '7 Habits' workshop, together with activities that reinforce teamwork and leadership, fostering personal independence and building connections with peers. Applications for the

program are now open via the LOYAC website.

Ms Eman Al-Awadhi, KIPCO's Group Senior Vice President – Corporate Communications and Investor Relations, said:

"Our experience working alongside LOYAC over the past year has been highly rewarding. Our two organizations have come together under the shared desire to help build a stronger, more prosperous future by contributing to the development of the leaders of tomorrow."

bonds

The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) announced the most recent issues of CBK Bonds and related Tawarruq at a total value of KWD (240 million for (3 months with Rate of Return (4.375%).

Market Movements

10-06-2024

		Change	Closing pts			Change	Closing pts
↑ JAPAN	Nikkei 225	+345.23	39,038.16	SAUDI	TASI	-1.29	11,853.82
	EGYPT	EGX 30	+237.43	25,896.56	DUBAI	DFMGI	-8.73
				PHILIPPINES	PSEi	-60.12	6,458.64
				PAKISTAN	KSE 100	-587.69	73,228.63

Business

'BIG Holding Company' listed on Boursa Kuwait's Premier Market

Strategic decision to list 30% of BIG shares

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Boursa Kuwait announced the listing of Beyout Investment Group (BIG) Holding Company in its "Premier" Market, where the trading of the company's stocks is set to commence from the opening trade session of 11 June 2024 under the ticker symbol 'Beyout'. The company will be included under the 'Financial Services' sector, bringing the total count of companies listed on the exchange to 146, with 34 in the "Premier" Market alone.

BIG Holding Company's strategic decision to list 30% of its shares aims to diversify its shareholder base, strengthen the company's governance structures, and broaden its network and visibility among its principal investors. This listing is also anticipated to yield substantial benefits for the Kuwaiti capital market by expanding the roster of listed companies, enhancing investment prospects, and encouraging further listings, which will reflect positively on the market and ultimately accrue benefits to investors.

Commenting on the listing, Boursa Kuwait's Chief Executive Officer Mr. Mohammed Saud Al-Osaimi said: "Boursa Kuwait consistently seeks to attract substantive listings that enhance the stock market's value, an effort that aligns with our strategic aim to cultivate a robust financial market renowned for its liquidity and integrity. Over the past few years, the exchange has worked closely with prospective listed companies, elevating our listing standards and criteria to suit a diverse range of businesses from multiple industries, with a particular focus on family-owned and public-private enterprises."

"Boursa Kuwait is dedicated to reinforcing the strengths of the Kuwaiti capital market as a globally attractive investment destination while elevating its profile as a leading stock exchange in the region. These endeavors are instrumental in realizing the national vision of establishing Kuwait as a premier financial and investment hub in the Middle East," Mr. Al-Osaimi added.

Founded in 2006, BIG Holding Company is a leading regional investment company that provides integrated human resources solutions in addition to support services for real estate sector



Mohammed Saud Al-Osaimi

projects, including property management, build-operate-transfer services and enhancing public-private partnerships.

The company has appointed the National Investments Company and EFG Hermes Emirates Limited (in cooperation with EFG Hermes Emirates LLC) as Joint Global Coordinators and Joint Bookrunners as well as appointing the National Investments Company as its listing and financial advisor.

Commenting on the listing, BIG Holding's Group Chief Executive Officer Eng. Abdulrahman Mohammed Al-Khanna said: "The listing of Beyout Investment Group Holding Company is the culmination of our efforts to strengthen our position as a leading Kuwaiti company in the region. Over the past years, we have focused our efforts on developing our operations, improving efficiency and upgrading our practices in line with international standards with the aim of consolidating our position as a trusted partner for government agencies and global brands across various sectors."

He added, "This achievement provides new opportunities to create value for all stakeholders, supports our goals of continuing to innovate in our service package, and achieve expansion in the region. We extend our sincere thanks to our partners for their trust and continuous support, as we record a new chapter of success to be added to our legacy and confirm our commitment to continue our path towards sustainable growth."

The National Investments Company led the private subscription for the secondary offering of 30% of BIG Holding Company's currently issued shares, initiated from May 19 to June 2, 2024, and met with great demand by local and international investors on both the retail and institutional level. The order amount exceeded the value of the offering during the initial allocation period by more than 17 times, with an initial coverage of KD 771 million that was

in line with the subscription's target to offer 90 million shares of the company at 500 fils per share for a total value of more than KD 45 million for qualified investors, which reflects the great confidence in the company's quality and performance in addition to the high professionalism demonstrated by NIC in managing the subscription.

NIC Board Member and Chief Executive Officer Mr. Fahad Abdulrahman Al Mukhaizim commented on the listing, saying: "The National Investments Company is proud to play a pivotal role in the private placement of Beyout Investment Group Holding Company, handling the necessary arrangements for the listing process on Boursa Kuwait's "Premier" Market within the targeted timeframe. NIC served as the joint global coordinator and subscription manager for the private placement process of Beyout Investment Group Holding Company, in addition to its role as the exclusive financial advisor for the listing process."

Al-Mukhaizim highlighted the successful role played by the National Investments Company in managing the listing, which enhances NIC's strength and its position as one of the largest investment entities locally and regionally with several decades of experience in managing IPOs and distinctive listings, praising the capabilities of the company's highly experienced and professional team.

Boursa Kuwait recently conducted a specialized awareness session on the post-listing ongoing obligations within the 'Premier' Market, which was attended by several members of BIG Holding Company's executive management. This educational initiative is a cornerstone of Boursa Kuwait's strategic efforts to elevate the understanding and adherence to the ongoing obligations required from companies preparing to list, efforts that are integral to the exchange's mission to continually enhance the capital market and its participants.



Eng. Abdulrahman Mohammed Al-Khanna



Fahad Abdulrahman Al Mukhaizim

Participants gained insights into their responsibilities following listing, encompassing both the Capital Markets Authority's executive regulations and the ongoing obligations dictated by the exchange's rules. The session also provided a practical demonstration of the automated disclosure system used by listed companies along with a discussion on the schedule of stock entitlements and requisite corporate actions.

Boursa Kuwait has been a key driver in the development of the Kuwaiti capital market and the diversification of the national economy, in line with the goals of the "New Kuwait" vision. Since its inception, the company has worked diligently to create a thriving capital market that attracts local and foreign investors through a broad spectrum of new products and services, infrastructure upgrades, and market reform initiatives, as part of its multi-phase market development plans.

Boursa Kuwait was fully privatized in 2019, the first government entity in the country to successfully undergo the process, bringing about greater levels of efficiency. It has also been self-listed since September 2020 and has made great strides in sustaining its operations and business continuity in the face of uncertainties and challenges.

The company has rolled out numerous market reforms and new initiatives as part of its comprehensive multi-phase market development (MD) plans and showcases some of the standout listed companies and the investment opportunities that reside in the Kuwaiti capital market through its series of Roadshows and Corporate Days, putting these companies in touch with some of the world's leading investment firms and financial institutions and highlighting their financial health and business strategies and outlooks, to help investors gain an in-depth understanding of the benefits and opportunities of investing in Kuwaiti companies.

Global revenue reaches \$2.2 bln in '23

Agility Global company Menzies Aviation sees revenue increase

DUBAI, June 10: Menzies Aviation, the leading service partner to the world's airports and airlines, an Agility Global company, has announced three years of consecutive double-digit revenue growth, as air travel continues to edge closer to pre-pandemic levels.

Reported in its 2023 Annual Review & Sustainability Report, the aviation services provider delivered a strong financial performance, with global revenue increasing to \$2.2 billion - a 10.7% increase compared to the previous year. The Group delivered EBITDA of \$318m (post IFRS16), representing a 15% margin.

This growth comes on the back of an expanded global footprint and strategic partnerships in Serbia, Jamaica, India and Bulgaria which helped to propel regional growth.

In 2023, Menzies Aviation served more than 4.5 million flights (2022: 4.1 million), an increase of 9.7 percent, and over 217 million airline passengers (2022: 183 million), up 18.5 percent. Cargo tonnes increased to 2 million (2022: 1.8 million) and it also welcomed more than 1.8 million guests to its 36 Pearl lounges across the globe (2022: 660,000), an increase of 173 percent.

It outperformed the industry average for operational safety performance in 2023, reaffirming its commitment to delivering the best safety culture in the industry. Its aircraft damage rate was six times lower than the industry average reported by IATA with just 0.41 incidents per 10,000 turns, against an average of 6.2.

The 2023 Annual Review & Sustainability Report also reflects on the company's progress against its All In plan for a fair and sustainable future. Key highlights of the 2023 Sustainability Report include a reduction of its Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions by 3,417 tonnes CO2e compared to a baseline year of 2022. Compared with 2019 pre-pandemic levels, this is a decrease of approximately 26,000 tonnes CO2e - which underlines the progress it has made against its 50% reduction target for 2030. It also announced it is on track to reach its target of 25% of electric Ground Support Equipment (GSE), with plans to accelerate its electrification transition beyond that.

Hassan El-Houry, Executive Chair-

- Strong financial performance, with global revenue increasing 10.7% year-on-year to \$2.2 billion (2022: \$1.9 billion).
- Expanded global footprint to 265+ airports in 55+ countries.
- Welcomed 6,000 new colleagues, expanding global workforce to 50,000.
- Increased its electric Ground Support Equipment (GSE) fleet to 17% globally, on track to meet its target of 25% by 2025.
- Reduced emissions by 26,000 tonnes CO2e since 2019, underlining progress against its 50% reduction target for 2030.
- Increased female senior leadership to 20% on track against its 25% target, aligned to IATA's 25by2025 campaign.

man, Menzies Aviation, said: "Our commitment to powering the global economy and delivering seamless aviation services is unwavering. With 45,000 dedicated individuals united by our vision and mission, we continue to prioritise safety, quality and security to maintain our leadership role in the industry. Our dedication stems from a belief that doing what's right - for our business, our people, and the planet - is paramount. With a clear strategy for sustainable growth and a resilient mindset, we emerged from 2023 stronger, more agile, and better positioned to navigate the dynamic industry landscape, setting the stage for sustained growth and continued success in the years ahead."

Philipp Joening, Group CEO, Menzies Aviation, added: "In 2023, our strong financial performance marks the culmination of three years of double-digit growth, propelling us to the forefront of our industry as the undisputed number one. We are outperforming the industry average in safety and leading the way on electrification. This success is a testament to our unwavering commitment to being customer and people-centric, driving innovation and excellence in all that we do. As we celebrate our achievements, we remain steadfast in our commitment to continued growth and delivering value to all stakeholders."



Menzies annual review and sustainability report.

IEA revises down oil demand growth estimates

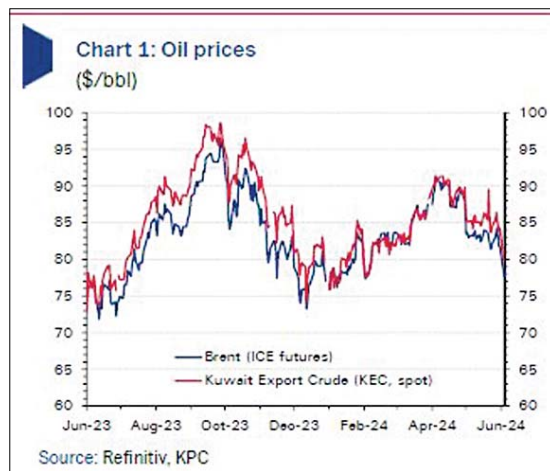
Oil prices decline in May on geopolitical easing and rate concerns

By National Bank of Kuwait

Oil prices declined in May amid easing geopolitical risk premiums and increasing worries about the impact of higher-for longer interest rates. OPEC+ decided to begin unwinding 2024's voluntary output cuts from Q4 onwards, surprising the market, while extending other cuts from 2022-2023 through to the end of 2025. Oil demand growth estimates were revised down by the IEA in May, which, along with increased OPEC+ supply, should lead to a slightly looser market in Q4.

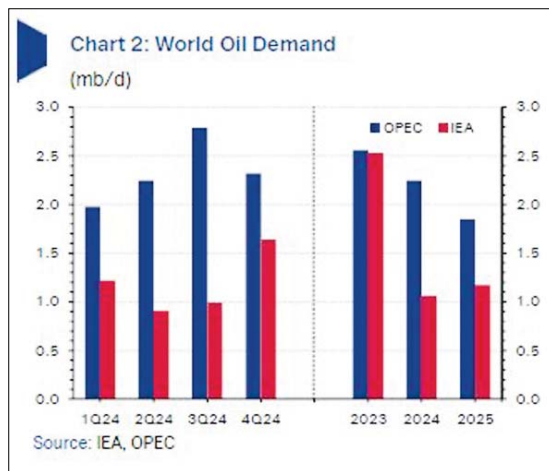
Oil markets sold off heavily in May amid easing geopolitical risk premiums and intensifying concerns about the impact on oil demand of higher-for-longer interest rates. Brent futures closed the month down 7.1% m/m at \$81.6/bbl (+5.9% ytd). (Chart 1.) The positive spread between the front month and third month contract, a structure known as backwardation (prices for prompt delivery being higher than prices for delivery in the future), narrowed to a multi-month-low of just \$0.28/bbl as May drew to a close, a sign of more ample near-term supplies and a looser market. Meanwhile, local marker Kuwait Export Crude (KEC) ended the month at \$83.9/bbl (-5.5% m/m; +5.5% ytd).

Moving into early June, Brent dropped below \$80, weighed down by an increasingly bearish interpretation of OPEC+’s decision at the 2 June ministerial meeting to begin unwinding the 2.2 mb/d of voluntary supply cuts (announced in November 2023) from October this year. The announcement took the market by surprise as the consensus was that with the price of Brent ranging in the low 80s amid concerns of potential oversupply OPEC+ would likely roll over their production cuts through to the end of the year. The eight OPEC+ members taking part in 2024's additional voluntary cuts including Kuwait (-135 kb/d), Saudi (-1,000 kb/d), the UAE (-163 kb/d) and Oman (-42 kb/d) will begin re-supplying the market over a period of twelve months ending September 2025. Existing group-wide production cuts from November 2022 and voluntary cuts from April 2023 totaling around 3.60 mb/d were extended through to the end of 2025.



Moreover, the UAE secured another quota increase, this time of 300 kb/d, to add to the 200 kb/d it negotiated for 2024, arguing successfully that its output should be higher to reflect its increased production capacity. This increase will take effect gradually starting January 2025, with the full 300 kb/d output gain reflected in September of that year. For the rest of the group, the deadline for capacity assessments to determine baseline production levels by the three independent agencies has been pushed back by almost a year to November 2025.

Oil demand growth estimates for 2024 and 2025 by energy forecasting agencies the International Energy Agency (IEA) and OPEC continue to show wide variation. (Chart 2.) OPEC, with its forecast that oil demand would grow by 2.25 mb/d this year to 104.5 mb/d and by 1.85 mb/d to 106.3 mb/d in 2025 is the outlier by far in relation to consensus forecasts. The IEA, in contrast, sees demand growing by a downwardly revised 1.1 mb/d (-140 kb/d) in 2024—the second downgrade in a row—amid continued weakness in



OPEC consumption and especially in Europe, where gasoil/diesel consumption has been hard hit by weak industrial activity and rising EV use. For 2025, the IEA sees oil demand growth accelerating slightly to 1.2 mb/d, driven by non-OPEC growth.

On the supply side, OPEC+ production (quota members only) fell by 250 kb/d in April to 34.2 mb/d, according to OPEC secondary source data. The decline was led by Russia, which reduced output by 154 kb/d to 9.3 mb/d, in line with plans outlined in March to switch from basing its voluntary supply cuts on exports to production during Q2. Serial overproducers Kazakhstan and Iraq also reduced output, by 50 kb/d and 31 kb/d, respectively, but the cuts were only small and both producers continue to pump above their quotas—Iraq by 181 kb/d. Indeed, both producers attended a workshop in May with the OPEC secretariat to thrash out a plan of compensatory production cuts to be implemented and concluded by year-end. For Iraq, which overproduced by as much as 602 kb/d cumulative up to the end of March,

the plan would see monthly compensatory cuts (output reduced below quota) starting at 50 kb/d in May and ending at 152 kb/d in December.

Among OPEC's quota-exempt members, Iran's production hit a new post-Trump sanctions high of 3.2 mb/d in April. Furthermore, amid fresh US sanctions targeting the country's exports, the country plans to increase production capacity to 4.0 mb/d from the current 3.6 mb/d, though Iran's official press agency was opaque about a timeframe.

In the US, crude production continued to range at near record levels of 13.1 mb/d, just a little below the US Energy Information Administration's (EIA) forecast of 13.2 mb/d (avg.) for this year. For 2025, the EIA expects output to increase by a further 500 kb/d to 13.7 mb/d, though this figure could be ambitious given expectations of a likely slowdown in oil investment from US firms amid high labor and equipment costs. Oil rig counts, an indicator of future output, dropped to 496 by the end of May, down 10.6% y/y, according to Baker Hughes.

Oil market fundamentals should continue to point to stock drawdowns in 2024, though after the OPEC+ decision to begin restoring withheld voluntary supply to the market from Q4 onwards, balances should start to loosen. The IEA sees the "call" on OPEC+ crude (the volume of OPEC+ oil required to balance the market factoring in demand and non-OPEC supply) at around 42 mb/d in the second half of the year, more than 900 kb/d higher than aggregate OPEC+ production in April. Even with volumes returning in Q4, OPEC+ will still be significantly underproducing given this arithmetic. That said, OPEC+ looks to have expressed its intention to the markets (and for US shale companies, too) that, for the next year and a half, supplies will be returning. The pace will be gradual and subject to constant OPEC+ re-assessment of market conditions; a pause or reversal in production policy remains a strong possibility. But the onus will increasingly fall on oil demand growth to perform well to help keep prices within ranges acceptable to the oil producers.

as the need for copper rises, cable manufacturers recycle more

In an industrial suburb of Montreal, sheets of copper move along a conveyor belt suspended four stories above the floor of a foundry - a metals plant - until they drop into a lava-hot furnace. Next come pieces of discarded copper wire.

Out of the furnace comes liquid copper, bright with green fire. It travels to a second furnace and from there, a river of orange copper flows out, to be shaped into copper rods, the raw material for copper wire. This Nexans mill has made copper rod from ore for nearly a century. But now it

also makes an increasing amount of it from used copper, with the rods containing some 14% recycled metal. It hopes to get to 20%.

"We say to our customers: Your waste of today, your scrap of today is your energy of tomorrow, so bring back your scrap," said Nexans CEO Christopher Guérin.

Across the industry, manufacturers have been reusing and recycling some degree of copper for many years. Now they're stepping up these efforts as the need for the metal is projected to nearly

double by 2035.

It's partly due to a move away from fossil fuels to cut planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions. There's a growing movement to power buildings, vehicles and manufacturing operations with clean electricity, to "electrify everything" - which uses more copper.

Building construction, cell phones and data centers account for the other half of the increase in demand.

Every ton of copper that is recycled means some 200 tons of rock that won't need to be

mined, though the amount depends on how rich the ore is. That's important because mining can cause erosion, contaminate soil and water, threaten local biodiversity and pollute the air. Copper is an especially good candidate for reuse, because it can be recycled indefinitely without losing its value or performance, Guérin said.

Daily, up to 10 trucks drop off bare wire, cable and copper scrap at the Nexans mill. Some comes from customers, some from scrap dealers. The purity must be high if it's to be used to conduct electric-

ity. One of the world's largest wire and cable manufacturers, Nexans uses more than 2,600 times the weight of the Statue of Liberty in copper each year.

People may have a closer connection to this metal and this mill than they realize - copper connects them to the world, said Daniel Yergin, an expert on energy and vice chairman of the analytics firm S&P Global.

"We depend on electricity for everything now," he said. "None of it works without copper." (AP)

Part of the optimism stems from the company's history

Apple to enter AI race with ambitions to overtake the early leaders

NEW YORK, June 10, (AP) - Apple's annual World Wide Developers Conference on Monday is expected to herald the company's move into generative artificial intelligence, marking its late arrival to a technological frontier that's expected to be as revolutionary as the invention of the iPhone.

The widely anticipated display of AI to be embedded in the iPhone and other Apple products will be the marquee moment at an event that traditionally previews the next version of software that powers the company's hardware lineup.

And Apple's next generation of software is expected to be packed with an array of AI features likely to make its often-bumbling virtual assistant Siri smarter, and make photos, music, texting - and possibly even creating emojis on the fly - a more productive and entertaining experience.

True to its secretive nature, Apple hasn't provided any advance details about Monday's event being held at the company's Cupertino, California, headquarters.

But CEO Tim Cook has dropped strong hints during the first few months of this year that Apple is poised to reveal its grand plans to enter a space that has been fueling an industry boom during the past 18 months.

AI mania is the main reason that Nvidia, the dominant maker of the chips underlying the technology, has seen its market value rocket from about \$300 billion at the end of 2022 to about \$3 trillion. The meteoric ride allowed Nvidia to briefly surpass Apple last week as the second most valuable company in the U.S. Microsoft earlier this year also eclipsed the iPhone maker on the strength of its so-far successful push into AI.

But analysts have been getting increasingly worried that Apple may

be falling too far behind in the rapidly changing AI space, a concern that has been compounded by an uncharacteristically extended slump in the company's sales. Both Google and Samsung already have released smartphone models touting AI features as their main attractions.

That's why analysts such as Dan Ives of Wedbush Securities view Monday's conference as a potential springboard that catapults Apple into another robust phase of growth. Ives believes infusing more AI into the iPhone, iPad and Mac computer will translate into an additional \$450 billion to \$600 billion in market value for Apple.

Monday's conference "represents the most important event for Apple in over a decade as the pressure to bring a generative AI stack of technology for developers and consumers is front and center," Ives wrote in a research note.

Apple definitely could use the boost that AI may be able to provide, particularly for its 13-year-old assistant Siri, which Forrester Research Dipanjan Chatterjee now calls an "oddly unhelpful helper."

Meanwhile, OpenAI's ChatGPT is getting increasingly conversational - so much so that it recently sparked accusations of intentionally copying a piece of AI software voiced by Scarlett Johansson - and Google last month previewed an AI "agent" dubbed Astra that can seemingly see and remember things.

Besides using AI to spruce up Siri, Apple may also team up with OpenAI to bring some elements of ChatGPT to the iPhone, according to a wide range of unconfirmed reports leading up to Monday's conference.

This will be the second straight year that Apple has created a stir at its develop-

ers conference by using it to usher in its entrance into a trendy form of technology that other companies already had been making inroads.

Last year, Apple provided an early look at its mixed-reality headset, the Vision Pro, which wasn't released until early this year carrying a \$3,500 price tag that has been a major impediment to gaining much traction. Nevertheless, Apple's push into mixed reality, tweaked with a twist that it bills as "spatial computing," has raised hopes that what is currently a niche technology will turn into a huge market.

Part of the optimism stems from Apple's history of releasing technology later than others and then using sleek designs and services combined with slick marketing campaigns to overcome its tardy start to unleash new trends.

"Apple's early reticence toward AI was entirely on brand," Forrester's Chatterjee wrote in a preview of the developers conference. "The company has always been famously obsessed with what its offerings did for its customers rather than how it did it."

Bringing more AI into the iPhone, in particular, will likely raise privacy issues - a topic where Apple has gone to great lengths to assure its loyal customer base that it can be trusted not to peer too deeply into their personal lives.

One way Apple could reassure consumers that the iPhone won't be used to spy on them is to leverage its own chip technology so most AI-powered features are handled on the device itself instead of remote data centers, often called "the cloud." Going that route also would help protect Apple's profit margins because AI technology through the cloud is far more expensive than when it is run solely on a device.

Govt releases data

Japan's economy shrunk at 1.8 pct

TOKYO, June 10, (AP) - The Japanese economy shrank at an annual rate of 1.8% in the first quarter of this year, slightly better than the initial estimate at a 2.0% contraction, according to revised government data Monday.

The revision was due to private sector investments, at minus 0.4%, up from the previous minus 0.5%.

Seasonally adjusted real gross domestic product, or GDP, a measure of the value of a nation's products and services, remained in negative territory, as exports and consumption declined from the previous quarter.

Quarter-to-quarter, the economy slipped 0.5% in the January-March period, according to the Cabinet Office, unchanged from last month's results.

The annual rate measures what would have happened if the quarterly rate lasted a year.

Wage growth has been slow, and prices on imports have risen amid a decline in the Japanese yen against the U.S. dollar. The dollar is trading at nearly 157 yen lately, up from about 140 yen a year ago.

The weak yen has tourism booming. But it makes imports more expensive, a sore point for a nation that imports almost all its energy. Sluggish consumer spending has also been a drag on the economy. Private consumption accounts for half of Japanese economic activity.

Another negative is the ongoing scandal involving improper vehicle model tests at several major automakers, including Toyota Motor Corp., which form the pillars of Japan's brand power. Production was halted on some models.

Government officials raided the Tokyo headquarters of Honda Motor Co. Monday. Japanese media reports said a raid was coming soon on Mazda Motor Corp. Toyota and Suzuki Motor Corp. have already been raided.

Last week, Toyota Chairman Akio Toyoda apologized for the wide-ranging fraudulent testing involving the use of inadequate or outdated data in collision tests, incorrect testing of airbag inflation, rear-seat damage in crashes and engine power.

The safety of the vehicles aren't affected, but the companies apparently wanted to speed up the testing process.

Investors are also watching closely for the next action from the Bank of Japan, whose monetary policy board meets later this week. The central bank raised interest rates earlier this year for the first time since 2007, but only to a range of zero to 0.1% from minus 0.1%.

"The Japanese central bank's stance will similarly be eyed closely, especially with the domestic currency weakness prevailing. Japanese manufacturers are facing the fastest rise in input costs," S&P Global Market Intelligence said in a report.

Unemployment has stayed relatively low in the world's fourth largest economy at about 2.6%. Japan suffers a serious labor shortage, as its birth rate continues to drop, hitting a record low last year. The number of marriages have also fallen.

Inflation data this week could help decide Fed's timetable for rate cuts



Federal Reserve Board Chair Jerome Powell speaks during a news conference at the Federal Reserve in Washington, May 1, 2024. On Wednesday, June 12, 2024, the Federal Reserve will end its latest meeting by issuing a policy statement, updating its economic and interest-rate projections and holding a news conference with Powell. (AP)

A rate cut might give the economy a lift

WASHINGTON, June 10, (AP): After Federal Reserve officials meet this week, a statement they will issue may suggest that they've seen meaningful progress on inflation this year - a prelude to eventual interest rate cuts.

Yet it's hard to say, because the officials themselves may not know for sure until they begin their meeting. That's because the government's latest snapshot of U.S. inflation will be released Wednesday morning, just before the Fed begins the second day of its policy discussions.

One key issue is a sentence the Fed added to its statement after its last meeting May 1: It said "there has been a lack of further progress" in bringing inflation back to the central bank's 2% target.

Inflation had come in uncomfortably high in the first three months of this year, dimming hopes that it would continue to steadily cool, as it had in the second half of last year.

In April, though, consumer inflation did resume slowing, if only slightly. And if the May inflation report being released

Wednesday shows further signs of improvement, it's possible the Fed could drop that sentence from its statement. It would be an encouraging sign that the policymakers may cut their benchmark rate within a few months. Rate cuts would eventually lead to lower costs for mortgages, auto loans and other forms of consumer and business borrowing.

But whether or not the sentence is dropped or altered, most economists think no rate cuts are likely before September at the earliest. Chair Jerome Powell is likely to underscore at a news conference Wednesday that the policymakers will need to see several more months of low inflation readings before they would consider reducing their key rate.

A Fed rate cut might give the economy a modest lift, which would be welcomed by President Joe Biden's reelection campaign, which is struggling to counter many voters' unhappiness with the inflation spike of the past several years. Though consumer inflation has slowed dramatically since peaking at 9.1% in mid-2022, it was still 3.4% in April, well above the Fed's target.

The Fed would reduce rates faster if growth were to stall and companies were to lay off many workers. But on Friday, the government reported a robust job gain in May, with employers

across a range of industries adding jobs. The report led Wall Street traders to downgrade their forecast for Fed rate cuts to just one this year, from two.

The Fed is set Wednesday to keep its benchmark rate unchanged at roughly 5.3%, its highest level in 23 years, where it has stood since July.

The policymakers will also issue updated economic projections, which are expected to show that they envision one or two rate cuts by year's end, down from a forecast of three in March.

At his news conference, Powell will likely reiterate that Fed officials need more confidence that inflation is returning to 2% before they would consider rate cuts, and that this will likely take additional time.

"The Fed's narrative is going to be very similar to what we've been hearing: 'We've made progress bringing down inflation; we're not in a hurry to cut rates,'" said Nathan Sheets, a former senior economist at the Fed who is global chief economist at Citi.

Another issue Powell may address is whether the economy is starting to weaken. Growth slowed sharply in the first three months of the year, to an annual rate of just 1.3%, down from 3.4% in last year's final quarter.

Malaysia revamps subsidies

Diesel prices jump 56%

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, June 10, (AP) - Diesel price in Malaysia jumped by more than 50% on Monday as part of a revamp of decades-old fuel subsidies to tighten government spending and save billions of ringgits annually.

The restructuring eliminates blanket energy subsidies and redirects them to the needy. They're part of economic reforms pledged by Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, whose government says they're needed to build a more sustainable economy and plug losses from smuggling cheap oil to neighboring countries.

The plan is bold but risky for Anwar, who took power in 2022, as it may anger working-class voters struggling with rising cost of living. He announced the unpopular decision to cut fuel subsidies last month to give time to lower-income groups to prepare for the transition.

"All prime ministers before this had agreed on the targeted subsidy, but there was no political will to implement it because of the risks involved. However, to save the country, we have no choice," Anwar, who is also Finance Minister, was quoted as saying Monday by national Bernama news agency.

The government eventually plans to follow suit with gasoline subsidies. Es-

entials including fuel, cooking oil and rice are heavily subsidized in Malaysia which have strained national finances for years.

Second Finance Minister Amir Hamzah Azizan announced Sunday that diesel price will rise to 3.35 ringgit (\$0.71) a liter on Monday, up 56% from its previous subsidized price of 2.15 ringgit (\$0.46). He said the price will be reviewed on a weekly basis to be aligned with market prices.

The price hike will not apply to Malaysian states on Borneo island and eligible logistic vehicles, he said. Lower prices previously set for fishermen and a wide fleet of land public transport vehicles such as school buses, taxis and ambulances will also remain unchanged.

Monthly cash aid will also be given to eligible individuals with diesel vehicles including farmers and commodity smallholders, the government said. Officials said the hike shouldn't lead to drastic price inflation as subsidies are still given to targeted groups.

Despite the hike, Amir said Malaysia's diesel price remains the second lowest in Southeast Asia, after Brunei. Diesel costs 8.79 ringgit (\$1.86) a liter in neighboring Singapore and more than 4 ringgit (\$0.86) in most other regional countries.

Biden's team asks CEOs how to further boost the economy

WASHINGTON, June 10, (AP) - On the campaign trail, President Joe Biden likes to take a hard thwack at corporate America.

The Democrat tells voters that companies should pay more in taxes and he blames many businesses for fueling higher prices by stoking "greedflation" and "shrinkflation."

But for the past several months, top Biden administration officials have also stepped up their outreach to CEOs and other corporate leaders, asking about what they need. The effort encroaches on business community terrain that former President Donald Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee, considers to be his home turf.

Both candidates want to drive home a message to voters going into November that they can work with employers, even if the fiercely divided electorate has left many companies wary of publicly taking sides politically.

The Biden team's pitch to business leaders goes something like this: We think the economy is doing well, but we want to hear from you about how we can drive investment.

"They know that they'll always get a hearing," said Lael Brainard, director of the White House National Economic Council. "We're pragmatists. We solve problems for them."

On Thursday, Trump will present his case before the Business Roundtable, an association of more than 200 CEOs, for why the economy would be better if he returned to the Oval Office.

Biden was invited to appear as well, but he will be in Italy for a Group of Seven summit of world leaders. White House chief of staff Jeff Zients, himself a former CEO, will stand in and pitch the president's vision to the group.

Biden has long sought to balance the interests of businesses and workers,

tempering his criticism of companies by noting that as a former senator from Delaware he comes from the "corporate capital of the world."

Trump, for his part, burnished his reputation as a billionaire property developer and has marketed everything from educational courses to steaks and neckties, in addition to having his namesake Trump Media & Technology Group trading on the stock market.

Having cut corporate taxes during his term and pledged to slash regulations, Trump has lined up support from Wall Street billionaires such as Stephen Schwarzman, who called him a "vote for change."

The Washington Post reported that Trump has asked oil industry executives to help fund his campaign, given the profits his administration would produce for them, a report that the Trump campaign said was false.

Trump has described the U.S. economy as horrible despite the low 4% unemployment rate and rising stock market this year. His argument largely resonates with voters because of the 2022 spike in inflation, which has left many U.S. adults pessimistic about the economy.

Trump campaign spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt said that "business leaders and working families alike are eager for the return of these common-sense policies" such as tax cuts, deregulation and increased oil and natural gas production.

Biden's top aides heard a different view on the economy during their business outreach than what Trump is pushing. Administration officials say the CEOs they've met with are generally satisfied by the performance of the stock market and the overall economy, as inflation has eased without the recession that some feared.

Consensus needed for new-energy cooperation between EU & China

BEIJING, June 10, (Xinhua) - The European Union should avoid trade frictions with China and it is necessary for both sides to seek consensus on new-energy cooperation, according to industry insiders and analysts citing the multi-billion-dollar market opportunities and the global climate goals.

The automotive cooperation between China and Germany on green transformation and intelligent connectivity is vitally important, said Hildegard Mueller, president of the German Association of the Automotive Industry. She encourages the

two parties to continue to be crucial partners in achieving climate goals.

"I believe that the two markets should be closely linked," she said, adding that Chinese companies are welcome in Germany. As for the German side, its carmakers have shown interest not only in exporting but also in producing in China, she added.

For European carmakers, including auto giants BMW, Mercedes-Benz and Volkswagen, China stands out as the largest single market.

In the first quarter, about one-third of

BMW's sales revenue came from China. The country also hosts BMW Group's largest R&D center outside Germany.

"The innovations we achieve in China allow us to continuously meet the needs of Chinese customers, thereby driving global innovation," said Oliver Zipse, chairman of the Board of Management of BMW AG.

The expanding foothold of Chinese companies on the European continent underscores the strengthening ties between the two sides. In April, China's Chery Automobile signed a pact with Spain's

auto company Ebro-EV Motors to produce cars at its first European factory. According to Reuters, this move is expected to help recover some of the 1,600 direct jobs lost when Japanese automaker Nissan shut down a plant in 2021.

Yan Shaohua, an associate research fellow at the Center for China-Europe Relations of Fudan University, said that China's electric vehicle (EV) makers venturing into European countries have helped boost the development of the local EV industry chain and accelerate the digital and green transitions in these countries.

What's On



A picture of children with the NEO account mascot.



A glimpse of the activities of Gulf Bank Employees' Kids Day.

Strategic partnerships enhance event experience

Gulf Bank hosts annual 'Kids Day' promoting work-life balance and financial literacy

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Continuing its commitment to promote social sustainability, Gulf Bank recently organized its annual Kids Day, inviting over 150 children of its employees to join them at work. The event attracted participation from various organizations in strategic partnership with Gulf Bank, including Elevation Burger, Royale Hayat Hospital, Fantasy World, and Basta (a non-governmental organization).

This annual event allows employees to have their children accompany them to work for a day, showcasing Gulf Bank's commitment to fostering a positive work environment and promoting work-life balance. The aim is to reinforce Gulf Bank's continuous efforts to enhance the well-being of its employees, both in their professional and personal lives.

Throughout the day, engaging games were set up to introduce young participants to banking services and the fundamentals of financial literacy. Creative workshops were also arranged, along with delightful surprises, ensuring that the event was memorable and enjoyable for everyone involved.

The workshops were designed to enhance the children's understanding of financial concepts, promote teamwork through collaborative projects, and introduce

them to banking operations through practical exercises and transactions.

This event highlights Gulf Bank's commitment to fostering financial literacy and encouraging saving habits among the youth. Through engaging activities, Gulf Bank emphasizes the significance of making learning enjoyable and accessible for children.

Gulf Bank's vision is to be the leading Kuwaiti Bank of the Future. The Bank is constantly engaging and empowering its employees as part of an inclusive and diversified workplace in recognition of every employee's role in delivering customer excellence and serving the community at large. With its extensive network of branches and innovative digital services, Gulf Bank is able to give its customers the choice of how and where to conduct their banking transactions, all while ensuring a simple and seamless banking experience.

Gulf Bank is committed to maintaining robust developments in sustainability at environmental, social and governance levels through diverse sustainability initiatives, strategically selected to benefit the Bank both internally and externally. Gulf Bank supports Kuwait Vision 2035 "New Kuwait" and works with various parties to achieve it.

Recognition for bloom clients

Warba Bank unveils winners of 'Al Sunbula' weekly draws

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Warba Bank - the best bank in corporate and investment banking services in Kuwait - announced the winners of the weekly Al Sunbula draws, the monthly Al Sunbula Kids account, and the monthly student allowance. Warba Bank will continue to hold weekly draws for ten winners of Al Sunbula account and five winners of the monthly student allowance account, in the presence of a representative of Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Warba Bank employees.

Each of the 10 lucky winners of the Sunbula weekly draw of Warba Bank received KD 1,000, and the winners are: Maryam Bakhit Al-Dosari, Al-Anoud Mubarak Al-Azmi, Saud Abdullah Al-Ruwaili, Raed Ali Mohammed Sharaf, Nouf Mubarak Ali Al-Sulaimani, Hamad Mohammed Hamad Al-Hashimi, Dhoha Aayed Abdul Hadi Jdey, Manal Suleiman Abdullah Al-Nasser, Mustafa Hussein Al-Baghli, and Mohammed Nawaf Murdhi Al-Anezi.

There are 7 winners in the Sunbula Kids draw, and they are: Farah Ahmed Mohammed Al-Dehishi, Hussein Mohammed Abdul Majeed Behbehani, Maryam Mohammed Abdul Majeed Behbehani, Mohammed Mishaal Mohammed Al-Anezi, Mubarak Talal Salem Al-Heifi, Abdul Hameed Ahmed Bin Najji, and Yaqoub Abdullah Saleh Al-Naajem.

Warba Bank also congratulates the winners of the "student allowance" monthly draw for Bloom clients, who are: Moudhi Khaled Srour Al-Deihani, Saad Bader Mubarak Al-Azmi, Lujain Faisal Habib Al-Azmi, Sara Fheid Abdullah Al-Ajmi, and Saleh Ahmed Saleh Al-Hatem.

Warba Bank distinguished the "Bloom" clients with a unique digital banking experience that lives up to their aspirations and orientations, which is considered the cornerstone of development through a private banking application, the first of its kind not only in Kuwait, but in the entire region, it is inspired by social media applications, the most widely used in terms of design, interface, browsing methods, and choice of colors, especially for young people.

As for the Sunbula account, it is the ideal choice for all those wishing to save money and achieve appropriate financial returns on their accounts at the same time, in addition to the opportunity to win cash prizes through



Ahmed M. Al-Mutawa

out the year.

Regarding the conditions, Mr. Ahmed M. Al-Mutawa, Area Manager Retail Banking Group said: "KD 100 is now required to enter the weekly Sunbula draws and major draws, and the client still gets one chance for every KD 10 in the account, and the chances are calculated according to the lowest balance in the account during the month. Therefore, a full month must have passed in the account to qualify for the weekly draw, and two full months for the major draws to calculate the chances. There are no restrictions or limits for withdrawal and deposit, the higher the deposited amount, the greater the client's chances of winning".

Notably Warba Bank launched its latest banking solutions service, "Customer Onboarding", in accordance with the terms of its ambitious five-year strategy, which enables non-Warba Bank clients to apply for opening a Sunbula account in an easy digital way via the Bank's website without the need to visit any of the Bank's branches, and within only five minutes - through the new and unique automated system used to enable this service - new clients will be able to complete the request to open an account at any time and any place.

Warba Bank is one of the banks that has achieved great successes in a short period, as it occupied a leading position in the field of Islamic digital banking services for individuals, and it is one of the largest local banks in the number of shareholders, and these are among the most prominent components that make the Bank close to all members of community.

Abdulaziz Althawab's perspective on KIB's social responsibility

KIB sponsors first Sard public speaking event

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: As a constant supporter of Kuwait's youth and their comprehensive development, Kuwait International Bank (KIB) concluded its sponsorship of Sard's debut event, Student Speaker Series, which took place at Promenade Mall's Soapbox. The event saw a high turnout of participants who benefited from the speakers' insightful journeys and experiences as well as connected with like-minded youth. The sponsorship of Sard's event is the latest of KIB's social responsibility efforts, which aim to support and develop members of the Bank's community on various fronts.

Commenting on the sponsorship, Abdulaziz Althawab, Assistant Manager of Marketing and Corporate Communications at KIB, said: "As an engaged member of society, KIB's success is directly tied to the comprehensive growth and development of our community, which lies at the heart of our expansive social responsibility strategy. On this note, we were delighted to sponsor Sard's Student Speaker Series - an event that provides a platform for Kuwait's brilliant youth, from entrepreneurs to athletes and other visionaries across various fields, to share their stories and inspire other youth to pursue their dreams. We firmly believe that by supporting spaces that encourage the youth to find and share their voice, we are essentially contributing to building future leaders and entrepreneurs who will play a vital role in the success of our society."

It serves to note that Sard focuses on reviving the art of storytelling and the spoken word by organizing public speaking events and workshops for seasoned and amateur speakers. It also provides different resources for those



KIB sponsors Sard's student speaker series.

wishing to hone their public speaking skills and experience. With KIB's support, Sard aims to foster a public speaking community where people can meet, share ideas, build new connections, inspire one another, and collaborate on innovative, high-potential projects.

As a steadfast supporter of entrepreneurship in Kuwait, KIB continues to enable young business owners through numerous resources provided through KIB Mubader Center, the Bank's dedicated startup incubator and accelerator. The Center continues to function as a one-stop-shop for all aspiring entrepreneurs in Kuwait who seek resources, knowledge, tools, or mentorship to launch or expand their businesses. The Bank's unwavering support for entrepreneurs is an extension of its unyielding commitment to advancing the domestic economy of Kuwait and contributing to its growth.

Exclusive offers includes 0% auto loan financing to buy dream car

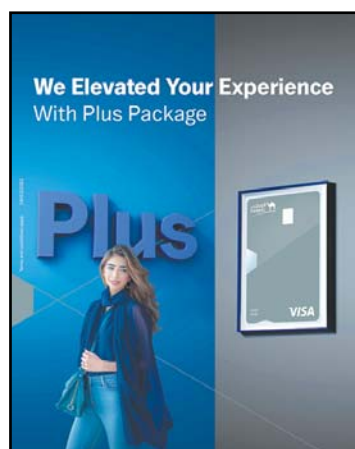
NBK unveils enhanced NBK PLUS package with exciting lifestyle benefits

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: In keeping with its dedication to offering customers an unmatched banking experience that suits their diverse needs and expectations, National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) has unveiled its revamped NBK PLUS package, offering an array of exclusive benefits designed to enhance the lifestyle and financial well-being of its valued customers.

NBK PLUS package offers new and existing customers a wide range of benefits including a 0% auto loan financing offer, making it easier than ever to drive away in their dream car. Customers can also enjoy a 50% discount on the WIYAK app rides, and free unlimited delivery for 3 months on the Deliveroo app, adding comfort to their daily routine.

Additionally, NBK PLUS offers a 100% cashback on YouTube Premium subscriptions, enhancing the viewing experience with ad-free videos and exclusive content.

To support health and fitness goals, the package provides a 20% discount on Platinum Gym subscriptions and "Counted" healthy meal subscriptions.



NBK Plus package.

Plus customers also have the opportunity to get the prestigious metal finish NBK KWT Visa Infinite Credit Card with a cashback that can go up to 1,000 KD, symbolizing status and offering additional perks and rewards.

Commenting on the revamped package, Ghadeer Al-Awadhi, AGM - Consumer Banking Group National Bank of Kuwait, stated: "The revamped NBK PLUS package is a testament to our commitment to providing innovative and customer-centric solutions. We have curated a range of benefits that cater to the diverse needs of our clients, ensuring they receive the best value and convenience."

"We believe these enhancements will significantly add value to our customers' banking experience, aligning with our goal to support their lifestyle and financial aspirations," added Al-Awadhi.

"We always strive to introduce exclusive campaigns and offers based on our monitoring of the ever-changing customer behavior and preferences to keep pace with these changes and ultimately increase customer satisfaction by delivering a comprehensive, exceptional, and highly convenient banking experience that suits their diverse needs and lifestyles," she noted.

For more information about the NBK PLUS package and to apply, you can visit [NBK | Plus Package] or contact NBK Call Center at 1801801.

- Benefits:
- 0% Auto loan financing offer
 - 50% Discount on the WIYAK app
 - Free unlimited delivery for 3 months on the Deliveroo app
 - 100% Cashback on YouTube Premium subscriptions
 - 20% Discount on Platinum Gym and "Counted" healthy meal subscriptions
 - NBK KWT VISA Infinite Credit Card with a cashback up to KD 1,000

Up to 30% discounts at participating merchants

ABK launches exclusive summer campaign for cardholders

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) is thrilled to unveil its highly anticipated summer campaign, offering exclusive benefits to all its cardholders. This initiative aims to enhance the Bank's customer experience and provide added value to those using ABK credit, debit, and prepaid cards.

With the launch of this summer campaign, cardholders can look forward to discounts of up to 30% at various participating merchants, including entertainment establishments, retail outlets, and restaurants.

Johair Marafi, General Manager of Retail Banking at ABK, expressed her enthusiasm, stating, "We are committed to providing our valued customers with unique opportunities to make their banking experience even more rewarding. The summer campaign reflects our dedication to offering exclusive benefits that cater to the diverse needs of our cardholders."

Marafi further emphasized the exceptional advantages available to ABK Advantage credit cardholders, who can now earn double Tokens on international transactions.

In addition, ABK debit and prepaid cardholders will benefit from earning 1 Token for every KD 1 spent on international transactions, reinforcing the Bank's commitment to serving all cardholder segments with personalized rewards and benefits.

Marafi concluded, "This summer campaign is an embodiment of our ongoing commitment to customer satisfaction and loyalty. Through initiatives like this, we aim to strengthen our relationships with customers and create lasting value."



ABK cards summer campaign.

Prominent figures in business attend election gala night

ABCK-AmCham Kuwait elects board of directors for 2024

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The American Business Council-American Chamber of Commerce Kuwait (ABCK-AmCham Kuwait) held its Annual Board of Directors Election Night at the Hyatt Regency Al Kout Mall, attended by AmCham Kuwait members and Embassy representatives. The election process, conducted in accordance with the association's bylaws, resulted in the appointment of new directors who will oversee the strategy and direction of the Chamber.

Pete Swift, Chairman of the Board, opened the event by thanking the candidates for their interest in joining the board and commending the current Board of Directors for their efforts in maintaining the organization's active and collaborative nature over the past year. Swift concluded his remarks by introducing the US Embassy's Acting Deputy Chief of Mission, Ms. Melinda Crowley.

Instructions

Mr. Jody Mangus, Board Member and Head of ABCK-AmCham Kuwait's Elections Committee, provided voting instructions and introduced each board candidate. Each candidate spoke about their potential contributions to ABCK-AmCham Kuwait.

The candidates included:
 Dr. Arezou Harraf, Founder and CEO at Learn & Evolve
 Lama Chalhoub, Country Lead for Kuwait, Qatar, and Bahrain



A group photo from the event.

Tamer El Sallab, Head of GCC & Levant Cluster at Viatrix
 Ola Saab, Head of Corporate Commercial at Al Tamimi & Company
 Doug Hurst, Director for North Africa and the Middle East at Asia Logistics Company
 Toufiq M. Jawhara, Executive

Chairman Office Manager and Head of Communication & PR at Kuwait & Gulf Link Holding (KGL)
 Alaeddine Karim, General Manager at Microsoft Kuwait
 Simon Khayat, General Manager at TAG Ltd. Catering & Supporting Services

Omar Ben Naji, Managing Partner at Everyware Pro IT Consulting Company
 Seneca Cottom, Head of Sustainability at AlShaya Group
 Naem Mirza, Regional Sales Director, Robotics & AI at Artificial Intelligence Doctrine

Micheal Cottom, Managing Director at Cottom General Trading
 Rashed Al Munae, CEO at United Beverage Co.
 ABCK-AmCham Kuwait also recognized the event's sponsors: Platinum sponsors: MSD (Merck Sharp & Dohme); Gold sponsor Saudi Arabian

Chevron; Silver sponsor Crowne Plaza Al-Thuraya City; and Travel and Tourism Partner IFA International Travel and Tourism.

A raffle was held for participants, featuring prizes including 8 vouchers from Sultan, 2 vouchers from Hilton Resorts Kuwait for Spa entrance and dinner at Teatro restaurant, 3 vouchers from Hyatt Regency Al Kout for dinners, and one free night, a Michael Kors one luxury bag courtesy of Habi& Chalhoub, 2 chocolate hampers from Towell Holding, 2 hampers of Kuwaiti sweets and 1 box of chocolate from Nagwa Company, 4 vouchers (2 for the club and 2 for the restaurant) from Argan AlBidaa Hotel and Resort, 2 soda makers cylinder and 0.5L PET bottle from Gulf Cryo, and a highly anticipated raffle prize of one economy class ticket to any country, including the USA and Canada, from our Chairman's Club member IFA International Travel and Tourism.

Members casted their votes in the ballot box, then enjoyed a buffet dinner and live entertainment by the Ground Zero band. The election was carried out with fairness, transparency, and democratic principles, ensuring all members had an equal opportunity to participate. The newly elected board members will join forces with the existing team to advance ABCK-AmCham Kuwait's strategic vision and operational plans, fostering trade and investment between the United States and Kuwait.

Top projects honored

AUK CEAS capstone exhibition highlights student innovations

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The American University of Kuwait (AUK) College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (CEAS) held its third capstone exhibition that included students presenting their graduation projects, incorporating novel prototypes that combined their hardware and software skills. The event was open to students, alumni, parents, and industry representatives.

A total of 16 groups showcased their projects through informative posters, research papers, leaflets, and video displays. Supervised by faculty members of the College, students presented a wide range of prototypes such as the Virtual Telepresence Robot, Smart Recycling Bin, Sign Language Translator, Intelligent Load Management, and Smart Irrigation System.

Ceremony

The event concluded with an award ceremony in the AUK auditorium where CEAS dean, Dr. Mohammed El Abd, congratulated the students. "I am immensely proud of our graduating students this academic year. They have truly set a new standard with their exceptional projects, which span a diverse array of cutting-edge topics, including robotics, autonomous driving, the Internet of Things (IoT), security, energy optimization, and assistive technologies. The creativity, innovation, and dedication demonstrated by our students have been nothing short of inspiring."

A total of three winners were announced for the engineering category—the first-place winner was for project MSZ Prosthetic Arms, by Mariam Al Qalsh, Shaikha Al Humoud, and Zeyad Hannawi, and supervised by Dr.

Khalid Sultan, with Dr. Ali Bostani acting as co-supervisor.

The second-place winner for the engineering project award was NU- Marine Life Monitoring and Exploration Submarine, by Tarek Dafar, Ahmed Hassan, Faisal Hassan, Abdalla ElGohary, and supervised by Dr. Mounib Khanafer with Eng. Ali Rady acting as co-supervisor.

The third-place winner was Sky Phoenix: The Anti-Drone Defense System by Naser Mahdi, Dana Al-nobani, Mohammad Omar, Ahmed Abo Elhiba, and supervised by Dr. Mohammed El Abd with Eng. Abeer Imdoukh acting as co-supervisor.

Award

AI-Based Intelligent System for Reliable Detection of Driver Drowsiness was the winning project award for the Computer Science and Information Systems (CSIS) category. The project was implemented by Fares Mohammad, Bader Al-Haran, Bader Al-Otaibi, Mohammad Ashkanani, and supervised by Dr. Aaron Rasheed Rababaah.

Sign Language Translator was the winning project for the student choice award. The project was implemented by Nada Al Othaina, Shaha Al Shamari, Hana Ghonim, Mariam Shehadeh, and supervised by Dr. Seyed Esmaeili with Eng. Amal AlAteyah acting as co-supervisor.

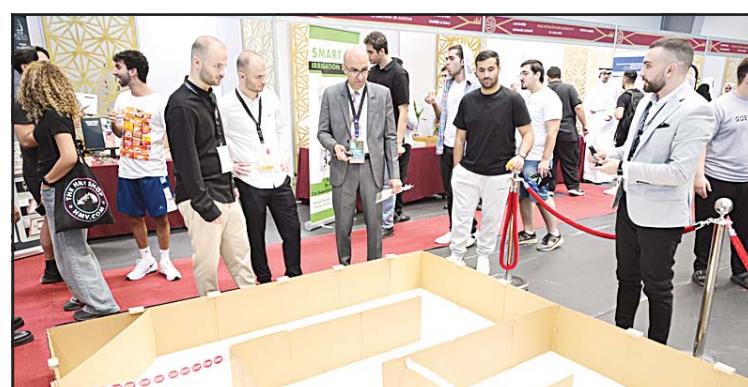
The success of this exhibition not only celebrates the hard work of the students but also sets a high benchmark for future cohorts. It reinforces AUK CEAS's commitment to excellence in education, research, and the continuous pursuit of innovation.



Dr. Rawda Awwad and faculty during the ribbon cutting ceremony.



Dr. Mohammed El Abd during the award ceremony.



A photo of the capstone exhibition.



A group photo of both participants and jury members of the 'Summer Melodies of Kuwait' competition after their final performance.

Kuwait Music Academy event captivates audiences

'Summer Melodies' celebrate musical talent

By Cezary Owerkowicz

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: 'Summertime' stands as an iconic melody within the realm of classical jazz. It finds its home in the renowned American opera "Porgy and Bess," penned by George Gershwin (1898-1937) in 1935.

Gershwin, hailing from immigrant roots in Odessa, found his path to musical greatness amidst the bustling landscape of New York City. Initially a humble music shop attendant, he embarked on a journey of self-study that led him to become one of the most celebrated composers in American history.

Gershwin's compositions are marked by their evocative nature and masterful blending of jazz elements with the rich tapestry of African-American musical styles. The lyrics, crafted by DuBose Heyward, paint a vivid picture of joyous nostalgia and yearning for the sultry summer days of the South.

Inspiration

Perhaps the enchanting strains of "Summertime" served as inspiration for the musicians at the Kuwait Music Academy (KMA), prompting them to organize the "Summer Melodies in Kuwait" competition.

Held on Friday, May 31, at the KMA premises in Salwa, the event welcomed aspiring musicians from Kuwait, inviting instrumentalists and vocalists of all ages, whether self-taught or enrolled in music programs anywhere.

The competition provided a platform for participants to showcase their talents, bridging the gap between the end of the school year at KMA and the commencement of its Summer Courses, slated to begin on June 9th at both KMA branches in Salwa and Mahboula.

On stage, a diverse array of performers, ranging from young children to teenagers and even adults, took the spotlight. Their repertoire spanned classical, jazz, and even pop music genres, featuring vocal performances and instrumental renditions on instruments such as clarinets, flutes, French horns, classical and electric guitars, violins, and drums.

The competition performances were open to the public, resulting in a captivating and often surprising event that showcased the vibrant musical talent within the community.

The passion for music was palpable among the participants, who shared their joy with evident enthusiasm.

The abundance of young talent and their wholehearted involvement created a remarkable atmosphere at the event. However, for the jury, comprised of nine individuals including Fajer Al-Mazidi, Kinga Masternak, Inna Agibalova, Karol Masternak, Victor Shramko, Dmitri Krasnikov, Alexander Kovalev, and Kamil M. Derylo – co-founders and teachers of KMA, under the chairmanship of Prof. Cezary Owerkowicz – the task was un-



Some competition champions with Victor, Karol, Prof. Cezary, and Mrs. Fajer.



Some photos from the event.

doubtedly challenging.

After deliberating for more than two hours, the verdict was reached unanimously. It was a moment of unquestionable success for two young ladies, whose performances stood out amidst

the talented pool of contestants.

The First Prize ex aequo went to Loulwa Almutawa for singing and piano playing 'It's Over, Isn't It' with great passion and Maryam Abu Rouss on flute for fluency and sense of humor

in 'Mambo'.

The Second Prize ex aequo went to Hassan Adel Hajjyah for inspired, lovely interpretation of song 'Agni Pathene' and Mahmoud Alsabouni – clarinet, showing his virtuosity on 'Csardas' by Monti.

The Third Prize ex aequo went to 'Elfentanz' perfect teenager Nana Kim – perfect violinist, for 'Elfentanz' (Dance of Elves) shared prize and Jessica Milad Fajer – clarinet, for romantic 'Dance of Champs Elysee'.

The jury also decided to award four other participants Special Prizes:

Narin Jengiz -- the youngest participant, movingly singing song 'Santa Lucia'

Ibragim Badawi -- young flutist playing J. Williams' Theme from Harry Potter

Raj Kunwar – very spontaneous adult guitarist

Freddie Azer – enthusiastic percussion player

Awards

The jury awarded Certificates of Honor and Medals to ten other participants:

Joanna Marafie, Zaid Alsabouni (clarinetists), Octave Lagala (playing on French Horn very demanding Mozart's Concerto with piano accompaniment with her Mother!), singers Kinda Oday Alsharif, Caelyn Anya Almeida and Najla Al-Fakih, Ahmed Kerem Aydielk (ukulele), Plus Joseph (electric guitar)

The awarding ceremony for the competition took place the following day, on Saturday, June 1, at the esteemed Yarmouk Cultural Centre – Dar Al Attar al-Islamiyah.

The ceremony kicked off the 21st Festival Treasure of Talents, setting the stage for an evening of celebration and recognition. In front of a sizable audience, including esteemed ambassadors and other distinguished guests, the winners were honored for their exceptional performances.

The jury also bestowed special recognition upon the first prize winners, Loulwa Almutawa and Maryam Abu Rouss, who were invited to deliver a live performance at the opening of the Gala Concert.

"Summertime" once again proved its enduring success, infusing the hearts of young talents and music enthusiasts with its timeless melody. Perhaps as they made their way home, someone found themselves humming along to Gershwin's eternal hit, carried away by its captivating charm.

Summertime/
 And the livin' is easy/
 Fish are jumping/
 And cotton is high/...
 One of these mornings/
 You're going to rise up singing/
 Then you'll spread your wings/
 And you'll take the sky
 More details: Website: <https://kuwaitma.com/Instagram/Tiktak/Facebook>
 Salwa Branch: 90994561/66568600
 Mahboula Branch: 96030477

'Bad Boys' sequel boosts Smith's comeback with \$56m opening

NEW YORK, June 10, (AP) — "Bad Boys: Ride or Die," the fourth installment in the Will Smith-Martin Lawrence action comedy series, opened with an estimated \$56 million in theaters over the weekend, handing Hollywood a much-needed summer hit and Smith his biggest success since he slapped Chris Rock at the Academy Awards.

Expectations were all over the map for "Ride or Die" given the dismal moviegoing market thus far this summer and Smith's less certain box-office clout. In the end, though, the Sony Pictures release came in very close to, or slightly above, its tracking forecast.

"Ride or Die," produced by Jerry Bruckheimer and directed by Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah, is Smith's first theatrical test since his 2022 slap of Rock earned him a 10-year Oscar ban. The "Bad Boys" film was in development at the time and ultimately went forward with about a \$100 million production budget.

Smith starred in the Apple release "Emancipation," but that film - released in late 2022 - was shot before the slap and received only a modest theatrical release before streaming.

This time around, Smith largely avoided soul-searching interviews looking back on the Oscars and instead went on a whistle-stop publicity tour of red carpets from Mexico to Saudi Arabia, where he attended what was billed as the country's first Hollywood premiere. The 55-year-old Smith, who for years was one of Hollywood's most bankable stars, appeared on "The Tonight Show With Jimmy Fallon," the YouTube series "Hot Ones" and on Friday, made a surprise appearance

at a Los Angeles movie theater.

Given that "Bad Boys" trailed May disappointments like "Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga" and "The Fall Guy" - both of which struggled to pop with ticket buyers despite very good reviews - the "Ride or Die" opening counts as a critical weekend win for the movie business.

Overperformed

"The fact that a movie overperformed is the best possible news," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Comscore. "It seems like all we've been doing over the past few weeks and almost since the beginning of the year, with a couple of exceptions, is try to figure out why seemingly well-marketed, well-reviewed movies have underperformed. This ignites the spark that the industry has been waiting for."

"Ride or Die" still didn't quite manage to match the opening of the previous "Bad Boys" film: 2020's "Bad Boys for Life." That movie, released in January 2020, debuted with \$62.5 million. After the pandemic shut down theaters, it was the highest grossing North American release of that year, with \$204 million domestically.

"Ride or Die" added \$48.6 million internationally. Though reviews were mixed (64% on Rotten Tomatoes), audiences gave the film a high grade with an "A-" CinemaScore. Black moviegoers accounted for 44% of ticket buyers, the largest demographic.

In the film, which comes 29 years after the original, Smith and Lawrence reprise their roles as Miami detectives. The plot revolves around

uncovering a scheme to frame their late police captain (Joe Pantoliano). In one of the movie's most notable scenes, Lawrence slaps Smith and calls him a "bad boy."

Movie theaters will need a lot more than "Bad Boys: Ride or Die," though, to right the ship. Ticket sales are down 26% from last year and more than 40% below pre-pandemic totals, according to Comscore. A big test comes next weekend with the release of Pixar's "Inside Out 2." After sending several Pixar releases straight to Disney+, the studio has vowed a lengthy, traditional theatrical rollout this time.

Last weekend's top film "The Garfield Movie," slid to second place. Also from Sony, the family animated comedy collected \$10 million in ticket sales over its third weekend, bringing its domestic gross to \$68.6 million.

The weekend's other new wide release, "The Watchers," failed to click with moviegoers. The horror film, directed by Ishana Night Shyamalan, daughter of M. Night Shyamalan, is about a stranded 28-year-old artist in Ireland. Following poor reviews, the Warner Bros. release grossed \$7 million in 3,351 theaters.

That allowed "If," the Ryan Reynolds imaginary friend fantasy, to grab third place in its fourth weekend of release, bringing the Paramount Pictures cumulative domestic total to \$93.5 million. Rounding out the top five was "Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes," which added \$5.4 million in its fifth weekend of release. It has grossed \$150 million domestically and \$360 million worldwide.

Film

Variety



This image released by Sony Pictures shows Will Smith, (left), and Martin Lawrence in 'Bad Boys: Ride or Die,' which opened with an estimated \$56 million in theaters over the weekend in the US. (AP)

Film

'It is now a 'perfect' version of imperfect film'

Tykwer, Potente talk 'Run Lola Run' revival

LOS ANGELES, June 10, (AP) — Lola's red hair might have been a mistake. Not the color, mind you. Franka Potente's electric locks in "Run Lola Run" are as intrinsic to the adrenaline rush of her sprint through Berlin as the film's heart-racing electronic score. Given the choice now, however, Potente would say no to bleaching her hair three times in one day.

Still, regrets are few about the film and the whirlwind frenzy of its life-changing success. And when you're 22 and making an experimental indie with like-minded, convention-defying peers, hair damage is not top of mind. It was just part of the reckless fun of making this wild film about a woman who has 20 minutes to try to collect 100,000 Deutschmarks to save her boyfriend's life.

For its 25th anniversary, Sony Pictures Classics has released a beautiful 4K restoration of "Run Lola Run" to theaters nationwide last weekend. Filmmaker Tom Tykwer even got to fix some of the tiny problems that have bothered him over the years.

"It's now the pristine and super nice 'perfect' version of a still beautifully imperfect movie," he said.

The AP spoke to Potente and Tykwer about the wild ride that was "Run Lola Run," its impact and influence. Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

AP: This is embarrassing, but I kind of became aware of the movie because I saw a photo of Natalie Portman dressed as Lola at a Halloween Party.

Potente: She told me that she did that! I was like, oh my god. Tom has stories like that too. Even today these cool little things surface. Didn't Gregory Peck's widow say that Gregory Peck saw and loved "Run Lola Run" before he passed? Those were moments ...

Tykwer: I remember we were already shooting "The Princess and the Warrior," and we were in a hotel in Wuppertal, Germany, and sleeping and the reception calls and says, "I have Dustin Hoffman on the phone." I'm like "ha ha ha, I'm sleeping." It was the middle of the night, and he had just seen the movie and was completely flip-

ping out, like "I want to be in your next movie." I said, "We're already shooting." And he's like "Where are you? I'm coming." "But it's German language." "I don't care."

Potente: Six months later he was in Berlin, and I drove him around in my car that had tons of cigarette butts and trash and he loved it. He was like oh my god this is an adventure, like with these little punks. I was driving a Saab 900, so many cigarette butts and red bull cans.

Tykwer: I made a movie with him seven years later ("Perfume: The Story of a Murderer").

AP: Lola has been so referenced in pop culture, a Bon Jovi music video, an episode of the children's show "Phineas and Ferb." Have you seen many? Do you have a favorite?

Tykwer: "The Simpsons" one is great. It was funny because no one ever asked, and I suddenly saw it watching television. I was like, you even took our music. It was probably better than any awards we could have ever got. Now forever we are in "The Simpsons."

I've actually even been in talks about a TV series. If the concept is interesting, why not do it? Either it reminds people of how good our film is or people will be like "that's a good variation." Quoting and remaking and rethinking and reinventing is also what I do as a filmmaker. So, I like it. Even if it fails, I like it.

AP: What's it like watching it on the big screen again?

Tykwer: I never watch my movies again. Once they're done, I'm done. The most incredible thing about it is that for any film that you make, there comes a time when you suddenly are really able to watch it as the audience and not as the person that was there all the time. It emancipated from you. I'm just older. I'm not the guy anymore who made this film. And I watched it as if I was the audience. It's so nice. I so enjoyed Franka, who's so energetically enigmatic and, in this new transfer, glowing in a way.

AP: Where do you think "Run Lola Run" fits in cinematic history?

Tykwer: In the end of the '90s there were some

quite important films, and I'm happy to say maybe we were one of them. There was stuff like "The Matrix" and a movie like "Man on the Moon," this really great, strange film that Miloš Forman did with Jim Carrey.

At the time, at the turn of the millennium, film-making strategy went through a renewal and I think we were a tiny part of this. The reinvention of television, I think it was ignited by cinema and by the new ways of storytelling. We're just one - not irrelevant - spark in there.

AP: What was the frenzy like around the time of its release?

Potente: It's comparable to, in my mind, what a musician's life might be like, like a rock star or a stereotyped idea of what that would be like. And that's what it was like for probably a year or two. By the time we got an MTV Award, I was like, I'm done. I'm not even going. I didn't even go and pick it up. I couldn't. It was just I was like, I'm going to be on the couch. It's crazy. Why didn't I go? I should have gone.

AP: Were you surprised that it caught on like it did?

Tykwer: You have to remember it was a small, super independently financed film. It got lots of head-scratching from those people who brought money in, like "it starts three times, that doesn't make a movie." One of the things I loved was that it seemed like an action movie, but with a strong emotional center and quite a lot of structural and philosophical substance underneath. I thought you can bring all this together in a movie. It's why I was mentioning "The Matrix" which was like the big scale sibling to us. That's how we all got to know each other, we both reached out and were like "who are you and what are you trying?" That's what the energy was.

We never imagined the voyage the movie would take. It was a nerdy, quirky movie that we only made because we loved making it. We were really innocent kids. Maybe that's part of the beauty and the energy of the film and why it's so delightful. I could never do it now. I'm not that person anymore unfortunately.

BEIJING: A Chinese rendition of "Long Day's Journey into Night," a family-themed play written by American playwright Eugene O'Neill, was recently put on by the Beijing People's Art Theater.

Revolving around the daily life of a family of four, the drama portrays the intricate emotions between husband and wife, brothers, as well as parents and children.

Despite the differences between Chinese and Western cultures, the theme of "family" in the play resonates deeply with every audience, said Zhang Tong, director of the Chinese production.

The play unravels the roots of conflicts from various aspects such as personality, history and profession, showing the profound impact of family on individuals, Zhang added.

The play will run until June 30 at the Beijing People's Art Theater. (Xinhua)

NEW YORK: The Washington Post's new publisher is facing questions about whether he made efforts to conceal - in his own newspaper and elsewhere - his involvement in a British phone hacking scandal from his time working for Rupert Murdoch a decade ago.

The weeklong saga, which began with the abrupt departure of the Post's executive editor last week, offers a window into differences between approaches to journalism in Britain and the United States - and touches on delicate issues of trust in the American media community as it approaches a contentious and seismic presidential election.

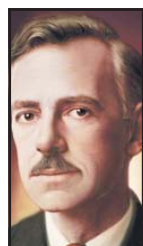
The publisher and CEO, Will Lewis, has denied any wrongdoing in Britain and at the Post.

Lewis, a former publisher of The Wall Street Journal, arrived in January to turn around the Post, which is awash in red ink and seen its digital readership drop by a half since 2020. Lewis is also the vice chairman of The Associated Press' board of directors.

He announced a restructuring plan recently that did not include the top news executive, Sally Buzbee, who apparently was either forced out or chose not to accept a demotion. Buzbee, the former top news executive at the AP, has led the Post newsroom for three years. She has not talked about her departure. Last week, The New York

Times reported that Lewis told Buzbee in a phone conversation last month that a development in litigation by Prince Harry about the phone hacking scandal did not warrant coverage in the Post.

That sprawling case involved the alleged interception of voicemails of celebrities and royals by Murdoch-owned newspapers in Britain. Plaintiffs



O'Neill



Murdoch

in a civil case have alleged that Lewis was involved in efforts to tamp down trouble, in part by destroying evidence. Lewis has denied this.

The Times said Lewis told Buzbee that it would be a lapse in judgment to run the story, which was eventually published. The Post said Friday that that account was inaccurate and Lewis did not

pressure Buzbee not to publish any stories. "To suggest otherwise is completely false," the newspaper said in a statement.

Buzbee did not respond to a message from the AP on Friday requesting comment on her own characterization of the conversation. (AP)

BEIJING: Domestic teen comedy "Be My Friend" dominated the box office chart on the Chinese mainland on Sunday, official data showed.

The movie generated 26.06 million yuan (about 3.66 million US dollars) in box office revenue on the day, data from the China Movie Data Information Network revealed. (Xinhua)

Features

ARABIC TIMES

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

'Because We Care' campaign: Supporting the community through CSR

stc hosts blood drive for employees on World Blood Donor Day

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Kuwait Telecommunications Company - stc, a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, held its annual blood donation drive for the stc family in line with the World Blood Donor Day, a worldwide initiative that falls on June 14th of every year focusing on donating blood for a good cause. The initiative was organized especially for stc employees in collaboration with the Kuwait Central Blood Bank and aimed to spread awareness on the significant benefits of donating blood.

stc's blood donation drive aligns with its extensive corporate social responsibility framework, that focuses on the primary areas of health, education, preserving environment, youth empowerment and community. In addition to donating blood, the campaign focused on familiarizing employees with the importance of this kind act, as well as the positive impacts and benefits associated with the selfless action. The internal event witnessed a high



Employees from all sectors participate in the blood donation campaign.



Strong turnout of employees for blood donation.

level of participation from employees who were eager to contribute to support those who are in need of blood in the community.

Danah AlJasem, General Manager of Corporate Communications at stc, said, "Our annual blood donation drive, which also

coincides with the World Blood Donor Day, reflects our ongoing support towards promoting community health and well-being. In collaboration with the Kuwait Central Blood Bank, this initiative aims to emphasize the importance of donating blood to

those in medical need, while also highlighting the health benefits of donating blood. We are proud to have witnessed a large number of our employees participate in this blood donation drive, demonstrating their commitment to making a positive impact in the commu-

nity." AlJasem added, "As a pioneer in the market, stc leads by example, setting a standard for its social responsibility in the community and amongst its employees. Organizing initiatives that spread awareness on health-related causes help inform

individuals on the social impact of coming together to support various members of the community in diverse ways. Donating blood on a regular basis can help support the local healthcare system and serve as a lifeline for patients that require immediate blood transfusions. The annual blood drive as well as other healthcare initiatives launched by stc fall under the Company's extensive CSR framework within the healthcare pillar, one of the key pillars defined under the Company's strategy."

AlJasem concluded by thanking the Kuwait Central Blood Bank for their continuous support and collaboration throughout stc's annual blood donation drives. AlJasem also thanked all stc employees that participated in the initiative, including the executive management, which led to the successful turnout. She also mentioned that stc will continue to expand its CSR initiatives that focus on supporting the healthcare sector in Kuwait, as well as the key pillars defined under the Company's CSR framework.

Xylitol common sweetener

Study links sugar substitute to heart attack, stroke risk

CLEVELAND, June 10: Researchers from global health system Cleveland Clinic have found higher amounts of the sugar alcohol xylitol are associated with increased risk of cardiovascular events like heart attack and stroke.

The team, led by Stanley Hazen, M.D., Ph.D., confirmed the association in a large-scale patient analysis, preclinical research models and a clinical intervention study. Findings were published in the European Heart Journal.



Dr. Hazen

Xylitol is a common sugar substitute used in sugar-free confectionary, gums, baked goods and oral products like toothpaste. Over the past decade, the use of sugar substitutes, including sugar alcohols and artificial sweeteners, has increased significantly in processed foods that are promoted as healthy alternatives.

The same research team found a similar link between erythritol and cardiovascular risk last year. Xylitol is not as prevalent as erythritol in keto or sugar-free food products in the U.S. but is common in other countries.

Diabetes

"This study again shows the immediate need for investigating sugar alcohols and artificial sweeteners, especially as they continue to be recommended in combatting conditions like obesity or diabetes," said Dr. Hazen, Chair of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Sciences at Cleveland Clinic's Lerner Research Institute and Co-Section Head of Preventive Cardiology in the Heart, Vascular & Thoracic Institute. "It does not mean throw out your toothpaste if it has xylitol in it, but we should be aware that consumption of a product con-

taining high levels could increase the risk of blood clot related events."

In this new study, researchers identified that high levels of circulating xylitol were associated with an elevated three-year risk of cardiovascular events in an analysis of more than 3,000 patients in the US and Europe. A third of patients with the highest amount of xylitol in their plasma were more likely to experience a cardiovascular event. To confirm the findings, the research team conducted preclinical testing and found that xylitol caused platelets to clot and heightened the risk of thrombosis. Researchers also tracked platelet activity from people who ingested a xylitol-sweetened drink versus a glucose-sweetened drink and found that every measure of clotting ability significantly increased immediately following ingestion of xylitol but not glucose.

Safety

The authors note that further studies assessing the long-term cardiovascular safety of xylitol are warranted. The research had several limitations, including that clinical observation studies demonstrate association and not causation. They recommend talking to your doctor or a certified dietitian to learn more about healthy food choices and for personalized recommendations.

The research is part of Dr. Hazen's ongoing investigation into factors that contribute to residual cardiovascular risk. His team follows patients over time and finds chemical signatures in blood that can predict the future development of heart and metabolic disease. He has made pioneering discoveries in atherosclerosis and inflammatory disease research, including the seminal discovery linking gut microbial pathways to cardiovascular disease and metabolic diseases.

Dr. Hazen also directs Cleveland Clinic's Center for Microbiome and Human Health and holds the Jan Bleekma Chair in Vascular Cell Biology and Atherosclerosis.

Parental guidance: Safeguarding teens in the era of social media

NEW YORK, June 10, (AP): At what age should kids be on social media? Should they be on it at all? If they aren't, will they be social pariahs? Should parents monitor their conversations? Do parental controls work?

Navigating social media as a parent - not to mention a child - is not easy. Using social media platforms is still the default for most American teenagers, with the Pew Research Center reporting that 58% of teens are daily users of TikTok, including 17% who describe their TikTok use as almost constant. About half of teens use Snapchat and Instagram daily, with near-constant use at 14% and 8% for each, respectively.

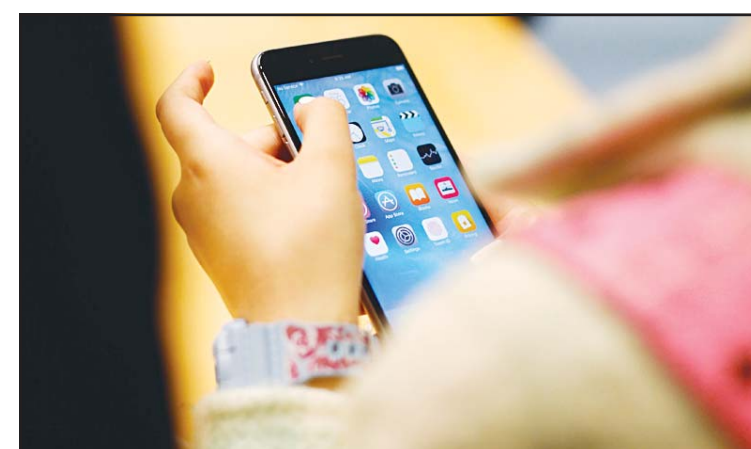
But parents - and even some teens themselves - are growing increasingly concerned about the effects of social media use on young people. Lawmakers have taken notice and have held multiple congressional hearings on child online safety. But even with apparent bipartisan unity, making laws and regulating companies takes time. So far, no regulation has passed. What are parents - and teens - supposed to do in the meantime? Here are some tips on staying safe, communicating and setting limits on social media - for kids as well as their parents.

Consent

There's already, technically, a rule that prohibits kids under 13 from using platforms that advertise to them without parental consent: The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act that went into effect in 2000, before today's teenagers were even born.

The goal was to protect kids' online privacy by requiring websites and online services to disclose clear privacy policies and get parents' consent before gathering personal information on their kids, among other things. To comply, social media companies have generally banned kids under 13 from signing up for their services.

But times have changed, and online privacy is no longer the only concern when it comes to kids being online. There's bullying, harassment, the risk



A child holds an iPhone at an Apple store on Sept. 25, 2015 in Chicago. Parents - and even some teens themselves - are growing increasingly concerned about the effects of social media use on young people. (AP)

of developing eating disorders, suicidal thoughts or worse.

For years, there has been a push among parents, educators and tech experts to wait to give children phones - and access to social media - until they are older, such as the "Wait Until 8th" pledge that has parents sign a pledge not to give their kids a smartphone until the 8th grade, or about age 13 or 14. Some wait even later, like 16 or 17.

But neither social media companies nor the government have done anything concrete to increase the age limit.

"There is not necessarily a magical age," said Christine Elgersma, a social media expert at the nonprofit Common Sense Media. But, she added, "13 is probably not the best age for kids to get on social media."

The laws currently being proposed include blanket bans on the under-13 set when it comes to social media. The problem? There's no easy way to verify a person's age when they sign up for apps and online services. And the apps popular with teens today were created for adults first. Companies have added some safeguards over the years, Elgersma noted, but these are piecemeal changes, not fundamental rethinks of

the services. "Developers need to start building apps with kids in mind," she said.

Some tech executives, celebrities such as Jennifer Garner and parents from all walks of life have resorted to banning their kids from social media altogether. While the decision is a personal one that depends on each child and parent, some experts say this could lead to isolating kids, who could be left out of activities and discussions with friends that take place on social media or chat services.

Navigate

Another hurdle - kids who have never been on social media may find themselves ill-equipped to navigate the platforms when they are suddenly allowed free rein the day they turn 18.

Start early, earlier than you think. Elgersma suggests that parents go through their own social media feeds with their children before they are old enough to be online and have open discussions on what they see. How would your child handle a situation where a friend of a friend asks them to send a photo? Or if they see an article that makes them so angry they just want to

share it right away? For older kids, Elgersma says to approach them with curiosity and interest, "asking about what their friends are doing or just not asking direct questions like, 'What are you doing on Instagram?' but rather, 'Hey, I heard this influencer is really popular.'" And even if your kid rolled their eyes it could be a window."

Questions

Don't say things like "Turn that thing off!" when your kid has been scrolling for a long time, says Jean Rogers, the director of the nonprofit Fairplay's Screen Time Action Network.

"That's not respectful," Rogers said. "It doesn't respect that they have a whole life and a whole world in that device." Instead, Rogers suggests asking them questions about what they do on their phone, and see what your child is willing to share.

Kids are also likely to respond to parents and educators "pulling back the curtains" on social media and the sometimes insidious tools companies use to keep people online and engaged, Elgersma said. Watch a documentary like "The Social Dilemma" that explores algorithms, dark patterns and dopamine feedback cycles of social media. Or read up with them how Facebook and TikTok make money.

"Kids love to be in the know about these things, and it will give them a sense of power," she said.

Rogers says most parents have success with taking their kids' phones overnight to limit their scrolling. Occasionally kids might try to sneak the phone back, but it's a strategy that tends to work because kids need a break from the screen. "They need to have an excuse with their peers to not be on their phone at night," Rogers said. "They can blame their parents."

Parents may need their own limits on phone use, Rogers said it's helpful to explain what you are doing when you do have a phone in hand around your child so they understand you are not aimlessly scrolling through sites like Instagram.

MEDICAL CLASSIFIEDS

Take care of your health

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

For your ads on this page

Call: 24813805 E-mail: advt@arabtimesonline.com

www.arabtimesonline.com

مرکز شفاء الجزيرة الطبي SHIFA AL JAZEERA MEDICAL CENTRE FARWANIYA الفروانية

DENTAL & COSMETIC DEPARTMENT

- SCALING & GUM TREATMENT
- COSMETIC SMILE RECONSTRUCTION
- GUM & ORAL SURGERY
- BAD BREATH TREATMENT
- SURGICAL TREATMENT
- ROOT CANAL TREATMENT
- COSMETIC FILLING
- FIXED & REMOVABLE DENTURES
- CROWN TREATMENT
- SIMPLE & SURGICAL EXTRACTION

Dr. Shajahan V.M BDS, MDS Dental Surgeon

Dr. Ayham Askar BDS Dental Surgeon

Dr. Raina Fernandes BDS Dental Surgeon

Working Time: From 9am to 1pm & 5pm to 9pm

Ph: 24 734 000

Behind Maghateer Commercial Complex & Opp. Police station - Farwaniya

www.shifaaljazeera.com.kw

Power wins for first time in 2 years

Team Penske sweeps top 3 spots at Road America

ELKHART LAKE, June 10, (AP): Will Power pondered retirement last year as his wife battled a near deadly staph infection that had the Australian wondering if he needed to focus on his family's future.

"She almost died," Power said. "You start thinking, 'Yeah, I'm going to have to stop now, take care of my son.'"

CAR RACING

His wife has recovered and Power is back in victory lane.

Power was joined by wife Liz and son Beau in victory circle Sunday after he earned his first win in two years. He ended a 34-race winless streak and moved to the top of the IndyCar points standings.

The 43-year-old beat teammate Josef Newgarden by 3.2609 seconds on the 14-turn, 4.014-mile course to win for the first time since the Detroit Grand Prix on June 5, 2022. Power has a five-point lead over reigning IndyCar champion Alex Palou as he seeks his second championship in three years.

Power won the 2022 title but was distracted by his wife's health issues during last year's winless season.

"I have to say I'm a better driver again this year than I was in '22 when I won the championship," Power said. "Last year was sort of a stall-out here. Not much I could do. Spending a lot of time at home, looking after Liz, making sure everything was going well for her. (Now I'm) back to Liz helping me. She is a big part of my preparation. She does a lot for me. We're back as a team again."

Power won for the 42nd time in the series to tie Michael Andretti for fourth on the all-time wins list. They trail A.J. Foyt (67), Scott Dixon (58) and Mario Andretti (52).

Newgarden was second and Scott McLaughlin third to give Team Penske a sweep of the podium - its first since 2017.

Newgarden finished second in a backup car one day after spinning off the track and crashing his Chevrolet hard into a barrier during the final stages of qualifying Saturday.

"It was a real team effort to put a new car together," Newgarden said. "Everybody pitched in... really rewarding, I think, for the entire crew when you have to go through something like that, put it all together, we finish 1-2-3, it's as good as it can get."

After a rainy Saturday caused a

SONOMA, June 10, (AP): The Indianapolis 500 is over and the worried wait to see if Kyle Larson's participation in that event would cost him a shot at winning a NASCAR championship has been resolved.

So it's life back to the usual for NASCAR's busiest driver.

That means a lot more races and, of course, more winning.

Larson celebrated NASCAR approving his participation in the playoffs with his third Cup victory of the season - a Sunday win at his home track. The victory for Larson, who grew up 80 miles away from Sonoma Raceway in Elk Grove, was his second

wet track for much of the qualifying rounds, conditions were ideal for Sunday's race.

The sweep continued Team Penske's successful run since getting rocked by a cheating scandal in April.

on the rolling road course in picturesque wine country. It is the fifth win on a road course for NASCAR's 2021 Cup champion and moved him to the top of the current series standings.

It was a welcome reward after a grueling month of May in which Larson became the fifth driver to attempt to run the Indianapolis 500 and NASCAR's Coca-Cola 600 on the same day. Rain at both events made his attempt at "The Double" a bust and put him in danger of not being granted a waiver to remain eligible for the NASCAR playoffs.

It took until Tuesday of this week for NASCAR to grant Larson the waiver. Then he took his first two con-

secutive days off in months to lay by the pool in the California sun, do some wine tasting in familiar territory, and then win at Sonoma.

"My life is so hectic that I never feel like I get a normal week for myself. It gets a little bit more hectic now that I

am just NASCAR racing and sprint car racing," Larson said. "It was really nice for me to get to come here this week and just get to do nothing for one day, and then go be a normal tourist on Thursday. It's just a very relaxing week."

CAR RACING

use the horsepower boost when no one else in the field had access to the advantage.

Roger Penske, who owns the race team, IndyCar, Indianapolis Motor Speedway and IndyCar, suspended

four employees for two races. Among the suspensions was team president Tim Cindric, considered the best strategist in IndyCar, and he was forced to miss Newgarden's second Indy 500 victory.



Minnesota Lynx forward Cecilia Zandalasini, (left), works toward the basket as Seattle Storm forward Nneka Ogumike (3) defends during the first half of a WNBA basketball game in Minneapolis. (AP)

Liberty keep Mystics winless and take homecourt for Cup title game

Lynx snap Storm's six-game win streak

NEW YORK, June 10, (AP): Jonquel Jones scored 29 points and the New York Liberty beat the winless Washington Mystics 93-88 on Sunday to clinch homecourt in the Commissioner's Cup championship game.

The Liberty, who won the Commissioner's Cup last season, will host the Commissioner's Cup title game on June 25. New York, which has won seven straight games, will play the top team in the Western Conference cup standings.

BASKETBALL

New York (11-2) came through a grueling stretch with five games in eight days, including winning back-to-back contests on Saturday and Sunday.

The Liberty led by two heading into the fourth quarter before they extended the lead to 86-79 with 4:03 left on a putback by Jones. Washington scored the only basket over the next 2:30 minutes until Sabrina Ionescu hit a 10-foot floater from the wing that made it 88-81 with 1:30 left.

Washington (0-12) scored the next five points and only trailed 88-86 with 24 seconds left. Ionescu hit the second of two free throws to make it a three-point game.

Egyptians enjoy 1st 4x4 snow drifting challenge

CAIRO, June 10, (Xinhua): An artificial snow park in Giza province near the Egyptian capital Cairo, 15 four-wheel drive vehicles engaged in a snow drifting challenge for the first time in Egypt, amid cheers of enthusiastic motorsport lovers who wore winter outfits in a subzero environment despite the hot weather outside.

Ski Egypt, the organizer of the snow rally at its venue, said that the event seeks to promote snow rallies, winter sports and relevant entertainment activities in Egypt and the region.

Mahmoud Youssef, a regional director of Dubai-based Majid Al Futtaim that owns and manages Ski Egypt and the entire Mall of Egypt where it is located, said that the snow rally was the first to be held in Egypt, Africa, and the

Middle East region.

"We are holding the first snow rally at an indoor temperature of -4°C as a unique and new event for the racers and spectators. It is a true test for the rally racers who drive 4x4 cars mostly in the desert and are not familiar with driving them in ice and snow," Youssef told Xinhua inside the freezing venue.

The sloping, bumpy course had several flags identifying the path that cars had to drift through, and the three racers with the best finishing times won the first three places.

Sherif Wagih, a co-pilot at Alpha Racing Team and a 2022 national rally champion, won first place in the new snow rally, pointing out that driving in snow was a completely different and challenging experience for him.

Lynx 83, Storm 64

In Minneapolis, Kayla McBride hit seven 3-pointers and finished with a season-high 32 points, Napheesa Collier scored 19 points and grabbed 14 rebounds and the Minnesota Lynx beat Seattle and snapped the Storm's six-game win streak.

Minnesota (8-3), which beat the Storm in back-to-back games to open the season, has won four of its last five games. The Lynx had a three-game win streak snapped Friday when Kahleah Copper's 3-pointer just before the buzzer gave the Mercury an 81-80 win

over Minnesota.

McBride - who set a franchise record by hitting eight 3-pointers in Friday's loss to the Mercury - made 9 of 13 from the field, 7 of 10 from 3-point range and 7 of 7 from the free-throw line.

Sparks 96, Aces 92

In Los Angeles, Dearica Hamby finished with 18 points and 10 rebounds, Aari McDonald scored 16 off the bench and the Los Angeles Sparks beat two-time defending-champion Las Vegas after the Aces scored the first 14 points of the game.

His teammate at Alpha, Amir Youssef, came in second in the snow drift competition.

"The experience is completely different from the desert rally, because the course here is slippery and snowy, but with preparation, practice, and training together, we were able to make this achievement and win the first two places," the Egyptian told Xinhua.

Wagih added that he hoped that snow rallies would be held in Egypt at regional and international levels.

The race attracted many spectators of all ages, who found it unique and interesting to watch cars drifting in snow in a country where it doesn't snow. Some of them blew trumpets, while others were cheering during the race.

Hamby sank 6 of 10 shots with a 3-pointer and 5 of 6 free throws for the Sparks (4-7), who won back-to-back games for the first time this season. McDonald made 5 of 8 shots, two from beyond the arc, and all four of her foul shots. McDonald's effort helped the LA bench outscore Las Vegas' substitutes 40-17.

Ricke Jackson pitched in with 16 points and five rebounds for LA.

A'ja Wilson had 31 points - three above her league-high average - to lead the Aces (5-4), who have lost three of their last four games.

Strom overcomes 7-shot deficit on LPGA Tour

Scheffler bags Memorial for 5th victory of the year

DUBLIN, Ohio, June 10, (AP): Scottie Scheffler had more stress than he wanted Sunday at the Memorial and got the victory everyone has come to expect.

On a Muirfield Village course so demanding only six players broke par, Scheffler had his highest final round in nearly two years at 2-over 74, and it was just enough to hold off Collin Morikawa and win for the fifth time this year.

Scheffler, who started the final round four shots ahead, never lost the lead. He never felt safe, either, particularly on a back nine where saving par felt like hard work.

GOLF

That's what it took on the 18th hole. He was leading Morikawa by one shot and both hit approach shots that bounced hard and high off the green and into the rough. Both chipped to about 5 feet. Scheffler buried his putt to win, and the force of his fist pump to celebrate showed how tough this day was on him, and practically everybody.

Making the day even more special was the handshake with tournament host Jack Nicklaus, and cradling month-old son Bennett at his first PGA Tour event.

Morikawa, who played in the final group of both majors this year, holed a 30-foot birdie putt on the par-3 12th hole and stayed on Scheffler's heels the rest of the way. He shot 71, the only one from the final 13 groups to break par.

Scheffler finished at 8-under 280 and won \$4 million from this signature event and its \$20 million purse. That pushes him over \$24 million for the year, breaking the PGA Tour season earnings record - and it's barely June - that he set last year in this era of rising purses.

He also became the first player since Tom Watson in 1980 to have won five times on the PGA Tour before the U.S. Open. That's next week at Pinehurst No. 2, and Scheffler will go to the U.S. Open as a huge favorite.

Linnea Strom shot a tournament-record 11-under 60 to overcome a seven-stroke deficit and win the ShopRite LPGA Classic by a shot for her first LPGA Tour title.

After making the cut on the number Saturday, Strom teed off at 8:20 a.m. - three hours, 40 minutes before the final group - on the Bay Course at Seaview Resort.

Strom had an eagle - chipping in from 15 feet on the par-5 ninth - and



Linnea Strom of Sweden hits from the fairway of the 18th hole during the final round of the LPGA Classic golf tournament in Galloway, N.J. (AP)

nine birdies to get to 14-under 199. The 27-year-old Swede birdied the last three holes and four of the last five.

She had the lowest final-round score by a winner in LPGA Tour history and matched the second-lowest score overall. Annika Sorenstam set the record with a 59 in the second round of the 2001 Standard Register PING. The previous best final round for a winner was a 61 by Inbee Park in the 2014 Manulife Financial LPGA Classic.

Strom started the day tied for 52nd for by far the biggest comeback by position on the tour since 1984. The previous largest comeback by position since 1984 was Ayako Okamoto in a tie for 23rd at the 1987 Lady Keystone Open.

Megan Khang and Ayaka Furue of Japan tied for second. Khang closed with a 66, and Furue shot 65.

Carlos Ortiz won LIV Golf Houston for his first victory on the Saudi-funded league and second big win in the Houston area.

Ortiz closed with a 5-under 67 to beat Adrian Meronk by a stroke at the Golf Club of Houston. The Mexican player won the 2020 Houston Open at Memorial Park for his lone PGA Tour title.

Part of a four-way tie for the lead entering the day, the 33-year-old Ortiz finished at 15-under 201.

Meronk shot a 68 to help Cleeks GC win the team title. The German joined LIV Golf this year.



Scottie Scheffler poses for a photo with the trophy after winning the Memorial golf tournament in Dublin, Ohio. (AP)

Change Name

I, SUBHASH CHANDER Holder of Indian Passport M 5723288 has changed my name from SUBHASH CHANDER (Old Name) to SUBASH CHANDER (New Name) and I also undertake to carry out this name change in all my documents.

Alcaraz owns 3 Grand Slam titles at age 21 and his Wimbledon title defense starts July 1

PARIS, June 10, (AP): Carlos Alcaraz plans to continue his tradition of celebrating Grand Slam titles with tattoos by getting ink of the date he won his first French Open championship and a drawing of the Eiffel Tower.

That art, to help remember Sunday's 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2 comeback against Alexander Zverev in the final at Roland Garros, will go near Alcaraz's left ankle. His right ankle already bears the date of his 2023 Wimbledon triumph and an image of a strawberry; his left arm carries the date of his first major trophy, which arrived at the 2022 U.S. Open.

At the rate he's going, the 21-year-old from Spain might

run out of skin. Alcaraz, though, noted Sunday that he assured his mother he will not keep printing the dates of every Slam victory for the rest of his career on his body. Instead, he'll keep it to just dates of the first title from each of the four most important events in tennis - which means all that remains is the Australian Open, and who would doubt that he eventually will add that one, too?

As it is, Alcaraz is the youngest man to collect a Slam title on clay, grass and hard courts, much as he was the youngest, at 19, to reach No. 1 in the ATP rankings.

"My game suits ... every surface," he explained, "because I practice it."

He first learned the sport on clay, he finds himself most comfortable on hard courts - he sought to excel there because that's what is used at most tournaments - and his always-look-to-attack style is a perfect fit for grass, as his win over seven-time Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic in last year's final at the All England Club proved. Alcaraz's title defense there begins July 1.

Of course, he said, he works on his defense. And his drop shots and volleys are valuable tools, as Zverev and so many others see.

But Alcaraz's underlying principle is this: "My main goal is being aggressive, as much as I can."

Change Name

I, MOHAMMED YUNUS s/o MOHAMMED BADSHAH MIYAN holder of india passport No. M14641962 has changed my name from (old name) to MOHAMMED YUNUS SHAIKH. MOHAMMED BADSHAH MIYAN SHAIKH (New name) and I also undertake to carry out this name change in all my documents.

Hundreds compete for the 8th Peak Race prizes

Al Hamra successfully concludes its 8th edition of annual Peak Race



Left to right: Winners display their prizes after the awarding ceremony.

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Reiterating its commitment to promoting health and wellness within the community, Al Hamra Real Estate Co. successfully hosted the eighth edition of the annual Peak Race at its iconic Al Hamra Business Tower, drawing hundreds of sporting enthusiasts.

The exhilarating event, featuring a highly demanding vertical race to the 78th floor of the business tower, tests the physical strength, resilience, and endurance of participants. Al Hamra Business Tower, the tallest building in Kuwait, comprises 80 floors. Unlike previous editions, this year's race introduced the ultimate challenge of racing to the 78th floor of the skyscraper, making it one of the most exciting and inspiring athletic events in Kuwait.

Organized in partnership with Up Sports

Management, a trailblazer in organizing Kuwait's inaugural local vertical race, this year's event expanded to feature four competitive races across two challenges: 55 Floors and the 78 Floors. Each challenge had separate categories for men and women, with winners receiving cash prizes.

In the 55 Floors race, the first, second, and third place winners in both the Men's and Women's categories were awarded KD 250, KD 200, and KD 150, respectively. For the more daunting 78 Floors race, the prize values were higher, with KD 350 for first place, KD 250 for second, and KD 150 for third in both categories.

The fierce competition saw Noura Adel emerging victorious in the Women's 78 Floors category, followed by Haya Al Tuwajir and Zahra Mohamed. Similarly,

in the Men's 78 Floors category, Ahmed Bakry clinched the top spot with Abdulhameed Ahmed and Yousef Mahmoud

coming in second and third, respectively. Furthermore, in the Women's 55 Floors category, Farah Adnan claimed



Winners celebrate on the podium.

first place, while Marwa Matar and Sara Al Wohaib finished second and third, respectively. In the Men's 55 Floors category, Ahmed Jaafar became the champions, with Mansour Al Subaiee and Rashed Al Mutairi putting up a spirited challenge but settling for second and third positions, respectively.

Commenting on the occasion, Mrs. Abrar Abdulaziz Al Habeeb, Acting General Manager of Al Hamra Real Estate Co., said: "The success of this year's Peak Race not only underscores our commitment to health and wellness but also aligns with our strategic vision to foster a vibrant community spirit. By integrating sporting events into our community engagement efforts, we aim to cultivate an environment that promotes physical

health as a key component of urban living. Our goal is to make the Peak Race a cornerstone event that galvanizes community participation and showcases the strength and resilience of our people."

Echoing similar sentiments, Yousef Al Fares, Founder of Peak, said: "We express our sincere gratitude to Al Hamra Real Estate for their unwavering support and commitment to promoting sporting activities like this. This partnership, now eight years strong, has proven that Al Hamra is the ideal venue for such events. It has been pivotal in reviving the sports culture in Kuwait. As our strategic partner, Al Hamra's efforts have been instrumental, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration to elevate the health and physical well-being of our community."

Kuwait Club win 12th straight Premier Handball League title



The handball league champions Kuwait Club celebrate on the podium.

Celtics take 2-0 lead in NBA Finals

BOSTON, June 10, (AP) — True Holiday led the scoring. Derrick White added a chase-down block. Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown pitched in, too - with their passing and defense.

The Mavericks can stop worrying about who Boston's best player is. Everyone is contributing to the Celtics' quest for an unprecedented 18th NBA championship.

Holiday had 26 points and 11 rebounds, and White sprinted down the court to swat away the Mavericks' last chance on Sunday night as Boston beat Dallas 105-98 to take a 2-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

Tatum made up for a rough shooting night with 12 assists and nine rebounds to go with his 18 points. Brown scored 21 with three steals, White had 18 points and three steals, and Payton Pritchard's only basket of the game was a banked half-court to beat the third quarter buzzer and give Boston an 83-74 lead.

Doncic, who was listed as questionable to play less than two hours before the opening tipoff, had his 10th career playoff triple-double. But he scored only three points in the fourth, converting a three-point play with 1:15 left as Dallas scored nine in a row to cut a 14-point deficit to 103-98.

BASKETBALL

After Derrick Jones Jr. blocked Tatum's dunk attempt, White ran down the court, joining with Brown to block P.J. Washington's potential dunk. Brown made a layup at the other end, and then Doncic missed a one-footed, running floater from 3-point range with 28 seconds left, ending Dallas' last chance at a comeback.

Games 3 and 4 are Wednesday and Friday in Dallas; Boston has not lost on the road this postseason. It was the ninth time the Celtics have won the opening pair in the NBA Finals: They have won the previous eight, and have never been forced to a Game 7 in any of them.

A day after Kidd attempted to sow dissension in the Celtics locker room by calling Brown - not Tatum, an ALL-NBA first-teamer - the team's best player, Boston showed why it doesn't matter. The two All-Stars combined to make 2 of 12 3-point attempts, but filled up the box score in other ways.

"How they play together is sacred, and something that can't be broken," Holiday said. "I don't prefer one or the other. I prefer both. Because they're both superstars, and they're showing it on the biggest stage in the world."

Kristaps Porzingis limped his way to 12 points for top-seeded Boston. Tatum was 6 for 22 shooting and 1 of 7 from 3-point range; the Celtics were 10 for 39 from long distance overall.

Unlike their 107-89 victory in Game 1, when Boston went 7 for 15 from 3-point range in the first quarter to sprint to a 17-point lead, the Celtics missed their first eight attempts from long range on Sunday. Dallas led the entire first quarter.

Tatum was scoreless in the first and had only five at halftime, when he was still 0 for 3 from 3-point range. Boston was still just 5 for 30 from long distance

Series heads to Dallas



Boston Celtics guard Jaylen Brown (7) drives to the basket past Dallas Mavericks guard Kyrie Irving during the first half of Game 2 of the NBA Finals basketball series in Boston. (AP)



Officials cut the ceremonial cake.

Al-Hasawi honors Al-Qadisiya

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The former president of Al-Qadisiya Club and the Football Association, Fawaz Al-Hasawi, hosted a ceremony to honor the Al-Qadisiya Club's first football team for winning the Amir Cup at his residence in the Yarmouk area. The event was attended by numerous Yellow Castle supporters, including the President of the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee, the former President of the Kuwaiti Football Federation, and the esteemed former President of Al-Qadisiya Club, Sheikh Dr. Talal Al-Fahad. Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Al-Qadisiya Club, Sheikh Fahad Talal Al-Fahad, also participated in the ceremony, joining Al-Hasawi in honoring the players and the administrative and technical staff.

On the sidelines of the celebration, Al-Hasawi also recognized the Al-Qadisiya Club Fans Association for their efforts and support of the club's various teams throughout the sports season. In his opening remarks, Al-Hasawi welcomed all the guests, congratulating the team on winning the prestigious cup. He acknowledged that the victory was somewhat delayed and expressed hope

that this achievement would mark the return of the Yellows to their accustomed successes and championships, a tradition cherished by their dedicated and loyal fans throughout the club's long and storied history.

Sheikh Fahad Talal, in turn, thanked Al-Hasawi for the honor, noting that it was expected from a sports figure who has consistently provided support and attention. He emphasized that Al-Qadisiya Club has always been and

SOCCER

will remain strong due to its committed members, including Fawaz Al-Hasawi, along with its management, fans, and general assembly. He added that with everyone's solidarity, the Yellow Club will overcome all obstacles and difficulties, even those beyond its administration's control. This effort will require doubling their efforts, potentially up to 300%, to address the challenges faced by Al-Qadisiya players and fans due to the evident injustices against them, which are no longer hidden from anyone.

when Pritchard banked in a half-court shot at the third-quarter buzzer to give Boston an 83-74 lead. That excited the crowd,

which previously had spent most of its time serenading Irving with boos - and semi-vulgar chants.

Retirement Ceremony for Faisal Siwan marks end of an era

By Khaled El Anzi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Time Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: The Kuwait Club clinched victory in the 57th edition of the Handball Premier League, following the conclusion of the tenth round of the league. Kuwait Club secured a 35-32 win over Al-Qadisiya, while Kazma triumphed 41-26 over Burgan and Al-Salmiya defeated Al-Arabi 29-22, resulting in an outstanding ranking. The final standings are as follows: Kuwait Club leading with 42 points, Kazma as the runner-up with 36 points, Al-Qadisiya in third place with 33 points, Al-Salmiya fourth with 27 points, Al-Arabi fifth with 25 points, and Burgan in sixth place with 20 points.

With this victory, Kuwait Club affirmed its dominance in local competitions, securing the league shield for the 12th consecutive time and the 14th time in its history, making it the "dean" of Ku-

HANDBALL

waiti handball, a feat unparalleled in history.

The final round of the league also witnessed a retirement ceremony for former national team player and Sulaibikhat Club star, Faisal Siwan, who played from 1992 to 2016, achieving numerous milestones with both the club and national teams he represented. The ceremony was held under the patronage and presence of former Vice President of the National Assembly and Honorary President of Al-Qurain Ahmed Club, Al-Shahoumi, and attended by former National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem, Kuwait Club President Khaled Al-Ghanem, Sulaibikhat Club President Saad Enad Al-Anazi, Secretary Nasser Mansi, Kazma Treasurer Omar Al-Mulla, as well as members of the Handball Federation's Board of Directors and Saudi Handball Federation member Fakher Al-Gashi.

Kuwait Club President Khaled Al-Ghanem extended congratulations to retired player Faisal Siwan, expressing gratitude for his contributions to Kuwaiti handball over the years. He emphasized that this celebration was a fitting tribute to a player who had giv-



Al-Ghanem, Al-Shajoumi and Anad participated in Siwan's retirement.

en so much to his country, attributing the club's 12th consecutive Premier Handball League title to the dedication and hard work of its players, technical and administrative staff, labeling them as the golden generation of handball in the White Castle. He pledged to maintain the club's leadership position in the sport.

Secretary of the Handball Association, Qayed Al-Adwan, congratulated Kuwait Club for winning the league, Kazma Club for securing the runner-up position, and Al-Qadisiya Club for finishing third, commending the collective effort put forth throughout the season.

Mubarak Al-Daihani, a member of the Association's Board of Directors, extended congratulations on the successful handball season, wishing success to all clubs, while Omar Al-Mulla, Kazma Treasurer, congratulated Kazma fans for their team's runner-up position, expresses grati-

tude to the club's administration for their support and praising the players and staff.

On another note, the delegation of the Arab Handball Federation visited Al-Arabi Club Hall in Mansouriya to assess preparations for hosting the 39th Arab Club Handball Championship, scheduled to take place from September 15-25. The reigning champion, Kuwait Club, will participate in the tournament, with Al-Arabi hosting and Al-Qadisiya ranking third in the league. Ali Ach, a member of Al-Arabi Club, expressed positivity about the visit, stating that the club is overcoming obstacles to ensure a successful tournament, welcoming Kuwait's guests to this prestigious Arab event.

MOTOR RACING

MONTREAL, June 10, (AP) — Max Verstappen won the Canadian Grand Prix for the third straight year Sunday for the Red Bull star's 60th Formula 1 victory and sixth in nine races this season.

Verstappen started second in the rain alongside pole-sitter George Russell and dominated late again at Circuit

Gilles Villeneuve on Ile Notre-Dame. The 26-year-old Dutchman has a staggering 50 victories in the last 75 F1 races.

Verstappen finished 3.879 seconds ahead of McLaren's Lando Norris in the 70-lap race on the 2.71-mile (4.36-kilometer) road course. Last year, Verstappen started from the pole and led every lap.

The race Sunday started with a soaking wet track before the sun emerged 10 minutes in, but rain showers returned periodically throughout the afternoon.

"It's a lot of fun to drive these kinds of races now and then," Verstappen said. "You don't want it all the time because that's too stressful. But I had a lot of fun out there today."

Norris lost a 10-second lead when Logan Sargeant brought out the safety car on Lap 26.

"We should have won the race today and we didn't so, frustrating," Norris said. "We had the pace. We should have won today. It's as simple as that." Mercedes took the third and fourth spots, with Russell third and seventh-time Montreal winner Lewis Hamilton fourth. Oscar Piastri was fifth for McLaren, followed by Aston Martin drivers Fernando Alonso and Lance Stroll, the lone Canadian in the race.



Red Bull Racing driver Max Verstappen, of the Netherlands, competes at the Formula 1 Canadian Grand Prix auto race in Montreal. (AP)



India's Jasprit Bumrah (right), celebrates the dismissal of Pakistan's captain Babar Azam during the ICC Men's T20 World Cup cricket match between India and Pakistan at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in Westbury, New York. (AP)

Sports

Latest sports scores at — <http://sports.arabtimesonline.com>

India push Pakistan to the brink of elimination

Pace bowler Bumrah stars

WESTBURY, June 10, (AP): India was in a desperate situation, needing a moment or two of genius to defend a low total against cricket archrival Pakistan at the Twenty20 World Cup.

Skipper Rohit Sharma gave the ball to Jasprit Bumrah, relying on his go-to pace bowler to take the wicket Sunday that would swing the match into India's favor.

The noise and excitement lifted in the capacity crowd at Long Island, with India fans outnumbering supporters from Pakistan.

And Bumrah delivered, later saying after returning match figures of three wickets for 14 runs that it felt like he was playing in India.

Chasing a seemingly meager target of 120, Pakistan was cruising at 80-3 after 14 overs before Bumrah cannoned a ball into the stumps to dismiss Pakistan's top-scorer Mohammad Rizwan for 31. He added the wicket of Ifthikhar Ahmed off the last ball of a terrific spell.

And so after bowling India out for 119 in 19 overs, Pakistan was restricted to 113-7 in 20 overs in the low-scoring thriller. India's six-run win put Pakistan, the 2022 runners-up, on the brink of a group-stage exit.

"Bumrah is going from strength to strength," Sharma, India's captain, said. "I'm not going to talk too much about him - we want him to be in that kind of mindset until the end of this World Cup."

"He's a genius with the ball." After being shocked by co-host United States in the Super Over at Dallas in its opening game, Pakistan recovered well to contain India's powerful batting lineup after the start was delayed almost an hour by rain at Nassau County International Cricket Stadium.

CRICKET

The batters seemed to be handling the tricky, uneven pitch conditions well until Bumrah re-entered the attack for his third over.

From there, Pakistan's middle-order batters were squeezed so much in the so-called death overs that it could hit only two boundaries in the last 36 deliveries.

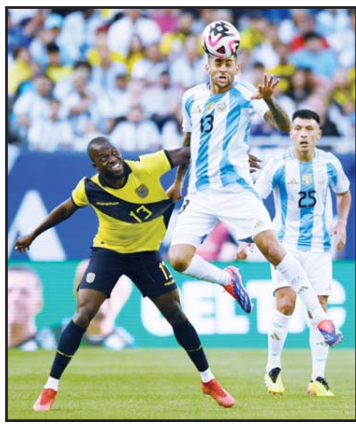
Needing 18 off the last over, Naseem Shah (10 not out) smashed Arshdeep Singh for two boundaries before he left the field with tears in his eyes and was consoled by his batting partner Shaheen Shah Afridi.

It was the second-lowest total ever successfully defended at the men's T20 World Cup. It was the lowest total India had ever defended in a full T20 international, and helped extend its mark to 7-1 in T20 internationals against Pakistan.

India beat Ireland by eight wickets in its opening game at the same ground and leads Group A with four points and a better net-run rate than the U.S. team, which also has four points from its wins over Canada and Pakistan.

Only two teams from each of the four groups advance to the second stage. So Pakistan needs to win its remaining games against Canada and Ireland and also hope results of other group games go in its favor to progress to the Super 8s.

"The pressure was on us," Pakistan captain Babar Azam said. "You can't expect too much from tailenders. We were not up to the



Argentina's Cristian Romero (13) battles Ecuador's Enner Valencia (13) for a header during the second half of an international friendly soccer match in Chicago. (AP)

Di Maria on 'target' in Argentina victory

CHICAGO, June 10, (AP): Angel Di Maria scored as Lionel Messi returned to the international stage for the first time in six months, helping Argentina to a 1-0 victory over Ecuador in a Copa America warmup match on Sunday night.

Messi was sidelined for the first half before replacing Di Maria in the 56th minute. A right hamstring injury kept the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner and Inter Miami star from participating in Argentina's previous two Copa America warmup matches against El Salvador and Costa Rica in March.

"Sometimes there is no need to risk it, not only with Leo. It is about taking care of them so that they arrive in optimal conditions," Argentina head coach Lionel Scaloni said of his decision to sit Messi for the first half.

With Messi watching from the bench, Di Maria sent a reverse pass from Christian Romero into the net to open the scoring in the 40th minute.

"It helps to play against a rival like that, especially because Ecuador plays at a high level, they make it difficult for anyone," Scaloni said. "And we needed to get together, compete, add minutes and feel the sensation of putting on the shirt before a Cup that is going to be difficult."

mark in the first six overs, we had targeted 40-45 runs, but we couldn't capitalize properly."

Pakistan's bowlers gave their team the advantage, with Naseem Shah and Haris Rauf each returning figures of 3-21 and Mohammad Amir, who came out of retirement for the World Cup, grabbing 2-23.

Rishabh Pant, who was dropped twice in a top-scoring knock of 42 off 31 balls, was one of only three India batters to reach double figures, along with Axar Patel (20) and Sharma (13).

India batting great Virat Kohli lasted just three balls. He struck a boundary off Shah's first ball before he mistimed another big drive off the fast bowler and was caught in the covers.

Drop-in pitches with variable bounce at the purpose-built 34,000 capacity stadium have been in focus since the tournament began, giving little respite to the batters so far in a cricket format that is really designed



India's Rishabh Pant (left), plays a shot during the ICC Men's T20 World Cup cricket match between India and Pakistan at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in Westbury, New York. (AP)

Ibrahim's chances of playing slim, but Al-Hajri ready to step in

Kuwait must win and hope for India stumble

By Khaled El Anzi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Kuwait aims for nothing less than victory as it hosts Afghanistan at 6:45 pm at Ali Sabah Al-Salem Stadium in Al-Nasr Club, during the sixth and final round of Group A competitions in the joint Asian qualifiers for the 2026 World Cup in the USA, Mexico, and Canada, and the 2027 Asian Cup in Saudi Arabia.

SOCCER

However, victory alone will not suffice for Kuwait to secure a spot in the Asian Cup finals in Saudi Arabia or advance to the decisive round of World Cup qualifiers. The team also needs India to stumble against Qatar, either by drawing or losing. India faces Qatar in Doha at the same time.

The Qatar has already secured the first qualification ticket, leading the standings with 13 points. India and Afghanistan each have 5 points, one point ahead of Kuwait, which is fourth in the standings.

Kuwait began its qualifying campaign with a surprising defeat against India last November at Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium, losing by a single goal. It then recovered to defeat Afghanistan 4-0. However, it stumbled in the third and fourth rounds, winning 3-0 and 2-1 respectively. Kuwait recently drew 0-0 with India in the fifth



Kuwait team led by the head coach holds a press conference on the eve of the decisive match against Afghanistan.

round.

In recent training sessions, Al-Azraq's Portuguese coach Rui Pinto has focused on addressing the mistakes made against India, particularly the tendency of some players to play individually. He also emphasized the importance of capitalizing on opportunities, as missing chances cost Al-Azraq two points against India, which would have made qualification easier without relying on a "Qatari gift."

Today's lineup might see some changes due to the decline in performance of some players. Khaled Ibrahim's chances of playing are slim, but

Fahd Al-Hajri is ready to step in.

Pinto stated that Kuwait's preparations for the upcoming match are consistent with its approach in previous qualifiers.

During a press conference at Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium, Pinto mentioned, "We have addressed some of the issues that Al-Azraq faced in the past," emphasizing that all players are ready for the match.

He continued, "We now have an identity, and the team is progressing positively," acknowledging the challenging nature of the match and their commitment to striving for the best

possible outcome.

Pinto conceded, "We are not satisfied with the recent results, but we deserved to win against Qatar and India in the last two rounds."

He added, "Last year, we played several matches on FIFA days, which helped improve our world ranking."

Eid Al-Rashidi, expressed the team's readiness for the decisive confrontation.

Al-Rashidi stated, "We will work to achieve victory regardless of the outcome of the India-Qatar match."

He confirmed the team's strong desire to advance to the next rounds after a long absence.

He continued, "We aim to meet the expectations of our loyal Blue fans, and we need their support today."

On the other side, Afghanistan needs a win to achieve a "historic qualification." A draw today, combined with an Indian loss or draws against Qatar, would also secure its qualification.

Afghanistan started the qualifiers with heavy losses to Qatar (1-8) and Kuwait (0-4). After changing its technical staff and appointing English coach Ashley Westwood, it tied with India 0-0, then beat India 2-1, and tied with Qatar 0-0 in the last round.

Today's match will be officiated by a Japanese referee team led by Kimura Hiroyuki, assisted by Asada Takeshi and Takebe Yusuke, with the fourth referee being Kasahara Hiroki. The Iranian referee observer is Hassan Kamrani Far, and the Emirati match observer is Hamad Al Mazrouei.



Kuwait youth artistic gymnastics team.

Kuwait's Behbehani clinches gold, bronze at Salmanov International Championship

KUWAIT CITY, June 10: Kuwaiti youth artistic gymnastics team member Abdullah Behbehani achieved significant results at the Salmanov International Championship, which concluded in Slovenia. Behbehani secured two medals: one gold and one bronze, along with a fourth-place finish in the overall individual competition.

GYMNASTICS

Muhammad Al-Daihani, head of the Kuwaiti team delegation and a member of the Federation's Board of Directors, highlighted Behbehani's achievements. The tournament, which began last week, featured strong competition from 22 players representing seven advanced countries in gymnastics: Croatia, Slovenia, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Serbia, and Sierra Leone.

Al-Daihani detailed Behbehani's success, mentioning his gold medal in the vault competition and bronze in the horizontal bar competition, noting that Behbehani "made a strong impression in this tournament, which is recognized by the International Federation of Gymnastics." He praised Behbehani's dedication and continual improvement, attributing part of this success to the significant efforts of the Ukrainian national team's coach, Vitaly Arsenyev, in en-

Mahuchikh defends high jump title

ROME, June 10, (AP): One Ukrainian medal in the high jump was expected. A second was a pleasant surprise for the war-torn country.

Yaroslava Mahuchikh met expectations by following up her world title with a second consecutive European Championship gold.

And she was joined on the podium this time by her teammate Iryna Gerashchenko.

The pair ended their night at the Stadio Olimpico celebrating with the Ukrainian flag draped over their shoulders.

"We all are fighting for our people, for our soldiers. We want to show every person in the world that we will continue fighting, that war in Ukraine it's not finished unfortunately," Mahuchikh said.

hancing the athletes' skills.

Additionally, Al-Daihani commended the support from the General Sports Authority and the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee for their backing of the team in all international competitions.

He also acknowledged the "positive participation and good performance" of players Musa Al-Sahhaf, Saud Al-

"We should fight in every field to show that Ukraine is strongest."

Mahuchikh, who wore blue and yellow eyeliners, cleared 2.01 meters on her second attempt. The silver medal went to 18-year-old Angelina Topic of Serbia at 1.95. Geraschenko, whose ponytail was tied up in a blue and yellow ribbon, took bronze at 1.95.

ATHLETICS

The only big thing missing for Mahuchikh - who claimed bronze at the Tokyo Games - is an Olympic gold. And she'll get her chance to chase the biggest honor in the sport when the Paris Games open in less than 50 days.

Rudaini, Hussein Dashti, and Saud Al-Sanawi. Special mention was given to Fatima Al-Nama from the girls' artistic gymnastics team, who competed strongly against 46 players, presenting a positive image of girls' artistic gymnastics. This was her first participation in an international tournament at this level.