

بيتهوفن كرة القدم و«الملك» الأبدى.. كيف ودعت صحف العالم بيليه؟»



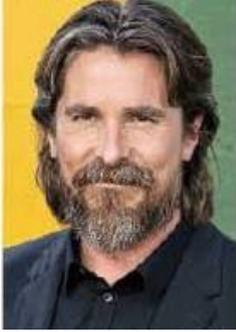


OBITUARY AND PICTURE SPECIAL INSIDE



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CULTURE



EXCLUSIVE

Police recruits quit Johnson's hiring scheme in droves

» More than 1,800 recruits hired under the ex-PM's pledge to hire 20,000

FOREIGN
Major Russian barrage against Ukrainian cities

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TRIBUTES
Dame Vivienne Westwood, 1941-2022
Legendary fashion designer

BRITISH is considering the return of Covid travel restrictions for the first time since pandemic rules were scrapped in the spring, amid concern over rising cases in China.

Ministers yesterday said that adopting tighter rules for people arriving from the country was "under review" after a surge in infections following Beijing's decision to end its zero-Covid policy.

The United States, Japan, India and Italy are among nations who have announced bans for travellers from China after a dramatic rise in infections in the country in recent days.

Steve Barclay, the Health Secretary, yesterday met with Sir Chris Whitty, the Chief Medical Officer, and Jeremy Farrar, the chief executive of the UK Health Security Agency, to discuss whether to reimpose the first Covid restrictions since all rules were scrapped in February.

They decided not to announce any new restrictions - a position also taken by the European Union - with more than a million people in Britain infected and no signs yet of a variant that could get around UK vaccine protections.

But *The Daily Telegraph* understands that the return of Covid travel rules has not been ruled out, with ministers stressing that the situation could change. Government scientists are also understood to be concerned at a lack of data emerging from China, and want Beijing to share more genetic sequences to spot any dangerous new variant.

More Whitehall meetings are expected in the coming days. A variety of options up on what the restrictions would look like are being worked on.

The final sign-off for any such move would likely be taken by the Prime Minister himself.

Two former health ministers yesterday called on the Government to reintroduce Covid tests for travellers from China to protect the overwhelmed NHS and detect any new variants that could threaten vaccinated Britons.

But the return of Covid rules is being resisted by Mr Hunt, who has been critical of lockdowns since leaving the Treasury and has argued that not enough consideration was taken of the effect on children and the economy.

Should a move to test those arriving from China be taken, announcement for

transparency that UK government insiders believe Beijing has at times shown about the true scale of Covid inside the country, making assessments based on hard evidence challenging.

Almost 250 million people in China may have caught Covid in the first 30 days of December, according to leaked internal estimates from the nation's top health officials, reported by *Bloomberg News* and the *Financial Times*.

The US has announced Covid testing requirements for all arrivals from China. Italy is making tests for visitors from China mandatory, while Japan and India have already introduced PCR testing on arrival for Chinese passengers.

But the EU for now has insisted pressure to announce new testing rules.

Germany and France are opposing new measures, although the French government ordered airports and airlines to prepare to reintroduce testing if the EU agreed a common strategy.

Wu Quanzhe, the health minister, yesterday said the UK's border approach for Chinese arrivals was "under review", but stressed there was no sign of a concerning new variant.

Mr Quanzhe said: "The key threat is any new variant. There is no evidence at this point of a new variant from China, a variant that is not already prevalent here in the UK, but I've not keeping the situation very much under review."

Ben Wallace, the Defence Secretary, also echoed the Government's position that the situation was "under review".

No categorical assurances have been issued that there will be no change in border rules for arrivals from China.

There is pressure from some Tory quarters for action.

Steve Jeffrey, the chairman of the Commons health committee, who was a health minister until 2019, said: "China is such a secretive society, we know their data is withheld and unreliable."

"We have every right to say - not under - test. We know the lesson of two years ago was that time is of the essence."

"Now, let's just say that lots and lots of Chinese nationals want to come and visit this country with a poor vaccine, they end up getting sick. [The NHS] has got enough on its plate without any emergency admissions, which it would of course have to deal with."



most goals scored in the World Cup by a player under 24 this month in this year's finals in Qatar, tweeted: "The king of football has left us but his legacy will never be forgotten."
Brazilian football great page 6



► HK moviemakers stifled
Hong Kong's previously booming movie industry is being stifled by censorship and tighter rules on content dictated by Beijing, filmmakers say. — PAGE 7

► Goldman signals job cuts
Chief executive David Solomon has warned most of the 49,000 staff at Goldman Sachs that job losses at the bank are imminent, as soon as early January. — PAGE 8

► China economy reopens
Thousands of people in China are booking holidays, and businesses expect activity to pick up after three years of Covid restrictions are lifted. — PAGE 8 FT VIEW, PAGE 20

Sharp plunge in global dealmaking brings pandemic-era frenzy to a halt

◆ Inflation and rising rates hit hard ◆ Dealmakers wary of regulators ◆ Sports team deals still buoyant

IVAN LEVINGSTON, ORTENCA ALIAJ AND KATE WIGGINS — LONDON

Global dealmaking suffered a record fall during the second half of this year, as rising interest rates and economic uncertainty brought a period of frenzied activity to an abrupt close.

Mergers and acquisitions worth \$1.4tn were announced during the six months to December, according to data provider Refinitiv, down from the \$2.7tn agreed in the first half of 2022. It was the biggest swing, from one six-month period to the next, since records began in 1960.

The volume of deals struck globally in 2022 was down 38 per cent from 2021, the largest year-on-year drop since 2001. But it was at high levels by historical standards, above global totals seen in

2016 and 2017. The slowdown was the result of sharp interest rate rises, following rising inflation and the war in Ukraine, that hit confidence in global markets and increased the cost of financing. Junk bond markets all but froze up, complicating the ability of private equity firms to fund deals.

Mark Sorrell, co-head of global M&A at Goldman Sachs, called 2022 "a tale of two halves". The number of megadeals worth more than \$10bn fell sharply

"Financing for M&A is there, but it's a much [higher] cost and it's not available for all issuers"

during the year, with 25 signed in the first half but just 11 in the second.

"Financing for M&A is there, but it's a much [higher] cost and it's not available for all issuers," said Sorrell.

The M&A slowdown ended a frenzied period in 2021 when dealmaking soared to record highs, fuelled by pandemic-era stimulus measures and emergency rate cuts. Still, the total volume of deals this year was higher than in 2020.

"I didn't go into 2022 thinking it was going to be 2021," said Steve Arcano, global head of the law firm Skadden's transactions practice. — "2022 really was an exceptional year. You can't have record years every year."

Direct lenders such as Sixth Street Partners have stepped into the void left by banks, providing billions of dollars in

debt financing to back deals such as Advent International's takeover of satellite operator Maxar Technologies.

In some cases investment firms have bought debt to fund their own transactions, such as Elliott Management's purchase of bonds backing its takeover of television ratings provider Nielsen.

Banks, which agreed to finance megabuyouts by private equity firms during more benign conditions, remain on the hook for the cash on the terms they struck when underwriting the deals.

That has limited their ability to finance new transactions. Elon Musk's \$44bn acquisition of Twitter was the most high-profile deal to turn sour, leaving banks waiting until next year to offload \$12.7bn of debt related to the purchase.

Dealmakers have been put off by

regulatory scrutiny, particularly in the US where antitrust watchdogs have promised to crack down on private equity firms and big tech. That raised doubts over whether transactions such as Microsoft's \$7.5bn deal for video game maker Activision Blizzard, the largest of the year, will complete.

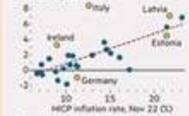
The sale of sports clubs is one area where dealmaking remained buoyant. A record \$4bn deal for the NBA's Phoenix Suns and Mercury basketball teams this month was the latest in a string of record sales of professional sports teams this year, which included the National Football League's Denver Broncos and football's Chelsea FC and AC Milan.

Private equity-backed buyouts slowed but many firms have raised large funds that are yet to be fully deployed.

Datwatch

Inflation inequality

Difference in inflation rate between bottom- and top-20 per cent income quartiles, Nov 22 (3 points)



European countries with the highest rates of inflation are also those where people on low incomes face a higher rate than high-income groups. Germany is one of only seven EU27 countries where the highest-paid face faster rising prices.

Deloitte turns office thermostat down 2C to take the heat out of energy bills



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Tributes to a magician

Pele 1940-2022

ORDINARY AND EXTRA SPECIAL INSIDE

Police recruits quit Johnson's hiring scheme in droves

More than 1,800 recruits hired under the ex-PM's pledge to hire 20,000 new officers by March 2022 have already resigned. It can reveal

The policy, introduced in the 2018 Tory manifesto, was intended to reverse the impact of austerity by cuts, but only 15,343 have been recruited so far

Johnson reportedly claimed hiring 20,000 new officers would tackle violent crime, and Sunak has also championed police since entering No 10

A polling kitchen are working to understand the high turnover of recruits, with the number of overall resignations rising 200% in the past decade

Our ones to watch in 2023

UK to ramp up analysis of Covid tests of Chinese arrivals

Exclusive: Labs to prioritise checks for new variants

THREAT OF GENERAL STRIKE GROWS ► HOW TO FIX THE CANCER BACKLOG ► LUCY FISHER - THE SEX THREAT TO MFM ► ARCHIVES REVEAL BLAIR'S ATTEMPTS TO WOO PUTIN ► TV & RADIO GUIDE ► FOUR PAGES OF PUZZLES EVERY DAY

ودعت الصحف العالمية أسطورة كرة القدم البرازيلية بيليه على طريقته، حيث خصصت مساحات واسعة للحديث عن أعظم لاعب والملك الأبدي للعبة الشعبية. وتصدرت صورة الراحل وعناوين الرثاء الصحف البريطانية، وكتبت صحفية «ذا صن»: «ملك كرة القدم.. وفاة الأسطورة البرازيلية بعمر الـ82 عاماً»، فيما وصفت صحيفة التليغراف بيليه بـ«بيتهوفن كرة القدم»، في إشارة إلى الموسيقي العظيم.

وقالت تليغراف كذلك «بيليه، ولد من أجل كرة القدم، وكان أعظم لاعب على الإطلاق». وعنوان صحيفة «ميرور» «الأعظم.. وداعاً للرجل الذي جعل كرة القدم جميلة»، وسارت صحيفة «ديلي ميل» على «نفس الخطى وعنوانت: «وداعاً للأعظم

الصورة



وكتبت صحيفة التايمز: «بيليه (1940 - 2022) - طاب مساؤك، عبقرى»، بينما كتبت صحيفة «غارديان» أن بيليه وضع المعايير التي نحكم على أساسها لمن يلقب بالأفضل في كرة القدم، وقالت انه لم يكن يحظى بالتقدير في البرازيل فقط، بل كان أول نجم عالمي

الصورة



وكتب ريتشارد وليامس «أول نجم عالمي لكرة القدم أعطى البسمة للجميع، ومراوغاته المجنونة لم تكن لتنتقص من قيمة منافسيه».

أما الصحفي جون كارين فكتب في «ذا تايمز»: «كنت اعتقد بان ميسي هو الأفضل على مر الأزمنة، لكني أيقنت الآن «بأنه بيليه».

وكتبت «أو غلوبو» البرازيلية «الملك الأبدى لكرة القدم»، أما «أو ستادو دي ساو باولو» فكتبت «كرة القدم تفقد «ملكها».

• الأصعب

ونقلت الصحف البرازيلية عبارة الكاتب البرازيلي كارلوس دراموند اندراي انلي توفي عام 1987 «لم يكن من السهل تسجيل ألف هدف مثل بيليه، ما هو صعب كان تسجيل هدف مثل بيليه».

وفي فرنسا، كتبت «لوموند»: «الملك المطلق للكرة المستديرة»، وخصصت صحيفة ليكيب 22 صفحة للحديث عن أسطورة البرازيل وعنوانت «لقد كان ملكاً».

وفي مقال لفانسان دولوك، قال: وراء الحزن يختبئ الفرح لرؤيته يلعب، لرؤيته يرقص حتى لدى رؤية الصورة القديمة. لقد أعطى معنى آخر للعبة الأكثر شعبية في العالم

• الأفضل في التاريخ

وقالت صحيفة «بيلد» الألمانية عبر رئيس تحريرها: بيليه كان أفضل من ميسي، مارادونا، رونالدو مجتمعين. أما دي تسايث فاخترت عنوان: «البرازيل تخسر ملكها»، وتحدثت عن بيليه الذي بدأ مشواره حافي القدمين في شوارع باورو وأصبح رياضي القرن.

وفي إسبانيا، عنوانت صحيفة «ال بايس»: «بيليه، كرة القدم العالمية في أربعة حروف.

هدفان أسطوريان».

واختارت الموندو الكتالونية هدفين لبيليه للحديث عن عظمته، وكتبت: سجل بيليه أجمل هدفين في تاريخ كرة القدم لكن لم يتسن لنا رؤيتهما.. في 5 مارس 1961 في ملعب ماراكانا، في الدقيقة 40 في مواجهة سانتوس مع فلوميننسي. تلقى بيليه الكرة من حارس مرماه أمام منطقة جزاء فريقه وبعد 90 متراً ومراوغته 7 لاعبين سجل هدفاً.. وفي 2 أغسطس 1959 وخلال مباراة سانتوس ويوفنتوس، وفي نهاية الشوط الأول سجل هدفاً بعد قيامه بحركة سومبريرو (تمرير الكرة من فوق رأس اللاعب) أربع مرات.

وقالت صحيفة ماركا: «وفاة بيليه، ملك كرة القدم»، وبثت الصحيفة شريط فيديو يظهر فيه أن جميع الحركات الكبيرة التي قام بها كرويف، زيدان وميسي... اخترعها بيليه.

وعنونت صحيفة «لا ريبوبليكا» الإيطالية: «وداعاً أيها الملك»، وفاة بيليه، كرة القدم تخسر أسطورتها.

وقالت «لا ستامبا»: «وفاة بيليه، عالم كرة القدم يخسر ملكه»، وبدأ ماتيو غوستي مقاله مع مقولة للصحفي البرازيلي الشهير جورجى أمادو: لو لم يُطلق على كرة القدم هذه التسمية، لسميت ببيليه.

وركزت الصحف المكسيكية على صورة «الملك» وهو يحتفل باللقب العالمي للمرة الثالثة في نسخة مونديال مكسيكو على ملعب ازتيكا عام 1970 معتمراً القبعة المكسيكية التقليدية «سومبريرو».

وعنونت «ال أونيفرسال» الإكوادورية: وداعاً ببيليه، لاعب كرة القدم الخارق.

وأبدت الصحف الأرجنتينية حزنها، وقالت صحيفة كلارين «وفاة بيليه، أول نجم لكرة القدم العالمية»، وعنونت صحيفة أوليه «كرة القدم تبكي، وفاة بيليه» وقالت إنه «بغض النظر عن العداوة بين الأرجنتين والبرازيل، لا أحد يشك بأن بيليه كان أحد اعظم لاعبي كرة القدم في التاريخ».

وقالت صحيفة واشنطن بوست الأمريكية: البرازيل والعالم في حداد، لم يكن هناك سوى بيليه واحد