

Aston Villa punish Lloris mistake to shock Spurs

Douglas Luiz delights Aston Villa and seals victory over error-strewn Tottenham | P12

WORLD 6 Kim calls for 'exponential increase' of North Korea's nuclear arsenal

Olivia Colman wanted sexy scenes cut from Empire Of Light

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Bahrain condemns attack in Egypt

TD | Manama



Bahrain condemned in strongest terms yesterday the terrorist attack, claimed by Islamic State, targeting Egyptian police east of Cairo.

The attack on an Egyptian security checkpoint in a city east of Cairo had left two policemen and a civilian dead.

Two other policemen were wounded at the checkpoint in the city of Ismailia, reports citing the interior ministry and the city's security directorate said.

One of the gunmen was killed, while the second escaped with the help of others, Reuters quoting sources said.

Bahrain said it strongly condemns the terrorist attack and reiterated solidarity with Egypt in combating the scourge of terrorism, backing all measures to maintain security, stability and the safety of its citizens.

In a statement, Foreign Ministry extended condolences to the Egyptian Government, people and martyrs' families, wishing the injured quick recovery.

163 inmates participate in Holy Quran competition

TD | Manama

The qualification stage of the Al-Ghufran section of the 27th Bahrain Holy Quran Grand Prix this year had the participation of 163 inmates.

Of the 163 inmates, 154 were men and nine were women, said Assistant Undersecretary for Islamic Affairs, Dr Mohammed Taher Al-Qattan.

Patronised by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Grand Prix is organised annually by the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments and the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs.

The contest, in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, forms part of efforts to correct inmates and provide them with an opportunity to learn and memorise the holy Quran.



LOEB makes intentions clear in Dakar

P12

The nine-time World Rally Champion Sebastien Loeb shines for Bahrain Raid Xtreme by taking the second position following the 367-km opening special stage, just 23 seconds away from stage winner Carlos Sainz. The rally continues today with a 430km stage from Sea Camp to Alula. (Full story on page 12)

Blast outside Kabul's military airport, multiple casualties



Taliban fighters stand guard at the site of an explosion
 Reuters | Kabul

An explosion outside the military airport in Kabul yesterday has caused multiple casualties, a spokesman for the Taliban-run interior ministry said.

"Today morning an explosion took place outside Kabul military airport, due to which a number of our citizens were martyred and injured," spokesman Abdul Nafi Takor told Reuters, adding that investigations are underway.

He did not specify the nature or target of the explosion.

Local residents said a loud explosion was heard before 8 am in the vicinity of the military side of the heavily fortified airport.

They said the area had been sealed off by security forces, and all roads had been closed.

No nuke for Iran

Israeli Defence Minister pledges to deny Iran nuclear weapons

● Gallant was named defence minister on Wednesday

● Iran is "pushing hard toward a nuclear weapon"

TD | Manama

Iran was given a stark warning yesterday by Yoav Gallant of Israel soon after taking charge as the country's new Defence Minister.

In a statement to Jerusalem Post, Gallant said that Iran is striving to acquire nuclear weapons and pledge to fight what he described as "terrorism".

"The nuclear efforts, which Iran is leading, the rockets fired from the Gaza Strip, and all of the firings on IDF forces in Jenin have one common goal: to weaken us, to infect us with fear and to witness our destruction. They



Yoav Gallant



Iran recently started the construction of a new nuclear power plant in the country's southwest. The new 300-megawatt plant, known as Karoon, will take eight years to build and cost around \$2 billion. Iran has one nuclear power plant at its southern port of Bushehr that went online in 2011 with help from Russia, but also several underground nuclear facilities.

will not succeed in this purpose!" said Gallant.

He noted that Iran is "pushing hard toward a nuclear weapon alongside repeated declarations of its aspirations to destroy the State of Israel."

"Iran, its proxies and all anti-Israel terror groups would fail in their mission to destroy

Israel.

We would "prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons," he said in a ceremony at IDF headquarters.

Gallant replaces Benny Gantz as the new Defence minister.

He also warned that strict measures will follow to prevent rockets from firing towards Israel from the Gaza Strip.

Members of Netanyahu's new government have pledged to bolster settlements with development plans, budgets and authorisation of dozens of outposts built without permits. Netanyahu, however, has given no indication of any imminent steps to annex the settlements.

Gallant was named defence minister on Wednesday by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The 64-year-old former commander of the southern front is a loyal supporter of Netanyahu.

Gallant also held several ministerial positions in the previous governments.

New year glitch

Philippines restores Air Traffic control after power outage

TD | agencies

The Philippines restored air traffic control operations after hundreds of flights were cancelled or diverted following technical issues that forced authorities to close the country's airspace.

The Air Traffic Management Centre at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport resumed normal operations yesterday following a power outage, the Department of Transportation said in a Facebook post. A problem with the power supply earlier in the day led to a "loss of communication, radio, radar, and internet," Philippine Trans-



Stranded passengers wait for information about their flights at terminal 3 of Ninoy International Airport in Pasay, Metro Manila

port Secretary Jaime Bautista said.

More than 280 local flights were either delayed, cancelled or diverted to other regional airports affecting around 56,000 passengers at the Ninoy Aquino

International Airport in Manila as of 4 pm local time. Normal operations resumed as of 5:50 p.m., while equipment restoration is still ongoing, according to the Department of Transportation.

The ATMC controls all inbound and outbound flights and overflights within the Philippine airspace. Without their direction, pilots would be flying blind against other aircraft. There were no commercial flights in the Philippines earlier on Sunday, according to a tweet by Flightradar24, which tracks air traffic.

There were no immediate figures on the total number of affected flights that would have used the Philippine airspace, but a passenger on board a United Airlines Holdings Inc. plane to Singapore from San Francisco said it was diverted to Honolulu. (Continued on page 2)

Iran police detain top-tier football players

Reuters | Dubai

Iranian police briefly detained several unidentified top-tier football players in a raid on a party on New Year's Eve where alcohol was served in violation of an Islamic ban, Iranian media reported.

The semi-official news agency Tasnim said several current players and former members of an unidentified top Tehran soccer club had been detained at the party east of the capital.

"Some of the players were in an abnormal state due to alcohol consumption," Tasnim reported, without giving further details.

The YJC news agency said the gathering was a birthday party, and added that all those detained had been released except one person, who is not a soccer player. Fars news agency cited a prosecutor as saying a case had been filed against those who had been detained, and details would be released later.

Mingling between sexes outside marriage and drinking alcohol are banned under Iran's Islamic laws.



HM King Hamad and HRH Prince Salman condole with His Holiness Pope Francis

World nations mourn the loss of the late Pope Benedict XVI

● His Majesty King and His Royal Highness Prince Salman offered sincere condolences

TDI | Manama

The leaders of Bahrain yesterday sent cables of condolences to His Holiness Pope Francis, following the passing of former Pope Benedict XVI, joining political and religious leaders across the globe in remembering the life and legacy of the late Pope.

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, offered sincere condolences and sympathy to His Holiness Pope Francis, the family and relatives of the deceased and all friendly countries, wishing the late Pope mercy and forgiveness.

HM King commended the efforts exerted by the late Pope Benedict XVI to promote the culture of peace, love and peaceful coexistence among peoples all over the world. Benedict XVI was hailed as one of the greatest minds and most influential figures of the 20th and early 21st centuries.

His Royal Highness highlighted the efforts and contributions of the late Pope Benedict XVI to foster peace, love and coexistence among people all over the world.

Yesterday, the Vatican released the first images of the late Benedict, showing him dressed in red and gold liturgical vestments and laying in state in the chapel of the monastery where he died.



The body of former Pope Benedict is displayed at the Vatican



In accordance with Benedict's wishes, his funeral on Thursday will be simple and solemn. It will be the first time in many centuries that a sitting pope will preside at the funeral of his predecessor. Benedict, who stepped down in 2013, had been the first pontiff in 600 years to resign.

His body will be moved privately to the basilica, unlike what followed the death in 2005 of Pope John Paul, whose body was moved in a solemn outdoor procession that was televised live around the world.

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Jan. 1 is also the feast of the Mother of God and in his homily, Francis asked the Madonna to accompany "our beloved" Pope Emeritus Benedict "on his passage from this world to God".

Benedict was also remembered in one of the prayers at the Mass.

On Saturday night the Vatican released Benedict's two-page "spiritual testimony" written in 2006, a year after his election as pope.

In it, he asked in a general, spiritual way, that God would

welcome him to internal life "despite all my sins and insufficiencies".

Francis on Saturday called Benedict a noble, kind man who was a gift to the Church and the world. While tributes to the former pope continued to be made by world leaders, and conservative members of the faithful, others were highly critical of his pontificate.

Some recalled the severe discipline he meted out to progressive theologians, particularly in Latin America, when he was head of the Vatican's doctrinal department under Pope John Paul II. Those actions prompted liberal Catholics to dub then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger "God's Rottweiler".

And while some have credited Benedict with taking important steps to formalise the Vatican's



HM King, HRH Prince Salman



A general view of the St. Peter's Basilica as Pope Francis celebrates Mass to mark the World Day of Peace at the Vatican

response to clergy sexual abuse, victims groups accused him of protecting the institution at all costs.

Like many Vatican officials who worked with Benedict, Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet said he believed the German

pontiff had left behind "a great legacy" as a man of God and a man of culture.

"I believe this is also a task for the future, to deeply rethink the Christian faith in the face of the challenges of our time," Ouellet told Reuters.

Oil and Environment Minister, and Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, Dr Mohammed bin Mubarak bin Daina, yesterday received the Indian Ambassador to Bahrain, Piyush Srivastava. The minister affirmed the depth of the Bahraini-Indian relations, commending the efforts exerted by the ambassador to further strengthen the deep-rooted bilateral ties. He also praised the two friendly countries' keenness to constantly enhance relations between them. The discussion focused on the oil and environment sectors and ways to increase investment opportunities in them in a way that would achieve the two countries' common interests.



The Inspection Department of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce is continuing its market visits in all governorates of the Kingdom. Officials yesterday visited several grocery stores and supermarkets to ensure the supply of basic commodities and prevent practices harming consumers. The ministry called on all customers to report violations and illegal commercial practices through the National Suggestions and Complaints System "Tawasul" or hotline: 80008001 or WhatsApp number 17111225 or e-mail inspection@moic.gov.bh.

System partially restored

(Continued from page 1)

As of 0800 GMT, "the system has been partially restored thereby allowing limited flight operations", the Manila International Airport Authority said in a statement. By late evening, eight flight arrivals and eight departures had been allowed, according to the airport operator.

Video clips and photos posted on social media showed long queues at the airport and airline personnel distributing food packs and drinks to stranded passengers.

"We're told radar and navigation facilities at NAIA down.

I was on my way home from Tokyo - 3 hours into the flight, but had to return to Haneda," tweeted one passenger - Manuel Pangilinan, chairman of Philippine telecommunications conglomerate PLDT Inc.

"6 hours of useless flying but inconvenience to travelers and losses to tourism and business are horrendous. Only in the PH. Sigh."

Budget carrier Cebu Pacific (CEB.PS) and Philippine Airlines (PAL.PS) said they were offering passengers due to fly on Sunday free rebooking or the option to convert tickets to vouchers.



A foreign passenger wearing a face mask as a protection against the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) arrives at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, in Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

Couple gets a year in jail for attempting to steal BD900 worth mobile phones from delivery boy

TDT | Manama

In a robbery that went wrong, a man and his girlfriend landed in jail after a mobile phone delivery man managed to foil their plan and reported them to the police.

The unusual incident resulted in the couple receiving a year in jail from a Bahraini court.

According to police, the couple had ordered two mobile phones worth BD900 from a local shop and requested a home delivery.

They had also promised to pay in cash after delivery.

However, the person who came to deliver the phones finally had to fight with them to get the phone back as they refused to pay and tried to flee with the phones.



Representative picture

It was also later found that the couple used fake names to order the phones.

"On that day, as promised, I

went there to deliver the phones, and I took a friend with me," the delivery man told the prosecutors. "I knocked at their doors,

and someone came out shrouded in a long cloth and asked me to wait in a female voice.

"However, from the physique,

According to police, the couple ordered two mobile phones worth BD900 from a local shop and requested a home delivery. However, the person who came to deliver the phones finally had to fight with them to get the phone back as they refused to pay and tried to flee.

I presumed the person was a man. "I waited at the doors as my friend stayed in the vehicle.

"A few minutes later, a woman came out and asked to hand over the phones.

She also said they had to check the phones before making payment.

"And I refused, as those were new devices and had to be billed first.

"However, the woman went ahead and tried to break the cover, forcing me to intervene.

"I demanded to return the

phones, but she refused and tried to close the doors.

"Just then, a man came out, and both of them forcefully tried to push me out.

"I, however, was lucky as hearing the commotion, my friend rushed to help me.

"We, somehow, snatched the phones from them and ran away.

"Then, we went to the police and reported the incident," he told prosecutors.

Police opened an investigation and arrested them after confirming their identity.

Court rejects appeal of public service employee held for embezzling BD8,000

TDT | Manama

A public firm employee convicted of embezzling more than BD8,000 in government funds has had his appeal against the three-year jail term rejected by a Bahraini court.

Police had arrested the suspect on charges of forging documents to fake participation in seven training programmes to pocket BD8,000.

Public Prosecution ordered an investigation and later an arrest warrant against him based on a tip-off from his workplace on the misappropriation of funds.

Police found that the docu-



Representative picture

ments submitted by the suspect were all fake.

Besides, during interrogation, the suspect also confessed to his crimes. He told prosecutors that he took advantage of his official post to forge documents and pocket the fund given out as support for enrolling in training programmes.

This way, he said, he managed to take home BD8,235 from the exchequer.

Prosecutors pressed charges also taking into account witness testimonies, including that of his colleagues, confirming the forgery.

No plans to close Jidhafs Maternity Hospital: Al Fardan



TDT | Manama

There are no plans to close Jidhafs Maternity Hospital, MP Mahmoud Al Fardan confirmed yesterday, rejecting social media claims that the ministry is closing down the hospital.

"I had assurances from Dr Jalila Al Sayyed, the Minister of Health on this, he said.

"Last week, I met Jalila Al-

Sayyed, the Minister of Health, and she assured me that the Ministry of Health would not close the Jidhafs Maternity Hospital," he said in a tweet.

Rejecting rumours, Al Fardan said the transfer of some people to Jidhafs Hospital was a temporary arrangement to reduce the pressure on elderly centres.

"This was done, as the hospital is not fully operational yet."

Health Minister, Dr Jaleela bint Al-Sayed Jawad Hassan, stressed the importance of integrated training and educational programmes for honing and developing the skills of Bahraini health professionals, praising the cooperation with the American University of Bahrain (AUBH) in training and scientific research. The minister was speaking while receiving AUBH President, Dr Bradley Cook, in the presence of the Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health at the Health Ministry, Dr Mariam Al-Hajri. Dr Cook thanked Health Minister and commended the fruitful efforts to deliver the best health services to the citizens and residents.



Hire more volunteer inspectors to check price manipulations, says MP Bukhamas

TDT | Manama

A parliamentarian blamed 'fraudulent practices and price manipulation' as one of the reasons for rising commodity prices alongside COVID-19 repercussions, as he also urged to hire more volunteer inspectors.

Hasan Bukhamas, a member of the parliament, claimed a large number of small stores in Bahrain's residential neighbourhoods are hiking commodity prices, blaming it squarely on the manufacturer.

"Doing so, they also claim that they cannot fix prices, while oth-



These unfair practices also show that control over them is weak, as the focus is only on large and central markets, where price manipulation is difficult

HASAN BUKHAMAS, MP

er sales outlets in the same street sell at a lower price.

"These unfair practices also show that control over them is weak, as the focus is only on large and central markets, where price manipulation is difficult."

The MP pointed out: "Efforts of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism will not yield results for they don't have enough inspectors and hence thousands of small commercial outlets are operating for years in the Kingdom without any oversight.

"I wonder what happened

to the volunteers selected and trained by the ministry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There were 70 volunteers, and there were assisting inspectors before setting out for fieldwork.

"Does the ministry still benefit from these volunteers," asks the MP.

Dr Bukhamas points out there is an urgent need to appoint more, considering the situation.

"By employing more volunteers, the ministry can also contribute to reducing the unemployment rate among young Bahrainis," he stressed.

Pfizer-BioNTech shots are key to boosting immunity against COVID, top doctors say

TDT | Manama

Health Ministry yesterday called on eligible citizens and residents to receive their COVID vaccine shots immediately for the continued success of the National Vaccination Campaign and preserve their health and social safety.

Vaccination, the ministry said, will help raise the immunity response of the body and is crucial for those suffering from weak immunity, diabetes, heart and respiratory diseases, cancerous tumours and obesity. The move also comes amid a surge in cases in China that has raised fresh worries as China also abruptly U-turned on COVID controls.

France yesterday urged European Union peers to test Chinese travellers for COVID after Paris decided to do so amid an outbreak sweeping the country.

Only Italy and Spain also require tests in the 27-nation, largely border-free EU and health officials from across the bloc failed last week to agree on a joint course.

Bahrain has recently announced the availability of the newly developed Pfizer-BioNTech booster vaccine that has proved successful against Coronavirus and its mutations.

The newly developed bivalent vaccine, administered as a booster shot, targets the original virus strain and the omicron variant to provide broad protection against COVID-19 and its mutations.

The vaccine, Health Ministry

(Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine) newly developed bivalent COVID-19 booster shots for 12 years and above:

Working hours starts from 07:30 am to 07:00 pm (24 hour):

- Halat Bu Maher Health Center
- BBK Health Center - Hidd
- Jidhafs Health Center
- Youssef Engineer Health Center
- Sheikh Jaber Health Center
- Khalifa City Health Center
- Hamad Kanoo Health Center

Working hours starts from 07:30 am to 05:00 pm:

- Naeem Health Center
- Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Health Center
- A'ali Health Center
- Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalid Health Center
- Hamad Town Health Centre
- Kuwait Health Center



said, is available for those above 12 years of age from all primary health care centres.

The list of centres is available

at <https://healthalert.gov.bh> Ministry said those wishing to take the vaccines can go directly to the health centres in the lo-

cality, without advance booking.

What do the experts say?

Dr Mohammed Al-Awadi, a

public health doctor at the Ministry of Health, said the Kingdom is closely following the development of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

and its mutants and is keen to provide the best and safest vaccines to limit its spread, the latest being Pfizer-BioNTech.

Al Awadi urged all to continue taking vaccines to protect themselves, especially those having weak immunity.

The doctor also urged those having symptoms to go directly to a hospital to conduct tests and take necessary measures.

Dr Hala Al-Saffar, a family medicine consultant, called on all to take the Pfizer booster doses approved by the Health Regulatory Authority. "It is the duty of every individual to protect and build a healthy society."

Dr Wafa Rashid Najm, a family doctor in primary health care centres, also urged all citizens and residents to take the vaccine, stressing that it is a national responsibility to participate in the National Vaccination Campaign.

Maha Matar, Head of Nursing in the First Health District in the primary health care centres, said Bahrain is taking all necessary steps to prevent the spread of the virus.

"The recent announcement on the availability of Pfizer-BioNTech is part of that drive. It is given as a booster to enhance the protection, especially for those suffering from weak immunity."

Iman Al-Moallem, Supervisor of Nursing at Hamad Kano Health Centre, confirmed the availability of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine in all governorates of the Kingdom.



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority yesterday conducted a joint inspection campaign in the Muharraq Governorate, in coordination with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) of the Ministry of Interior and the Muharraq Governorate Police Directorate. The campaign resulted in reporting a number of violations concerning the Labour Market and Residency laws. LMRA also renewed its call to support the efforts of government agencies to address illegal labour practices, calling on the public to report violations either through www.lmra.bh or by calling on 17506055.

Fireworks, cultural activities, beach fest and dance parties

Bahrainis welcome 2023 in style



Staff Reporter
TDT | Manama

All over the Kingdom, thousands gathered to celebrate the new year with family and friends.

Celebrations ranged from massive firework displays to traditional food, brunches, cultural activities, DJ events, and disco parties.

Fireworks and celebrations were seen in Avenues Park, Marassi beach, Water Garden City by BBK, and Harbour Row by GFH.

Bahrain Bay Beach hosted a fireworks bike tour and followed an outdoor approach to celebrate the new year.

Revellers were also seen enjoying the beach setting at Solymar beach with a grand celebration party and dancing at the Masquerade Disco at Bagatelle Bahrain.

The Ritz Carlton held an

outside party which included a live DJ by the beach to celebrate the countdown and entertainment.

Thousands were on the streets honking their horns and enjoying music with those waiting in traffic to make it to their destinations.

After the celebratory parties, gatherings, and events, many, who talked to the Daily Tribune, said they will now take the time to create a resolution to welcome the new year on a positive note.

Some said they would start going to the gym, or doing daily walks, as improving health at any time is always a plus in life. People also told us they would start a new habit of reading or yoga or dancing in their free time.

No matter what, people said they would start trying something new this year to add a bit of excitement to life.



Members of the Swiss delegation visited students of Bahrain School, where a discussion was organised on Swiss history, government, politics, the banking system and education. The Department of Defence Education Activity—teaching the children of America's military families worldwide said students had an engaging discussion with officials.

Saudi makes positive start to 2023

Reuters

Saudi Arabia's stock market rose yesterday, starting 2023 on a positive note in line with the country's economic forecast, while region's other major markets were closed and many investors absent because of year-end holidays.

Earlier last month Reuters reported that Saudi Arabia expects to post a second consecutive budget surplus in 2023, though down 84% from this year as an uncertain global economic outlook and lower crude prices look set to weigh on the top oil exporter's revenues.

The kingdom approved a 1.114 trillion riyal (\$296.39 billion)-budget for 2023, forecasting a surplus at 0.4% of gross domestic product, down from an ex-



An investor monitors a screen displaying stock information at the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange

pected 2.6% in 2022. Also crude prices, which fuels the region's growth, mostly remained highly

volatile in 2022 amid the war in Ukraine and on weaker demand from top importer China.

Closing bell

SAUDI ▲ 0.7% to 10,547 points
OMAN ▲ 0.3% 4,873 points

Saudi Arabia's benchmark index (.TASI) rose 0.7%, with oil behemoth and index heavy-weight Saudi Aramco (2222.SE) increasing 0.9% and Sulaiman Al-Habib Medical Services (4013.SE) advancing 1%.

In Oman, the stock index (.MSX30) gained 0.3% as Bank Muscat (BKMB.OM) and Sohar International Bank (BKS.B.OM) rose 1.8% and 1.9% respectively.

Separately, Oman's Sultan ratified a 2023 budget with a deficit of 1.3 billion Omani rials (\$3.38 billion) or 3% of GDP, the finance ministry said on Sunday, adding that the 2022 budget achieved a surplus of 1.146 rials.

Oman ok's 2023 budget, had 1.146 billion rials 2022 surplus

Reuters | Cairo

Oman's Sultan ratified a 2023 budget with a deficit of 1.3 billion Omani rials (\$3.38 billion) or 3% of GDP, the finance ministry said on Sunday, adding that the 2022 budget achieved a surplus of 1.146 rials.

The 2023 budget sees revenues of 10.05 bn Omani rials, 5% lower than 2022, and expenditures of 11.35 bn rials, 6.4% lower than the previous year. Higher oil prices boosted 2022 revenues to 14.234 bn rials, the finance ministry said. Last year's budget had been based on a forecast price of \$50 per barrel but the government now estimates the average price in 2022 to be \$94.

The 2023 budget is based on a price of \$55 per barrel.

Public spending in 2022 was 13.088 bn rials, the ministry said. The surplus allowed the government to reduce public

debt from 20.8 billion rials in 2021 to 17.7 bn rials in 2022.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expects Oman to post fiscal and external surpluses over the medium term, due mainly to higher oil revenue, fiscal discipline and the introduction of value-added tax.



Last month, S&P Global upgraded Oman's credit rating to BB, from BB-, on improved fiscal performance and lower public debt.

Bahrain Kuwait Insurance announces promotions

Promotes three employees to executive positions

TDT | Manama

As part of the national initiative of diversity, inclusion, gender equality and empowering Bahraini women, Bahrain Kuwait Insurance Company promotes Mrs. Fatima Al-Saffar to Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Wedad Hasan Ahmed to Senior Manager - Technical Accounts and Mrs. Aysha Saleh Al-Mahmeed to Senior Manager - HR & Administration. Dr Abdulla Sultan, CEO of the company, said: "We congratulate our female employees on their promotion



Wedad Hasan Ahmed

and praise their roles in the business and the responsibilities



Fatima Al-Saffar

assigned to them, which qualified them to assume leadership



Aysha Saleh Al-Mahmeed

positions, wishing them all the success in their new positions."

Global economy faces tougher year in 2023, IMF's Georgieva warns

Reuters

For much of the global economy, 2023 is going to be a tough year as the main engines of global growth - the United States, Europe and China - all experience weakening activity, the head of the International Monetary Fund said on Sunday.

The new year is going to be "tougher than the year we leave behind," IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said on the CBS Sunday morning news program "Face the Nation."

"Why? Because the three big economies - the US, EU and China - are all slowing down simultaneously," she said.

In October, the IMF cut its outlook for global economic growth in 2023, reflecting the continuing drag from the war in Ukraine as well as inflation pressures and the high interest rates engineered by central banks like the US Federal Reserve aimed at bringing those pressures to heel.

Since then, China has scrapped its zero-COVID policy and embarked on a chaotic reopening of its economy, though consumers there remain wary as coronavirus cases surge. In his first public comments since the change in policy, President Xi Jinping on Saturday called in a New Year's address for more effort and unity as China enters a "new phase."

"For the first time in 40 years,

China's growth in 2022 is likely to be at or below global growth," Georgieva said.

Moreover, a "bushfire" of expected COVID infections there in the months ahead are likely to further hit its economy this year and drag on both regional and global growth, said Georgieva, who traveled to China on IMF business late last month.

"I was in China last week, in a bubble in a city where there is zero COVID," she said. "But that is not going to last once people start traveling."

"For the next couple of months, it would be tough for China, and the impact on Chinese growth would be negative, the impact on the region will be negative, the impact on global growth will be negative," she said.

In October's forecast, the IMF pegged Chinese gross domestic product growth last year at 3.2% - on par with the fund's global outlook for 2022. At that time, it also saw annual growth in China accelerating in 2023 to 4.4% while global activity slowed further.

Her comments, however, suggest another cut to both the China and global growth outlooks may be in the offing later this month when the IMF typ-

ically unveils updated forecasts during the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

US ECONOMY 'MOST RESILIENT'

Meanwhile, Georgieva said, the US economy is standing apart and may avoid the outright contraction that is likely to afflict as much as a third of the world's economies.

The "US is most resilient," she said, and it "may avoid recession. We see the labor market remaining quite strong."

But that fact on its own presents a risk because it may hamper the progress the Fed needs to make in bringing US inflation back to its targeted level from the highest levels in four decades touched last

year. Inflation showed signs of having passed its peak as 2022 ended, but by the Fed's preferred measure, it remains nearly three times its 2% target.

"This is ... a mixed blessing because if the labor market is very strong, the Fed may have to keep interest rates tighter for longer to bring inflation down," Georgieva said.

Last year, in the most aggressive policy tightening since the early 1980s, the Fed lifted its benchmark policy rate from near zero in March to the current range of 4.25% to 4.50%, and Fed officials last month projected it will breach the 5% mark in 2023, a level not seen since 2007.

Indeed, the US job market will be a central focus for Fed officials who would like to see demand for labor slacken to help undercut price pressures. The first week of the new year brings a raft of key data on the employment front, including Friday's monthly nonfarm payrolls report, which is expected to show the US economy minted another 200,000 jobs in December and the jobless rate remained at 3.7% - near the lowest since the 1960s.

Israel to abandon plastic tax despite environmental concerns

Reuters | Jerusalem

Israel's new government will abandon the country's tax on single-use plastic plates and utensils, Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said on Sunday, despite environmental concerns.

The decision, in apparent defiance of global efforts to reduce the amount of plastic waste that is polluting oceans, comes after opposition to the tax from religious parties that said it unfairly targeted their communities.

Smotrich, who was sworn in on Thursday, said his first decision in office is to axe the plastic tax as well as a levy on sugary drinks "as quickly as possible".

The country's Environmental Protection Ministry, which has reported a 50% drop in the use of such plastic since the tax was introduced in 2021, said it was studying Smotrich's decision and its



Representative picture

consequences.

There was opposition to the plastic tax among ultra-Orthodox Jewish parties, which are strongly represented in the new government led by Benjamin Netanyahu.

A parliamentary report from November 2021 found that ultra-Orthodox families used plasticware three times more than the rest of the population because they often have large families and low incomes, with many not owning dishwashing machines.

Toyota's Indian unit warns of a possible customer data breach



Reuters

A data breach at Toyota Motor's (7203.T) Indian business might have exposed some customers' personal information, it said yesterday.

Toyota India said it has notified the relevant Indian authorities of the data breach at Toyota Kirloskar Motor, a joint venture with Indian conglomerate Kirloskar Group (KIRL.NS).

"Toyota Kirloskar Motor

(TKM) has been notified by one of its service providers of an incident that might have exposed personal information of some of TKM's customers on the internet", TKM said in an emailed statement without disclosing the size of the data breach or number of customers affected.

An unrelated issue at Toyota Motor's T-Connect service potentially leaked about 296,000 pieces of customer information, it said last October.

News in brief

China accuses US of distorting facts after aircraft clash

◆ A US military plane involved in a confrontation



with Chinese aircraft in disputed southern waters last week had violated international law and put the safety of Chinese pilots at risk, a defence ministry spokesman said. The US military said on Thursday that a Chinese Navy J-11 fighter jet had come within 10 feet (3 metres) of a US air force RC-135 aircraft on Dec 21, forcing

it to take evasive manoeuvres to avoid a collision. But Tian Junli, spokesman for China's Southern Theatre Command, said in a statement late on Saturday that the United States had misled the public about the incident near the disputed Paracel Islands in the South China Sea. He said the US plane violated international law, disregarded repeated warnings by China and made dangerous approaches that threatened the safety of China's aircraft.

◆ Colombia's government has agreed to a six-month ceasefire

Colombia strikes ceasefire deal with main armed groups

with the five largest armed groups operating in the country, President Gustavo Petro announced on New Year's Eve. The truce was the main objective of Petro's "total peace" policy, which aims to end the country's armed conflict, which has persisted despite the dissolution of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in 2017. The armed groups still operating in Colombia, the world's largest cocaine producer, are locked in deadly disputes over drug trafficking revenues and other illegal businesses, according to the Institute for Development and Peace Studies (Indepaz), an independent think tank.



◆ A worker was fatally injured on the ramp at Montgomery

Worker killed on ramp at Alabama airport in airplane incident



Regional Airport in Alabama where an American Airlines regional carrier flight was parked, the Federal Aviation Administration said Saturday. The FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board will investigate the incident that occurred where American Airlines Flight 3408, an Embraer E175, was parked at the

gate after arriving from Dallas. The FAA said the airport was closed after the incident. Two people briefed on the matter said the initial investigation indicates the employee was killed in an accident involving one of the airplane's engines that was running. The flight was operated by Envoy Air, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Airlines Group.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

First legal recreational marijuana shop opens in New York City



A person looking at the cannabis products on display at Housing Works Cannabis Co., New York's first legal cannabis dispensary

AFP | New York

New York's first legal recreational marijuana dispensary opened in the heart of Manhattan.

More than 100 people crowded into the dispensary in New York City's East Village, run by the nonprofit Housing Works, a group dedicated to fighting homelessness and AIDS.

"The first legal adult-use cannabis sales mark a historic milestone in New York's cannabis industry," said Governor Kathy Hochul, who oversees the fourth most populous US state.

Hochul said in a statement that she expects New York to serve "as a national model

The first legal adult-use cannabis sales mark a historic milestone in New York's cannabis industry

NEW YORK GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL

for the safe, equitable and inclusive industry we are now building."

Housing Works was among the first of 36 groups or individuals granted a retail marijuana license on November 21.

The stated goal of New York is to grant the first 150 licenses to traders convicted in the past for possession or sale of cannabis.

Panther rescued in Ukraine, finds refuge in France



A young female black panther named Kiara is seen in a shelter for wild animals at the zoo in Saint-Martin-la-Plaine near Lyon, France

Reuters | Paris

Kiara, a six-month-old black panther born in war-torn Ukraine and victim of exotic animal trafficking, has found a new home at a wildlife refuge in France.

The panther with striking green eyes and shining black fur "escaped a tragic path in life," veterinarian Jean-Christophe Gerard told AFP.

She was just a few weeks old when the "private individual" who illegally owned her fled under bombing and abandoned the panther cub, Gerard said.

Soon after, the Wild Animal Rescue Center in Kyiv took custody of Kiara and contacted the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) which helped her get out of Ukraine and into a zoo in western Poland.

Kiara stayed at the zoo for a few weeks, receiving care and recovering from her long journey.

The panther later arrived at Tonga Terre d'Accueil, a shelter for rescued or abandoned wild animals within the Saint-Martin-la-Plaine zoo in France.

Kim calls for 'explosion' of North Korea's nuclear arsenal

Kim's comments came as North Korea fired a short-range ballistic missile

Kim Jong Un orders new ICBM, bigger nuclear arsenal

Reuters | Washington

AFP | Seoul

North Korea's Kim Jong Un has called for a major increase in the country's nuclear arsenal, including mass producing tactical nuclear weapons and developing new missiles for nuclear counterstrikes, state media said yesterday.

In a report at the end of a key party meeting in Pyongyang, Kim called "for an exponential increase of the country's nuclear arsenal", the official KCNA reported.

Citing what it called US and South Korean hostility, the report said the North needed "mass-producing of tactical nuclear weapons" and to "develop another ICBM (intercontinental



a ceremony of donating 600mm super-large multiple launch rocket system at a garden of the Workers' Party of Korea headquarters in Pyongyang

ballistic missile) system whose main mission is quick nuclear counterstrike".

Military tensions on the Korean peninsula rose sharply in 2022 as the North conducted sanctions-busting weapons tests nearly every month, including firing its most advanced intercontinental ballistic missile ever.

It capped its record-breaking year of launches by firing three short range ballistic missiles early

Saturday, and conducting a rare late-night launch at 21:17 (1750 GMT Saturday) yesterday, Seoul's military said.

The official KCNA reported yesterday that the launches had "a test-fire of the super-large multiple rocket launchers".

In a separate KCNA report, it said the weapons put South Korea "as a whole within the range of strike and (were) capable of carrying (a) tactical nuclear

Stampede during New Year's event in Uganda kills at least nine

Reuters | Kampala

A stampede during New Year's celebrations at a popular mall in Uganda's capital, Kampala, left at least nine people dead, including children, police said yesterday.

The stampede happened at the Freedom City Mall in Namasuba suburb as revelers rushed to watch fireworks.



Fireworks light up the sky in Kampala

The Kampala Metropolitan deputy police spokesperson, Luke Owoyesigiyire, said the incident appeared to have occurred at midnight "when an event emcee encouraged attendees to go outside and watch a fireworks display."

The Katwe Territorial Police are "investigating an incident of rash (behaviour and neglect" according to an official statement.

South Korea's unannounced rocket launch causes UFO scare

Reuters | Seoul

South Korea's military confirmed it test-fired a solid-fueled rocket Friday after its unannounced launch triggered brief public scare of a suspected UFO appearance or a North Korean missile launch.

The Defence Ministry said in a statement that the rocket launch was part of its efforts to build a space-based surveillance capability and bolster its defence posture.

It said it didn't notify the general public of the launch in advance because it involved sensitive mil-



The light trail is seen in Goyang, after South Korea's military test-fired a rocket

itary security issues.

A twisty tendril of vapor in white-to-red ombre could be seen snaking behind a bright white light in parts of South Korea's sky Friday evening. South Korean social media and internet sites were abuzz with messages by citizens who said they saw a soaring object, rainbow-coloured vapour trail or other mysterious lights. Some also posted photos and videos.

"What is this? Is this a UFO? I'm scared," said one Twitter user. Another said they suspected it was a North Korean missile launch and worried about a war. Others suspected it was a drone light show or a supernatural phenomenon.

South Korean emergency offices and police received hundreds of citizens' reports of witnessing of a suspicious flying object and mysterious lights across the country, according to local media.

Russia's New Year assault on Ukraine

AFP | Kyiv

Russia's New Year assault on Ukraine left three people dead and wounded another as Moscow yesterday claimed to have thwarted Kyiv's "terrorist attacks" on the homeland.

The Ukrainian capital and other cities came under fire from Russian missiles and Iranian-made drones.

The Ukrainian air force said yesterday 45 Iranian-made drones had been destroyed overnight.

Thirteen were shot down at the end of 2022 and another 32 at midnight, the air force said.

Andriy Nebitov, the head of Kyiv police, posted on Facebook a picture of wreckage of a drone that featured the words "Happy New Year" in Russian.

"That is everything you need to know about the terror state of its army," he wrote.

Kyrylo Tymoshenko, deputy head of President Volodymyr Zelensky's office, said two people died in Kyiv and the southern region of Kherson and 50 others, including children, were injured.

Brazil acting president

Reuters | Brasilia

Brazil's acting president Hamilton Mourao, on Monday criticized outgoing far-right leader Jair Bolsonaro for fueling anti-democratic sentiments that thrive in the wake of this year's election, in a veiled dig in his New Year speech.

While defending some aspects of Bolsonaro's four years in office, such as leaving behind a

YOU KNOW WHAT

South Korean officials said they plan to use a solid-fueled rocket to put the nation's first spy satellite into orbit

The Alamanni cross the frozen Rhine River in large numbers, invading the Roman Empire

Muhammad XII, the last Emir of Granada, surrenders his city to Ferdinand II of Aragon and Isabel I of Castile, ending both the Reconquista and centuries of Muslim rule in the Iberian peninsula

Tsar Ivan the Terrible's march to Novgorod begins



Mahatma Gandhi begins march for peace in East Bengal

Exponential increase in nuclear arsenal

Ballistic missile in a rare late-night, New Year's Day weapons test



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It highlights the importance and necessity of mass producing tactical nuclear weapons and calls for an exponential increase of the country's nuclear arsenal

KIM JONG UN



Tactical nuclear weapons and a military reconnaissance satellite are among Kim's long wish list of new weaponry. Other weapons he wants include a multi-warhead missile, a more agile solid-fuelled ICBM, an underwater-launched nuclear missile and a hypersonic weapon

head".
The launches come just days after Seoul scrambled fighter jets as five North Korean drones made an incursion into the South's airspace Monday.

Mass producing nukes?

North Korea has talked about mass producing nuclear weapons before, said Go Myong-hyun, researcher at the Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

"The intention is that if North Korea mass produces nuclear weapons, even without aggressive provocations, the United States

will have no choice but to someday recognise North Korea as a nuclear state," he told AFP.

"Kim Jong Un's New Year message is something like 'Let's play with nuclear weapons,'" he added. "His New Year message is that

North Korea will not beg for dialogue and that it will pressure South Korea and the United States, especially the United States, by bolstering its nuclear power."

In 2022, Kim said he wanted his country to have the world's most powerful nuclear force and declared the North an "irreversible" nuclear state.

On Wednesday, he set out "new key goals" for the country's military, state media reported, without giving any specifics.

The reports come at the end of a major party meeting in Pyongyang at which Kim and other senior officials outlined their policy goals for 2023 in key areas including diplomacy, security and the economy.

North Korea's end-of-year plenary meetings are typically used by the regime to unveil the country's domestic and foreign policy priorities for the year ahead.

In past years, Kim had delivered a speech on January 1, but he recently dropped the tradition in favour of making announcements at the year-end plenary meeting.

New Year raids on Ukraine kill three, wound dozens

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An emergency worker walks in front of a damaged hotel following a Russian attack

as a result of the Russian strikes.

A 22-year-old woman was badly wounded in the western city of Khmelnytskyi and later died from her wounds, governor Sergiy Gamaliy.

On New Year's Eve, Russian artillery hit the village of Naddnrianske outside the southern city of Kherson, severely wounding a 13-year-old and his 12-year-old sister, the Ukrainian presidency

said.

The Russian pounding also left the city of Kherson and the surrounding settlements without electricity on Saturday night, the presidency added.

Russian forces in November withdrew from Kherson, the only regional capital that was held by Moscow, but has continued to batter the city ever since.

In the eastern region of

45
Iranian-made drones had been destroyed overnight by Ukrainian air force

Donetsk, pro-Russian separatist authorities said Ukrainian shelling killed a civilian in the town of Yasynuvata.

The attacks came as President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine enters its 11th month.

"Moral, historical rightness is on our side," Putin declared as he delivered his midnight address standing among men and women dressed in military uniform.

After a series of humiliating military defeats, Russia in October began targeting Ukraine's infrastructure, leaving millions in the cold and dark.

Brazil's president hits out at 'silent' Bolsonaro in New Year speech

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Brazil's Vice President Hamilton Mourao looks on next to Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro

economy, Mourao also criticized environmental backsliding after deforestation in the Amazon reached a 15-year-high under his watch.

Vice president under Bolsonaro, Mourao delivered the New Year speech after taking over on Friday, when the outgoing president flew to Florida to avoid handing over the presidential sash to leftist President-elect Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva at his Jan. 1

inauguration.

Bolsonaro's exit follows weeks of near silence following his defeat in Brazil's most fraught election in a generation.

Some of his supporters have refused to accept Lula's victory, believing Bolsonaro's baseless claims that the October election was stolen and contributing to a tense atmosphere in the capital Brasilia, with riots and a foiled bomb plot.



TOP
4
TWEETS

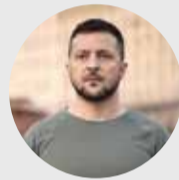
01



I am more determined than ever to make 2023 a year for peace, and a year for action. We can't accept things as they are. We owe it to people to find solutions and act.

@antonioguterres

02



We don't know for sure what new 2023 will bring us. I want to wish all of us one thing - victory. And that's the main thing. Glory to Ukraine! Happy New Year!

@ZelenskyyUa

03



At this time, let us invoke the intercession of Mary Most Holy for Pope emeritus Benedict XVI. Let us all join together, with one heart and one soul, in thanking God for the gift of this faithful servant of the Gospel and of the Church.

@Pontifex

04



The next generations of Croats will grow up in Schengen. With seamless travel, communities will grow closer together. Now we need to work to preserve the benefits of Schengen. Improve our common home and make it even safer.

@vonderleyen

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

LEGAL VIEWPOINT

Going-Public-Companies



DR. ABDELGADIR WARSAMA, LEGAL COUNSEL (AWARSAMA@WARSAMALC.COM)

The economy in all countries is in need of sole enterprises, family companies as well as public companies. Each of such entities play a pivotal role in the economy. However, there is a move among sole enterprises or family companies to go public.

According to Company Law of Bahrain, one of the duties to be undertaken by the founders, is to prepare Memorandum of Understanding (M o U) and the Articles of Association (A o A) for the company. These important documents shall include, inter alia, name of the new company, place of work, duration and objectives of the company, names of directors and personal info about them, capital of the company and number of shares into which the capital is divided, value of each share and other info related to such shares such as price. Also, the amount to be paid by directors regarding the incorporation and an undertaking to finalize incorporation formalities within the permissible time.

Above information shall be stated with particular emphasis on the objectives and duties of the company such as banking co, insurance, general contracting, services... etc. This info is necessary for transparency purposes that is required to give investors full info. The relevant info will help each potential investor to take the appropriate decision regarding his participation in the company. The most important part of the info is the objectives of the company which could be services or merchandise or

Founders shall sign the prospectus and, legally speaking, they are jointly responsible regarding the accuracy and all contents of the prospectus

tourism or industry or whatever... and in all cases the objectives shall be stated clearly so as to distinguish the company to be established from other similar companies. This clarity and transparency is basically required for licensing purposes. In some instances a license may be required from more than one government institution.

Founders shall forward the (M o

U) and the (A o A) along with a feasibility study to the Ministry. Therein the concerned technical personnel will review docs, feasibility study and the appropriate decision shall be taken. In some cases the authorities may reject the application for a new company for any reason. Legally speaking this decision could be taken to the Court after exhausting all possible appeals submitted to the relevant executive bodies. The Court, however, after hearing both parties and checking necessary docs, shall issue the decision it deems appropriate. I mentioned this point to show that the founders could follow their legal rights before the executive bodies as well as the Courts. Founders, after obtaining the go-ahead to establish the company are required to call the public-at-large for subscription. The invitation along with the prospectus shall be published in newspapers and media. The prospectus shall be exhaustive and informative, however, it normally includes, statement to show that the founders have paid their shares, maximum number of shares to be subscribed by each investor, number of shares required by each person to qualify for board membership, dates & places and conditions for subscription including shares to be owned by nationals and foreigners, if any.

Founders shall sign the prospectus and, legally speaking, they are jointly responsible regarding the accuracy and all contents of the prospectus. Before publishing the prospectus, the founders shall forward to the official authorities, all docs to show that they have paid their subscribed shares. The prospectus informs the public or investors about the names of the banks to enable interested persons to subscribe and take shares. After closing the prospectus process, the equity shares of the company shall be allotted accordingly.

This explains the legal steps required for establishment of public-joint-stock companies.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

celebs

Idris Elba says it would be 'natural progression' to move into directing

IAN S | Los Angeles

While still passionate about his career in front of the camera, Hollywood star Idris Elba believes it would be a "natural progression" to move into directing.

The 'Luther' actor is looking ahead to the possibility of juggling more than one role on set at a time, citing Denzel Washington and Jon Favreau as inspirations, reports *aceshowbiz.com*.

"I love acting but I feel like there's much more to offer as a director, as a writer and a producer perhaps I feel there are characters and roles that I haven't done yet and I still want to do those, but the truth is that I'd probably like to do that as

an offering as a film director/actor," he said.

"There are some incredible people like Jon Favreau, like Denzel who have acted and directed, and directed themselves in movies and I feel like that's a natural progression for an actor.

"It turns out that it's 30 years I've been in the game already, it still feels like only yesterday. I love acting, don't get me wrong, but there are other things that I like to do," the actor adds.



Idris Elba

Idris prides himself in always taking on different kinds of roles. He said in a recent podcast interview: "I've tried not to repeat myself as an actor, there's only one 'Luther' character, there's only one 'Beasts of No Nation' character. I try not to repeat anything."

And the 50-year-old star is also hoping to do more with his music career.

He said: "I produce and I've always had a studio, so I'm a sort of self-taught producer, I sing a

little bit but I'm no Jamie Foxx, don't get me wrong!

"I like poetry and rap and so I feel like there's an offering in me in the form of an album, I've put out music before and varied types of music, but I definitely feel as though there's an outlet for me. When I'm writing and it comes to music, I feel a lot more free and at liberty to say what I want to say.

"As an actor, especially in this day and age, everyone is afraid of being cancelled or over-sharing ... In music I can say what I like, if I have an opinion I'll say it via my music and not feel worried about it, it's a different part of me, you're making music, you're in control of it, it's your narrative."

Ryan Reynolds 'idolised' Will Ferrell



Ryan Reynolds Will Ferrell

Celebretainment | Los Angeles



He's somebody I've quite literally idolised for my entire working life. I love his vulnerability in his work, that's what makes him so funny and accessible

RYAN REYNOLDS

Ryan Reynolds has "idolised" Will Ferrell for his "entire working life".

The 'Deadpool' star was thrilled to sign up to star in 'Spirited' because it meant working with the 55-year-old comedy legend.

He said: "Will Ferrell is somebody that has contributed more to the comedic lexicon of society than almost any other comedic performer.

"He's somebody I've quite literally idolised for my entire working life.

"I love his vulnerability in his work, that's what makes him so funny and accessible.

"So it was about working with Will and getting to be around him."

However, Ryan was horrified when he realised what he'd let himself in for in signing up for the festive film.

He admitted: "It was only afterwards when I realised it

was a musical that I knew that I was in deep, deep trouble."

The 46-year-old actor turned to his friend Hugh Jackman for advice but admitted the 'Greatest Showman' star was too skilled to be much help.

He said, "It comes so naturally to Hugh that in a weird way, his helping was not helping. He was like, 'Just make sure you're listening to those count-offs and those beats'."

"And I was like, 'I don't hear the beats man. Help me out with something real here!'"

Kim Kardashian won't rule out getting married again

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Kim Kardashian would like to get married again.

The 42-year-old reality TV star - who has been married three times - admitted she still holds out some hope that she will find true love but says she is happy to be single for a while.

Kim told Gwyneth Paltrow's Goop podcast: "I feel, honestly, my last marriage was my first real. The first one, I just don't know what was happening. The second one, I felt like I wanted to be married so badly because all my friends were at that place and that's where I should have been. I didn't accept that that just wasn't where I was.

"Now I feel like I will definitely take my time. I would be okay [with] a forever partnership as well. I'm taking my time. I really do want to be single for a few years.



Kim Kardashian

Olivia Colman wanted sexy scenes cut from Empire Of Light

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Olivia Colman wanted her sexy scenes to be cut from 'Empire Of Light'

The 48-year-old Oscar-winning actress stars opposite Michael Ward, 25, in Sam Mendes' new movie but she's admitted the saucy segments between the lead stars left her cringing and she was hoping the director would remove them in the final edit.

She told the Daily Mail newspaper's Richard Eden: "I always wanted Sam to take out the sex scenes because I was so embarrassed."

"I said, 'Why can't they go for the kiss, and cut, and then pretend that it had already hap-

pened?'"

In the film, she plays a cinema boss who falls for a much-younger ticket-seller and Olivia went on to credit Michael with being "much more mature" than her and says he helped her steady her nerves.

It comes after Olivia revealed she was shocked to find out she is five years older than Michael's mother.

Speaking on 'The Graham Norton Show', she explained:



Olivia Colman

"There was one particular moment when I was astride Micheal in a compromising and slightly embarrassing situation and he said, 'It's my mum's birthday today.'

"When he said she was 43, I was like, 'OK, stop talking!'"

She also addressed rumours Sam wrote the part of Hilary the cinema manager with Olivia in mind. The actress said: "Apparently it was [written for me]. But Sam is so nice he would say that anyway. He was watching 'The Crown' at the time and thought of me.

James Cameron: I will always mourn the stories I don't get to make

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

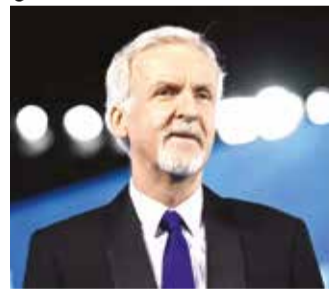
James Cameron confessed he does "mourn some of the stories" he's not been able to turn into movies.

The legendary filmmaker has devoted most of his time to the 'Avatar'

franchise, with four sequels developed and two filmed.

And although it has meant other projects have taken a backseat, the 'Titanic' helmer has been able to weave a lot of the stories into the world of Avatar.

Asked if he feels bad that he never got to tell the other stories and ideas he had due to



James Cameron

how much time he's spent on the 'Avatar' franchise, Cameron told Empire magazine: "Two thoughts in answer to your question: the first is that the world of Avatar is so sprawling that I can tell most of the stories I want to tell within it and try many of the stylistic techniques that I hope to explore. And secondly, yes... our time as artists is finite. I will

always mourn some of the stories that I don't get to make. But I feel a great satisfaction when other directors want to explore some of my ideas, like Kathryn Bigelow did with 'Strange Days', and Robert Rodriguez did when I passed him the baton on 'Alita: Battle Angel'. I look forward to more collaborations in the future with directors I admire."

SUDOKU

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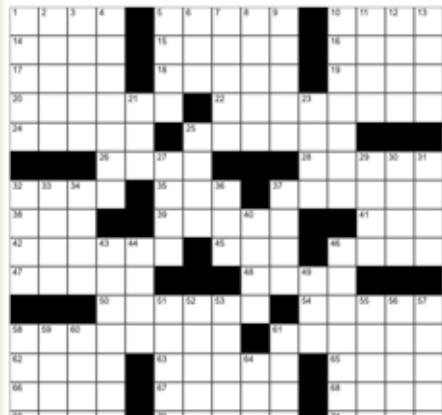
Yesterday's solution

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8	5	6	4	7	9	2	1	3
4	3	1	5	2	6	7	8	9
7	9	2	3	1	8	5	4	6
2	8	9	6	5	4	3	7	1
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3	1	7	9	8	2	6	5	4

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- Precious stones; 5- Grain stores; 10- Swabbies; 14- Test; 15- Fill with glass; 16- Busy as ...; 17- Portico; 18- Mortise insert; 19- Christmas song; 20- Some sculptures; 22- Cheap copy; 24- Root or Yale; 25- Spenser's "The ... Queenie"; 26- Bluesy James; 28- Rendezvous; 32- Neuter; 35- Bobby on the ice; 37- Fix as a shoe; 38- Beer; 39- Very hard mineral; 41- Fuel type; 42- Planks; 45- When doubled, a dance; 46- Puts into words; 47- Egyptian peninsula; 48- "Orinoco Flow" singer; 50- Head cases?; 54- Give a seat?; 58- Magician; 61- Complete; 62- Switch back?; 63- Musical drama; 65- Brain wave; 66- Start from scratch; 67- Frenzied; 68- Capone foe; 69- Org; 70- First letter of the Hebrew alphabet; 71- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland;

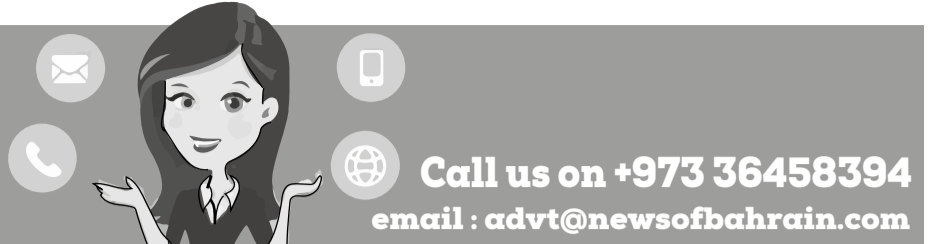
Down

1- Beau ...; 2- Sing the praises of; 3- New Zealand aboriginal; 4- Drunk; 5- Cpls' superiors; 6- Martini; e.g.; 7- Sri ...; 8- Form of oxygen; 9- Spanish Mister; 10- Large ships; 11- Peek follower; 12- Coral habitat; 13- Ego; 21- Not in; 23- Quote; 25- Old MacDonald's place; 27- Some digits; 29- Eastern discipline; 30- Kill; 31- Dick Tracy's love; 32- Chews the fat; 33- "The Time Machine" race; 34- Low in fat; 36- VCR button; 37- Tatum's dad; 40- She played Carla on "Cheers"; 43- Nocturnal carnivore; 44- Desperate; 46- Brie base; 49- Strong desire; 51- Bouquet; 52- Sherpa's home; 53- Peace goddess; 55- Duck with soft down; 56- Salad green; 57- Mock, annoy; 58- Lab fluids; 59- Raw materials; 60- Fishing gear; 61- "From ... according to his abilities..."; 64- Final letters?;

Yesterday's solution

P	A	G	A	N	A	T	O	P	T	Y	P
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F	A	R	E		S	A	F	E		L	U

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39468574 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

ANSAR GALLERY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17140001 or pr@ag-bh.com

WALAA ALBAHRAIN FOR MANPOWER has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38139157 or ZAINAB.AHMED.1274@HOTMAIL.COM

The Story Fashion has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786822 or info@albanoosh.co

H ALDHAEN BOATS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PURCHASING AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36713501 or ahmed.radhi@aldhaenmarine.com

RAJAKHAN COMPUTER SYSTEMS COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34414417 or ALAARAJKHAN@GMAIL.COM

FIRE FIGHTER CO SECURITY AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000347 or AZIZ265211@GMAIL.COM

MOVENPICK HOTEL BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17460047 or Fatema.Meftah@movenpick.com

MARIYAM NISAR Construction of buildings has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33977018 or MNCONSTRUCTION39@GMAIL.COM

ASWANA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39100113 or ASWANA2020@GMAIL.COM

TIK TAK TOK RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66367994 or ABOOD251770@ICLOUD.COM

Plastico Bahrain W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39600605 or INFO@ALGHANAH.COM

JUICE BAZAAR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33179336 or INFO@ALPSADV.COM

KARACHI FOR EVENTS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33716926 or S.EJAZAHMED786@GMAIL.COM

Y P M GENERAL TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39997494 or VIKRAM.PATT.CHAVDA@GMAIL.COM

BARZAN KARAK has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33717485 or ALFAAHAAD39@GMAIL.COM

SOL SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37373377 or EMAN_KOOHEJI@HOTMAIL.COM

ALI HUSSAIN CARPENTRY WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33701101 or MY.E30.HA@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN HOUSE AGRICULTURAL FARMS BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17411104 or ABDULLAALIEBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

M & M BEAUTY LOUNGE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37335522 or MARWANMOST@HOTMAIL.COM

ALGHANIM INTERNATIONAL GENERAL TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO. - For has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300616 or karim.eissa@falghanim.com

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39468574 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

GULF FENCING & SPECIALIST SURFACING EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17591197 or rasha@gfss.com.bh

AHMED QAED CONSTRUCTION ESTABLISHMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826260 or info@CHBAHRAIN.COM

GREEN STAR TRADING EST has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably

qualified applicants can contact 17257566 or greenstartrading77@gmail.com

DURRAT AL MUHARRAQ CLEANING & MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33335558 or bucheer15@gmail.com

MOHAMMED AHMADI CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17268111 or HRD1@MACBH.COM

Miracle Land Contractor has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39696047 or SERVICES@MIRACLEGROUPS.COM

KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH

PALM COAST CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36005572 or aamirbh@gmail.com

TRUST ELECTROMECHANICAL SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L. (TEMCO) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17735142 or HAIDER@TEMCO-BH.COM

DAR MOAMMED ISA PLANETS AND CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33192288 or mplantsc@gmail.com

Alazzouzi Trading and Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17002983 or alazzouzi@alazzouzi.com

Alazzouzi Trading and Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17002983 or alazzouzi@alazzouzi.com

EAGLE FOR SAFE AND SECURITY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17270140 or alialtmimi@yahoo.com

ALGHANIM INTERNATIONAL GENERAL TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO. - For has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300616 or karim.eissa@falghanim.com

JUICES ON THE FLY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17404071 or PASTRIESONTHEFLY@GMAIL.COM

Bahrain Public Transport Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(PUBLIC TRANSPORT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36666039 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

Stiller Agency for the Supply Workers w. l. l has a vacancy for the occupation of COFFEE SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or ALAZZAMGROUP@YAHOO.COM

Stiller Agency for the Supply Workers w. l. l has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or ALAZZAMGROUP@YAHOO.COM

EXPERTISE HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36955566 or unnikrishna@expertisebahrain.com

NIDU SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34701470 or NIDUSERVICESBH@GMAIL.COM

ZAMZAM TAILORING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17270069 or DIBLEDOCUMENTS@GMAIL.COM

RAED MAHMOOD ALMARDI has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291331 or EVITADIAZ84@GMAIL.COM

ALI MANSOOR JASSIM AHMED / SANAA - 7704 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17703968 or ALIMANSOOR7602@GMAIL.COM

ANWAR H MOHAMED YUSUF EID / ALSABR KHAYR - 14103 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38888236 or BENEAD84@GMAIL.COM

MECHANICAL CONTRACTING & SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or msc@mcscwll.com

WADI ALSAIL GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33367000 or info@wadialsailgate.com

AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or ALANSARI@AREENAGROUP.COM

KAYAN REHABILITATION CENTER W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77079889 or HAIFA.AL7AMAR@GMAIL.COM

PROMI REAL ESTATE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33264372 or CITYDREAM087@GMAIL.COM

VISTRO INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35033756 or SYEDJOGILLANI@YAHOO.COM

MOHAMMED HASAN ALMAHROOS CO (B.S.C) has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39408020 or HR@ALMAHROOS.COM

V.m. & bros WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39468051 or info@vmbros.com

A.ALI ESSA ALDAAYSI CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR FOR OPERATIONS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39445575 or hr@aldaysiholding.com

A.ALI ESSA ALDAAYSI CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39445575 or hr@aldaysiholding.com

ISA BIN MUBARAK ALKOBALSI W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17732002 or MD1@ALKOBISIGROUP.COM

KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

BNP PARIBAS has a vacancy for the occupation of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17866188 or MEA.RECRUITMENT@BNPPARIBAS.COM

PEARL OCEAN SHIPPING SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39673967 or SPARKCOS@GMAIL.COM

HARDEES has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or ssaleh@americana-food.com

HARDEES has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or ssaleh@americana-food.com

ALKOMED ENGINEERING SERVICES CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17698500 or ALKOMED@BATELCO.COM.BH

MECHANICAL CONTRACTING & SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or mcsc@mcscwll.com

ALKOMED ENGINEERING SERVICES CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17698500 or ALKOMED@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALKOMED ENGINEERING SERVICES CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17698500 or ALKOMED@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALKOMED ENGINEERING SERVICES CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17698500 or ALKOMED@BATELCO.COM.BH

AIFateh Group W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17222222 or Jasim@alfateh.bh

EAST ARAB CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713731 or EASTARABCON@GMAIL.COM

AL Hoty Analytical Services W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727450 or A.JABBAR@BFCWLL.COM

ALHAFEERA CONTRACTING COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730343 or hr@hafaera-group.com

JALAL IONICS CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39669661 or RASHID.BUALI@JALAL.COM

Tren Tren Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33192911 or sabah973@hotmail.com

LOS ANGELES LA CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36622955 or ABUALICLEARANCE@HOTMAIL.COM

MERCURY CONTRACTING CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39667181 or mjmh69@hotmail.com

AHMED MOHAMMED JASSIM CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784584 or HR@AMJASSIM.COM

ALRAHALAH BOUTIQUE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33313114 or MOHAMEDM436@GMAIL.COM

YOKOGAWA MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38000669 or ashraf.nour@yokogawa.com

ABDULJALIL HASAN AHMED ABDULLA JUMA has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39028522 or ABDULJALILALMSJEN@GMAIL.COM

MECHANICAL CONTRACTING & SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or mcsc@mcscwll.com

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17556665 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

Stiller Agency for the Supply Workers w. l. l has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or ALAZZAMGROUP@YAHOO.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

Stiller Agency for the Supply Workers w. l. l has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or ALAZZAMGROUP@YAHOO.COM

AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17177711 or CATHERINE@AMH.ORG.BH

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

SOHAR INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE EST has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36612922 or SAYED.ABDULLA@YAHOO.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

CEBARCO BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17823236 or KHALIDAR@KAR-GROUP.COM

A Little Bunch Flowers has a vacancy for the occupation of FLORIST/FLOWER SETTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39955922 or ALittlebunch@outlook.com

ERNST & YOUNG - MIDDLE EAST has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38899982 or SARA.EBRAHIM@BHEY.COM

CITY GLASSES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39813203 or cityyaser@yahoo.com

ABU MAHMOOD ELECTRICAL WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39248626 or YONESABDULKARIMALI@GMAIL.COM

RAHMANIA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312829 or ALJABIRIOFFICE@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

ALAYAM LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33373369 or abdulrodakdohm822@hotmail.com

ABLE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39275734 or

M-RAHMA@HOTMAIL.COM

AZMET CITY TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39435445 or NASSER_SBN@HOTMAIL.COM

ISMCO COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17820974 or ISMCOBH@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

LEBANESE RESTURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39605220 or HMC2005@BATELCO.COM.BH

LEBANESE RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877033 or MAHMOA@SPU.EDU

JASSIM AGRICULTURAL & MECHANICAL has a vacancy for the occupation of GARDENER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39643311 or JASSIMG@BATELCO.COM.BH

FASHT ALDEEBL AUTO ELECTRICAL WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39662796 or M.R.S.24@HOTMAIL.COM

ALMEDRAR SUPER MARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36670001 or NOOR_20084@HOTMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

Diamond Arts Fabrication Workshop has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39642174 or HUSSAINALIMAKKI123@GMAIL.COM

WADI ALSAIL GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33367000 or info@wadialsailgate.com

BAIT-JUL-MUHARRAQ SECOND HANDS GOODS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38044019 or ZEESHAN.IBRAHIM1971@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

ELITE SEEF RESIDENCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17579167 or NAMDAR@ELITEGROUPHOTELS.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

ELITE SEEF RESIDENCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17579167 or NAMDAR@ELITEGROUPHOTELS.COM

DAR ALDALLAL ABAYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36202303 or ALAMEERDALAL@GMAIL.COM

BREEZEE SECRET CARS SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33189963 or NASSERBREEZEE@GMAIL.COM

KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH

KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH

BUILDING SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212216 or KAMAL66@BATELCO.COM.BH

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

Eastern Asphalt & Mixed Concrete Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252078 or S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH

SANTY EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER,

suitably qualified applicants can contact 17401013 or SANTEC.GLORVS@GMAIL.COM

KEY MARINE SHIP REPAIR SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39612385

NASSER AHMED ALKHAIRANI / ALNAJEM - 4341 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33511889 or BU.NASSER8@HOTMAIL.COM

TEA SQUARE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39311119 or EXP.SEV4DOCC@GMAIL.COM

SILVER CITY CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39188855 or SILVERCITYCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

WTQG METAL & PLASTIC SCRAP CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66311095 or nadiatradingadv@gmail.com

ARSHAD BASHIR BASHIR AIRCONDITIONERS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33058503 or abufazzanac@gmail.com

DUJA ABAYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33778854 or ASKARALI0502013@GMAIL.COM

Saheer Alkhaleej gents saloon has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39222942 or ALSHEMAH@HOTMAIL.COM

PUNJAB CITY CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111999 or sharef.works@gmail.com

AMIR ALARAB AGRICULTURE CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39227474 or ALSHAKHOORISERVICES@HOTMAIL.COM

Sama AL Bahar Restaurant and coffeshop has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39188667 or SAMIALI461@GMAIL.COM

SIMSIM AUTO SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33087265 or SIMSIMTELEVEN@GMAIL.COM

ANSAR GALLERY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17140001 or pr@ag-bh.com

SABAR AYOUB REASTURANT AND GRILLS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33000802 or AYESHEH_ALI@YAHOO.COM

BAKER STREET has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36784833 or SAMIALMULLA15@GMAIL.COM

AVOLA CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39108161 or RAJEESHKK4@GMAIL.COM

WALD AHMED CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39625104 or EMANALIJASSIMALAYADHI@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

AL OLAYA SUITES HOTEL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (HOTEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17161616 or CORP@DADABAI.COM

HERCULES WROUGHT IRON FACTORY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17769506 or hercules_wll@yahoo.com

Bu Ali Spice Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17240030 or hr@bualigroup.com.bh

VIBRANT SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17615858 or JALALEBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

City shine cleaning has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33331663 or JEFFREEBH@GMAIL.COM

SINGAPORE CLEANING SERVICES CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300013 or AHMED.ALSAIGAL@HOTMAIL.COM

SINGAPORE CLEANING SERVICES CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300013 or AHMED.ALSAIGAL@HOTMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN MEDICAL & INDUSTRIAL GAS PLANTS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400469 or mathame@bmgip.com

Classifieds



Call us on +973 36458394
email: advt@newsfbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

LAIBA CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17745010 or MOHAMEDALNOAIMI@YAHOO.COM
AESHA ALSHAIKH ETLAH has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33048383 or BOFASIL45@GMAIL.COM
PEBBLES GATE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330363 or MAHMOODESA151@YAHOO.COM
CAPITAL REEF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17686100 or CAPITALREEFBH@GMAIL.COM
SEVEN HILLS SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39697979 or HASSAN800@GMAIL.COM
ORIGIN OF IRAQI KEBAB has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(GRILLING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37114660 or A.S.GHAREEB60@GMAIL.COM
NASEEF W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000201 or FALDOSERY@GMAIL.COM
Suit Me Tailoring has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified

applicants can contact 33225888 or SUITMEBH@GMAIL.COM
NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net
NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net
ESMAELY LENZOHM ELECTRICAL CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830909 or info@esmaelylenzohm.com
KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH
SILVER CITY CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39188855 or SILVERCITYCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM
ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM
REEF ALYEMEN FOR RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34000422 or WHAIDARAH@GMAIL.COM
V BEACH RESORT HOTEL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified

applicants can contact 33658488 or MoosaA@addresshotels.com
YASALAM RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38700027 or salwa@al-abraaj.com
Art Vision for Building Services has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33700224 or ISAMAHI.BH@GMAIL.COM
SAJAD GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33535714 or SHAHIDBUTT2582@GMAIL.COM
Wyndham Garden W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66316666 or mohammed@panoramabh.com
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Andreescu makes gritty comeback to beat Muguruza in Adelaide

AFP | Adelaide

Bianca Andreescu staged a dramatic comeback yesterday to topple Garbine Muguruza in a battle of former Grand Slam champions on day one of the Adelaide International.

The Canadian, who won the 2019 US Open, was crushed in the first set and slipped 2-5 behind in the second before surging home 0-6, 7-6 (7/3), 6-1 to get her 2023 season off to a winning start.

It maintained her perfect record against two-time Grand Slam winner and former world number one Muguruza, improving to 3-0.

"In the second set I really had to change my game plan," said the 22-year-old, who has slipped to 46 in the world.

"I told myself to go for it, whatever happens happens. I put more returns in the court, more serves in the court. I'm so glad I pulled that out, I have no idea how."

Spain's Muguruza, who won the French Open in 2016 and Wimbledon a year later, claimed the first set in commanding fashion, outnumbering Andreescu in winners



Canada's Bianca Andreescu makes a backhand return to Spain's Garbine Muguruza

YOU KNOW WHAT

The victory maintained Andreescu's perfect record against Muguruza, improving to 3-0

eight to two, not facing a break point.

Andreescu started the second set more strongly, only for Muguruza to break for 4-2 then consolidate for 5-2 with serve.

But she couldn't close out the victory and Andreescu took it to a tie-break where a sizzling backhand winner gave her pivotal 4-2 lead.

A demoralised Muguruza had no answers as the Canadian swept her aside in the third set to set up a second-round clash against either fourth seed Ve-

“In the second set I really had to change my gameplan. I told myself to go for it (and) whatever happens happens. I put more returns in the court, more serves in the court. I'm so glad I pulled that out. I have no idea how.

BIANCA ANDREESCU

ronika Kudermetova or Amanda Anisimova.

In other singles action, Estonian veteran Kaia Kanepi also came from behind to outlast Belarusian Aliaksandra Sasnovich 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 and will next meet either Ekaterina Alexandrova or Marketa Vondrousova.

Americans Shelby Rogers and Claire Liu also progressed.

Top-ranked Novak Djokovic headlines the men's field and is set to play France's Constant Lestienne on Monday in his first match in Australia since being deported last year over his Covid-19 vaccination stance.

Medvedev ignores politics to concentrate on Australian Open preparations



Russia's Daniil Medvedev practices in Adelaide

AFP | Adelaide

Daniil Medvedev yesterday admitted he would rather be playing at the mixed teams United Cup than the Adelaide International, but the Russian intends to make the most of the season-opening event.

The Monte Carlo-based world number seven and his compatriots are unable to compete in the ATP-WTA United Cup in response to the invasion of Ukraine.

Medvedev said it was disappointing, but there was nothing he could do.

"I would definitely prefer to play the United Cup," said the Adelaide third seed behind Novak Djokovic and Felix Auger-Aliassime.

"We would definitely be good favourites. But it is what it is, and I'm happy to be here in Adelaide playing in this tournament.

“I had some tough moments in my career... tough losses -- I know a lot of losses in a row and I always managed to find a way back, so I'm sure I'm going to find the way back to an even higher level than I was playing maybe last year

DANIIL MEDVEDEV

Wimbledon player ban changed 'nothing', says Sabalenka

AFP | Adelaide

World number five Aryna Sabalenka said yesterday that Wimbledon's ban on Russian and Belarusian players last year achieved "nothing" and that she "really hoped" it would change course in 2023.

Following Russia's ongoing invasion of Ukraine, Britain's Lawn Tennis Association came under pressure from the government to impose a ban.

Russian and Belarusian players, including Sabalenka, were eventually barred from Wimbledon with both the ATP and WTA -- the men's and women's governing bodies -- stripping the Grand Slam of its ranking points in response.

"I'm just really disappointed sport is somehow in politics. We're just athletes playing their sport. That's it. We're not about politics," she told the Melbourne Age newspaper on the sidelines of the Adelaide International.

"If all of us could do something, we would do it, but we have zero control.



Aryna Sabalenka

"They banned us from Wimbledon, and what did it change? Nothing -- they're still doing this (war), and this is the sad (part) of this situation."

“I'm just really disappointed sport is somehow in politics. We're just athletes playing their sport. That's it. We're not about politics. If all of us could do something, we would do it, but we have zero control

ARYNA SABALENKA

The LTA, Britain's governing body for the sport, has yet to announce whether the ban will remain for 2023.

Sabalenka said "no one supports war" and she hoped to be able to play at Wimbledon this year.

"I really hope that I'll play there (in 2023), just because of the people, to feel this atmosphere," she said.

Other players barred from the All England Club last year included Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, and Victoria Azarenka.

YOU KNOW WHAT

A ban on Russian players at Wimbledon due to Moscow's invasion of Ukraine forced Medvedev to miss the grasscourt major

"I completely understand why we are not playing Davis Cup or United Cup and team competitions where we would represent our country.

"Hopefully, I can play the individual events. I play what I can play, so here I can play Adelaide, and I'm really happy about it. I want to show my best tennis."

Medvedev, a finalist at the last two Australian Opens, will start against Italian Lorenzo Sonego.

World crises aside, the former world number one said he was dealing with the usual start-of-year jitters.

"I feel like everybody is a little bit nervous, and that's normal. This feeling of the first tournament of the year is really special," he said.

"I like playing in Australia, so really looking forward to it"

Arsenal have 'desire' to be champions: Arteta



Arsenal's Eddie Nketiah, right, scores his sides third goal

AFP | London

Mikel Arteta said Arsenal's 4-2 win at Brighton proved the Premier League leaders have the "desire" required to lift the title for the first time since 2004.

Arteta's side will go into the new year with a formidable seven-point lead over second placed Manchester City after they powered to a fifth successive league victory.

Goals from Bukayo Saka, Martin Odegaard and Eddie Nketiah set the Gunners on course to cement their unexpected status as serious title contenders.

Kaoru Mitoma reduced Brighton's deficit before Martinelli raced half the length of the pitch to finish off Odegaard's sublime pass.

Brighton substitute Evan Ferguson claimed his first Premier League goal in the closing stages, but Arsenal survived a nervous finish to make it nine league wins from 10 games.

BETTER YOU KNOW

Arsenal's haul of 43 points from 16 games is among the five best starts to an English top-flight season, with the other four teams all going on to claim the title

"It's a big win against a really good side. We had big moments, especially attacking the spaces with the way they play. We were ruthless, clinical," Arteta said.

"We had some great moments, and also moments when we have to dig in and suffer. You expect that against Brighton."

Aston Villa punish Lloris mistake to shock Spurs

● **Douglas Luiz delights Aston Villa and seals victory over error-strewn Tottenham**

AFP | London

Aston Villa ruined Tottenham's bid to climb back into the Premier League's top four as a costly mistake from Hugo Lloris condemned the north Londoners to a damaging 2-0 defeat yesterday.

Playing for the first time since France's World Cup final defeat against Argentina, Tottenham goalkeeper Lloris weakly spilled Douglas Luiz's shot early in the second half and Emiliano Buendia pounced to put Villa ahead.

Lloris was left on the bench for Tottenham's draw against Brentford on December 26 as he rested after France's agonising final loss in Qatar.

The 36-year-old, who conceded three times against Argentina before France lost on penalties, might have wished he had been given longer to recover after his blunder against Villa.

Brazilian midfielder Luiz added Villa's second goal in the closing stages, leaving Antonio Conte's side to endure jeers from frustrated fans at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

Tottenham had hoped the



Aston Villa's Argentinian midfielder Emiliano Buendia scores the opening goal

first Premier League match of 2023 would serve to kick-start their bid to qualify for next season's Champions League via a top four finish.

Instead, they suffered a New Year's Day hangover as mid-table Villa punished a lethargic display.

Fifth placed Tottenham have failed to win both of their matches since the World Cup break, a dip in form which has allowed fourth placed Manchester United to climb two points above them.

Adding insult to injury for Tottenham, it was former Arsenal boss Unai Emery who masterminded Villa's success on his return to north London.

Villa manager Emery, dismissed by Arsenal in 2019, has

now won three of his four Premier League matches since replacing the sacked Steven Gerrard in November.

Son Heung-min started the match once again wearing the mask he used during the World Cup to protect his fractured eye socket.

But Tottenham's South Korean star ripped the mask off for good early in the first half, discarding it angrily after failing to control a pass.

Shell-shocked Spurs

Son's frustration summed up Tottenham's spluttering performance.

No player has scored more Premier League goals on New Year's Day than Harry Kane's five.

BETTER YOU KNOW

Fifth placed Tottenham have failed to win both of their matches since the World Cup break, a dip in form which has allowed fourth placed Manchester United to climb two points above them

But the Tottenham striker was denied another at the start of the year when he nodded Ivan Perisic's cross goalwards, only to see Ashley Young clear off the line with an agile diving header.

Although Tottenham dominated possession for long periods, they couldn't make the breakthrough.

Villa hit them with a sucker punch five minutes after half-time as Lloris's blunder allowed the visitors to snatch the lead.

Luiz's long-range shot lacked the power to beat Lloris, but the keeper failed to hold it and Ollie Watkins pounced on the loose ball, flicking it to Buendia, who slotted home from 10 yards.

Real Madrid's Vinicius Jr says LaLiga doing nothing about racism

Reuters | Madrid

Real Madrid's Brazilian forward Vinicius Jr on Saturday accused LaLiga of continuing to do nothing about racist fans at matches, after videos on social media showed fans shouting abuse and throwing objects at him at a match a day earlier.

LaLiga issued a statement condemning all forms of hate speech and saying it was follow-



Vinicius Jr

ing up on instances of racism at the match.

Vinicius appeared to be subjected to abuse at the Jose Zorrilla stadium in Valladolid as he walked past fans after being substituted in Real Madrid's 2-0 win over Real Valladolid on Friday.

"Racists continue to go to stadiums and watch the biggest club in the world up close and LaLiga continues to do nothing," Vinicius wrote on Twitter.

"I will continue with my head held high and celebrating my victories and those of Madrid."

In September Atletico Madrid fans were filmed directing racist chants at the 22-year-old outside their Wanda Metropolitan Stadium ahead of a match against Real.

In its statement on Saturday, the league said it was looking into Friday's match.

Guardiola regrets Man City's dropped points against Everton



Manchester City's Manuel Akanji and Everton's Conor Coady react

AFP | London

Pep Guardiola rued the loss of two points following a 1-1 draw at home to Everton but insisted he had no complaints about the visitors' approach in a fiery Premier League clash at the Etihad Stadium on Saturday.

Erling Haaland fired reigning champions City into a first-half lead only for Demarai Gray to equalise midway through the second period of a match featuring numerous fouls.

The game also required 11 minutes' stoppage time following repairs to an assistant referee's headset.

The result left second-placed City seven points behind Arsenal heading into 2023 after the Gunners won 4-2 at Brighton in Saturday's late clash.

City manager Guardiola, reflecting on Everton's tactics, said: "They made a fantastic

They made a fantastic goal with the first shot on target they had, so we played a real, real good game. Of course the result was not expected but that is football, it is not the first time it happened. We did everything to win. They played really well

PEP GUARDIOLA

goal with the first shot on target they had, so we played a real, real good game.

"Of course the result was not expected but that is football, it is not the first time it happened. We did everything to win. They played really well."

India's Pant recovering, likely to miss Australia Tests

AFP | New Delhi

Indian cricketer Rishabh Pant is in "high spirits" and recovering from surgery after his horror car crash but will likely miss the upcoming Test series against Australia, media reports said yesterday.

The star wicketkeeper-batsman suffered several injuries when his Mercedes SUV crashed into the median before dawn on Friday as he was travelling alone from New Delhi to his hometown Roorkee, a few hours north of the Indian capital.

His car immediately caught fire and the 25-year-old was rescued by a bus driver and conductor on the highway.

Pant "is in high spirits and responding well to treatment... He underwent a plastic surgery on his left eyebrow where he suffered a cut in the accident," Shyam Sharma of the Delhi and District Cricket Association told



Rishabh Pant

The Times of India.

The cricketer also suffered a ligament injury in his right knee, hurt his wrist, ankle, and has abrasion injuries on his back, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said in a statement.

Sharma said the BCCI was monitoring Pant's treatment and was in "constant touch" with his medical team.

"As far as the ligament injury in his right knee is concerned,

YOU KNOW WHAT

A maverick batsman, Pant is the mainstay of the Test squad and has played a key role in some of India's most memorable wins in the last three years

he will take some time to recover. He will be provided the best possible treatment," he added.

A BCCI staffer quoted by the Press Trust of India news agency said Pant faced a prolonged absence from competitive cricket and would likely miss the four-Test Australia series at home starting February 9.

A maverick batsman, Pant is

the mainstay of the Test squad and has played a key role in some of India's most memorable wins in the last three years.

But his white-ball form has been inconsistent lately and Pant was left out of the squad for the T20 and ODI tour by Sri Lanka starting next week.

The wicketkeeper's omission came days after his match-winning innings of 93 in the second Test against Bangladesh, helping India secure a 2-0 series whitewash.

Nasser, Najma claim victories in volleyball league



Muharraq's Hassan Al Haddad goes for a spike against the Al Nasser double block

● **Al Nasser survive late surge from Muharraq in five-set battle**

● **Al Najma cruise in three-set triumph against Nabi Saleh**

TDT | Manama

Al Nasser and Al Najma claimed contrasting victories last night in their round-of-six games of the 2022/2023 Isa bin Rashid Bahrain Volleyball League.

Nasser survived a battling Muharraq 3-2 (25-19, 25-23, 20-25, 22-25, 15-8) while Najma eased past Nabi Saleh 3-0 (25-16, 25-17, 25-23). Both games were played at Isa bin Rashid Arena at the Bahrain Volleyball

Association headquarters at Isa Sports City in Riffa.

Nasser claimed their first victory in this stage of the league. Hussain Mahdi played a key role for the winners, scoring 14 points, including five in the decisive fifth set. Ebrahim Mohammed was the team's leading scorer with 19 points.

For Muharraq, Hassan Al Haddad had a game-high 23 in the loss. Nigerian Samuel Anthony Ogwuche added 17 markers while Hussain Khalifa scored 15.

Meanwhile, Najma posted their second triumph in the round-of-six at the expense of Nabi Saleh.

Hassan Dhahi had 13 points as one of the top performers for Najma, who also got 18 markers from Ali Ebrahim. Peter Camara from Kenya had 27 points to pace Nabi Saleh in the defeat while Sayed Hashem Isa chipped in with 17.

Loeb makes intentions clear in Dakar Rally

French star shines for Bahrain Raid Xtreme as Sainz takes stage win in Saudi

● **Loeb just 23 seconds away from Sainz**

TDT | Manama

Sebastien Loeb believes this could be the year that he leads Bahrain Raid Xtreme to victory in the Dakar Rally, and he underlined his intentions yesterday on the first real test of the 45th edition in Saudi Arabia.

The nine-time World Rally Champion is nicely placed in second position following the 367-km opening special stage, just 23 seconds away from stage winner Carlos Sainz, with two other Prodrive Hunters in the top seven.

Partnered by Fabian Lurquin in his BRX Hunter, Loeb finds himself in between Audi teammates Sainz and Mattias Ekström, but has strong support close at hand following a stage on which the five quickest drivers were separated by just over two minutes.

Loeb said, "It was a good step for us at this stage, no problem. I was very safe from the beginning from the punctures. It was



Sebastien Loeb at the wheel of his Bahrain Raid Xtreme Prodrive Hunter

really rough with big stones, and I wanted to try to avoid a puncture. So that's what we did."

Winners of the Rallye du Maroc in October, Guerlain Chicherit with co-driver Alex Winocq set the fifth fastest time in their Prodrive Hunter, just five seconds adrift of Saudi's Yazeed Al Rajhi in a Toyota.

Loeb's BRX team-mates, Orly Terranova and Alex Haro, took their Prodrive Hunter to seventh place, one ahead of Qatar's four-times winner and defending champion, Nasser Al Attiyah.

It all added up to a highly satisfying leg for the Prodrive-run BRX team in Saudi, which has 67 people, 14 nationalities and 27 vehicles supporting the Hunters, each running on EcoPower fuel which reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 80% compared to petrol.

After edging Loeb by one second on the previous day's prologue, Ekström led for much of yesterday's stage before the Frenchman stepped up the pace in his Prodrive Hunter, as did Sainz, to surge past him over the last 100kms.



The performance of the Prodrive Hunters is no surprise following back-to-back victories in last year's inaugural World Rally Raid Championship (W2RC)

The performance of the Prodrive Hunters is no surprise following back-to-back victories in last year's inaugural World Rally Raid Championship (W2RC).

Following up Chicherit's historic first rally success for the car in Morocco, Loeb gave BRX a splendid win in the Andalusia Rally, and has started the 2023 W2RC in Saudi determined to go one better than his overall runner up spot last year.

The Dakar continues tomorrow with a 430km stage from Sea Camp to Alula.

BIC signs on with Unipal to offer Bahrain's students fantastic deals

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) announced yesterday that it has partnered with popular student-centric platform Unipal to offer special deals on event tickets, activities and merchandise at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East".

Through its free mobile app, Unipal gives students across the Kingdom access to all kinds of offers and discounts to over 150 establishments across Bahrain using a unique digital ID.

BIC's collaboration with Unipal thus offers Bahrain's youth a series of incredible offers on the various offerings at the circuit, making for significant savings!

The partnership was formalised in a signing ceremony attended by BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa, BIC Chief Commercial Officer Sherif Al Mahdy, and Unipal Operations Director Ali Alshaer.

BIC Chief Commercial Officer Sherif Al Mahdy commented: "We are pleased to be launching



BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa and Unipal Operations Director Ali Alshaer after signing the agreement

our partnership with Unipal to be able to deliver to students across Bahrain great deals on the events, activities and merchandise we offer at BIC.

"Our collaboration gives us a wider reach to the Kingdom's youth, who make up a large portion of our customers and fan

base.

"We look forward to working closely with Unipal for the long term and to further build our relationship for the benefit of both our companies."

Amongst BIC's deals that are available to students on Unipal is a 10 per cent discount on tickets

Our collaboration gives us a wider reach to the Kingdom's youth, who make up a large portion of our customers and fan base. We look forward to working closely with Unipal for the long term and to further build our relationship for the benefit of both our companies

BIC CHIEF COMMERCIAL OFFICER SHERIF AL MAHDY

to the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2023, as well as 10 per cent price reductions on the wide array of on-track activities such as the Orange Media Open Track, the Ebrahim K Kanoo Drag and Drift Nights, the BNI Clio Cup Experience or the Batelco Fitness on Track.

Students will also be able to purchase tickets to the first-ever Bahrain Darts Masters, taking

place on 12 and 13 January featuring the world's best players in the PDC World Series of Darts.

Furthermore, BIC and Unipal have created a special account catered specifically to Bahrain International Karting Circuit (BIKC), BIC's world-class grassroots motorsport facility.

With karting being an immensely popular adrenaline-pumping activity amongst Bahrain's youth, students can take advantage of the discounted rates and enjoy a thrilling motor racing experience at BIKC.

The complete list of offers available to students at BIC and BIKC can be found on the Unipal app.

Unipal currently has over 25,000 university students, which is 45 per cent of the student population in Bahrain, who are registered on the app, with an average of around 1,200 more joining every month.

For more information, visit bahraingp.com or call the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000.

Lampard pleased with character and fight of Everton



Frank Lampard

Reuters | London

Everton boss Frank Lampard believes the "character, determination and fight" which his team exhibited in their 1-1 draw with Premier League champions Manchester City on Saturday is an example they need to follow going forwards.

His side had gone a goal down after Erling Haaland opened the scoring for City in the first half but came away with a point thanks to Demarai Gray's spectacular effort from a distance.

With 11 minutes of time added on in the second half, his side defended resolutely to guard themselves from relentless waves of City attacks.

"For me I think, particularly at City, it's character, personality and flight (which is the most important element of the game) because it's 11 against 11 and we know how good their 11 is," Lampard told a news conference.

Auger-Aliassime says winning momentum has boosted confidence

Reuters | London

Felix Auger-Aliassime said his superb form in the second half of last year has left him full of confidence for 2023, as the world number six gears up for the new season as part of a heavyweight field in the Adelaide International

1 tournament.

Canadian Auger-Aliassime, 22, captured titles in Florence, Antwerp and Basel with a 13-match winning run in October before reaching the semi-finals of the Paris Masters and competing in the ATP Finals.

He also guided Canada to their

first Davis Cup title late in November, beating Alex de Minaur, Lorenzo Musetti and Oscar Otte at the Finals in Malaga, Spain.

"I feel like momentum plays a huge role on your confidence. For me, it's been great in the last few months," Auger-Aliassime told reporters.

"I try to recreate it, not just like think it's some sort of stars aligned or some type of luck you're just trying to ride a wave on. I think there's reasons behind success.

"I feel like it's about understanding why you're succeeding constantly and trying to do it again."



Felix Auger-Aliassime