

Indian FM visits Maldives amid tense ties



The International Press : India's Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar yesterday began a three-day visit to the Maldives since Male expelled dozens of Indian soldiers and shifted towards China. The foreign ministry said in a statement that the Indian Ocean archipelago was a key part of New Delhi's "neighbourhood first" and maritime security policies. Known as a luxury holiday destination with pristine white beaches and secluded resorts, the atoll nation has also become a geopolitical hotspot in the Indian Ocean. India is suspicious of China's growing presence in the Indian Ocean, including in Sri Lanka as well as the Maldives, which signed a military assistance pact with Beijing in March.

Mamata congratulates Yunus for taking charge as Bangladesh's chief adviser

The International Press : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has congratulated Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus for taking charge of the interim government in Bangladesh.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has congratulated Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus for taking charge of the interim government in Bangladesh

Mamata expressed the hope that the ongoing crisis in the neighbouring country would end and peace would soon be restored, reports our New Delhi correspondent. "If our neighbours stay well, we also stay well," she wrote to Yunus yesterday on X, formerly Twitter, extending her best wishes. "Hopefully, the crisis will end

soon, peace will return. Let peace come back to this world of love of yours and mine." "My sincere congratulations and best wishes to Professor Muhammad Yunus and those who have taken up their duties in Bangladesh. Hopefully, our relationship with them will improve further. I wish for Bangladesh's development, peace, progress and betterment of people. My best wishes to everyone," she wrote. Yunus was sworn in on Thursday night as chief adviser of the interim government.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in Jhargram on Adivasi Day



The International Press : US President Joe Biden said Wednesday he is "not confident" Donald Trump would concede peacefully if he loses the US election, as the Republican's rival Kamala Harris warned a Trump victory would usher in a lawless administration set on curtailing Americans' freedoms. Trump has been impeached twice and indicted twice over various alleged attempts to cheat in the 2020 election -- which he still has not acknowledged he lost -- and was convicted of 34 felonies over a hush money scheme to deceive voters in 2016. His false claims of widespread fraud in 2020 preceded the storming of the US Capitol -- and the wounding of more than 100 police officers -- by a violent mob determined to prevent the certification of his defeat. "If Trump loses, I'm not confident at all," Biden told US network CBS after he was asked if he expected a peaceful transfer of power in 2025. "He means what he says. We don't take him seriously," Biden warned. "He means it." The president's remarks, which air fully on Sunday, came soon after Harris had sounded the alarm over

Trump's conduct in the opposite scenario -- victory for the 78-year-old billionaire. Speaking to a crowd in Eau Claire, Wisconsin as part of a multi-day tour of swing states, she used the former president's own words -- as well as his felony convictions -- to argue that a second Trump term would be a disaster for America. She pointed to his vow to be a dictator "on day one," his threats to weaponize the Justice Department against his political enemies and his 2022 comment demanding the "termination" of constitutional provisions over his 2020 election defeat. "Someone who suggests that we should terminate the constitution of the United States should never again have a chance to stand behind the seal of the president of the United States," Harris said, exhorting Americans to reject the "chaos, fear and hate" of Trumpism. Harris reprised the theme hours later at a rally in Detroit, where she called herself and her new running mate, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, "joyful warriors" in White House battle. The 59-year-old vice president was on day two of a blitz of the most closely-fought election battlegrounds as she seeks to capitalize on a surging excitement since she replaced Biden atop the Democratic ticket in July.

Israel agrees to resume Gaza truce talks next week



The International Press : Israel has agreed to resume Gaza ceasefire talks next week at the request of international mediators, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said, after intensive diplomatic efforts aimed at averting a region-wide conflagration, reports BSS. The announcement followed an Iranian claim that Israel wants to spread war in the Middle East, as well as repeated accusations by Hamas officials, some analysts and critics in Israel that Netanyahu has prolonged the fighting in Gaza for political gain. Israel's military said troops were operating around Khan Yunis, the southern Gaza city from which soldiers had withdrawn in April after months of fierce fighting with Hamas. Israel has vowed to destroy the Palestinian group in retaliation for its October 7 attack, but during 10 months of war across the Gaza Strip the military has found itself returning to some areas to fight the militants again. "Enough!" shouted Khan Yunis resident Ahmed al-Najjar. "Have mercy on us, for God's sake, the young children and women are dying in the streets. Enough!" After the military issued an evacuation order for parts of Khan Yunis, AFPTV images showed a crowd of people flowing through dusty, damaged streets on foot or on donkey and motorcycle carts piled with belongings as horns honked. "We've been displaced 15 times," said Mohammed Abdeen. The Gaza war has already pulled in Iran-aligned groups in the region, and fears of a broader Middle East war have surged following vows of vengeance for the killing of two senior militants including Hamas's political leader. There has been only one truce in the Gaza fighting, a week-long pause in November that saw Israeli hostages held by militants freed in exchange for Palestinian prisoners detained in Israel.

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অনুগল্প ও গল্পের জন্য ফোনে কথা বলে নেবেন নিয়ম ও কারণ জানার জন্য।

মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্রী মমতা বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়ের উদ্যোগে

শিশু কিশোর আকাদেমি

তথ্য ও সংস্কৃতি বিভাগ, পশ্চিমবঙ্গ সরকার

বিভাগীয় সাংস্কৃতিক প্রতিযোগিতা (প্রেসিডেন্সি বিভাগ)

আগামী ২৪ ও ২৫ আগস্ট '২৪ হাওড়া, উঃ ২৪ পরগনা, দঃ ২৪ পরগনা, নদিয়া এবং কলকাতার ছোটোদের জন্য সাংস্কৃতিক প্রতিযোগিতা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

২৪ এবং ২৫ আগস্ট প্রেসিডেন্সি বিভাগের উল্লিখিত জেলাগুলির জন্য এই প্রতিযোগিতা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। প্রতিযোগিতার সময়সহ বিস্তারিত বিবরণ ও আবেদনপত্র সংগ্রহের জন্য দুপুর ১টা থেকে সন্ধ্যা ৬টা পর্যন্ত (প্রতি ক্ষেত্রে শনি, রবি ও অন্য ছুটির দিন বাদে) কলকাতায় শিশু কিশোর আকাদেমির কার্যালয়ে নিম্নলিখিত ঠিকানায় আবেদনপত্র জমা দিতে হবে। আবেদনের শেষ তারিখ ২০ আগস্ট ২০২৪।

প্রতিযোগিতার বিষয়: 'ক' বিভাগ (৫ থেকে ১০+): রবীন্দ্রসংগীত, নজরুলগীতি, রাগপ্রধান গান, লোকগীতি, শাস্ত্রীয় নৃত্য, আবৃত্তি। 'খ' বিভাগ (১১ থেকে ১৬+): রবীন্দ্রসংগীত, নজরুলগীতি, রাগপ্রধান গান, লোকগীতি, শাস্ত্রীয় নৃত্য, আবৃত্তি, তাত্ক্ষণিক বক্তৃতা। এই প্রতিযোগিতায় স্থানাস্থিকারীদের পুরস্কৃত করা হবে, প্রত্যেক অংশগ্রহণকারীকে শংসাপত্র দেওয়া হবে। এবং এই প্রতিযোগিতার ভিত্তিতেই আসন্ন 'পঞ্চদশ রাজ্য শিশু কিশোর উৎসব'-এ অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আমন্ত্রণ জানানো হবে।

বিঃ দ্রঃ- আসন্ন রাজ্য শিশু কিশোর উৎসবে দলগত অনুষ্ঠানে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য (গান, নাচ, আবৃত্তি, বৃন্দবাদন ইত্যাদি) এবং একক যন্ত্রবাদন, মুকাভিনয়, ম্যাজিক ইত্যাদি নানা বিষয়ের জন্য পেন ড্রাইভ/ডিভিডিসহ (অফেরতযোগ্য) সংশ্লিষ্ট দপ্তরে আবেদন করতে হবে। দলগত অনুষ্ঠানে দলের লেটারহেড এবং অন্যান্য একক অনুষ্ঠানের জন্য সাদা কাগজে সংশ্লিষ্ট আধিকারিকের নামে চিঠি জমা দিতে হবে। প্রতিটি ক্ষেত্রে অবশ্যই পেন ড্রাইভ/ডিভিডি (অফেরতযোগ্য) দপ্তরে জমা দিতে হবে।

প্রতিযোগিতার স্থান: উত্তীর্ণ, আলিপুর। সময়: ২৪ আগস্ট সকাল ১০ টা থেকে 'ক' বিভাগ এবং ২৫ আগস্ট সকাল ১০টা থেকে 'খ' বিভাগ

শিশু কিশোর আকাদেমি, উত্তীর্ণ, দ্বিতীয় তল। ১এ, রিফর্মের স্ট্রিট, আলিপুর, কলকাতা: ২৭ফোন: ০৩৩ ২২২৩ ৬২১০ ই-মেল: skakademi@gmail.com

Jaya Bachchan gets in heated clash with Rajya Sabha Chair Jagdeep Dhankhar - 'Don't school me'



The International Press : Opposition parties staged a walkout in Rajya Sabha (upper house of the Indian Parliament) on Friday (Aug 9) in support of Samajwadi Party MP Jaya Bachchan. The walkout led by Congress stalwart Sonia Gandhi, happened after Jaya Bachchan got into a heated exchange with Indian Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar over being introduced as 'Jaya

Amitabh Bachchan'. This is not the first time Jaya Bachchan objected to being called by her husband, Amitabh Bachchan's name. She had expressed her strong disapproval of this practice. "It was a humiliating experience..." Jaya told reporters after the walkout. She added, "Whatever is said from the Chair...is allowed. Outside the Chair, the individual is like us.. an MP. I objected to the

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Nitin Gadkari warns Punjab CM to cancel 8 major highway projects

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari in a letter to Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has warned him that the National Highways Authority of India (NHA) is poised to cancel eight major highway projects, valued at



India's relations with neighbours not easy to manage: Jaishankar

India has said managing its relations with its South Asian neighbours "are not easy to manage" and that it is prepared to face competition from other countries for influence in the region. Taking part in an interactive session with a think-tank in



Editorial

Maduro blocks X in Venezuela

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro suspended access to the social media site X on Thursday, as he faced renewed pressure from a trio of friendly Latin American nations to release data proving his claimed reelection was valid. The president announced his government was blocking the social media platform formerly known as Twitter for 10 days, while accusing the site's owner Elon Musk of 'inciting hate and fascism' in Venezuela. Election authorities declared Maduro the winner of the July 28 vote but have yet to release detailed results, leading left-wing allies Brazil, Colombia and Mexico on Thursday to reiterate a joint call on the National Electoral Council (CNE) to disclose polling records. Protests sparked last week by the declaration of Maduro's victory left at least 24 people dead, according to rights groups, with thousands also arrested. The Venezuelan opposition claims to have won in a landslide and warned of a potential mass exodus if Maduro is allowed to remain in power. 'If Maduro chooses to stay by force, the only thing we will see is a wave of migration like never before: three, four, five million Venezuelans in a very short span of time,' opposition leader Maria Corina Machado—who was barred from running in the election—said in a video conference with Mexican news outlets. According to the United Nations, more than seven million Venezuelans have fled the country of 30 million since Maduro took over in 2013, mostly to other Latin American countries and the United States. Maduro has overseen an unprecedented economic crisis, including an 80 percent drop in the once-wealthy oil-rich country's GDP, amid domestic economic mismanagement and international sanctions. Washington has spearheaded sanctions against the Maduro regime and on Thursday threatened that further measures would be taken if Maduro were to arrest Machado or Edmundo Gonzalez Urrutia, the retired diplomat who stood as the opposition candidate in the election. 'I think that would be a step that could mobilize the international community even more, even those that might be somewhat sympathetic and don't want to rattle things too much in Venezuela,' Francisco Mora, US ambassador to the Organization of American States, said at the Atlantic Council, a Washington-based think tank. Machado—who says she fears for her life—and Gonzalez Urrutia have been in hiding for more than a week. Highlighting the opposition's perilous security situation, two other leaders were arrested Thursday, party officials and family members said. Ex-lawmakers Williams Davila and Americo De Grazia were arrested separately, adding to the growing list of reported sudden post-election detentions. The public prosecutor's office has opened a criminal probe against Machado and Gonzalez Urrutia for 'usurpation of functions, diffusion of

false information, incitement to disobedience of the laws, incitement to insurrection' and 'criminal association.' Citing his fear that he would be 'jeopardizing' his freedom if he did so, Gonzalez Urrutia on Wednesday defied a Supreme Court summons over the disputed results. The court summoned all presidential candidates, including Maduro, and other opposition politicians, some of whom did attend. Maduro is due to appear before the court on Friday. Fellow left-wing governments from Brazil, Colombia and Mexico praised the verification process undertaken by the court but released a statement saying that they 'start from the premise that the CNE is the organ legally mandated to transparently disclose the electoral results.' Critics say the court, and the electoral authority, are unflinchingly loyal to Maduro, who wants the body to simply 'validate' his victory. The CNE ratified Maduro's victory with 52 percent of votes, but did not publish detailed results and even claimed to have been hacked. The opposition has launched a website with copies of 84 percent of ballots cast, showing an easy win for Gonzalez Urrutia with two million votes. The government claims those are forged. The opposition and several observers accuse the CNE of inventing the hack at the government's behest to avoid publishing the real results. Vices President Delcy Rodriguez on Thursday hit out at the international community and critics on social media for 'an international hysteria around the (election) minutes, they could even make a Netflix series.' Maduro on Thursday night told a rally of supporters that X, formerly Twitter, would be 'withdrawn from circulation' by the state agency in charge of telecommunications. He did not give details on how the suspension would work. 'No one will silence me, I will confront the espionage of the technological empire,' he said, accusing American billionaire Musk of 'inciting hatred and fascism.' Jennie Lincoln, head of the Carter Center delegation that was invited to monitor the Venezuelan election, told AFP that that US-based organization had 'no evidence' of a cyberattack. In addition to the protester deaths, Maduro announced the death of two police officers and the arrest of more than 2,200 people.



Nitin Gadkari warns Punjab CM to cancel 8 major highway projects

The International Press : Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari in a letter to Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has warned him that the National Highways Authority of India (NHA) is poised to cancel eight major highway projects, valued at Rs 14,288 crore if the prevailing law and order situation in the state does not improve. The letter follows alarming reports of violence and intimidation related to the ongoing construction of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway. The incidents include attacks on engineers and contractors in Jalandhar as well as threats made by miscreants in Ludhiana to harm project staff and facilities. Union Minister Gadkari emphasised the critical nature of these projects, noting that they are Greenfield corridors. "Cancelling even one package could render the entire stretch ineffective," the Minister said. Tagging photographic evidence of recent assaults to underscore the urgency of the situation, Union Minister Gadkari outlined serious safety concerns affecting NHA officials, contractors, and their teams, along with ongoing land acquisition challenges. In a review meeting held on July 15, Union Minister Gadkari had received assurances from stakeholders that issues related to land acquisition and law enforcement would be prioritised. However, he expressed his disappointment, saying, "No progress has been made, and the situation has further worsened." He said that due to unresolved land acquisition matters and deteriorating law

and order, several concessionaires have sought to terminate their contracts and have raised claims against the NHA. The NHA has already terminated three projects, amounting to Rs 3,263 crore, due to land availability challenges. Union Minister Gadkari laid the foundation stones of 29 highway projects in Punjab in January this year, which are worth Rs 4,000 crore. Responding to the letter, State BJP Vice-President and former MLA Arvind Khanna said on Saturday that the withdrawal of three national highway projects from Punjab was unfortunate for the state. MLA Khanna said the Aam Aadmi Party government has failed miserably in providing land in Punjab for the Rs 3,264-crore project. He added that the law and order situation has deteriorated to such an extent that halting highway projects in Punjab due to the refusal of contractors to work is a major failure of the state government. This shows how serious this government is about the development and infrastructure of the state, he said. He said if these road projects were operational, the state would have received huge economic and business benefits. He added that the state government is also sidelining the matter of Rs 250 crore scholarship for Scheduled Castes children studying in government schools, which clearly "shows that its intentions are flawed". Khanna said the government has proved that it neither has any experience in running a government nor does it have any seriousness towards the development of the state.

India's relations with neighbours not easy to manage: Jaishankar



The International Press : India has said managing its relations with its South Asian neighbours "are not easy to manage" and that it is prepared to face competition from other countries for influence in the region. Taking part in an interactive session with a think-tank in New Delhi on Friday, Indian External Affairs Minister Subramanyam Jaishankar said, "We recognise today that given our history, given the side of the neighbours, given the sociology of our neighbours and of ourselves, that these are not easy relationships to manage." Jaishankar made the remarks while replying to a question after delivering the Jasjit Singh Memorial Lecture at the Centre for Airpower Studies (CAPS) on Friday, Daily Sun reports. He turned to "political ups and downs" with many of India's neighbours, adding these are "realities" that need to be accepted. "From time-to-time, we are challenged. There have been occasions in some of our neighbours when we (India) have become a political issue," he added. To a question on India's neighbourhood first policy, the Indian foreign minister cited examples of successful collaborative approaches and said the aim was to economically bring the neighbours much closer." He specifically mentioned India's assistance to various countries in the neighbourhood during the Covid-19 pandemic as well as its support to Sri Lanka when it was reeling under an economic crisis. Asked about China's expanding presence in South Asia, Jaishankar said, "So, you know the neighbourhoods for any country, especially for big countries, will never be easy. But neighbourhoods need hard work and frankly, give some other neighbours that we have and they have, the neighbourhood will also be very competitive," he added. "There's no point moaning and groaning about it. I think if we have a competition, we need to compete and that's really what we are trying to do," Jaishankar said. The Indian foreign minister said, "So at least in our neighbourhood, we have shown that we have the ability to stand up, to push our interests, to compete against other countries, and often I would say we resource them and outperformed them. So I think we have a very solid record of that," he said.

News Continue

Contd. from P/1
Jaya Bachchan gets in heated clash with Rajya Sabha Chair Jagdeep Dhankhar - 'Don't school me'
tone used by the Chair. We are not school children and some of us are even senior citizens. I was upset with the tone... especially when the Leader of the Opposition (Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge) stood up to speak he (the Chair) switched the mike off..."
"And, on top of that, every time words that are unparliamentary are used... like 'nuisance', like 'you may be a celebrity but I don't care'. I am not asking him to care! Nobody has ever spoken the way they do now in Parliament. What is the problem? It is so disrespectful to women," the SP MP continued.
What went down in Rajya Sabha between Jagdeep Dhankhar and Jaya Bachchan? On Friday, when Jaya Bachchan objected to being introduced as 'Jaya Amitabh Bachchan' and VP Dhankhar said, "Don't school me."
"You may be a celebrity (but) you have to understand the decorum..." he added.

J.P. Nadda launches Tiranga Yatra in Rajkot



The International Press : BJP President J.P. Nadda launched the Tiranga Yatra from Gujarat's Rajkot on Saturday, marking the beginning of a nationwide campaign under the "Har Ghar Tiranga" Abhiyan, which will run till August 15, leading up to Independence Day. Addressing the public gathering here, BJP President Nadda emphasised Gujarat's significant contribution to

India's development. "India is in the making, and Gujarat plays a huge role in this. I am honoured to start the Tiranga Yatra from Rajkot today. Tomorrow, I will be in Surat, followed by Vadodara and Ahmedabad. This Tiranga Yatra will reach every taluka and every mandal by August 15. I want to appeal to young people especially: this independence didn't come easily. Thousands of soldiers lost their lives, and lakhs of families sacrificed their loved ones, putting the country above their interests," the BJP President said. The grand finale of the Tiranga Yatra will take place in Ahmedabad on August 13, where Union Home Minister Amit Shah will join the event. Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Minister of State for Home Affairs Harsh Sanghavi, and Minister of State for

Cooperation Jagdish Vishwakarma will also be present, bringing the nationwide campaign to a befitting close just before the 77th Independence Day. The Tiranga Yatra aims to "reach every home across the nation, instilling a sense of patriotism and national pride". The campaign is part of a broader initiative leading up to Independence Day, with key events planned in four major cities in Gujarat: Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Surat, and Vadodara. The launch event in Rajkot saw the participation of prominent leaders, including CM Patel, Union Minister and MoS Home Sanghavi. In Surat, on August 11, the Tiranga Yatra is expected to draw around one lakh participants, with CM Patel, State BJP Chief C.R. Paatil, and other key Ministers such as MoS Home Sanghavi, MoS Education Praful Pansheriya, and MoS Forest and Environment Mukesh Patel leading the procession. The yatra will continue in Vadodara on August 12. Renamed the Rashtra Chetna Yatra, this initiative is designed to ignite a sense of patriotism across Gujarat ahead of Independence Day.

Biden realised Netanyahu lied about captive deal: Report



The International Press : A senior official in the administration of President Joe Biden has told Israeli daily Haaretz that Netanyahu is ungrateful towards the US and disregards the significant amount of aid it has provided to Israel throughout the past 10 months of war, reports Al Jazeera. The official also described the last two conversations between the two men – one during a White House meeting some 10 days

ago, the other over the phone last week – as difficult and tense, according to Haaretz. "Biden realised that Netanyahu was lying to him about the hostages," the official told the publication. "He's not saying it publicly yet, but in the meeting between them, he specifically told him, 'Stop bull****ing me.'" The official said the US is preparing to help Israel in the face of an Iranian and Hezbollah response to last week's assassinations in Beirut and Tehran but stressed there would be no support for actions that further expand the scope of the conflict. "Netanyahu is trying to prolong the war instead of focusing on how to get to a hostage deal," the official said. "It's making it harder for us to continue supporting Israel over time." Haaretz said the Israeli prime minister responded to the reports about the tense discussions with Biden through a press release attributed to his office that said: "The prime minister does not interfere in American politics and will work with whoever is elected president, just as he also expects the Americans not to interfere in Israeli politics."

কলকাতার বৃক্কে নিউ ব্যারাকপুরে তৈরি হচ্ছে সম্পূর্ণ পাথরের আশ্চর্য মন্দির

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ঠাকুর শ্রীসমীরেশ্বরের আরাধ্যা দেবী বিশ্বমাতা দক্ষিণা কালীর

বিশ্বমাতা মন্দির
তৈরি হচ্ছে

ঠাকুর শ্রীশ্রী সমীর ব্রহ্মচারী বিশ্ব সেবাশ্রম সঙ্ঘ

১৯৯ বিশ্ব সেবাশ্রম সঙ্ঘ রোড, তালপুকুর, ১৮ নং ওয়ার্ড
নিউ ব্যারাকপুর, কলকাতা-৭০০ ১৩১।
দেখতে হলে ট্রেনে বিশ্বপাড়া, বাসে মাইকেননগর নামুন।

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নতুন মুখ অভিনেতা-অভিনেত্রী চাই

ভারতের সর্ববিক্রম প্রাপ্ত বাংলা সৈনিক ই পেপার

সাবাদিন নিবেদিত ওয়েব সিরিজ
বাংলার মানুষের সাথে, মানুষের পাশে
শুটি শুরু হবে

কালচক্র

নতুন মুখদের জন্য স্বর্ণ সুযোগ রয়েছে

অডিশন না দিয়ে অভিনয় সুযোগ পেতে হলে যোগাযোগ করুন
পরিচালক মৃত্যুঞ্জয় সরদার-এর সাথে

যোগাযোগ নম্বর : ৯৫৬৪৩৮২০৩১

Israel agrees to resume Gaza truce talks next week

Israel has agreed to resume Gaza ceasefire talks next week at the request of international mediators, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said, after intensive diplomatic efforts aimed at averting a region-wide conflagration.



John Abraham Heaps Praises On Abhishek Banerjee's Action Sequences In Vedaa; Actor Says, 'Can't Reveal Much, But It Will Leave You Surprised'

Actor John Abraham who is starring the upcoming film Vedaa, lauded Abhishek Banerjee for his impressive debut in action cinema. Banerjee, renowned for his work in dramatic and comedic roles, is stepping into the action genre for the first time as the lead antagonist in the highly anticipated film



Israel agrees to resume Gaza truce talks next week



The International Press : Israel has agreed to resume Gaza ceasefire talks next week at the request of international mediators, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said, after intensive diplomatic efforts aimed at averting a region-wide conflagration.

The announcement followed an Iranian claim that Israel wants to spread war in the Middle East, as well as repeated accusations by Hamas officials, some analysts and critics in Israel that Netanyahu has prolonged the fighting in Gaza for political gain.

Israel's military said troops were operating around Khan Yunis, the southern Gaza city from which soldiers had withdrawn in April after months of fierce fighting with Hamas.

Israel has vowed to destroy the Palestinian group in retaliation for its October 7 attack, but during 10 months of war across the Gaza Strip the military has found itself returning to some areas to fight the militants again. "Enough!" shouted Khan Yunis resident Ahmed al-Najjar.

"Have mercy on us, for God's sake, the young children and women are dying in the streets. Enough!" After the military issued an evacuation order for parts of Khan Yunis,

AFPTV images showed a crowd of people flowing through dusty, damaged streets on foot or on donkey and motorcycle carts piled with belongings as horns honked.

"We've been displaced 15 times," said Mohammed Abdeen.

The Gaza war has already pulled in Iran-aligned groups in the region, and fears of a broader Middle East war have surged following vows of vengeance for the killing of two senior militants including Hamas's political leader.

There has been only one truce in the Gaza fighting, a week-long pause in November that saw Israeli hostages held by militants freed in exchange for Palestinian prisoners detained in Israel.

United States, Qatari and Egyptian mediators have for months tried to secure another deal.

- Deal 'without delay' - In a joint statement on Thursday, the three countries' leaders invited the warring parties to resume talks on August 15 in Doha or Cairo "to close all remaining gaps and commence implementation of the deal without further delay".

Mediators were "prepared to present a final bridging proposal" to resolve remaining issues, they said. Netanyahu's office said Israel would send a negotiating team "to conclude the details of implementing a deal".

Hamas has yet to publicly comment on the mediators' invitation. Recent discussions have focused on a framework outlined by US President Joe Biden in late May and later endorsed by the UN Security Council.

The war in Gaza began with Hamas's attack that resulted in the deaths of 1,198 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on Israeli official figures. Palestinian militants seized 251 hostages, 111 of whom are still held in

Gaza, including 39 the Israeli military says are dead.

Israel's retaliatory military campaign in Gaza has killed at least 39,699 people, according to the Hamas-run territory's health ministry, which does not give details of civilian and militant deaths.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, in talks with his US counterpart Lloyd Austin, "raised the importance of swiftly achieving an agreement" to return the remaining hostages, Gallant's office said on Friday.

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen said on social media platform X: "We need a ceasefire in Gaza now. I strongly support the efforts led by the US, Egypt, and Qatar to help achieve the peace and stability the region needs."

The killing last week of Hamas's political chief Ismail Haniyeh during a visit to Tehran had sidelined truce talks. Iran and Hamas blamed his death on Israel which has not directly commented on it.

- 'Israel needs the US' - In the hours after Haniyeh's killing, Qatar's Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani questioned how mediation can succeed "when one party assassinates the negotiator on the other side".

Haniyeh's killing came hours after an Israeli strike on Beirut killed Fuad Shukur, the military chief of Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement. Israel said it was its response to deadly rocket fire on the annexed Golan Heights.

Hamas ally Hezbollah has been trading near-daily cross-border fire with Israeli forces.

On Friday, two Hezbollah fighters were killed in a strike near the border, a source close to the group and the Israeli military said. A Lebanese security source separately reported that an Israeli strike on a car in the southern city of Sidon killed a Hamas security official from the nearby Palestinian refugee camp of Ain al-Helweh.

Hezbollah, Hamas, Iran and others vowed retaliation for the Shukur and Haniyeh killings, sending fears of a regional war soaring and triggering intensive efforts to halt the cycle of violence.

The United States, which has sent extra warships and jets to the region to support Israel, has urged both Iran and Israel to avoid an escalation.

A senior Biden administration official, requesting anonymity, told reporters that Israel had been "very receptive" to the idea of fresh truce talks, though "a significant amount of work" remains.

After criticism from officials in Washington and elsewhere of the Gaza war's impact on Palestinian civilians, analyst Chuck Freilich said Netanyahu is trying "to align with the US now, since Israel needs the US so much for dealing with the potential Iranian and Hezbollah attacks".

But when it comes to truce talks, Haniyeh's killing has left Netanyahu "acting more from a position of strength", said Freilich, a former Israeli national security adviser and researcher at Israel's Institute for National Security Studies.

Record-breaking wildfires scorch more than 1.4 million acres in Oregon, authorities say



The International Press : Wildfires in Oregon have burned more acres of land in 2024 than in any year since reliable records began, authorities said Friday, with the mid-August peak of fire season still on the horizon, reports UNB.

Blazes have scorched more than 1.4 million acres, or nearly 2,200 square miles (5,700 square kilometers), Northwest Intergovernmental Coordination Center spokesperson Carol Connolly said. That's more than any other year since 1992, when reliable records began to be kept, she said, and surpasses the previous record set in 2020.

Connolly said 71 large fires have burned the vast majority of the land this year. Large fires are defined as those that consume more than 100 acres (40 hectares) of timber or more than 300 acres (120 hectares) of grass or brush.

Thirty-two homes in the state have been lost to the fires, she said, which have been fueled by high temperatures, dry weather and low humidity. They have prompted evacuation notices across the state and largely torched rural and mountain areas, although some have also sparked closer to the Portland metro area.

Level 3 "go now" evacuation notices were in place Friday for the small town of Cherry Grove, about 35 miles (56 kilometers) west of Portland, as a fire burned in nearby forest. David Huey, a deputy with the Washington County Sheriff's Office, said most residents evacuated after officers went door to door encouraging them to leave.

Airplanes and helicopters were scooping water from nearby Henry Hagg Lake to drop on the fire, said Gert Zoutendijk, spokesperson for the Gaston Rural Fire District. The lake was set to be closed to the public throughout the weekend.

The fire was roughly 0.5 square miles (1.3 square kilometers) with zero containment as of Friday afternoon, although crews have made progress on lining the fire, Zoutendijk said. Another fire near the Portland suburb of Oregon City led authorities to temporarily close part of a state highway in the morning and issue "go now"

evacuation orders along part of the route. By mid-afternoon, authorities downgraded the evacuation and reopened the highway. The largest blaze is the Durkee Fire in eastern Oregon, which has scorched more than 459 square miles (1,200 square kilometers) but was at least 95% contained as of Friday, according to authorities. At one point it was the biggest fire in the country.

California's Park Fire has since become the largest, burning more than 660 square miles (1,710 square kilometers) and destroying more than 600 structures. A man was arrested and accused of starting the fire by pushing a burning car into a gully in a wilderness park outside the Sacramento Valley city of Chico.

Some of the fires in Oregon's previous record-worst year, 2020, were among the worst natural disasters in the state's history. Blazes over Labor Day weekend killed nine people, burned more than 1,875 square miles (4,860 square kilometers) and destroyed thousands of homes and other structures.

স্বল্প খরচে বোভাতে যাওয়ার বিশ্বস্ত প্রতিষ্ঠান



স্বল্প খরচে বোভাতে যাওয়ার বিশ্বস্ত প্রতিষ্ঠান

থাকা খাওয়ার সুব্যবস্থা রয়েছে

স্বল্প খরচে ছোট ছোট টুরের জন্য যোগাযোগ করতে পারেন

মিতাশ্রী টুর এন্ড ট্রাভেলস

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CINEMA

Janhvi Kapoor Reveals Mother Sridevi Warned Her To Never Cut Her Hair For Any Role: 'She Yelled At Me A Lot, Was Very Proud Of My Hair'

The International Press : Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor is currently climbing the ladder towards a successful career. Having made a name for herself in the Hindi entertainment industry with her versatile performances, she is all set to follow in her mother, late actress Sridevi's footsteps, by making her debut in the Telugu entertainment industry. As fans await the release of her upcoming film Ulajh, the actress recently revealed that she would never go bald for a character as her mother loved her hair and told her to never cut it for any role.

In an interview with IMDb's exclusive segment, Ask Each Other Anything, she was joined by Roshan Mathew, where she opened up about the one thing she wouldn't do for an on-screen character. She revealed that despite the film being a life-changing, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, she would never cut her hair short. She added that the filmmaker can use VFX or a baldcap. Quoted by Hindustan Times, she added, "I have dislocated my shoulder, I've bled, broken bones, put myself through all kinds of trauma and torture, but going bald is something I refuse to do."

The 27-year-old actress reminisced how this was also an issue during the shoot, as the director of Ulajh, Sudhanshu Saria, wanted her to cut her hair short. She said it was her "biggest fight" with him. Recalling the reason behind her decision, she said that during the shoot of her debut film Dhadaa, she has decided to cut her hair. However, the late actress scolded her for doing so and warned to never cut her beautiful hair for any role.



DID YOU KNOW? Salman Khan Wasn't Initially Keen On Working With Govinda In Partner, Reveals David Dhawan

The International Press : Director David Dhawan and actor Govinda formed a legendary partnership in the 1990s, producing nearly 17 hit films together. Reflecting on their successful collaboration, David Dhawan recently shared some behind-the-scenes anecdotes, highlighting the unique dynamics of their working relationship. He fondly recalled that he was the only one who could effectively "handle" Govinda, a testament to their strong bond and mutual understanding. Addressing Govinda's notorious tardiness, David nonchalantly mentioned that despite the delays, the work always got completed successfully.

David Dhawan praised Govinda as the "king of improvisation," which he credited as a significant factor in their success. He revealed that they had a special code to identify when a scene wasn't working. David would say, "rubber hai scene, prolonged, khincha hua hai," to which Govinda would confidently respond, "David, main pura scene ek shot mein deta hun." This synergy and Govinda's quick thinking made their films enjoyable and memorable.

David also spoke about working with Salman Khan and Govinda in the film "Partner." He recalled discussing the project with producer Sohail Khan, who immediately agreed to the casting idea. However, Salman was initially reluctant to join. David persuaded him by saying, "come year, let's do it, it will be a big thing." During the shoot in Bangkok, Salman

humorously remarked to David, "David year, isse ladna... fayda nahi hai," indicating that working with Govinda required a special kind of patience and understanding. Interestingly, Govinda once shared that Salman Khan personally requested him to leave David Dhawan's "Judwa" and let him take over the project. Govinda agreed, and Salman ended up playing a double role in the film, which became

John Abraham Heaps Praises On Abhishek Banerjee's Action Sequences In Vedaa; Actor Says, 'Can't Reveal Much, But It Will Leave You Surprised'



The International Press : Actor John Abraham who is starring the upcoming film Vedaa, lauded Abhishek Banerjee for his impressive debut in action cinema. Banerjee, renowned for his work in dramatic and comedic roles, is stepping into the action genre for the first time as the lead antagonist in the highly anticipated film "Vedaa," directed by Nikkhil Advani which is set to release on August 15th.

John Abraham, who stars in "Vedaa," has expressed his admiration for Banerjee's performance, highlighting the latter's surprising and skillful execution of action sequences. Abraham believes that Banerjee's portrayal will exceed people's expectations and leave audiences applauding. "When we speak of action, I of course can't reveal much of the film. But to speak of action, the action that Abhishek Banerjee has done, I am not kidding, it will leave you all surprised. I can vouch that you will be clapping for him during the interval point of the film."

The film, directed by Nikkhil Advani, promises to deliver an adrenaline-pumping experience, blending gripping narratives with dynamic action sequences.

Sports News

4

Haaland hatrick powers City over Chelsea 4-2

Erling Haaland's hat trick, including two goals in the first five minutes, led Manchester City over Chelsea 4-2 on Saturday in an English club football friendly at Columbus, Ohio.



I'm a product of Zimbabwe Cricket, says Sikandar Raza

Veteran Zimbabwe all-rounder Sikandar Raza stated that he is fully committed to Zimbabwe Cricket when asked if he will ever represent Pakistan, the country he was born into, again. Raza, 38, made his debut for Zimbabwe in a T20I



Lyles wins Olympic 100m gold in closest finish in modern history



The International Press : World champion Noah Lyles roared to victory in 9.79sec to claim gold in a dramatic men's Olympic 100m final in Paris on Sunday. Lyles won in the closest Olympic 100m finish in modern history as just five thousandths of a second separated him from Jamaica's Kishane Thompson. Both were given the rounded-up time of 9.79sec but the American's name carried the all-important (.784) to Thompson's (.789.) It made Lyles the first American, male or female, to win the event since Justin Gatlin took gold in the 2004 Athens Games. "It's the one I wanted," said Lyles, whose winning time was a personal best. "It's the hard battle, it's the amazing opponents. "Everybody's healthy, everybody came prepared

for the fight and I wanted to prove that I'm the man amongst all of them. I'm the wolf amongst wolves." Lyles' victory was only confirmed after a photo-finish. The American said of the wait for the final results: "I went up to Kishane and I was like, 'I'm going to be honest, bro, I think you had that one'." "And I was fully prepared to see his name pop up and to see my name pop up, I'm like goodness gracious. I'm incredible." Lyles added: "It's been a rollercoaster, ups and downs. "I'm usually a guy who likes to come out blazing in all my rounds, especially in the 200m. But the 100m, it's my first time here on the Olympic stage." Not 'fresh enough' The relatively unknown Thompson, the fastest man

this year with a best of 9.77sec, said he hadn't been "fresh enough" over the final 30 metres. "I couldn't really see Lyles, I wasn't sure." 23-year-old Thompson said of the photo-finish. "It was that close. "I'm going to take it and move forward from here," he said. "Everybody loves a winner so I would have loved to win today, but I loved the competition overall." Lyles' US teammate Fred Kerley took bronze in 9.81sec, just one-hundredth ahead of South African Akani Simbine, who timed 9.82sec. "I don't feel any frustration because I'm facing the best in the world," said Kerley, the 2022 world champion and Olympic silver medallist over 100m three years ago at the Tokyo Games. "At the end of the day, not many people can say they came to the Olympic Games," Kerley said.

"Whoever came off the best is the best. It's my second time around and I'm going off with a medal." In an astonishing race, defending champion Marcell Jacobs of Italy was fifth in 9.85sec, Botswana's Letsile Tebogo sixth in 9.86sec, American Kenny Bednarek seventh in 9.88sec and Jamaican Oblique Seville eighth in 9.91sec. Starting in lane seven, outside Seville and inside Tebogo, Lyles got off to an average start but was soon in his stride pattern. Head tucked down through to the 40-metre mark, the American opened up, but the whole field pushed him all the way. As Lyles dipped for the line with Thompson charging alongside him, the crowd erupted and a photo-finish was called before Lyles was confirmed as gold medallist. Tense buildup

There was an electric pre-race atmosphere in a 69,000-capacity Stade de France, a light show and booming music keeping the crowd entertained as the sprinters adjusted their starting blocks. The lights then went off and the sprinters leaving the track to remake their entrance like prize fighters in a colosseum, with each sprinter individually introduced behind an image of their name above their flag. Thompson roared, hands clenched in fists as his head rolled back. Kerley patted his heart. Lyles bounded out like a kangaroo, bouncing 20 metres down the track. Jacobs was the definition of cool, raising both arms and calmly walking to his blocks. Then came the moment where the sprinters set, at the starter's beck and call. The wait seemed interminable. The music continued, the crowd clapped in unison, then the sprinters stood in their lanes, rocking from foot to foot and the tension was palpable, while the only sound was that of a helicopter whirring overhead. The shot was fired and the field moved as if one up the purple track to the dramatic denouement. The photo-finish officials examined the evidence and Lyles walked away with gold to bury the demons of the Tokyo Olympics three years ago where he harvested a mere 200m bronze. Asked whether he was confident of doubling up in the 200m, an event in which he is a three-time world champion, Lyles was in no doubt. "100 percent," he said. "That's my better event and now that I've got a new PR in the 100, I'm ready to take it to the 200."

Haaland hatrick powers City over Chelsea 4-2



The International Press : Erling Haaland's hat trick, including two goals in the first five minutes, led Manchester City over Chelsea 4-2 on Saturday in an English club football friendly at Columbus, Ohio. Reigning Premier League champion City scored goals 54 seconds apart in the first half and 71 seconds apart in the second half to dominate the fixture, part of a US pre-season tour for both clubs. Haaland wore the captain's armband and showed a crowd of 71,280 why he is considered among the world's best players. The 24-year-old Norwegian striker scored on a penalty kick in the fourth minute and, after a Moises Caicedo give away in the Chelsea half, smashed a right-footed shot into the right corner for a 2-0 City lead in the fifth minute – only 17 seconds after the restart. Oscar Bobb boosted the lead to three in the 55th minute, taking the ball down the right wing and cutting inside to fire a left-footed shot past a defender and just inside the near post. Haaland then completed his hat trick in the 56th minute after City forced a turnover in Chelsea territory.

Haaland took a pass at the top of the box between two defenders and flicked in a left-footed shot for a 4-0 City edge only 25 seconds after the restart. Raheem Sterling answered for Chelsea in the 59th minute and Noni Madueke added a final goal in the 89th but it was too little and too late. The game was a preview of the start to the 2024-25 Premier League campaign for both clubs. Manchester City will open the season against Chelsea on August 18. - **Liverpool beats Man Utd** - In another pre-season US showdown of English giants, Liverpool blanked Manchester United 3-0 before 77,559 spectators at Columbia, South Carolina. Fabio Carvalho, a 21-year-old Portuguese striker, opened the scoring for Liverpool in the 10th minute. In the 36th minute, Egyptian striker Mo Salah got to the backline and fired a perfect centering pass to onrushing Curtis Jones, who tapped in with his left foot for a 2-0 Liverpool lead. Greek standout Kostas Tsimikas gave the Merseysiders a 3-0 edge in the 61st minute, knocking in a rebound off the left post.

I'm a product of Zimbabwe Cricket, says Sikandar Raza



The International Press : Veteran Zimbabwe all-rounder Sikandar Raza stated that he is fully committed to Zimbabwe Cricket when asked if he will ever represent Pakistan, the country he was born into, again. Raza, 38, made his debut for Zimbabwe in a T20I match against Bangladesh on May 11, 2013, and emerged as one of the best all-rounders in cricket with time. The 38-year-old has Zimbabwe in 250 international matches so far and has plans to continue playing for them in the future. A fan asked Raza if he would ever represent Pakistan again as the Green Shirts have been struggling with their middle-order for a long time and his inclusion may ease their worries. Raza reaffirmed his commitment to Zimbabwe saying that while he was born in Pakistan, he is the product of Zimbabwe Cricket. "I am a born Pakistani and a product of Zimbabwe Cricket. I will only and ever represent Zimbabwe. They spent time and money on me, and I am only trying to repay their faith, and whatever I achieve will never even get close to repaying it. Zim is mine and am theirs fully," Sikandar Raza responded to the fan on X, formerly Twitter. Zimbabwe will play Pakistan in a white-ball series consisting of three ODIs and as many T20Is in November 2024 and Raza is likely to participate. Pakistan's schedule for remainder of 2024 August: Two-match Test series against Bangladesh at home as part of World Test Championship (WTC) 2023-25 October: Three-match Test series against England at home as part of World Test Championship (WTC) 2023-25 November 4-18: Travel to Australia to play three ODIs and three T20s November 20 – December 5: Travel to Zimbabwe to play three ODIs and three T20s December 10 – January 03, 2025: Travel to South Africa to play Three T20Is, three ODIs and two Tests

Result not important, says Ancelotti after Barcelona beat Real Madrid in pre-season friendly



The International Press : Real Madrid head coach Carlo Ancelotti argued that the result is not important after losing the pre-season friendly 2-1 against FC Barcelona at MetLife Stadium in the United States. Madrid lost both of their pre-season friendlies — AC Milan and Barcelona — and will now play Chelsea in their last match before facing Atlanta in the UEFA Super Cup on August 14. Talking after the friendly, Ancelotti stressed that the results of such matches don't matter as the goal was to give minutes to players and get them back in shape. "Let's not go crazy. They are pre-season games, we are missing

eight players....," he said in a press conference following El Clasico. "The result is not as important for us as getting the players in good shape. "The objective now is to give minutes and get the players who return in shape. "We are not thinking about the tactical issue or other things, just putting the players who are working now in a good condition. On a tactical level we will work from the 7th [of August]," he explained. Veteran midfielder Luka Modric played the full 90 minutes against Barcelona and Ancelotti was relieved to see the Croatian complete the full game. "He has returned well and has this physical structure that allows him

to play. I didn't speak to him during the game, he was fine and played until the end," Ancelotti answered. Rodrygo did not get minutes despite completing a training session while Eder Militao started and Vinicius came into the field during the second half. Ancelotti stated that the Brazilian was a bit tired and may play 45 minutes in the next match. "He [Rodrygo] was a bit tired but the next game I think he will be able to play half a half. Militao has returned in good physical condition and Vinicius shows that he has worked on vacation, because he is in good shape. Now the players are back in good physical shape and don't need much work," Ancelotti insisted.

Graham Thorpe Passes Away at 55: Cricketing World Mourns Death of Former England Cricketer



The International Press : The cricketing community is in deep mourning following the passing of former England cricketer Graham Thorpe at the age of 55. Known for his technical prowess and tenacity on the field, Thorpe had been battling an illness for several years, and his death has sent shockwaves throughout the sport. In a heartfelt statement, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and the International Cricket Council (ICC) expressed their sorrow over Thorpe's passing. "It is with great sadness that we share the news that Graham Thorpe, MBE, has passed away. There seem to be no appropriate words to describe the deep shock we feel at Graham's death," the statement read, encapsulating the profound impact of his loss on the cricketing world. **Graham Thorpe Career At A Glance** Widely regarded as one of England's finest-ever batters, Thorpe was not just a formidable player but also a beloved figure among fans

and fellow cricketers. His skill and resilience on the field were unmatched, and his achievements brought joy to countless supporters of England and Surrey CCC. Thorpe made his international debut in 1993, quickly establishing himself as a mainstay in the English batting lineup throughout the late 90s and early 2000s. Over his illustrious 13-year international career, he played 100 Tests, amassing 6744 runs at an impressive average of 44.66. His record includes 16 centuries and 39 half-centuries, with a highest score of 200 not out. In One Day Internationals (ODIs), he scored 2380 runs at an average of 37.18, including 21 fifties. Thorpe represented England in two ICC Men's Cricket World Cups, making notable contributions in both the 1996 and 1999 editions. His performances helped solidify his reputation as a dependable and gritty batter. England Cricket also mourned the demise of the former cricketer.

England captain Ben Stokes also took to his handle on X to mourn the demise of former cricketer. **Graham Thorpe Achievements** In the ICC batting rankings, Thorpe achieved significant milestones, peaking at No. 3 in Tests ahead of England's tour of the West Indies in 1998. His prowess in ODIs saw him reach a career-high ranking of No. 10. After retiring from professional cricket in 2005, Thorpe transitioned into coaching, sharing his expertise and experience with the next generation of cricketers. He held coaching positions with New South Wales, Surrey, and the England Men's side. As a coach, he played a pivotal role in guiding England to some memorable victories across all formats of the game. Thorpe was an integral part of the coaching staff that led England to their historic 2019 World Cup victory on home soil. He served as England's assistant coach until the 2021/22 Ashes tour of

Australia, showcasing his dedication to the sport even in challenging times. **Graham Thorpe's Final Years** In March 2022, Thorpe was appointed as the head coach of Afghanistan's national team, a testament to his enduring reputation in the cricketing world. Unfortunately, his illness prevented him from taking up the position. Graham Thorpe's passing leaves a void in the cricketing community. His legacy as a player and coach will be remembered fondly by all who had the privilege of witnessing his contributions to the sport. The ECB's statement summed up the collective sentiment: "More than one of England's finest-ever batters, he was a beloved member of the cricket family and revered by fans all over the world." Thorpe's impact on cricket is immeasurable, and his memory will continue to inspire future cricketers. The cricketing world mourns the loss of a true legend, but his legacy will live on.