



Prince William reveals King Charles 'hates football' on podcast

AFP | Washington, United States

Prince William revealed that his father King Charles "hates football" in an appearance on Travis Kelce's podcast that aired Friday, just hours before the NFL star was due to celebrate his marriage to



pop megastar Taylor Swift.

The World Cup, rather than the wedding, was the main theme of the chat with Kelce and his co-host brother Jason Kelce, with the prince saying he would travel to the competition in the United States if England made it into the final.

The prince is known as a fan of the Premiership side Aston Villa and, when asked if King Charles was the one who got him interested, he responded: "Absolutely not. My father hates football."

Thanks to a powerhouse performance from team captain and FC Bayern Munich striker Harry Kane, who made two late

goals against DR Congo, England is in the round of 16.

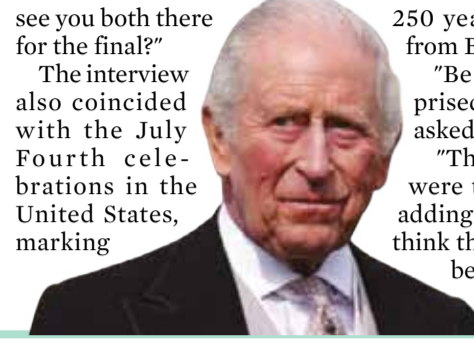
The "Three Lions" are slated to play Mexico at high-altitude Azteca Stadium on Sunday.

When Kelce asked if the Prince of Wales would cross "the pond" to see the final if England makes it that far, William said "definitely."

"If we're in the finals...maybe

see you both there for the final?"

The interview also coincided with the July Fourth celebrations in the United States, marking



250 years of independence from Britain.

"Be honest, are you surprised we made it?" Kelce asked.

"There were times...there were times," William said, adding "yeah, but I'd like to think the UK and the US have been together for those 250 years."

French Open champ Zverev into Wimbledon last 16

London, United Kingdom

Alexander Zverev moved a step closer to reaching the Wimbledon quarter-finals for the first time as the French Open champion beat Marcos Giron in the third round on Saturday.

Zverev, seeded second, has failed to go beyond the fourth round in his past nine visits to the All England Club.

But the 29-year-old German is on course to end that frustrating streak this year.

Fresh from finally winning his maiden Grand Slam title on clay at Roland Garros in June, Zverev is looking more comfortable than ever on the grass courts of south-west London.

He dispatched 92-ranked Giron 6-2, 7-6 (7/4), 6-4 on Court One and will face Czech 13th seed Jiri Lehecka in the last 16.

"He plays fantastic on grass. I knew I had to be 100 percent ready from the first point and I'm very happy to be through in straight sets," Zverev said.

"Winning in Paris, coming here with a title, it helps. It was my first one and I want to keep going."



Colombia overcome Ghana to reach World Cup last 16

AFP | Kansas City, United States

Wasteful Colombia saw off toothless Ghana 1-0 on Friday to become the final team to qualify for the World Cup last 16.

The South Americans dominated the game at Arrowhead Stadium and had eight shots on target but ended up with just Jhon Arias's early goal to show for their superiority.

Now they can look forward to a meeting with Switzerland in Vancouver on Tuesday and a chance to reach the quarter-finals.

Ghana midfielder Thomas Partey fizzed a shot just wide in the opening minute but that proved a false dawn for the African nation.

Colombia were forced into an early change when Jhon Cordoba pulled up with an apparent groin injury and was replaced by Luis Suarez.

Minutes later Ghana were forced into a change of their own when Aliou Seidu came on for the stricken Marvin

Senaya.

Colombia went ahead in the 14th minute after substitute Suarez showed persistence on the right flank and crossed for an unmarked Arias to steer home.

That gave Carlos Queiroz's goal-shy Black Stars, who scored just twice in the group phase, a major headache.

Colombia, roared on by a partisan crowd in Kansas City, continued to dominate, playing fluid, inventive football as they searched for a second goal.

Bayern Munich forward Luis Diaz had a won-

derful chance to double Colombia's lead in the 39th minute but scuffed his shot wide.

Early in first-half stoppage time Ghana goalkeeper Lawrence Ati Zigi produced a superb save from Johan Mojica's downward header.

The half-time numbers made grim reading for Ghana -- not a single shot on target and less than half of Colombia's 319 completed passes -- but they were still in the game.

Colombia made hard work of the second peri-

od, squandering a number of opportunities to finish off their opponents.

Diaz put the ball in the net but was flagged offside before striking another shot straight at Zigi.

As time ticked down, Juan Quintero flashed a powerful shot wide but one goal turned out to be enough against a side that failed to muster a single shot on target.

Diaz, named man of the match, said Colombia were improving game by game, though he admitted they needed to be sharper in front of goal.

Colombia's midfielder #16 Jefferson Lerma and defender #02 Daniel Munoz fight for the ball with Ghana's forward #11 Antoine Semeno during the 2026 World Cup round of 32 football match between Colombia and Ghana at the Kansas City Stadium in Kansas City



Serena Williams pulls out of Wimbledon doubles with knee injury

London, United Kingdom

Serena Williams' Wimbledon comeback is over after the American legend pulled out of the doubles due to a knee injury on Saturday.

Williams and her sister Venus were due to play in the first round on Saturday, but Serena announced just hours before the match that her knee had not healed enough to play.

"I'm heartbroken to have to withdraw from doubles," the 44-year-old said on Instagram.

Serena, a 23-time Grand Slam singles champion, suffered the injury during her defeat against Australia's Maya Joint in the first round of the Wimbledon singles on Tuesday.

That was her first singles match since the 2022 US Open after four years in retirement.

The sisters, who won the Wimbledon doubles six times, were scheduled to face Solana Sierra and Camila Osorio after being given a wildcard entry into the event.

Egypt's forward #10 Mohamed Salah (L) shoots and scores past Australia's goalkeeper #01 Mathew Ryan



Salah says 'had to do it' after coolest of penalties in World Cup win

AFP | Arlington, United States

Nerveless Mohamed Salah said he decided only at the last moment to chip in his penalty under massive pressure to help Egypt into the World Cup last 16 on Friday.

The former Liverpool superstar and Egypt captain stepped up third in the shootout for his country and scored a "Panen-

ka" as they beat Australia 4-2 on penalties after the game ended 1-1 in Texas.

Egypt, who won a World Cup knockout game for the first time, face Lionel Messi's Argentina or Cape Verde next.

The 34-year-old Salah was clearly hampered by a hamstring strain, but played the whole 120 minutes and stepped up for his country when they

needed him.

"If somebody was going to do it, it would be me. I am more experienced than others and I wanted to give them confidence," said Salah, who had looked emotional afterwards.

"I decided last minute, I had to do it."

Salah proclaimed "history" for Egypt and told his team-

mates to enjoy it, after the great underachievers of African football finally made their mark on the biggest stage.

Salah could well be at his last World Cup, and said: "I always try to enjoy every moment because it does not come back."

"So I always tell the boys, 'just enjoy the moment', and probably we'll see tonight in

a few minutes how we're going to celebrate outside the bus now.

"But we can't take it for granted because Egypt -- I don't know how many times I've said the word -- but it's never before we qualified in a group stage and never qualified for the next round, so it's just a moment to enjoy." Egypt coach Hossam Hassan had said on Thursday

that he was "not sure" if the talisman would be fit to start.

But Hassan named him in a starting XI that also included Manchester City's Omar Marmoush in attack.

Aside from his penalty in the shootout, Salah has one goal and two assists so far at the tournament in North America and averages a goal every other game for his country.