

Leclerc triumphs at Italian GP

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc claims second Monza victory as Max Verstappen struggles to sixth place | **P 12**

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Russia says repelled 'massive' drone attack

THE DAILY tribune



Jolie 'terribly nervous' about playing diva Callas in new film

NBB, Tamkeen partner for SME growth

Two-day curfew for Iraq's first census in decades

AFP | Baghdad

Iraq will impose a two-day curfew in November for the country's first census in 27 years, the authorities announced yesterday.

The "curfew will be imposed in all provinces of Iraq on November 20 and 21 to conduct a population census", Prime Minister Mohamed Shia al-Sudani said in a statement.

Ravaged by decades of conflict and violence, Iraq has postponed a census several times, most notably in 2010 because of tensions between communities over disputed territories.

The last general census was held in 1997 in 15 Iraqi provinces - excluding the three northern provinces that made up the autonomous Kurdistan Region.

17 bodies found after Kamchatka helicopter crash

AFP | Moscow

Rescuers yesterday said they had found 17 bodies after a helicopter crashed with 22 people aboard in Russia's Kamchatka peninsula in the far east.

The helicopter went missing shortly after takeoff Saturday carrying 19 tourists and 3 crew, regional authorities said.

Kamchatka is a picturesque, wild region popular for adventure tourism due to its active volcanoes and pristine nature.

Torrential rains in Niger kill 15 more people

AFP | Niamey, Niger

Torrential rains in Niger have killed at least 15 more people, regional authorities said yesterday, the latest casualties of the downpours lashing the African nation.

Heavy rains have been drenching Africa's Sahel region since June and the latest victims in Niger come on top of at least 217 people who have died across the country in that time.

More than 350,000 people have been affected.

HM King urges political solution for lasting peace in Gaza

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa emphasised the importance of a ceasefire in Gaza to alleviate the humanitarian suffering, end the escalation, and prevent the conflict from expanding further in the region.

HM the King underscored the necessity of establishing a political solution to achieve a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace.

He emphasized that this solution must include securing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the establishment of their independent state based on the two-state solution.

The King noted that this is essential for ensuring a secure future for the region's peoples

and maintaining regional security and peace.

His Majesty was speaking as he received yesterday His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of HM the King for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of the Royal Court, and His Excellency Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, at Al Sakhir Palace.

The meeting discussed local matters and reviewed ongoing efforts to advance comprehensive development process within the Kingdom to achieve national objectives.

HM King Hamad emphasised the importance of the outcomes



“This solution must include securing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the establishment of their independent state based on the two-state solution.”

- HIS MAJESTY KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

of the recent meeting between His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and His Excellency Sir Keir Starmer, the Prime Minister of

the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Bahrain-UK ties

HM the King highlighted the meeting's role in further

strengthening relations between the two kingdoms across various sectors.

He expressed pride in Bahrain's civilisational achievements, attributing them to the dedication of its citizens, who continue to demonstrate their ability to excel, innovate, and compete regionally and internationally.

His Majesty also thanked those who congratulated him on the McLaren team winning first-place at the Dutch Grand Prix in the Formula 1 World Championship, noting that this international achievement further enhances Bahrain's distinguished status and reputation in the global sports arena, particularly in motor racing.

Global fairness

Bahrain introduces new tax for Multinational Enterprises, aligns with OECD standards

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain announced the introduction of a Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax (DMTT) for Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) as outlined in Decree Law (11) of 2024.

The new framework for Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) is fully aligned with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines, and will be effective January 1, 2025, underscoring Bahrain's commitment to promoting global economic fairness and transparency.

This strategic move builds on Bahrain's proactive engagement with the OECD, dating back to 2018 when it joined the Inclusive Framework and endorsed



Image used for illustrative purposes only

the groundbreaking two-pillar reform.

To date, over 140 jurisdictions have signed up for this international tax reform.

As part of this two-pillar reform, the OECD established a Global Minimum Corporate Tax to ensure large Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) pay a min-

imum tax of 15% on profits in each country where they operate.

With the introduction of the DMTT, Bahrain demonstrates

its international commitment to global cooperation and its dedication to fostering a fair and level playing field in international taxation.

its international commitment to global cooperation and its dedication to fostering a fair and level playing field in international taxation.

Profits

Implementing this initiative aims to ensure that MNEs pay the minimum 15% tax on the profits generated in the Kingdom.

This Decree Law will apply exclusively to large MNEs operating in the Kingdom, with global revenues surpassing the Pillar Two threshold of EUR 750 million.

Eligible businesses are urged to register with the National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) before the deadline specified in the relevant legislation.

War casualties

11 killed in Israeli strike on school

AFP | Palestinian Territories

Gaza health officials said an Israeli air strike targeting a group of policemen in a school sheltering displaced Palestinians killed at least 11 people yesterday, while the military said it had struck a Hamas command centre.

"Eleven people, including a woman and girl, were killed when an Israeli air strike struck the Safad school in Gaza City sheltering displaced people," civil defence agency spokesman Mahmud Bassal

told AFP, adding several people were also wounded.

The school had a Hamas police outpost, another Gaza health official said on condition of anonymity.

The Israeli military said its air force had struck a Hamas command centre in the Safad school.

"The IAF struck Hamas who were operating within a command and control centre embedded inside the area that previously served as the Safad school in Gaza City," the military said in a statement.

Strumming Hope



Ahmad Abu Amsha, 42, a music teacher who had to flee Beit Hanun in the northern Gaza Strip, entertains children at the beach near a camp for displaced Palestinians in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip where he took refuge with his family, on Sunday. (AFP)



New rules, fewer slots

Hajj operators worried as quota slashed for expat pilgrims under unified licensing framework

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama



The new rules stipulate that a campaign can host up to 90 pilgrims: 80 places for Bahrainis, five for Gulf nationals, and just five for expatriates.

Hajj operators who cater primarily to expatriates have expressed their worries over fresh licensing regulations that they believe could edge them out of the market.

The previous system, which allocated separate licences for Bahraini and expatriate pilgrims, has been replaced by a unified framework.

The new rules stipulate that a campaign can host up to 90 pilgrims: 80 places for Bahrainis, five for Gulf nationals, and just five for expatriates.

This change has left operators who focus on expatriates scrambling to adapt. Additionally, the new requirements pose challenges for the 17 licences recently approved.

On Saturday, these contractors gathered in Muharraq to voice their objections to the new requirements imposed by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs earlier in August.

Concerns

Their concerns include the introduction of a BD20,000 coun-

ter guarantee and the requirement to rent a separate building for each campaign.

The Daily Tribune was on-site to discuss their grievances.

While the Ministry's decisions are intended to safeguard pilgrims during the Hajj season — protecting them from unexpected problems and shielding them from dodgy dealings — contractors argue that some measures are overly restrictive.

This strict approach could



Hajj operators at the meeting venue

jeopardise long-established players in the Hajj and Umrah market, despite the Ministry's best efforts to clamp down on unlicensed activities.

Operators also oppose the recent rule increasing the minimum number of pilgrims per campaign from 50 to 90.

Agreements

They argue that this contradicts agreements made in October and after Ramadan and are calling for the previous minimum of 50 to be reinstated.

"We've been hit hard by these

changes," said Abdullatif Al Maqhawi, Deputy Director of the Al Ahbab Campaign for Hajj and Umrah.

"This decision won't affect the larger campaigns already established in the market, which were working with Bahraini clients," he added.

During their meeting, Hajj operators also discussed the new regulation prohibiting campaigns from merging into a single large building in Mecca.

Accommodation

Each campaign must now have

its own accommodation during Hajj, unlike the previous system where multiple campaigns could share.

They also requested written clarification on the registration process and an explanation of the BD150 deposit required at registration.

"What I find puzzling is that the amount is collected in September and returned after a whole year, even though it's paid out of our own pockets before the season," said Faisal Al Rifaei, a campaign contractor. "We're no longer thinking about profits

— now it's just about avoiding losses."

Operators also expressed concerns about the new quota system for pilgrim registration.

Quota

Al Rifaei pointed out, "If 15,000 pilgrims register, with 3,000 being foreigners and the quota set at 4,600, the process will start by removing the expats to fit within the limit. Next, Bahraini pilgrims who have previously performed Hajj will be filtered out, continuing until the count reaches 4,600. Should registration remain open and the quota still not be met, I have 90 pilgrims on standby who are not guaranteed to be registered."

"The burden is greater than we can bear," added Najim Rashid, Director of the Al Re-sala Campaign. "Businesses like Quraini's Campaign, which has been in the market for over 80 years, are now facing closure. We're appealing to His Majesty the King and HRH the Crown Prince."

Rashid also criticised the sudden implementation of the new rules, pointing out that it lacked a gradual transition.

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Appeals Court voids crypto mining rig sale

● Seller ordered to repay buyer BD16,200 refund

TDI | Manama

In a landmark case, the High Appeals Court upheld a lower court ruling to void a contract for the sale of a cryptocurrency mining rig and ordered the seller to pay the buyer BD16,200.

The decision was based on the seller's failure to deliver the rig within the agreed-upon timeframe, resulting in a significant loss for the buyer.

The case involved a buyer who entered into a contract with a seller in January 2022 to purchase a mining rig for BD16,200.

The agreement stipulated that the rig, imported from China, would be delivered within three months of payment. However, the seller failed to deliver the rig on time and also refused to refund the buyer's money.

The lower court ruled in favour of the buyer, voiding

the contract and ordering the seller to pay the full purchase price.

The seller appealed the decision, arguing that he had imported the rig and attempted to deliver it to the buyer, who refused to accept it.

The High Appeals Court, however, sided with the buyer, finding that the seller had breached the contract by failing to deliver the rig within the agreed-upon timeframe.

Non-payment

The court noted that the seller had contracted for multiple mining rigs, and the manufacturer in China had withheld delivery due to non-payment.

This delay, the court found, was entirely the seller's responsibility and ultimately resulted in a significant drop in the price of the rig, causing the buyer a loss of nearly BD10,000.

The court also dismissed the seller's claim that the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted the delivery of the rig, citing testimony from a witness who stated that import operations from China were functioning normally in 2022.

Cybercrime alert!

Beware of fake school transport ads, job offers, QR codes, and investments

Ashen Tharaka
TDI | Manama

As the school year kicks off in Bahrain, a new scam is emerging, targeting parents desperate to secure safe transportation for their children.

Cybercriminals are posting fake advertisements for school transport services, collecting advance payments through platforms like BenefitPay or bank transfers, and then disappearing without a trace.

Parents are urged to meet service providers in person and insist on official proof of payment to avoid falling victim to these scams.

Meanwhile, job seekers on LinkedIn are also in the crosshairs of scammers.

These attackers pose as legitimate companies, conducting interviews online and offering fake contracts.

Payroll duties

Victims are then manipulated into acting as HR administrators, transferring money from their accounts under the guise of payroll duties.

Unfortunately, this leaves



Fake online advertisements



“Cybersecurity threats are evolving and they are going with the trends of the market and the needs of the people. We always have to be vigilant and take things slowly; don't rush into anything and don't trust anyone behind a screen because it could be someone else.”

- ALI BESHARA, CYBERSECURITY EXPERT

them entangled in money laundering schemes, making it difficult to prove their innocence to authorities.

In another alarming trend, cybercriminals are creating fake QR codes in restaurants and cafes.

While the convenience of scanning a code for a menu might be tempting, experts warn that these codes can lead to malicious websites designed to steal personal information.

It's advisable to request a physical menu or verify the QR code's authenticity before scanning.

Scams

Social media platforms are

also being used to lure victims into investment scams.

Hackers gain control of well-known accounts and post fake success stories about investments in Forex or cryptocurrency platforms.

The scammers might even offer small payouts to build trust, only to vanish with larger sums later.

Cybersecurity expert Ali Beshara, with 20 years of experience, emphasizes the importance of vigilance in the face of evolving cyber threats.

“Cybersecurity threats are evolving and they are going with the trends of the market and the needs of the people. We always have to be vigilant and take things slowly; don't rush into anything and don't trust anyone behind a screen because it could be someone else,” Beshara told The Daily Tribune.

Warnings

The General Directorate of Anti-Corruption, Economic & Electronic Security (ACEES) has also issued warnings about fake marriage opportunities and high-paying job scams that promise easy money for minimal effort.

New law to cut fines for labour violations

TDI | Manama

A new law is set to be introduced soon to streamline labour regulations and provide more flexibility for companies and workers.

The official gazette has already published a draft law, slated for legislative review in the coming period, introducing amendments to the Labour Market Regulation Authority (LMRA) Law.

The most significant change involves a reduction in fines for companies employing workers in violation of labour regulations.

Companies found to be employing workers with expired work permits or permits belonging to other companies will now face a fine of BD500, down from the previous BD1,000. This reduced fine applies if the

company settles the violation within 14 days of being notified.

The law also introduces a tiered system for fines imposed on workers whose work permits have expired.

The fines range from BD100 for violations detected within the first 10 days of expiry to BD1,000 for repeat offenses.

The law also introduces a tiered system for fines imposed on workers whose work permits have expired.

The fines are as follows:

BD100: If the violation is detected within 10 days of the permit's expiry. BD200: If the violation is detected between 10 and 20 days after the permit's expiry. BD300: If the violation is detected between 20 and 30 days after the permit's expiry.

The new law emphasises the importance of settlement. It allows for the settlement of vi-

olations by paying a specified amount within 14 working days of being notified. The law also clarifies that criminal charges are dropped upon full payment of the settlement amount.

The law will be implemented by the Prime Minister's office upon its publication in the official gazette.

Regulations

The LMRA board will issue regulations outlining the specific procedures for settlements.

The new law is expected to provide greater flexibility for both companies and workers while maintaining a strong regulatory framework for the labor market.

The reduced fines and settlement options aim to encourage compliance and reduce the burden on businesses while ensuring fair treatment for workers.

Phone store ordered to refund customer for defective iPhone

TDI | Manama

The High Civil Court court has ruled in favour of a customer who purchased a defective iPhone, ordering the phone store owner to refund the purchase price and pay legal fees.

According to the plaintiff's lawyer, Essam Al Tayeb, the incident occurred on December 15, 2022, when the plaintiff purchased a new iPhone 14 from the defendant. The plaintiff

paid BD330 for the device.

On April 13, 2023, the phone's network connection was disrupted. As a result, the plaintiff contacted the telecommunications company, who confirmed that there was no issue on their end.

On April 15, 2023, the plaintiff informed the phone store (the defendant) about the issue and returned the phone.

After a quick examination, the store informed the plaintiff that there was a problem with the

phone and they would contact the technical agent (the telecommunications company responsible for the device). They promised to contact the plaintiff once they had more information.

After a period of time, the store informed the plaintiff that the problem with the phone was due to the original owner's failure to pay their monthly installments, leading to the phone being deactivated by the telecommunications company.

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Urgent call for legislative fix and business incentives

Small businesses struggle to comply with Wage Protection System

TDT | Manama

There is a need for legislative amendments to the Wage Protection System in Bahrain.

This was based on a recent investigation conducted by our sister newspaper Al Ayam.

The report also calls for awareness campaigns and incentives for small businesses to encourage compliance.

The Ministry of Labour, in a memo to the Shura Council, revealed that only 19.7% of small businesses are compliant with the system, which mandates salary transfers through banks.

A staggering 80.3% of small businesses are not adhering to the regulations.

In contrast, 84.3% of large companies comply with the system, with only 16.7% failing to comply.

Ahmed Al Saloum, Member of Parliament and President of the Bahrain Small and Medium Enterprises Development Society, ruled out imposing penalties on those who are yet to comply to the new rule, adding that the Parliament will work on the introduction of other solutions to help businesses to live up to the new legislative amendments.

He emphasised the need for the Wage Protection System to include provisions that consider the unique circumstances of small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

He stressed the significance for a specific framework for SMEs that doesn't equate them with large corporations.

"The situation of small and micro-enterprises is fundamentally different from that of large companies, especially in terms of workforce size and the responsibilities entrusted to each employee or worker," Al Saloum explained.

Incentives

Meanwhile, Shura Council member Nancy Khadouri echoed this sentiment, advocating for incentives to encourage businesses to comply with the system.

"The Ministry of Labour is fulfilling its role and taking regulatory measures to motivate businesses to comply with the Wage Protection System. There is no lack of oversight mechanisms in place, but we can explore ways to offer more incentives for companies," she said.

"The law requires companies to transfer salaries through



"The situation of small and micro-enterprises is fundamentally different from that of large companies, especially in terms of workforce size and the responsibilities entrusted to each employee or worker."

- MP AHMED AL SALOUM, PRESIDENT OF THE BAHRAIN SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY



"The Ministry of Labour is fulfilling its role and taking regulatory measures to motivate businesses to comply with the Wage Protection System. There is no lack of oversight mechanisms in place, but we can explore ways to offer more incentives for companies."

- NANCY KHADOURI, SHURA COUNCIL MEMBER



"There should be a legislation that would impose various criminal penalties, especially since the amendment to Article 46 of the Labour Law did not include penalties for those who fail to transfer wages to banks."

FATIMA BIN RAJAB, LAWYER

banks. This oversight is implemented through the Wage Protection System established by the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) to guarantee that workers receive their wages as stipulated in their employment contracts.

"Under the Wage Protection System, employers are obligated to transfer their workers' salaries through a bank or a financial institution licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain."

Lawyer Fatima bin Rajab pointed out that the existing legislation lacks penalties, hindering enforcement efforts.

She proposed legislation that would impose various criminal penalties, especially since the amendment to Article 46 of the Labour Law did not include penalties for those who fail to transfer wages to banks.

Bin Rajab pointed to several reasons behind the low compliance rate with the wage system by small business owners, including renting out records to foreigners, trading in visa sales, and exploiting the wage support provided by Tamkeen.

The investigation underscored the possibility of some businesses manipulating salary amounts to avoid bank transfers.

banks, and the compliance rate among large companies is very high.

"The legislative authority is

keen to understand the extent of oversight on businesses to ensure they comply with the system of paying wages through

'Smile' unveils 'Kids R Golden 11'

TDT | Manama

The "Smile" initiative, an initiative by the Bahrain Future Society for Youth that provides psychosocial support to children with cancer and their families in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has announced the celebration of over 45 children who have successfully overcome cancer.

This announcement coincides with the launch of the

latest edition of its awareness campaign, "Kids R Gold 11," held on the campus of The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Medical University of Bahrain.

The campaign aims to spread awareness about childhood cancer across various segments in the Kingdom, under the slogan "Children's cancer is curable."

In a statement, His Excellency Lieutenant General Doctor

Shaikh Mohamed Bin Abdul-lah Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health, emphasised the significance of this pioneering humanitarian campaign in raising awareness about childhood cancer, highlighting that the disease can be cured if detected and treated in its early stages.

The statement underscored the critical importance of early detection and prompt treatment as key factors.

Court confirms paternity of children born through informal marriage

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The court has confirmed the paternity of two children born to a foreign wife and a Bahraini husband, validating their union through an informal contract (Urfi).

The ruling requires the Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Residence (NPRA), alongside the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA), to provide passports and identity cards for the children.

The case came about after the wife, with the help of lawyer Jassim Al Essa, took legal action when her husband refused to recognise the children, leaving them without any proper paperwork.

The wife had entered into an informal marriage with the Bahraini man in 2016, but after the children's birth, the husband distanced himself from the family, denying the children's parentage and leaving them without legal identity.

Contract

After a three-year separation, the couple reconciled and entered into a new informal marriage contract.

The wife retained copies of both the 2016 contract and the recent one. She then ap-



proached the court, seeking a ruling to compel her husband to accept the children.

During the proceedings, witnesses testified to the signing of the 2016 informal contract, providing pivotal proof supporting the wife's claim.

Testimony

The court accepted the testimony and confirmed the marriage, along with the corresponding legal obligations, especially the recognition of the children's paternity.

Urfi marriages, though not formally registered, are increasingly acknowledged by courts when sufficient evidence is provided.

This ruling affirms the children's legal status and ensures that they receive the necessary documentation, proving that the court plays a crucial role in validating informal unions and protecting the rights of children born from them.

Summer Safety Campaign successful

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Free Labour Unions (BFLU) has announced the successful conclusion of the 12th edition of its annual campaign to improve working conditions and labour rights during the summer months.

The campaign, which ran throughout July and August, involved a series of awareness and rights-based events and activities across various sectors in the Kingdom, in collaboration with relevant government and private entities.

The campaign focused on a range of summer safety-related topics, including recognizing the symptoms of heat stress and how to manage it, preventing sunburns, and navigating hot weather safely. The BFLU's Summer Safety Campaign is a crucial initiative aimed at creating a safe and healthy environment for the community during the summer months.

It promotes public awareness of the importance of safety and proper preparation to address the challenges associated with hot weather.

Sarah Al Nuaimi, Vice President for Occupational Health and Safety, said the campaign included activities and awareness initiatives to educate workers about their rights.

Condolences



Mrs. Mariamma Alex (84)

left for heavenly abode on Sunday

She had served as the Principal of Kuwait School. The management and staff of SPAC W.L.L express deep condolences to its director Boban Idiculla on the loss of his beloved sister.

NBB, Tamkeen partner for SME growth

● NBB signs agreement with Tamkeen to provide enterprise Sharia-compliant financing solutions

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has signed a partnership agreement with the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) to deliver Sharia-compliant subsidised financing to enable enterprises to achieve their growth and expansion plans.

This agreement is part of the Financing Support programme offered by Tamkeen, which aims to provide Sharia-compliant financial solutions in the form of



Officials after signing the agreement

subsidising part of the financing profit to enable enterprises to grow and develop.

Recognising their pivotal role in boosting the national economy, NBB will be supporting the development of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) through a comprehen-

sive financing scheme. Customers will be able to submit their financing applications through the bank, which will be evaluated according to the criteria set by the bank.

Applicants that are approved will receive subsidised interest rates from Tamkeen, coupled

with the working capital needed to fuel the growth of their businesses.

Commenting on the partnership, Maha Mofeez, Chief Executive of Tamkeen, commented: "Financing is a key element for SMEs that comprise 93% of enterprises in the economy, and

we are committed to supporting Small and Medium Enterprises with financing solutions in co-operation with local banks such as the National Bank of Bahrain."

Usman Ahmed, Group Chief Executive Officer of NBB, remarked on the partnership: "Through this strategic part-

SMEs, comprising 93% of enterprises in Bahrain, are a vital component of the economy, and this partnership seeks to provide them with essential financial support to drive their growth and development

nership, we aim to accelerate the growth of the wider SME market through necessary banking solutions. We remain committed to investing in key sectors in the Kingdom with the aim of contributing to the National Economic Recovery Plan and the Kingdom's Economic Vision 2030."

StartUp Bahrain to host third edition of StartUp Bahrain Weekend

TDT | Manama

StartUp Bahrain, the leading platform for startups in the Kingdom of Bahrain, announces the third edition of StartUp Bahrain Weekend, which will be taking place from 19th to 21st September.

Supported by The Labour Fund (Tamkeen), the annual event is aimed at fostering and supporting emerging local busi-

nesses and enhancing Bahrain's thriving startup ecosystem.

The electrifying 54-hour marathon brings together over 200 passionate founders, developers, designers, and marketers to create and launch startups from the ground up in a single weekend.

This high-energy event is filled with creativity, collaboration, and innovation, as participants compete for cash prizes

awarded to the top three teams. Redefining business norms in the Kingdom, StartUp Bahrain Weekend's keynote speaker will be Ahmed Alrawi, the serial entrepreneur and Co-Founder and CEO of Calo, who brings invaluable insights from his trailblazing journey in the startup ecosystem. Additionally, Nathan Minns, a seasoned trainer and facilitator renowned for his global expertise in guiding start-

up initiatives, returns for the third time to offer mentorship and guidance to participants. This edition's panel of judges includes Brinc Regional Head of Corporate Innovation, Husain Haji, Partner at Pinnacle Capital, Moayed Almoayed; Hope Fund's General Manager, Fajer AlPachachi; Executive Director and MP of Tajawoz, Hamad Alfahad; Head of HP Spring Studios - Bahrain, Zainab

Khamis; and Founder and Managing Partner of Plus VC, Hasan Haider.

Moreover, the event will include more than 20 Bahraini leaders in the field of entrepreneurship that will assist the participants under the guidance of Rami Jamal, Emad Al-Kooheji, Imran Al-Arabi, Ahmed Faraj, Ahmed Haji, Noora AlAskar, Lana AlAttar, Abdullah Alrayes, and many others.

Executive Director of Program Development and Partnerships at Tamkeen, Ali Hasan, emphasized Tamkeen's commitment to championing entrepreneurship in Bahrain. He stated: "Being part of this event is aligned with our ongoing efforts to support entrepreneurship which include offering designated support and training for aspiring founders and business leaders."

AUB completes conversion of its Egypt operations from conventional to Islamic banking

TDT | Manama

Ahli United Bank has successfully converted Ahli United Bank - Egypt from conventional to Islamic banking. This milestone positions the Bank as a key provider of Sharia-compliant banking and financial solutions in the Egyptian market.

In recent months, the Bank has implemented extensive changes to ensure that all its products and services adhere to Sharia requirements. This overhaul involved revamping and restructuring services,



Hamad Abdul Mohsen Al Marzouq, Chairman of Ahli United Bank Group

products, and systems, as well as establishing a dedicated Sharia Supervisory Board to oversee

ongoing compliance with Islamic principles.

"We are delighted to announce the full conversion of Ahli United Bank - Egypt, following our successful efforts to meet all the Islamic Banking requirements," said Hamad Abdul Mohsen Al Marzouq, Chairman of Ahli United Bank Group. "This achievement provides a significant opportunity to expand our operations in this promising market and increase our market share, given the strong demand for Islamic banking and financial services in Egypt. This accomplishment

also builds on our previous success in converting our operations in Bahrain and the United Kingdom to Islamic banking seamlessly and in a record time."

This development marks an important addition to the Islamic banking sector in the Arab world. The Egyptian market is strategically important to the Group, considering its size and the strong demand for Islamic banking and financial services. This transition highlights the Group's commitment to offering a comprehensive range of Sharia-compliant services to its Egyptian clientele.

Alba's weight loss programme concludes



Alba CEO Ali Al Baqali with the winners

TDT | Manama

Alba celebrated the successful conclusion of the 4th edition of its Weight Loss Programme on 29th August, at the Company's SHE Hall.

The event was attended by CEO Ali Al Baqali and senior Company officials.

The fourth edition of this programme, which started on 26 May 2024, saw 35 employees participate in training sessions at the Alba Club facilities including the gym, swimming pool and indoor multi-purpose sports hall - under the direct supervision of Alba employee and bodybuilding coach Qasim Al Hammam.

Participants also received

ongoing weight monitoring and diet consultation sessions.

At the closing ceremony, CEO Ali Al Baqali congratulated the winners and all participants, encouraging them to sustain their healthy lifestyle for continued good health. Al Baqali also announced that the 5th edition of the programme will commence in September 2024, in light of heavy employee demand.

Alba's Weight Loss Programme reflects the Company's commitment to enhancing the health and wellbeing of its employees. Since its inception in 2015, a total of 175 employees have participated across all four editions of the programme.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds wins Responsible Jewellery House Award at India Gold Conference

TDT | Manama

Malabar Gold & Diamonds, the 6th largest jewellery retailer globally with over 355 showrooms across 13 countries, has been honoured with the prestigious India Gold Conference (IGC) Responsible Jewellery House Award for 2023-24.

This accolade, one of the most esteemed in the Indian jewellery sector, recognizes Malabar Gold & Diamonds for its unwavering commitment to ethical sourcing and sustainability.

The award acknowledges Malabar Gold & Diamonds' dedication to procuring responsibly mined gold and diamonds from legitimate sources, ensuring that every piece of jewellery is crafted with the highest stand-



Malabar Gold & Diamonds' officials receive the award

ards of purity and integrity.

O Asher, Managing Director of India Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds received the award from Dr. Sundaravalli Narayanswamy, Chairperson of the India Gold Policy Centre, at a function held at Bangalore, India.

Also in attendance were Sitarman Varadarajan, Business Development Head at Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Dileep Narayanan, Bullion Head at Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Sunil Kashyap Director of Finmet PTE Ltd, Praveen Baijnath, CEO of Rand Refinery, and Filsor Babu,

Karnataka Regional Head at Malabar Gold & Diamonds.


Speaking on the occasion, Malabar Group Chairman, MP Ahammed, expressed his gratitude and reaffirmed the company's commitment to ethical practices. "We are deeply honored to receive the Responsible Jewellery House Award from IGC. Gold and diamonds are treasured gifts, often exchanged during life's most joyful moments, such as weddings and birthdays."

"The tenets of ethical and responsible business practices are something we have strongly adhered to here at Malabar Gold & Diamonds since our inception", commented Shamlal Ahamed, Managing Director of International Operations at Malabar Gold & Diamonds.



PREMIER MOTORS

Recall Notice
Changan - UNI-T
Model 2023 to 2025



CHANGAN AUTO

In extreme working conditions of long-distance driving under high weather temperature, the insufficient coverage of the software protection control strategy would lead to prolonged heat accumulation in the cooling system, potentially causing a risk of burning the cooling fan. Customers must bring the car to update the ECU software.

Call 17400400 to book an appointment.



News in brief

Algeria joins the BRICS New Development Bank... Algeria has been approved for membership in the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), the country's finance ministry has announced.

Eight people including an infant were killed in a bus crash in the southern US state of Mississippi in the early hours of Saturday, local media reported.

Eight killed in US bus crash: media



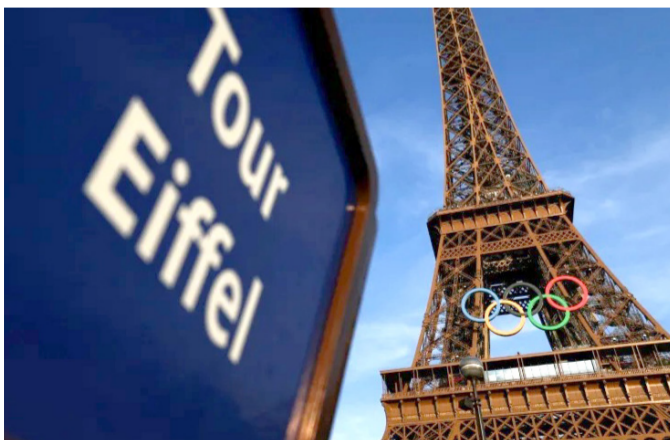
Electricity returns across Venezuela after prolonged outage... Power was restored across Venezuela on Saturday morning, after a massive 12-hour outage plunged the entire country into darkness.

A high-speed boat chase near the Spanish port city of Cadiz left one alleged drug trafficker dead and four injured when their vessel crashed into the riverbank late at night, authorities said yesterday.

Suspected drug trafficker dies in Spain high-speed boat chase

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Eiffel Tower to keep Olympic rings after Games: Paris mayor



A view of the Eiffel Tower with Olympic rings AFP | Paris

The Eiffel Tower will keep the Olympic rings that have adorned it since June after the ongoing Paralympic Games, Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo said on Saturday.

Organisers have won widespread domestic and international praise for the smooth running of the games with Paris's most iconic monuments providing a picturesque backdrop

Macron will have the final say as the site is state property. Organisers have won widespread domestic and international praise for the smooth running of the games with Paris's most iconic monuments providing a picturesque backdrop.

Russia says repelled 'massive' drone attack

Ukraine targets energy and fuel plants in 14 regions and Moscow in retaliation for Russian missile attacks

Russia repels 122 Ukrainian drones across 14 regions and Moscow

Drones target energy and fuel plants, causing fires and damage

Moscow mayor reports 10 drones targeted various areas of the capital

AFP | Moscow

Russia's defence ministry said yesterday it had repelled a "massive" Ukrainian drone attack across 14 regions and the capital that targeted energy and fuel plants.

said that 10 drones had targeted various areas of the capital. A coal-fired power plant near the city was reportedly targeted, and an attack caused a fire at an oil refinery within the city boundaries.

The barrage comes just days after Ukraine's energy infrastructure was targeted by over 200 Russian drones and missiles in one of the biggest such attacks.

It is also nearly a month since Ukraine went on the offensive in Russia's Kursk region, even as Russian troops continue their steady advance in eastern Ukraine.

Russian authorities reported a fire at the Moscow oil refinery, owned by Gazprom, in southeast Kapotnya after it was targeted by drones.

Sobyanin said yesterday morning that a downed drone had hit a "technical building" at the plant and caused a fire.

An emergency services source told TASS state news agency that fuel was burning at the plant and the fire was initially classed as the highest level of complexity.

Sobyanin later said "the fire at the oil refinery has been localised and there is no threat to people or the plant's operation".



A rescuer pushes out a fire outside a mall after Russian missiles strike in Kharkiv

In the Tver region northwest of Moscow, five drones targeted the area of Konakovo power plant and caused a fire that was swiftly extinguished, according to governor Igor Rudenya.

"Gas and electricity supplies to the district are being carried out normally," he added. Local media posted witness videos of a fire burning next to the plant's main building in the early morning after several drones circled the plant.

'Most massive' attack

A local official in the Moscow region, Mikhail Shuvalov, said three drones had also tried to hit the Kshira coal-fired power station.

he wrote on Telegram, adding that electricity was being supplied to customers as normal.

Russia's defence ministry said most of the 122 drones were downed over the regions of Kursk, Bryansk, Voronezh and Belgorod which border Ukraine.

In the Belgorod region, governor Vyacheslav Gladkov said: "The glass of three residential buildings in Belgorod is damaged. In one private residence, a utility building was completely destroyed."

Russian military blogger Rybar, who is followed by more than 1.3 million people, wrote, "the night attack by the Ukrainian armed forces was the most massive since the start of the special military operation" in 2022.

In the Donetsk region, Russia is advancing towards the city of Pokrovsk and Ukraine's Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Oleksandr Syrsky wrote on Facebook that the "situation is difficult in the direction of the enemy's main offensive".

At least three people were killed and nine injured by shelling of the Donetsk region near the town of Kurakhove, the regional governor Vadym Filashkin said.

Russia yesterday struck Ukraine's second largest city of Kharkiv with missiles, injuring 41 people including five children, in an attack targeting civilian infrastructure, said governor Oleg Syneubov.

BETTER YOU KNOW This drone attack is considered the "most massive" since the start of the conflict in 2022, with 122 drones launched by Ukraine

The attacks targeted a large sports centre, a shopping centre and a park area, he said.

"Russia is once again terrorising Kharkiv, striking civilian infrastructure and the city itself," Zelensky wrote on Facebook, appealing for more weapons to fend off attacks.

He urged global leaders to show the "courage to give Ukraine everything it needs to defend itself".

Ukraine yesterday struck

Japan protests Chinese naval intrusion into territorial waters

AFP | Tokyo

Japan voiced "strong concern and protest" Saturday after a Chinese naval ship entered its territorial waters, days after Tokyo accused Beijing of sending a military aircraft into Japanese airspace.

A Chinese naval vessel was spotted entering Japanese territorial waters near the southern Kuchinoerabu island at around 6:00 am Saturday (2100 GMT Friday) and exiting southwest of Yakushima island nearly two hours later, the defence ministry said.

Following the incident, the foreign ministry "issued Japan's strong concern and protest" to China's embassy in Tokyo.

The ministry took "into account



Chinese naval survey vessel entering Japanese territorial waters off Yakushima Island

the past activities of Chinese naval vessels and others in the waters around Japan, and the recent intrusion into Japan's territorial airspace by a Chinese military plane," it said late Saturday.

Japan on Monday scrambled fighter jets after a two-minute incursion by Chinese Y-9 surveillance aircraft off the Danjo Islands in the East China Sea, which Tokyo slammed as a "serious vio-

lation" of its sovereignty. China's growing economic and military clout in the Asia-Pacific region and its assertiveness in territorial disputes -- most recently with the Philippines -- has rattled the United States and its allies.

Last week, Japan's defence ministry sought 8.5 trillion yen (\$59 billion) for the next fiscal year, its largest ever initial budget request, as part of the country's five-year,

43 trillion yen defence buildup plan through March 2028. The request includes funding for so-called standoff capabilities to strike distant targets with missiles and unmanned vehicles.

It is higher than the ministry's 7.7 trillion yen initial request last year, but smaller than the actual budget of 9.4 trillion yen approved for the current fiscal year.

Watchman woke captain ahead of Sicily yacht sinking: Reports

AFP | Sicily

The sailor on duty the night a superyacht sank off the coast of Sicily last month, killing seven people, had sounded an alarm and woke the captain, Italian press reported yesterday.

Prosecutors on the Italian island have been investigating possible shipwreck and manslaughter charges after the Bayesian sank in a pre-dawn storm on August 19, killing British tech tycoon Mike Lynch, his daughter and five others.

"I monitored the weather conditions all evening" including wind that was coming in around 40 kilometers per hour (25 mph), Matthew Griffiths was quoted by news agency Ansa, which did not provide a source.



Rescue ships enter Porticello harbor near Palermo

"I then immediately woke the captain who took charge of operations. He gave the order to wake the others," he said. Captain James Cutfield, a

51-year-old New Zealand national, was one of 15 people who survived -- nine of the 10 crew members and six of the 12 passengers.

He has been the focus of the investigation along with engineer Tim Parker Eaton, who was in charge of the engine room that night, and Griffiths, the crewman on lookout.

Cutfield confirmed he was woken by the lookout and had ordered "to inform the others because I didn't like the situation," he was quoted saying the Corriere della Sera newspaper.

"We managed to get back on board and tried to form a human chain to save those who made it to the deck," Griffiths said. He added that the captain was the first in the chain and he helped everyone.

German far right set for wins in key elections after attack

AFP | Berlin

Voters in two former East German states began casting ballots yesterday in elections expected to deal a blow to Chancellor Olaf Scholz's government and deliver big gains for the far-right AfD.

The contests in Thuringia and Saxony come just over a week after three people were killed in a suspected Islamist knife attack, which has fuelled a bitter debate over immigration in Germany.

Opinion polls have the anti-immigration Alternative for Germany (AfD) ahead in Thuringia and a close second in Saxony, while also predicting a strong showing for the upstart far-left BSW.

An election victory for the AfD would be a landmark in Germany's post-war history and represent a rebuke for Scholz ahead of national elections in 2025.

In both states, Scholz's Social Democrats are polling at around six percent, while their coalition partners, the Greens and the liberal FDP, lag even further behind.

But even if the AfD does come out on top in the elections, it is unlikely to come to power because other parties have ruled out working with the far right to form a government.

Voting stations close at 6 pm (1600 GMT), with the first exit polls expected shortly after.



Voters fill out their ballot papers for Saxony's regional elections

Created in 2013 as an anti-euro group before morphing into an anti-immigration party, the AfD has capitalised on the fractious three-way coalition in Berlin to rise in opinion polls

Far-right rise

Casting her vote early in Erfurt, the capital of Thuringia, Sandra Pagel said she was "really afraid" of a victory of the AfD. "I'm very nervous to see what happens today... because I think there's a very high risk that the AfD will win and that scares me. For my grandchildren and also for me," said the 46-year-old sterilisation processing facility manager.

Created in 2013 as an anti-euro group before morphing

into an anti-immigration party, the AfD has capitalised on the fractious three-way coalition in Berlin to rise in opinion polls.

In June's EU Parliament elections, the party scored a record 15.9 percent overall and did especially well in eastern Germany, where it emerged as the biggest force.

In a post on social media platform X yesterday, AfD co-leader Alice Weidel urged voters to choose the AfD to "not only change the future in Saxony and Thuringia, but also bring about a political turnaround throughout Germany".

Saxony is the most populous of the former East German states and has been a conservative stronghold since reunification.

Thuringia meanwhile is more rural and the only state currently led by the far-left Die Linke, a successor of East Germany's ruling communist party.

LEGAL VIEWPOINT The Notice of Arbitration. TOP 4 TWEETS 01 Children in #Gaza are receiving much-needed #polio vaccines today. 02 Here's what's happening in Brazil. 03 It's 2024 & the mission of populist "strongmen". 04 Very happy to have inaugurated the wall-painting with the entire Venetone Manifesto.

LEGAL VIEWPOINT The Notice of Arbitration



DR. ABDELGADIR WARSAMA GHALIB, LEGAL COUNSEL EMAIL: AWARSAMA@WARSAMALC.COM

When parties decide to go for arbitration for the settlement of their dispute, under the UNICITRAL Rules, fortunately, there are very clear provisions to follow by each party.

To begin with, as per Article (3) of the UNICITRAL Arbitration Rules, the party or the "parties", who determine initiating recourse to arbitration, in other words the (claimant), shall communicate to the other party or parties, herein the (respondent), a notice of arbitration.

Technically, this is the first step, to be taken by the claimant, in the process of arbitration. All talks or discussions before such notice, are of no practical useful value and could be taken as mere intention to go for arbitration.

Since a notice of arbitration has been communicated by the claimant, the arbitral proceedings shall be deemed to commence on the date on which the notice of arbitration is received by the respondent.

The notice of arbitration from the claimant, to be effective, it shall include certain specific points, such as, a clear demand that the dispute shall be referred to arbitration, the names and contact details of the concerned parties, identification of the arbitration agreement that is invoked, identification of any contract or other legal instrument out of or in relation to which the dispute arises or, in the absence of such contract or instrument, a brief description of the relevant relationship, a brief description of the claim and an indication of the amount involved,

The Notice of Arbitration, is your message to ring the bell on the face of others, so make it very clear in precise proper drafting. Thus, it will be the first step to your success or otherwise

if any, the relief or remedy sought, a proposal as to the number of arbitrators, the language and the place of arbitration, if the parties have not previously agreed thereon.

Above points, shall be clearly and precisely included in the notice of claim to be presented by the claimant. Legally speaking, we need to stress that, if the notice of claim didn't include any of above important points, it could be taken that, the claimant had relinquished his right in such point and it can't be taken as part of the arbitration claim.

So, make sure not to jeopardize your claim by such havocs. The constitution of the arbitral tribunal shall not be hindered by any controversy with respect to the sufficiency of the notice of arbitration, which shall be finally resolved by the Arbitration Tribunal.

This point, indicates, the power given to the arbitrators, in the process of arbitration to achieve fast justice.

As mentioned above, the notice of claim shall refer to the arbitration clause or "agreement" which has been agreed upon earlier between the parties. Important to mention here, that the "arbitration clause" shall be drafted precisely and in satisfactory details to enable the arbitration to start and proceed smoothly.

If, referring to arbitration in the agreement, you are required to give the full story about this arbitration or the arbitration may work against you and your interest. A good example, the concerned party, may choose a law totally different from the law that appropriately suits you and your claim.

The Notice of Arbitration, is your message to ring the bell on the face of others, so make it very clear in precise proper drafting. Thus, it will be the first step to your success or otherwise.

(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)

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

CELEBS

celebs



Jolie 'terribly nervous' about playing diva Callas in new film

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Angelina Jolie confessed she was afraid of not being able to "live up" to Maria Callas's legend in her new biopic about the great diva's extraordinary yet tragic life that premiered Thursday at the Venice Film Festival.

In "Maria", the American movie star tackles the tormented final years of the 20th century's most celebrated opera singer who mesmerised audiences around the world.

"The bar in this... are the Maria Callas fans and those who love opera," Jolie told a press conference ahead of the premiere of the movie.

ie by Chilean director Pablo Larrain.

"And my fear would be to disappoint them."

"I really came to care for her so I felt I didn't want to do a disservice to this woman," she added.

Jolie said she hoped to honour the "legacy" of the diva, who died nearly alone in 1977 aged 53, after a whirlwind life and career that was nevertheless marked by great sadness.

The much-anticipated highlight of the festival's second day was the last in Larrain's trilogy of movies about iconic women -- after 2021's "Spencer" about Princess Diana and 2016's "Jackie" on Jacqueline Kennedy.

The director has said only a larger-than-life star in her own

YOU KNOW WHAT

Jolie said she hoped to honour the "legacy" of the diva, who died nearly alone in 1977 aged 53, after a whirlwind life and career that was nevertheless marked by great sadness

right could play the role of the American-born Greek singer, whose successes at La Scala, La Fenice, Covent Garden and

New York are the stuff of opera legend 100 years after her birth. "This movie would not have existed without Angelina," said Larrain.

Absent from the screen since 2021, the 49-year-old American actress and director has kept a relatively low profile even as her lengthy, acrimonious divorce from Brad Pitt continues to make headlines.

The public's fascination with Jolie's private life has parallels with Callas, whose stormy life and loves -- including her relationship with the Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, who left her for Jacqueline Kennedy -- were similarly fodder for the tabloids.

But while the paparazzi were out in full force Thursday for Jolie on the red carpet -- in a

camel gown with matching faux-fur shrug -- the actress will not cross paths with Pitt during her visit.

Pitt's action comedy "Wolfs", in which he and George Clooney play rival professional fixers, is playing out of competition on the Lido on Sunday, as purposely planned by festival organisers to avoid awkward encounters.

One of 21 films in competition for Venice's prestigious Golden Lion prize, "Maria" opens with a whirlwind edit of the highlights of Callas's life as seen through the eyes of the paparazzi, with Jolie singing "Casta Diva" in Paris in her red silk wrap, accepting ovations at La Scala or frolicking with Aristotle Onassis on his yacht.

Kit Harington loves 'being recognized for his acting talent'

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Kit Harington feels he's finally being recognized for his acting "talent" - rather than his good looks.

The 37-year-old actor - who is best known for playing Jon Snow in 'Game of Thrones' - believes he's entering a new phase of his career, and that people are finally starting to recognize his acting talents.

Kit - who is married to actress and former co-star Rose Leslie - told GQ Hype: "If you've been the young male lead in something [like 'Thrones'], and you could argue that I got given that opportunity because of my appearance, the worry is that that's all your worth is. And for me, the older I get, the more that drops away."

"The more I get to accept [that] no, I'm an actor. And I've been



around for a while. And I'm still working. And so at some point, I have to accept that might have something to do with my talent as well."

Meanwhile, Kit previously revealed that he loved married life, describing it as "great".

The actor and Rose tied the knot in 2018, and although it hasn't really changed their relationship very much, Kit feels excited about their future together.

Asked if marriage has changed his life, he told Empire magazine: "Not really. I love stability. You know, I knew

I wanted to do this - we knew we wanted to do this. We had a great day.

"And you can suddenly go off and get on with so much more in life now. You know, that's my wife. I'm her husband. That box is ticket, right?"

Halle Berry 'never thought' she would have such a long career in Hollywood

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Halle Berry "never thought" she would have such longevity.

The 58-year-old actress has been on the big screen for more than 30 years and even won an Oscar for her role as a struggling widow in the 2001 film 'Monster's Ball' but admitted that it has all come as a surprise to her, especially because she is still enjoying success at this stage in life.

She told E! News: "I never thought I'd be doing this as a career, and then at this age and

stage still being able to work at the level that I work on. But I came along at the right time when women are having longevity. There was a time when you were 40, you were kind of done. So it's so nice to be a part of Hollywood now."

'The Moonfall' actress is now starring opposite Mark Wahlberg in 'The Union' - which sees a man recruited by his high school



sweetheart on a high-stakes US intelligence mission - and explained that it was "fun" to get the chance to tell such a story because it made her think about her own younger days.

She said: "It was fun. I think many of us fantasize about that one that got away or what if I would have stayed with my high school sweetheart, what would my life be like?"

Halle - who has Nahla, 16, with Gabriel Aubry as well as son Maceo-Rob-

ert, 10, with Olivier Martinez - has been mindful of incorporating a healthy diet into her life since she was a teenager but also tries to defy ageing by making sure she gets enough rest.

She said: "I think being diagnosed with diabetes when I was 19 years old has kept me away from the number one aging substance which is sugar. I think it's managing to get enough rest, prioritizing your sleep and your health and your wellbeing is important. And it's hard to do that sometimes."

Demi Lovato won't let her future daughter to follow in footsteps as child star

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Demi Lovato won't let her future child get into the entertainment business until they're an adult.

The 31-year-old former child star - whose career began in 'Barney and Friends' when she was 10 years old - would be keen to support her kids' passions in life, but if she does become a mother one day, she doesn't want her offspring to follow in her footsteps so early in life.

Asked how she would address her daughter wanting to enter the business, she told The Hollywood Reporter: "I'd say, 'Let's study music theory and prepare you for the day you turn 18, because it's not happening before that'."

"Not because I don't believe in you or love you or want you to be happy, but because I want you to have a childhood, the childhood that I didn't have."

The 'Heart Attack' singer

- who is engaged to musician Jutes, after they started dating in August 2022 - also admitted she wishes she'd had a "backup plan" so that she wasn't so reliant on music.

She explained: "And also, let's come up with a backup plan," which is something I wish I'd done because sometimes I



think it's time for me to move on, but I'm in this weird position in my career because I still rely on music for my income."

Indeed, Demi noted she has stepped back from acting and isn't sure if she'll tour again despite working on new music.

Demi Lovato

SUDOKU

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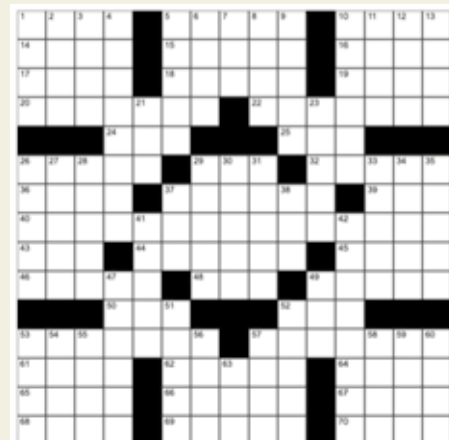
Yesterday's solution

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

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- Stylish; 5- Center; 10- Peruvian of yore; 14- Architect Saarinen; 15- French farewell; 16- Roger Rabbit, e.g.; 17- Airline to Israel; 18- Country in the Himalayas; 19- ... boy; 20- Arm coverings; 22- Serving no function; 24- Bro's sis; 25- ... live and breathe!; 26- Guy; 29- Sue Grafton's ... for Evidence; 32- Long stories; 36- Intestinal sections; 37- Clothes; 39- Article in Le Monde; 40- In spite of; 43- GI mail drop; 44- Appeared; 45- Isaac's eldest; 46- Horne and Olin; 48- Hi- ... graphics; 49- Part of an act; 50- Made a hole; 52- Miss Piggy's query; 53- Bow and arrow skill; 57- Show; 61- Traditional passed-down knowledge; 62- Red fluorescent dye; 64- Patriot Nathan; 65- Person of action; 66- "Snowy" bird; 67- Humorist Bombeck; 68- Suit to ...; 69- Delicious; 70- Impetuous;

Down

1- 50-50 grades; 2- Hades; 3- Dies ...; 4- Cabbage salad; 5- Lions' locks; 6- Mid-month times; 7- Immerse; 8- Linebacker Junior; 9- Oklahoma city; 10- Roma's land; 11- Memo; 12- Camp beds; 13- Collections of anecdotes; 21- By way of; 23- Ruhr city; 26- Last; 27- Run away to get married; 28- Divulge; 29- Old anesthetic; 30- Reply to "Who's there?"; 31- Locations; 33- False front; 34- Kofi of the U.N.; 35- Smooth transition; 37- Polished off; 38- Way cool; 41- Magazine copy; 42- Interpret; 47- Stick; 49- Call for help; 51- Welcome; 52- Like some mouthwashes; 53- Alan of "M*A*S*H"; 54- Dig like a pig; 55- Canadian First Nation; 56- Indian exercise method; 57- Cut calories; 58- Zhivago's love; 59- Donations to the poor; 60- Slangy assent; 63- SAT takers;

Yesterday's solution

E	D	A	M	C	C	C	U	T	I	C	E	R	
R	E	M	A	P	S	O	S	O	D	O	L	E	
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T	I	R	E	S	O	M	E	E	N	A	M	E	
L	E	T	H	A	L	O	R	A	R	M			
L	E	T	H	A	L	O	R	A	R	M			
A	V	A	I	L	A	M	I	N	O	A	C	I	
T	E	R	N	A	L	S	T	I	N	G	H	O	S
E	R	A	D	I	C	A	T	E	D	E	R	M	
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A	I	D	S	W	A	N	D	R	E	G	A	L	
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H	U	N	S	G	E	L							

Liverpool rout woeful Man Utd

Luis Diaz stars as Liverpool extend perfect start under new boss Arne Slot, Chelsea held by Palace

● Luis Diaz scores twice in 3-0 win

● Salah adds third, dominates Old Trafford

● Newcastle defeats Tottenham 2-1

AFP | London

Luis Diaz starred as Liverpool routed arch rivals Manchester United 3-0 to extend their perfect start under new boss Arne Slot, while Chelsea suffered fresh frustration in a 1-1 draw against Crystal Palace yesterday.

Hired from Feyenoord to succeed Jurgen Klopp in the close-season, Slot has overseen three successive wins in a flying start to the new era at Liverpool.

The Reds sit second in the Premier League, behind champions Manchester City on goals scored, after handing United an embarrassing loss that finished with thousands of empty seats at Old Trafford.

Diaz and Mohamed Salah were United's chief tormentors as the Liverpool forwards tore Erik ten Hag's side to pieces with their pace and predatory finishing.

Diaz put Liverpool ahead with a 35th-minute header from Salah's cross after United midfielder Casemiro carelessly conceded possession.

Casemiro was guilty of surrendering the ball too easily again when Diaz converted another Salah assist with a cool finish seven minutes later.

Salah put the result beyond doubt in



Liverpool's Egyptian striker #11 Mohamed Salah (2L) celebrates with teammates after scoring

the 52nd minute, netting for the third time this season with a fierce strike from Dominik Szoboszlai's pass.

The Egypt star has scored 10 goals in nine appearances at Old Trafford for Liverpool in all competitions.

Slot is the first permanent Liverpool manager to win his first league game against United since Bob Paisley in 1975.

The Dutchman is also the first manager to win each of his first three Premier League games without conceding a single goal since Sven-Goran Eriksson at Manchester City in 2007.

While Slot soaks up his dream start, United boss Erik ten Hag is under pressure after a woeful display that came hot on the heels of their 2-1 defeat at

Brighton last weekend.

Ten Hag survived a close-season review into his job, which including United speaking to former Bayern Munich boss Thomas Tuchel about potentially replacing him.

But while last season's surprise FA Cup final win over Manchester City saved his job, he cannot afford another poor league campaign after finishing eighth in 2023/24.

Enzo Maresca's Chelsea have won only once in the first three league games of the Italian's reign after a chaotic close-season.

Beaten by Manchester City on the opening weekend, Chelsea powered to a 6-2 win at Wolves last weekend before scraping into the UEFA Conference

League group stage after a 2-1 loss at Servette on Thursday.

Former Leicester boss Maresca insists his expensive Chelsea rebuild, featuring a host of new signings, is ahead of schedule despite their inconsistent start.

Maresca fumes

But Chelsea failed to kill off Palace after Noni Madueke picked out Cole Palmer and his pass was slotted home by Nicolas Jackson in the 25th minute.

Maresca was furious after Palace midfielder Will Hughes avoided a

second yellow card for a foul on Palmer.

Looking for their first point this season, Palace made the most of that escape to draw level in the 53rd minute.

England midfielder Eberechi Eze unfurled a superb curling finish that flashed past Chelsea keeper Robert Sanchez from 20 yards.

"If they had been with 10 I think the game would have completely changed," Maresca said of the Hughes incident.

"It was clear for all of us it was a second yellow card. The only one that thinks in a different way is the referee."

At St James' Park, Newcastle punished profligate Tottenham with a 2-1 victory.

Newcastle took the lead in spectacular fashion in the 37th minute when Lloyd Kelly pulled the ball back to Harvey Barnes, who unleashed a sublime volley into the far corner from 10 yards.

Tottenham equalised in the 56th

minute as Newcastle defender Dan Burn

accidentally diverted the ball into his own

net while trying to clear after Brennan Johnson's cross eluded

Nick Pope.



Liverpool's manager Arne Slot is the first to win his first three Premier League games without conceding a goal since Sven-Goran Eriksson at Manchester City in 2007

Sinner avoids US Open trapdoor as Swiatek moves into last 16

● Sinner defeats O'Connell to reach last 16

● Swiatek cruises past Pavlyuchenkova

AFP | New York

Jannik Sinner avoided plunging through the US Open trapdoor which claimed Novak Djokovic

and Carlos Alcaraz when he stormed into the last 16 on Saturday as fellow world number one Iga Swiatek stayed on course for a second New York triumph.

Australian Open champion Sinner raced past 87th-ranked Christopher O'Connell 6-1, 6-4, 6-2.

The 23-year-old Italian's win came a day after four-time champion Djokovic was sent spinning to his earliest loss in New York in 18 years by Alexei Popyrin.

One day earlier, 2022 winner Alcaraz was defeated in the second round by Dutch journeyman Botic van de Zandschulp.

"I knew I had to play very solid. My serve worked well so I am happy with my performance," said Sinner after firing 15 aces in his 46 winners past outclassed O'Connell of Australia.

Sinner did not face a single break point in his one-hour 53-minute victory which took him into the last 16



Daniil Medvedev, who famously ended Novak Djokovic's bid for a calendar Grand Slam in 2021, is the only former champion remaining in the men's draw

for a fourth successive year.

"There have been some upsets in the tournament so let's see what's coming. I'm happy to still be here and play as many matches as possible," added Sinner whose comfortable afternoon on Arthur Ashe Stadium saw tennis legend Serena Williams amongst the spectators.

Sinner will take on 14th seed Tommy Paul for a quarter-final place after the American defeated Canadian qualifier Gabriel Diallo in four sets.

There were 14 breaks of serve in that tie with Diallo, ranked a lowly 143 in the world, undone by 77 unforced errors. Four-time French

Open champion Swiatek was equally dominant as Sinner as the top-seeded Pole eased into the fourth round with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.

The 23-year-old will face another Russian, Liudmila Samsonova for a quarter-final place.

"I like the night sessions but it's noisy so I need to focus on my job and stay inside my bubble," said Swiatek who shot a long hard stare at her opponent when a ball was speared towards her early in the second set.

With Djokovic and Alcaraz heading home to Europe, Daniil Medvedev finds himself as the only former champion left in the men's tournament.

The eccentric Russian, seeded five, swept past Flavio Cobolli, the world number 31 from Italy, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Medvedev famously shattered Djokovic's bid for a rare calendar Grand Slam when he captured the 2021 title in New York.

"I said before the match that for me the upsets don't matter. The conditions here are tricky and the favourites have fewer margins," said Medvedev after making the fourth round for the sixth straight year.

He'll face unseeded Nuno Borges of Portugal who saved three match points in a five-set triumph over Czech teenager Jakub Mensik.

Britain's Jack Draper reached the last 16 for a second successive year by defeating Alcaraz's conqueror Botic van de Zandschulp 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

"I'm a fan" - There will be at least one Australian man in the quarter-finals with Alex de Minaur and Jordan Thompson setting up a fourth round clash.

Atkinson strikes as England wrap up Sri Lanka series win



England's Gus Atkinson celebrates with teammates after a wicket

AFP | London

Scorecard

Gus Atkinson completed a memorable match by taking five wickets as England thrashed Sri Lanka by 190 runs in the second Test at Lord's yesterday to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in a three-match series.

Sri Lanka, set what would have been a new Test record fourth-innings winning total of 483, were dismissed for 292 after tea on the fourth day despite fifties from Dinesh Chandimal (58), Dimuth Karunaratne (55) and captain Dhananjaya de Silva (50).

Fast bowler Gus Atkinson, who scored his maiden first-class hundred in England's first innings 427, led the attack with 5-62.

That meant player-of-the-match Atkinson secured a fifth mention on the dressing room honours boards in just his second Test at the 'Home of

England 427 (Root 143, Atkinson 118, Asitha 5-102) and 251 (Root 103, Asitha 3-52) beat Sri Lanka 196 (Kamindu 74, Potts 2-19) and 292 (Chandimal 58, Karunaratne 55, Dhananjaya 50, Atkinson 5-62) by 190 runs

Cricket' after taking 12 wickets on England debut against the West Indies at Lord's last month.

He also became just the third Englishman after Tony Greig and Ian Botham to score a century and take five wickets in an innings of the same Test.

The Surrey paceman's latest impressive return helped England seal a seventh successive win over Sri Lanka following their five-wicket success in last week's first Test at Old Trafford.

This game was also a personal triumph for Joe Root.



Jannik Sinner in action

JANNIK SINNER

"I knew I had to play very solid. My serve worked well so I am happy with my performance"

Gulf basketball rivals lock horns in 17th championship opener

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The Kingdom is buzzing with excitement as the 17th Gulf Basketball Championship kicks off today, promising an action-packed tournament. After a warm welcome for the Saudi Arabian, Qatari, and Kuwaiti teams, the stage is set for an intense week of competition.

Bahrain's national team will begin their campaign with a high-stakes match against Qatar at 8PM, a game that is sure to set the tone for the rest of the tournament.

The action doesn't stop there, as Bahrain will take on Kuwait on Tuesday and Saudi Arabia on



Bahrain's national basketball team

Wednesday in what promises to be an important clash between two fierce rivals.

Fans are in for a treat at the

17th Gulf Basketball Championship with an array of daily activities, engaging events for children, and opportunities to

win valuable prizes. Admission is free for all attendees, ensuring that everyone can experience the festive atmosphere of the games.

Each game will build on the excitement, making this a can't-miss event for local basketball enthusiasts.

Expected players to feature in the Bahraini squad include: Ali Shukrallah, Maitham Jameel, Ali Aqeel, Mustafa Hussain, Mohammed Buallay, Ali Hussain, Muzamil Ameer, Subah Hussain, Sadeq Shukrallah, Mohammed Ameer, Ali Jaber. With Bahrain set to make a strong impression, the home crowd will be backing the team with full force.

Ton-up Das helps Bangladesh thwart Pakistan in second Test



Bangladesh's Liton Das plays a shot

AFP | Rawalpindi

Liton Das hit a fighting hundred to lift Bangladesh from a precarious 26-6 to 262 all out yesterday, in a remarkable turnaround that left the second Test in Rawalpindi within either team's grasp.

The 29-year-old hit 138 over the course of a marathon 333 minutes and brought Bangladesh back into the match with a fighting 165-run seventh-wicket stand alongside Mehidy Hasan Miraz, who scored a pugnacious 78.

At close on the third day, Bangladesh struck back to leave Pakistan on a sluggish 9-2, with opener Abdullah Shafique dismissed for three and nightwatchman Khuram Shahzad falling without scoring -- both to pacer Hasan Mahmud.

Saim Ayub was not out on six as the home team lead by 21 runs, and Pakistan will need to bat smartly to clinch a series-levelling win after losing the first Test, also in Rawalpindi, by 10 wickets.

Bangladesh's win last week was their first in 14 attempts against Pakistan.

The highlight of the day was Das and Mehidy's match-turning stand.

On top of that, Das added 69 with tail-ender Mahmud (13 not out) in a 24.5-over ninth wicket stand, equalling the partnership record against Pakistan and leaving the home team frustrated.

Das, dropped on 90 by spinner Abrar Ahmed off his own bowling, hit a late cut off the same bowler to reach his fourth Test hundred. He finally held out to Agha Salman at long-on.

Bahrain's junior handball team heads to Amman for 10th Asian Championship

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's national junior handball team will depart to Jordan today for the 10th Asian Men's Youth Handball Championship.

The tournament will start on Tuesday and run until mid-September, serving as a key qualifier for the 2025 World Youth Championship in Slovenia.

The team is led by manager Mohammed Al-Shuweikh, with head coach Raed Al-Marzouq at the helm. The coaching staff also includes assistant coach Ahmed Tarada, goalkeeping coach Makram Al-Messawi, technical analyst Qasim Mo-



Bahrain's national junior handball team

ammed, and physiotherapist Kareem Hassan, all of whom have played crucial roles in pre-

paring the team for this competition.

The final roster of 18 players

represents some of the best junior talent in Bahraini handball. The squad includes Mohammed Jafar, Ali Abdullah, Fadel Abbas, Wadi Helal (Al-Deir Club), Salman Hameed, Mahmood Jaleel, Haidar Mohammed, Qasim Mohammed (Barbar Club), Abu Zar Jafar, Ahmed Eid, Abbas Hussain, Ali Sami (Samahej Club), Ali Fayed, Mohammed Haitham (Al-Ettifaq Club), Mohammed Tarada, Mahdi Jafar (Al-Ahli Club), Mohammed Shamlouh, and Sayed Ahmed Al-Falahi (Tublat Club).

The team's performance in Amman will be watched closely as they aim to secure their place in the 2025 World Youth Championship.

Leclerc triumphs at Italian GP

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc claims second Monza victory as Max Verstappen struggles to sixth place

● Leclerc wins Italian Grand Prix for second time

● Lando Norris closes in on Max Verstappen's championship lead

● McLaren's Oscar Piastri takes second place

AFP | Monza

Charles Leclerc won the Italian Grand Prix yesterday to delight Ferrari's massed ranks of fans as Lando Norris again chipped away at struggling champion Max Verstappen's lead in the Formula One drivers' standings.

Monegasque Leclerc claimed victory at Monza for the second time after winning in 2019, holding off McLaren pair Oscar Piastri and Norris in a thrilling race in which Verstappen finished nearly 38 seconds off the pace in sixth.

Huge roars engulfed the stands as Leclerc took the chequered flag for his second win over the season, after his own home Monaco GP, after hold-



Ferrari's Charles Leclerc drives past the chequered flag

ing out on a set of hard tyres he had changed during his one and only pit stop on the 16th lap.

"I thought that the first time would feel like this and the second time wouldn't feel as special," said Leclerc as he basked in the cheers of fans who made the track a joyous, noisy sea of

red after the race.

"But my god the emotions in the last few laps; Monaco and Monza are the two races I want to win every year and I've managed to win them this year. It is so, so special."

All of Leclerc's major rivals, apart from teammate Carlos Sainz who ended up finishing

"I thought that the first time would feel like this and the second time wouldn't feel as special. But my god the emotions in the last few laps; Monaco and Monza are the two races I want to win every year and I've managed to win them this year. It is so, so special"

CHARLES LECLERC

fourth ahead of his Ferrari replacement Lewis Hamilton, pitted twice and McLaren were hoping that the Ferrari pair would do the same.

Instead Leclerc managed to keep his tyres in good enough condition to stay ahead and in the end finish the race comfortably in front of Piastri, who had taken the race lead early on after an overtake manoeuvre on Norris which was as daring as it was tactically questionable.

"Not going to lie it hurts a lot. I did a lot of things right today," said Australian Piastri.

"Happy with the race, the pace I achieved but when you finish second it hurts."

Verstappen woes

Briton Norris -- who clocked the fastest lap right at the end -- will be disappointed by his finish after starting on pole but he managed to chop Verstappen's championship lead to 62 points with eight races remaining as his Dutch rival's barren run continued.

"We considered (pitting once) the whole race but it was impossible with our graining. Just disappointed. Ferrari did a better job, so hats off to them," said Norris.

Verstappen has now failed to win any of the last six GPs after claiming the honours in seven of the first 10, and his and Red Bull's dominance of F1 looks increasingly in question.

A fourth straight world title looked a near certainty when Verstappen won in Spain back in June, but since then he has only finished on the podium twice.

And his teammate Sergio Perez finishing in eighth meant that McLaren are now only eight points behind Red Bull in the constructor's standings and look favourites to win it for the first time since 1998.

Argentine rookie Franco Colapinto, who replaced axed Logan Sargeant for Williams following his disastrous showing at the Dutch Grand Prix last



Leonardo Fornaroli became the first Italian to win the F3 title, clinching the championship on the final corner without winning a single race throughout the season

weekend, finish in 12th in his F1 debut.

Earlier Leonardo Fornaroli became the first Italian to win the F3 title, the 19-year-old doing so without winning a single race in this year's championship.

Trident driver Fornaroli overtook Australian Christian Mansell on the final corner of the 10-race season to grab third place and snatch the title from Gabriele Mini by two points.

Gabriel Bortoleto won the F2 race in dramatic fashion after starting last on the grid, cutting Isack Hadjar's lead at the top of the stands to just 10.5 points with three races remaining in the season.