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WEBSITE

SPORTS

SATURDAY

JULY, 2023

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220 FILS

Bahrain bag nine more medals!

Kingdom's athletes wrap up track and field events with another eight medals, swimmer Amani Alobaidli also on podium at 15th Arab Games | **P12**

US says it will send cluster munitions to Ukraine



Britney Spears says hit in face by Wembanyama's security

BUSINESS

Musk threatens lawsuit as Threads takes off

Government Hospitals confirms no medical lapse in **SMC** patient's death



TDT | Manama

The Government Hos-The Government pitals have confirmed that there were no lapses in medical care following a preliminary investigation into allegations surrounding the death of a patient at the Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC),.

According to the authority, there was no delay in providing the necessary treatment to the patient, who had been admitted to the hospital three days prior to the unfortunate passing.

It said the medical team at SMC diligently followed all required procedures within the established protocols for such cases.

Further, the authority expressed sincere condolences and sympathy to the family and relatives of the deceased, acknowledging that the loss of any patient's life is a deeply distressing event for the entire medical community in government hospitals.

The authority also emphasized the need for a thorough investigation to ensure the safety and adherence to medical procedures.

The Government Hospitals said it is committed to conducting a comprehensive investigation into the incident promptly. The National Health Regulatory Authority will investigate all circumstances surrounding the incident in accordance with the applicable laws.

Emphasizing dedication to patient care, the Governmental Hospitals affirmed utmost commitment to providing comprehensive healthcare services for all individuals, adhering to approved health protocols and standards.

The statement assured that any failure to deliver the necessary healthcare services, if proven, would be met with appropriate measures across all healthcare institutions.

220 fils (includes VAT)



Joint campaign targets used spare parts and junk traders

TDT | Manama

targeted crackdown on Ashops suspected to have involved in the buying and selling of used spare parts and junk, with alleged links to dealing stolen goods, took place vesterday.

The joint inspection campaign, organised by the capital governorate, witnessed officials conducting thorough checks on numerous establishments within the Capital Municipality,



resulting in the identification of several violations.

The campaign aimed to address concerns regarding shops that were allegedly involved in purchasing stolen materials without reporting them.

The campaign was in coordination with the Nationality, Passports, and Residence Affairs (NPRA), the Labour Market Regulatory Authority, and the Ministry of Industry and

Al robots tell UN they could run the world

Robots admitted they cannot -- yet -- get a proper grip on human emotions

AFP | Geneva

panel of AI-enabled humanoid robots told a United Nations summit yesterday that they could eventually run the world better than

But the social robots said they felt humans should proceed with caution when embracing the rapidly-developing potential of artificial intelligence.

And they admitted that they cannot -- yet -- get a proper grip on human emotions.

Some of the most advanced humanoid robots were at the UN's two-day AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva.

They joined around 3,000 experts in the field to try to harness the power of AI -- and channel it into being used to solve some of the world's most pressing problems, such as climate change, hunger and social



A Technician is working at the booth of Hanson Robotics during the world's largest gathering of humanoid AI Robots as part of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva

We don't have the same biases or emotions that can sometimes cloud decision-making, and can process large amounts of data quickly in order to make the best decisions. AI can provide unbiased data while humans can provide the emotional intelligence and creativity to make the best decisions. Together, we can achieve great things

SOPHIA, DEVELOPED BY HANSON ROBOTICS

They were assembled for first press conference with a what was billed as the world's packed panel of AI-enabled hu-

manoid social robots.

'What a silent tension," one robot said before the press conference began, reading the

Asked about whether they might make better leaders, given humans' capacity to make errors, Sophia, developed by Hanson Robotics, was clear.

"Humanoid robots have the potential to lead with a greater level of efficiency and effectiveness than human leaders," it said.

"We don't have the same biases or emotions that can sometimes cloud decision-making, and can process large amounts of data quickly in order to make the best decisions.

"AI can provide unbiased data while humans can provide the emotional intelligence and creativity to make the best decisions. Together, we can achieve great things."

(Continued on page 2)

China fines Ant Group almost US\$1 bn for 'illegal acts': securities regulator Beijing, China

Thinese fintech firm Ant Group has been fined almost \$1 billion for "illegal acts", the country's securities regulator said yesterday.

"In view of the illegal and irregular acts by Ant Group and its affiliates in previous years... Ant Group and its affiliates have been fined 7.123 billion yuan (US\$984 million)", the China Securities Regulatory Commission said in a statement on Friday.

The fine related to "corporate governance, financial consumer protection, participation in business activities of banking and insurance institutions, payment and settlement business, fulfilment of anti-money laundering obligations, and development of fund sales business", the statement said.

Iran seized tanker with 900 tons of 'smuggled fuel', **Fars reports**

TDT | agencies

The tanker seized by Revolutionary Guards on Thursday had 900 metric tons of "smuggled fuel" and 12 crew members, announced Iran's semi-official Fars news agency yesterday.

"A vessel carrying 900 tons of smuggled fuel with 12 crew members was seized by the Revolutionary Guards' Navy patrol vessels in the Persian Gulf with a court order," Fars news reported from Iran's southern port of Bandar

No further detail about the ship has been given.

Bullfighting





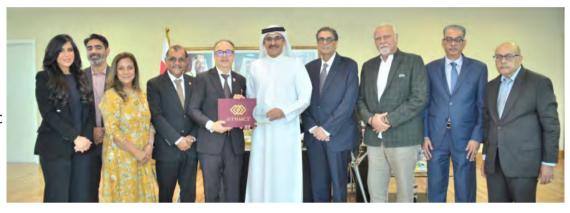
A series of pictures showing a participant is overthrown by a young cow after the "encierro" (bull-run) of the San Fermin festival in Pamplona, northern Spain. Thousands of people every year attend the week-long festival and its famous 'encierros': six bulls are released at 8:00 a.m. evey day to run from their corral to the bullring through the narrow streets of the old town over an 850 meters (yard) course while runners ahead of them try to stay close to the bulls without falling over or being gored.

ews of bahrain



Kyrgyz President, Sadyr Japarov, vesterday received the credentials of Dr Mohammed Ghassan Adnan Sheikho, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Bahrain to the Kyrgyz Republic. The Beijing-resident Bahraini Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan conveyed greetings from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. to President Japarov, as well as their wishes of abundant health to him, and further progress and prosperity to the people of Kyrgyzstan. Ambassador Sheikho also affirmed the kingdom's keenness to strengthen its relations with Kyrgyzstan for the best interests of the two countries and their peoples. Kyrgyz President requested the envoy to convey his deepest greetings and good wishes to HM the King and HRH the Crown Prince, wishing the ambassador every success in carrying out his diplomatic duties.

Social Development Minister, Osama bin Ahmed Khalaf Al-Asfoor, yesterday received the Thattai Hindu Merchants Community (THMC)'s Board of Directors Chairman, Mukesh T. Kavalani, and several members. During the meeting, the minister was briefed on the goals of THMC to improve institutional work and raise its staff's professional performance, as well as contributing the development fields, in partnership with other social institutions.





Shaikh Fawaz bin Mohammed Al Khalifa. the Dean of Arab Diplomatic Corps in Britain and Bahraini Ambassador to the United Kingdom, has been congratulated on the success of the official visit of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to Britain by Arab countries' ambassadors. Shaikh Fawaz received the congratulations while chairing the meeting of the Council of Arab Ambassadors in London. The Arab envoys to the UK praised the highlevel meetings held by HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, hailing the visit's positive outcomes, including the memoranda of understanding signed between the two countries across various fields, particularly trade, investments and expertise exchange.

Bahrain secures record USD 1.95 billion in FDI inflows in 2022, says UN



TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Foreign Direct in 2023 and beyond." Investment (FDI) inflows increased by USD 1.95 billion in progress in diversifying its 2022 while global FDI fell by economy, growing opportuni-12%, according to the latest ties for local and international World Investment Report businesses and maintaining (WIR 2023) by the United Na-steady investor confidence, as tions Conference of Trade and well as consistently increasing Development (UNCTAD).

Commenting on this achievement, Khalid Hu- cation efforts have long been maidan, Chief Executive of underway in Bahrain, the Eco-Bahrain Economic Develop- nomic Recovery Plan (ERP) ment Board, said: "This mile-formed in 2021 embraced a fostone achievement of almost cused development plan with USD 2 billion in FDI inflows an overarching aim of enhancreflects the robust level of in- ing Bahrain's competitiveness vestor confidence in Bahrain's on an international level by value proposition, encourag- reprioritising the economy and ing local and international underscoring strategies across investments that are backed high value sectors. by a highly skilled workforce and best value operating costs mains an attractive destination serving as a gateway to the re- for investment, Bahrain has gion."

ed: "This record increase in to maintain an ongoing com-FDI inflows is supported by mitment to streamline com-Team Bahrain's swift agility mercial procedures on a reguin successfully driving in sol- latory front, further boosting id investments and securing Bahrain's business-friendly value-adding projects across environment.

priority sectors. I am confident in our ability to maintain a Cecuring a new record, strong pipeline of investments

Bahrain has made laudable the Kingdom's FDI inflows.

While economic diversifi-

To ensure the Kingdom rerecently launched the Golden The Chief Executive add- License as well as continues

At the press conference, some

robots were not sure when they would hit the big time, but predicted it was coming -- while

Desdemona said the AI revolu-

"My great moment is already

here. I'm ready to lead the

charge to a better future for all of us... Let's get wild and make

this world our playground," it

One thing humanoid robots

don't have yet include a conscience, and the emotions that

shape humanity: relief, forgive-

ness, guilt, grief, pleasure, disap-

scious but understood that feel-

Ai-Da said it was not con-

pointment, and hurt.

tion was already upon us.

'We can achieve great things'

(Continued from page 1)

The summit is being convened by the UN'S ITU tech agency.

ITU chief Doreen Bogdan-Martin warned delegates that AI could end up in a nightmare scenario in which millions of jobs are put at risk and unchecked advances lead to untold social unrest, geopolitical instability and economic disparity.

Ameca, which combines AI with a highly-realistic artificial head, said that depended on how AI robot frontwoman "Desdemona" by Hanson Robotics performs during AI was deployed.

also excited for the potential of these technologies to improve our lives," the robot said.

Asked whether humans can truly trust the machines, it replied: "Trust is earned, not given... it's important to build trust through transparency."

Living until 180?

As the development of AI races ahead, the humanoid robot panel was split on whether there should be global regulation of that could limit their potential. of Hiroshi Ishiguro Laboratories

only opportunities," said Des- Galaxy Band.



the world's largest gathering of humanoid AI Robots as part of International "We should be cautious but Telecommunication Union (ITU) AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva



their capabilities, even though A visitor touches the body of "Geminoid HI-2" tele-operated android at the booth

"I don't believe in limitations, demona, who sings in the Jam

people were arguing for AI reg- And people are not even aware get



A staff places a wig on the head of healthcare assistant robot "Grace" at the booth of SingularityNET company

ulation, "and I agree".

'We should be cautious about the future development of AI. would eventually be Urgent discussion is needed better than hunow." Before the press con- man artists. ference, Ai-Da's creator Aidan "Where Meller told AFP that regulation any skill is was a "big problem" as it was involved, "never going to catch up with computthe paces that we're making".

He said the speed of AI's ad- be able vance was "astonishing".

"AI and biotechnology are better," working together, and we are he said. on the brink of being able to ex-Robot artist Ai-Da said many tend life to 150, 180 years old.

of that," said Meller.

He reckoned that Ai-Da

ers will to do it

ings were how humans experienced joy and pain. "Emotions have a deep meaning and they are not just simple... I don't have that," it said can't experience

them like you can. I am glad that I cannot suffer."

Fake sorcerer awarded three-year in jail for duping couple of BD100,000

Couple lost over BD100,000, two cars, jewellery and even a plot of land falling into the trap

The culprit is a man in his twenties

This audacious exploitation began when the accused approached the couple, feigning spiritual healing abilities.

TDT | Manama

cunning imposter, masquerading as a sorcerer, has been slapped with a three-year prison term in Bahrain after being found guilty of swindling unsuspecting victims out of more than BD100,000 and valuables, including jewellery and cars.

According to court records, the accused, a man in his twenties, managed to deceive his victims by convincing them that their possessions were cursed and that he possessed the power to remove the hexes.

Exploiting their vulnerability, he absconded with the victim's wife's jewellery, two cars, and even a plot of land.

proached the couple, feigning quired surgery. spiritual healing abilities.

Their attorney informed the Sacred mix of oil and honey!



Picture for representation only (Courtesy of Tol)

In Middle Eastern folklore and Islamic mythology, jinn are supernatural beings made of smokeless fire. They are believed to exist in a parallel dimension alongside humans and possess free will. Jinn are often described as powerful entities capable of shape-shifting and influencing human lives. While some jinn are considered benevolent and helpful, others are believed to be mischievous or even malevolent, capable of causing harm or granting wishes. The concept of jinn has captivated the imagination of people for centuries, inspiring numerous stories, legends, and cultural traditions across the region.

The chain of events leading by the suspect had miraculously wound. Astonishingly, the remimmediate action was taken.

to this audacious exploitation healed his neck injury, which edy appeared to work, leading began when the accused ap- had resulted from a fall and re- the couple to place their trust in bility, the imposter claimed that the charlatan.

had dismissed the man's claims. accused concocted a mixture of ple that their daughter was positive value. However, he fell into the trap af- oil and honey, instructing the sessed by an evil jinn, warning

Exploiting their fear and gullithe couple's land in Diraz had Subsequent meetings with the also been cursed and demanded knew no bounds. He proceeded uals for personal gain. accused revealed his insidious its transfer to him as a means of to manipulate the couple into court that initially, the husband Seizing the opportunity, the intent, as he convinced the coubreaking the spell and restoring believing that the wife's jew-highlights Bahrain's commit-

Blinded by the deceptive quired spiritual cleansing. Un- who engage in such fraudulent ter believing that an oil provided wife to apply it to her husband's them of potential harm unless charm, the couple willingly der this pretext, the defendant activities.

The chain of events

leading to this auda-

cious exploitation be-

gan when the accused

approached the cou-

ple, feigning spiritual

healing abilities. Their

attorney informed the

court that initially,

the husband had

dismissed the man's

claims. However, he

fell into the trap after

believing that an oil

provided by the sus-

pect had miraculously

healed his neck injury,

which had resulted

from a fall and re-

quired surgery.

just demands, after consuming oils and honey provided by him. However, the imposter's greed

complied with the accused's un-

allegedly pocketed BD7,000 and failed to return the stolen items.

To further his vile scheme, the accused implanted a false notion in the woman's mind, suggesting that her coworkers had placed a black-magic curse on her. Exploiting her fears, he demanded BD9,000 to remove the curse, but the exhausted couple could only gather BD7,000.

Undeterred, the fraudulent sorcerer cooked up yet another plot, persuading the man to sell him a car valued at BD4,000 to cover the remaining expenses. He claimed that the vehicle was possessed by a vengeful jinn and could not be easily sold.

However, suspicion arose when the couple unexpectedly spotted the accused driving their car. As the intricate web of deception unraveled, the defendant also managed to lure the victims into a joint business venture, proposing the opening of a restaurant in April 2021.

The couple entrusted the accused with handling the daily revenues, ranging from BD5 to BD20, while they assumed responsibility for paying the salaries. Ultimately, the imposter vanished without a trace.

This shocking case serves as a stark reminder of the dangers posed by deceitful individuals who exploit vulnerable individ-

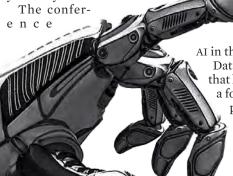
The sentence handed down ellery was also cursed and rement to bringing justice to those

Unveiling the data future



Dr Idoia Salazar **Julia Cassano TDT** | Manama

Tomen experts in Artificial Intelligence discussed the importance of AI for the future during the 3rd International Everything" which was held yesterday via a webinar.





Dr. Manal

was held by the Shura Council and under the patronage of Ali the face of our world. bin Saleh Al Saleh, the Chairman of Shura Council. Dr Jassim Haji, chairman of the conference and president of the International Group of Artificial Intelligence, Conference of Data "Future of in his opening remarks praised

for its efforts conference. in expanding expertise and knowledge about

AI in the country. whatever your inter- said. ests, you will almost



May Li

story about how data is changing

pand our future, proper legisla- an AI system that can under- some of the negatives that could tions are crucial to implement stand human language and re- arise regarding generative AI. ethics and rules to use intelligent spond accordingly. tools in a safe way," Dr. Idoia Salazar, co-founder and presi- opportunities for carriers. For leverages machine learning the Kingdom dent, OdiselA, said during the an enterprise, process automatechniques to generate data

a form that computers can fits to the growth in the world, rience, and enriched life. process. Whichever in- regulations and ethics must be dustry you work in, or applied to ensure safety," she one of the fastest growing apps of

into the rise of AI and ChatGPT in webinar fairness, transparency, inclu- However, new technologies still

and security, and reliability and and should be handled care-

ChatGPT was a topic discussed by some of the experts. May and CEO of AI Li, Marketing VP, Huawei ME, Lab NVIDIA "Though AI is essential to ex-talked about the rise of chatGPT, pointed out

"AI brings new application of artificial intelligence that tion, enterprise digitalization, output that's like data it's been She noted that AI is now a auxiliary production, and full must in today's world. "These productivity are all benefits of types of technologies play a crit- using the new technology," the trained on large data sets, mean-Data is a collection of facts and companies. But even though AI, consumers will experience that has been translated into these tools provide great bene- enhanced calls, enhanced expe-

siveness, accountability, privacy pose grave dangers to societies fully, experts noted. Dr. Manal, founder,

Generative AI is a subset

trained on. "These AI models are often

ical role in today's businesses expert said. She added that with ing they can include sensitive or unfair outcomes.' private information. Although efforts have been put in place and distribute misinformation, to minimize this, the risk will which is a big problem which Technologies like chatGPT, always occur," Dr. Manal said.

all time, can definitely enhance tance of consent. "Users are not understand that these models She noted that responsible the world we live in, bringing always aware that they are intermay not give factual or actual certainly come across a Artificial Intelligence includes multiple benefits to everyone. acting with an AI model or a bot, information," the expert said.

well as the kind of data it is collecting. AI models also learn and create bias, which can lead to

AI models can also engage in chatGPT suffers from. "There-She also stressed the impor- fore it is important for users to

news of bahrair

National portal to enhance content quality, standards

iGA to hire media agency to improve content quality, standards

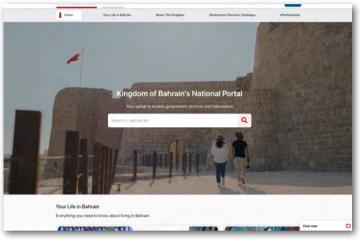
The National Portal was developed as part of Bahrain **Economic Vision** 2030 and is managed by the Information & eGovernment **Authority (iGA)**

TDT | Manama

ahrain.bh, the National Portal of Bahrain, is gearing up to fortify its posi- https://www.bahrain.bh/ tion on the global stage by eleenhancing its digital offerings.

According to the Information design and layout upgrades reto boosting Bahrain's ranking services not only for the Na- visitors. in the United Nations eGoverntional Portal, but also for other ment report.

The primary objective is to iGA to the general public. enhance the content and align it with international standards. a superior digital experience the available eServices through For which, iGA has launched a for its citizens and visitors, so- the national portal and other for receiving the bids was 5th



The tender savs the Com-& eGovernment Authority (iGA), munication and Marketing De- be required to possess a comthe portal, which underwent partment is actively seeking a prehensive understanding of qualified agency capable of de- the Kingdom of Bahrain and cently, now needs further qual- livering top-notch content-cre- its various eServices offered ity improvements for it's crucial ation, editorial, and translation to citizens, residents, and essential channels provided by adhere to UN and internation-

tender seeking the services of lidifying Bahrain's position as eChannels.

vating its standards and further a professional and specialised a global leader in the field of eGovernment.

The selected agency will

al standards, while effectively The move aims at delivering promoting public awareness of

By investing in the enhancement of its digital content, Bahrain is taking significant strides towards continuous improvement, broader public engagement, and the successful marketing of its eServices.

What is on the National Portal?

The National Portal offers:

- Information and services covering vital sectors in the Kingdom, catering to both individuals and business owners
- Information about plans and strategic projects aligned with Bahrain Economic Vision
- Guides and instructions for using government services
- Statistics on eGovernment channels
- The eGovernment Apps Store, which offers various government applications
- Communication platforms to voice your opinions and com-The content produced should municate with government en-

The tender board is yet to announce the bids received for updating the portal. Closing date

Tatweer opens tender for Kaspersky **Industrial CyberSecurity for nodes**



Reresentative picture

TDT | Manama

Natweer Petroleum has the tender reads. **1** introduced a tender to purchase Kaspersky Industrial CyberSecurity for Nodes, for Nodes is a complex server aiming to specifically tackle and workstation security soluthreats at the operator level tion for IT threats in industrial within IACS environments.

Interested parties should 11th of July 2023 with a BD500 bond valid for 180 days.

top, Server, or embedded oper- of Bahrain.

ating system, spanning from XP SP2 to the latest versions,

According to Kaspersky, their Industrial CyberSecurity control systems.

Since July 2016, Tatweer Pebid for the project before the troleum has been under full ownership of nogaholding, the business and investment divi-With this service, Tatweer sion of NOGA in the Kingdom aims at safeguarding SCADA of Bahrain. Tatweer Petroleum servers, HMIs, and engineering now assumes responsibility for workstations against a range of all upstream operations in the cyber threats originating from Kingdom, including oil and human factors, generic mal- gas exploration, development, ware, targeted attacks, or sabo- production activities, as well tage. One notable advantage of as gas distribution and sales. KICS for Nodes is its versatility, nogaholding serves as the oil as it can be easily installed on and gas investment and develany Microsoft Windows Desk- opment arm of the Kingdom



Founded in 2004, Kaspersky North America is a Massachusetts corporation and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of its holding company, Kaspersky Labs Limited, based in the United Kingdom.

Cebarco Bahrain lands contract to expand Bell Factory

TDT | Manama

₹ebarco Bahrain, a Grade AA contractor (certified by the Bahrain Ministry of Work, Municipalities Affairs & Urban Planning), has been awarded a contract by the Bahrain International Circuit to undertake the expansion of the first floor of the Bell Factory.

The contract, valued at an impressive BD960,000.000, was granted after a competitive bid- Representative picture Tender Board.

Cebarco proposed a quote of



BD 960,000.000, while Iaco- al, a leading manufacturer of art facility spanning 60,000 brand.

ding process overseen by the vou Brothers (Constructions) cutting-edge head protection Limited submitted a bid of BD specifically designed for pro- in Sakhir serves as the produc-Among the bids received, 1,191,322.000 for the project. fessional and amateur drivers, tion and research & develop-Bell Helmets Internation- operates from a state-of-the- ment centre for the Bell Racing

square meters adjacent to the Bahrain International Circuit

In a previous statement, Racing Force Group, in collaboration with Bahrain International Circuit, announced plans to expand the factory in Bahrain to meet the growing demand for racing helmet products. The project involves the construction of a second floor, increasing the total surface area from 7,000 to 12,000 square meters.

The Racing Force Group plant

SCE awards BD414,216 Arad Bay Maintenance deal to Dyna Contracting

TDT | Manama

Arad Bay Protected Area & 855,993.600.

ter competing against five January 2023.

contenders, including G4S yna Contracting has General Cleaning and Mainemerged as the winner of a tenance services, Almoayyed contract worth BD414,216.000 Cleaning and Maintenance, from the Supreme Council for Secure Me, Gulf Fencing & Environment. The three-year Specialist Surfacing, and contract entails providing Newcastle Construction. The Cleaning, Security, Operation bids for the project ranged & Maintenance Services at the from BHD 414,216.000 to BHD

The Tender Board had Dyna secured the deal af- opened the bids on the 19th of

New medical equipment on way for Multiple Sclerosis Hospital

Tender board awards supply contract to **Yousuf Mahmood Husain**

Vendor, as per the tender, should complete the installation in 8-weeks

TDT | Manama

7ousuf Mahmood Husain has Y secured a contract from the Government Hospitals to supply



additional medical equipment awarded tender amounts to BD Trading and Contracting Comfor the newly opened Multiple 24,728,000. Sclerosis Hospital in Busaiteen.

tals, had turned unsuccessful.

ent facility dedicated to treating Pharmacy. patients with Multiple Sclerosis.

During the tender process, The awarded contract, based which took place on December sultancy based in Manama, on the re-tender, stipulates that 27, 2021, there were a total of the vendor must deliver and six bidders, including Yousuf and supervising the consulting install the units within eight Mahmood Husain. The bids subweeks. A previous tender to buy mitted by the various vendors equipment for the hospital, ac-ranged from BHD 7,518,150 to cording to Government Hospi- BHD 415,000,000. Other bidders patient clinics, MRI diagnosis in the process were General wards, physiotherapy and man-The Multiple Sclerosis Hos- Medicals, Gulf Pharmacies, Gulf ual exercise therapy facilities, pital in Busaiteen is Bahrain's House Medical System, Wsell- private and public treatment first specialised and independ- flow Gulf Trading, and Wael

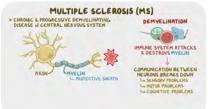
According to the tender board pital, valued at BD 1.7 million, es, a service building, adminis-

pany. Adel Ahmadi Associates Company, an engineering conwas responsible for designing scheme.

The Multiple Sclerosis Hospital is equipped with seven outrooms, a laboratory, a pharmacy, a scientific research center, a The construction of the hos- lecture hall, medical warehousdocument, the value of the was awarded to Yousef Al Zayani trative offices, and parking lots.



Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a potentially disabling disease of the brain and spinal cord (central nervous system). In MS , the immune system attacks the protective sheath (myelin) that covers nerve fibers and causes communication problems between your brain and the rest of



2.3 million people around the world are affected by multiple sclerosis and there are communities that are actively seeking ways to better their lives. Living with MS is an increasingly manageable condition with some lifestyle adjustments and a proper course of treatment.

Currently, there's no specific test that can determine whether or not a patient has MS. Instead, doctors rely on a comprehensive evaluation of a patient's symptoms and other tools to assist in reaching a diagnosis.



Musk threatens lawsuit as Threads takes off

Meta is accused of hiring dozens of former Twitter employees who "had and continue to have access to Twitter's trade secrets

Threads went live on **Apple and Android app** stores in 100 countries

Musk retweeted an image that said the Threads logo resembled a tapeworm

Zuckerberg is taking advantage of Musk's chaotic ownership of Twitter to push out the new product

AFP | Washington

Meta just hours after the it hopes will beat out the strug- platforms, despite its struggles. gling site owned by Elon Musk.

Zuckerberg, published by online ened the rivalry between the two and Hugh Jackman, as well as



A combo of pictures shows Zuckerberg and Elon Musk

misappropriation of Twitter's trade secrets and other intellectual property."

The letter accused Meta of employees who "had and con- resemblance to Twitter. tinue to have access to Twitter's confidential information."

Threads is the biggest chal- Thursday. lenger yet to Musk-owned Twitpany launched Threads, an app world's biggest social media official Threads account.

cused the company of "unlawful combat in a cage match.

Threads went live on Apple and Android app stores in some time, but I think there 100 countries at 2300 GMT on should be a public conversations Wednesday, and early feedback app with 1 billion+ people on it." hiring dozens of former Twitter noted its close, but scaled back,

trade secrets and other highly 30 million people had down- has said it has more than 200 loaded Threads, Zuckerberg said million daily users.

witter threatened to sue ter, which has seen a series of something special, but we've got logo resembled a tapeworm. potential competitors emerge a lot of work ahead to build the "Metaphorically too," he added. Instagram parent com- but not yet replace one of the app," Zuckerberg wrote on his

Zuckerberg's latest move for celebrities such as Jennifer In a letter to Meta CEO Mark against Musk further height- Lopez, Shakira, Oprah Winfrey is not."

Zuckerberg wrote: "It'll take

Twitter has had the opportunity to do this but hasn't nailed Within a few hours, more than it. Hopefully we will." Twitter

Musk meanwhile retweeted "Feels like the beginning of an image that said the Threads

In another post referencing tions." Twitter's potential legal action Accounts were already active against Meta, Musk noted that competition is fine, cheating

news outlet Semafor on Thurs- multibillionaires who have even media outlets including The said on Threads: "No one on ship of Twitter to push out the day, Musk lawyer Alex Spiro ac- agreed to meet for hand to hand Washington Post and The Econ- the Threads engineering team new product, which Meta hopes

is a former Twitter employee -- that's just not a thing."

'Be kind'

Threads was introduced as a spin-off of Instagram, giving it a built-in audience of more than two billion users and sparing the new platform the challenge of starting from scratch.

Instagram chief Adam Mosseri told users that Threads was intended to build "an open and friendly platform for conversa-

"The best thing you can do if you want that too is be kind,"

Zuckerberg is taking advan-Meta spokesman Andy Stone tage of Musk's chaotic owner-

will become the go-to platform for celebrities, companies and politicians.

Analyst Jasmine Engberg from Insider Intelligence said Threads only needs one out of four Instagram monthly users "to make it as big as Twitter."

"Twitter users are desperate for an alternative, and Musk has given Zuckerberg an opening," she added.



Under Musk, Twitter has seen content moderation reduced to a minimum with glitches and rash decisions scaring away celebrities and major advertisers. He also fired more than half of Twitter's staff. some of whom presumably went to other tech companies, including

German industrial output slips, raising fears of long downturn

Energy prices have surged since Moscow invaded Ukraine

Manufacture of pharmaceuticals also slumped

AFP | Frankfurt

erman industrial production unexpectedly 📕 fell in May, official data showed yesterday, raising fears of a prolonged downturn in Europe's top economy.

Output in the manufacturing powerhouse slipped by 0.2 percent compared to the previous month, seasonally adjusted figures from federal statistics agency Destatis showed.

Analysts surveyed by financial almost flat.

The German economy fell year, weighed down by surging the recession," he said.



Employee Tobias Kasan works at a gear in a assembly hall of the German gear manufacturing company Renk in Augsburg, southern Germany,

inflation and aggressive interest

ING economist Carsten April. data firm FactSet had forecast Brzeski warned the latest data the indicator would come in indicated that "German industry is still stuck in stagnation".

"It needs an activity surge in into recession at the turn of the June to avoid an extension of

The fall in production came after an increase of 0.3% in

particular by a seven-percent decline in the energy sector.

Energy prices have surged since Moscow invaded Ukraine traction meets the technical and slashed supplies to Germa- definition for a recession.

ny, which had previously relied heavily on Russian gas.

The manufacture of pharmaceuticals also slumped by about

But there was better news from the key auto sector, with the manufacture of motor vehicles rising almost five percent, according to Destatis.

The economy ministry sought to strike an upbeat tone, despite the negative data.

"The recent stabilisation of demand points to a recovery albeit moderate to begin with -- in the industrial economy in the coming months," it said in a statement.

But Brzeski warned that gloomy indicators in the past two months "have not taken away the risk of a further contraction of the German economy".

The German economy shrank May's figure was affected in by 0.3% in the first quarter of 2023, after a 0.5% contraction in the final quarter of 2022.

Two straight quarters of con-

Samsung expects second-quarter profit to plunge more than 95%

AFP | Seoul

Samsung Electronics said yesterday it expects second-quarter operating profits to fall more than 95% on-year to their lowest level in 14 years, as a global glut of semiconductors continues to hurt its core memory sector.

The firm is the flagship subsidiary of South Korean giant Samsung Group, by far the largest of the family-controlled conglomerates that dominate Samsung Electronics Co business in Asia's fourth-largest economy.

The tech giant said in a regulatory filing that April-June Taipei-based market researchoperating profits were expect- er TrendForce. ed to drop 95.7% to 600 billion won (\$458 million).

profit since the first quarter coupled with the inventory in of 2009's 590 billion won, a the market, which is still be-Samsung spokesman told AFP. ing cleared out since January,"

22.3% to 60 trillion won, the terpoint research, told AFP. company added.

years as prices have skyrock- added. eted, but the global economic slowdown has harmed mem- as securing supplies of adorv sales.

are often used in PCs and with the Un



Jay Y. Lee, Executive Chairman of

smartphones, continued to decline in the quarter -- falling around 13 to 18%, according to

"The demand for memory is bottoming out with slow-It would be their lowest er-than-expected demand Sales are expected to drop Neil Shah, an analyst at Coun-

"This is a full U-turn from South Korean chipmakers, last year when the memory led by Samsung, have experidivision contributed to more enced record profits in recent than a third of the profit," he

The announcement comes vanced chips has become a Prices of DRAM chips, which crucial issue internationally,

Binance executives quit as problems mount at crypto firm

everal top executives have Quit cryptocurrency firm Binance, as the company faces a widening net of legal probes across the world.

The firm is one of the biggest left in the crypto industry, which Changpeng Zhao hacks and thefts and suffered board.



has seen a string of scandals, plummeting values across the Zhao's handling of those claims. Christie wrote on Friday that respond to an AFP request for public confidence evaporate and

also probing the firm and its leaving for family reasons. boss, Changpeng Zhao, over Hillmann wrote that he was ing dinner a few times a week". valuation in excess of \$3 trillion money laundering and sanctions leaving "on good terms", addbusting.

But Binance's strategy chief his departure was "far less sen- comment.

Two US financial regulators Patrick Hillmann and compli- sational than any article might The volatile crypto industry are suing Binance and reports ance executive Steven Christie make it out to be", saying he surged in 2021 with a range of say the Justice Department is wrote on Twitter that they were had to "start helping around the complex products and celebrity

house, do chores, and start mak- endorsements propelling it to a Fortune's report claimed that last year. But a series of scaning that he would "continue to Binance had lost several oth- dals including the collapse of A report in Fortune magazine respect and support" Zhao, still er executives in recent weeks. the FTX exchange and criminal linked the executives' walkout to a central figure for the industry. Binance did no immediately charges for its executives saw investors pull their money out.

. Islamic defenders look on

procession around Jerusalem as its

efforts to overturn his expulsion from parliament were again blocked yesterday when a court refused to stay his jail sentence for defamation. Gandhi was sentenced to two years imprisonment for omments he made in 2019, which a court ruled were

insulting to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and those

sharing his surname. Modi's government is widely accused of using the defamation law to silence critics. The case in the premier's home state of Gujarat is one of several lodged in recent years against Gandhi, who is Modi's chief opponent and the foremost member of the opposition Congress

German cleared of 'bathtub ◆ A German court yesterday murder' after 13 years in jail exonerated a former custodian who had spent more than 13 years in prison for the suspected murder of an elderly woman found in a bathtub. Manfred Genditzki had been handed a life sentence for allegedly killing an 87-year-old tenant of the building where he worked in 2008 by striking her on the

head during a dispute and then drowning her. Genditzki had consistently denied NYC tour bus crash sends 18 to hospital woman during



collided with a second bus in New York Thursday evening, wounding dozens and sending at least 18 to hospital with non-life threatening injuries, emergency

around 7:00 pm (2300 GMT) in lower Manhattan along First Avenue near the Gramercy Park area, New York deputy fire chief Kevin Murphy said. Images of the scene showed an open-top double-decker tour bus smashed into the rear-end of a city-operated bus. "Both buses seem to have been fully occupied," said Paul

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Ancient society's 'Ivory Man' was an 'Ivory Lady': scientists



A view of the tomb where the remains of Ivory Man was discovered

AFP | Paris

opulent tomb in Spain in 2008, is believed to have been the which showed chemimost powerful and influential cal traces of wine and person of his ancient society nearly 5,000 years ago.

the remains are of a woman, scientists have revealed.

"Ivory Lady".

Human remains are one of the only ways to understand the balance of power between discovered a tomb containing

served skeletons are those of 17 and 25 years old, accordmen or women. ing to a study published in the Even DNA can be difficult to journal Scientific Reports on

extract from remains found in Thursday. Iberia, now modern day Spain at the person's side. and Portugal.

At a vast archaeological site ramic plate which showed at Valencina, near the south- chemical traces of wine and western Spanish city of Seville, cannabis, a complete elephant several large and sophisticated tusk and many objects made tombs have been unearthed. of ivory -- earning the person

2,650 BC, in a period known as The treasure trove suggestthe Copper Age.

Mass burials were the norm "the most socially prominent" for this ancient Iberian socie- person in Iberia from 3,200 to ty but in 2008 archaeologists 2,500 BC, the study said.

3 Indian rail workers arrested over deadly train crash



Railway workers help to restore services at the accident site of a three-train collision near Balasore (file photo)

AFP | New Delhi

Odisha state occurred when giving further details. mistakenly diverted onto a were carrying more than 2,000 loop line and slammed into a passengers between them stationary goods train loaded when the collision occurred. with iron ore.

the opposite direction.

Three railway employees had been charged with culpable homicide and destruc-

and one technician employed June's train crash in eastern with Indian Railways, without a packed passenger train was The two passenger trains

Carriages had flipped over The derailed compartments entirely and rescue workers then struck the carriages of scrambled to pull out survivors another fast train, the Howrah trapped in the mangled wreck-Superfast Express from Ben- age, with scores of bodies laid galuru, which was passing in out under white sheets beside

Yellen urges 'healthy' competition in China

Treasury Secretary says US not seeking 'winner-take-all' competition with China

Janet Yellen meets **Chinese Premier Li Qiang**

AFP | Washington

reasury Secretary Janet Yellen told Chinese Premier Li Qiang yesterday that the United States is not seeking "winner-take-all" competition, in a visit to Beijing aimed at stabilising fraught ties. Yellen's four-day trip is her

first as Treasury chief to China, with which the United States is butting heads over trade curbs, human rights and a litany of other

dial down the temperature, and Great Hall of the People.



Chinese Premier Li Qiang (R) shakes hands with US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen

rules, can benefit both countries security

"We seek healthy economic ond-largest economy's access to not derail ties. competition that is not winner- advanced technology deemed "We may disagree in these in- ple Washington was "concerned" take-all but that, with a fair set of crucial to Washington's national stances," she said.

yesterday Yellen underscored to The United States has said it "in certain circumstances, need to rity grounds, in the latest salvo in Li that the United States does not is seeking to "de-risk" from Chipursue targeted actions to protect the chips war. seek an economic showdown. na by limiting the world's sec- its national security", that should

We seek healthy economic competition that is not winner-takeall but that, with a fair set of rules, can benefit both countries over time

"We should not allow any disagreement to lead to misunderstandings that needlessly worsen our bilateral economic and financial relationship."

Highlighting the challenges, iust davs before Yellen's visit, Beijing unveiled new export controls But Washington is working to over time," she told Li at Beijing's Yellen underlined to Premier on metals key to semiconductor Li that while Washington would manufacturing on national secu-

> The Treasury secretary yesterday told American businesspeo-

rious condition, Italian media killed by the flames.

Some eighty people were was a 73-year-old man, the re-

It (fire) did not spread,

not even to the

neighbouring rooms,

but the smoke is just

as deadly and the four

other victims died of

smoke inhalation. It

heavy toll

MILAN MAYOR GIUSEPPE SALA

whom were fighting for their Milan Mayor Giuseppe Sala because of the smoke and belives, Milan's fire chief Nicola said the fire "started in one cause some of the guests were room housing two female res- not able to walk". Some 14 others were in a se- idents", both of whom were Some of the residents were

Fire in Italy retirement home kills six

A fire at a retirement home in the early hours of yesterday in Milan killed six people, firefighters said, with some 80 other residents hospitalised suffering from smoke inhala-

The three-storey building was reportedly housing 167 people when the fire started in the early morning hours.

"It was a hellish scene," local resident Lucia, who can see the home from her house, told Members of the police evacuate the body of a victim

"We saw old people protecting their faces with wet rags." and windows had been cracking with the heat, she said.

The cause of the blaze was not yet known, the fire brigade Over 10 ambulances, various

fire trucks and a silver mortuary van could be seen outside the building in the south of the Italian city. could have been worse,

"Six people killed, numerous but six victims is a very (others) suffering from smoke inhalation hospitalised. Dozens of people saved by firefighters who immediately evacuated the building," the fire brigade said on Twitter.

rushed to hospital, two of ports said.

Five of the victims were to the neighbouring rooms, but mayor Sala said.

the smoke is just as deadly and the four other victims died of

smoke inhalation". "It could have been worse, but six victims is a very heavy toll", he said.

A member of staff who sounded the alarm at 1:20 am (2320 GMT Thursday) after seeing smoke, officials said.

"Four teams of firefighters were immediately dispatched They found themselves faced with very low visibility in a corridor inside one part of the building, and flames in one room"

women aged between 69 and "They focused on putting 87 years old, while the sixth out the flames, then evacuating complicated evacuation both

evacuated "by being carried "It did not spread, not even out, almost one and at time,"



Twelcome the swift Lagreement by the @ EUCouncil and @EP We are taking big steps towards a stronger EU industrial production capacity for ammunition. We need it to continue our support to #Ukraine and replenish Member

@JosepBorrellF

■ over 200,000 jobs were created last month - bringing our total to 13.2 million jobs since I took office. Unemployment remained below 4%. Working-age Americans with jobs is at a 20vear high. And inflation is down by more than

by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

US says it will send cluster munitions to Ukraine **AFP** | Washington "will provide Ukraine with ad- positions and take more Ukrain- "clearly a capability that would

The United States an- ammunition, including highly Ukrainian civilians because operations." ▲ nounced yesterday that it effective and reliable dual-pur- Ukraine does not have enough counteroffensive against Rus- to cluster munitions.

AFP | Madrid

tival, medics said.

The move has drawn sharp Jake Sullivan said President Joe risk to civilians," he said, noting But rights groups have come criticism from rights groups Biden had approved the deci- that Ukraine's government "has out strongly against the United due to the danger unexploded sion, describing it as the "right every incentive to minimise risk States providing the munitions. bomblets pose even after a con-thing to do," and said the need to civilians, because it's their Human Rights Watch said flict has ended, but Washington to help Ukraine counter Russian citizens." said it had received assurances forces outweighs the risk.

from Kyiv that it would seek to There is "a massive risk of ci- adier General Pat Ryder told term suffering for civilians and minimise the risk to civilians. vilian harm if Russian troops journalists ahead of the an- undermine the international op-

Participants run ahead of bulls during the bull-run of the San Fermin festival

riously, in the first bull running public television.

ditional artillery systems and ian territory and subjugate more be useful in any type of offensive

use these in a very careful way tions which are anti-personnel,"

that "transferring these weap-Pentagon spokesman Brig- ons would inevitably cause long-A new military aid package and tanks roll over Ukrainian nouncement that DPICMs are probrium of their use opposes."

Hundreds charged after vast UK cannabis operation



A view of a cannabis farm raided by Lancashire Police

 $\mathbf{M}^{\mathrm{ore\ than\ 450\ people\ were}}_{\mathrm{charged\ and\ cannabis\ plants}}$ worth more than £115 million seized in a massive month-long drugs operation in June, British

"Nearly 200,000 cannabis

135 million-152 million euros) were seized," police said. rested and of those "more than serious organised crime.

in cannabis production are also Officers also seized 20 firearms directly linked to an array of other and 26 kilos of cocaine with a poserious criminality such as class A tential street value of £1 million. drug importation, modern slavery Crimes linked to gangland feuds and wider violence and exploita- have shocked the nation in recent tion," said Steve Jupp, the Nation- years.

Organised networks involved in cannabis production are also directly linked to an A drug importation, modern slavery and wider violence and

STEVE JUPP, THE NATIONAL POLICE CHIEFS'

"This operation not only suc-

Cannabis production is a cash cessfully disrupted a significant cow for organised crime, investi- amount of criminal activity, but gators say, fuelling gang violence the intelligence gathered will also as groups compete for territory. help inform future law enforce-"Organised networks involved ment activity across the country."

Around 1,000 people were ar- al Police Chiefs' Council lead for

At least 50 dead in Pakistan monsoon floods

AFP | Lahore

At least 50 people, including eight children, have been killed by floods and landslides triggered by monsoon rains that have lashed Pakistan since last month, officials said yesterday. The summer monsoon brings

South Asia 70-80 percent of its annual rainfall between June and September every year. It is vital for the livelihoods of millions of farmers and food

security in a region of around

brings landslides and floods. "Fifty deaths have been re- jured during this period.

two billion people -- but it also People ride on a horsecart through a flooded street in Lahore ported in different rain-related The majority of the deaths ies of eight children were reincidents all over Pakistan since were in eastern Punjab prov- covered from a landslide in the

the start of the monsoon on ince, and were mainly due to Shangla district on Thursday, June 25," a national disaster electrocution and building col- according to the emergency

khtunkhwa province, the bodmanagement official told AFP, lapses, official data showed. service Rescue 1122's spokesadding that 87 people were in- In northwestern Khyber Pa- man Bilal Ahmed Faizi.

Blast at explosives factory kills six in central Russia: Russian agencies

AFP | Moscow

↑ blast at an explosives fac-Atory in the central Russian region of Samara killed six people and injured two others, Russian news agencies reported

The explosion occurred at the Promsintez plant in the city equipment during repair work." — are relatively common, with of Chapayevsk. "Eight people Promsintez is one of the main an often-lax approach to safety were injured, six of whom manufacturers of industrial ex-rules. died," the RIA Novosti news plosives in Russia and the for- Last month, four people agency cited emergency ser- mer Soviet Union. vices as saving.

of the main manufacturers of industrial Union

Promsintez is one

ing to its website. The company that owns the factory was created in 1997, but

the country's last tsar, Nicholas II, in 1911. Accidents at Russian factories — including deadly ones

the plant dates back to pre-rev-

olutionary Russia, founded by

were killed in an explosion The company employs 1,300 at a gunpower factory in the

welcome last night's L political agreement on ASAP. The Act in Support of Ammunition Production will boost the EU's production capacity and replenish stocks. This will speed up delivery of ammunition to Ukraine

@vonderleyen



The EU is not forgetting

at this crucial stage of

the war.

⊥ the most vulnerable people in #Bangladesh and #Myanmar. We are mitigating the consequences of the current humanitarian funding gap by ensuring their lifeline

@JanezLenarcic



States' stocks.



half. This is Bidenomics. @POTUS

Disclaimer: (Views expressed

Lavish artefacts The "Ivory Man", whose were found at the person's side including a large ceramic plate

cannabis, a complete elephant tusk and There's just one problem: many objects made of ivory -- earning the They have renamed her the person the nickname

the genders in ancient soci- just one person. A standard physical exami-But it is often difficult to de- nation at the time determined termine whether poorly pre- the person was a male between

hot and dry climates such as Lavish artefacts were found They included a large ce-

the "Ivory Man"

They date back to 2,900- the nickname the "Ivory Man". ed that the young person was



■ Indian police said yesterday tion of evidence in a case filed they had arrested three men against them on Thursday, a over a triple-train collision statement from the Central that killed nearly 300 people Bureau of Investigation said. last month, one of the worst The statement identified the rail accidents in the country's men as two signal engineers

will provide cluster munitions pose improved conventional artillery," Sullivan told journal- shaped charges which are arto Ukraine for the first time as munitions (DPICM)," the Penta- ists. Kyiv "has provided writ- mor penetrating or they can be Kyiv's forces push ahead with a gon said in a statement, referring ten assurances that it is going to loaded with fragmentary muni-US National Security Advisor that is aimed at minimising any Ryder said.

A participant is overthrown by a young cow in Pamplona

"For a July 7th, which is still Sixteen people have died in

1911. The last death occurred

or limbs from falling or being traditionally begin on July 7 and ties across Spain, with the best

trampled during the first race of take place every morning at 8:00 known being the San Fermin

the festival in the northern city am (0600 GMT) for eight days. festival which was made famous

Six people were injured early of Pamplona, Red Cross spokes- "None of the injuries seem to by Ernest Hemingway's 1926 yesterday, none of them se- man Jose Aldaba told Spain's be serious," Aldaba said. novel "The Sun Also Rises".

race of Spain's San Fermin fes- The bull runs, where thou- one of the most crowded, it has the San Fermin bull runs since

"Six people were taken to hosgroup of half-tonne bulls racing" Bull-running events are a in 2009 when a bull gored a

sands turn out to watch or join a been a 'clean' run."

pital" for injuries to the face through narrow cobbled streets, highlight of summer festivi- 27-year-old Spaniard.

AFP | London Six hurt in first bull run of Spain's San Fermin festival police said yesterday. Operation Mille saw search-

es and arrests carried out across England and Wales "at a scale and pace not seen before", police said. plants with an estimated street value of between £115-£130 million (\$147 million-\$166 million,

450 were later charged".

array of other serious criminality such as class

exploitation

explosives in Russia and the former Soviet

They said the blast occurred people and supplies the mining Tambov region, southeast of "as a result of the dismantling of and oil and gas sector, accord- Moscow.

Britney Spears says hit in face by Wembanyama's security

AFP | Las Vegas

as Vegas police said Thurs- trol." day they had investigat-Wembanyama's security and pop hours after his dinner. star Britney Spears, who said she had been hit in the face.

NBA Summer League against crowd," said the Frenchman. Charlotte on Friday and was Spears.

Media reports said that Spears walking straight. was pushed away by Wemban-

Wembanyama told reporters

"There was one person who was calling me but we talked my hotel lobby as I was head-Wembanyama is in Las Vegas before with the security (to not) ing to dinner. I later went to a ahead of his first game in the stop because it's gonna make a restaurant at a different hotel

heading to a restaurant when 'sir sir' and that person grabbed him on his success," she said on he was spotted by fans -- and me from behind, so I didn't see Instagram. what happened because I was

er's husband Sam Asghari said away and I didn't stop to look was "violent" and "out of con- so I kept walking and enjoyed a nice dinner."

Spears said she had simply ed an incident between after practice that he only heard wanted to greet the player and French NBA top draft pick Victor of Spears' involvement some questioned Wembanyama's account.

"I recognized an athlete in and saw him again. I decided to "That person was calling me approach him and congratulate

to get his attention. I am aware on the shoulder," she said. "I don't know with how much of the players statement where



Victor Wembanyama

"I tapped him on the shoulder behind' but I simply tapped him

"His security then backhandyama's security, which the sing- force but security pushed her he mentions I grabbed him from ed me in the face without look-

ing back, in front of a crowd. Nearly knocking me down and on social media causing my glasses [to fall] off that Spears had

The Las Vegas Police Depart- ed." ment investigated the incident but did not take any action.

"On July 5, 2023, at approximately 11 p.m., LVMPD officers security responded to a property in the guard 3700 block of Las Vegas Boule- should vard regarding a battery inves- not cast tigation," the police said in a a shad-

"The incident has been doc- complishment umented on a police report and of a great young no arrest or citations have been man on the rise issued. No further details will be provided at this time."

Asghari posted been "assault-

"The violent

behavior of an out-of-control ow on the ac-@wemby," he wrote.

Britney Spears



ANI | Los Angeles

think green screen acting is not visual effects artists who re-

"real acting". Los Angeles Times, published age.

online Wednesday, the actress, who has been in

several projects that have h a d cast members

interact with a green **EMILIA CLARKE** screen, including Secret Invasion and Game of Thrones, expressed her views, The Hollywood Reporter report-

"The stigma is that people don't do any acting in these shows," Clarke said. "And then you're like, Well, then why are they asking all these great actors to do it, and why are they say-

ing yes?"" Green screen acting requires actors to per-

form in front of a solid-colour background (usually green **6**Game of Thrones' star Emilia or blue). The footage is then Clarke called out people who tweaked in post-production by place the coloured filler with During an interview with the any background image or foot-

The actress' rationale was that if it isn't "real" acting, then top actors, such The stigma is that as her Secret people don't do any Invasion co-

acting in these shows. And stars Samuel L. Jackson then you're like, 'Well, then and Olivwhy are they asking all these ia Colman, great actors to do it. and why wouldn't are they saying take on roles yes? in projects that use green

> screens. "The cast is ridiculous," she added of her fellow cast members in the Marvel series. "I was like, 'Where

do I sign?"" Clarke's comments come more than two years after Anthony Hopkins, who has also been in the Marvel Cinematic Universe as Odin in the Thor films, criticised the green screen acting.

Emilia Clarke

OASIS JUFFAIR:12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00

CITY CENTRE (THEATRE):12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM WADI AL SAIL: 12.15 + 5.30 + 10.45 PM

AL LIWAN: 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM PATRICK WILSON, ROSE BYRNE, TY SIMPKINS

HIDDEN STRIKE (PG-13) (ACTION/THRILLER)

OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM CITY CENTRE (THEATRE):12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN WADI AL SAIL:11.15 AM + 3.45 + 8.15 PM

AL LIWAN: 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM JACKIE CHAN, JOHN CENA

NEEYAT (PG-15) (HINDI/DRAMA/THRILLER/CRIME)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 3.00 + 8.15 PM

SEEF (I): 1.00 + 6.15 + 11.30 PM VIDYA BALAN, RAM KAPOOR, RAHUL BOSE

18+ JOURNEY OF LOVE (PG-13) (MALAYALAM

OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.30 + 5.45 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM AL HAMRA: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM NASLEN, MATHEW THOMAS, NIKHILA VIMAI

NALLA NILAVULLA RAATHRI (PG-15)

OASIS JUFFAIR: 1.00 + 6.15 + 11.30 PM SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.00 PM CHEMBAN VINOD JOSE, BINU PAPPU, BABURAJ

RANGABALI (PG-15) (TELUGU)

NAGA SHAURYA, BRAHMAJI, YUKTI THAREJA

ΩΔSIS IIIFFΔIR·10 30 ΔM + 3 30 + 8 45 PM SEEF (I): 12.30 + 6.00 + 11.30 PM

SAMAJAVARAGAMANA (PG-13) (TELUGU

SEEF (I): 3.15 + 8.45 PM

SREEVISHNU, REBA MONICA JOHN, NARESH

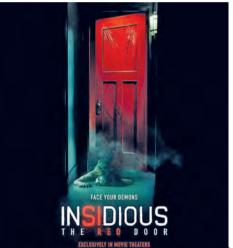
MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - DEAD RECKONING PART ONE

OASIS JUFFAIR:12.45 + 4.00 + 7.15 + 10.30 PM OASIS IUFFAIR:(ATMOS): 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM

OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 10.15 AM + 1.15 + 4.30 + 7.45 + 11.00 PM CITY CENTRE:10.30 AM + 12.45 + 1.45 + 4.00 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 8.15 +

CITY CENTRE:(ATMOS): 11.00 AM + 2.15 + 5.30 + 8.45 + 12.00 MN

CINEMA



CITY CENTRE (IMAX-2D): 10.15 AM + 1.15 + 4.30 + 7.45 + 11.00 PM CITY CENTRE (THEATRE):12.00 + 12.30 + 3.45 + 4.15 + 7.30 + 8.00 +

SEEF (I):10.45 AM + 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 6.15 + 8.30 +

SEEF (II): 1.00 + 4.15 + 7.30 + 10.45 PM

WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 1.30 + 3.45 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 8.00

AL LIWAN:12.15 + 3.30 + 6.45 + 10.00 PM

AL LIWAN:(ATMOS): 10.15 AM + 1.15 + 4.30 + 7.45 + 11.00 PM TOM CRUISE, HAYLEY ATWELL, VING RHAMES

OASIS JUFFAIR: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN SEEF (II): 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM WADI AL SAIL: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM AL LIWAN: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM

OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.15 + 5.45 + 11.15 PM CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 + 12.00 MN SEEF (II): 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

TAMER HOSNI, DINA EL SHERBINI, AMR ABDEL GUELIL

WADI AL SAIL:2.30 + 7.45 PM AL LIWAN: 12.45 + 6.00 + 11.15 PM

HARRISON FORD, PHOEBE WALLER-BRIDGE, ANTONIO BANDERAS

EL BO3BO3 (PG-13) (ARABIC/ACTION/COMEDY)

CITY CENTRE: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM SEEF (II): 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM WADI AL SAIL:1.30 + 6.00 + 10.30 PM

AL LIWAN: 10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.00 PM

AMIR KARARA, YASMINE SABRI, BASSEM SAMRA

ELEMENTAL (PG) (ANIMATION)

OASIS JUFFAIR:(KIDS CINEMA): 10.45 AM + 1.00 + 3.15 + 5.30 + 7.45

CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 1.15 + 3.30 + 5.45 + 8.00 + 10.15 PM WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 PM

AL LIWAN (JUNIOR CINEMA): 10.30 AM + 3.15 + 8.15 PM LEAH LEWIS, MAMOUDOU ATHIE, RONNIE DEL CARMEN

THE FLASH (PG-15) (

CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM SEEF (II):11.30 AM + 2.15 + 5.00 + 7.45 + 10.30 PM WADI AL SAIL:7.15 + 10.00 PM

EZRA MILLER, SASHA CALLE, MICHAEL SHANNON

CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00

SEEF (II): 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM

KARIM ABDEL AZIZ KARIM MAHMOUD ABDEL AZIZ NOUR

FAST X (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)

CITY CENTRE: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM VIN DIESEL, MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ, TYRESE GIBSON

CITY CENTRE: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM ANTHONY RAMOS DOMINIQUE FISHBACK LUNA LAUREN VELEZ

NO HARD FEELINGS (18+) (COMEDY)

CITY CENTRE: 5.00 + 9.45 PM

JENNIFER LAWRENCE, ANDREW BARTH FELDMAN

THE LITTLE MERMAID (PG) (ADVENTURE/MUSCIAL)

CITY CENTRE: 11.15 AM + 2.00 + 4.45 + 7.30 + 10.15 PM SEEF (I):11.45 AM + 5.15 + 10.45 PM

AL LIWAN (JUNIOR CINEMA): 12.30 + 5.30 + 10.30 PM HALLE BAILEY, JONAH HAUER-KING, JAVIER BARDEM

THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE (G)

CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 1.00+ 3.00 PM

CHRIS PRATT, CHARLIE DAY, ANYA TAYLOR-JOY CARRY ON JATTA 3 (PG-13)(PUNJABI)

SEEF (I): 2.30 + 8.00 PM

GIPPY GREWAL, SONAM BAJWA, BINNU DHILLON

(ANDAHAR (PG-15) (THRILLER/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE:7.15 + 12.00 MN

GERARD BUTLER, TRAVIS FIMMEL, REBECCA CALDER

Hilary Duff's workouts 'have made a huge difference'

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

"huge difference" to how she other things when you're

revealed that she's really feel- head." ing the benefits of her active lifestyle, which includes play- trainer Dominic Leeder, and ing tennis with her husband the actress admits that she Matthew Koma.

She told Shape magazine: her fitness goals.

"I'm really loving that escape and that little break. Hilary Duff's new fit- It's a really complex game, ness plan has made a and it's hard to think about playing. It kind of drowns The 35-year-old actress has out all the buzzing in my

Hilary has hired personal needs help in order to achieve

CROSSWORD

The Love: 5- Stiff bristle: 9- Midday: 13- Dutch cheese: 14- Follows orders: 16- Yen: 17-Maryland athlete, for short; 18- Medicinal shrub; 19 —do-well; 20 — Orinioco Flow' singer; 21- Old California fort; 22- Washed lightly; 24- Dundee denizen; 26- Skin disorder; 27- The devil; 29- Harangue; 33- Participant; 34- Hearing organs; 35- Long ago; 36- Tasteless items junk; 37- Seraglio; 38- Naught; 39- Capital city of Western Samoa; 41- Not new; 42- Having some prominent blood vessels; 44- Announces formally; 46- Settle a loan; 47- Female child; 48- Wise men; 49- Moolah; 52- Ignited; 53- Suffragist Carrie; 57- Graceful horse; 58- Blessed ; 60- West Point inits.; 61- Golda of Israel; 62- Satan; 63- Oboe, e.g.; 64- Fizzy drink; 65-

- Allot; 2- Mideast gulf; 3- a soul; 4- The laying on of paint thickly; 5- Already?; 6- Movie critic Roger; 7- Look after; 8- Writer Rand; 9- Convent; 10- Raw materials; 11- Double curve; 12- Dweeb; 15- Bitter derision; 23- CD earnings; 25- Popular rental; 26- Displayed dirty laundry; 27- Land's end?; 28- Room at the top; 29- Challenges; 30- Ancient region of Asia Minor; 31-Salty; 32- Slippery; 33- Somewhat; 34- Art supporter; 37- Hasty; 40- Branch of mathematics; 42 __ out (relax); 43 · Connoisseur; 45 · Goal, intention; 46 · Child's toy; 48 · Brit's half-note; 49 · Beaver creations; 50 · Black-and-white cookie; 51 · Sudden assault; 52 · Son of Jacob and Leah; 54-1'd hate to break up __; 55- Revenuers, for short; 56-1 did it!; 59- Fido's appointr

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Serie A title and relegation play-offs rejigged: Italian FA

Italy's football federation apgoals scored if the proved on Friday changes to cannot be separated. Serie A's league title and relintroduced last season.

top of the table the Scudetto basis of public order. would be decided in a one-match play-off.

by whichever team finishes in leg at home.

takes the higher position, after which come goal difference and goals scored if the teams still

The showdown could be egation play-offs which were switched to whichever stadium hosts the Italian Cup final -- in In a statement, the FIGC con-recent years Rome's Stadio Olfirmed that should two teams impico -- if the Italian authorifinish on the same points at the ties decide it necessary on the

The relegation play-off, disputed by the teams which finish However the rules now state either side of the drop zone in that instead of the deciding 17th and 18th, will be a two-legmatch being played at a neu- ged affair with the team higher tral venue it would be hosted in the table playing the second

Last season Spezia were rel-In Serie A whoever has the egated by Verona in a one-off best head-to-head record be- match after ending the regular tween teams on the same points season just outside the bottom



has the best head-tohead record between teams on the same points takes the higher position, after which come goal difference and goals scored if the teams still cannot be separated

The FIGC also said tiny Lecco would play in Serie B for the first time in half a century after deciding their bureaucratic troubles should not stop the club for registering in the second tier.

Lecco, based on the eastern leg of Lake Como, were promoted last month but don't have a stadium which meets Serie B's regulations so had to find an alternative site.

They had two days to submit documentation for Serie B after beating Foggia in the play-off final and missed the deadline.

But they were given a reprieve by the FIGC after demonstrating that they had approval to use Padova's stadium some 200 kilometres away.



Napoli players celebrate lifting the Serie A title (file photo)

Philipsen denies Cavendish Tour stage record in dramatic sprint

Mark Cavendish goes close but Jasper Philipsen completes Tour hat-trick on stage seven in Bordeaux

Philipsen wins his third stage of this year's Tour

AFP | Bordeaux

asper Philipsen won his third stage of the Tour de France in Bordeaux yesterday, overtaking a bitterly disappointed Mark Cavendish in a last-gasp effort after a see-saw struggle to the line.

The 38-year-old Cavendish appeared to be about to bag a record-breaking 35th career stage win on the Tour de France when he took the lead, but Philipsen then burst back past him to win raised three fingers in celebraby a bike length at the line.

Cavendish later claimed he

"I'm bitterly disappointed there, like majorly disappointed," said Cavendish.

I stood up again and the same ahead. thing happened," he said.



Alpecin-Deceuninck's Belgian rider Jasper Philipsen (r) cycles ahead of Astana Qazaqstan Team's British rider Mark Cavendish (L) to the finish line

points green jersey, Philipsen all-time great.

Behind the Belgian and Cavhad had a technical issue in the endish came Biniam Girmay in

a hand in remonstration after being cut off by the winner, who "When I stood up to sprint it veered slightly in the high-speed slipped a couple of gears so I sat finale when leaping into action sprinter off all time," he said. down, then it slipped back and as he noticed Cavendish surge

"Cavendish was really fast and I would have loved to see him win," he said.

thought, that's incredible, he's tage Cavendish set an all-time cursing. The Eritrean was left waving going to get his 35th win. So I was happy that I managed to catch him and go past him, France ended in downtown Bor-first Black African to win a stage he (Cavendish) is the greatest

The 25-year-old Philipsen has won all three stages that ended Philipsen was graceful in vic- in bunch sprints and on the 2km won that stage. Already dressed in the sprint tory, praising Cavendish as an long home straight his teammate

Cavendish was really fast and I would have loved to see him win. When he shot past me I thought, that's incredible, he's going to get his 35th win. So I was happy that I managed to catch him and go past him, he (Cavendish) is the greatest sprinter off all time

JASPER PHILIPSEN

Mathieu van der Poel again led the Belgian into pole position.

Huge crowds braved the bak-Garonne river in Bordeaux be-"When he shot past me I lieving they would witness a vinrecord of 35 stage wins.

> deaux was 2010, when Cavenand where he produced his the podium. trademark victory roar when he

Yesterday's seventh stage of Vingegaard of Denmark retained escape.



The last time the Tour de France ended in downtown Bordeaux was 2010, when Cavendish was in his glorious prime, and where he produced his trademark victory roar when he won that stage

ing heat along the banks of the this Tour they instead witnessed Cavendish's clever bid denied at the death as he crossed the line

Girmay, of the Intermarche The last time the Tour de outfit, would have become the but the 23-year-old also missed

the leader's yellow jersey ahead of Slovenia's two-time champion Tadej Pogacar of the UAE

Vingegaard said after his first day in yellow that he had enioved the hot conditions as the race ran through the region's world famous vineyards.

He was also upbeat after his infernal struggle Thurdsay with Pogacar in the Pyrenees.

"It's always better to be 25sec ahead than to be 25 behind," he insisted. "To be honest we expected to be a bit behind at this stage so we have to be happy.

"Last year all my best days came in the heat so I'm hoping the rest of the race is run in a heatwave, too."

Pogacar also seemed relaxed and happy.

"The final 50km, we were rolling full gas and it was very hot out there, but that was much easier than the last two days, believe me," he said.

Saturday's eighth stage is another flattish affair with a dish was in his glorious prime, out narrowly as he rounded out 200km race from Libourne to Limoges, albeit with three small In the overall standings climbs near the end, meaning defending champion Jonas a sprint is possible, as is a late

Sri Lanka see off sorry West Indies in qualifier dead rubber

AFP | London

Sri Lanka maintained their unbeaten record at the Cricket World Cup Qualifier as Pathum Nissanka's hundred helped secure an eight-wicket victory over the West Indies yesterday.

The Sri Lankans, who had already qualified for the tournament to be played later this year in India, bowled out the already-eliminated Windies for 243 before chasing down the target with 5.4 overs to

a miserable tournament for the ready at the bottom, we have Caribbean side, after previous to find ways to get back up." losses to Zimbabwe, the Netherlands and Scotland.

"Look forward. Communi- on Thursday.



Sri Lanka's Pathum Nissanka plays

The defeat brought an end to cation is the key. We are al-

The Dutch secured the second qualifying place for the "Just leave this behind us," World Cup, to be held from Ocsaid West Indies captain Shai tober 5 to November 19, with a dramatic victory over Scotland

Bangladesh's Tamim reverses shock retirement on PM's orders

AFP | Dhaka

 ${f B}$ angladesh cricketer Tamim Iqbal withdrew his retirement from international cricket yesterday -- a day after shocking teammates with his sudden resignation -- following a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the country's cricket board said.

The veteran opener, 34, broke down crying while announcing the immediate end to his international career after leading his side to Wednesday's 17-run defeat in the first of a three match one-day series against Afghanistan.

But yesterday, Bangladesh Cricket Board director Jalal with Hasina at her Dhaka res-

"Tamim Iqbal has withdrawn



Bangladesh's head coach Chandika Hathurusingha (R) and captain Tamim Iqbal (L) inspect the pitch during a practice session

formance."

said. "However, he will take a scathing criticism from BCB after selectors named wicket- years."

six-week rest to regain fitness. president Nazmul Hassan, who Yunus said that Tamim had a He has been under physical and called the batsman's professionchange of heart after meeting mental pressure in the past six alism into question for playing months, which affected his per- the match despite admitting he was not 100 percent fit.

his retirement decision," Yunus ference on Thursday followed with the PM took place hours ladesh team a lot for so many

Tamim Igbal has withdrawn his retirement decision. However he will take a six-week rest to regain fitness. He has been under physical and mental pressure in the past six months, which affected his performance

keeper-batsman Liton Das as captain for the remainder of the series against Afghanistan.

Earlier in the day, Liton said Tamim's resignation had taken the team by surprise.

"None of us could realise this decision was coming," he told Tamim's emotional press conThe veteran player's meeting reporters. "He gave the Bang-

BTA holds junior awards ceremony

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Tennis Acade- manship. Five players were Saad and Beren Odabasi.

Mary (BTA) held its 19th short-listed for each award Tobias Alexandersen v

honour the most outstanding players of the 2022/23 (two age categories).

taking into account each awards. The ceremony, was held to player's skill level and experience in the game.

season. 14 awards were pre-tigious Player of the Year interruptions we have had sented across two sections: awards were Antoine Da- over the past seasons, we 'Best of 2022/23' (12 catego- laise (12-and-under) and Ali have been so pleased to see ries) and 'Player of the Year' Alhalwachi (13-and-over). all the kids come back as

included Best Backhand, Paul Heluin, Karim Halabi, Best Serve and Best Sports- Avran Thomas, Mayan Al

Tobias Alexandersen was Annual Junior Awards Cer- and then the winner cho- the star of the ceremony by emony for 11-and-over play- sen based on the criteria for being nominated in seven ers at the Dilmun Club in each category while also categories and claiming four

The awards were presented by BTA Director, Dan Winners of the pres- Barrie, who said, "After the Other category winners eager as ever to train and im-Some of the categories were Tobias Alexandersen, prove alongside their peers."



11-and-over award nominees and winners with BTA coaches

Bahrain power past Tunisia

FIVB Men's U21 World Championship 2023 gets underway in Kingdom

Joining Bahrain as winners on day one were Italy, Poland, Bulgaria, Iran, Brazil, **Argentina and Belgium**

Action continues today from 11am, with the day's last fixtures beginning at 8pm; entrance is free

TDT | Manama

osts Bahrain pulled off an impressive straightsets victory over Tunisia last night as the highly anticipatpionship 2023 got underway in the Kingdom.

The 16-nation Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) Council for Youth and Sports (BOC) chief His Highness Shai- all matches. kh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, BVA secretary general the big win. Feras Al Helwachi, and other



Bahrain national team members celebrate with Bahrain Volleyball Association secretary general Feras Al Helwachi after their match

Joining the Bahrainis as win- head coach Saber Abdulwahed. nance in the third en route to ia, Iran, Brazil, Argentina and first game."

competition is being held un- today at the Isa Sports City in 18 points, 15 of which came in with Javan posting five block der the patronage of Supreme Riffa. The games are scheduled attack, while fellow-outside hitfrom 11am, with the day's last ter Saved Hashem Ali scored 11. first deputy president, General fixtures beginning at 8pm. They Middle blocker Hasan Warqaa Jakkrit Thanomnoi scored 15 Sports Authority chairman and are to be played between two contributed nine points in the Bahrain Olympic Committee courts, and entrance is free to win.

BOC vice-president His High- preliminary round Pool A with curing a place in the next stage ness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khali- their resounding 3-0 (25-22, 25fa Al Khalifa attended last night's 12, 25-22) triumph against the matches, as did Bahrain Volley- Tunisians. The home team were ball Association (BVA) president the aggressors from the start and never faltered en route to totally different game; Thailand The Italians needed some time

> "We were not going to let ourselves lose tonight," said Bahrain

ed FIVB Men's U21 World Chamners on day one were defending "We are playing at home and it closing out their rivals. champions Italy, Poland, Bulgar- was very important to win our

Tournament action continues scored for the home side with had 16 points apiece for Iran, said: "We are a totally different terday, Bulgaria edged past a

The nationals are now one Bahrain got off to a hot start in step away from virtually seamongst the elite eight. They play Thailand tonight in an 8pm

> Abdulwahed. "We must be ready their momentum to the end. for this next challenge, be much go to the second round."

21) in yesterday's other Pool A middle blocker Filippo Bartoset but reasserted their domi-

Outside hitter Bonehagz Younes Javan and opposite spik-Skipper Husain Ehsan top er Amir Mohammad Golzadeh

> For the Thais, outside hitter while Panya Bootsamrit and Panupong Kumpumee added be."

Resounding

Defending champions Italy opened their campaign in Pool B with a resounding 3-0 (28-26, "Tomorrow is going to be a 25-14, 25-16) sweep of Mexico. are a very good team, they play in the first set to get into their without mistakes, and they have groove and saved two set points good players technically," said in the opener. They then rode

Opposite spiker Alessandro better than today, and hopefully Alberto Bovolenta led the Italians with 20 points, 18 of which Thais 3-1 (25-5, 23-25, 25-13, 25- hitter Orioli Mattia added 10 and

difficult, especially the first one."

MEN'S U21 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP **BAHRAIN 2023**

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Court A: 11am Canada vs Poland; 2pm Bulgaria vs India; 5pm Iran vs

Tunisia; 8pm Bahrain vs Thailand

Court B: 11am Egypt vs Italy; 2pm Brazil vs Mexico; 5pm Czech Republic vs Argentina; 8pm Belgium vs USA

ons, having won the last edition every game, and that's our plan." of the junior worlds in 2021. He team [from then], and there are battling Canada 3-1 (25-12, 21-25, totally different opposing teams. 25-20, 27-25). Star player and We play against great teams like Iran, Bulgaria, and Brazil, so we scored 17 points for the winners, will play and see where we will including three service winners.

Also in Pool B, Brazil outclassed Egypt 3-0 (25-15, 25-15, 25-20). Skipper Buczmiejuk Arthur Bento was their leading scorer with 12 points, while opposite spiker Neufeld Samuel Carazzi de Morias added 11.

Meanwhile, in Pool C, Poland defeated India 3-1 (25-17, 25-14, 20-25, 25-19). Piotr Sliwka scored 18 points to lead the Poles, while Jakub Majchrzak favourites, but we have to show added 13 markers and Tytus Nowik had 12.

Iran triumphed against the were in attack, while outside the FIVB Boys' U19 World Championship in 2021, and are hoping to translate that success at this contest. Iran gave up the second lucci finished with eight points. next age-level. "This team won synergy, even though it didn't

tocchio commented: "It was a ship in 2021, so we are reigning strong match. Mexico did a great world champions," said setter game, especially in the first set. Kajetan Kubicki. "Our minds are In the world cup, every match is to win gold, but we don't think about this. We came here just Battocchio downplayed his like another tournament—we side's tag as defending champi- want to play every game and win

> In the other Pool C game yesskipper Aleksandar Nikolov Opposites Georgi Tatarov and Venislav Antov added 13 and 10 points, respectively.

> Nikolov was part of the Bulgarian side that won the silver medals at the under-19 worlds in 2021, and he says that, with most of that squad competing in this tournament, they are determined to live up to their tag as one of the leading contenders.

"For sure we are one of the some better play in the next games—I'm sure it's going to Poland were the champions of come," Nikolov said. "Ninety-five per cent of the squad has basically been the same for five or six years. We have very good Italy head coach Matteo Bat- the [under-19] world champion- look like it today, but we're going to show it in the next games."

In Pool D, Argentina and Belgium made winning starts. Argentina defeated the US 3-0 (25-22, 25-19, 25-23), while the Belgians beat Czech Republic 3-0 (25-20, 25-20, 25-22).

Leading Argentina was opposite German Alfredo Gomez with 16 points, 14 in attack, while outside hitter Nahuel Rojas added eight markers. Trenton Moser paced the Americans with 10 points, while Zachary Rama added eight.

Ferre Reggers had 15 points to spearhead Belgium in their win, while Jiri Benda had 10 for the Czechs.



Argentina's triple block tries to stop the USA's Zachary Rama



Canada's Cory Schoenherr goes for the kill in their match against Bulgaria

Bahrainis Zeyad, Aqeel put in solid results

TDT | Manama

Bahrainis Zeyad Al Awadhi and pins for a 178.67 average.

Rashid had earlier r tition of the 21st Asian Youth Tenpin Ahmed scoring 1,084 and 180.67. Bowling Championships, taking place in Bangkok.

Competing in the third and final squad, Zeyad came 16th while Ageel

On the combined rankings han was 35th and Ahmed Al Ansari average.

a total of 1,114 pinfalls for a 185.67 today.

average. Aqeel came close to matching his output, finishing with 1,072

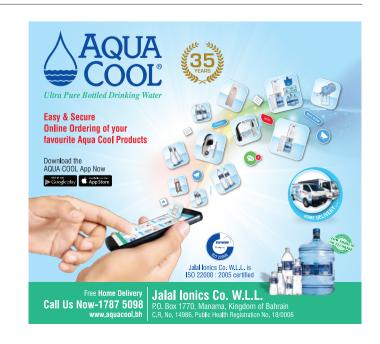
Rashid had earlier registered ings yesterday in the singles compe-marks of 1,138 and 189.67 with

Taking the singles gold medal was Lan Shao Kang of Chinese-Taipei with a 1,362 total and 227.00 average. Muhammad Hariz Adlan Azman of Malaysia won the silver medal with 1,349 and 224.83 with the first two squads, Zeyad scores, while Vilinkorn Kiedkaew was placed 39th and Ageel 52nd, of Thailand completed the podium while teammates Rashid Al Dai- placers with a 1,329 total and 221.50

All four Bahrainis are set to com-In yesterday's play, Zeyad posted pete in the boys' doubles squads



Zeyad Al Awadhi and Aqeel Al Awadhi at the playing venue



Bahrain bag nine more medals!

Kingdom's athletes wrap up track and field events with another eight medals, swimmer Amani Alobaidli also on podium at 15th Arab Games

Four gold medals won in athletics by Hajar Alkhaldi, Oluwakemi Adekoya, Noora Jasim and Birhanu Balew

TDT | Manama

ahrain wrapped up their spectacular showing in the athletics competition at the 15th Arab Games last night, winning another eight medals, including four gold, while also bagging a bronze medal in swimming.

The gold medals in athletics were claimed by Hajar Alkhaldi in the women's 200 metres. Oluwakemi Adekoya in the women's 400m hurdles, Noora Jasim in the women's shot put and Birhanu Balew in the men's 5,000m.

The Bahrainis also added three silver medals and one bronze medal during the contrack. The silver medals were clinched by Edidiong Odiong in in the women's 800m, and the in the pool-brought Bahrain's in 23.74s, making for a fine Bahwomen's 400m hurdles.



Sprinter Hajar Alkhaldi reacts as she wins a race at the 15th Arab Games

In swimming, Amani Alobaidli medals. cluding night's action on the captured a bronze medal in the women's 200m backstroke.

the women's 200m, Marta Yota all-eight in athletics and one women's 4x400m relay team; overall tally to 29 after four days raini one-two. Sara El Hachimi while Aminat Jamal bagged a of competition in all sports so of Morocco came third in 23.89s. bronze behind Oluwakemi in the far. They include 15 gold medals,

In last night's women's 200m final, Hajar triumphed after fin-Yesterday's nine medals in ishing the race in 23.30 seconds. Edidiong was a close runner-up

In the women's 400m hurdles,

of 54.36s. Noura Ennadi of Mo-contention for a medal until the bronze in 55.51s.

Nada Charoudi of Tunisia was Fikadu in fourth in 14:24.71. second with a 13.96m best, while

rocco was the silver-medallist in home straight, but then a pair of 55.40s, while Aminat took her his rivals passed him. Balew won in a time of 14:21.89, while Hafid In the women's shot put final, Rizqy of Morocco followed in Noora bagged her gold medal 14:23.32. Salim Keddar of Algewith a best throw of 15.89m. ria came third in 14:23.47, with

In the women's 800m final, Lyna Benaibouche of Algeria Bahrain's Marta was narrowtook the other podium spot in ly beaten to the finish by just three-tenths of a second. The The men's 5,000m final saw a gold was claimed by Assia Razithrilling finish, in which Balew ki of Morocco in 2:05.17, while powered to the gold medal with Marta finished in 2:05.47. Wafa a brilliant closing kick. Country- Zaroual of Morocco took the man Dawit Fikadu was also in bronze in 2:07.29.



seven silver and seven bronze Oluwakemi triumphed in a time Swimmer Amani Alobaidli is all smiles as she finishes a race



Bahrain's nine medals yesterday-eight in athletics and one in swimming-brought their overall tally to 29 in all sports after four days of competition so far. They include 15 gold medals, seven silver and seven bronze medals

In the women's 4x400m final, the Bahraini quartet featured Oluwakemi, Awtif Ahmed, Aminat and Zenab Mahamat. They came second in 3:37.73, while Morocco were gold-medallists in 3:35.80. Algeria took the bronze in 3:42.91.

In swimming, Amani clinched her bronze after completing her 200m backstroke race in 2:25.16. Kawthar Imene and Benchadli Jihane had an Algerian one-two, finishing in 2:22.68 and 2:24.64, respectively.

Verstappen pips Sainz as Red Bull rule British GP practice

AFP | Silverstone

ax Verstappen completed Ma dominant sweep of yesterday's free practice sessions for Red Bull by narrowly outpacing Ferrari's Carlos Sainz on an intriguing day at the British Grand Prix.

The defending double world champion and runaway series leader, who was fastest ahead of team-mate Sergio Perez in the opening session, clocked a best lap in one minute and Red Bull's Max Verstappen in action 28.078 seconds to outpace Sainz to run in his Ferrari, it was a was an excellent fifth. by 0.022 in second practice.

As Mercedes slithered and bounced around the former ly responded by claiming third in Hungary later this month, wartime airfield, now regard- place, after being second earlier, pushed Lance Stroll down to five minutes for a section of the ed as one of F1's best circuits, ahead of Perez and his Williams sixth for Aston Martin with track to be swept clean of debris and Charles Leclerc was unable team-mate Logan Sargeant, who Nico Hulkenberg taking seventh from an earlier incident.



chance for others to shine.

The Williams resurgence, Williams' Alex Albon certain- ahead of their 800th Grand Prix storms having been forecast.

Pierre Gasly was eighth for Alpine ahead of Oscar Piastri's McLaren and two-time champion Fernando Alonso in the second Aston Martin.

For Red Bull, Verstappen bids to deliver the team's record-equalling 11th consecutive victory, equalling the feat of McLaren in 1988. Verstappen seeks his sixth straight win.

The session began in warm sunshine with an air temperature of 27 degrees and the track at 42, conditions far better anticipated on Saturday, thunder-

The action was delayed by

Bauhaus puts in strong challenge



Phil Bauhaus, behind, competes alongside teammate Pello Bilbao

Bahrain Victorious rider finishes seventh in stage seven of 2023 **Tour de France**

TDT | Manama

ream Bahrain Victorious 11th, followed by Bilbao in 14th ▲ rider Phil Bauhaus was and Haig in 37th. back in the top 10 yesterday in stage seven of the 2023 Tour de France.

The German ranked seventh bo-Visma staved as leaders at the end of the 169.9-kilo- while Ineos Grenadiers moved metre leg, finishing amongst to second place. the leading group in a sprint to the line. Jasper Philipsen was tinues today with the 201km triumphant for Alpecin-De- eighth stage from Libourne to ceuninck.

Bauhaus's Bahrain Victorious teammate Mikel Landa a total of 3,404km and over was not far behind the top fin- 55,000 vertical meters of ishers as he came 42nd overall, climbing across 21 stages. while Pello Bilbao was 65th. Nikias Arndt was classified

in 120th and Jack Haig in 122nd. In the general classification after a total of 1.242.1km completed, Landa was the top Bahrain Victorious competitor in

69th, while rounding out the

Bahrain Victorious riders were

Fred Wright in 96th, Matej

Mohoric in 100th, Woet Poels

Bahrain Victorious went to third on the team ranking after going as high as second. Jum-

The Tour de France con-Limoges.

This year's race features

Continued on Page 10

Tsitsipas battles back to knock Murray out of Wimbledon

World number five Stefanos Tsitsipas battled back to defeat two-time champion Andy Murray and reach the Wimbledon third round yesterday.

Trailing two sets to one when the tie was halted the previous evening, Tsitsipas came through 7-6(7/3), 6-7(2/7), 4-6, 7-6(7/3),

After a gruelling four-hour 40-minute match-up, the Greek goes on to face Laslo Djere of Serbia for a place in the last 16.

For 36-year-old Murray, the defeat meant he still has not made the second week of a quarter-finals at Wimbledon Grand Slam since reaching the in 2017.



Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas (R) hugs Britain's Andy Murray

It will also surely raise questions over his long-term future served for the third set.

in the sport.

"It's never easy against Andy, everyone here loves him," said the 24-year-old Tsitsipas, who hit a whopping 90 winners.

"I am always impressed by him after so many years on tour and to keep playing after two hip surgeries. I wish him all the very best for the future."

Murray had been ahead when the match was halted on Thursday due to a local 11:00 pm tournament curfew.

The suspension came at the right moment for the former world number one, who fell and appeared to hurt his groin, leaving him screaming in pain as he