



Two more silos at Beirut port collapse
 Reuters

At least two more silos at Beirut's port collapsed on yesterday, according to witnesses, as crowds gathered at the site to mark two years since an explosion there.

The remnants of the massive silos began to crumble this week, with several collapsing on Sunday and officials saying more of the structures could collapse at any time.

The collapse occurred an hour before hundreds of people were to gather outside the facility to mark the 2nd anniversary of the blast. Authorities have evacuated parts of the port earlier this week as a precautionary measure and there was no indication that anyone was hurt.

The 50-year-old, 48 meters (157 feet) tall silos had withstood the force of the explosion two years ago that destroyed much of the port.

Many in Lebanon, including families of the victims, have been demanding that the silos be kept for future generations to witness the result of one of the largest non-nuclear explosions in history



BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED

10186122

ACTIVE CASES

4014

DEATHS

1511

DISCHARGED

656045

NEW CASES

454

CRITICAL

4

220 fils (includes VAT)



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His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, holds a discussion with the President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiques Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa

China fires missiles near Taiwan in drills after Pelosi visit



P6

Monkeypox shots ready

Bahrain offers free monkeypox vaccines, opens pre-registration, vaccination is voluntary

● **Priority now for health workers, high-risk group**

● **More vaccines on the way, says MoH**

TDT | Manama



Dr. Jalila bint Sayed Jawad, the Minister of Health

Bahrain has come out with all guns blazing once again, after battling the COVID-19 pandemic successfully, this time against the rapidly spreading monkeypox virus, with vaccines free of charge against the 'viral zoonotic' infection for both citizens and residents.

Vaccination against the infection, declared by the World Health Organisation as a global health emergency, is voluntary, said the Ministry of Health.

However, the ministry said the Kingdom has only limited stock now. Hence, priority is for groups, including "frontline health workers and those at high risk of exposure."

But there are no reasons to worry. More vaccines are on the way, the ministry assures.

"Upcoming shipments will be for citizens and residents who wish to take the vaccine," MoH confirms, adding it will be free of charge.

Citizens and residents, to register, call 24/7 hotline 444 or log

on to healthalert.gov.bh.

Bahrain has also recently announced receiving monkeypox diagnostic kits from WHO.

Bahrain is taking up this new mission after successfully battling the COVID-19 that claimed

over 1,500 lives in the Kingdom and 6,428,581 lives worldwide. The Kingdom vaccinated nearly 85% of its population against the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. As of Wednesday, 998,092 people took booster doses and 1,224,396 second doses in the Kingdom.

As with COVID-19, Bahrain is also not leaving behind anyone in the monkeypox battle.

Ministry said the vaccine is for the safety and security of all citizens and residents.

Bahrain has also recently introduced monkeypox testing, isolation and treatment protocols based on WHO recommendations and standards.

It says those who have the virus or are suspected to have contracted should stay in isolation for 21 days. Authorised officials could decrease or increase the isolation based on a health condition.

No clarification is, however, available on the vaccine types available for vaccinating against monkeypox. Canada, the European Union, and the United States have authorised a smallpox vaccine, MVA-BN, for use in monkeypox prevention. LC16 and ACAM2000, two more vac-

cines, are also being explored for monkeypox prevention.

Europe is currently the epicentre of the monkeypox outbreak that is unlikely to disrupt international trade or travel.

Despite all this, the virus is not new. Scientists first discovered monkeypox in 1958 in captive monkeys used for research in Denmark. Officials confirmed the first case of a human infected with the virus in 1970 in Zaire, now called the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Also, know that monkeypox is in the same virus family as smallpox, though it causes a milder disease.

What are the symptoms of monkeypox?

While some people have mild symptoms, others may develop more serious symptoms and need care in a health facility.

Those at higher risk for severe disease or complications include people who are pregnant, children and persons that are immunocompromised.

The most common symptoms of monkeypox include fever, headache, muscle aches, back pain, and genital and/or anal regions of the body. The number of lesions can range from one to several thousand. Lesions begin flat, then fill with liquid before they crust over, dry up and fall off, with a fresh layer of skin forming underneath.

The rash can be found on the face, palms of the hands, soles of the feet, eyes, mouth, throat, groin, and genital and/or anal regions of the body. The number of lesions can range from one to several thousand. Lesions begin flat, then fill with liquid before they crust over, dry up and fall off, with a fresh layer of skin forming underneath. Symptoms typically last two to three weeks and usually go away on their own or with supportive care, such as medication for pain or fever. People remain infectious until all the lesions have crusted over, the scabs fallen off and a new layer of skin has formed underneath.

Stellar gymnastics

James Webb captures stunning images of Cartwheel Galaxy

TDT | NASA

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope has peered into the chaos of the Cartwheel Galaxy, revealing new details about star formation and the galaxy's central black hole. Webb's powerful infrared gaze produced this detailed image of the Cartwheel and two smaller companion galaxies against a backdrop of many other galaxies. The image provides a new view of how the Cartwheel Galaxy has changed over billions of years.

The Cartwheel Galaxy, locat-

ed about 500 million light-years away in the Sculptor constellation, is a rare sight. Its appearance, much like that of the wheel of a wagon, is the result of an intense event - a high-speed collision between a large spiral galaxy and a smaller galaxy not visible in this image. Collisions of galactic proportions cause

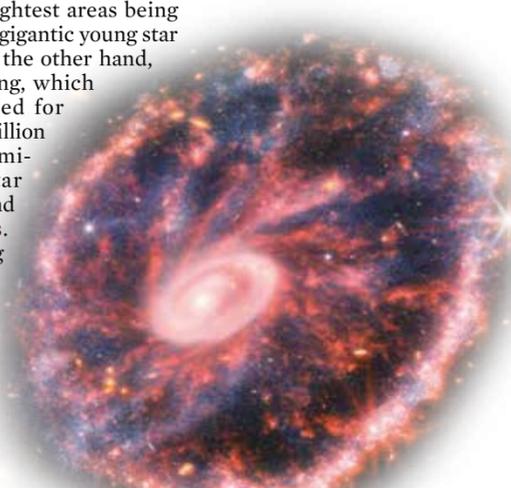


a cascade of different, smaller events between the galaxies involved; the Cartwheel is no exception.

The Cartwheel Galaxy sports two rings - a bright inner ring and a surrounding, colourful ring. These two rings expand outwards from the centre of the collision, like ripples in a pond after a stone is tossed into it. Because of these distinctive features, astronomers call this a "ring galaxy," a structure less common than spiral galaxies like our Milky Way.

The bright core contains a tremendous amount of hot dust

with the brightest areas being the home to gigantic young star clusters. On the other hand, the outer ring, which has expanded for about 440 million years, is dominated by star formation and supernovas. As this ring expands, it ploughs into surrounding gas and triggers star formation.



BETTER YOU KNOW

Why is this disease called 'monkeypox'?
 The disease is called monkeypox because it was first identified in colonies of monkeys kept for research in 1958. It was only later detected in humans in 1970.

Qatar yet to respond to Bahrain's calls, but doors are still open, says Foreign Minister

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Foreign Minister yesterday expressed the keenness of the Kingdom on continuing its brotherly ties with Qatar, saying that the "doors are still open for dialogue."

Bahrain, Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al-Zayani, has invited our brothers in Qatar for talks on multiple occasions to settle "outstanding issues."

However, "the State of Qatar has not responded to the calls made by the Kingdom of Bahrain so far," said the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Bahrain took the initiative following the decision made at Al Ula, the minister said, adding that Kingdom wants stability, growth and prosperity to prevail in the region.

"It's not right to leave pending



matters without taking action," the minister said.

"Therefore, the responsibility

rests with the brothers in Qatar who failed to acknowledge the invitations addressed to them



The responsibility rests with the brothers in Qatar who did not respond to the repeated invitations addressed to them by the Kingdom. Bahrain is keen on brotherly relations with Qatar, and the door is still open for dialogue

DR ABDULLATIF BIN RASHID AL-ZAYANI,
THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

by the Kingdom," the minister said, stressing the need for talks on matters including Bahraini fishermen, maritime coordina-

tion, aviation and others.

"We still hope Qatar will respond to Kingdom's call to settle contentious issues through dialogue and direct negotiations," the minister said.

The minister also appreciated the response of Qatar to Bahrain's decision to allow entry to all GCC citizens using ID cards or passports without any prior arrangements.

The minister was speaking during a meeting with editors of local newspapers.

On GCC security, the minister, citing the directive of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, said it is a great challenge that requires close cooperation.

"It's for which the summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council has called for financial and mon-

etary unity between member states by 2025," the minister stressed.

In this regard, the minister also pointed out that peace, sustainable development, and human rights are the pillars of Bahrain's foreign policy.

The minister also stressed the importance of the speech made by HM the King at the Jeddah Summit, which highlighted the need for stabilising energy prices and supporting initiatives aimed at exporting grain and wheat.

Bahrain, the minister said, believes that sanctions are not a way to solve problems.

"Solutions to problems can form only at the dialogue table and through peaceful efforts."

The minister also expressed his satisfaction at the restarting of grain export from Russia and Ukraine.

Speaker hails one-China policy



Speaker Fawzia bint Abdullah Zainal yesterday affirmed Bahrain's position towards the one-China policy and wished the country further progress and security. The speaker was meeting the Chinese Ambassador to Bahrain Anwaer Habibullah. The meeting discussed enhancing Bahraini-Chinese cooperation and developing parliamentary action between the House of Representatives and its Chinese counterpart. The ambassador expressed his country's appreciation of the Kingdom's development of bilateral relations based on close historical relations and common interests.



Ahmed Al Fateh Islamic Centre head Nawaf Rashid Al Rashed received US Ambassador to Bahrain Steven Bondy during his visit to the centre. The ambassador toured the centre and was briefed on its features and facilities. Al Fateh, with its distinctive Islamic architect, is the largest mosque in Bahrain. The ambassador expressed his admiration for the Islamic calligraphy at Al Fateh Mosque and for its status as a cultural landmark in the Kingdom. Following the visit, the US Embassy tweeted, "Ambassador Bondy visits the Al Fateh Grand Mosque in #Manama to underscore the United States support for interfaith dialogue and religious tolerance."

Affordable housing now more attractive

● **Ministry doubles minimum financing, expands upper limit**

● **Upper age limit raised from 35 to 40 years**

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Housing yesterday announced doubling the minimum financing available for housing beneficiaries from

BD19,000 to BD40,000.

The ministry has also increased the ceiling of the maximum finance amount from BD60,000 to BD70,000.

The move aims at raising the number of beneficiaries of housing services.

The previous scheme allowed obtaining finance based on an applicant's monthly income and paying 25% of the salary. "This will be raised to 30% of even 35% of income, given the maximum amount does not exceed BD70,000."

Financing is now available for six different purposes, including

buying a house, land, building, extending an existing building, buying and building on the land, and purchasing a building and then renovating it.

In the previous scheme, financing was limited to construction on land owned by a beneficiary. Buying a home or financing renovations were complimentary services.

The new scheme further allows beneficiaries to mortgage common shares in a property as a guarantee for the banks instead of providing separate documents for the property.

Financing is not limited to the

housing bank but includes participating banks now, allowing beneficiaries to secure additional funds.

A newly created category in the Mazaya programme now allows beneficiaries greater flexibility to choose the most appropriate financing to purchase or build a house, buy land or buy and build on a plot.

The ceiling of finance is determined considering beneficiaries' age and deduction rate.

The age limit has also been raised from 21 to 40 years, against the current scheme where it's 21 to 35 years.



Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) Chairman Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed met with the main partner of operations at Haya Power & Desalination Company (AI Dur II IWPP) located in Al Dur and ACWA Power Board of Directors Chairman Mohammad Abdullah Abunayyan. EWA chairman stressed the keenness to move forward towards developing the electricity and water sector by adopting initiatives and programs that ensure the growth of electricity and water consumption and attract investments to the sector, in line with Bahrain's urban, industrial, and commercial expansion.

Mall of Dilmunia now gold-level "Healthy Mall"



The award ceremony

TDT | Manama

Mall of Dilmunia has become a gold-level "Healthy Mall" for meeting the criteria of the "Healthy Mall" programme set by the Health Promotion Directorate.

The recognition came as Health Ministry's Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health, Dr Mariam Al Hajri, and Health Promotion Director, Dr Wafa Al-Sharbati, visited the Mall yesterday.

Officials presented the certificate to the Mall Chief Executive Officer, Shaikh Mohammed bin Duaij Al Khalifa.

Dr Al-Hajri commended the

efforts exerted by the management of the Mall of Dilmunia to promote healthy lifestyles, raising breastfeeding and other services for those with special needs.

The "Healthy Mall" programme is one of the initiatives launched by the Ministry of Health within the National Plan for the Promotion of National Belonging and Consolidation of Citizenship Values (Bahrainouna).

Out of 24 commercial outlets that have participated in this year's edition, ten received the gold level, and ten silver, while the remaining four are still working to meet preset criteria.

Education Minister approves scholarships for academic year 2022-'23

TDT | Manama

Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, the Minister of Education, yesterday approved the names of scholarship winners for the academic year 2022 - 2023.

Outstanding students, graduates of public and private schools, who had secured a cumulative average of 95% or more, received the scholarships. The applicants who had an average of 90% to 94.9% were awarded scholarships in various disciplines, following approved criteria.

This year, the minister said, there were no ability tests and considered only cumulative av-



erage for awarding scholarships.

The ministry also stressed plans to consider students who memorised the Holy Quran, students with special needs, and talented and distinguished stu-

dents in school activities.

Dana Abdullah Bouasli, Head of Scholarships, said students can use their secret numbers obtained for registering to know the winners on the ministry's website www.moe.gov.bh from today until next Friday.

To complete procedures for confirming scholarships, students should send the required documents for verification. Email ids are pub_uni_grants@moe.bh for scholarship recipients at the University of Bahrain and priv_uni_grants@moe.bh for local universities.

Winners of scholarships outside the Kingdom must bring

their documents to the scholarships and grants section at the Auditors Services Centre in the ministry's building in Isa Town.

For enquiries (8am to 1pm), call 17873048 - 17873046 - 17873280 - 17875177.

To contact the technical support team, call 17278417 - 17278269 - 17278892 - 17278236 or email it.support@moe.gov.bh.

The Ministry of Education had also called on students nominated for the next academic year to send their forms with required documents to new_grants_2022@moe.bh from September 1 to October 31, 2022.

Two held with fake currency, printing machines, police say

TDT | Manama

Police are investigating two men who are allegedly involved in circulating fake currency notes in the Kingdom.

The suspects were caught red-handed with 30,000 Bahraini dinars and equipment used for printing them.

The accused are currently in police custody.

Police are currently investigating the suspects with financial crimes and money laundering department.

Head of the Capital Governorate Prosecution said the men



had also allegedly defrauded undisclosed amounts from people here.

The first suspect, police said, confessed to using various devices for printing the counterfeit notes.

The public Prosecution has ordered

their pre-trial detention pending further investigation.

Prosecutors ordered to seize the equipment and sent them for expert examination.

The investigation is ongoing.

Some of the ill effects that counterfeit money has on society include a reduction in the

value of real money; an increase in prices due to more money getting circulated in the economy; a decrease in the acceptability of paper money; and losses when traders are not reimbursed for counterfeit money detected by banks, even if it is confiscated.



In 1964, the Bahrain Currency Board was established and issued a new family of Bahraini Dinar banknotes and coins on 7th October 1965. The new banknotes and coins, which replaced the Gulf Rupee, contained the following note denominations: BD10, BD5, BD1, BD1/2 and BD1/4 with coin denominations as follows, 100fils, 50 fils, 25 fils, 10 fils, 5 fils and 1 fil.

In March 1993 new security features were added to the Bahraini Dinar to develop the currency and protect it from the counterfeit processes. With that, a new family of banknotes were issued BD20, BD10, BD5, BD1 and BD1/2 along with the coins, 100fils, 50 fils, 25 fils, 10 fils and 5 fils.

Drug lord, his delivery rider gets 10 years in jail

TDT | Manama

A Bahrain judge has sentenced a man, an Asian national designated as a drug lord, to 10 years in prison.

The High Criminal Court also awarded ten years to another man who, police said, was a delivery agent for the drug lord.

The court also slapped a fine of BD10,000 each on both of them.

Three other men implicated in the same case received a much lighter sentence of six months in prison on charges of drug abuse.

Police said they arrested the suspects following a tip-off received.

The information said that a



U.S. Coast Guardsmen on Aug. 1, 2014, aboard the maritime security cutter, a large USCGC Stratton, remove an estimated 12,000 pounds of marijuana in San Diego.

group of men are peddling heroin in the Kingdom.

After verifying the correctness of the information, police said they assigned an undercover agent to get in touch with the suspects. The agent posing as a buyer approached the suspects and established a relationship.

After winning their confidence, the agent also placed a BD50 worth order with them and agreed to make the payment at a place of choice.

On the day of the deal, even though police waited for the first suspect, setting a trap, the drug lord didn't come. Instead, he sent the second suspect with the drugs to complete the deal.

Police took him into custody

as soon as he handed over the heroin to the undercover agent and took the money.

During interrogation, officers said the suspect confessed to his crimes and revealed the whereabouts of the main suspect.

After securing a warrant, police raided the man's hiding and detained him alongside three others. The trio turned out positive for using drugs during a medical examination.

The court also ordered the deportation of all the men after completing jail terms.

Transit points

According to the United Nations, Turkey acts as a prominent transit country for heroin.

The UN report also refers to the high levels of amphetamine seizures in recent years. The report says amphetamine seizures from countries in the Middle East continue to refer predominantly to tablets bearing the Captagon logo. The nature of the psychoactive ingredients in such tablets is not always clear, but reports suggest that amphetamine trafficked from South-East Europe is the main ingredient in Captagon tablets found in the Middle East, frequently alongside caffeine. Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Syria serve as important transit points, the report adds. In North Africa, large seizures of cannabis herb are reported from Morocco.

Woman gets a month in prison for shooting, acting in obscene video

● Court acquitted a second suspect

● Dismissed charges of misusing phone, social media

● Public Prosecution to file appeal

TDT | Manama

A woman charged with performing indecent acts in public will now spend a month behind bars, ruled a Bahraini court. The court, however, acquitted her of charges of misusing telecommunication devices and social media.

The court also acquitted a second suspect, an Arab man,



Representative picture

The video, shot in the Kingdom, police said, showed the woman in a situation contrary to modesty and public morals.

video clip of her immoral acts online, which gained viral status in no time.

The video, shot in the Kingdom, police said, showed the woman in a situation contrary to modesty and public morals.

Police also quickly located the woman matching the video description and took her into custody for investigative purposes.

The prosecutors told the judges that the woman admitted to posting the clips online during interrogation.

Police had also taken into custody a man who allegedly imported the dress worn by the woman in the video. During

interrogation, the woman told police that she came to Bahrain to work as a DJ in hotels here following an agreement signed with a Bahraini man.

The woman also confessed to shooting the clip and uploading it on her Snapchat account.

The woman also told police that she purchased the dress shown in the video from the Arab man.

However, the Arab man denied the accusation levelled against him and said that he imported the dress as two pieces, and it was not supposed to be in the way the woman had worn it.

The Capital Governorate Prosecution said the woman underwent trial in the First Circuit Criminal Court. The head of the Capital Governorate Prosecution said the Public Prosecution is studying the ruling in preparation for filing an appeal.

charged along with the woman. However, Public Prosecution

said they are preparing to file an appeal against the sentence.

The woman landed in police custody after she uploaded a

Phishing and scam hit the roof in Bahrain: report

There is a 188% increase in attacks in Q2 2022, says a cybersecurity report

TDT | Manama

Cyber attacks targeting Bahrainis have rocketed up in the second quarter of this year by a concerning 188%, says a new report, especially by targeting people with vacation opportunities abroad, as pandemic-induced restrictions eased.

While the vacation season is high, scammers are trying to lure travellers looking for 'interesting' places to go, cheap places to stay and reasonably priced flights, the report warns.

The attacks related to data loss threats – phishing and scam/social engineering – compare to records from a year-ago quarter, says the latest analysis by Kaspersky.

Kaspersky, a global cybersecurity and digital privacy company founded in 1997, says they recorded 735,244 phishing attacks in Bahrain in Q2.

Kaspersky said its researchers have observed intensified scamming activities, with numerous

Planning a vacation is not easy. People can spend weeks, even months, looking for the perfect place to stay and the tickets to get them there. Fraudsters use this to lure users that have grown tired of searching for great deal

MIKHAIL SYTNIK, A SECURITY EXPERT AT KASPERSKY.



phishing pages distributed under the guise of airline and booking services.

The number of attempts to open phishing pages related to booking and airline services in the first half of 2022 was 4,311 in the META (Middle East, Turkey and Africa) region.

"Planning a vacation is not easy. People can spend weeks, even months, looking for the perfect place to stay and the tickets to get them there. Fraudsters

use this to lure users that have grown tired of searching for great deals," comments Mikhail Sytnik, a security expert at Kaspersky.

"After two years of flight restrictions imposed by the pandemic, travelling is back. But so are travel scams – with intensified scamming activity targeting users through fake booking and rental services.

"Such attacks are preventable, which is why we urge users to be

Tips against threats online:

- Scan the address bar before keying in any sensitive information, such as your login details and password. If something is wrong with the URL (i.e. spelling, it doesn't look like the original or it uses some special symbols instead of letters) just stay away. One could also check the certificate of the site by clicking on the lock icon to the left of the URL.

- Don't ever click on links from unknown sources (either through e-mails, messaging apps or social networks).

- Visiting the business' official website if you see a giveaway offered in e-mail or on social media by a travel company or an airline to confirm the giveaway exists. You should also carefully check the links the giveaway ad leads you to.



sceptical about overly generous offers. If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is," adds Sytnik.

Kaspersky Lab is a Russian multinational cybersecurity and anti-virus provider headquartered in Moscow, Russia, and operated by a holding company in the United Kingdom.

Common traps

The cybersecurity service provider points out that social engineering, sometimes called

"human hacking" scams, is used to trick people into entering personal information, including bank account passwords, payment card details, or login details for social media accounts.

"In the wrong hands, this opens doors to various malicious operations, such as money theft or corporate networks being compromised," Kaspersky says.

The report also points out phishing as a "strong" attack method done on a large scale.

Attackers send massive waves of emails under the name of legitimate institutions and promote fake pages while deploying a variety of tricks to bypass email blockings.

A common technique is HTML attachments with partially or fully obfuscated code. HTML files allow attackers to use scripts and obfuscate malicious content to make it harder to detect and send phishing pages as attachments instead of links.



A batch of eleven inspectors took their oath before the Labour Market Regulatory Authority Chief Executive Officer Noof Abdulrahman Jamsheer. The Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments had issued Edict (99) of 2022 authorising some LMRA employees to serve as judicial officers. Jamsheer urged judicial officers to perform their duties with utmost professionalism and accuracy and comply with law provisions in dealing with expatriates in the local market. She commended the role of LMRA judicial officers in supporting Bahrain's efforts to maintain the labour market stability, protect all parties' interests and preserve the rights of employers and workers.

Hair Transplant Solutions at Royal Bahrain Hospital

- Dr Lalit B. Rajpal, Consultant, Plastic, Reconstructive & Hair Transplant Surgeon touches upon the hair loss issues commonly faced by men and women and explains the hair transplant procedure in details

Manama

Our hair is a defining aspect of our appearance. A healthy head of hair makes us look attractive and youthful positively affecting our self-image and the way we interact with people.

Men, women and children can suffer from hair loss. Some healthy men tend to lose more hair than others. This is androgenetic alopecia (also referred to as male pattern baldness). Female pattern hair loss is restricted to the front and top with diffuse thinning but the hair line is typically maintained.

The field of Hair Transplant has evolved rapidly in recent years with the advances within the surgical technique.

This article is an effort to provide scientifically and ethically correct information about Hair transplant surgery.

- What is a Hair transplant?

Dr Lalit: Hair transplantation is an operation that takes hair from the back and sides of the head which will not fall out in later life, and moves it to the area of hair loss. A new hair is designed artistically during the planning stage. Surgery is in a single or multiple sessions depending upon the extent of the bald area to be covered.



Dr. Lali

- Who are the candidates for Hair Transplant?

Those individuals with hair loss that have sufficient donor hair from the back and sides of the scalp to transplant to the balding area are good candidates for hair transplantation.

- What are the techniques used in Hair transplant?

The state-of-the-art procedures are Follicular Unit Extraction (FUE) and Follicular unit transplant (FUT). FUE technique involves the use of small punches to selectively isolate hair grafts without cutting skin and thus giving small dotted scars. The strip method removes a strip of skin from the back of the head, following which grafts are dissected out under high magnification and the donor area is closed by an imperceptible scar.

- What all areas can be transplanted?

To the areas of Scalp, Beard,



Moustache, Eyebrows, Post burns/traumatic scar causing hair loss.

- What are the areas from which hair can be harvested?

a) From the Scalp, Beard, chest, back, etc.

- Is FUE Scarless?

No- It leaves very small round dots which are covered by surrounding hair.

- Is the procedure permanent?

Yes - The implanted hairs don't have any effect of Androgens, thus making a permanent result.

- What is the survival rate of the transplanted hair?

More than 85 % of transplanted hair graft will survive. This makes this procedure extremely rewarding.

- Does the hair transplant procedure hurt?

Patients are given local anesthesia in the donor and recipient areas with or without sedation following which no pain or discomfort is felt during the surgery.

- How long does it take for transplanted hair to grow and what's the growth rate?

The growth process typically starts about 3 months after the procedure, while final coverage is obvious within 8 to 12 months after the procedure. During the process, sprays and lotions will have to be used to promote survival of transplanted hairs. Once the transplanted hairs begin to grow, they'll still do so for a lifetime.

Long-time resident leaves Bahrain



TDT | Manama

Long-time Bahrain resident Baby Varghese (Benny), who was working as a Senior Architectural Cad Technician at Ansari Engineering Company, is leaving Bahrain, with his wife Anita, for India after 38 years of service. Varghese, who came to Bahrain in 1983, said that he was able to "work in the

same company for 38 years by the grace of God."

"I am returning with unforgettable memories of Bahrain," he said.

Varghese, who will leave the Kingdom today, said he is looking forward to settling in the United States.

His son Roshin Varghese, daughter Reelu and Husband

Philip Mathews work in the USA. Soman Baby, a journalist with over three decades of experience and a well-known personality in Bahrain, is his elder brother.

Twin brother Baby John and his wife Anila returned to India last year. Another brother Alex Baby is in Bahrain.

Saudi opens airspace to more flights serving Israel

Reuters | Dubai

Cathay Pacific and Air Seychelles have overflown Saudi Arabia for Israel flights for the first time, aviation data showed on Thursday, after Riyadh announced last month it would open its airspace to all airlines, paving the way for more overflights to and from Israel.

Air Seychelles said it "became the first airline to receive permission from the Saudi Arabian authorities to overfly their territory", with Wednesday evening's Tel Aviv to Mahe flight.

The new route "means a reduction in fuel burn between 500kg-1000kg per flight (and that) the aircraft can now carry an additional 20 passengers per flight," it said in a statement.

"The Saudi air traffic controllers were extremely helpful and allowed us to navigate with optimal conditions for passenger comfort," the airline quoted the flight's captain as saying.

Iran's top negotiator meets EU's Mora in Vienna

Reuters

Iran's chief nuclear negotiator yesterday met the European Union's Enrique Mora, who coordinates indirect talks between Tehran and Washington on reinstating Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, Iranian state media reported.

"Ali Bagheri Kani held a meeting with Mora at the Coburg Palace in Vienna," the semi-official Fars news agency reported.

Saudi posts almost \$21 billion Q2 surplus

● Revenue in the second quarter reached 370.37 bn riyals

● Oil revenue was 250.36 bn riyals

● Domestic debt rose to 604.76 bn riyals

Reuters | Dubai

Saudi Arabia has registered a budget surplus of nearly 78 billion riyals (\$21 bn) in the second quarter of 2022, the finance ministry said yesterday, an almost 50% rise from a year earlier, bolstered by high oil prices.

Revenue in the second quarter reached 370.37 bn riyals and expenditure was 292.46 bn, the ministry said.

"A widening in the fiscal surplus was expected in 2Q with the higher oil price and production level," said Monica Malik,



Cars drive past the King Abdullah Financial District in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

chief economist at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank. "Government spending strengthened, though (it) still remains broadly in line with the budget plans."

Saudi Arabia has pledged to "decouple" state spending from oil price fluctuations. Its ex-

pected surplus for 2022 - which would be its first in nearly a decade - will sit in the government's current account until the government's finance committee decides how to allocate it, likely early next year.

Finance Minister Mohammed

al-Jadaan told Reuters in May the surplus could go towards the Public Investment Fund (PIF), Saudi Arabia's \$600 bn sovereign wealth fund, and the National Development Fund (NDF).

The excess may also go to

foreign reserves at the central bank. As part of a fiscal sustainability policy, the kingdom is in the final stages of determining a floor and ceiling for reserves, as a percentage of GDP.

Oil revenue was 250.36 bn riyals, an 89% surge compared with a year before, the ministry said. That was equivalent to just over two-thirds of total government revenue, while non-oil revenue was 120.00 bn riyals, a 3% increase.

The kingdom posted a first-quarter surplus of more than \$15.3 bn riyals.

Spending in the first half of 2022 was up 10% compared with the first half of last year, while revenue jumped 43%, the finance ministry said.

At the end of June, the government had reserves of 318.65 bn riyals and a current account surplus of 131.45 bn.

Domestic debt rose to 604.76 bn riyals at the end of June from 558.75 at the end of 2021. External debt was down to 361.76 bn riyals from 379.26 bn in the same period.



the year 2022. The meeting discussed the Group's Financial Results as well as the bank's ESG accomplishments. Jean-Christophe Durand, Chief Executive Officer; Russell Bennett, Group Chief Financial Officer, and Abdulrahim Abdulhameed, Group Senior Associate & Sustainability Officer represented the NBB Group as speakers, while Hisham Abu Alfateh, Head of Corporate Communications at NBB, acted as moderator of the meeting. The meeting was concluded with a Q&A session by representatives of the NBB Group including Isa Maseeh, Group Chief Risk Officer; Dana Buheji, Group Chief Human Resources & Sustainability Officer; Hisham Al Kurdi, Group Chief Executive - Corporate & Institutional Investment Banking and Fatima Al Kooheji, Group Financial Controller.

World Bank accuses Lebanese politicians of cruelty over deposit promises

Reuters | Beirut

The World Bank accused Lebanese politicians of being cruel by asserting that deposits in the country's collapsed banking sector are sacred, saying such slogans "flagrantly contradict the reality" in a report on Wednesday.

Lebanon is in the third year of a financial meltdown that has left eight in ten people poor and which the World Bank says is deliberate and may be one of the three worst in modern times.

The new report marked the second time this year the World Bank has berated Lebanon's ruling politicians, having accused them in January of "orchestrating" the country's catastrophic economic meltdown through their exploitative grip on resources.

The collapse has frozen depositors out of savings in the paralysed banking system, and led the local currency to lose more than 90% of its value.

"Political slogans for the sacrosanct of deposits are hollow and opportunistic; in fact, the constant abuse of this term by politicians is cruel," the World Bank said in a report.

"Not only does it flagrantly contradict reality, it prevents solutions to protect most, if not all small and medium deposi-



People queue to buy bread outside a bakery in Beirut, Lebanon

tors, in dollars and in cash," the report said.

Lebanese politicians often say depositors' rights must be preserved in any plan to address losses of some \$70 billion in the financial system, even as their savings have lost around 80% of their value due to the collapse.

"Losses should have been accepted and carried by bank shareholders and large creditors, who have profited greatly over the last 30 years from a very unequal economic model," the World Bank said.

"This should have occurred at beginning of the crisis ... to limit the economic and social pain." Lebanese banks lent heavily to the state, which wracked up huge debts largely due to corruption and bad governance. The World Bank report said "a significant portion" of people savings had been "misused and mispent over the past 30 years".

Oil prices slump to lowest since before Ukraine invasion as recession fears weigh

● BoE raises rates, warns of recession risks

● OPEC+ agrees to raise oil output target by 100,000 bpd

Reuters | London/New York

Global oil prices dropped yesterday to their lowest levels since before Russia's February invasion of Ukraine as traders fretted over the possibility of an economic recession later this year that could torpedo energy demand.

Benchmark Brent crude futures dropped more than 3% to \$93.81 a barrel after touching a mid-session low of \$93.20, the lowest since Feb. 21. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures fell 2.7% to \$88.21 after touching the lowest since Feb. 3 at \$87.97.

The fall in oil prices could come as a relief to large consumer nations like the United States and countries in Europe that have been

urging producers to ramp up output to offset tight supplies and combat raging inflation.

Oil had surged to well over \$120 a barrel earlier in the year after a sudden rebound in demand from the darkest days of the COVID-19 pandemic combined with supply disruptions stemming from sanctions on major producer Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

Thursday's selling followed an unexpected surge in U.S. crude inventories last week.

Gasoline stocks, the proxy for demand, also showed a surprise build as demand slowed under the weight of gasoline prices near \$5 a gallon, the Energy Information Administration said.

An OPEC+ agreement on Wednesday to raise its output target by just 100,000 barrels

per day (bpd) in September, equivalent to 0.1% of global demand, was viewed by some analysts as bearish for the market.

OPEC heavyweights Saudi Arabia and the UAE are also ready to deliver a "significant increase" in oil output should the world face a severe supply crisis this winter, sources familiar with the thinking of the top Gulf exporters said.

'Batelco Talks' returns with a session on APIs

● Session Delivered by Entrepreneur and Investment Advisor Hamad Al Fahad

TDT | Manama

Batelco recommenced its 'Batelco Talks' series, an in-house initiative, designed to foster a learning environment between Batelco's team members and industry leaders, with a session on Application Program-



Hamad Al Fahad

ming Interfaces (APIs) featuring Hamad Al Fahad. Hamad is an entrepreneur and an investment advisor who helped a number of startups and tech companies to establish a foothold in the market.

During the session, Hamad discussed the growing importance of APIs for all industries. He explained how APIs have become an integral part of everyday life, utilised in all software such as delivery apps, mapping apps, and especially in Open Banking. He elaborated on how businesses can benefit from APIs

and encouraged the audience to increase their knowledge on the subject.

The "Batelco Talks" sessions are held at Batelco Headquarters in Hamala on a monthly basis and are attended by company team members. The sessions feature different topics aimed to expand Batelco team members' horizons and perspectives in fields such as ICT, technology, digital transformation and growth. This initiative reiterates Batelco's commitment to investing in its human capital and being a part of its constant growth.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

A SOMEBODY WAS ONCE A NOBODY WHO WANTED TO AND DID JOHN BURROUGHS

News in brief

Rwanda attacked Congo troops, backed rebels: experts for UN

Rwandan troops have attacked soldiers



inside DR Congo and aided the M23 rebel group, according to a report by independent experts for the UN. The findings follow months of deepening tensions between the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Rwanda over the notorious M23. The DRC has repeatedly accused Rwanda of backing the militia, which

has captured swathes of territory in recent months. Kigali has repeatedly denied any involvement. But according to a 131-page report by experts for the UN Security Council, Rwanda has launched military interventions inside Congolese territory since at least November 2021.

The Taliban said yesterday they have no

Taliban say 'no information' about Al Qaeda chief Zawahiri in Afghanistan

knowledge of Ayman al-Zawahiri's presence in Afghanistan, days after US President Joe Biden announced the Al-Qaeda chief's killing by a drone strike in Kabul. Zawahiri's assassination is the biggest blow to Al-Qaeda since US special forces killed Osama bin Laden in 2011, and calls into question the Taliban's promise not to harbour militant groups. "The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has no information about Ayman al-Zawahiri's arrival and stay in Kabul," said an official statement - the Taliban's first mention of his name since Biden's announcement



A volcano has erupted on a mountain

Volcano erupts near Iceland's capital in seismic hot spot



near Iceland's capital Reykjavik after days of rising earthquake activity in the area, the Icelandic Meteorological Office (IMO) said. Images and livestreams by local news outlets MBL and RUV showed lava and smoke spewing from a fissure in the ground on the side of the Fagradalsfjall mountain, which last year saw an eruption that lasted

six months. Tourists and residents should avoid the area due to poisonous gases, although there was no immediate risk of damage to critical infrastructure, the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management said in a statement.

Former Venezuela opposition lawmaker Juan Requesens was sentenced

Venezuela opposition leader sentenced to 8 years in prison

to eight years in prison for alleged involvement in the 2018 explosion of two drones at an event attended by President Nicolas Maduro, his lawyer said yesterday. Requesens' family and opposition leader Juan Guaido consider him a political prisoner and have denied his involvement in the case. Requesens was detained for about two years between 2018 and 2020 in the case, which stems from explosions that rocked a military event where Maduro was giving a speech.



Blasts ring out as fires rage in Berlin forest

Reuters | Berlin

A huge fire broke out yesterday in a popular forest in western Berlin next to a police munitions storage site, sending plumes of smoke into the skies and setting off intermittent explosions.

The army sent in a tank aimed at evacuating munitions at the affected storage site as well as remote-controlled de-mining robots, while drones were circling the air to help assess the emergency.

The situation is "extremely extraordinary with munitions," said Berlin fire brigade spokesman Thomas Kirstein, adding that it was "under control and there was no danger for Berliners."

The fire was however expected to last for some time, he said. Firefighters called to the site in the middle of the night were confronted with intermittent blasts that sent debris flying and hindered their work.

They have so far been able to begin tackling only two of the four hotspots across the affected area of 15,000 square metres (161,500 square feet), as explosions at the munitions store were still rocking the area.

No one has been hurt by the fires, which came on a day when a new heatwave was due to envelop Germany.

Officials have built a security cordon to allow firefighters to start working around a kilometre from the ammunition storage zone.

The store holds munitions uncovered by police, but also unexploded World War 2-era ordnance which is regularly dug up during construction works.

Police said they were investi-



Smoke rises in Berlin's Grunewald forest in Berlin, Germany



Massive explosions were heard in the morning from the site where old ammunition from World War II, fireworks and explosive ordnance is stored and controlled explosions are carried out

Heatwave

The German capital is rarely hit by forest fires, even though its 29,000 hectares of forests make it one of the greenest cities in the world.

Brandenburg, the region surrounding Berlin, as well as parts of eastern Germany have for days been battling forest fires.

Scientists say climate change is making heatwaves around the world more frequent and more intense, which increases the risk of fires.

Temperatures are expected to climb as high as 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) across parts of Germany yesterday. In Berlin, they are predicted to reach 38C.

After a scorching yesterday, heavy thunderstorms are due to sweep into the country from the west on Friday, the German weather service said.

A cold front is predicted to bring temperatures down by more than 10 degrees overnight in western Germany, falling to around 20-25 degrees on Friday.

gating what set off the fire.

Authorities appealed for the public to avoid the forest, popular with both locals and tourists, as several regional rail lines have been halted.

But authorities said no fire-fighting choppers were available as they were already in use to calm forest fires in eastern Germany.

ASEAN warns of Taiwan 'miscalculation' as tension simmers at meeting

Reuters | Phnom Penh

Southeast Asian countries warned yesterday of miscalculations in the Taiwan Strait and "serious confrontation" among major powers, while China's foreign minister walked out before a gala dinner at a high-level meeting in Cambodia.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is hosting a meeting of 27 countries, including the United States, at a gathering so far overshadowed by developments around Taiwan following US House of



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken meets with India's Foreign Minister Subrahmanya Jaishankar in Phnom Penh

Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi's solidarity trip this week.

It warned the tensions could lead to "open conflicts and unpredictable consequences", and called for maximum restraint.

"ASEAN stands ready to play a constructive role in facilitating peaceful dialogue between all parties," the bloc said in a statement.

China deployed scores of planes and fired live missiles near Taiwan yesterday in its biggest-ever drills in the Taiwan Strait, underlining China's fury over Pelosi visit to the self-ruled island.

There was diplomatic discord also in Cambodia's capital

Phnom Penh, where foreign ministers of China, the United States and Japan were all present in the same venue for bilateral meetings with the ASEAN grouping.

Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken have refused to meet each other in Phnom Penh, while planned talks between Wang and Japanese counterpart Yoshimasa Hayashi were cancelled, with Beijing citing displeasure over a G7 statement urging it to resolve tension over Taiwan peacefully. Wang yesterday called Pelosi's visit "manic, irresponsible and highly irrational", state-run CCTV reported.

COVID-19: Countries worst affected

| Country | Total cases | Total deaths | Global tally |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 USA | 93,593,214 | 226,319 | 585,736,210 |
| 2 India | 44,087,037 | 116,068 | |
| 3 France | 33,960,131 | 154,888 | Deaths |
| 4 Brazil | 33,927,328 | | 6,428,840 |
| 5 Germany | 31,119,199 | 34,210 | Recovered: |
| 6 UK | 23,368,899 | 27,100 | 556,290,238 |
| 7 Italy | 21,213,559 | 29,272 | New cases |
| 8 S. Korea | 20,160,154 | 33,885 | +602,377 |
| 9 Russia | 18,653,867 | 33,875 | New deaths |
| 10 Turkey | 15,889,495 | 86,893 | +1,092 |
| 11 Japan | 13,344,898 | 43,967 | |
| 12 Spain | 13,245,996 | 18,656 | |
| 13 Vietnam | 10,785,122 | 31,346 | |
| 14 Argentina | 9,560,307 | 13,719 | |

Figures as of closing

Middle East

| Country | Total cases | new cases | Total deaths | New Deaths | Total recovered | Active cases |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Egypt | 515,645 | | 24,613 | | 442,182 | 48,850 |
| Saudi Arabia | 810,583 | +189 | 9,257 | +2 | 796,701 | 4,625 |
| UAE | 995,777 | +1,084 | 2,335 | | 974,601 | 18,841 |
| Kuwait | 653,730 | | 2,559 | | 647,555 | 3,616 |
| Oman | 395,737 | | 4,260 | | 384,669 | 6,808 |
| Qatar | 412,137 | +732 | 681 | | 404,665 | 6,791 |

We oppose any unilateral efforts to change the status quo, especially by force. We, and countries around the world, believe that escalation serves no and could have unintended consequences that serve no one's interests, including ASEAN members, and including China

ANTONY BLINKEN

Furious
Taiwan

Chinese military fires

Taiwan says various government websites hacked

China angry at US and Taiwan, calls drills internal matter

Exercises around the island scheduled to run through Sunday

Reuters | Taipei

China fired multiple missiles near Taiwan yesterday in its biggest ever military drills in the Taiwan Strait, a day after US House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited the self-ruled island.

The exercises began at midday and included live-firing waters to the north, south and east of Taiwan, which Beijing claims as its own. They brought volatility in the area to its worst in a quarter century.

China's military said at around 3:30 p.m. (0730 GMT) it had completed multiple firings of conventional missiles in waters off east Taiwan as part of planned exercises in six different zones set to run until noon on Sunday.

Taiwan's defence ministry said 11 Chinese Dongfeng ballistic missiles had been fired in waters around the island. The last time

Brittney Griner

Biden says: It's unacceptable

Reuters | Moscow

A Russian court sentenced US basketball star Brittney Griner to nine years in prison yesterday after finding her guilty of deliberately bringing cannabis-infused vape cartridges into Russia, a ruling that President Joe Biden called "unacceptable."

Griner was arrested in mid-February, and her case threw the Texan athlete into the geopolitical maelstrom triggered when President Vladimir Putin sent troops into Ukraine on Feb. 24, propelling US-Russian relations to a new post-Cold War low.

Griner's sentencing could now pave the way for a US-Russian prisoner swap that would include the 31-year-old athlete and an imprisoned Russian who was once a prolific arms dealer.

Griner had admitted having the vape cartridges containing hashish oil but said it was an honest mistake. Before the verdict, she pleaded with a Russian judge not to "end her life" with a harsh prison sentence, before breaking

The last major Viking army to raid England is defeated at the Battle of Tettenhall by the allied forces of Mercia and Wessex, led by King Edward and Earl Aethelred

William Wallace, who led Scottish resistance to England, is captured by the English near Glasgow and transported to London for trial and execution

Humphrey Gilbert claims Newfoundland for the British crown, the first English colony in North America and the beginning of the British Empire



Battle of Petrovaradin [Peterwardein]: Habsburgs under Eugene of Savoy defeat the Turks in a decisive victory

As China fires missiles near Taiwan in drills after Pelosi visit

China fires ballistic missiles into Taiwan strait as exercises begin



A projectile being launched from an unspecified location in China

that happened was in 1996. Taiwan officials said the drills violated United Nations rules, invaded its space and threatened free air and sea navigation. It has been self-ruled since 1949, when Mao Zedong's communists took power in Beijing after defeating Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang (KMT) nationalists in a civil war, prompting the KMT-led government to retreat to the island. Pelosi's unannounced visit defied warnings from China. Before yesterday's drills officially began, Chinese navy ships and military aircraft briefly crossed the Taiwan Strait median line several times in the morning, a Taiwanese source briefed on the matter told Reuters. By midday, warships from both sides remained in the area and in close proximity. Taiwan scram-

bled jets and deployed missile systems to track multiple Chinese aircraft crossing the line. "They flew in and then flew out, again and again. They continue to harass us," the Taiwanese source said. China, which has long said it reserves the right to take Taiwan by force, says its differences with the island are an internal affair. "Our punishment of pro-Taiwan independence diehards, external forces is reasonable, lawful," China's Beijing-based Taiwan Affairs Office said. In Taiwan, life was largely normal despite worries that Beijing may even fire a missile over the main island as North Korea did over Japan's northern island of Hokkaido in 2017. "When China says it wants to annex Taiwan by force, they

YOU KNOW WHAT

Taiwan said 11 Chinese Dongfeng ballistic missiles had been fired in nearby waters - the first time since 1996 - while Japan protested that five missiles appeared to land in its economic zone



A man stands in front of a screen showing a news broadcast, featuring a map of locations around Taiwan where the military exercises will be conducted, at a shopping center in Beijing

have actually said that for quite a while," said Chen Ming-cheng, a 38-year-old realtor. "From my personal understanding, they are trying to deflect public anger, the anger of their own people, and turn it onto Taiwan." Taiwan said that websites of its defence ministry, foreign ministry and the presidential office were attacked by hackers, and warned of coming "psychological warfare".

'Comrade Pelosi'

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi called Pelosi's visit to Taiwan a "manic, irresponsible and highly irrational" act, state broadcaster CCTV reported. Wang, speaking at a meeting of Southeast Asian foreign min-

isters in Cambodia, said China had made the utmost diplomatic effort to avert crisis but would never let its core interests be hurt. Unusually, the drills in six areas around Taiwan were announced with a locator map circulated by China's official Xinhua news agency - a factor that for some analysts illustrates playing to both domestic and foreign audiences. In Beijing, security in the area around the US Embassy remained unusually tight though there were no signs of significant protests. "I think this (Pelosi's visit) is a good thing," said a man surnamed Zhao. "It gives us an opportunity to surround Taiwan, then to use this opportunity to take Taiwan by force. I think we should thank Comrade Pelosi." Pelosi, the highest-level US visi-

tor to Taiwan in 25 years, praised its democracy and pledged American solidarity during her brief stopover. Chinese anger could not stop world leaders from travelling there, she said. China summoned the US ambassador in Beijing in protest and halted several agricultural imports from Taiwan. "Our delegation came to Taiwan to make unequivocally clear that we will not abandon Taiwan," Pelosi told Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen, whom Beijing suspects of pushing for formal independence - a red line for China. The United States and the foreign ministers of the Group of Seven nations warned China against using Pelosi's visit as a pretext for military action against Taiwan.

Woman sentenced to nine years in prison in Russia



Brittney Griner, right, enters a cage in a courtroom prior to a hearing

down in tears in court. The court also fined her 1 million roubles (\$16,990). Biden, under pressure to help free Americans held in Russia, called on Russia to release Griner immediately and said his administration would continue to work for her release. "Today, American citizen Brittney Griner received a prison sentence that is one more reminder of what the world already knew: Russia is wrongfully detaining Brittney," Biden said in a statement. "It's unacceptable, and I call on

Russia to release her immediately so she can be with her wife, loved ones, friends, and teammates." Griner's defence lawyers said they would appeal. The defence team said that in sentencing the court had ignored all evidence they had presented as well as Griner's guilty plea. They said they were "disappointed" by the verdict. The Russian prosecutor had called for Griner, a two-time Olympic gold medallist and a Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) star, to be sentenced to 9-1/2 years prison if

Today, American citizen Brittney Griner received a prison sentence that is one more reminder of what the world already knew: Russia is wrongfully detaining Brittney. It's unacceptable, and I call on Russia to release her immediately so she can be with her wife, loved ones, friends, and teammates

JOE BIDEN

she was found guilty of bringing illegal drugs into the country. Griner was detained at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport on Feb. 17 with the cartridges containing hashish oil in her luggage. While she pleaded guilty, she said she had neither intended to bring a banned substance to Russia nor to hurt anybody. "I made an honest mistake and I hope that in your ruling, that it doesn't end my life here," Griner said in court yesterday before breaking down in tears.

Heavy rain hits northern Japan, 200,000 urged to evacuate



A broken bridge and power lines are seen after heavy rains in Japan

AFP | Tokyo

Bridges collapsed and rivers burst their banks as heavy rain lashed northern Japan yesterday, with 200,000 residents urged to evacuate as authorities warned of dangerous flooding. TV footage showed a muddy mass of broken trees swept into a mountainous residential area by the downpours, which broke records in some areas. Two people have been reported missing, top govern-

ment spokesman Hirokazu Matsuno told reporters. Authorities have warned of an increased risk of landslides and floods. Public broadcaster NHK said non-compulsory evacuation advisories were issued to 200,000 residents in five regions: Niigata, Yamagata, Fukushima, Ishikawa and Fukui. Other TV footage showed homes flooded by an overflowing river and another muddy waterway reaching the height of a bridge.

Fifty years ago, Canada acted swiftly and welcomed more than 7,000 South Asians who had been expelled from Uganda. Today, as we reflect on all that they have contributed to our country in the decades since, we also honour their resilience and strength.

@JustinTrudeau



Putin is still waging his war in Ukraine, putting pressure on global oil supply, and families can feel it. But we stepped up to release one million barrels of oil a day from our Reserve, and rallied our global partners to release from theirs. Now, prices are on a record decline.

@POTUS

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Today we mark two years since the horrific explosion at the Beirut port. Two years without justice. In the name of the dead, among them the son of a UN staff member, I reiterate my call for an impartial, thorough and transparent investigation into the explosion.

@antonioguterres

02



We have to grip inflation, not exacerbate it. Liz Truss's economic guru Professor Patrick Minford, said their plans mean "yes, interest rates have to go up and it's a good thing." Really? Calculate what that could cost you and your family.

@RishiSunak

03



Fifty years ago, Canada acted swiftly and welcomed more than 7,000 South Asians who had been expelled from Uganda. Today, as we reflect on all that they have contributed to our country in the decades since, we also honour their resilience and strength.

@JustinTrudeau

04



Putin is still waging his war in Ukraine, putting pressure on global oil supply, and families can feel it. But we stepped up to release one million barrels of oil a day from our Reserve, and rallied our global partners to release from theirs. Now, prices are on a record decline.

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CELEBS



IAN S | Los Angeles

After coming out as non-binary last year, singer Demi Lovato has gone back to using she/her pronouns.

Lovato came out as non-binary last year and expressed a preference for gender neutral they/them terms. The 'Confident' hitmaker is now "feeling more feminine" as she is "such a fluid person," reports [aceshowbiz.com](#).

Speaking on the "Spout" podcast, Lovato, who has both she/her and they/them listed in her Instagram biography, said: "Yeah, so, they/them is... I've actually adopted the pronouns of she/her again."

"For me, I'm such a fluid person that... I felt like, especially last year, my energy was balanced in my masculine and

feminine energy so that when I was faced with the choice of walking into a bathroom and it said 'women' and 'men,' "I didn't feel like there was a bathroom for me because I didn't feel necessarily like a woman. I didn't feel like a man. I just felt like a human," she continued.

"That's what they/them is about for me. It's just about, like, feeling human at your core. Recently, I've been feeling more feminine, and so I've adopted she/her again."

The 29-year-old star acknowledged it is easy for people to "mess up" pronouns and it is OK so long as they show "respect." She said, "But I think what's important is, like, nobody's perfect. Everyone messes up pronouns at some point, and especially when people are learning. It's just all about respect."

Lovato said last year using they/them pronouns helped her feel "most authentic."

The singer said: "Over the past year-and-a-half, I've been doing some healing and self-reflective work. And through this work, I've had the revelation that I identify as non-binary. With that said, I'll be officially changing my pronouns to they/

Demi Lovato goes back to she/her

Ana de Armas defended by Marilyn Monroe estate over her 'Blonde' accent

IAN S | Los Angeles

The official Marilyn Monroe Estate has come to the defence of Ana de Armas, who is playing the Hollywood icon in Andrew Dominik's upcoming drama 'Blonde'.

An official trailer for the film premiered online July 28 and left many viewers outraged over de Armas' casting because her accent did not entirely match Monroe's iconic tone. The film is not authorised by Monroe's estate, but the group stands by de Armas' casting nonetheless, reports 'Variety'. "Marilyn Monroe is a singular Hollywood and pop culture icon that transcends generations and history," said

Marc Rosen, president of entertainment at Authentic Brands Group (ABG), which owns the Marilyn Monroe Estate.

"Any actor that steps into that role knows they have big shoes to fill. Based on the trailer alone, it looks like Ana was a great casting choice as she captures Marilyn's glamour, humanity and vulnerability. We can't wait to see the film in its entirety!"

De Armas previously told The Times of London that she spent nearly an entire year working on her Monroe accent for 'Blonde' before filming started.

The actor said: "It took me nine months of dialect coaching, and practicing and some ADR sessions (to get the accent right). It was

a big torture, so exhausting. My brain was fried."

'Blonde' is based on the novel by Joyce Carol Oates. The drama reimagines the life of Monroe, from her volatile childhood as Norma Jeane through her rise to stardom. The supporting cast includes Bobby Cannavale,

Adrien Brody, Julianne Nicholson, Xavier Samuel and Evan Williams. The film will debut in competition at the Venice Film Festival.

The majority of complaints about de Armas' casting noted that she maintained her Cuban accent, which is not how Monroe sounded. De Armas told Vanity Fair in 2020 that Dominik's decision to cast a Cuban actor as an American icon was "groundbreaking".



Ana de Armas

De Armas previously told The Times of London that she spent nearly an entire year working on her Monroe accent for 'Blonde' before filming started

Jake Gyllenhaal to star in 'Road House' remake

ANI | Washington

Jake Gyllenhaal is all set to star in a remake of a cult classic 'Road House'.

As per CNN, the mov-

ie will be "a reimagined take" on the 1989 film that starred Patrick Swayze. The Bourne Identity fame director Doug Liman will helm the project.

Jake Gyllenhaal



Actor Dev Patel tries to stop stabbing in Australia

Fox | Los Angeles

Actor Dev Patel put his safety at risk to help stop a stabbing in Australia.

According to Australian outlet 7news, the Oscar-nominated actor was at a gas station in Adelaide, Australia, when a couple's fight took a violent turn.

Patel, 32, reportedly tried to

de-escalate the situation before the woman stabbed the man in the chest.

"Dev acted on his natural instinct to try and de-escalate the situation and break up the fight," a representative for Patel told 7NEWS. "The group was thankfully successful in doing so, and they remained on-site to ensure that the police and eventually the ambulance arrived."

Police told the outlet that the man, 32, was rushed to the hospital and expected to survive. The woman, 34, was arrested and charged with aggravated assault, the outlet reported.

A representative for Patel did not immediately respond to Fox News' request for comment.

Although the "Slumdog Millionaire" star put his life at risk, a representative for the actor said there were "no heroes" in this situation.



Dev Patel

Although Dev Patel put his life at risk, a representative for the actor said there were "no heroes" in this situation

Selena Gomez to produce a revived version of 1980s 'Working Girl'

ANI | Washington

Hollywood star Selena Gomez is currently in the final talks to produce the revived version of the 1980s much popular film 'Working Girl'.

According to Variety, the Casting of the reboot version of the film has not been set, and it's unclear if Gomez will star in the "Working Girl" remake in addition to serving as a producer. The 1988 version follows an ambitious 30-something Staten Island secretary who takes over office operations while her boss is recovering from a broken leg.

But when the secretary pitches a winning idea, her boss attempts to take credit.

Helmed by Mike Nichols, the earlier version starred Sigourney Weaver,

YOU KNOW WHAT

Previously, American actress Sandra Bullock tried to recreate 'Working Girl' into a short series for NBC in the 1990s but due to low ratings, the show got cancelled by the makers

Melanie Griffith and Harrison Ford in the lead roles and gathered positive feedback from the netizens.

"Diary of a Future President", writer Ilana Pena is currently adapting the screenplay of the revived version of the comedy film.

Previously, American actress Sandra Bullock tried to recreate 'Working Girl' into a short series for NBC in the 1990s but due to low ratings, the show got cancelled by the makers.



Selena Gomez

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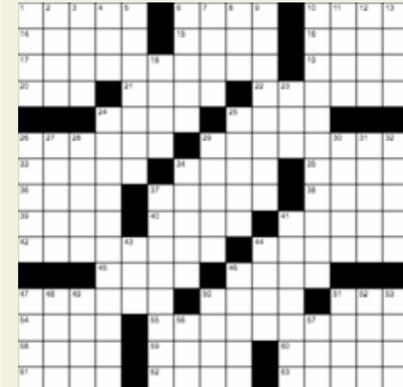
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Yesterday's solution

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How to play
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Muscat native; 6- This ___ outrage; 10- Physical suffering; 14- Less common; 15- Ankle-bones; 16- Catch a view of; 17- Sorcery; 19- Stand; 20- Bro, e.g.; 21- Cut-price retail event; 22- Counterbalance; 24- PlayStation maker; 25- Langston Hughes poem; 26- Contemptible; 29- Rousing; 33- From head ___; 34- King of comedy; 35- Heath; 36- Ersatz butter; 37- Fish covering; 38- Organization to promote theater; 39- 'Beetle Bailey' cartoonist Walker; 40- The Ponte Vecchio crosses it; 41- Pungent bulb; 42- Forbid; 44- Retract; 45- Nourishment; 46- Assistant; 47- Pour from one container to another; 50- Moore of 'G.I. Jane'; 51- High hit; 54- Gator's kin; 55- Gases around the earth; 58- Treater's words; 59- Fed; 60- Utah's ___ Mountains; 61- Requirement; 62- Ballpark figs; 63- Sudden convulsion;

Down

1- Eyes, poetically; 2- Timbuktu's land; 3- Graceful horse; 4- Japanese computer giant; 5- Annoying; 6- San Marino surrounder; 7- Wise; 8- Clay today; 9- Poisonous alkaloid; 10- Accomplishment; 11- Sale sign; 12- ___ dixit; 13- Russian no; 18- Numerous; 23- In favor of; 24- Beardless; 25- Novelist Calvino; 26- Trample; 27- Hue; 28- In ___ (unborn); 29- Slope; 30- Ancient region of Asia Minor; 31- ___ your life!; 32- Give; 34- Bitterly pungent; 37- Deliberate damage; 41- Legendary king of Thebes; 43- Electrically charged atom; 44- Lens holders; 46- Ages; 47- Pest control brand; 48- Bald eagle's relative; 49- Arrive; 50- Fiddlesticks; 51- Actress Olin; 52- Table scraps; 53- Ray of light; 56- Ambulance letters; 57- With it;

Yesterday's solution

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Medvedev makes triumphant return in Mexico with landmark 250th win



Daniil Medvedev in action during his match

AFP | Los Cabos

World number one Daniil Medvedev, playing his first match in six weeks, beat Australian qualifier Rinky Hijikata 6-4, 6-3 on Wednesday at the ATP hard court tournament in Los Cabos, Mexico.

It was a milestone 250th match win of the reigning US Open champion's career.

"Someone told me this a few days ago," Medvedev said after the match. "Otherwise I would not have known. That's nice, a milestone in a way.

"I want more victories, but that's nice to have 250. We'll try to get more."

Medvedev is playing his first tournament since bowing out of the quarter-finals at Mallorca on June 23. He missed Wimbledon because of its ban of Russian and Belarusian players in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Medvedev gained the first break of the match to claim the opening set.

It's definitely not that easy to play after you stop for a while, especially (playing my) first match on hard courts since a long, long time -- since Miami

DANIIL MEDVEDEV

He saved the first break point he faced in the opening game of the second, and gained the break he needed for a 4-2 lead against Hijikata.

The 21-year-old Australian world number 224 put up a fight, fending off a stream of break points before Medvedev closed it out after 90 minutes.

"It's definitely not that easy to play after you stop for a while, especially (playing my) first match on hard courts since a long, long time -- since Miami," Medvedev said.

Badosa, Jabeur reach San Jose WTA quarters

Paula Badosa wins tight 3-setter in San Jose as she halts Elizabeth Mandlik

● **Ons Jabeur eased past Madison Keys**

AFP | San Jose

Second-seeded Paula Badosa survived a scare on the way to a 6-2, 5-7, 7-6 (7/5) victory over US qualifier Elizabeth Mandlik on Wednesday in the WTA hardcourt tournament in San Jose, California.

After comfortably pocketing the first set with two breaks of serve, Spain's Badosa went down an early break in the second against her 240th-ranked opponent, who is the daughter of four-time Grand Slam champion Hana Mandlikova.

She broke back, but was broken again in the 11th game to give Mandlik a chance to serve out the set and extend the match.

After breaking for a 4-3 lead in the third, Mandlik twice had a chance to serve for the set, but they traded service breaks in the final three games to send it to the tiebreaker, in which world number four Badosa won the last five points to seal the victory.



Paula Badosa hits a forehand to Elizabeth Mandlik

Badosa will next face the winner of yesterday night's marquee clash between four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka and sixth-seeded American Coco Gauff.

Japanese superstar Osaka is unseeded as she plays her first tournament since falling in the first round of the French Open, where she was battling a left Achilles tendon injury.

Gauff, the French Open runner-up, is seeded sixth.

Third-seeded Tunisian star Ons Jabeur, playing her first match since her historic run-

ner-up finish at Wimbledon, pulled away late to beat American Madison Keys 7-5, 6-1.

Jabeur will face either Veronika Kudermetova or Claire Liu in Friday's quarter-finals.

Jabeur got off to a strong start with an early break for a 2-0 lead before Keys surged to a 5-3 lead.

Jabeur responded by winning 10 of the next 11 games.

"I'm grateful that I played at night because it's slower and it helps me a little bit with the conditions," Jabeur said. "I knew it was going to be a tough

I'm grateful that I played at night because it's slower and it helps me a little bit with the conditions. I knew it was going to be a tough match for me. I just tried to stay low and hit the ball as much as I can. Make her play another ball and in the end I was feeling much better

ONS JABEUR

match for me. I just tried to stay low and hit the ball as much as I can. Make her play another ball and in the end I was feeling much better."

American Amanda Anisimova beat Czech Karolina Pliskova for the first time in five attempts to reach the quarter-finals.

Anisimova trailed by a set and a break on the way to a 3-6, 7-5, 6-1 victory.

Seventh-seeded Daria Kasatkina also advanced, beating American Taylor Townsend 6-4, 6-0.

Haaland embracing life out his 'comfort zone' in Premier League

AFP | London

Erling Haaland has warned the contenders to Manchester City's title that he will only improve in the competitive environment of English football as the Norwegian prepares for his Premier League debut away to West Ham on Sunday.

Haaland is the marquee arrival to the Premier League from over £1 billion (\$1.2 billion) spent by the 20 top-flight English clubs so far this summer.

The 22-year-old had his pick of top clubs after scoring 86 goals in 89 games for Borussia Dortmund, but said the demands of playing under Pep Guardiola was behind his reason for choosing City.

"As a young player, playing for Pep Guardiola, playing for the best club in England, I have to keep developing and get better at a lot of things," Haaland told Sky Sports.

"That's what I like a lot about football, you can always develop, you can always get better at the game."



Manchester City's Erling Braut Haaland applauds fans after the match

The English champions are already Haaland's fifth club after spells at Bryne, Molde and Red Bull Salzburg before joining Dortmund.

"Part of the game is to get out of your comfort zone which is something I've been doing and something I like because then you develop more as a human being as well," he added.

"I'm a player that's hungry for goals, that gives 100 per

cent, that wants to win every single game. They are simple things but also really important things."

After the hype around his arrival, Haaland had a debut to forget, missing a glorious chance towards the end of City's 3-1 defeat to Liverpool in the Community Shield on Saturday.

However, he said he will not let that affect him as he prepares to make his first Premier League

appearance this weekend.

"You are a kind of entertainer. You get judged every single week for what you do on the pitch and you have to deliver and do your best," he said.

"For me as a striker, this is something I cannot stress about because if you think too much, you might end up doing things you don't want to do.

"It's going to be tough and this is the charming thing about the Premier League. It's a beautiful, hard competition, that's why it's the most popular league in the world."

ments before the end of August.

"I want a certain number of players in my squad, players who are very similar in level, to perform well throughout the season and to create healthy competition," he said at a news conference.

"But are these three players going to arrive quickly, later or not at all? I don't know. I know the club is doing all it can to have a very competitive squad."

Sanches is set to be reunited with Galtier having worked with him at Lille

Sanches, 24, is set to be reunited with Galtier having worked with him at Lille.

But ahead of PSG's first game of the new league season away to Clermont on Saturday, Galtier called for further reinforce-

Jesus' winning mentality contagious for Arsenal players, says Arteta



Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta with new signing Gabriel Jesus

AFP | London

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta hopes that Gabriel Jesus' experience of regularly winning trophies at Manchester City will rub off on his new teammates.

Jesus makes his competitive debut for the Gunners at Crystal Palace on Friday night after a summer move from City, where he won four Premier League titles among eight major trophies.

The Brazilian forward joined the Gunners for more game time as he aims to make the World Cup in Qatar later this year.

He has whetted Arsenal fans' appetite by scoring seven times in pre-season.

"When you bring top players from top clubs and they've been extremely successful over the years, there is expectation," said Arteta at his pre-match press conference yesterday.

"The role that Gabi has here

Gabriel Jesus joined Arsenal for more game time as he aims to make the World Cup in Qatar later this year

is going to be very different to the role that Gabi had in his previous club.

"He's a tremendous talent with a mentality that is so contagious and he's going to give us a lot, but it's a team at the end of the day."

Arteta has also recruited Olexandr Zinchenko from City, while the additions of Fabio Vieira, Marquinhos, Matt Turner and the return of William Saliba from a loan spell at Marseille have bulked up the Arsenal squad.

Galtier expects more signings as PSG near Sanches deal

AFP | Paris

Paris Saint-Germain coach Christophe Galtier said yesterday he hopes for three more signings before the end of the transfer window, on top of the expected arrival of Portugal midfielder Renato Sanches.

Galtier, appointed last month to replace Mauricio Pochettino, has seen the Ligue 1 champions bring in Portuguese interna-



Christophe Galtier

tional Vitinha, French defender Nordi Mukiele and young striker Hugo Ekitike.

Bahrain's Abbas to go for 400m gold



Bahrain's Yusuf Ali Abbas, left, crosses the finish line next to South Africa's Lythe Pillay in their semi-final heat

● **Sprinter Yusuf Ali Abbas set to be one of eight athletes to contest men's 400m final at World Athletics U20 Championships 2022**

TDT | Manama

Bahraini sprinter Yusuf Ali Abbas barged into the men's 400 metres final yesterday at the World Athletics U20 Championships 2022, being held in Cali, Colombia.

The talented 19-year-old made it through as one of two non-automatic qualifiers after finishing the first of three semi-final heats in third place. The top two from each race earned an automatic berth in the medal round, while two other spots were gained by the next two quickest athletes.

Abbas was one of those two after finishing his run in 46.21 seconds. The other to make it through as a non-automatic qualifier was Tyler Floyd of Canada, who was running

in the same heat and finished fourth in 46.22s.

Lythe Pillay of South Africa won heat one in 45.61s, while Shaemar Uter of Jamaica was the runner-up in 45.96s.

The others to advance to the 400m final were Busang Collen Kebinatshipi from Botswana and Joshua Atkinson from Thailand in heat two; and Delano Kennedy from Jamaica along with Steven McElroy from heat three.

The medal-deciding race was scheduled to be held early today morning at 1.50am, Bahrain time.

Abbas was set to run in lane one. He heads into the final with a season's best of 45.87s, which is also his personal best.

Meanwhile, also yesterday, Bahraini medal hopeful Zenab Moussa Ali Mahamat was unlucky in the semi-finals of the women's 400m. Competing in heat three, she was disqualified from her race.

She had originally finished in second place before being excluded from the final classification, thus missing out on her medal round.

Bahrain set for top Asian volleyball event

Senior men's national team all geared up to fly Kingdom's flag in 2022 AVC Cup for Men, starting Sunday in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand

● **Bahrain one of 11 top national teams from across Asia participating**

● **Nationals in Pool D for preliminaries with Chinese-Taipei and China**

● **Bahrainis to begin tournament campaign Sunday against Chinese-Taipei**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's senior men's national volleyball team are all set to take on the continent's best in the 2022 Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) Cup for Men, set to take place in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand.

The Bahrainis are making their debut in the prestigious tournament, which gets underway on Sunday featuring 11 of the top senior squads from all over Asia and Oceania.

The nationals are in Pool D for the competition's preliminary round alongside Chinese Taipei and China. Pool A consists of hosts Thailand, South Korea and Hong Kong; Pool B is composed of Iran and Pakistan; and Pool C includes Japan, Australia and India.

Defending champions Qatar were also set to take part, but have since withdrawn. Iran were the silver-medallists from the last edition in 2018 while Japan won the bronze.

Bahrain is set to open their tournament campaign on Sunday against Chinese Taipei. The match is scheduled for a 2pm start. The Bahrainis then take on China on Tuesday, also at 2pm.

Following a single round-robin in the opening stage, the top two from each pool move on to the main round, where they will once again be divided into two groups,



Bahrain's senior men's national team in action at the GCC Games last May (File photo)



Middle blocker Abbas Al Khabbaz looks to attack the net during a match at the GCC Games (File photo)

contests.

The nationals travelled to the Thai capital late last month to begin their final preparations for the AVC Cup.

They departed with a 14-player squad, coached by Brazilian tactician Issanay Ramires.

"The challenge will be huge," Coach Ramires said about the tournament. "We will fight hard to represent Bahrain with a lot of determination and desire to overcome ourselves so that we are ready for the opportunities that this competition will present us."

The Bahrainis are set to be underdogs in the AVC Cup for Men, and will be relying heavily on the Kingdom's top talents in the game, some of whom include setters Mahmood Hasan Ebrahim and Mahmood Al Afia; outside hitter Nasser Anan; opposites Mohammed Anan and Ali Ebrahim; middle blockers Ali Serafi and Abbas Al Khabbaz; and liberos Hussain Abdullah Abbas and Ali Khairala.

Bahrain's senior men's national volleyball team had recently won the silver medals at the third GCC Games in Kuwait, held last May.



Bahrain are making their debut in the prestigious competition, organised by the Asian Volleyball Confederation. This year's event marks its seventh edition

including Pools E and F.

The third-ranked sides will go on to Pool G.

Game results from the preliminaries will be carried over in the main stage. That will then set up the match-ups for the semi-finals and the concluding classification games.

The tournament is set to conclude on August 14 with the gold and bronze medal

BRAVE CF 60 fighter celebration video goes viral with 1.5 million views in 24 hours

TDT | Manama

BRAVE Combat Federation is busied to trending. With the all-encompassing action menu on offer, the promotion often draws millions of eyeballs from across the globe as martial arts fans get their dose of quality MMA.

But this past weekend at BRAVE CF 60 the promotion went viral via another source when world-renowned influencer, Iran Ferreira - more affectionately known by his social media fans and followers as Luva de Pedreiro - reposted a BRAVE CF video on his Instagram account.

In the video, Brazil's Luiz Cado celebrates his Super Welterweight win over countryman Luis Felipe Dias by mimicking the Brazilian influencer. Cado acted out Luva's famous trade-



Luiz Cado celebrates after a bout

mark "Receba!" celebration which then caught the eye of Luva who then shared it with his 17.7 million Instagram followers via his story.

As of today, the organic BRAVE CF post has gained more than

1.5 million views in just over 24 hours on Instagram. Luva blew up over the last few years on social media and the soccer fanatic's "Receba" moment entails him scoring goals before going into a frenzy of a celebration

screaming "Receba" which is a Portuguese word that translates to "Receive" in English.

Following his technical knockout victory this past weekend in the Kingdom of Bahrain, Cado has unofficially become the baddest Brazilian Super Welterweight and looks to continue his dominance in the BRAVE CF cage.

This coming week, the BRAVE NATION heads to Bonn, Germany as the world's fastest-growing mixed martial arts promotion prepares to host BRAVE CF 61 - in partnership with leading German mixed martial arts promotion, the National Fighting Championship (NFC) - on Saturday, August 6th.

This will mark the first-ever German event and we look forward to you joining us there! For more information visit www.bravecf.com.

Ten Hag tells Ronaldo to improve match fitness after missing pre-season



Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag speaks with Manchester United's Alejandro Garnacho and Cristiano Ronaldo

Reuters | London

Manchester United manager Erik Ten Hag said Cristiano Ronaldo could fit into his style of play but that the forward would need to build up his fitness before getting the chance to prove he deserves a place in the team.

Ronaldo did not join United's squad for their pre-season

tour to Thailand and Australia and was left out of a friendly defeat to Atletico Madrid, but played 45 minutes in a 1-1 draw with Rayo Vallecano on Sunday.

Asked if the Portugal international can fit into his vision of how he wants United to play, Ten Hag told Sky Sports: "I think he can."

"But to start with he has to get fit, he's just started."