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Whistle blown on regional matches



Palma.—The Balearic Soccer Federation has blown the whistle on all regional soccer matches in the lower leagues this weekend after referees voted for strike action over

crowd violence and abuse at matches.

The move comes after a series of incidents in which referees have been abused and even threatened during re-

gional league matches across the islands.

The Balearic Football Federation has come out in support of the referees and the growing number of incidents.

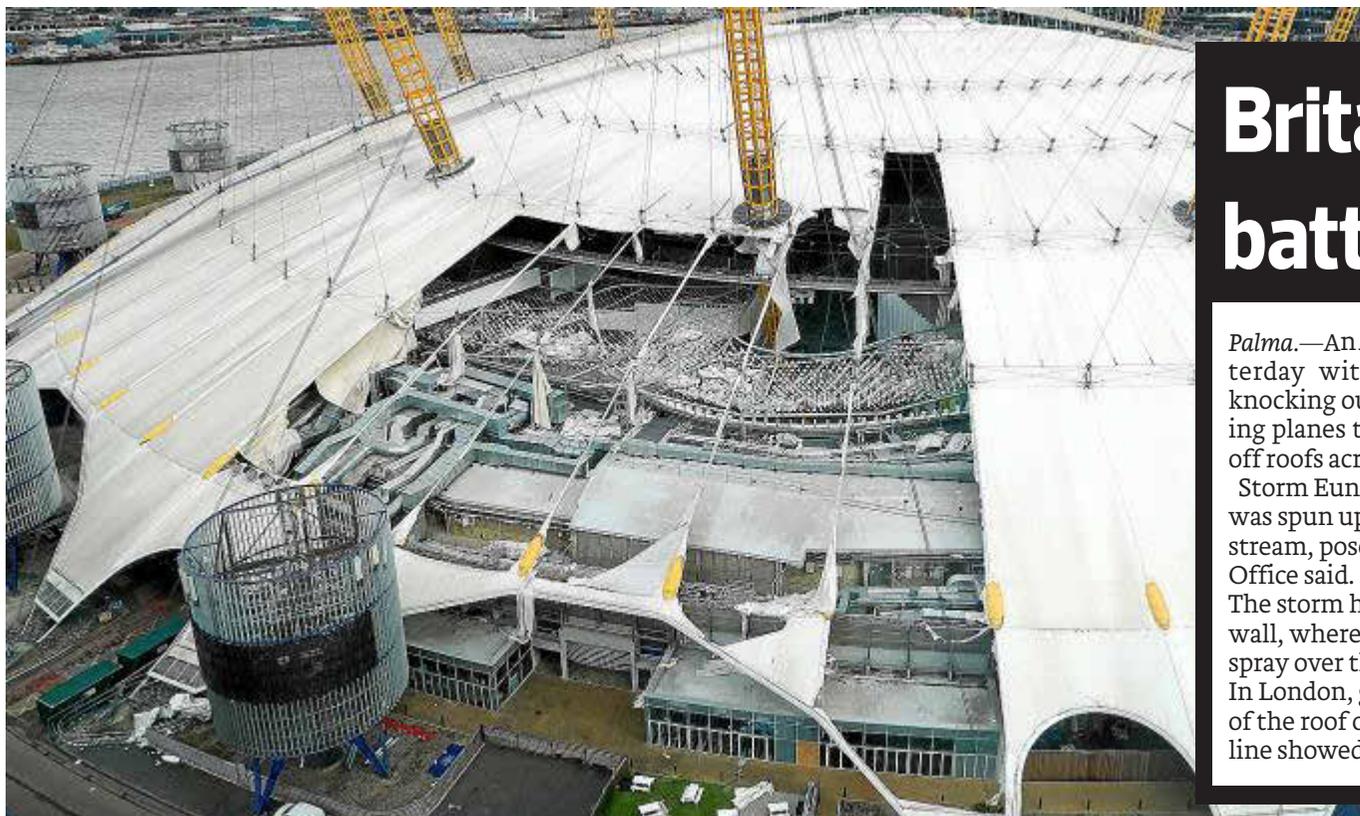
SPANISH AIRPORT SET FOR TAKE-OFF THIS SUMMER

Madrid.—Airport operator Aena expects traffic through its Spanish terminals to recover to pre-pandemic levels this summer, a company source said yesterday. The company estimates that between March and October, airlines will

offer 220 million seats to and from Spanish airports, or about 3.6% more than in the same period in 2019, the source said. Domestic, short-haul and long-haul flights to Latin America will lead the recovery while traffic to the

United States and Asia will remain below pre-pandemic levels, the source said. The number of passengers through its airports jumped by nearly 58% to nearly 120 million in 2021, Aena reported last month, though that was still

just 43.6% of pre-pandemic levels. The company said it will lower its 2022 tariffs by 3.17% compared to what it had charged to airlines in 2021 to be more competitive compared with other European airports.



Britain and Ireland battered by gales

Palma.—An Atlantic storm battered Britain and Ireland yesterday with record winds of up to 122 miles per hour, knocking out power for tens of thousands of people, forcing planes to abort landings, uprooting trees and ripping off roofs across the land.

Storm Eunice, which brewed in the central Atlantic and was spun up from the Azores towards Europe by the jet stream, posed a danger to life, Britain's Meteorological Office said.

The storm hit western England, making landfall in Cornwall, where waves lashed the coast, sending plumes of spray over the roofs of cottages, Reuters pictures showed. In London, gusts shook tall buildings and blew off parts of the roof of the Millennium Dome, footage posted online showed.